

OLCHEFSKI WITNESS  
MAKES BAD BREAK

Says the Furniture was Mutilated Before Being Taken Out.

THE PROSECUTION'S STRONG POINT

If the Jury Becomes Convinced of This, There is No Hope for the Accused--Woman Testifies Positively That She Saw Olchefski in His Store, in the Dark, After 10 O'clock on the Night of the Explosion.

In the Olchefski trial, as has become apparent, to those who have followed it, the strongest circumstance against the accused is the mutilated condition of the parlor furniture. The commonwealth contends that he cut open the Mohair bottoms and poured kerosene into the oakum padding that it might be more easily ignited and the more rapidly burn. The defense denies this and sets out the inference that the enemies of Olchefski who were so demonstrative on the following day, cut the furniture in their spite and anger after it had been carried out and possibly poured the kerosene upon it to bring about the suspicion which culminated in Olchefski's prosecution.

This being the case, imagine the disappointment of defendant's counsel, yesterday, when they called one Charles Ancovitich to testify that the furniture was whole and unimpaired when it was carried from the house and he testified to just the very opposite--that it was cut and torn and that it smelled strongly of kerosene.

The defense rested at this juncture and then Mr. Jones sprung a little surprise upon the jury as it did immediately after the telling blow which Ancovitich inflicted, must have had an effect not at all to Olchefski's liking. What Mr. Jones had up his sleeve was evidence to the effect that Olchefski used a sick mallet after 10 o'clock and that he was acting in a suspicious manner, all of which would contradict his statement that he was not in or about his store after 8 o'clock on the evening in question, when he closed up for the night.

CATHERINE SMITH'S STORY.  
The witness was Catherine Smith. On the night of the explosion she was in attendance when the sick mallet was used on Pittston avenue, two doors from the Olchefski building. Returning home after 11 o'clock she passed the Olchefski store and was surprised to see Olchefski emerge from the front door in his shirt sleeves, her surprise being occasioned by the lateness of the hour and the fact that there was no light in the store. He came out on the porch, she says, looked quickly up and down the street and re-entering locked the door behind him. She was positive it was Olchefski and that the hour was after 11 o'clock.

When court resumed yesterday morning the defense called to the stand C. E. Chittenden, E. G. Brooks and Edward Moore as experts in the use and effects of dynamite and all three agreed that if the explosion had been caused by a large quantity of dynamite, as the commonwealth contends, the sides of the building would have been splintered instead of being blown out in large sections and the foundation walls would not have been left standing. It is more likely, according to their opinion, that the explosion was caused by gas.

Olchefski, the defendant, was then put on the stand. He told in detail the story of his experiences on the night of the explosion, which he has clung to so tenaciously all along, and explained away--or attempted to--all the incriminating circumstances brought out by the prosecution.

He went to bed about 11 o'clock, he says, and the next thing he remembers he was awakened by the explosion. He jumped out of bed and ran out through the children's room. As he opened the door he was struck by a surprise, though he doesn't know what, and that as all he knew until he found himself sitting in front of the blacksmith shop.

DENIED THE CRIME.  
He denied the crime in general; swore he did not cut the chairs or pour kerosene about the house; denied that he kept dynamite in the store and avowed that he did not know Phillips and never, to his knowledge saw any dynamite.

He admitted having carried a bag to the barn about 10 o'clock as stated by Mrs. Klein, but contended that it contained feed and that he was in the custom of carrying feed at night from the store to the barn.

His explanation of how the store goods discovered secreted in the barn came to be there was quite novel. As to the half dozen bundles of clothes line he stated that he intended to go fishing at Laceyville but didn't want his wife to know anything about it as she was opposed to his going, so he sneaked the clothes line out of the store and hid it in the barn, where he might get it without arousing her suspicion when he was ready to go on his fishing trip.

He proposed using it as an outline he said. As to the whisk brooms he explained that he took them to a customer the day previous to the fire, but they did not suit the customer and he brought them back in his wagon. He neglected to take them back to the store.

Mrs. Helena Olchefski, his wife, next took the stand, and in relation to the fifteen bottles of perfume found in the barn made the statement that while the fire was in progress she gathered up the perfume from her bureau and carried it to the barn for safe-keeping, realizing that it would likely be stolen if it was not secreted there.

Ancovitich, told of above, the defense rested.  
After Catherine Smith had given her damaging testimony about Olchefski being in his store after 11 o'clock Adam Michalowsky denied that there was any light left burning in his saloon, and Chief Robling told of contradictions in the statements of Mr. and Mrs. Olchefski made on the day following the explosion.

On cross-examination Chief Robling was asked if he had not said to Olchefski during the church trial: "I have got my eye on you and I'll fix you." Attorney Charles E. Oliver, of counsel for the defense, took the stand and swore that Chief Robling did say just what he denied having said; that the conversation took place in the mayor's office and that he, the witness, was present and nearby when the words were uttered.

When asked by Mr. Jones if Chief Robling didn't say "Mr. Olchefski, if you don't cease exciting your people to riot, the law will fix you," Mr. Oliver answered positively: "No, he said 'I'll fix you yet!'"

GAS METER'S STORY.  
Mr. Jones made an effort to put in another strong piece of evidence in rebuttal but was prevented by technical objections of the Gas and Water Company found the dial of a gas meter in the ruins. The hands of the dial were melted by the fire and firmly fixed on the face of the dial. The dial was found on the Michalowsky side of the building and there was every reason to believe from its registration that it was from Michalowsky's meter. As the explosion occurred on the next to the last day of the month and as the dial showed that not as much gas was used as during the previous month it gave a strong presumption that there had not been such a leakage during the night as would have caused the disastrous explosion that occurred.

Olchefski had a meter on his side of the house but he did not use gas in the store. It was also testified to by the defendant's witnesses that the alleged small amount of gas was detected in the Michalowsky saloon. It was possible, the court thought, that the dial was from Olchefski's meter and consequently could be used for comparison with Michalowsky's average consumption of gas.

At 3.15 both sides announced that no more testimony was forthcoming and after a brief consultation with Mr. Kelly and Mr. Oliver Mr. Scroggs proceeded to address the jury. He made the assertion that the prosecution was prompted and backed by the insurance men who hoped by convicting Olchefski to escape paying what little insurance he might have had on his property.

He spoke until nearly 5 o'clock, when court adjourned until 8.30 o'clock this morning. The case will probably get to the jury about noon.

THERE'S TROUBLE AHEAD  
Report of Insurance Committee Will Be Attacked.

There is trouble in store for the insurance committee of the board of control if it attempts to submit its report on boiler insurance in its present form at Monday night's meeting of the board. The objection to the report as prepared at a meeting of the committee Thursday night rests in the fact that the committee decided to recommend the award on a proposal submitted and referred to committee after the regular way through an open meeting of the board.

The original proposal was made several months ago solicited by a Philadelphia agency and was referred to committee. At subsequent meetings requests were made for a report. Recently the Philadelphia agency, on account of the publicity given the matter in the newspaper reports, submitted a revised and cheaper proposal and at the same time suggested that the report be received through the agency of Stark & Turn and direct from the American Mutual Indemnity company, whose home office is in this city. All three proposals were read in open session and referred to committee after it had been voted to insure the city's boilers.

When the insurance committee met Thursday night a proposal had been submitted through the agency of C. G. Boland & Co., and the committee decided to recommend a contract with that firm.

The other three bidders for the business claim that the action taken by the committee was irregular in that Boland & Co. had been recommended after the other three had been made public in the newspapers and that it had not been first submitted to the board of control direct. At all events the award will not be made, as the committee has decided to recommend, unless its members make some very plausible explanations for their action.

THEATRICAL ATTRACTIONS.  
When This Evening.  
"Napoleon" is an historical play, and it may be pronounced of unusual merit and interest. It enlists the attention of the audience at the outset and holds it through the end of the play. The incident it has many excellent points and the dialogue is sparkling throughout and of a time exclusively vigorous, and the performance, as might be inferred, is kept up with the merits of the play. Rhea will produce it at the Lyceum this evening.

The Fast Mail.  
What promises to be the greatest attempt in the era of realism will be seen at the Academy of Music, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week in the melodrama of Lincoln J. Carter, "The Fast Mail." The play is famous throughout the country for the completeness and magnitude of its mechanical effects. The production is under the personal supervision of its author--Lincoln J. Carter. Special scenery is carried for the ten complete scenes of the play. In the last act Niagara Falls are shown in all their natural beauty. A cataract of real water is put on the stage, and it boils and foams in the most natural way.

NEW FORAGE CAPS  
FOR THE SOLDIERS

Orders That Has Been Issued from Headquarters of National Guard.

WHAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR

Caps That Will Hereafter Be Worn by the Citizen Soldiers of Pennsylvania Will Be Similar in Every Respect to the Regulation Forage Cap of the Regular United States Army. Official Description of It and Its Ornaments.

When the gallant Thirteenth goes down into camp the coming summer it will be to meet their brothers from all over the state in the regulation forage caps of the same pattern as those worn by the soldiers of the regular United States army. The order was received by the officers in this city yesterday. It gives a complete description of the new caps, as follows:

Headquarters National Guard of Pennsylvania, Adjutant General's Office, Harrisburg Pa., Feb. 10, 1898. General Orders, No. 3: 1. The regulation forage cap of the Army of the United States is hereby adopted for the use of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, with the exception of the State Militia and all officers and enlisted men must be provided with same prior to July 1, 1898.

FOR OFFICERS.  
The design is the same as for enlisted men but made from finer material and with a band of hussar's braided mohair braid one and one-half (1 1/2) inches in width, except for general officers, in which case the band is of black velvet one and one-half (1 1/2) inches in width. The device for front of cap is a combination of the coat-of-arms of Pennsylvania and the Keystone, the latter being used in place of the all embroidered in gold. The Keystone to be gilt for General Headquarters, a combination of red, white and blue for colonel and headquarters, red for First brigade, white for Second brigade, blue for Third brigade; chin strap to be of gold cord with slides, secured at both ends by proper regulation N. G. P. buttons, one on each side, immediately back of the ends of visor. The whole to be in accordance with sample in adjutant's general office.

FOR ENLISTED MEN.  
To be of dark blue cloth, the diameter at the top slightly less than at the base, the height three and one-quarter (3 1/4) inches all around, the seam around the top without, the band one and one-half (1 1/2) inches wide with welts projecting one-eighth (1/8) inch on the top and bottom, the bottom welt one-eighth (1/8) inch above the base of the cap. The visor of black patent leather, bound with the same and moulded to shape, arched underneath, rounded and sloping downward all around to extend from the base of the cap to within one inch of the top and a hair cloth stiffening throughout the remainder of the sides and top; four black metal eyelets for ventilation, two on each side, one eyelet in front for cap ornament fastening, all placed above the band. An enamelled leather chin strap, fitted with a stout metal slide and a leather keeper, secured at both ends by small regulation N. G. P. buttons, one at each side, immediately back of the ends of visor. All to be according to pattern in adjutant general's office.

PATTERN OF ORNAMENTS.  
Infantry--Two ribbons crossing each other at a point equidistant from the butts and muzzles of rifles, pointing upward, hammer upward, and a hard enamelled properly proportioned keystone three-quarters (3/4) inch in length in center. The regimental number, separate battalion, or independent company designation above and company letter below the keystone.

Artillery--Two cannons crossing each other at the trunnions, muzzles upward, and a hard enamelled properly proportioned keystone, three-quarters (3/4) inch in length in center; letter of battery above keystone and attached thereto.

Hospital Corps--A Greek cross of white metal with a hard enamelled keystone, three-quarters (3/4) inch in length in center of cross.  
Commissary Sergeant--A wreath of gold, enclosing a crescent of white metal, cusps pointing to the center, one inch keystone three-quarters (3/4) inch in length placed above crescent and attached thereto.

Sergeant-Majors, Quartermaster and Color Sergeants, and Chief Musicians Attached to General Division and Brigade Headquarters--A shield-shaped gold-enamelled Roman letters N. G. P. in white metal, a hard enamelled keystone three-quarters (3/4) inch in length to be placed on base of cross.  
THE MUSICIANS.  
Field Musicians--A gold bugle with circular crook and hard enamelled keystone five-eighths (5/8) inch in length in center, regimental number, separate battalion, or independent company designation, above and company letter below.

Trumpeter of Cavalry--Same device as described for cavalry.  
Regimental Band and Battalion Sergeant-Majors, Quartermaster Sergeants and Principal Musicians--Same device as described for infantry, omitting the company letters.  
All numbers and letters to be one-half (1/2) inch long.

III. Commandants of companies and officers accounting for state property, on "annual return of state property" will, upon receipt of new caps, take credit for caps and cap ornaments now in their possession, retaining the same, and charge themselves with new caps and new ornaments when received.  
IV. The contract for furnishing the new cap for the enlisted men has been awarded to William H. Horstmann company, Philadelphia, Pa., who are to furnish the caps and ornaments in accordance with the specifications giving list of sizes will be forwarded in duplicate to the adjutant general's office, accompanied by the receipt acknowledged, payment will be made for same by the adjutant general, and the amount charged against the annual allowance of companies or headquarters.

Young Man Injured.  
Employed as a Driver in the Manville Colliery.  
Benjamin Smith, about 18 years of age, and employed as a driver in the Manville mines, narrowly escaped instant death or terrible injuries Thursday afternoon while at work. In some unaccountable way he fell beneath a loaded car and before it could be stopped it had passed almost over his body and had dragged him several yards. He was taken from beneath the car and, strange to relate, no bones were broken or any internal injuries apparent.

JONAS LONG'S SONS.

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A GREAT DAY TODAY AT THE PURE FOOD SHOW

Make a holiday out of today--- and come to the Great Store! It will be the greatest day in its whole history. The birthday of "Honest Abe." The inauguration of our tenth week of business in Scranton. Delightful programmes all day, Special bargains among the Saturday needful things---bargains that are bargains in every honest sense. Music afternoon and evening by Prof. Bauer's First Orchestra---Sousa music. All of the great "March King's" famous compositions. Don't miss this exceptional treat. Come early. Stay late. Rest in the reception room. Dine in the restaurant. Make yourself thoroughly and enjoyably at home. That's your privilege at all times.

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Hosiery  
Women's Fast Black, Seamless, High Spliced Heel and Toe, worth 12c, at 12-1c pair  
Special lot of Men's, Women's and Children's Fast Black Hose; double heel and toe; seamless; some are lace finished; children's have double knee.  
Fine Box Calf, Lace, Waterproof, perfect fitting, handsome and square toe, 2 1/2 to 8, and worth \$5.50. \$1.49  
Misses' Kid, Button and Lace Shoes, fine quality, worth \$1.50 and 98c

Veilings.  
We make Saturday a special day for the sale of Fine Veilings. Special prices on every style, and a great assortment to choose from. You can save money by purchasing veilings here on Saturday. TRY IT ONCE.  
IN THE BARGAIN BOOTH.

Men's Shoes.  
Solid Leather Mining Shoes, worth \$1.50. Tomorrow only... 97c  
Hand-Sewed Calf, Lace and Congress Shoes, fine quality, elegantly made and finished, worth \$3.50 and \$4.00, at... \$1.98  
Boys' School and Dress Shoes, English and Philadelphia, to E. 98c  
Children's Kid Button, 2 to 6, worth at least 25c, one pair to a customer, at... 8c

Men's Furnishings  
Silk Band Bow and Club House Ties, neat patterns, 9 Cents  
Unlaundered White Shirts, cut full size and length, 25 Cents.  
Fancy Besom Shirts, cuffs to match; also laundered white shirts, with protected holes, reinforced etc., worth 75c, at 45c each

English Seal Collarettes--A Great Sale  
We place on sale at nine o'clock this morning two hundred English Seal Collarettes--all we could buy--consequently your only opportunity at the tremendous value. They are made full sweep, with a gracefully curved high storm collar, and worth by every fair standard five dollars. Indeed, only yesterday a big Fur House wanted to sell us a lot at \$4.50--not half so good. We guarantee this the biggest bargain of the season. None will be sold to dealers. They're for our customers. And the price-- \$1.87 while they last.

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- LEWIS HANCOCK, JR., ARCHITECT, 435 Spruce St., cor. Wash. ave., Scranton.
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pointed him in 1888 and Governor Werts in 1892. Governor Voorhees will appoint a prosecutor to serve until April, when Judge Erwin, who was recently appointed by Governor Griggs, takes the place. It is probable that Governor Voorhees will appoint Judge Erwin to serve during the interim.  
Mr. Winfield is an uncle of Mrs. LeGrand Wright, of this city, and has long been recognized as one of the best criminal lawyers in New Jersey.

HAS A RELATIVE HERE.  
Pittsburg Fire Victim Has an Aunt in Green Ridge.  
One of the victims of the Pittsburg fire had relatives in this city. He is George Newman, reported as missing and a fire inspector of the Philadelphia Gas company.  
An aunt of Newman, Mrs. William Martindale, resides at 329 Capouse avenue. Yesterday morning she received a telegram confirming the news reports that Newman was missing. The latter, she has sent his resignation to Governor Voorhees," says the New York Sun.  
"This course was decided upon after a conference between Mr. Winfield, his wife, and Dr. Dickinson, his physician, and some friends. Mr. Winfield is ill and there is no possibility of his recovery."  
"If Mr. Winfield had retained his place until next April he would have been in office fifteen years. He was appointed prosecutor by Governor Ludlow in 1883. Governor Green re-ap-

pointed him in 1888 and Governor Werts in 1892. Governor Voorhees will appoint a prosecutor to serve until April, when Judge Erwin, who was recently appointed by Governor Griggs, takes the place. It is probable that Governor Voorhees will appoint Judge Erwin to serve during the interim.  
Mr. Winfield is an uncle of Mrs. LeGrand Wright, of this city, and has long been recognized as one of the best criminal lawyers in New Jersey.

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