

TWO CENTS. TWELVE PAGES SCRANTON, PA., SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 18, 1901. TWELVE PAGES TWO CENTS.

STRANGE FATE OF FATHER PHILLIPS

The Well-Known Clergyman and Friend of the Miners Found Dead in New York.

CIRCUMSTANCES POINT TO MURDER

The Hazleton Priest Who Helped to Settle the Threatened Coal Strike Has Been Missing for Weeks—A Secret Search Made in New York. Police Arrest Upon Suspicion of "Hot Air" Curist Known as Dr. Kirk Stanley—The Doctor Tells Conflicting Stories—Coroner's Inquest Fails to Reveal Marks of Violence Upon the Body of Father Phillips, Which Had Been Lying in a Ninth Avenue House Since May 9.

New York, May 17.—The body of a man found badly decomposed in a room of the house at 738 Ninth avenue last night is that of the Rev. Edward S. Phillips, of St. Gabriel's Roman Catholic church at Hazleton, Pa., the priest who acted as intermediary between the coal mine workers and J. Pierpont Morgan at the time a strike was threatening. Father Phillips had been missing for a long time, and a letter and telegram from John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers, and other letters, all addressed to the priest, were found in the dead man's clothes. These effects first suggested the identification. Today A. P. Dougherty, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., made it positive that the police and the coroner, who took charge of the case suspect murder.

One man was arrested at once—Dr. Kirk Stanley, a "hot air" curist, in whose room the body was found. He has been subjected to the "hot air" process by the police, who say that he tells conflicting stories. The house in which the body was found is an old-fashioned two-story affair in the rear of a four-story tenement. The first floor of the rear house is occupied by Mrs. Bernius, who is janitor of both the front and rear buildings. Mrs. Catherine Bernius, a widow, who lives in the front tenement, leases the second floor of the rear building. About four weeks ago she advertised for a tenant. A tall man with pointed beard and black hair streaked with gray called on her and said his name was Dr. Stanley, and that he had recently come from San Francisco and controlled a new process for curing rheumatism, known as the "hot air" process. He was looking for apartments in which he could make experiments. He expressed himself as pleased with the rooms and hired them. A day or two later he took possession, with a young woman whom he introduced as his wife.

Witness Disappears. The wife had not been seen for more than a week. It is said by some of the tenants in the tenement and by Higgin's, who Stanley had called on several times, that Stanley saw anybody visit him, and that the young woman seemed to keep to themselves. He experimented with his hot air apparatus on Mrs. Bernius. The apparatus he used, it is said, is one that is commonly employed. It is known as the Frazier-Lentz hot air apparatus.

Shortly after 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon Mrs. Higgins saw Stanley leave his apartments and walk down Ninth avenue. He was not seen again by anyone in the house until arrested. Last night Mrs. Bernius saw a quilt hanging out of the window of the small room, and knowing that the doctor was out she told her daughter, Kate, that she thought the quilt should be taken in lest there should be rain. The girl went to the doctor's apartments and found the door leading to the parlor unlocked. She entered and made a light. As she walked into the room she noticed a horrible stench, but did not suspect that anything was wrong until she walked into the hall room, took the quilt, and saw lying on the floor the body of a man, fully dressed except as to the hat. The girl screamed and her mother and the janitor ran into the room. Their cries aroused some of the tenants and in a few minutes more than a dozen people were crowded into the room. Higgins notified a policeman, George Williams, of the Forty-seventh street station, who made a hasty examination of the room. The candle had been burned to the socket and the grease had run down the side of the holder. In the pockets of the dead man Williams found a number of papers. Among them was the letter from John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers, dated May 25, and telegrams addressed to the Rev. Dr. Edward S. Phillips, Hazleton, Pa., a half-fare railroad ticket, such as is issued to clergymen, receipts from a Barclay street glass concern for statutory papers, and various religious tracts. All these effects were taken to the West Forty-seventh street station house and carefully examined by Captain Donohue, who notified the Central office of the finding of the body and put his two precinct detectives, Lyons and Tobin, on the case.

Stanley's Arrest. A Captain Donohue, after examining the body, the rooms and effects of the dead man, sent out a general alarm for the arrest of Stanley. One policeman, Reimond, was stationed in front of the house with orders to arrest

Stanley should be seen. Shortly after midnight, Stanley was seen walking through Fifth street. When he came to the corner of Ninth avenue, half a block from his apartments, he stopped. Reimond saw him. Stanley saw the policeman at the same moment and at once turned and walked rapidly through Fifth street toward Eighth avenue. Reimond ran after him and, touching him on the shoulder, said:

"Doctor, the captain wants to see you."

"What for?" asked Stanley. "Never mind," answered Reimond, "but come along to the station house, Stanley accompanied the policeman, and when he reached the station house was taken at once to Captain Donohue's private office. He and the captain were closeted together for more than an hour. The captain then took Stanley before Sergeant Slade and told the sergeant to lock him up. The prisoner seemed to be suffering from the effects of drink or drugs; he was dazed. When asked to give his pedigree he said his name was Kirk Stanley (three consonants did not remember which—that he lived at 738 Ninth avenue and had come to this city a year and a half ago. When asked about his title of "doctor," he said:

"Well, they call me doctor, but I have no diploma."

"You are a massage operator," remarked the sergeant. "Yes, that is it. I intend to open a large office here. I have a new hot-air machine for curing rheumatism."

brought to your rooms on the morning of May 9?" he was asked. "I do not, and I don't think I would recognize them were I to see them again."

The police saw the woman who lived with you at your wife, brought the priest there that morning."

NO SETTLEMENT OF THE CAR STRIKE

The Company Will Proceed to Run Its Cars on Every Line of Albany.

Albany, N. Y., May 17.—No settlement has been reached in the railway strike. After hours of conference the officials of the United Traction company and the committee from the organizations of the strikers adjourned without changing the situation. The company will proceed to run its cars on every line within the city limits with the aid of a military force that now numbers 2,000 men. The only step toward settlement that was made was the appointment to-night of a committee from the common council to arbitrate and the adoption of a resolution declaring that if a settlement is not effected by Monday night the council shall revoke the franchise of the company.

MACHINISTS PREPARED FOR ANY EMERGENCY

The Executive Board of the National Association Ready to Conduct the Threatened Strike.

Washington, May 17.—The executive board of the National Association of Machinists assembled here this afternoon to be prepared for any emergency in connection with the threatened strike of the machinists, which is expected to start at midnight on Monday, May 20.

ON A VACATION

Father Phillips Had Been Absent from Home About Two Weeks. Hazleton, May 17.—Father Phillips was reported to have been absent from home about two weeks. He was seen at the station house yesterday.

TROY DOES NOT WANT TROOPS.

Mayor Calhoun Orders the Militia to Leave the City. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Troy, N. Y., May 17.—Mayor Calhoun and City Attorney Howell, of Waterford, today called upon Lieutenant Purman, who is in command of the second regiment, of the militia stationed at the Traction company's transfer house in that city, and demanded to know by what authority the troops were camped in the city.

DOINGS OF ASSEMBLY

Twentieth Century Exercises Are Held by Presbyterians in Philadelphia Academy of Music.

Philadelphia, May 17.—Although it has been for years the custom of the Presbyterian general assembly to begin the real business sessions of the meeting on the Friday following the opening day, the Nineteenth century exercises incident to the celebration of the Twentieth Century meeting were in pursuance of a resolution adopted by the general assembly at St. Louis last year. The programme was laid down in the resolution of the assembly.

ANENT PREDESTINATION

Rev. Dr. McCook Tells of the President's Opinion of the Much-Disputed Article of Presbyterian Faith—An Article of Comfort to the Afflicted—Dr. Purves Gives an Interesting Talk on the Problems With Which the Church Must Deal.

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WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, May 17. Forecast for Saturday: Partly cloudy with occasional showers. Sunday: Partly cloudy with occasional showers. Monday: Partly cloudy.