

structions as to what he desired of them, and they proceeded downstairs to the dining-room.

The procession was formed, and headed by the Warden, started for the execution-room.

An inclined walk had been built from the rear basement door, along the prison wall about fifty feet, to an iron-barred gate which closed with a clang after the witnesses had entered the prison yard.

Not a play in the killing process. Two of the witnesses to the execution, who gave their names, were seen by an Evening World reporter before the autopsy. They said that all the electrocutions were completely successful and without flaw. None of the men struggled or resisted when placed in the chair. Instead, they assisted the Warden's deputy in arranging the straps, as Kemmler did at Auburn.

Jugro, the Japanese, was perfectly docile. All the men were killed by the first contact. The positive electrode was applied, as in the Kemmer case, to the top of the head, and the negative electrode to the leg.

Most of the witnesses remained till the autopsy was concluded.

The story that the Jap resisted an attempt to cut his beard yesterday is disproved by the fact that his beard was trimmed down a week ago in anticipation of the execution.

Planned to suppress all details. George E. Oliver, a church organist, of Albany, came out of the prison office soon after 9 o'clock. He took a cab and hurried to the depot to catch a south-bound train.

Mr. Oliver said to an Evening World reporter that the witnesses of the execution had signed an agreement to maintain secrecy regarding what he had seen in the death-chamber, so that no matter if the official killing was a success or the direct failure the public should be kept ignorant of the fact.

The death watch outside. The hours after midnight were anxious ones to the watchers outside the prison as well as to those who were charged with carrying out the sentence of the law.

At 3.30 o'clock the electric lights in the town went out—half an hour earlier than usual—and all felt that the supreme moment was at hand.

The buzzing of the dynamo could be plainly heard by the reporters outside the walls. The dawn was breaking, the last for the condemned four.

Soon after 4 A. M. the witnesses and jurors were ushered into the death-chamber. The experts had examined everything and were satisfied that there would be no hitch.

Slocum was awakened at 4.30 A. M., and as he sprang from his cot rubbing his eyes he asked, "Is it time?"

"Not quite yet," Principal Keeper Connaughton replied, "but it is soon now, my boy." Slocum gave a sort of gasp as he realized that his last hour had come.

Nevertheless he steadied himself, and after a tremendous intake of two he said: "All right, I will be ready."

He bathed his face and hands and made quick preparations for his breakfast.

While he was waiting for his last meal to earth his spiritual advisers came into his cell and passed about fifteen minutes with him. He received holy communion.

His breakfast was ready. He ate sparingly of boiled eggs and coffee, and at 3.15 he signified that he was ready for the supreme trial.

The invited witnesses who were anxiously waiting for the death scene took up their positions. There wasn't much formal order about the march as there used to be in the Tombs.

Slocum walked steadily to the awful room. His arms were held behind his back, and a strap on his legs allowed him to step about twelve inches at a pace.

No time was lost. When the death-chamber was reached Slocum walked to the fatal chair and sat down. His feet were tied and his arms and head firmly fixed to the proper places. He was ready in a moment.

A moment later Warden Brown touched the bell and the current was applied. He died quickly.

Five minutes after he was killed the black smoke from the stack told that preparations were being made for the next man.

Half an hour after Slocum was awakened Smiler had been aroused, and while Slocum sat at his breakfast Smiler was being prepared for his crime by the Rev. Mr. Edgerton.

Exactly thirty-five minutes after Slocum's death body had been removed from the chair to the autopsy-room Smiler was placed in the seat of death. In a fraction of a second after the straps were secured the fatal spark was applied, and Smiler's soul was on its way to join that of Slocum.

Wood came next, and then the last, Jugro, sat in the chair, and the tragedy was completed.

Time between Slocum and Jugro's execution one hour and twenty-eight minutes.

This is an average of twenty-nine and one-third minutes for the last three executions.

Assuming that Slocum took but the average for execution, four men were summoned, prepared for death and killed by electricity in Sing Sing's chair in one hour and forty-six minutes.

There was a great deal of anxiety among the watchers in front of the prison after the flags had told that Jugro was executed, for it was supposed that Wood, the Jap, would make a good deal of trouble.

He was known to be violent and restless, and as the minutes passed and there was nothing to indicate that his execution had taken place, it was feared that he had made a struggle against his fate.

The time seemed interminable, but in reality only twenty-seven minutes had elapsed after Wood had been executed when it was announced that Jugro had gone to his last home.

The four bodies lay in the dead-house at 9 o'clock, and the doctors proceeded to make their autopsies, beginning with Slocum, the first man slain.

All the witnesses agree that none of the

DETAILS OF THE KILLING.

An Eye-Witness Story of the Events in the Chamber of Death.

SING SING, July 7.—One of the witnesses of the electrocutions, whose name, for obvious reasons, cannot be printed, gave to an Evening World reporter the following account of the occurrence in the death chamber:

"When the witnesses had gathered in the chamber some of them appeared very nervous, and all showed signs of a great strain on their sensibilities.

"The sliding door which concealed the switch-board on the outside of the executioner's closet was raised and the witnesses gathered around the dynamo and the electric fluid which was to be used in the dynamo room.

"Five bells, the signal to 'get ready,' was soon followed by one toll, which signified 'Turn on the current.'

"Warden Brown quickly read the death warrant, and Smiler was hastily seated in the chair. His face took on a ghastly hue, and Connaughton got to assistance from this victim in arranging the straps.

"Smiler was bound and the electrodes applied in a much briefer time than Slocum, and in a few seconds Smiler also was dead.

"The same slight burning under the electrodes was noticed as in Slocum's case.

"Wood had been prepared by Fathers Creedon and Lynch while Smiler was going to his death, and he was all ready. He uttered no word when his time came. He walked to death supported by the priests.

"Wood betrayed no emotion when he gazed on the chair, but kept his eyes fixed on the crucifix.

"He sat down in the chair deliberately, and his binding was accomplished so quickly that it was only twenty-four minutes from Smiler's end until death came to him.

"It was becoming easy to kill men. The witnesses displayed no emotion. There was nothing to cause nausea, and death came to his victims so quickly that it was all over before they realized it.

"Jugro at first refused to leave his cell, but when Mr. Connaughton said: 'Come on, Joe, be a brave man,' the Jap walked out quietly.

"Slocum had been selected as first victim, and as soon as the good priests had finished their supplications, he said he was ready and stepped out of his cell with alacrity.

"The walk to death began. Following the Warden and his deputy came Slocum, between the two priests, who held aloft in front of him a crucifix, at which he steadfastly gazed. The two keepers deputed brought up the rear of the fatal procession.

"Showy the heavy doors swung back, and with solemn tread and mien the little procession walked into the room where the silence of death prevailed.

"They had but a few steps to take. The chair was directly in their front.

"As the leaders parted the chair stood out in all its awfulness before the man about to sit in it and die.

"Slocum halted at the Warden's command, just on the edge of the rubber mat which was to protect those who were watching his life go out.

"The doomed man's gaze was riveted on the chair. Then it wandered to the dangling wires, and the closet from which it was suspended.

"Back to the chair it came, like a needle to a magnet, and he started as though he had received a shock from the wire when the Warden began reading the death warrant, while the reverend men engaged in silent prayer.

"The witnesses were grouped to the left of the chair. The scientist stood in front of the switch-board watching the current, which they read like a book as it flashed in the lamps and through the recording instruments.

"With an attempt at a smile Slocum seated himself in the chair, and leaned his head back against the rubber seat as though he was simply preparing to be shaved.

"The forced smile remained on his face, and as Fathers Creedon and Lynch took up a position in front of him he again directed his gaze at the cross while Connaughton began fastening the straps.

"Slocum's eyes were clear, and he appeared to be in perfect physical condition.

"He took his eyes from the cross long enough to add Deputy Warden Connaughton in his task, and then, until the shield was placed on his face, his lips moved in prayer, as he looked fixedly at the cross.

"The straps crossed and recrossed his body, and his legs were tightly bound to the foot rest. Then his arms were fastened and Slocum could no longer move a muscle.

"Finally an oddly arranged set of straps that bound his chair in one position and covered his eyes were put in place.

"Now Drs. MacDonald and Rockwell and Prof. Landy approached to attach the electrodes. The positive electrode was placed on Slocum's head, the same as in the Kemmer electrocution. The negative electrode was attached to the right leg, the trousers having been rolled up for this purpose before Slocum was bound in the chair.

"When the electrodes had been satisfactorily adjusted and the wires attached the three scientists glanced at the switchboard and said that the current was steady and registered 1,800 volts.

"Dr. MacDonald and Rockwell then stood on either side of the chair. The other physicians among the witnesses drew near while the laymen stood back as though not sure of their nerves.

"Dr. Daniels, Rockwell and Ward took

KEMMLER'S TORTURE.

He Was the First Victim of the Present Electrocuting Law.

William Kemmler, who killed his mistress, Mrs. Mattie Ziegler, was the first and only other murderer who was executed by electricity, the new method of administering the extreme penalty of the law in this State.

He was killed at the Auburn State Prison on Aug. 6, 1890. The execution aroused great interest, as it was claimed that death by electricity would be instantaneous and painless.

In Kemmler's case it was the opposite in both instances. He was killed in a shocking manner. It was not a single, paralyzing shock which took his life away, as it was claimed would be the case.

The executioner, who is in the closet facing the fatal switch-board, is in readiness for the electrocution. When all is ready for the electrocution, the executioner pulls down the lever of the fatal switch, and the deadly current is flashed on its errand of carrying a soul to its maker.

The arrangement of this most complete plant for the scientific taking of human life, which is in such sharp contrast to the crude and faulty system at Auburn when William Kemmler was electrocuted, is the work of Capt. Hilbert, the yardmaster.

The executioner, who is in the closet facing the fatal switch-board, is in readiness for the electrocution. When all is ready for the electrocution, the executioner pulls down the lever of the fatal switch, and the deadly current is flashed on its errand of carrying a soul to its maker.

The arrangement of this most complete plant for the scientific taking of human life, which is in such sharp contrast to the crude and faulty system at Auburn when William Kemmler was electrocuted, is the work of Capt. Hilbert, the yardmaster.

The executioner, who is in the closet facing the fatal switch-board, is in readiness for the electrocution. When all is ready for the electrocution, the executioner pulls down the lever of the fatal switch, and the deadly current is flashed on its errand of carrying a soul to its maker.

The arrangement of this most complete plant for the scientific taking of human life, which is in such sharp contrast to the crude and faulty system at Auburn when William Kemmler was electrocuted, is the work of Capt. Hilbert, the yardmaster.

THE MACHINERY OF DEATH.

Complete Description of the Scene of the Electrocuting.

The Evening World is able to give its readers a clear idea of what the Death House looks like, both inside and out.

It is a frame "lean-to" built against the south wall of the Death House. It is 47 feet long and 21 feet wide, and is divided into the south side and four in the east end, giving plenty of light, but placed so high as to prevent a curious person in the yard seeing the interior.

It is divided into two apartments, the main one being 21x10 feet. This is the electrocution room proper. It has a board floor, while the rear room, which is intended for the reception of the dead until burial, has only Mother Earth for a floor.

Midway between the door leading into the back room and the brick wall of the death house is an unpartitioned closet, with entrance through the rear door. It is 4 feet 6 inches square and 7 feet high, open at the top, the corner-posts in front running clear to the roof, giving it an odd appearance.

Besides the entrance from the Death House, there is a door on the east end of the electrocution room, opening into the prison yard. The condemned man may not be disturbed by the noise of strange feet passing in front of his cells, one enters through this eastern door, and the first thing that strikes the eye is a heavy oak armchair standing directly in front of the closet.

It is a massive chair, weighing fully seventy pounds. It has a perforated seat and an odd looking rubber air cushion for a head rest. Between the front legs is a stool-shaped slide, which when pulled out keeps the legs of the occupant apart. Stout oak-tanned leather straps are there for the arms, the legs and to bind the body tightly to the back. Suspended above the chair are two gas jets.

Projecting over the top of the closet is a curved iron rod, from which hang a number of wire coils so that it will stretch and insulate to within a couple of inches of the end. These end runs through a hole in a wooden frame 4 which surmounts the back of the chair.

Beneath the chair is a little trap-door in the floor. Lifting this trap-door, another coil of wire is disclosed. These upper and lower wires attached to the human being sitting in the chair form the completed circuit through which the electric current flashes with the speed of lightning to forever extinguish the vital spark.

As yet the exact purpose of the closet is a mystery.

Raising a sliding door at the left side of the closet there is revealed a curious array of electrical devices. It is the switch-board. At the top is a double row of incandescent electric lamps, twenty in all, each of sixteen-candle power. Beneath are affixed an Edison ammeter for recording the amperage of the current; a Carey galvanometer for measuring the voltage; a resistance coil for equalizing the current; and the switches by which the current is turned into the lamps, the recording instruments, and finally into the wires which carry death to the man in the chair. At the bottom is a box containing

THE WALK TO DEATH.

Diagram of the Death House and Death Chamber with aid in understanding the legal tragedy of today.

AA.—Where the condemned man expires as the current flows through his body. BB.—Three-foot corridor between the two apartments. CC.—Reception room. DD.—Reception room. EE.—Reception room. FF.—Reception room. GG.—Reception room. HH.—Reception room. II.—Reception room. JJ.—Reception room.

THE WALK TO DEATH.

Diagram of the Death House and Death Chamber with aid in understanding the legal tragedy of today.

AA.—Where the condemned man expires as the current flows through his body. BB.—Three-foot corridor between the two apartments. CC.—Reception room. DD.—Reception room. EE.—Reception room. FF.—Reception room. GG.—Reception room. HH.—Reception room. II.—Reception room. JJ.—Reception room.

SMILER'S LIFE AND CRIMES.

He Was a Born Tough, a Bigamist and Wife-Beater.

Harris A. Smiler, the wife-murderer, was thirty-three years old. Judging from his life and the testimony of those who knew him intimately, he was a born tough.

He always manifested the lowest and most brutal instincts, and in disposition was sullen and revengeful, and his record as a wife-beater was almost unparalleled.

At the time of the murder of Wood Maggie Draney, with whom he was living as his wife, he had two other wives residing in this city, one in the East and one in the West, after altering and misrepresenting their success.

His first wife was a Maggie Keays, who lives in Harlem. He deserted her seven years ago to live with a woman named Elizabeth Gates, whom he was subsequently married, and in June, 1887, he married the widow Draney, whom he had known for two years.

Four years ago Smiler was a soldier in the Salvation Army, and rose in the ranks of that organization until he was commissioned a lieutenant. He was stationed at that time in New York, and while there he was discovered by the police in the act of deserting from the ranks he found employment in the mailing departments of several different newspapers.

The ceremony of marriage, by which he undertook to make the widow Draney his wife, was performed by the Rev. Dr. Russell in a mission in Thirteenth street, June 14, 1889. The couple went to live at 11 Prince street, and it was not long before Smiler's brutal instincts began to be exhibited.

Within three months after he began living with the woman Draney he was twice locked up by the police in the Mulberry street station for cruelly assaulting her.

He continued to beat her at intervals, and on one occasion not more than three weeks before the murder, he attacked her in the street and struck and kicked her till her face and body were marked with bruises.

For this he was arrested again, but soon secured his freedom. He was at his worst when he had been drinking, and after a while whenever his wife saw his ugly fit coming on she would leave the house and seek refuge with her mother, Mrs. William Wilson, who lived on the top floor of 284 Seventh avenue.

It was here that the murder was committed on May 10, 1891. The woman Draney was lying in bed in the room of the widow Wilson. Mrs. Wilson had been there a score of times before, and her last escape from the brutality of Smiler was the result of a fight.

He had been looking for her with murder in his heart for three days. When he finally located her in the room of the widow Wilson, he went upstairs and knocked at the door about 11 o'clock on the night of May 10.

Mrs. Wilson opened it and Smiler, in a harsh voice, asked if his wife was there. The poor woman begged him to wait, and from her place of concealment behind the door tried to make her friend answer for him.

"For my own sake, however, for without waiting for any reply to his question Smiler had opened the door and entered the room, and Smiler ran to the door and closed it.

"For my own sake and come with me," he said, in a menacing tone.

Smiler, however, refused to be allowed to stay with his friend, and appealed pitifully to Mrs. Wilson.

Smiler, however, was inexorable. Her tears seemed toadden him, and he shook her roughly by the hair of her head, and demanded of the door.

"Come on," he said, but she resisted his efforts to force her to leave the room, and she clung tenaciously to the widow Wilson.

"You had better let your wife stay with me to-night," urged Mrs. Wilson, "and she will be safe with me, and I will be with you."

Smiler, however, had worked himself up into a state of rage, and he would not be deterred by her entreaties. Without a word of warning he rushed into the room, and he reached the door of another lodger's room, he drew out a revolver and began firing at the helpless woman who was sitting on the bed, and he kept firing until he had killed her.

The first bullet entered her head, and she fell with a cry, and never moved again.

The murderer, however, kept on firing, and he fired until he had killed her.

Smiler, however, had worked himself up into a state of rage, and he would not be deterred by her entreaties. Without a word of warning he rushed into the room, and he reached the door of another lodger's room, he drew out a revolver and began firing at the helpless woman who was sitting on the bed, and he kept firing until he had killed her.

The first bullet entered her head, and she fell with a cry, and never moved again.

The murderer, however, kept on firing, and he fired until he had killed her.

STORY OF WOOD'S CRIME.

Shot and Killed Leader Ruffin, of the "Mulligan Crowd," on the Aqueduct.

Wood's crime was committed during a bar-room brawl in one of the lowest and most despicable resorts in a rough neighborhood.

It was about 11 o'clock on the afternoon of Sunday, May 10, when the murderer, together with Ruffin, his victim, and a score or more of laborers employed on the new Aqueduct had gathered in Fiorella's little salinity, where they engaged in drinking stale beer and smoking vile tobacco.

Wood had only made his appearance at Shaft 21 a short time before. He and Ruffin had never been friendly, and there had been bad blood between them from the first.

At the trial it was said by some of the witnesses that when Wood was in the salinity he had seen the "Mulligan crowd" at that section of the Aqueduct.

It was also reported that he had once been the leader of a gang of toughs out in the mining regions in Pennsylvania, and that in a fight with one of his companions he had received a slash with a razor across his face, which always bore the ugly scar.

On this particular afternoon Ruffin had been drinking and was somewhat quarrelsome.

Wood, who was known as a surly and sullen sort of a fellow, was sitting in a box in the corner of the room, and as soon as Ruffin saw him he went up to him and asked him what he meant by talking about him behind his back.

"I haven't been talking about you," returned Wood.

"Yes, you have, and I don't allow no slapper to go around talking about me," was Ruffin's reply.

There were some more words after this, when Wood suddenly pulled a revolver.

"Well, I'll kill you anyhow," he said with an oath, and leveling the weapon at Ruffin, fired.

Ruffin dropped and tried to crawl behind one of the men who were standing near, but Wood sprang over towards him and fired a second time, the bullet penetrating his breast. He fell back dead.

Wood then made for the door, and the rest of the crowd had been taken by surprise by the suddenness of the assault, made no effort to stop him. They pursued him, however, as soon as they recovered their presence of mind, and the murderer was finally captured by a policeman who had heard the shooting and rushed to the spot.

From the time of his arrest until March 1890, when his trial took place in the Court of General Sessions, Wood was a prisoner in the Tombs. It was nearly a year that he had to wait, and during his entire imprisonment not a word came to see him or inquire for him.

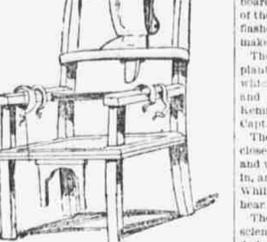
In jail he was always sullen and brooding, but gave very little trouble. He also manifested an abnormal degree of dullness and stupidity, and nobody could get anything out of him about his past life except that he came from somewhere down South, and had been waiting for several months for a chance to go home to his wife and children, was rejected at the prospect, and in giving vent to his joy he awoke Jugro, whose name was in the bottom of the list, but who, nevertheless, tried to persuade Comml to withdraw in his favor.

The proposition was rejected, and finally, after pleading in vain, Jugro began to threaten, and suddenly being apparently seized with an uncontrollable fit of rage, he jumped over the railing and went to bed, and attempted to beat his brains out against the wall.

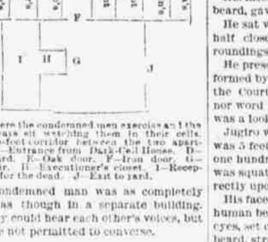
Other boarders who had been awakened by the row interested and released Comml, and after a short parley Jugro apparently became reconciled to his fate and went to bed. Comml then began preparations for his departure, and was engaged at a table in the front room packing his kit. Jugro evidently only feigned sleep, and when quiet had been restored he snatched in his stocking foot to the kitchen, where he secured a ring and very sharp carving-knife, creeping up be-



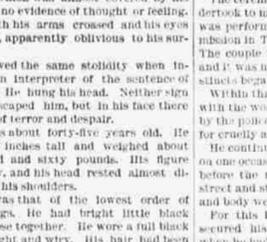
WARDEN WILLIAM B. BROWN.



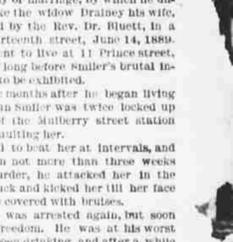
THE MACHINERY OF DEATH.



CAPT. HILBERT, YARDMASTER OF THE PRISON.



HARRIS A. SMILER.



WOOD.