

OUR OATS.

Always in the past the Best in Scranton

Will be in the future as good as oats that can be made by the

BEST CLEANING MACHINERY Which removes the foul seeds and dust. Try our

"Clean Oats."

THE WESTON MILL CO.

SCRANTON, OLYPHANT, CARBONDALE

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.

THE GENUINE POPULAR PUNCH CIGARS

Have the initials G. B. & Co. imprinted in each cigar.

GARNEY, BROWN & CO., MANUFACTURERS, COURT HOUSE SQ.

DR. C. D. SHUMWAY, Diseases of the Lower Bowel a Specialty. 308 Washington Ave., Opp. Tribune Building.

OFFICE HOURS—9 TO 12, 2 TO 5.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. H. D. Ludock and daughter, May, of Green Ridge, are visiting in Connecticut.

W. J. Walsh and son, of Salida, Col., are visiting Mr. Walsh's mother, on Emmet street.

Miss Lillie Mae Snover, of Battle Creek, is the guest of the Misses Snover, of 231 Ninth street.

Mr. and Mrs. John J. Howley, of Gordon street, leave today for an extended stay at Atlantic City.

Mrs. William M. Wilson, of East Market street, is spending a few weeks at Clifford and Crystal Lake.

Mrs. Curran and daughter, of New York city, are visiting at the residence of Thomas F. McDonough, on Seventh street.

Rev. Bishop O'Hara and Rev. D. J. MacGullick attended the commencement exercises at Millbrook convent, Wilkes-Barre, yesterday.

DECISION IN THE USURY CASE.

Alderman Wright Decides That There Was No Cause for Action

The usury case against the "Miners' and Mechanics' bank of Carbonade, was yesterday heard before Alderman Wright, Alfred Pascoe, president and Charles E. Spencer, cashier, who were made defendants were represented by Attorney Roswell H. Patterson. The prosecutor, D. W. Williams, of Dunmore, was represented by Attorney Richard J. Bourke.

The allegation was that about two years ago Williams had a 30-day note discounted at the bank and was charged 50 cents, which is 18 cents more than the 6 per cent. interest allowed by law. For this Mr. Williams claimed \$100 penalty to be recovered.

The bank people agreed that the act of 1839 under which the action was brought applied specially to the Philadelphia Savings institution and does not affect their bank, which was chartered under a different act. They also showed that even if it did apply the action would not be legal as the time limit for commencing proceedings is fixed at six months after the offense takes place.

After a couple of hours of argument Alderman Wright decided that there was no cause for action and placed the costs on the plaintiff.

Charles E. Avery, the bank's teller, explained during the proceedings that they do not discount any note for less than 50 cents and that, when they agreed to favor Williams this rule of the bank was explained to him and he agreed to their terms.

Poor Tax, 1896.

The above mentioned taxes having been placed in my hands for collection, all persons are notified to pay them at once and save costs. Office in the municipal building.

WADE M. FINN, Collector.

JUST A FLYER FOR THIS WEEK.

A Fine Russia Calf Bals, Needle Toe, all sizes and widths, Goodyear welt, up-to-date, \$2.50

Cannot get any more to sell at that price.

SCHANK & KOEHLER

410 SPRUCE STREET.

PATRICK CORCORAN'S MYSTERIOUS DEATH

An Open Gas Jet in His Home Was the Immediate Cause of It.

THE CORONER IS INVESTIGATING

He Will Endeavor to Ascertain in What Manner the Gas Jet Was Opened and by Whom—Corcoran's Domestic Troubles—Testimony Heard Before the Coroner Yesterday—Another Hearing This Afternoon.

Whether it was accident, suicide or foul play that caused the death of Patrick Corcoran Tuesday night is a question of which was not clearly established at the inquest conducted by Coroner Longstreet yesterday morning. Corcoran was found lying fully dressed, excepting his coat on a lounge in the parlor of the building containing his saloon and dining apartments, 1724 Cedar avenue. A gas jet in the room was open and the gas had caused death, but whether Corcoran accidentally or otherwise or someone else turned on the gas was the point which was not made clear to Coroner Longstreet and the jury. C. E. Hamilton, R. F. Mellon, W. J. Burns, Frank Conway, C. J. Ruddy and D. J. Moriarty.

Corcoran was 61 years old. He was a select councilman about eight years ago and at one time did some contract work for the city. He was supposed to be worth sufficient money and property to permit his retiring from active business.

He had experienced some unhappiness with his wife, who was a Mrs. Connor, of Bellevue, and whom he married last September, the first Mrs. Corcoran dying last year. As recently as Monday Corcoran and Dr. William Haggerty in Alderman Millar's office appeared in an assault and battery case and the two were held in jail to appear at court.

There lurks a suspicion that Corcoran may have destroyed himself because of his domestic and other troubles.

TOO EARLY TO CLOSE

Tuesday night at 10 o'clock Corcoran was engaged with customers in his saloon and to his wife's suggestion that he retire he replied that it was too early to close the saloon. She went to bed and did not call him again until she and her 12-year-old daughter found him a corpse and lying on the sofa at 6 o'clock yesterday morning.

Mrs. Corcoran ran to the street door and called to some men who were passing, they were Patrick Conahoy, Joseph Muller and Thomas McCadden, three steelworkers returning from their night's work. They found a little kitchen stove in the room which was so permeated with illuminating gas that it had to be thoroughly aired before they could remain inside for any considerable period.

Corcoran lay in a natural position and but for the pallor on his face seemed to have been peacefully asleep. Coroner Longstreet was summoned by a policeman who had been notified by one of the workmen.

At the inquest which was begun soon after 10 o'clock Mrs. Corcoran and the three steelworkers were examined. There were other witnesses but their evidence was not important. The testimony of the others was in accordance with what appears above.

DID NOT DETECT GAS.

Mrs. Corcoran included in her evidence the peculiar fact that she did not detect any odor of gas in the room and did not know who had turned off the jet. Her husband had not been accustomed to taking naps in that particular room, she said.

A Mr. Tobin is said to have been in the room before the appearance of the three workmen on the scene. It is thought that he may have turned off the gas and may be able to throw some light on the case. An effort will be made to find him and have him present at the inquest which was adjourned until this afternoon in Coroner Longstreet's office.

The dead man is survived by Postmaster M. F. Corcoran, of Duryea; Mrs. James Keating and Mrs. James Richardson.

Mr. Corcoran was probably one of the best known men on the South Side, and was well known in all parts of the city. His marriage to Mrs. Maria Connor, of Bellevue, last autumn had a tinge of romance to it, and aroused some opposition from the members of his family. His first wife died a little over a year ago and on Sept. 4, 1895, he went to Syracuse on an excursion. Mrs. Marie Connor was also a member of the excursion party, and they returned as man and wife.

Apparently they did not live happily together. On May 2 last Mr. Corcoran gave to his son, Michael F. Corcoran, postmaster of Duryea, a judgment note for \$7,000. This note was payable one day after date and was entered upon the day it was signed. On May 5 a. f. a. was issued and on it the real estate of Patrick Corcoran was sold on May 23.

It was sold first in the morning and was bid in by his son Michael for \$4,000. The terms of the bid were not complied with and it was sold again in the afternoon of that day for \$57.40, Michael again becoming the purchaser.

MRS. CORCORAN PROTESTED.

Before the deed was acknowledged by the sheriff in court Mrs. Corcoran, through her attorney, succeeded in having the confirmation stayed and obtained a rule on Michael F. Corcoran to show cause why the sheriff's sale should not be set aside, and she allowed to defend her rights in the property. She contends that Patrick Corcoran did not owe his son \$7,000, and that the note was given for the purpose of defrauding her out of her dower interest in the property in the event of her husband's death during her lifetime. The rule was granted June 16, and Attorney C. C. Donovan was appointed a commissioner to take testimony.

The commission sat on Tuesday, when Mrs. Corcoran was represented by Attorney C. S. Woodruff, and Michael F. Corcoran by Attorney F. J. Fitzsimmons. Mrs. Corcoran was the first witness. She swore that she was 37 years of age, and was married to Mr. Corcoran on Sept. 14, 1895. He told her that he was 61 years of age. On May 16 she said she was sitting with her daughter in a room adjoining her husband's barroom. The door was open and she heard him carrying on a conversation with A. L. Dunlavy. Her husband told Mr. Dunlavy that \$300 would pay all of the debts he owed. This was for the purpose of proving that the \$7,000 note was virtually a present to his son. Attorney Fitzsimmons then questioned Mrs. Corcoran as to her knowledge of Mr. Corcoran's financial condition before their marriage, and elicited information which shows that she possesses a good business head. Here are some of the questions and answers: "When you married Mr. Corcoran did you know whether he had any real estate or not?" "Yes, sir, I did."

"Did you have the records examined to ascertain that fact?" "I did, in Wilkes-Barre."

"Mr. Corcoran told you there was nothing against his property, did he?" "He did, yes, sir."

"Nevertheless you had the records examined?" "I had."

"Then you married him?" "Yes, sir."

"Don't you know that he said he did not owe but \$300, except what he owed to his son?" "No, he made no such statement."

A. L. Dunlavy was sworn and testified to the conversation he had with Mr. Corcoran. The latter told him his place was about to be sold, but that he did not owe any amount of consequence, only something about \$300. Mr. Dunlavy on this might have said that he owed nothing but \$300 save what he owed to his son, but he did not understand it that way. Miss Beattie Connor, daughter of Mrs. Corcoran, corroborated her mother with reference to the conversation between Mr. Dunlavy and Mr. Corcoran.

Patrick Corcoran was the last witness sworn. He said that while talking to Mr. Dunlavy he made this remark: "I don't owe no debt to anybody only what I owe my son and this is all I owe about \$200 more except what I owe my son." These depositions will be presented to court and argument heard next week.

ACTION OF A CREDITOR.

Mrs. Mina Robinson has also obtained a rule to have the sheriff's sale set aside. Mr. Corcoran was indebted to her the sum of \$300 and she claims to be the first lien creditor.

Yesterday afternoon Attorney Fitzsimmons, representing Michael F. Corcoran, filed a caveat with Register of Wills Hopkins forbidding him to grant letters of administration on his father's estate to the latter's widow.

BRIGHT ANTHRACITE PROSPECTS.

Likelihood That the Mines Will Soon Experience Greater Activity.

The Philadelphia Stockholder is greatly pleased over the outlook in the anthracite coal trade. It says: "At the beginning of the understanding on the part of the producing and carrying companies that an end should be put to the policy of ruin so long in vogue, surplus stocks were large and in order, therefore, to restrict output to the minimum requirements of the market, and with incidental advances, to seek to reduce the accumulations of coal at distributing points. This has been going on continuously since, and it is understood that surplus stocks are now down to a point where the market will warrant a larger output from month to month the remainder of the year. For the five months ended May 31, 1896, the output aggregated 15,844,858 tons, against 16,789,262 tons in 1895, and 14,231,177 tons in 1894. Surplus stocks on hand May 31 are estimated at 721,508 tons. During the month of May there was a decrease of about 120,508 tons. It may be said here, however, that these figures are not official.

"We are on the eve of great activity in the trade, and it is an open fact that, against production in May of 3,125,470 tons, and 3,250,000 tons this month, the output in July will approximate 4,500,000 tons. In the anthracite coal regions this probability is viewed with especial satisfaction. The inference is that the collieries will have to be worked more than three or four days a week—average time made during the first six months of the year. The increased output will be incidental with another advance of 25 cents a ton, both east and west, to take effect July 1. New tide-water prices then will be: Stove, \$4.25; grate, \$3.75; egg and chestnut, \$4, gross, free on board. Present tide-water gross prices are: Stove, \$4; grate, \$3.50; egg and chestnut, \$3.75. It will be noticed that prices a tide are gradually nearing the point which it is the aim to reach as an average for all sizes: \$4.

"If the output this month aggregates 3,250,000 tons and that of July 4,500,000 tons the various companies will produce, in tons, according to their percentages, as per table following:

Table with 4 columns: Name, Percent, June, July. Rows include Reading, Litchfield, Lacksawanna, Jersey Central, Pennsylvania R.R., Delaware & Hudson, Erie, Pennsylvania Coal, D. & E., Susquehanna, and Ontario & West.

JOHN HOFFMAN ARRESTED.

Accused of Obtaining Goods Under False Pretenses.

John Hoffman, the well-known jewelry peddler, of Dunmore, was arrested yesterday on the charge of obtaining goods under false pretenses. The allegation is that he took home a bill of goods amounting to \$17.50 from the store of A. T. McWilliams, 129 Fern avenue, agreeing to pay for them if on examination they met with his approval. Now it is said he refused to return the goods or pay for them.

Alderman Howe, before whom he was arraigned, required him to furnish \$300 bail to answer at court.

Ask Your Dealer for McGarragh's Insect Powder, 25 and 10-cent boxes. Never sold in bulk. Take no other.

English Capital for American Investments.

Important to Americans seeking English capital for new enterprises. A list containing the names and addresses of 50 successful promoters who have placed over \$100,000,000 sterling in foreign investments within the last five years and over \$15,000,000 for the seven months of 1896. Price 15 or 25c, payable by postal order to the London and Universal Business Investors, 20, Cheapside, London, E. C.

Subscribers will be entitled, by arrangement with the directors, to receive either personal or letters of introduction to any of these successful promoters.

This list is first class in every respect, and every man or firm whose name appears therein may be depended upon. For the following it will be found invaluable—Bonds or Shares of Industrial, Commercial and Financial Concerns, Mortgage loans, Sale of Lands, Patents or Mines.

Directors—SIR EDWARD C. ROSS, HON. WALTER C. PEPPY, CAPT. ARTHUR STIFFE, Convales.

THE KEELEY CURE

Why let your home and business be destroyed through alcohol or morphine? You can be cured in four weeks at the Keeley Institute, 71 Madison Avenue, Scranton, Pa. The Cure Will Bear Investigation.

MURDERER TONI DENIES HIS GUILT

He Was on the Witness Stand Yesterday Afternoon.

ILLUSTRATED EVIDENCE OFFERED

Attorney M. J. Walsh Pressed Into Service by Attorney Martin as an Illustration—W. H. Davis, of Olyphant, Found Not Guilty of Assault and Battery on William Rosser, Other Quarter Sessions Cases.

Much less time than was expected was taken up with the evidence of the defense in the Toni murder case. At adjournment yesterday the evidence of both sides was all heard except the testimony of a few witnesses who will be put on the stand today to rebut what some of the witnesses of the defense have testified to.

The feature of yesterday's proceedings was Toni's testimony. He was sworn at 3 o'clock and he marched to the witness box in a hurried, excitable manner. Constant Morisini, the Italian court interpreter, was called to translate the defendant's testimony into English. Mr. Martin brought out the defendant's history. Toni said he sailed from Italy on May 17, 1890, and on May 21 his wife died on shipboard. He reached New York on June 10 and came immediately to Old Forge.

He lived there until the time of the shooting of Rafter and worked in Jermyn's mines. At first he was employed as a laborer and afterward became a miner. While working as such he was injured in a premature explosion of a blast and after recovering and becoming strong enough to work, he went back to the mines, but took the position of laborer.

PLAYED IN THE BAND.

He belonged to the Italian band of that place and played in an instrument. On the night of Feb. 4 last he went to the room where the band practices in Holland's hall, and after practice he came downstairs in company with Peter Simoni, who plays a cornet in the band. They walked along in the middle of the road, north in the direction of his boarding house. He saw a crowd standing in front of Holland's hotel, but did not go near them. After he had passed a short distance he heard two shots, but did not know who fired them and did not know who was struck. He went right home, put his instrument away and was oblivious of the fact that a murder had been committed until the constable came to arrest him.

Mr. Martin asked him point blank if he shot John Rafter and he replied emphatically that he didn't. He said he does not own a revolver now, never owned one and never carried one. When the warrant was served on him and he was taken into custody, he denied the commission of the crime and has since denied it.

ATTORNEY MARTIN'S THEORY.

Attorney Martin introduced into the case at this point a matter that caused a buzz in the court room. He called Attorney M. J. Walsh to the witness stand and said he proposed to illustrate to the jury that Toni could not have shot Rafter in the manner in which some of the witnesses of the commonwealth testified the shooting was done. Mrs. Sarah Rafter, mother of the deceased, in her testimony, said her son was about six feet tall.

Mr. Martin told the court that Attorney Walsh is 5 feet 11 inches tall and he wished to stand Toni in front of him and point the revolver downward and by doing so show that it would have been a physical impossibility for Toni, who is only 5 feet 2 inches tall with the revolver pointed downward to have shot the man's head in the way in which some of the witnesses of the commonwealth testified the shooting was done. District Attorney Jones objected at first in a mild sort of way against this new method introduced by Mr. Martin, and Attorney Walsh was not inclined to stand up and act as an illustration for Toni to point even an empty revolver at Judge Gunster's person and Mr. Martin to go ahead and District Attorney Jones walked away from the commonwealth's table and stood in front of the bench strenuously objecting to such a farce, as he termed it.

Attorney Walsh stood up in front of the jury box. Toni came down from the stand and stood facing him three feet away. Mr. Martin handed Toni the empty revolver and told him to point it downward at Attorney Walsh. Mr. Walsh ordered him not to point the weapon, even though it was empty, as those that aren't loaded are the ones which usually go off.

THOUGHT IT WAS A FARCE.

While Toni had the revolver pointed at Walsh Mr. Martin said to Mr. Jones: "Come over here until you see." "No," replied Mr. Jones, "I will have nothing to do with such a farce." And Mr. Jones also refused to cross-examine Toni.

Anthony Bartnell, Louis Filome and Luigi Vasolli were the first three witnesses for the defense. They heard the shots, saw Rafter fall, but could not identify Toni as the man who did it. It was thought they were well acquainted with him. Antonio Manzo swore that John Jenkins told him that night when Rafter was carried into Holland's hotel that it was another man who did the shooting and not Toni. There were other witnesses to prove the fact that it was not Toni who did the shooting.

QUARTER SESSIONS COURT.

Costs Divided in the Case Against Shoe Dealer Davis, of Olyphant.

In the assault and battery case of William Rosser against William H. Davis, a shoe dealer of Olyphant, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and directed that the costs be equally divided between the parties.

Wedding Gifts, One of The Many The Pleasure of The Chafing Dish

What is more enjoyable than the preparation of a dainty luncheon, with the hostess presiding over the chafing dish? Lobster, a la Newburg, Welsh Rabbit and the other appetizing dishes?

Five o'clock Teas, etc.

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134 Wyoming Ave.

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112 PIECES Handsomely Decorated, Worth at Least \$16.00, \$12.90.

112 PIECES Decorated in Colors and Gilt, Worth \$20.00, \$15.90.

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