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The



Citizen.

GOD MORNING, Dear Readers! What, in your opinion, should a newspaper do—publish the Truth or Suppress it? Telephone the Editor about it.

68th YEAR.

HONESDALE, WAYNE CO., PA., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1911.

NO. 11

# CURTAIN DROPS ON LAST ACT IN EQUINUNK TRAGEDY!

## Samuel Reed Pleads "Guilty" On Manslaughter Charge, And Is Sentenced For Complicity In The "Big Fight" Of July 12, 1910.

"That Mr. Reed will give you a little over a year," said Judge Alonzo T. Searle, after sentencing Samuel Reed, Monday morning to an indeterminate term of not less than fourteen months nor more than twelve years in the Eastern Penitentiary at separate and solitary confinement at labor; to pay the costs of prosecution and a fine of \$250, for the part he took in the "big fight" at Equinunk, July 12, 1910, when Silas E. Lord, received a blow in the head, either from a pick or a hoe, which resulted in his death twelve days later, and for complicity in which Leona Lord was recently tried, convicted of manslaughter, and given a sentence of not less than three nor more than 12 years in the Eastern Penitentiary; to pay the costs of prosecution and a fine of \$500.

Sheriff M. Lee Braman brought the prisoner in when Court opened

however, were such that Mr. Reed was drawn into the fight, did make an assault upon Silas Lord, but the injury inflicted by Samuel Reed did not kill him, did not even seriously hurt him, and if the injury inflicted by Reed upon Silas Lord stood alone, Reed could never be charged with manslaughter or any other kind of homicide; his offense could not possibly raise above the degree of aggravated assault and battery.

**Reed's Good Reputation.**  
"Samuel Reed never before came before a court charged with any crime. I have gone to Equinunk and interviewed many of the best people of that town; I have interviewed the pastor of his church where Mr. Reed not only attended but where he called the people to services by the ringing of the bell which he himself was instrumental in procuring for that church. These people almost unanimously speak in the highest terms

**District Attorney's Statement.**  
"Your Honor, there has been a plea of not guilty entered upon the indictment against Silas E. Lord as to the first count and a plea of guilty on the second count in the indictment. The Commonwealth is willing to accept the plea of not guilty as to the first count and guilty as to the crime of manslaughter as set forth in his petition, hoping that justice will be done in this matter. In accepting this plea, however, I am compelled to say to your Honor that we must not overlook the fact that a very serious crime was committed, that the community was shocked by the crime and that this defendant took some part in this crime as has been stated by him through his attorney. Samuel Reed made a violent attack upon this man and it was through him and the effect of his blow, assuming that he is correct in his statement that the conditions were made possible that the other defendant could commit the crime of Murder, accepting his view of it and that he is guilty of participating in the crime of murder or manslaughter, and that the actual outcome of his attack had the effect of making it possible for the other defendant to commit the crime, this should be considered by the Court. It is due to the county and to the people at large that crimes of this kind should be punished and while it may be true that this defendant was working for another party and was possibly led into this crime by her, still this would not be sufficient to excuse him or enable him to avoid the punishment due to the part which he took; he is responsible for his own actions; it is no excuse for him to say that somebody else led him and he is not excused because he said he did not commit it, he should not be excused because he said a woman led him on. Adam was not excused for his transgression because he said he was deceived or tempted by a woman. We must not overlook the fact that Silas E. Lord was killed in the fight."

**Lawyer Lee Interested.**  
"As attorney for Mrs. Leona Lord I would like to say a word. Perhaps more than any other member of this bar, I have spent more time, have seen more persons and learned more of the facts in this case than any other. I stood on the spot where Silas E. Lord fell down in the road from the effects of the hoe; I saw the spot to which Samuel Reed retreated; the place where stood Silas E. Lord when he was struck down; I know the threats that had been made by Silas E. Lord to people of what he would do if anything occurred there. The threat he made within 200 feet that very day from where the fight occurred. I know that Mr. Reed knew fully of the threats at the time; I have been acquainted with Mr. Reed for years and I want to say this for Mr. Reed that when Silas E. Lord attacked him he retreated to the very precipice of the road before anything occurred; that Samuel Reed did all that was possible to be done excepting to jump down the bank before striking Silas E. Lord with the hoe, and Samuel Reed knew as I fully believe, that if he did not settle Silas E. Lord that there would be murder at that house that day, and I know that Mrs. Leona Lord and her son, Millard Lord, fully believe that the fact that they are not now sleeping under the daisies is due to the act of Samuel Reed in striking down Silas E. Lord. If Reed had not done that upon that day, Silas E. Lord and his son would have been here for murder and Mrs. Lord and her son would have been dead; they have said that to me from the beginning and to the close, and this I fully believe. Now Mr. Reed did what a man and many other men would have done and with a great deal of candor should have done. He made just one simple mistake, he struck a harder blow the last time than he should have done; that blow was not the result of any intention on his part to injure Silas E. Lord, not at all, he struck that blow with a view of stopping him and preventing him from killing Leona Lord and Millard Lord, her son. Now Mr. Reed has been in jail six or seven months for this error of judgment and nothing else; it does seem to me that this is a case that ought to appeal strongly not only to the heart but to the conscience of the court to give him as slight a punishment for this offense as in the opinion of the court may be consistent with justice."

**Judge Searle's Remarks.**  
"You, Samuel Reed, have pleaded guilty to the crime of manslaughter, and in entering this plea, under the advice of your counsel, have acted wisely.

The evidence which could be brought against you were a trial had nearly all been heard in the case of the Commonwealth vs. Leona Lord, recently tried in this court. Therefore the District Attor-

ney and the Court feel clearly justified in accepting your plea, as under the evidence a jury would not be warranted in convicting you of a higher crime.

We have considered the statement made by your counsel of your connection with the killing of Silas E. Lord and weighed his appeal in your behalf and taken heed to the alleviating circumstances admitted by the District Attorney, and we also agree with him that a grave crime has been committed by you and that you merit serious punishment for the part you have admitted by your plea was taken by you in the killing of Silas E. Lord.

From the time of your arrest and imprisonment in the County Jail, since July 13, 1910, you have in no way attempted to impede the progress of justice, and by the plea today entered have saved the county the necessary cost of an expensive trial, and we especially give you the benefit of this act in fixing the term of your sentence. We have before said from this bench that any person who, upon an indictment being found against him, shows a genuine spirit of sorrow for the offense committed, and admits his guilt, and does not add to his other crimes that of false swearing in a trial of his cause, in an attempt to escape his just deserts, will always have, as far as possible, the clemency of this court extended to him upon sentence.

In the killing of Silas E. Lord a terrible crime was committed, but the Commonwealth and the Court have endeavored that justice only should be meted out to those connected with that most unfortunate affair, and we trust and believe that the results of the prosecutions arising therefrom may be beneficial to this county, and that neighbors may cast aside and forget old grudges, hatred, envy, malice, ill will and petty jealousies, and that in their intercourse with each other they may observe the Golden Rule.

And we also hope and trust it may be many years before another homicide within her borders will shock the good law-abiding citizens of Wayne county."

### GREELEY CENTENARY

HON. WILLIAM H. DIMMICK DELIVERS AN ELOQUENT ADDRESS ON "PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS OF HORACE GREELEY"—LARGE AUDIENCE PRESENT TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF THE FAMOUS EDITOR.

"The articles this evening are all concerning the life of Horace Greeley, or taken from his writings," remarked Principal H. A. Oday at the beginning of the program given by the Seniors in the High School Auditorium, last Friday evening, to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Horace Greeley.

The program follows:  
Biography, Helen Caulfield; "Greeley's Apprenticeship," Anna Klroeg; vocal solo, Mrs. Rockwell; "Political Life," Leon Hagaman; recitation, "Fantasies," (Poem by Greeley), Bessie Kimble; song, by seven High school boys; declamation, "U. S. Just After the Revolution," Arthur Saunders; "Greeley As a Lecturer," Florence Sluman; piano solo, Miss Freeman; declamation, "Continuation of United States Just After the Revolution," Charles Markley; "Greeley and the N. Y. Tribune," Sarah Manner; chorus, by seventeen High school girls.

In introducing the Hon. William H. Dimmick, who made the address of the evening, Prof. Oday said that when the thought of holding a Greeley meeting came to him he cast about in his mind to find some one who knew Mr. Greeley personally, and that he at once thought of Mr. Dimmick. "Mr. Dimmick," said Prof. Oday, "was a Greeley Democrat. He is not one of the old-time men; he's just old enough to connect us back to Mr. Greeley. I don't believe there's a man in Honesdale who has a warmer place in his heart for the boys and girls."

Mr. Dimmick said among other things:

**Mr. Dimmick's Address.**  
MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: "With great pleasure I accepted the invitation of Professor Oday to pay our homage to one of the greatest, noblest, grandest servants of the American people. It is a broad, a bold statement to make, but time has demonstrated it. The greatest divines, the greatest orators, the wisest statesmen, the finest and most brilliant editors have embalmed his name with the choicest

### HON. ALONZO T. SEARLE NOT IN THE RACE!

Judge Searle A Candidate Only To Succeed Himself.

When seen by a representative of THE CITIZEN, Judge Searle had this to say:

"While I appreciate the honor conferred upon me by the mention of my name as a possible successor to Judge R. W. Archbald, I wouldn't want to accept any position which would compel me to leave Wayne county, and reside elsewhere."

"I signed and headed a petition of the Wayne County Bar for Judge Knapp, and sent a personal letter to President Taft endorsing him, and I am not, and have not been, in any sense, a candidate for the position made vacant by Judge Archbald. All the influence I have had or may have had has been and shall be directed

to helping Judge Knapp to obtain the appointment.

"I am a candidate for no office except to succeed myself."

In this connection we publish a favorable comment upon the Judge's ability to succeed himself, from one of the Scranton papers.

—Hon. A. T. Searle, Honesdale, denies that he is a candidate for the judicial position made vacant by the advancement of Judge Archbald. He says that he is a candidate for no office except to succeed himself. Judge Searle's popularity and the ability he has displayed while presiding in the local courts, certainly give evidence that he is qualified to succeed himself or any other judge. —Editorial column in Saturday's [Scranton] Tribune-Republican.

### PEDAGOGUES REQUIRE "COURAGE" AND "SCISSORS" TO TEACH SCHOOL!

Forty-six Wayne County Teachers Spend a Profitable Saturday at The High School Auditorium—"You all have A Good Deal of Courage or You Wouldn't be School Teachers"—Supt. Koehler—"I Couldn't Teach School Without a Pair of Scissors!"—Miss Orra Rollison, Hawley. --Instructive Program.

The local institute for the teachers of Honesdale Borough, Texas, Dyberry, Seelyville, Cherry Ridge, Bethany and Lebanon townships was convened Saturday morning at 10 o'clock in the High School Auditorium, County Superintendent J. J. Koehler presiding.

Following the devotional exercises, conducted by Prof. H. A. Oday, Miss Julia F. Schimmel, was appointed Secretary by Prof. Koehler.

In the absence of the first two essayists, the program, which was intended to be a review of the requirements for provisional certificates, to aid the teachers in taking the examinations, was opened by an informal discussion as to the Methods of Teaching "The Merchant of Venice."

"You all have a good deal of courage or you wouldn't be school teachers!" remarked Superintendent Koehler in complimenting the large number of teachers who had the courage to come out on such an unfavorable morning.

Miss Vera Murray, a teacher in the Texas High school, was asked to give her views on how to teach Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice." She said: "I have them [the pupils] learn the time, setting and country in which it was written. In reading, in class, I have each person represent one of the characters. I emphasize the character of Shylock as being the greatest character in the play. The 'casket plot' brings out Portia's womanly qualities. Her speech, commencing 'The quality of mercy, etc.' brings out her strength and intellectual attainments."

"I had a class," interjected Prof. Koehler, "where the boys all felt sorry for Shylock, but the girls had no sympathy for him, and felt that he got what he deserved."

"Supposing we had some Jews in the class, might they not take exception to Shakespeare's portrayal of the character of 'Shylock?'" questioned one of the pedagogues.

"Put the achievements of the race before them," answered a school marm. "They surely have a most brilliant history."

"Most of our cases in Court are spite cases," broke in Prof. Oday. "So, are we any better than Shylock?"

**Prof. Koehler's Theory.**  
Superintendent Koehler said: "Not a day ought to go by that the scholars ought not to have one written lesson in one of the branches. I don't believe in having written lessons in the same branch every day."

When the subject of methods of teaching the classics was brought up, a number of the teachers were of the opinion that the scholars en-

joyed the classics more than they did the Fourth or Fifth Readers, since it gave them something worth while, something more than the readers.

Several townships, it was stated, supply the scholars with five and



County Superintendent J. J. Koehler.

twenty cent classics. The money is raised by holding box socials and other kinds of entertainments, \$20 and \$25 being frequently cleared. In the opinion of Prof. Koehler, it was better for the pupils to buy them, because it's the only kind of books some will be able to buy.

The first paper of the morning, a "Review of Twice Told Tales," First Part, was presented by Miss Bessie Dudley, Honesdale. It was an admirable condensation of Hawthorne's masterpiece. "I am anxious," said Prof. Koehler, "to find out whether the scholars take any interest in the works of Hawthorne."

En passant, it was remarked that Irving uses a lot of long words that the pupil is not familiar with, while Hawthorne does not.

Miss Rose Switzer, Honesdale, presented a scholarly paper on "Will," "Habituation," "Hereditry," "Impulses and Instincts."

"In order," she said, "that an act may be called voluntary it must be preceded by an idea. In infancy the body is the chief concern. Man is a social animal and craves the companionship of friends. No normal man is all social, animal or spiritual."

"The ablest men have the largest



THE LITTLE SHOP AT EQUINUNK, WHERE SAMUEL REED PLIED HIS VOCATION OF WATCHMAKING AND REPAIRING.

at 10 o'clock, Monday morning. Through his attorney, C. A. McCarty, Esq., he entered a plea of "Not guilty" to the charge of murder, and of "Guilty" on the indictment of manslaughter.

By order of the court the charge of plea he made in October, 1910, of "Not Guilty" on both indictments to that of "Not Guilty" on the first charge, and of "Guilty" to the second count of the indictment, was granted, the District Attorney, M. E. Simons, having consented to such withdrawal and such change in the plea as prayed for by the petitioner.

**Mr. McCarty's Plea For Mercy.**

"On behalf of Mr. Reed I wish to say that after due consideration, he has thought proper to take this course. He has acted voluntarily and at his own free will, after carefully considering all the matters incident to and all the results which would be likely to come to him or to the community, should he proceed in having this matter disposed of by a trial in court. He wishes me to say in his behalf, that the matter seems to him to be peculiarly unfortunate—two men are engaged in a fight, neither of whom have been convicted or tried for any offense; two other people were drawn into the fight, one of whom has been convicted of manslaughter and the other has now pleaded guilty to the same offense.

**Samuel Reed's Unique Position.**

"Samuel Reed is in a position which is perhaps unparalleled in the annals of this Court. So closely associated with another person that the trial of that person to a great extent tries the issue in Mr. Reed's case, at least to such an extent that it would be impossible for him to obtain a jury in Wayne county who had not already formed some opinion regarding his guilt or innocence and would make it extremely difficult if not impossible for him to obtain an impartial trial in this county; he has also taken into consideration that the taxpayers of the county of Wayne are not responsible in any way for this unfortunate affair; that the taxpayers of the county of Wayne ought not to be punished by reason of the trouble occasioned and the expense incurred at this fight, and for this reason as well as others, he is willing to take the consequences of his act without any trial or any further expense to the county.

"Samuel Reed has from the beginning shown a disposition in this matter to be fair and to take such action as would best serve not only his interest but the interest of all parties concerned. In the killing of Silas Lord he had no part; he never intended to kill him, he never had the slightest enmity or ill will towards him, in fact he was his friend and the last man that Mr. Reed would undertake to do the slightest injury. Circumstances and conditions existing on the day of this fight

of Mr. Reed as a peaceable, quiet citizen and many volunteered to come down here as witnesses to prove that reputation in this court. He regrets that cost has been put upon the county through any act of his and only this morning he said to me that he only wished that his means would permit him to pay the cost himself thus far incurred, but he is unable to do so, he said this would give him the greatest pleasure. He does not deny that he is guilty of taking a part in this fight which he should have avoided and for this offense he is willing to suffer to the extent that this court may see fit to inflict upon him; he appeals to the leniency of the Court, to the heart of the Court and to the mercy of the Court under the statements which he has made and which are conceded in the community where this unfortunate affair occurred as being so, as well as throughout the county where the matter has either been heard or read. He is prepared to accept such sentence as this Court may see fit to impose upon him. He will do this in the interest of the people of Wayne county; he will do this also because he is willing to suffer for his foolishness and recklessness in interfering in the fight of others but not because he was in any way concerned in the killing of Silas Lord. On behalf of my client I personally would ask the Court to exercise all the leniency and mercy that your Honor may consistently see fit to do. Immediately after this occurrence Samuel Reed expressed the deepest regret over the unfortunate affair. He wrote to Mrs. Lord, the widow of Silas Lord, expressing to her his most sincere sympathy and pity for her in her affliction. He was repentant from the first and every act of his and every word he spoke contained the sentiments expressive of repentance and sorrow for the part which he had unfortunately taken and his connection with the unfortunate affair. His actions on that day implicate him to such an extent which may make him technically guilty of the crime for which he now pleads guilty, but which at heart Mr. Reed was never guilty of, and I ask the Court in all seriousness to extend to Mr. Reed all the leniency possible consistent with justice and I am led to believe that no matter how small may be the punishment or how short the term of imprisonment given to him by this Court, it will meet with the full approval of the community and I believe it will meet with the approval of the Commonwealth whose duty it is to conduct the prosecution of this defendant. We leave it with your Honor, because Mr. Reed has pleaded guilty to a technical offense which in law is punishable but he simply asks for mercy."

Judge Searle: "Have you anything to say, Mr. Reed, other than what your counsel has said?"  
Samuel Reed: "No, sir."