

# Johnstown Weekly Democrat.

VOL. XXVII.

JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PA., FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1889.

NO. 18.

## IT CAME AT LAST.

### HARRY MOYER SHOTS AND INSTANTLY KILLS JAMES McCORMICK.

Hughes' Carpenter Camp, Near Washington Street the Scene of the Shooting—Self Defense Alleged—A Terrible Warning to Tramps, Thieves and Thugs.

It has come at last. No one will be surprised, and outside of the dead man's friends, we presume no one will regret the act very much. It is simply what every citizen believed the influx of tramps, thieves and thugs would lead to, namely, murder. This, however, seems to be a case of killing in self defense.

Monday night about 9:30 Harry Moyer, of Norristown, Pa., superintendent of the carpenter camp of Mr. Hughes, the contractor, just below the site of the old Opera House, on Washington street, shot and instantly killed James McCormick, said to be from Twenty-third street, Philadelphia. The full particulars of just how the trouble began were pretty hard to get, as every one who witnessed the killing were more or less excited.

It appears that Sunday night McCormick, who was a perfect stranger to all the men in the camp, entered one of the tents and laid down to take a sleep. He evidently was a tramp. One of the men belonging to the tent camp along and finding the man in the tent notified Moyer. Together they undertook to put him out, and as he was quite an ugly customer, it took some rough usage to do it. They succeeded, however, in getting McCormick to leave, but with the avowed intention of coming back sometime and getting revenge.

Monday evening about 9:20 McCormick with two companions, all more or less under the influence of liquor, went over to the Hughes' tents with the avowed purpose of looking for a fuss. The first tent they entered happened to be the one in which Moyer and one or two of the men belonging to the camp were engaged in conversation. McCormick no sooner saw Moyer, than applying a vile epithet to him said, at the same time covering him with a revolver, "you are the man that hit me and put me out of the tent last night." What transpired then cannot be explained except by Moyer, his companions having scamped off as quick as possible. This much is certain, however, Moyer fired and his aim was so true that his assailant must have been killed instantly, as the ball entered the left breast and probably lodged in the heart.

Moyer was immediately arrested and taken to the lock-up, where an attempt was made to interview him, but without success. He claimed he was struck on the head and did not know what he was doing. He was evidently in a high state of nervous excitement and could not talk rationally about the killing.

Dr. A. Evans, the Coroner, was notified, and arrived at the camp at 10:30 o'clock, and empaneled a jury, composed of the following gentlemen: James Milligan, William Strouse, McClelland Liggett, Isaac Harris, Herman Oiler and Charles E. Lout. The jury examined the body, but nothing was found on it except a razor and comb, and a number of handkerchiefs.

While the jury was looking for evidence of identification, a young man, considerably under the influence of liquor, appeared and claimed to recognize the dead man, and gave his name and residence as above. He was taken to the lock-up to be held as a witness.

No testimony was taken by the coroner as to the actual facts of the shooting. He adjourned the jury to meet at 2 o'clock this afternoon at the office of Burgess Horrell.

The men belonging Mr. Hughes' camp have been greatly annoyed by tramps since they pitched their tents, and scarcely a day passed but what some of them lost articles of wearing apparel. In fact the tramps would steal anything they got their hands on. Moyer, who did the shooting, is held in high esteem by his employers, and they said last evening he was the last man they would ever think of shooting any one even in self defense.

The body of the dead man was removed to Henderson's morgue, and Coroner Evans, although he had adjourned the jury until two o'clock this afternoon, reconsidered and took the evidence of two witnesses in the office of Mr. Henderson. Their testimony was substantially the same as stated above, with the exception that they testified it was one of McCormick's companions who pointed the pistol at Moyer, and that all three of the men jumped on him and beat him in a terrible manner. The inquest was then adjourned to meet at Dr. Evans' office, No. 59 1/2 Morris street, at seven o'clock this evening.

The men who were with McCormick succeeded in making their escape, but shortly after eleven o'clock one of them was apprehended on Main street, and taken to the lock-up.

## THE CORONER'S JURY RENDERED THEIR VERDICT LAST EVENING.

Harry Moyer Justified in Shooting James McCormick, of Philadelphia—The Killing Done in Self-Defense—A Statement from Moyer—Witnesses Examined.

The jury that was appointed to render their verdict of the shooting affray, which occurred on Monday evening about nine o'clock, met at Coroner Evans' office, situated on Morris street, at seven o'clock, and owing to the delay of two of the jurors, they did not commence examining witnesses until half-past seven o'clock, when the following persons were examined:

The first witness examined was Harry Shradang, who testified as follows:

"I did not get to the place of the shooting until after the shot was fired. Was not personally acquainted with James McCormick. He asked me to get him a drink of liquor, I said I would if he behaved himself; I took him to the Mansion House, and after arriving at the hotel another old man treated him, after I did. I did not see him until he was shot. He said he was going down (meaning the camp) to do him (Moyer) up, before he would leave the city, and wanted me to go with him, but I did not go. I said to him that the man (Moyer) had authority to put him out. He said he could not put him out. Two men were with him; one of them said he would do it—nothing."

The next witness called was Mr. E. Blair, who testified as follows:

"I was coming out of the tent, I heard some one ask for Moyer's tent, and some one informed him it was on the other side. I saw a gentleman coming out of Moyer's tent without coat or hat. I heard this man say don't shoot me; for I am not Moyer. I saw Mr. Beck have a club in his hand running down toward the tent; then I heard the report of the revolver or some firearm. I saw the man that was shot. I saw Moyer out-side of the tent, and he called for assistance, and said the men were rebbing me. I think there were three men together."

John Fisher was the next witness to take the chair and he testified as follows:

"I saw McCormick standing outside of Mr. H. V. Hughes' camp at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon; I saw him on Sunday behind the B. & O. depot; was not with McCormick on the afternoon of the shooting; I was not with him when he was shot; he said his name was James McCormick, carpenter by occupation; I have been here about seven weeks; I heard him say he was going down to see him (Moyer); I was not in his company in Philadelphia."

The next witness was Joe. O'Colligan, who testified as follows:

"I was acquainted with McCormick, and worked at Mansion Transfer, Philadelphia, three years ago; I was not with him since 9 o'clock A. M. Monday; saw him laid out; he (McCormick) went over to the tent, and informed me that the watchman had 'done him up'; I saw him with a razor."

Mr. W. V. Hughes was the next witness called who testified concerning Moyer's character, which is as follows:

"He was superintendent of my camp and looked after provisions, etc.; his character, as far as I know, is first-class for honesty and sobriety, and was employed by me about six weeks; he came to me with a recommendation from Lieutenant Beane, of Norristown, and worked in the commissary. My orders to him was to keep order, and also allow no drunken people around, which I think he did; did not know Moyer until I employed him in this city."

MOYER'S STATEMENT.

Monday night, about 9 o'clock, as near as I can judge, I was in my tent fixing up my accounts, I heard a man's voice outside calling: "Mr. Moyer." I asked what was wanted. The man inquired if I wanted to hire any carpenters. I asked: "Who are you?" He says: "Never mind, you don't know me." I said: "Put your head in the tent, and let me see you."

With that he put his head in the tent and an arm was thrust through between sections of the tent, and in the hand was a revolver. The man said: "You're the ——— I'm going to do up!"

With that I jumped up, grasped the revolver with my left hand, and turned the muzzle toward the ground. He wrenched it from me and jumped back in the darkness. I dropped down under the table, and groped about until I found my revolver, which is a thirty-eight calibre, purchased by me at Dibert's hardware store just last evening. I found the weapon, and by that time two men jumped into the tent, knocked the lantern over, and the light went out. They commenced beating me over the head. One of them said: "Wait till I get a shot at him." With that I pointed my revolver upward and pulled the trigger. It snapped the first time, but did not discharge. They continued to beat me over the head, and I pulled the trigger a second time. The weapon went off, and one of the men exclaimed: "My God, I'm shot in the breast!"

I, in a dazed condition, crawled out of

## BUCKALEW'S FAILING.

A Characteristic Defect That Costs Him Many Friends.

"Charles R. Buckalew and wife," says the Philadelphia Inquirer, were the only words which announced the arrival of one of the ablest Pennsylvania Democrats and his wife at the Hotel Lafayette. Mr. Buckalew holds his own in his battle against age with first-class success. If he feels any older than he did six or eight years ago he does not show it in his manner. His step, although slow, is as firm as ever, and he says he feels as well as he has at any time in recent years.

When Mr. Buckalew stood in the hotel lobby looking about with a preoccupied air several friends passed in and nodded to the distinguished Columbian. He did not appear to know them, and failed to return their greeting. "That," said a Bloomsburg gentleman, who lives within a stone's throw of Buckalew, "is one of the Congressman's greatest defects, and it has cost him more friends than any other fault he has. It is impossible for him to remember faces. No, it is not intentional. I know that he has tried to cultivate the faculty, but the result has only been a failure. Up home some of his friends say that he can't recognize his next door neighbor, and while I think that is stretching a little I know he never remembers a single strange face. It worries him considerably. If I were to go over and tell him that he hadn't recognized those three friends he wouldn't smile again for a week."

A Wife Beater's Punishment.

Since 1882 cases of wife-beating in Maryland have been extremely rare. In that year the Legislature passed an act leaving it to the discretion of the Court, whether a man convicted of this offence should be flogged or the bare back or imprisoned. The flogging must not exceed forty lashes, and the imprisonment must not exceed one year. In aggravated cases the brutal husband may be both flogged and imprisoned. The penalty of flogging has only been imposed a few times. Soon after the passage of the act a colored man was punished in fine style with a cowhide by the Sheriff of Baltimore City, and since then there has been but little wife-beating among the colored population.

On Monday last, a white man named David C. Herbert, received a severe flogging in Hagerstown. It was shown at the trial that he had knocked his wife insensible, and would have struck her with a chair when she was lying unconscious on the floor, if his son had not interfered. The sentence was fifteen lashes on the bare back and five days' imprisonment. The Sheriff had a whip made for the occasion. The man was stripped to the waist, his hands were drawn up over his head, and his wrists put through a pair of handcuffs that were fastened high up on the wall. The enterprising newspaper reporters who were permitted to see the infliction of the punishment, say that each blow left a broad welt, terminating in a contusion from which the blood seemed ready to start. "He twitched convulsively at the three first blows, and at the fourth and each succeeding stroke he moaned audibly."

From this description, it may be inferred that Herbert received a sound flogging. Pennsylvania might try the Maryland law, and include people who cruelly whip little children in the flogging penalty. Moses considered the lex talionis a good thing, and the experience of Maryland in dealing with wife-beaters shows Moses understood human nature rather better than many of our modern law makers.

Relief From the Antipodes.

A letter from F. J. Loudin, dated Brisbane, Queensland, July 17, was received in this city yesterday, enclosing a draft for about \$1,300 for the Johnstown fund. It will be remembered that F. J. Loudin was, years ago, a waiter at the Monongahela House and subsequently joined the original Flisk jubilee singers. He afterward became manager of the Company. They were in the antipodes at the time of the Johnstown disaster, and immediately upon receipt of cable dispatches their sympathy was aroused and a series of concerts planned by the singing society, from which, together with lectures by Prof. Buchanan, of the Western Theological Seminary, a large sum was realized and sent to the Johnstown fund. The draft was turned over to Treasurer Thompson yesterday.

The Corrupt Syndicate.

Happily the Orphan School Syndicate which put an ineffaceable stain upon the patriotic and generous people of Pennsylvania, is being stopped in carrying out its shameful abuses. The Soldiers' Orphan School Commission has formally knocked out five of the most disgraceful of the Soldiers' Orphan Schools. Five of the most corrupt Syndicate Schools have been disposed of by the Commission. Let this good work of the Commission gradually proceed until the entire system is wiped out. The Soldiers' Orphan Schools were a beneficent work of charity, but gravitated into mingled cruelty and greed, which we re-assent has put an ineffaceable stain upon a patriotic and generous people. Thank God, the Syndicate Schools will not much longer speculate on the flesh and blood of Soldiers' Orphans.

Remarkable Story.

Mr. D. L. Rodgers, who formerly resided on Iron street, Millville, tells a remarkable story connected with the finding of his wife's body. Mrs. Rodgers was of a sunny turn of mind, and always carried plenty of money with her. When her body was recovered it was taken to the morgue in Prospect, and a full list of what was found on her person laid on the corpse. Among other things was mentioned a pocket-book containing \$170.02. The pocket-book and contents disappeared and Mr. Rodgers has been unable to find any trace of it. It was not turned into the committee on valuables, and the question is what became of the money.

Cambria Hospital.

The following number of patients have been treated by the Cambria Hospital, Prospect, during July: In the hospital, 19; outside patients, 65—total 84. Total number of visits to outside patients; 310.

## THE HOSPITAL.

PLenty OF MONEY.

Twenty-Two Cases Admitted to the Red Cross Hospital.

The Cases Consist of Typhoid and Malarial Fevers—Six Trained Nurses of Philadelphia, to Take Charge of the Sick—Other News of Interest.

During the past week twenty-two cases were admitted, eighteen of whom have been discharged since as cured. The cases consisted of typhoid fever, malarial fever, injuries, dysentery, and a case of genuine scurvy, from the salt pork diet which some of the contractors' men have been subsisting on.

Dr. Herbert Starkey, surgeon in charge, arrived from Philadelphia Monday with a party of six trained nurses and a physician to relieve those who have been performing such faithful service in the past two months.

The doctors and staff expect to leave Johnstown on Wednesday and present to the local physicians all of the valuable hospital stores, instruments and drugs with the entire contents of the Hospital as it now stands, pronounced by both medical and military judges to be the best equipped Military Hospital they have ever seen or heard of.

With the supplies to be left our local physicians will have no difficulty in starting the Memorial Hospital, at Moxham.

Mr. Howell Evans the Quartermaster and artist of the staff says that he has left delicacies enough to tickle the palates of Johnstown's sick for a year at least, and Dr. Starkey says that there is a supply of drugs and instruments which few city hospitals contain.

The cases of typhoid fever now being sent to the hospital cannot be traced to any one cause, but as they require a great deal of attention, the trained nurses brought up by Dr. Starkey will remain for a short time.

The doctors and staff will leave with what they have worked so hard for—that is, with the appreciation and gratitude of everyone. They have sacrificed their profession or business, as the case may be, while here to be of what benefit they could to our suffering humanity. They have worked as laborious grave diggers, mechanics or anything that seemed necessary. Drs. Sharkey and Wharton are surgeons to the Medico-Chemical Hospital of Philadelphia, and the latter has had an extensive army experience, and Messrs. Evans and Sangue are prominent in art circles.

Mr. W. Williams, is a well known rigger and a prominent Mason.

Miss Quinn and Mrs. Shrum are two of Philadelphia's best trained nurses.

"NELLIE BLY."

How She Made a Hit in New York Journalism.

There are a good number of people in Johnstown who have good reason to remember Miss Cochran, of Allegheny City, who writes under the nom de plume of "Nellie Bly." A New York correspondent of the Pittsburgh Post, writing on women in journalism, has this to say about "Nellie." It shows what a young lady of brains and push can do when she goes about it in the right way. The insane asylum episode consisted in her feigning insanity on the streets of New York, and being taken to an insane asylum, where she was treated for a week, and then discharged. She wrote a full account of the horrors of the asylum in the New York World, and thus gained notoriety at once.

Few persons know the truth about the position of women in New York journalism. It is easily told. Women seldom succeed in all-round reporting; even more rarely in editorial writing and practically never in important executive work. Most of those who win fame and a comfortable living do it either through sensational work of one kind or another, or through specialties. The young woman who calls herself "Nellie Bly" came to this town two or three years ago, after earning a local reputation by work done for a Pittsburgh paper. Her English was distinctly bad, but she was pretty, clever, and courageous. She was honestly anxious to make her bread by legitimate newspaper work, and "copy readers," with the good nature characteristic of newspaper men, shaped up her "copy" and sent it to the printer. This, however, could not have gone on forever, and it was only a question of time when she should have been driven to give up her plucky experiment, but for her startling exploit in exposing abuses in an insane asylum. The outcome of that venture established her in journalism, and she is now a conspicuous success.

A Hay Fever Convention.

It has been discovered that the hay fever only affects people with a superfluity of brain matter, and there are over 100,000 of people in the United States who are subject to this malady. So hay fever appears to be one of the penalties of greatness. No curative has yet been discovered for this distressing disease, and a Hay Fever Convention will be held this month at Bethlehem, New Hampshire, to resolve on the malady. Since the Hay Fever Convention has been called, many distinguished citizens have commenced to sneeze.

## PLenty OF MONEY.

Cambria Borough Sufferers Receiving Their Cash.

Any person who happened in the neighborhood of Judge Cummins' office Tuesday about 10:30 o'clock A. M., could have seen a crowd outside the building of from three to four hundred people. These were the people from Cambria borough who were after their little stipend which they were awarded.

Treasurer Thompson having gone home, and Secretary Kromer being detained out of the city, Fred Rheinart, the paying teller, took charge, and everything moved like clock work.

Cambria borough is the largest but one that the bank has had to deal with. All day long men and women kept coming up to Mr. Rheinart's desk, and getting their money. Nearly every one departed with a smiling countenance. The total amount paid out was about \$33,000.

The office will be open this morning at 8 o'clock, and continue open all day, or as long as orders are presented.

Personally Conducted Tours to Luray via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The wide popularity which the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's personally conducted tours to Luray and Natural Bridge gained last season, has induced the company to repeat them this summer. There is no more attractive region in the East than the great valley of Virginia, with its two great wonders—The Caves and the Bridge—and none could be chosen from which tourists could derive more pleasure, profit and instruction. The tours are fixed for Thursdays in August and September. Excursion tickets, which include a day's board at Luray Inn and admission to the caverns, will be sold from Philadelphia at \$10.00, and proportionately low rates from other stations. These tickets will be accepted for passage from Philadelphia only on the Niagara Express, leaving Broad Street Station 8:50 A. M. This also applies to points on the Philadelphia Division at which the Niagara Express stops. From all stations east and north of Trenton, the tickets are good for passage to Philadelphia on the day preceding the excursion, as well as on the train leaving New York at 6:20 A. M. on Thursday, which will arrive in Philadelphia in time to connect with the Niagara Express. From other stations regular trains connecting with the Niagara Express at the nearest station must be used. The party will be in charge of the Tourist Agent and Chaplain. The return portion of the tickets will be good for use until and including the following Thursday. Tickets may also be purchased at \$1 more than the rate above quoted valid for the round trip via Gettysburg. In general and special attractiveness this trip is unequalled.

Millionaires and Tramps.

We are not slowly but rapidly gravitating toward two great divisions of our people. The divisions are millionaires and tramps. The rich are becoming richer and the poor are becoming poorer. The rich are growing richer by gigantic combinations of capital, where by labor and professions are diminished and oppressive are imposed upon consumers, and the rich grow richer, the poor grow poorer. Nearly all of our leading industries are controlled by capitalized combines, all of which dictate terms to both laborers and consumers. All this time the financial and industrial condition of our country are alarming.

Never can the poor improve their condition as long as capital combines exist to increase the cost of the necessities of living, and decrease labor and wages. One solitary combine, the sugar trust, has lessened labor for the workingmen, and advanced the cost of sugars, give the combined capitalists an increased profit of upwards of \$30,000,000 a year.

Patents Granted.

Patents granted to citizens of Pennsylvania during the past week and reported for this paper by C. A. Snow & Co., patent lawyers, opposite U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

E. G. Acheson, Pittsburg, calcetric generator; W. Ager, Bloomsburg, coral scouring etc.; E. O. Aldrich, Lock Haven, gate; C. E. Bean, Scranton, knitting; J. J. Becker, Scranton, cigar machine apron; J. Decker, Cookport, wire fence; N. R. Deppe, Confluence, spreader; J. H. Dunn, DuBois, coffin; J. Fries, Reading, water heater; C. Keller, Springdale, cutting glue; H. Lippold, Jr., Corry, corn sheller; Joseph C. Middleton, Norristown, boring bit; G. Reiter, Allegheny, whiffletree; J. E. Robinson, Oil City, ice velocipede; S. Rogers, Beaver Falls, wire mat; E. Rowe, Indiana, revolving jail; Theodore Thorn, St. Clair, Shutter fastener; William White, Westfield, washing machine; J. Wood, Jr., Conshohocken, boiler.

Aid From Ebsenburg.

Messrs. C. T. Roberts, John Lloyd and John J. Evans, of Ebsenburg, were in the city yesterday. Mr. Lloyd, Treasurer of the Ebsenburg Relief Fund, handed over to Mr. W. C. Lewis, of the local Finance Committee, \$1,000 from the people of Ebsenburg for the Johnstown sufferers.