

WITH PISTOL AND RAZOR. A BROOKLYN SEXTON MURDERS HIS WIFE.

THEIR LITTLE DAUGHTER THE ONLY WITNESS OF THE HORRIBLE AFFAIR—HE WAS INSANE. A NEIGHBOR ALSO SHOT AT—THE MURDERER ARRESTED.

Thomas Holt, sexton of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement, at Fifth-ave. and Seventeenth-st., Brooklyn, murdered his wife last evening at their home, No. 307 Seventeenth-st. He was evidently insane at the time, and was not responsible for what he did. Holt is forty-nine years old and followed the business of a photographer in addition to his duties of sexton of the church. He had nothing to do of late, the church being closed on business slack. For a fortnight he had acted strangely, and appeared affected by hallucinations. One of his delusions was that burglars were trying to rob him, and he armed himself with a revolver and a knife. On Friday he went to the Fifth-ave. police station and told Captain Murphy that he would police protection. He said his wife was dragging him when he was asleep and that for the effect of the doses she gave him. The captain assured him that he could not be drugged when asleep. He also said that there were men following him at night and hiding behind trees and lamp-posts. He was told that he would be protected by the police, and went home reassured.

Yesterday morning he related to his family, consisting of his wife, two sons, Thomas, eighteen years old, and Frank, sixteen, and a daughter, Sadie, eight years old, that it had been revealed to him in a dream that a bag of treasure was hidden in the cellar of the house. After breakfast he took a spade and dug holes in the cellar looking for it, until his sons persuaded him to defer the work to some other day. Yesterday afternoon he was again overburdened, and wanted his son Frank to get some cartridges to load his revolver. The youth did so. After supper he went out in the yard for a smoke and his sons went out for a walk.

Mrs. Holt and her daughter were in the house singing hymns at 8:30 o'clock when Mr. Holt suddenly entered brandishing a revolver and a razor that he had shot him in the head. His wife screamed and cried out, "I'm afraid papa will shoot me," and she fled to Holt fired a shot which took effect in her left breast, and which penetrated the right breast. He then took a carving knife and tried to cut his wife's throat. As the weapon did not seem sharp enough for his purpose he secured a razor and drew it across her throat, cutting a frightful gash. Wounded and bleeding, she started to ascend them, and Holt fired a third shot at her which set her clothing on fire.

The noise of the deadly struggle aroused the neighbors, and Charles W. No. 307 Seventeenth-st., rushed into the house. He was trying to extinguish the burning clothing of Mrs. Holt when her husband saw him and fired a shot at him, which led him to retreat upstairs. The madman did not follow him but ran into the street brandishing his revolver. Policeman McGovern, of the Twenty-second Precinct, was at his home, No. 307 Seventeenth-st., and heard the commotion. He went to the house, and secured him with the aid of his club, took him to the Eighth Precinct station. Holt was morose and sullen, and would scarcely give his name. The only child of the terrible tragedy was the little girl, who said that she and her mother were playing church when her father began shooting.

Holt has been highly regarded in the Church of the Atonement, and had served it as sexton for several years. He began to act somewhat strangely last month. Mrs. Holt's first name was Caroline, and she was about thirty-eight years old.

HE WILL BE A MURDERER.

A POOL WITH A GUN IN A HOBOKEN SHOOTING GALLERY AIMS AT A FRIEND WITH THE USUAL RESULT.

Several young men entered a shooting gallery in Washington-st., Hoboken, last night. William Rank, of No. 296 Highland-st., raised a gun, thinking it was not charged, and aimed at Charles Gillen, of No. 181 Willow-ave. The gun went off and the ball lodged in Gillen's chest. He was taken to the hospital, where he was removed to St. Mary's Hospital. His wound is mortal. Larch was arrested.

AN INVENTOR ILL WITH PARESIS.

JOHN S. HALL ELUDES HIS WIFE AND IS FOUND WANDERING ON THE RAILROAD TRACKS AT NINETY-FIFTH-ST.

John Scott Hall, inventor and dealer in machinery supplies at No. 49 Cortlandt-st., who is a paralytic, managed to get away from his wife while they were returning from Coney Island on Saturday evening, and was found wandering on the Hudson River Railroad at the North River and Ninety-fifth-st. He was removed to Bellevue Hospital in a Manhattan Hospital ambulance, but was taken home yesterday by Dr. Forrest.

POPULISTS ARRESTED IN INDIANA.

THEY PERSISTED IN HOLDING A POLITICAL MEETING ON SUNDAY WHEN WARNED NOT TO DO SO.

Indianapolis, Aug. 12 (Special).—Great excitement prevails tonight among the Populists because of the arrest of four of their leaders for holding a political meeting in desecration of the Sabbath. The prisoners are Leroy Tempeston, candidate for Governor in 1902; Philip Rappaport, Editor of "The German Daily Tribune," a Socialist publication; Thomas Jefferson Gilligan and "Colonel" Allen Jennings, late of Coker's "Army," and just home from Washington. The arrest was made by Town Marshal Perry of West Indianapolis. He was present at the meeting held in the large tent in the afternoon, and threatened to arrest the agitators, but desisted, with a warning that he would do so if they did not disperse. No attention was paid to this, and to-night the tent and adjacent streets were packed with a large number of delegates. When Rappaport was speaking, the marshal stopped him and paced him under the tent. He was arrested, and Jennings had to be freed for the liberties of the country. Jennings would be heard. He, too, was arrested. Gilligan proposed three cheers for the flag. This caused his arrest. Jennings protested and was arrested.

ARRESTED AS SHE LEFT THE BOAT.

Albany, Aug. 12.—Chief of Police Willard this morning received a telegram from Inspector McLaughlin, of New-York City, asking him to arrest Miss Herrowitz, a woman twenty-five years old, who was a passenger on the night boat which arrived here to-day. Chief of Police Willard issued a warrant for her on the charge of grand larceny in the hands of the New-York police. She was arrested on the arrival of the boat and will be held until the arrival of the New-York boat. The woman formerly lived in this city.

A CONSTABLE THROWN OUT OF A WINDOW.

HIS THREE COMPANIONS WERE AFTERWARD ARRESTED—LIVELY TIMES ON STATEN ISLAND.

Constables John Redmond, William Sherwood and Edward Powers, the latter brother of ex-Justice W. J. Powers, of Westchester Co., N. Y., were arrested yesterday on complaint of Charles J. Honnelly, Lewis Stotterey, Stephen G. Vreeland and Edward E. Thomas, who live in the Cunard mansion on Grymes's Hill. The prisoners are charged with malicious trespass. The Cunard mansion, one of the largest on Staten Island, was at one time the home of the founder of the Cunard Steamship Company. It is on the serpentine road, and adjoins the estate of the late Jacob H. Vanderbilt.

Until a few days ago the mansion was occupied by Miss Christine A. Taylor, who conducted a fashionable boarding-house. Miss Taylor is well known in New-York. Miss Taylor's enterprise on mortgages was not a success. She had given a New-York house to Mr. Seidel, agent of a New-York house, and on August 1, when foreclosure proceedings were instituted, she also owned a number of trapezoids.

Among them was the McQuade estate, to which she owed \$60 for coal. She had given notes for the payment of these debts she failed to meet. McQuade transferred his claim to James McManus, who instituted legal proceedings. He appeared before Justice David Langton, at West Brighton, on Monday last. He secured legal papers to make a levy on Miss Taylor's furniture, which was taken by Luke Sykes and John Connelly went to the Cunard mansion to make the seizure. They learned that Miss Taylor had suddenly and mysteriously disappeared during the day. The constables, however, refused to protest. The constables, however, refused to leave the premises until they had secured the furniture. On Tuesday night, the constables, while intoxicated, used abusive language to the women of the house and flourished a revolver.

On Friday Powers, Redmond and Sherwood again visited the house and demanded admission, which was refused. They were in the house for several days, to open the door, but he was prevented by the guests. So the constables made themselves comfortable in the easy chairs on the front stoop, and remained guarding the house. In the mean time the big doors and windows were closed, and the constables were ejected from the house. They were arrested in the afternoon and held in \$500 bail each for a hearing on Saturday.

Police Justice Kullmann, in the Edgewood police court, who had issued the warrant for the constables, which they refused to obey, had no authority to remain on the premises, and warned them not to go there again. He held them on their own recognizances for an examination this afternoon.

ELECTRIC STORMS AT SEA.

TWO STEAMSHIP CAPTAINS TELL OF A GREAT DISPLAY OF LIGHTNING OFF MATTERAS.

Captain Crossman, of the steamer Albatross, of the Columbian Line, which arrived at Quarantine last night, says that in his thirty-five years' experience at sea he never witnessed so magnificent an electrical storm as he passed through off Cape Matteras on Friday night. When in longitude 74, latitude 35, the sky became overcast and there were indications of a severe squall. The pilot said there would be a storm, but he expected a light squall, which immediately followed. A series of the most beautiful electrical flashes of a varied character, which continued for several hours, culminating in a grand discharge resembling the simultaneous firing of a million of guns, which immediately followed by darkness and torrents of rain.

Another phase of the storm is described by Captain Crossman, of the steamer Albatross, which arrived here late last night from Barcelona. He likens the display to an immense sun, varying in brightness, and in the center of the intense light, with intermittent flashes across its face and around it. At one time it looked as though draped on both sides by a heavy curtain of fire, which came and went at frequent intervals during the storm's progress. There were indications of lightning around the large one for several revolutions, and then seemed to lose its power and to be replaced by others. The illumination lasted, with kaleidoscopic changes, from 10 p. m. of August 11 until 2:30 a. m. of August 12.

A CHECKERED CAREER ENDED.

DEATH OF LUTHER CHALLIS IN ATECHISON, KAN.—ONCE A LEADER IN WALL STREET.

St. Joseph, Mo., Aug. 12.—Luther Challis, who had been a prominent figure in this city and Atechison during the last two years, who was a speculator in the stock market, died at his home in Atechison, Kan., last night. He was once among the leaders of Wall Street. Several times in his life Challis was worth \$1,000,000, but he died almost in want. In the West he was known as a heavy speculator and railroad builder, but for several years before his death he was not engaged in any business. After the death of ex-Governor John A. Martin, of Kansas, Challis became Editor of "The Atechison Dispatch," and was once Editor of "The Kansas State," and was once Editor of "The Champion." Challis went from Atechison to New-York in 1863. He was a member of the Stock Exchange from that time until he left the city in 1872. When he returned to Atechison he was one of the wealthiest operators. He lost all before he left New-York, and returned to Atechison with his property and his business heavily mortgaged. From that time on he steadily lost his possessions. Challis was a figure in the law, and was once a partner in the law firm of Challis, Fryer and Fuller. He was once a partner in the law firm of Challis, Fryer and Fuller, and was once a partner in the law firm of Challis, Fryer and Fuller. He was once a partner in the law firm of Challis, Fryer and Fuller, and was once a partner in the law firm of Challis, Fryer and Fuller.

SERIOUSLY INJURED IN A RUNAWAY.

While Peter Lang and his wife, who live in Gordon-st., Stapleton, S. I., were riding at New-Dorchester, yesterday afternoon, his horse became frightened at a bicycle. The team ran away, overturning the wagon and throwing the couple. Lang struck his head on a tree and was knocked senseless. He was taken to the Smith Infirmary, in New-Brighton, where it was found that he had received internal injuries. He is likely to prove fatal. Mrs. Lang escaped with slight injuries and was taken to her home.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

BANGOR, Me., Aug. 12.—"Wet" Broadwell shot his father-in-law, A. H. Moore, at the latter's home Friday night, in Bangor. The shot was fired from a distance of about 100 yards. Broadwell was captured while trying to escape on a night train.

Cincinnati, Aug. 12.—One hundred colored people on the ground floor of a building in old Hickock-st., were looking on. Suddenly the floor dropped and they were killed or seriously injured. Everybody else escaped injury.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 12.—John W. Payne, said to have been private secretary to Governor Morrison, of Indiana, who served through the county Friday night, was arrested on the charge of being a promoter of a lottery, and was taken to the jail.

Decatur, Ind., Aug. 12.—Thomas Bumby shot and killed Oliver Wingate at Monroe, a small town in the southern part of this county Friday night. The shooting was done by Miss Martha Wingate, and accidentally met at her home, where a lovers' quarrel ensued, with the above result. Bumby gave himself up and is now in jail.

Cincinnati, Aug. 12.—The Hebron, Ky., baseball team was playing a game with a neighboring club team yesterday afternoon when the sky became overcast and a heavy rain fell. The game was suspended. John Tanner, of the Hebron team, was struck on the head by a ball which was settling into his hands. There was a flash of lightning and a heavy rain fell. The electric bolt had struck him in the head.

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 12.—A wreck occurred on the Chicago and Eastern Railroad Friday night near Woodland. One negro was instantly killed, and another man was badly injured. The train was stopped and the injured man was taken to the hospital. The cause of the accident is being investigated.

THE LONG DROUTH BROKEN.

WELCOME RAINS FALL IN THE WEST. PART OF THE CORN CROP WILL BE SAVED—IRREPARABLE LOSS DONE IN KANSAS AND OTHER STATES, HOWEVER.

Chicago, Aug. 12.—Rain fell yesterday over a great area in the West, including a large part of Illinois, Iowa and Indiana. Reports from some points in this State indicate that in consequence there will be an average crop of corn. In other localities that crop had been too much damaged to be much benefited. In a few cases the stalks are said to have been burned by the excessive heat. In some sections the rain was accompanied by a high wind which blew down corn, and the damage to broom corn at Arcola, Ill., is estimated at \$50,000. Pastures and potatoes were generally too far gone to be revived. The rain extinguished a number of prairie fires. The yield of wheat is reported unexpectedly large. The State weather report, now being compiled, will agree very closely with that made by the Government, but it is based on returns made not later than August 1. The southern, central and northwestern portions of Minnesota received a good drenching rain Friday night and yesterday morning. It was the first substantial rainfall that some of the sections had enjoyed for three months. In St. Paul the rain fell for a few minutes in solid sheets. The rain came too late to affect wheat, of course, nearly all of the cereal having been harvested; but its importance to the corn and potato crops can hardly be overestimated. Corn has been saved from what threatened to be utter failure. Some fields had been damaged beyond repair.

A dispatch from Topeka, Kan., says: "Secretary Cushman, of the Agricultural Department, admitted yesterday that there was little hope for Kansas corn. In the western part two-thirds of the crop is a total failure. In the eastern part, where a partial crop was hoped for ten days ago, there will not be more than a third of a crop, at best, and if the hot and dry weather continues half of that will be ruined. There cannot be over 7,500,000 bushels, and probably much less. State Senator Wilekoff, of Logan County, says people are being driven out of Western Kansas by the hundreds by the total failure of crops."

Dispatch from Des Moines, Iowa, says the officers of the State Agricultural Society agree in their crop estimates that the reports sent to the Weather Bureau have been approximately correct. President John A. Evans, of the society, has travelled extensively over the State, and has met farmers from all sections. Speaking of the crop outlook, Mr. Evans said: "In more than one-half of the State yesterday's rains will do no good. The corn crop, it is beyond help. Steady rain for a week would not appreciably increase the yield. Sections to which no relief from rain can come are about Des Moines and the western and southwestern parts of the State. In the eastern and northern sections the rain has been beneficial, although it is not so much as is expected. The corn in Iowa at 150,000,000 bushels. The largest crop in the history of the State was 200,000,000 bushels in 1881. The crop this year is estimated at 40 per cent of the crop for this year is high enough."

Director C. F. Chase, of the Agricultural Society, has had an excellent opportunity for observation, places the probable yield of corn in Iowa at 150,000,000 bushels. The largest crop in the history of the State was 200,000,000 bushels in 1881. The crop this year is estimated at 40 per cent of the crop for this year is high enough."

Every day of the drought added to the distress of Nebraska's already severely afflicted corn crop. It has been over a month since the State has had a good rain, and while a few districts have been specially favored, and reports from them are cheering, the prospect for the rest of the State is gloomy. The corn is so parched that it is little good, except the very late planted, which is scarce. Its next benefit effect would be to improve pastures now badly burned up, and to give relief to the stock raisers. Reports for the last week have been all of one tenor, pessimistic in a high degree.

Experts who a week ago figured on half a crop of corn, have changed their estimates to a quarter, or a third, and even this, in the opinion of many, is putting it high. There will be no corn to sell in Nebraska. All will be required for local consumption.

The reports to the Indiana State Board of Agriculture indicate that there has been a substantial relief from the effects of drought, the rains of yesterday being light and insufficient to give permanent relief. Corn in Northern and Southern Indiana is high, and the crop is so badly scorched that recovery is regarded as impossible, and in such localities the crop will be a failure. On low ground it has been badly injured by dry winds, but on higher ground it is better. In Central Indiana, the condition is not so bad, though the crop is not expected to reach anything like an average.

Quincy, Ill., Aug. 12.—The intense heat of the last three days culminated late yesterday afternoon in a heavy storm. In this city it did no damage, but ten miles north it assumed the proportions of a tornado. At Mendon the roof of a building was blown off. Between Mendon and Ursa several houses and barns were blown down or unroofed, miles of fences were laid flat, trees torn up by the roots, and the corn blown down. The wind lasted less than five minutes, but was accompanied by rain.

Martinsville, Ill., Aug. 12.—At 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon a small tornado struck here, coming from the West, and did a great deal of damage to property in this vicinity. One store building was unroofed, the hardware store of H. V. McNarry had the glass front blown in and Mr. McNarry was cut about the face by falling glass. The roofs of the Exchange Bank and East's drug store were damaged. A frame warehouse, which was a building here, was blown down, and is just ready to fall. Lightning struck the dwelling-house of E. C. Miller, in the north end of the town. The wind was accompanied by rain.

St. Louis, Aug. 12.—The drought period of heat and drouth in this section culminated last evening in the highest temperature of the year, followed by a rainstorm which was general all over the Mississippi Valley. At 5 p. m. the thermometer at the signal station in the dome of the Custom House registered 100 degrees. On the streets, 100 feet below, the heat was much greater. Five sunstroke cases were treated at the dispensary. At 4 o'clock a heavy wind displaced the heat and brought a rain. To-day the weather is oppressively hot. Telegrams show that the rain covered an area reaching to Paris, Texas, and to Western Kansas to Eastern Indiana. Farmers report that the rains will help the corn crop, but that it comes too late to bring the yield up to the average.

Plattsburgh, N.Y., Aug. 12.—Long trains of canvas-covered wagons pass daily through this city eastward. These belong to the army of settlers who have been forced from their homes in Western Nebraska and Eastern Colorado by the unprecedented drought of the present season. Many have no particular destination in view. The army is being sent to the Mississippi valley, and some are going to the farm every half section, and it was only at long intervals he found one occupied. The homesteaders are daily receiving applications from land offices. These belong to the army of settlers who have been forced from their homes in Western Nebraska and Eastern Colorado by the unprecedented drought of the present season. Many have no particular destination in view. The army is being sent to the Mississippi valley, and some are going to the farm every half section, and it was only at long intervals he found one occupied. The homesteaders are daily receiving applications from land offices. 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