

A Boy Shot by an Infernal Machine.

The Philadelphia "Star" of the 8th inst. says: "This morning, a few moments before 10 o'clock, those in the vicinity of the row of lawyers' offices, in Sixth St., near Walnut, heard a loud report, as though produced by a package of cannon fire crackers.

The report proceeded from the rear office of the first floor of 229 South Sixth street, next door to the City Solicitor's office. The apartment is occupied by Robert A. Parrish, John Shalleross, Duncan L. Buzby and Robert L. Pyle, all well-known attorneys at law.

The noise naturally attracted a crowd, mostly members of the bar, who upon reaching the room found it filled with a thick body of smoke, and a young man named William O'Donnell, aged 18 years, who was an employe of the office, writhing in pain, his right arm and wrist bleeding, his coat sleeve burned and singed, and only a stump of what was formerly his right hand projecting.

Somebody, from appearance, had taken out, on last night or yesterday, all the papers and other contents of the drawer, and then placed within it the deadly weapon, which caused the damage.

This consisted of the barrel of an ordinary-sized gun which was loaded with bullets, then several heads of the new improved safety matches had been secured and over them had been placed a piece of the paper upon which it is necessary to strike them.

These matches had been placed close to a small quantity of powder, and then, to make the bellicious work complete two pieces of black marble, about the size of paper weights, had been attached by pieces of wire.

This wire had been so adjusted that when the drawer was opened it connected with the marble and other appurtenance and did its deadly work.

The young man had from all appearances gone to the drawer to open it, when the gun barrel exploded, discharging two thick bullets.

Fortunately for O'Donnell he was not standing directly in front of the table, as the circumstances show, but towards the side of the table, or instant death would undoubtedly have resulted.

The bullets struck the young man on the hand, tearing it in pieces from the wrist at the same time ripping the woodwork in the drawer to splinters. The gun-barrel had been placed in a horizontal position in the drawer, its mouth pointing outward. Directly in front of the table had been placed a black hair-stuffed arm-chair, as though the person who had placed the machine in the drawer had expected that the one to open the drawer would seat himself in the chair and then pull the drawer open with both hands an easy and natural way of so doing.

As it was the slugs, after demolishing the drawer and wounding O'Donnell, continued on their course in a direct line, forcing their way through the chair's thickly stuffed end, finally embedding themselves in an opposite corner of a little retiring-room in the rear. Had any person been seated in the room at that time he would have undoubtedly been shot. So powerful was the force of the explosion that even sharp splinters of wood from the damaged table imbedded themselves in the back of the chair.

Mr. Parrish, whose desk the machine was in, subsequently surrendered himself to the police and admitted that he had placed the apparatus in the drawer. He had been robbed several times of valuable papers and he determined to catch the thief. He was committed to jail to await the result of the boy's injuries.—Ed.

A Chinese firm in San Francisco received twenty dozen stogy brogans, for which there was said to be no market in the Sandwich Islands, and which accordingly had been shipped back to America, where they were made, claiming exemption from duty, as American goods which had been on speculations. The circumstance being such an unusual one, the custom-house officers suspected that the heathens had been putting up a trick, and an investigation was made. It turned out that the heels of the shoes were hollow, and when sent to Honolulu contained about a quarter of a pound of opium. A duty of thirty-five per cent. on the value of the shipment was imposed before the goods were delivered. The importation of opium is forbidden in the Sandwich Islands, and lovers of the drug there pay \$60 a pound for it. As it costs \$14 a pound in Frisco, the smuggling operation must have been a "fat thing."

A St. Louis man scared his wife nearly out of her wits by pretending to commit suicide. His name is Joseph H. Dana. As a policeman was passing Dana's house, he heard a pistol shot, followed by a scream. He rushed in and found Mr Dana lying on the floor apparently in the agony of death, with a pistol by his side, and his wife doing enough screaming for a dozen ladies of her build. Mr. Dana sat up and explained that it was one of his little jokes; that he was "making believe" to suicide, to see how his wife would take it. The officer was a matter-of-fact man, and although Mr. Dana smiled all over his countenance, he could not see it in any other light than a disturbance of the peace

by firing a pistol, and so marched the funny man off to the station-house.

After Mr. Dana got bail he concluded not to be so exorcisingly funny in the future.

One week ago last Sunday, John W. Carroll, a respected citizen of Oil City, aged about fifty years, attended the Free Thinkers' meeting at Fairport, Chataqua Co., and while there heard Colonel Robert Ingersoll speak for the first time. He became greatly excited over the address of the great orator, and soon after returning home began to exhibit symptoms of derangement. He gradually grew worse until he was no longer manageable, and last week he was removed to the depot with much trouble and started for Dixmont.

Georgia Senate acquitted State Treasurer Renfro of the charges of malfeasance. The vote was 25 for conviction to 17 for acquittal—less than the required two-thirds to convict.

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