CRIME AND CRIMINALS.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

[Reported for The Press.]

TRIAL OF WILLIAM MURPHY FOR THE MURDER OF GEORGE NEAL.

OYER AND TERMINER.—Punctually at ten o'clock yesterday morning Judge Allison and Thompson took their seats, and Mr. Dare announced the opening of the court. So great was the interest manifested in the trial, that long before the time hundreds of persons had gathered in the vicinity of Sixth and Chestnut streets, all anxious to see the defendant when brought up from prison. The court room was crowded to its utmost capacity, and many were unable to gain admittance. The dock, in addition to Murphy, contained seven persons who are charged with homicide.

These were three persons said to be implicated in the murder of Twenty-second and Coates street, on Saturday night last, of a man named Buckley, and the four young men alleged to have been concerned in the shooting of Eichle, the proprietor of a tavern in the lower section of the city. It was thought that the trial of these latter defendants would come up yesterday, in accordance with previous arrangements, but at the request of District Attorney Lockhard and Lieutenant Fletcher, Esq., attorney for the prisoners, the case was continued over until the next term. This course was rendered necessary by the absence of a very material witness for the Commonwealth, Officer Daniel.

Daniel Dougherty, Esq., made application for the discharge upon bail of the other prisoners in the dock, who it appears are relatives of the murdered man. They were in the house at the time of the tragical occurrence, but there was not the slightest evidence to connect any of them with the commission of the crime. The Coroner, Mr. Dougherty stated, was willing to testify to this condition of the facts, whereupon the court said that in the event of this being done during the day they would order the release of the prisoners upon satisfactory bail being entered for their future appearance.

John Norris, the individual referred to by several witnesses in the Murphy case, as having struck Neal, the deceased, was brought into court, and occupied a seat behind the District Attorney. He was dressed in blue sailor pants, and a blue shirt. He desired to retain the services of Mr. Dougherty as his counsel, and engaged in conversation with that gentleman. Two little, bright-eyed children of Murphy, one a boy and the other an innocent, curly-headed girl, stood in the dock, at the side of their father. They clambered upon his knees, and their cheerful prattle made a scene strangely in contrast with the severe routine of the daily doings in the courts, and reminiful of a hearthstone that has been robbed, for a time at least, of many a moment of domestic bliss. It was a strange sight, those innocents playing in the midst of men, old in years and charged with the highest crime known to the law, and one which must have made a deep impression upon every spectator in the crowded room.

The atmosphere was at fever heat; there was a remarkable absence of yeasts and book lice, a plentiful quantity of the latter being represented in some of those fancy drinks, "Adam's ale" and "Schuylkill punch," and everything in the shape of artificial comfort suitable to the place, but in reality an alarming lack of all that tended to produce refreshing coolness on the part of those inside. Colognes were spilled and handkerchiefs were soaked from perspiration. The news was passed about that it was quite warm, and seemed to be extensively credited, and then under the eyes of the court, and in the presence of its officers, we deliberately commenced taking notes of the proceedings.

The examination of witnesses for the defence proceeded as follows:

THE TESTIMONY.

James Curry was the first witness called, who being sworned, said—I live on Delaware avenue; I am a waiter; I was on the Gloucester boat on the day of the occurrence; I did not see the disturbance between Neal and Murphy; I saw a disturbance between some men; I cannot say what they were or to this there had been a fight between Neal and Murphy, as I did not see it; just before the disturbance I spoke of Terry Murphy a little below me with Jo Jun Dutton; I saw Murphy on the boat; I saw that he was pretty hard; he was covered over with blood; the fight continued between Neal and the person whom I have spoken of, for about two or three minutes; while the fight was going on Murphy was between the other end of the boat; I saw the end of the fight between Neal and the other person; I did not notice where Neal went to; I saw Murphy after the fight;