

# MASK CONCEALS ROBBER'S FACE

## Footpad Levels a Revolver at James Corcoran, Bartender, and Empties Cash Register

### ACCOMPLICE ON LOOKOUT

#### Criminals Are Seen by Citizens and Heard Discussing the Division of Stolen Money

Two daring footpads have revived the pastime of robbing saloons, according to the story told by James Corcoran, night bartender in Thomas Murphy's saloon, at Eleventh and Market streets, to Policeman Slatery early yesterday morning.

Corcoran informed the policeman that about 2 o'clock a young man wearing a black mask over his face came into the saloon when no customers were present. The man had a revolver in his right hand and, presenting it at Corcoran, ordered him to throw up his hands.

Corcoran quickly complied and the man said: "Now go into the back room and don't make a noise on your life." Corcoran, with his hands raised above his head, walked into the back room and the robber opened the cash register and took between \$10 and \$11.

"Now, I want you to remain in that room for fifteen minutes," he said to Corcoran. "If you don't, and raise an outcry I will come back and kill you." Corcoran said the robber had an accomplice, who stood outside the saloon on the lookout.

Sergeant Blank and Policeman Slatery searched the neighborhood, but could find no trace of the robber and his accomplice. They received information from P. J. Carr, 39 West Mission street, however, that he had seen two young men going down Eleventh street toward Mission, about the time mentioned by Corcoran, and when they were passing close to him he heard them talking about dividing \$11.

The description given by Carr answered that given by Corcoran of the two men who robbed the saloon.

### SUPREME COURT GRANTS WALKER A NEW TRIAL

#### Defendant Is Commencing His Seventh Year of Imprisonment in the County Jail.

George Walker, who is charged with having defrauded the American Tract Society out of \$50,000, was granted a new trial by the Supreme Court yesterday. For more than six years he has been waiting at the Broadway jail to discover whether he belongs in Folsom penitentiary or in unrestrained society. There are an indefinite number of features and ramifications of his case pending in various courts. All sorts of proceedings against him and in his behalf have been instituted.

The original cause of the defendant's difficulties is said to have been an erroneous supposition on his part that he could beat the bookmakers. When his employers learned of his delusion he is alleged to have been about \$400 short on his accounts. He was convicted on one charge of embezzlement, February 6, 1898, and sentenced to four years at Folsom.

Various kinds of appeals on several features of his case were taken. He was next sentenced to serve one year at Folsom on August 26, 1901. Then there was a fight over a bill of exceptions, another over the Judge's instructions and another over a complaint. Next came a difference over the posting of the court's record. The new trial is granted this particular time because certain evidence, incompetent but detrimental to the defendant, was introduced.

Walker's lawyer is George Collins.

### Convicted of Manslaughter.

Victor le Corvec was convicted of manslaughter by a jury in Judge Cook's court yesterday afternoon and will be sentenced on Saturday. He was tried for killing Vincent le Meur, a shipmate on the French bark Veranger, on the night of January 12. The question of jurisdiction was raised in his case, as the killing occurred on board the bark, but it was not sustained.

### POSTUM CEREAL.

#### DIDN'T BELIEVE That Coffee Was the Real Trouble.

Some people flounder around and take everything that's recommended to them, but finally find out that coffee is the real cause of their troubles. An Oregon man says:

"For twenty-five years I was troubled with my stomach. I was a steady coffee drinker, but didn't suspect that as the cause. I doctored with good doctors and got no help, then I took almost anything which some one else had been cured with, but to no good. I was very bad last summer and could not work at times."

"On December 2, 1902, I was taken to bed, the doctor said I could not live over twenty-four hours at the most and I made all preparations to die. I could hardly eat anything, everything distressed me and I was weak and sick all over. When in that condition coffee was abandoned and I was put on Postum, the change in my feelings came quickly after the drink that was poisoning me was removed."

"The pain and sickness fell away from me and I began to get well day by day, so I stuck to it, until now I am well and strong again, can eat heartily with no headache, heart trouble or the awful sickness of the old coffee days. I drink all I wish of Postum without any harm and enjoy it immensely."

"This seems like a wonderfully strong story, but I would refer you to the First National Bank, the Trust Banking Company, or any merchant of Grants Pass, Or., in regard to my standing and I will send a sworn statement of this if you wish. You can also use my name." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Still there are many who persistently fool themselves by saying, "Coffee don't hurt me." A ten days' trial of Postum in its place will tell the truth and many times save life.

"There's a reason." "The Road to Wellville," in each package.

# CHEMIST DISCOVERS BLOOD ON LEON SOEDER'S DAGGER

## Professor Thomas Price Gives Important Testimony in the Blaise Murder Trial—Prosecuting Attorney Closes Case for People and Defense Opens To-Day



Professor Thomas Price, an analytical chemist of 526 Sacramento street, testified before Judge Cabanis yesterday that he discovered blood stains on the knife found by Detective Thomas Gibson in the room of Leon Soeder, charged with the murder of Joseph Blaise. Traces of blood were found on the knife where the blade joins the handle, and also in that portion of the handle that holds the blade when the knife is closed.

When Detective Gibson searched the room of Soeder on the day following the murder of Blaise he found a large, one-bladed knife of the dagger pattern. There were no blood stains visible to the naked eye upon it. The knife was given to Professor Price, who made a chemical examination and found that blood still adhered to the weapon. He did not make a test to ascertain whether the blood was that of a human being, as he was not instructed to do so by the police. This evidence, if Professor Price is certain that the blood is human, will be of the greatest value to the prosecution.

Soeder was questioned by the police at the time of his arrest as to where he secured the knife and what he used it for. He said he purchased the knife in France last fall and that he used it merely as a pocket-knife. He was asked if he had ever cut any meat or anything with it that might have left traces of blood on it. Soeder replied that he had not.

**KNIFE IS EXAMINED.**

After eliciting this information from him the police sent the knife to Professor Price, who examined it for traces of blood. Professor Price used what is known as the Guaiacum test in his examination of the weapon for traces of blood. He stated that had the clothes Soeder took to the cleaner's been washed in warm water there would in all probability have been some trace of blood in the water if there was any on the clothes, but had they been subjected to a scouring in cold water traces of blood would have been hard to find.

Edward H. Osborne was placed on the stand at the opening of the hearing in the morning and completed his testimony in regard to the insurance policies. It did not vary materially from that already published.

L. R. Parker, manager for the Hartford Life Insurance Company in this city, testified that Osborne presented to him an application for a life insurance policy for \$7000 on the life of Joseph Blaise. He testified that the

note for \$242 34 taken from Soeder and Blaise for the guarantee of the payment of the policy on its delivery was signed by Joseph Blaise and indorsed by Leon Soeder. Parker identified the signature of Soeder on the note as being identical with that on the letter received by him (Parker) on the morning of January 11.

**LETTER IS DESTROYED.**

Parker could not recall the exact contents of the letter written to him by Soeder, which he found under his door on the morning of the date mentioned, but stated that it was an inquiry regarding the delivery of the policy. He said he had destroyed the letter and the defense objected to Parker's testimony on that matter. The Court sustained the objection and ruled that the prosecution be required to show that the letter Parker claims he received and which was subsequently destroyed by him was actually written by Soeder.

Captain Martin was next placed on the stand and told of his visit to the scene of the murder and his subsequent examination of Soeder in his office. He said that Soeder told him that Blaise had \$200 in gold coin when they left France, which amount Blaise had drawn from a French bank. Soeder said he had paid all Blaise's expenses and fare and that the dead man had \$90 in gold on his person at the time of the murder. When Blaise left his home he came to America with Soeder with the understanding, Soeder said, that they would come to San Francisco and Blaise would remain in this city, secure work and send for his family.

Martin detailed several conversations he had had with Soeder, in which the accused denied having a gray suit or a pistol. Soeder told Martin that he did not pay any money on the insurance policies, and said that Blaise paid \$102 on the life insurance policy for \$3000 in the Pacific Mutual Company, \$3 on the accident policy in the same company, and a \$5 deposit on another policy, leaving him in possession of \$90.

**HANDWRITING IDENTICAL.**

Theodore Kytka testified that the

handwriting of the various letters and documents signed by Soeder and introduced as evidence was identical with the admitted handwriting of the accused man.

Detective Thomas Gibson was placed on the stand at the closing of the case and rehearsed his conversations with Soeder since his arrest. The testimony developed nothing new. Gibson was questioned in regard to the complaint charging Soeder with murder, which he swore to. Attorney Salomon objected, but was overruled. Salomon also be-

lieved that the thief had been at work on the premises for several nights and the closest vigilance on the part of the occupants of the house availed nothing. A few days ago Miss Cronney went into the basement of her home and discovered that the thief had paid the place a visit on the preceding night and had cleared up everything of value.

**SWAG IN A SACK.**

It was all packed up in a big sack, the thief probably being frightened away ere he had a chance to parade down the street with his swag. Miss Cronney telephoned to police headquarters for an officer to watch the house that night and specified that she wanted a man that would be a guaranteed burglar catcher.

That night the sleuth arrived. He smilingly stated that he could catch anything that runs and that burglars were his special cake. So the family retired early and dreamed of how the fearless copper would corral that bold thief and have him strapped to a chair in the parlor, awaiting the family inspection in the morning.

When the household awoke, the copper was still on his beat in front of the house. He told of how he had seen burglars come within a block or so of the place, but when they spotted him they all took to the woods in the direction of Van Ness avenue.

Then the members of the family began a quiet little search themselves. The cellar door was open, but this they did not mind, as the key was left in the door at the copper's suggestion. But when the key was discovered under the door the searchers murmured, "How strange."

**TRICK IS TURNED.**

Still they had confidence in what the smart guardian of the household said. A hasty examination of the interior of the cellar disclosed the startling fact that the sack of swag had disappeared. No one accused the copper of having taken it, so it was mutually agreed that the burglar turned the trick himself.

The cop did not know how it all happened; he knew nothing till he was shown. Then he scratched his head and took on an expression of wisdom. He hinted at burglars having been asleep in the cellar for several days, but could not explain how the gentleman made a getaway while he was guarding the doorway of the cellar.

Several hundred dollars' worth of goods were stolen, including some surgical instruments belonging to Dr. Van Meter, a roomer at the place. Miss Cronney had used the basement for a storeroom and had deposited many valuable articles there. The burglar was a good judge and shrewd and he overlooked nothing. Still the cop refuses to believe and hints at crooks with wings.

**Sheriff Levies Attachments.**

Two writs of attachment in the sums of \$706 46 and \$2461 39 respectively were served yesterday by Sheriff Curtis on W. J. Grace & Co., lumber dealers at Sixth and Berry streets and 425 Ninth street. The first writ was served at the instance of the Washington Mills Company and the second by the Hammond Lumber Company, which have sued Grace & Co. for the value of lumber sold and delivered.

An attachment was levied on H. Nollen for \$1000 on property now in possession of the Santa Fe Railway system. The attachment was served at the instance of G. D. Sanborn.

**ADVERTISEMENTS.**

**GREAT CLEARANCE SALE OF PIANOS**

150 New, Sample, Shop-Worn, Slightly Used and Second-Hand Pianos.

**IN ORDER TO DISPOSE OF THIS ACCUMULATION OF INSTRUMENTS QUICKLY AFTER THE HOLIDAY TRADE, necessitates lower prices and better values than ordinarily.**

All second-hand pianos have been thoroughly overhauled and are guaranteed by us, also privilege given to exchange within three years for new piano, and full purchase price applied.

Many of the new sample and shopworn pianos are in fancy woods and will be sold at half price.

Bargains never before offered in San Francisco. Satisfactory inspection.

Below we describe a few of the bargains offered, but remember there are 150 of them:

\$900 Weber, \$275 (second hand),  
\$550 Krell, \$275 (shop worn), discontinued agency.  
\$550 Needham, \$275 (new), discontinued agency.  
\$450 Needham, \$250 (new), discontinued agency.  
\$575 Conover, \$350 (slightly used).  
Hemme & Long Upright, fine condition, rose-wood case, \$150.  
Sherman, Clay & Co. Upright, \$100.  
Steinway Square, fine condition, \$100.  
Other Squares, \$25, \$40 and up.  
A brand-new piano in burr walnut, mahogany or oak case, \$185, with Mandolin and Zither attachment, 3 strings to note, 3 pedals and double repeating action. This piano has been sold in this city for as much as \$350.

**Easy Terms If Desired.**

**CLARK WISE & CO.**  
Notary Public and Attorney-at-Law.  
Tenth Floor, Room 1015, Claus Spreckels bldg.  
Telephone Main 983.  
Residence, 821 California st., below Powell.  
Residence Telephone James 1501.

129 Geary street, between Grant avenue and Stockton.  
**WEBER AGENCY.**

Some very swell wedding invitations come from Knowles, 24 Second street. Main 508.

# STEALS WHILE SLEUTH GUARDS

## Burglar Enters Basement of an Ellis-Street Residence Unobserved by Patrolman

### SECURES MUCH PLUNDER

#### Bluecoat Detailed to Catch Crook, but the Latter Manages to Make a Big Haul

Almost every one knows that San Francisco is blessed with a corps of police officers whose very names strike terror to the hearts of porch climbers and second story workers, but for all that a gentleman with crooked tendencies outwitted one of these star sleuths the other night and the latter knew nothing about the trick until it was turned. Then he was shown how it happened, but refuses to talk.

The man that double-crossed the boy in blue was not a second-story operator, but an under-story craftsman—one who prefers to make his hauls in basements. The crime was committed at the residence of Miss Cronney, 1036 Ellis street, some time between the dead of midnight and the breaking of the beautiful dawn.

The thief had been at work on the premises for several nights and the closest vigilance on the part of the occupants of the house availed nothing. A few days ago Miss Cronney went into the basement of her home and discovered that the thief had paid the place a visit on the preceding night and had cleared up everything of value.

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### ADVERTISEMENTS.

# ITCH! ITCH! ITCH!

## Scratch! Scratch! Scratch!

Instant Relief for Itching, Burning, and Scaly Humors, Eczemas, Rashes, Irritations, and Chafings, in a warm bath with Cuticura Soap and a single anointing with Cuticura Ointment, the great Skin Cure.

Complete Local and Constitutional Treatment for every humor may now be had of all druggists for One Dollar, consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, CUTICURA OINTMENT, and CUTICURA PILLS. A single set is often sufficient to cure the most distressing cases from infancy to age, when all else fails.

**W. T. HESS,**  
Notary Public and Attorney-at-Law.  
Tenth Floor, Room 1015, Claus Spreckels bldg.  
Telephone Main 983.  
Residence, 821 California st., below Powell.  
Residence Telephone James 1501.

# SPECIALS THIS WEEK.

One case 50-INCH HOMESPUN SUITING, in two toned mixed effects. These are very suitable for spring outing suits. Price 75c yard

One case Genuine FRENCH "ETAMINE VOILE," 43 inches wide. These are in all the new shades for spring, 1904. Price \$1.00 yard

One case BLACK ENGLISH MISTRAL CLOTH. This is one of the New Fabrics for spring wear. Price 75c yard

75 cartons extra quality SATIN TAFFETA RIBBON, full 4 inches wide. We have them in all shades. Price 25c yard

3 cases LADIES' SWISS RIBBED VESTS and DRAWERS, both white and natural. These we have in all sizes. Price \$1.00 each

200 dozen GENTS' LINEN CAMBRIC HANDKERCHIEFS, extra quality. They come in 1/4 and 1 inch hem. Price 20c each

150 dozen LADIES' HEMSTITCHED HANDKERCHIEFS, in 1/4 and 1/2 inch hem. These are made from an extra quality Linen Cambric. Price 12 1/2c each

45 pieces 36-inch CURTAIN MUSLIN. These are in small figures and lace stripes. Price 10c yard

40 pieces CURTAIN MUSLIN, full 40 inches wide, in stripes, figures, small and medium size dots. Price 20c yard

We will also sell this week about 45 dozen LADIES EIDERDOWN SACQUES, in Light Blues, Reds and Grays, sizes 34 to 44, at ONE-THIRD less than former prices.

**NOTE** Orders by mail receive prompt attention. All orders for samples or goods filled and shipped same day they are received.



111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121 POST STREET.

### LISTENS TO ARGUMENTS IN SEVEN MURDER CASES

#### Supreme Court Passes Busy Day Considering Appeals From Judgments of Lower Tribunals.

The Supreme Court listened yesterday to arguments for and against seven persons accused of murder. None of the defendants was present in court, but were represented by their attorneys. Each case was reviewed for the benefit of the Justices. Arguments were then ordered submitted of briefs for mature consideration.

The titles of the cases are as follows: People vs. Minnie Adams, who is charged with having killed her young son with carbolic acid; people vs. Stoll, in their office in the Phelan building about a year ago; people vs. Sing Yow, who murdered a fellow countryman in Sacramento in November, 1902; people vs. Gonzales, who killed a man in a saloon brawl in Los Angeles; people vs. Wright, who killed a man who was paying a visit to defendant's former wife in Butte County; people vs. Buckley and people vs. Moran, who were convicted of having shot a machinist named Rice on a Mission-street car during the general strike of 1901.

Decisions in these cases will not be handed down for several months.

### WARRANT SWORN OUT FOR ABE SCHWARTZ'S ARREST

#### Accused of Embezzlement by Clarence Grange, Whose Loss Is Placed at \$12,000.

Clarence Grange swore to a complaint before Police Judge Fritz yesterday charging Abe G. Schwartz with felony embezzlement. The amount stolen, as alleged in the complaint, is \$300, but it is said the total will aggregate about \$12,000.

Schwartz disappeared about ten days ago and it was reported that his father would meet the amount of his defalcation, but he has apparently failed to do so.

The case has been placed in the hands of the Pinkerton detective agency and every effort will be made to locate Schwartz. Grange offers a reward of \$200 to any one that will give information that will lead to the fugitive's arrest.

### Percy Moore Wins.

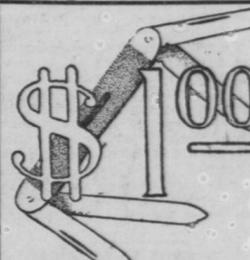
The Supreme Court of the United States has refused to issue a writ of certiorari to disturb the decision of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of Percy Moore vs. the Bank of British Columbia, and the mandate was received yesterday by Clerk Beazley of the United States Circuit Court. By the action of the Circuit Court of Appeals the bank is ordered to deliver to Moore five thousand and three-quarters certificates of stock of the Sanger Lumber Company without any payment being required of him.

### Try to Rob Jewelry Store.

The show window of the jewelry store of G. W. Moss, 116 Geary street, was broken with a rock early yesterday morning. Policeman George Collins heard the breaking of glass, but when he got to the store no one could be seen. The thief did not have time to steal anything.

Reduced rates on household goods to & from the East & South. Bekin's, 11 Montgomery st.

### ADVERTISEMENTS.



This is a special price on a specially good knife. It pays to buy a good knife—one that you can depend on. I carry a very complete assortment of cutlery, embracing every high-grade make, such as Wostenholms', Jordans', Henckels', Silverts' and others. **MY SPECIAL RAZOR, at \$1.00, has no equal for the money.**

**STAR SAFETY RAZOR, \$2.00 value; my price, \$1.50.**

**SCISSORS, good grade, as low as 25c.**

**RAZOR STROPS, from 25c up.**

Two bars Williams' Shaving Soap, 15c.

Out-of-town orders filled promptly.

**THAT MAN PITTS**  
F. W. PITTS, The Stationer,  
1008 MARKET ST., Above Powell.

**Candies Chocolates Bonbons**

Given Away Free with Teas, Coffees, Spices Baking Powder

It Pays to Trade at Great American Importing Tea Co's Stores

861 Market	210 Grant av.	1419 Polk
140 Sixth	1219 Divisadero	705 Larkin
475 Haight	2006 Sixteenth	355 Hayes
2286 Mission	621 Mont'g'ly ave.	52 Market
2008 Fillmore	2516 Mission	146 Ninth
966 Third	2722 24th	469 Fourth

**VISIT DR. JORDAN'S GREAT MUSEUM OF ANATOMY**

1501 MARKET ST. bet. 9th & 10th, S.F. Cal.

The Largest Anatomical Museum in the World. Wakened or any contracted tissue post-mortally cured by the oldest Specialist on the Coast. For 25 years.

**DR. JORDAN—DISEASES OF MEN**

Consultation free and strictly private. Treatment personally or by letter. A Positive Cure in every case undertaken.

Write for Book, **PHYSIOLOGY OF MARRIAGE**, MAILED FREE. (A valuable book for men.)

**DR. JORDAN & CO., 1501 Market St., S.F.**

**GUNS**

Ammunition, Hunting and Sporting Goods. Largest stock. Lowest prices. Send for catalogue.

**SIREVE & BARBER CO.**  
136 Market st. and 321 Kearny st.

**WEEKLY CALL, \$1.00 FEB. YEAR.**