THE TIMES, NEW BLOOMFIELD, PA., AUGUST 26, 1879.

RAILROADS.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING R. R ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGERTRAINS.

May 11th, 1879.

TRAINS LEAVE HARRISBURG AS FOLLOWS

TRAINSLEAVE HARRISBURG AS FOLLOWS For New York, at 5,15, 8,10 a.m. 2,00p, m. and *7,55 p.m. For Philadelphia, at 5,15, 8,10, 9,45 a.m. 2,00 and 4,00 p.m. For Reading, at 5,15, 8,10, 9,45 a.m. and 2,00 4,00 and 7,55 p.m. For Pottsville at 5,15, 8,10 a.m., and 2,00 4,00 and 7,55 p.m. For Pottsville at 5,15, 8,10 a.m., and 4,00 p.m., and via Schuyikill and Susquehanna Branch at 2,40 p.m. For Auburn via 8, & 8, Br, at 5,30 a.m. For Auburn via 8, & 8, Br, at 5,30 a.m. For Auburn via 8, & 8, Br, at 5,30 a.m. For Auburn via 8, and *7,55 p.m., trains have through cars for New York. The 5,15, a.m., trains have through cars for Philadelphia. SUNDAYS :

SUNDAYS : For New York, at 5,15 a.m. For Allentown and Way Stations at 5,35 a.m. For Reading, Philadelphia and Way Stationsat 1,45 p.m.

TRAINS FOR HARRISBURG, LEAVE AS FOL LOWS :

Leave New York, at 8.45 a. m., 1.00, 5.30 and

7.45 p. m. Leave Philadelphia, at 9.45 a. m. 4.00, and 7.20 p. m. Leave Reading, at 14.40, 7.25, 11.50 a. m. 1.30,

6.15 and 10. 35 p. m. Leave Pottsville, at 5.50, 9.15 a.m. and 4.40

Leave Pottsville, at 5.00, 5.15 a.m. and 1. p. m. Andvia Schuylkilland Susquehanna Branchat 8.15 a.m. Leave Auburn via S. & S. Br. at 11.50 a.m. Leave Albentown, at #2.305,40, 9.05 a.m. 12.10 4.30 and 9.05 p.m. SUNDAYS: Leave New York, at 5.30 p.m. Leave Philadelphia, at 7.20 p.m. Leave Reading, at 4.40, 7.40, a.m. and 10.35 p.m.

p. m. Leave Allentown, at2 30 a. m., and 9.05 p. m. J. E. WOOTEN, Gen. Manager. C. G. HANCOCK, General Ticket Agent.

+Does not run on Mondays. *Via Morris and Essex R. R.

NEWCOMER HOUSE,

CARLISLE ST.,

New Bloomfield, Penn'a.

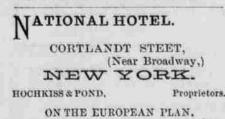
J. A. NEWCOMER, - - - Proprietor.

HAVING removed from the American Hotel, Waterford, and having leased and refurnished the above hotel, putting. It in good order to ac-commodate guests, I ask a share of the public patronage. I assure my patrons that every exer-tion will be made to render them comfortable. My stable is still in care of the celebrated Jake. Jake. March 18, 1879.] [J. A. NEWCOMER.

THE MANSION HOUSE,

New Bloomfield, Penn'a., GEO. F. ENSMINGER, Proprietor.

HAVING leased this property and furnished it in a comfortable manner. I ask a share of the public patronage, and assure my friends who stop with me that every exertion will be made to render their stay pleasant. So A careful hostler always in attendance. April 9, 1878. tf



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THE LAYMAN MYSTERY.

THE following remarkable story has I never before been published in its complete form. Years ago the main features of it were printed in the New York Courant but, for the sake of certain parties involved, the full narrative was suppressed.

George Layman was a farmer, residing near Selby, in Yorkshire, England. Though not an educated man by any means, he was above the average farmer of the time. He had a good home, well furnished, and a fine farm excellently stocked. He was twenty-eight years old, and unmarried. With him resided an only sister of seventeen and a girl of remarkable beauty. In 1820, when this narrative opens, brother and sister were living in the greatest affection and harmony. In those days it was customary to employ young men, generally the sons of other farmers, and to board and lodge them in the house, George Layman had seven such. One of them was named Thomas Miller. He was about nineteen or twenty, well built, and exceptionally good looking and attractive. He was exceedingly well informed, and spoke without any of the peculiarities of dialect for which Yorkshire men are noted. He came to the farm-house with a stick in his hand and a bundle on his shoulder, and obtained a night's lodging. He got into conversation with the farmer and the hands, and, though he admitted that he knew nothing of farming, but had worked at the trade of a gunsmith, he expressed a desire to remain and make himself useful about the place. Layman assented. Miller joined the other young men, and was apparently soon deeply interested in his work.

An acquaintance soon sprang up between Miller and Fanny Layman, the farmer's sister. Unfortunately it took a clandestine form, and the lovers-for such they soon became-met in secret. The consequences which might be expected followed, and Miller soon afterward disappeared. . When it was apparent to her brother and neighbors that she was to become a mother, she solemnly averred that she had been married to Miller, and produced a certificate showing such to be the fact. Miller disappeared March 20, 1826, when Fanny was within three months of her confinement.

On April 17th following, a stranger arrived at the small inn in the adjacent village, and sent for Farmer Layman. He represented that he was anxious to hire a run for cattle, and had heard that Layman's land was peculiarly adapted. A long conversation followed, and Layman did not return home until rather late. On the road thither, and not more than half a mile from his home, he came upon a carriage standing in the road. Several men were around, and one held a lantern while the others were putting on the fore wheel, which had come off in a rut. Layman paused a moment, and as he did so he heard a stifled groan from the vehicle.

"What's the matter?" he asked. " Any one hurt?"

"Oh, no," was the reply; " the lady is only alarmed—that is all."

"Help-help !" was heard in tones

been partly burned with others, but had been carried up the chimney by a draft and clung to a protuberance. This scrap of paper was thought nothing of by the servant, and would have been thrown away if the landlord had not seen it, and observed on it the name "Layman." This attracted his attention, and he read all that was there. It was as follows :

the way, you can easily entice Funny..... Use what aids......find need. BALDON.

The paper had been formed along the fourth line, and then torn off at the corner. It was conveyed to Layman, and kept by him as likely to be of value. There was small doubt that Fanny was in the vehicle which Layman overtook on his way home, and that the screams which he heard were her cries for help.

Could it be that Miller was at the bottom of the abduction? Layman remembered that Miller had frequently written in an album belonging to Fanny, and in comparing that writing with the writing on the scrap of paper they were found to be identical. Layman made his way to York to consult a lawyer as to the best means of discovering his sister. When he reached that city almost the first thing he saw in a newspaper was an account of the discovery of the body of a murdered woman in the River Aire, just above Leeds, near a place known as the Forge. The woman was pregnant, and her linen was marked "F. L." Feeling sure that this must be his sister, for the description answered to her in every particular, Layman started back home.

On the outskirts of Selby he was waylaid by footpads, and robbed. Then he was left on the highway, half dead. He was found by a laboring man who recognized him, and had him conveyed home. When Layman recovered consciousness, he remembered distinctly that one of the footpads said, when expostulated with by the other :

" You know as well as I do that the understanding was that we were to kill him."

Layman was a vigorous man, and three days after his last mishap he was on his way to Leeds. Arrived at Kirkstill, he found that the body had been claimed by an old woman as that of her daughter, and buried. Layman went before Mr. James Hargraves, then a Magistrate, and applied to have the body disinterred. Leave was granted, and the next morning was appointed for the work. During the night, however, the grave was opened and the corpse removed. Who the depredators were was involved in mystery. Layman saw in it a conspiracy to defraud justice, and by a wonderful stroke of good fortune hit upon the very device which the despoilers of the grave had adopted. While examining the church-yard and the neighboring field, he observed deep footprints underneath a very high wall, the ascent of which was, however, easy to an unencumbered person. These footsteps led both ways, and Layman concluded that persons rifling the grave had both approached it and quitted it by that way. But it was next to impossible that they could have done this with the coffin in their possession, and therefore he arrived at the conclusion that the corpse had been reburied somewhere within the precincts of the grave-yard. A search was made, but no newly turned soil was found. Mr. Hargrave suggested examining the old-fashioned square raised tombs, of which there were many in the grounds, and sure enough, under one of the slabs was found the coffin and the remains. Layman identified the body as his sister's and it bore marks to show that the girl had been strangled. By this time the authorities of Leeds, York and Selby had become alike interested in the crime. That the man Miller was at the bottom of it they had every reason to believe. But who was he, that he could bring his instruments to bear so readily whenever he desired to use them ? And what was his object in accomplishing the death of the girl? The word "Seldon" at the end of the writing on the scrap of paper found in the chimney was evidently the writer's name. Was Seldon the same person as Miller, and was that person interested in getting out of the way the girl whom he lawfully married ? Mr. Hargrave's shrewdness seemed to offer a rational solution of the mystery, namely: That Miller had married the girl unknown to wealthy parents or friends, and on their learning of the fact they had taken measures to remove her, in order that the disgrace of marrying beneath his station, might be removed, and that he might be at liberty to fulfill some other marriage engagement which they had arranged. One thing was resolved on-to look for Seldon. There was a family of that name in the North Riding, residing near Birmingham, and another branch of the same family at Stanhope, in Durham. All investigation, however, failed to connect any member of either family with Fanny Layman. There was only one man of a suitable age in either, and he had been

the meantime it ought to be said, a Coroner's Jury had sat in the case of Fanny Layman or Miller, and returned a verdict of wilful murder against some party or parties unknown.

Two years passed away. Layman went to London on pleasure or business, and as countrymen are wont, visited the House of Commons. He saw a gentleman coming out of St. Stephens' who attracted his attention. The young man, Miller, stood before him-there was no doubt of that. He inquired who he was, and learned that he was James Aubrey Seldon, a member of Parliament from the North Riding of Yorkshire, and that this was his first session in the House,

Layman returned the next day and watched for the arrival of the members. In due time Seldon came, and Layman had a good view of him. No doubt remained on his mind as to his being Miller. Layman was in doubt what to do. He had £150 pounds in his pocketbook, and he said to himself that he ought to secure the services of a lawyer. He asked for the Courts, and meeting a host of lawyers coming out in wig and gown, he stopped one. This happened to be none other than the renowned Brougham, who listened to the man patiently. Calling a younger lawyer, he briefly informed him of the facts, and he asked Layman to wait where he was for a moment. The lawyer returned with a cab, and he and Layman drove to Bow street. A warrant was procured and Seldon was arrested.

Now follows the most remarkable part of the strange narrative.

Seldon denied all knowledge of Layman or his family, or that he ever went by the name of Miller. His handwriting, however, was shown to correspond exactly with that of Miller, and that of the man who signed "Seldon" to the scrap of paper found in the chimney of the inn.

Seldon's father was also positively identified by Layman as the gray-haired man who thrust him away from the carriage on the night of Fanny's disappearance. A host of witnesses, however, swore that the elder Seldon was at home at that time and sick in bed. To crown all, while Seldon was still under examination, a young man answering Miller's description somewhat, surrendered himself to the authorities, and confessed that he was Miller, and had enticed Fanny away and murdered her. The admission of this cold-blooded murder aroused the indignation of all who heard it. He was tried, convicted and sentenced to be hanged within forty-eight hours. At the last moment he was reprieved, and his sentence was subsequently commuted to banishment for life.

Layman persisted in his belief to the very last that Seldon was the real man, and his conviction was intensified by what occurred some years later. There was a hunt at Rock Hall, the seat of Sir Joseph Rockcliffe, Layman's landlord. Seldon was there, and following the hounds he took a path which no one knew but those acquainted with Layman's farm. This strengthened the farmer's belief that Seldon and Miller were identical.

But the most confirmatory and dam-

took a fancy to stroll through the country toward home. On his way he came to Layman's and there saw Fanny .--That was the attraction which held him. Finding his attempts to seduce her in vain, he married her secretly. On discovering the condition in which she was, he abandoned her and returned home.

By some means his father, who was a desperate and unprincipled man, learned of his marriage, and a plan was devised to remove her. In the first instance, it is supposed that the Gypsies were to abduct her and inveigle her into some situation which would warrant a divorce. Subsequently, however, her death was resolved on, whether with the saction of the Seldons or not is uncertain. The old woman who claimed the girl's body was doubtless one of the Gypsies. The alleged sickness of the elder Seldon must have been a trumped up story, to which it was not difficult to get retainers to swear, especially when all the authorities, from the Constables to the King, were anxious to cover up the guilt of the real culprits.

THE CAUSE OF THUNDER.

HAVE lately seen it stated in a textbook upon electricity and magnetism that the phenomenon of thunder is not fully accounted for by any theory as yet brought forward. Whether this be so or not, I am not sufficiently acquainted with the subject to say. I believe the commonly accepted theory is that a vacuum is created in the path of the electric spark, and that the subsequent in-rush of the air produces the detonation. If, however, it be allowed that the electric spark is not a material substance, but that it is merely a natural force or mode of action, the possibility of this theory is at once disposed of. It is a well-known fact that the passage of electricity in a high state of tension through a mixture of oxygen and hydrogen, not only causes an explosion, but also causes the formation of water, and it seems to me that, given the existence of free oxygen and hydrogen in the region of the electric disturbance, the phenomenon of thunder is sufficiently accounted for. Whether the normal amount of hydrogen in the air is sufficient to cause the stupendous noise of thunder I am not competent to judge; but if not, I would suggest that the presence of an abnormal amount might be accounted for by the process of the electrolysis, which would probably occur between the two poles of the thundercloud before the tension became so great as to cause a rupture of the circuit and consequent discharge of the electric spark. I would also draw your attention to the fact that every thunder-clap is immediately followed by an increase in the quantity of water deposited in the shape of rain. Does this not point to formation of water by the explosion of the gases ? As I myself am unable, both of means and time, to investigate the matter, I should be glad to find that some one better qualified had taken the subject in hand. It is a frequent experiment of Dr. Tyndall's to show his audience red clouds. I feel convinced that by following this line of inquiry he could give us a real thunder-storm .--

and the service of th

win success by deserving it. Address: GILMORE & CO.,

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Address:

J. B. FLICKINGER. A. M., Principal, or W.M. GHIER, Proprietor, New Bioomfield, Pa. July 20, 1879.



that seemed to indicate a struggle to free the speaker's mouth from a muffling hood.

"What means this?" Layman inquired, excitedly, springing from his horse and going toward the door of the carriage.

He was confronted by a stalwart, grayhaired man in a capacious cloak, who thrust him aside with his left hand, and said :

"Do not interfere, my friend, the lady is my daughter, and she is slightly alarmed-that is all."

At the same time another person stepped up to Layman and whispered ;

"She has been long confined in a lunatic asylum, and we are just conveying her home. Make no alarm, or she may have to return."

Thus appealed to, the farmer passed on, and before two minutes had elapsed the coach passed out of sight and hearing in an opposite direction.

When the farmer reached home he found that his sister was missing. Soon after he left for the inn a person brought a message for her, and she walked down the road with him. That was the last seen of her.

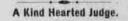
Search was made all over the neighborhood, but it was unavailing. The man at the hotel who had sent for Layman vanished the same night, and it was believed that he was in conspiracy with the abductors of the girl, and on him devolved the part to get the farmer out of the way while his sister was removed.

What was the object of the abduction? That was the interesting question. Several days passed, and the neighborhood was still in excitement over the missing girl, when a servant cleaning out the grate in the room occupied by the stranger at the iun, found a scrap of paper clinging to the chimney. It had

ning proof is yet to be given. Inquiry showed that the man representing himself as Miller was pardoned the very day his sentence of death was commuted to transportation, and that he was actually keeping a hotel at Richmond, in Yorkshire, within a few miles of the country seat of the Seldons, and passing under his own name, Marfit. This fact was ascertained in 1832. The very same year one King was hanged at York for highway robbery. Before the execution he made a confession of his crimes. and among other things admitted that he was one of the gang who assailed Layman, near Selby, soon after the murder of his sister. He was formerly a groom with the Seldon family, and confessed that he was hired to aid two gypsies in dispatching Layman and getting rid of his sister. He declined to say who hired him, but enough escaped him to show that his employer was the elder Seldon.

Finally, in 1841, the wife of James Aubrey Seldon filed a bill of divorce against her husband, asking for a separate maintenance. One of the facts set up was that the respondent was subject to fits of great mental excitement, during which he recounted crimes which he said he had committed, and among them the instigation of the murder of one Fanny Layman, to whom he was married clandestinely. An attempt was thereupon made to revive the inquiry into the murder, but Marfit disappeared from Richmond and Seldon was placed in a lunatic asylum, near Durham .--Thence he escaped in 1847, and nothing was heard of him for several weeks, until his remains were found on a heap of straw in an old barn on Layman's farm.

Taking all the circumstances together there is no doubt that James Aubrey Seltraveling abroad at the very time of don and Miller were the same. Seldon Miller's stay with the Laymans. In had returned from the Continent, and



Nature.

Romance would seem out of place in the judicial chair of a higher court, but three cases are on record during the past three months where an English. judge has not only evinced the tact of woman, but her a love of romance as well, and wound up a somewhat bitter lawsuit by marying off the plaintiff and defendent. A young man and woman who were some distant relation to each other, were recently contesting their right to a piece of property, the one claiming possession under an old lease, and the other under an old will. The case became sorely entangled, and the judge said: "It strikes me that there is only one way out of this difficulty that. can give satisfaction to both of you. Here is a respectable young man of good possessions and prospects who would certainly have appeared in a more favorable light had he not been so piqued by the plaintiff, who, on the other hand, is. naturally a very nice young woman. They can get married and both live happily on the land which they are now disputing about, but if they go on with this ungraceful suit, the value will soon be frittered away between the lawyers.33 The young woman blushed and the young man appeared very awkward, but a stay of proceedings was had to give the contestants time to get married, after which the suit was withdrawn,

How to Get Sick.

Expose yourself day and night, eat too much without exercise; work too hard without rest; doctor all the time; take all the vile nostrums advertised ; and then you will want to know

How to Get Well.

Which is answered in three words-Take Hop Bitters! See other column.

34.