

PRICE ONE CENT.

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EXTRA MURDERED

Dr. Kniffin's Wife Choked to Death in Her House in Trenton.

MISS PURCELL UNCONSCIOUS.

Deep Mystery Surrounds the Terrible Deed.

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.) TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 3.—This city was startled this morning by the discovery of the murder of Mrs. Arthur Kniffin, the handsome wife of one of the city's leading dentists.

She was found suffocated to death in her apartments, and the tragedy is most mysterious, though burglars are generally believed to be the murderers.

Dr. Kniffin is away from home, having gone to Warren County yesterday morning on a business trip.

The discovery of the murder was made by Dr. Shannon, Dr. Kniffin's partner, who came to the dental rooms from his boarding-house, a block away.

On entering the house he found all the rooms in a state of confusion.

The drawers in the tables of the operating-room on the second floor had been drawn out and their contents scattered over the floor.

Proceeding to the laboratory and other rooms on the same floor, there was equal disorder.

The Kniffins' sleeping apartments were overhead, and Dr. Shannon not finding Mrs. Kniffin went to the third story to investigate further.

The door of the nearest room was open, and on the floor lay the unconscious form of Miss Purcell, a pretty typewriter, who had been boarding with the Kniffins.

She was in her robe de nuit. Dr. Shannon at first knocked violently on the door, but failing to raise Miss Purcell, came nearer and shook her arm.

This also failing, he looked further, and in an adjoining chamber saw Mrs. Kniffin lying in bed, her features horribly distorted, her right arm across her forehead and the hand clinched as if it had been squeezed in a vise.

It took but a moment to decide that she was dead.

Dr. Shepard, a neighboring physician, was called and the police were notified.

Miss Purcell being still alive, prompt attention was given to her, but it took an hour's exertions to bring her to.

To Chief McChesney she then told the following story:

"Mrs. Kniffin and I retired at an early hour last night, occupying the same apartment on the third floor.

"She was restless and complained of not being sleepy.

"I finally fell asleep. The next thing I knew I was aroused by her screams.

"I don't know what hour it was, but I think it may have been about 3 o'clock.

"Mrs. Kniffin screamed 'burglars.'

"I immediately sprang from the bed and ran into the next room, intending to raise a window and shout for help.

"I was seized, however, by a man who threw me to the floor and applied a handkerchief to my face.

"At the same time I saw Mrs. Kniffin struggling with another man, who was holding her down in bed.

"I then became unconscious.

seems strange that they should have taken the precaution to lock the doors again after coming out.

Further mystery is added by the recollection that about a month ago another robbery was reported at the house, with the information furnished by Mrs. Kniffin that a burglar had held a revolver over her head while his accomplice ransacked her room.

On that occasion also Dr. Kniffin was away.

The couple lived happily together. They had one child, a ten-year-old son, who slept through last night's events undisturbed.

In the dental rooms there were, of course, various sponges and it is believed chloroform was used.

A corner of Mrs. Kniffin's bedquilt was found saturated, as if this had been applied to her face.

There were no marks of violence on her body, except that her right hand was clinched as if squeezed in a man's strong grasp.

Coroner Bower took charge of the remains, and the police are guarding the rooms in violation till the return of Dr. Kniffin, who has been telegraphed for.

Augustus A. Reid, one of the first to enter the house to-day, claims that the rear door was unlocked.

Police Justice Matheson, who has had a private interview with Miss Purcell, this afternoon told THE EVENING WORLD reporter that there were no burglars in the house. That is his firm conviction.

He was disposed to be incredulous regarding Miss Purcell's narrative. He says she is entirely too circumstantial.

He looks with suspicion on the topography condition of the house. He says it looks like a studied effort to give the impression of burglars' presence.

It is now asserted that the relations of Dr. Kniffin and his wife, which appeared so pleasant to the outside world, have in reality been strained for some time. They had been married about eleven years.

Dr. Kniffin's visit to Warren County is variously reported as a pleasure trip and a business journey. Miss Purcell says he went to look at a farm with a view to purchasing. It is said he told Dr. Shannon he might be absent some time.

Dr. Kniffin is a man in the prime of life, and is popular not only in his practice but in general society about town.

Miss Purcell is the cousin of the dead wife. She has been employed as a typewriter at one of the big rubber factories, and has boarded with the Kniffins for some time.

MRS. POTTER AND AUSTRALIA.

"La Tosca" to Be One of Her Plays Bellow and the Infuzenza.

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.) LONDON, Jan. 3.—Mrs. Potter and her company sail for Australia on the steamer Oceana Jan. 10, and expect to open in Melbourne the last week in February.

Mrs. Potter's repertoire will include "La Tosca" and "Fedoras," besides other favorite parts.

Her English provincial tour begins in October. She declares that she has no desire to return to America, which has had sad ravages on Mr. Bellow's classic type of beauty.

EFFORTS FOR MRS. MAYBRICK.

Her Friends Yet Hope to Secure Her Full Pardon.

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.) LONDON, Jan. 3.—Mrs. Maybrick and her efforts are being made here by the friend of Mrs. Maybrick on her behalf and have already resulted in the bringing to light of many material facts that did not come out in the trial.

Should they stand the test of investigation Home Secretary Matthews will be urged to recommend a full and free pardon to the unfortunate woman.

A BABE'S BAPTISM IN BLOOD.

It Lay Between Its Murdered Mother and Suicide Father.

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.) MONTECAL, Que., Jan. 3.—Thomas Williams, a young man, was baptized this morning by cutting her throat.

He then cut his own throat and died a few minutes after.

The neighbors being attracted by the commotion, broke into the house and found the infant lying in a pool of blood between its dead father and mother.

AN EX-CHAMPION SCULLER DEAD.

J. H. Sadler, Who Yielded the Title to Trickett in 1876.

AN EMPIRE'S PERIL, TAMMANY! CLOSED UP!

Great Plot Against the Czar and the Autocracy.

Many Arrests, Including that of Nihilist Leader Pierra.

(BY CABLE TO THE PRESS NEWS ASSOCIATION.) LONDON, Jan. 3.—Private letters brought by hand from St. Petersburg affirm that a conspiracy has been discovered, not only against the life of the Czar, but for the overthrow of the Empire and all autocratic government in Russia.

Persons implicated in this plot have been found in the highest ranks of the army, in the Court and the aristocracy.

Arrests are of daily and nightly occurrence, and there is a reign of terror among the suspected, no one knowing when he may be visited by the police.

A cipher despatch from St. Petersburg announces that thirty-two officers of the army are under arrest.

The Czar continues ill, and his illness has not been satisfactorily accounted for.

Contradictory reports of the cause and character of his complaint are put into circulation from the Court.

No explanation is given of the arrests made within the Imperial Palace at Gatchina since the Czar was taken ill.

Everything indicates that a serious crisis has arisen or is at hand.

PIERRA ARRESTED.

The Nihilist Leader Taken Prisoner at Warsaw.

(BY CABLE TO THE PRESS NEWS ASSOCIATION.) ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 3.—The Nihilist leader, Pierra, has been arrested. He was taken at Warsaw, and on his person and at his lodgings the police have found pamphlets and letters involving a number of officers of the Imperial Guard in what is believed to be a desperate Nihilist plot against the life of the Czar.

CHASING A MAD MURDERER.

Nicholas Miller's Slayer Run Down by Police at Midnight.

"Crazy Hans," or Johannes, who brutally murdered Nicholas Miller, the squatter, at West End avenue and Seventy-second street, last night, was caught by the police shortly after midnight, and Capt. Bergold telegraphed to Police Headquarters that he was under lock and key.

The murderer had escaped after beating Miller's head to a jelly with a heavy wagon-wheel, in a quarrel about nobody knows what. Policeman Cain had seen him fifteen minutes before on his way to a saloon with a "growler" in his hand.

He had scarcely returned to the cabin in the lots when an outcry was heard. Miller was found weltering in his blood at the door.

A single witness of the crime was found in the murdered man's young nephew, who had seen Johannes steal upon his uncle after a joyous quarrel, with the wrench in his hand held so as to conceal it.

He was well known to the police and others in the precinct, and Capt. Bergold mustered his force at once, picked off the squatter, and shot him in the back, and he lies in the morgue with a bullet through his head.

His plan was a success. Bulletins of the night's movements began to arrive at the station house within an hour, and he had been seen and tracked down to Fifty-sixth street, where he tried to get out, but he was arrested by a patrolman, and put off by the conductor on account of his wild look.

After that the reports that kept coming in from the Western Boulevard, running at full speed, Capt. Bergold and Policeman Cain, who had seen him last, went out to meet him. They ran up Twenty-third street, and found him at the Boulevard at Seventy-third street.

He had a pair of trousers made of salt-lunging, and stuck in his belt was a knife with a silver handle, one and a half inch and a half wide. The police gave him no chance to use it, but shackled his hands at once and led him to the station-house in One Hundredth street.

He rambled wildly, and his talk was incoherent. The burden of it was that Miller had kicked him and beaten him. He did it all the time, he said. New Year's day, when he (Hannes) was in his bed trying all day, Miller came up and kicked him.

Last night he was hammering on the edge of his shoe, but he had turned up by much use, when Miller came up and abused him. Then he hit Miller with the wrench he was using as a hammer. The wrench he threw away afterwards when pursuing.

He gave his name at the station-house as Nicholas Heller, and his age as forty years. Afterwards he said that his name was Nicholas Scheller, and abused him. Then he hit Miller with the wrench he was using as a hammer. The wrench he threw away afterwards when pursuing.

Wire-Cutters Start Out Again.

Six gangs of electric wire-cutters were sent out again to-day by Commissioner Girov.

They went to work on Fourth and Thompson streets, Fifth avenue, First avenue and Avenue B. Three electrical experts accompanied the workers.

Dr. Nicholas's Will.

The will of Dr. Charles H. Nichols, Superintendent of the Biomechanical Asylum, was probated to-day. It bequeaths \$25,000 and all his first wife's plate and jewelry to his son, Lieut. Murray Nichols, and the balance of his estate to his widow.

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It has been hinted that the General was to enter the yacht into a schooner, and a wild rumor was started that he would lead a syndicate to build a 40-footer to beat the America.

Both of these rumors are without foundation.

In reply to a question put to him this morning Gen. Paine said:

"Yes, I intend to fit the Volunteer again this Summer, and shall not change her into a schooner. There is nothing in that class, or at least, it appears that there will be nothing this year. About all the racing schooners are to be sold."

"I have no intention of racing her, in fact, there is hardly any class now for her to race in. I don't say, however, that I should not go into a race if any thing interesting turned up. I have arranged with Capt. Hall back up as sailing master."

"Have you any idea of crossing the Atlantic with the Volunteer next Summer?"

"I don't think there is anything over there of sufficient interest to tempt me to cross. No, I shall not begin yachting till August, and have no idea of crossing the Atlantic."

It will thus be seen that the Volunteer will be about next season and in the rig in which she has thus far been invincible.

While Gen. Paine was disinclined to talk about international yachting in the absence of any challenge, it is evident that the Volunteer in command and in her old rig will be most formidable in the event of a challenge for the America Cup.

Col. Fellows Has No Cases for the Extraordinary Term.

Thomas B. Kerr, formerly Treasurer of the Broadway and Seventh Avenue Railroad, has been notified to appear before the Extraordinary Term of the Court of Oyer and Terminer, which will open its session next week, to stand trial on another of the indictments found against him for bribery in connection with the Broadway street road franchise.

It was stated this morning that Col. Fellows would probably move to dismiss the indictments, as the reduction of his contingent fund by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment would prevent him from undertaking another such costly trial, in which he would have to bring some of his witnesses from San Francisco.

That there is no prospect of bringing any more of the boodlers to trial is evident from the statement made by Col. Fellows this morning, when he was asked to do so about the Kerr trial.

"I shall not do anything about it," he said. "I will state positively that I will have no cases at all to bring before the court Extraordinary Term of Oyer and Terminer."

First move on the Flock case immediately in the regular term of the Court.

It has been stated that you might bring other cases besides those for bribery and embezzlement, which have already been tried.

"No, I cannot bring any but the Aldermanic bribery cases of 1884 before that court," he said. "I have no other cases to bring before the court Extraordinary Term of Oyer and Terminer."

According to Col. Fellows's programme it is evident that Judge Danville will sit at least five minutes and then adjourn sine die.

No more boodle cases will come up for trial under the present administration, and the general opinion among the public is that the matter is closed.

LEFT ALONE IN HIS AGONY.

Laborer Egan Accidentally Hurt and Abandoned by His Friends.

James Egan, sixty-nine years old, of 1300 Third avenue, is at the Ninety-ninth Street Hospital suffering from two broken ribs, one of which has penetrated his lung.

He was found lying on the sidewalk in the cellars of an abandoned house in the neighborhood of the City Hall, and he was taken to the hospital by a patrolman.

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He Gets Fifteen Years for Murdering Millionaire Cunningham.

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