

Pike County Press.

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NO. 15.

THE JAGGER MURDER TRIAL

An Epitome of Evidence Offered by the Prosecution—The State's Whole Case

The first news to greet the people interested in reaching Newton Monday morning was that George N. Jagger had been found in his cell with both wrists bleeding and his throat cut, and the impression first prevailed that the trial would be postponed. However, the doctors agreed he would be able to appear before the court, which he did, and the usual routine was entered upon. Jagger had possessed himself of a case knife in some way and sometime after midnight of Sunday proceeded to open the veins of his wrists and attempted to sever his jugular. The knife being dull the job was excruciatingly painful and after losing quite an amount of blood he cried for help and was found about five o'clock Monday morning.

Prompt efforts were made to stop the blood and render him comfortable which the doctors succeeded in doing. When brought into court his neck and wrists were bandaged and he appeared haggard and pale. He sat very quiet, taking little apparent interest in the proceeding and was probably partially under the influence of some narcotic to allay the pain from which he must have otherwise suffered.

Court was convened with Judges Abram Q. Garretson and Henry C. Hunt on the bench. Prosecutor Henry Huston was aided by ex-Prosecutor Lewis Hood of Essex county. Theo. A. Simonson and Lewis J. Martin cared for Jagger's interests. The state had a stenographer of their own in the person of Van Blarcom, and the defense had Esten O. Vansickle in the same capacity. The regular court stenographer was filled by Herbert Knight. The Newark Evening News was represented by both an artist and a reporter, The Wantage Recorder by Chas. C. Stickney, The Herald by "Polk" Bunnell, The Gazette by De Alton Dillistin and Mark V. Richards. The other county papers were also represented.

The jury was drawn with little delay and the chairs filled before the noon hour. Jury was as follows:

- William S. Slater.
- Theodore M. Marthis.
- Floyd Dickinson.
- William Lafarge.
- William Blinchart, Jr.
- William Farber.
- John Green.
- George Case.
- Linn N. Hockenberry.
- Manning Cooper.
- George Coleman.
- Linus Littell.

The State in the afternoon used 19 witnesses including those at the evening session. The evidence relating to the use of the dogs was reserved as a special line to be introduced later. Nothing sensational in the way of evidence was introduced, and further than laying the ground for future effective work was mainly circumstantial.

The case of the prosecution was opened by Prosecutor Huston who briefly outlined the crime and pointed out by means of maps the location of Victor E. Bevans's house and surroundings, showing the route through the woods which it is assumed the prisoner took on his return home after doing the shooting. He also referred to the pieces of wadding found, to the footsteps leading from the house and said they would prove that Jagger had a gun and buckshot in his possession and that he loaded shells on the afternoon before the shooting was done, that Jagger had made a proposition to a neighbor to go out and get some money. A. H. Konkle, a surveyor, was called to prove the accuracy of the maps exhibited and to show the general topography of the ground, and said the distance from Jagger's to the Bevans house was one and a half miles.

Victor E. Bevans related the history of the shooting on the evening of Oct. 23. Said he sat beside the stove with his back toward it and his wife on a chair near him facing it. Heard the report of a gun and both fell. He went to an adjoining room and telephoned, went back and found his wife lying on the floor. Soon after neighbors came and cared for them. On cross examination he stated that he heard no noise outside either before or after though the door of the room was open. The shot came through the window.

Haskell Smith said he with several others went to the Bevans

house soon after the shooting, found Mrs. Bevans lying on the floor and her husband standing beside her, both shot.

Frank Wilhelm was going to Bevans about 7 o'clock, heard two shots nearby together when a short distance from E. Smith's where he lived.

Elicin Smith lives about 300 yards from Bevans house. Heard the shots and in a couple of minutes was called on the telephone by Bevans. It was 7:05 o'clock. He went with his wife to the Bevans house.

Dr. M. D. Hughes attempting to telephone from Dingmans to his home at Layton heard some crying for help and then started for the Bevans house. Arriving found Mrs. Bevans lying on the floor moaning, her face covered with blood. Mr. Bevans was also bleeding. Treated them both and extracted one shot from Mr. Bevans. His wife had six shot wounds, one above right ear, one in right cheek, one in her neck, one in her nose, one in left shoulder and another near the left breast. The shots in skull were fatal, others might have been. She died at five o'clock the next morning. He identified a bullet shot and said it resembled one he took from Mr. Bevans jaw last October.

Lucella Titman, employed by Dr. Hughes, fixed the time of his message at 7 p. m.

Ed. Kintner reached the Bevans house about 8:30 the night of the shooting, found four buckshot, and on the porch floor small pieces of paper wadding, which being subsequently placed together proved to be taken from a newspaper.

Frank McKeedy said Jagger lived about one and a half miles from Layton, was a subscriber last fall to the Port Jervis Gazette, the paper from which it was alleged the wads were torn.

Warren K. Van Gorden went to the Bevans house next morning, saw tracks leading from the house to the meadow, some in an oat field, and one in the mud at second fence. They appeared as if the person was taking long steps.

H. L. Briscoe measured tracks above noted, found one 11 inches long and 4 inches wide. Met Jagger who offered to assist in the measurements.

H. D. Garretson saw mud prints on rails of first fence, and George Darrah corroborated Briscoe's evidence regarding the tracks.

E. C. Wood with Sheriff Andrews examined the tracks several days after and fitted a pair of shoes belonging to Jagger in them. The shoes were identified and put in evidence. A cross examination revealed that the tracks did not show a hole in the sole of one shoe or the nails in the heels.

Sheriff gave similar testimony regarding the tracks and shoes, but could not say as to the nails in the heels.

Marla Litts with her husband was at the Jagger home the night before his arrest and next morning heard Mrs. Jagger say that she supposed people and the witness thought her very sick, to which Jagger replied "They don't know everything. You and I know something they don't. Don't tell." When arrested he said to his wife "If you had been here this thing would not have happened."

Samuel Litts knew Jagger had a breach loading shotgun last fall, had seen him shoot ground hogs with it. Jagger had shells and loaded them. The afternoon before the shooting between 2 o'clock and half past called at Jagger's and tried to open the door. It was fastened. Knocked and Jagger said, "Who's there?" replied, "Sag Litts." He said, "Wait a minute till I fix my fire." Entering saw shells on table and Jagger said he had been loading some, but the shot did not suit him. Told witness to get a box of shells from a shelf, and in putting them in the box noticed that two had

(Continued on Second Page)

F. E. B.
We heard a man say the other morning that the abbreviation for February—Feb.—means freeze every body, and that man looked frozen in his utter. It was apparent that he needed the kind of warmth that stays, the warmth that reaches from head to foot, all over the body. We could have told him from personal knowledge that Hood's Sarsaparilla gives permanent warmth. It invigorates the blood and speeds it along through artery and vein, and really fits men and women, boys and girls, to enjoy cold weather and resist the attacks of disease. It gives the right kind of warmth, stimulates and strengthens at the same time, and all its benefits are lasting. There may be a suggestion in this for you.

INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS

Hon. John A. Kipp of New York made a business trip here this week.

Charles Cronk, who has been in the west for the past year, is visiting in town.

G. Frank Rowland, ex-county treasurer, was in town a couple of days this week.

County Superintendent of Schools Lucian Westbrook of Dingmans was in town Monday.

Miss Annie Snyder of Lehman died one day this week. We have no further particulars.

District Attorney George R. Bull was an interested listener at the Jagger trial in Newton this week.

Geo. W. Van Sickle has been appointed postmaster at Bevans in place of the late A. S. Stoll, dec'd.

Mrs. Emma J. Baker of New York is visiting her mother, Mrs. Sarah Crysmann, who is at present in feeble health.

Bonnet S. Randle of Montague, N. J., has passed an excellent examination and this week entered Harvard University.

C. C. Tyler and wife, who have been here for several months, have gone to Atlantic City for the rest of the winter.

William Metz, proprietor of the Grand View in Dingman, is building an addition to his new house preparatory to going into the chicken business.

Kurt Rudolph Sternberg, who will be remembered here as a former superintendent of the Deepark Brewing Company, lost his hotel in Baltimore which was in the burned district.

Miss Mabel Guinness, teacher of the intermediate department in the Milford schools, was compelled on account of illness to ask for a two week's vacation and went to her home in Wayne county.

The Hatelet Society of the Presbyterian church, assisted by the Ladies Aid, will have a reception and supper in the church parlors Monday evening, Feb. 22, Washington's birthday. Supper tickets 50c.

Mrs. Thomas Armstrong was taken to the hospital at Port Jervis Monday to undergo an operation for the removal of a tumor. The operation was successfully performed Tuesday and so far the indications for her recovery are very gratifying.

Several witnesses in the Jagger trial went over to Newton the first of the week. Dr. John Kelly and E. C. Wood took the dogs which were used in tracking Jagger, and Dr. C. S. Castle and J. H. Ludwig, Esq., were also in attendance.

Grand Master of Odd Fellows Pavey of Ohio has determined to force out of the order in that state every saloon keeper, bartender and gambler, and has issued an order that all men under the ban must either honestly and legitimately renounce and give up their business or be expelled from the order.

The Best Novels

The Back Bay Literary Circle of Boston recently voted on what the members considered the best novels. These received the majority of votes:

- Best sensational novel, "Woman in White," Collins.
- Best dramatic novel, "Jane Eyre," Bronte.
- Best maritime novel, "Red Rover," Cooper.
- Best country life novel, "Lorna Doone," Blackmore.
- Best military novel, "Charles O'Malley," Lever.
- Best religious novel, "Hypatia," Kingsley.
- Best sporting novel, "Digby Grand," Melville.
- Best political novel, "Coningsby," Disraeli.
- Best novel written for a purpose, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Stowe.
- Best imaginative novel, "Marble Faun," Hawthorne.
- Best pathetic novel, "Silas Marner," Elliot.
- Best humorous novel, "Pickwick Papers," Dickens.
- Best English novel, "Adam Bede," Elliot.
- Best American novel, "Scarlet Letter," Hawthorne.
- Best novel in all, "Henry Esmond," Thackeray.

Get a free sample of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets at Balch & Son, Matamoras, all general stores in Pike county. They are easier to take and more pleasant in effect than pills. Their use is not followed by constipation as is often the case with pills. Regular size, 25c per box.

OBITUARY

MRS. EMILIE BOURNIQUE

Mrs. Bournique died at her home in this place, Tuesday evening, Feb. 9th, of uremia, after an illness of considerable duration. She was born in New York Oct. 10, 1836, and was a daughter of the late Remy and Helen (Devon) Loreaux, who for many years resided in Dingman township. Oct. 10, 1855, she married, at Hoboken, Desre Bournique and in 1863 came with her husband to this place where he carried on the business of manufacturing watch cases until his death in 1881.

Mrs. Bournique was a most excellent woman and her death will be mourned by a large circle of relatives and friends. She is survived by brothers and sisters as follows: Charles of Philadelphia, Edward of Port Jervis, Helen wife of Walter Newman of New York, Clovis of Brooklyn and Isabella, wife of Joseph Dubois of Dingman township, and by children, Juliette, wife of E. O. Bollaot of Dingman, Desre of Brooklyn, Adele, wife of James T. Wedding of New York, Paul N. of this place, George of Brooklyn and Regina who lived with her mother. The funeral occurred today and interment in Milford cemetery.

JAMES BOSLER

Mr. Bosler, who for many years resided here, died at the home of his daughter in Dingmans, Monday, Feb. 8th, of heart disease superinduced by age. He was born in France, April 15, 1822, and came with his parents to this country when he was about 10 years old. After a short residence in New York they came to this county where he has lived ever since. In 1845 he married Anna Hanna, a sister of J. C. Hanna of Delaware. Sept. 7, 1864, he enlisted in Co. K 142 N. Y. Vol. and was honorably discharged at the close of the war, June 1, 1865. He was a member of Col. John Nycer Post G. A. R. and of Vandermark Lodge I. O. O. F. which organization he joined in 1875, and was also a communicant of the M. E. church. He is survived by one daughter, Sarah A., wife of Thos. M. Brink. The funeral, in charge of the Odd Fellows occurred yesterday at 2:30 and interment in Milford cemetery.

MRS. CATHERINE HAMMOND

Mrs. Hammond, whose maiden name was Poltsch, died at the home of her son in Dingman, Saturday, Feb. 6. She was born in Bavaria, Germany, January 19, 1826, and in 1851 came to this country. She soon after met and married Eberhard Lauer who died in Milford township in 1865. After marriage they remained a few years in New York, coming to this county in 1866. After the death of her first husband she married Eberhard Hammond who died in 1892.

She is survived by children of her first marriage as follows: Louise, wife of William Ramsey of Philadelphia; Henry, of Livingston county, Ill.; Edward, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Sarah J., wife of John B. Dauman of Milford township; James W. of Milford; and John P., with whom she resided. The funeral was held Tuesday and interment in Milford cemetery.

A Pleasant Occasion

Last Friday evening an invitation of Branchville Lodge, F. & A. M., P. M. Nills, Dr. W. B. Kenworthy, George Wheeler, Ed. Klotz, William Almer, Jas. P. Van Eiten and J. H. Van Eiten of Milford lodge went over to make a fraternal visit. The occasion was one of special interest and brought a large number of the fraternity from surrounding lodges. Newton being especially well represented. Among those present from there were Jacob Bonnell, editor of the Herald, ex-Senator Lewis J. Martin and Ora C. Simpson, county clerk. Branchville brethren were out in full force. At the close of the lodge session an elegant collation was served at the American House which fully demonstrated that our Jersey brethren know how to do things in the most approved manner. The affair was thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed by all present.

Buy It Now

Do not wait until you or some of your family are sick with cholera, and then send for Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, but buy it now and be prepared for an emergency. It is the one remedy that can always be depended upon in the most severe and dangerous cases. For sale by Balch & Son, Matamoras, all general stores in Pike county.

BRIEF SKETCH—WASHINGTON

The founder of American Independence, and first President of the United States, was born in 1752, in the County of Fairfax, in Virginia. He was descended from an English family which emigrated from Cheshire, about 1630, and his father, in the place of his nativity, was possessed of great landed property. He received his education from a private tutor; and was particularly instructed in mathematics and engineering. His abilities were first employed by Dinwiddie, in 1753, in making reconnoitres to the French commander on the Ohio, for the infraction of the treaty between the two nations; and he afterwards negotiated with the Indians on the back settlements, for which he received the thanks of the British government. In the expedition of Braddock he served as aid-de-camp; and, on the fall of that brave but rash commander, he displayed great talent in conducting the retreat, and saving the army from a dangerous position.

At the commencement of the revolutionary war, he was selected to take the chief command of the provincial troops. On receiving from the president of congress, official notice, he thus addressed him: "Mr. President: Although I am truly sensible to the high honor done me in this appointment, yet I feel great distress from the consciousness that my abilities and military experience may not be equal to the extensive and important trust. I beg that they will accept my most cordial thanks for the distinguished testimony of their approbation; but, unless some unlucky event should happen, unfavorable to my reputation, I beg that it may be remembered by every gentleman in this room, that I, this day, declare, with the utmost sincerity, I do not think myself equal to the command I am honored with. As to pay, sir, I beg leave to assure the Congress, that as no pecuniary consideration could tempt me to accept this arduous employment at the expense of my domestic wishes and happiness. I do not wish to make any profit from it. I will keep an exact account of my expenses; these, I doubt not, they will discharge; that is all I desire."

The record of his services is the history of the whole war. He joined the army at Cambridge, July, 1775. On the evacuation of Boston, November, 1776, he proceeded to New York. The battle of Long Island was fought August 27th and the battle of White Plains on October 28th. On the 25th of December, he crossed the Delaware and soon gained the victories at Trenton and Princeton. The battle of Brandywine was fought on September 11, 1777; Germantown, October 4th; and Monmouth, February 28, 1778. In 1779 and 1780, he continued in the vicinity of New York, and closed the important military operations of the war, by catching Cornwallis at Yorktown in 1781.

On the second of November, 1783, General Washington issued his farewell orders to the armies of the United States.

On Tuesday noon, the fourth of December, the principal officers of the army assembled at Francis's tavern to take a final leave of their beloved commander-in-chief. When Washington entered the room, his emotions were too strong to be repressed or concealed. Filling a glass, he turned to the surrounding officers and said—"With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable." Having drunk he added, "I cannot come to each of you to take my leave, but shall be obliged to you, if each of you will come and take me by the hand." General Knox, being nearest, turned to him. Washington, in tears, grasped his hand, embraced and kissed him. In the same manner he took leave of each of the succeeding officers, Lincoln, Greene and Lafayette and the other valiant men with whom he had been connected in the hours of peril and darkness, to be rewarded with endless gratitude and glory. Every eye was moistened with tears.

On the disbanding of the army, Washington proceeded to Annapolis, then to the seat of Congress to resign his command. On his way thither, he delivered to the comptroller of accounts, at Philadelphia, his account of receipts and expenditures of public money. The whole amount was only 14,479 pounds 18s. 9d. sterling. Nothing was charged or retained for his own services. The resignation of his command was made in a public audience.

As President he completed, in 1790,

the business of his office, by signing a commercial treaty with Great Britain, and then voluntarily resigned his power at a moment when all hands and all hearts were united again to confer upon him the sovereignty of the country. Restored to the peaceful retirement of Mount Vernon, he devoted himself to the pursuits of agriculture and though he accepted the command of the army in 1798, it was merely to unite the affections of his fellow citizens to the general good, and was one more sacrifice to his high sense of duty. He died, after a short illness, on the 14th of December, 1799, and was buried with the honors due to the noble founder of a happy and prosperous republic.

BALTIMORE FIRE SWEPT

Millions in Property Burned—Insurance Companies Lose Heavily

The most destructive conflagration in the history of Baltimore occurred last Sunday night from 11 o'clock in the morning until far in the night. Hundreds of the largest business houses in the center of the city were destroyed entailing losses to the amount probably of two hundred million dollars. The losses of property will probably equal those of the famous fire which swept Chicago in 1871. The fire originated in a dry goods house in the very heart of the city, and started with a series of loud explosions. The firemen finding it impossible to check the flames blew up a number of buildings with dynamite but the fire leaped over the gaps thus made and took fresh and more threatening starts. A strong wind was blowing from the west which helped to fan the flames and force them into the most valuable territory. The area burned over includes one hundred and forty acres and two thousand five hundred buildings were destroyed. Twenty-five thousand people, most of whom are poor, are thrown out of employment. Insurance companies will be hard hit and probably a number will be forced out of business.

Condition of Gorges

The warm weather and rain last Saturday and Sunday caused ice in the river from Lackawaxen to Port Jervis to move, but it gorged about halfway between here and Port Jervis and remains. The water rose several feet so as to pass around the railroad bridge at Matamoras, but cold weather checked the rise and it gradually subsided. The gorges he low were not affected and the one at Cave Bank backed the water until it covered the road between here and Schanons. The immense jams in the river have been rendered firmer by the cold this week and all speculation as to the outcome should a rain or thaw come must be vain. Water below here is running over the ice and may weaken it. As evidence of the body of ice in the river and the effect of the cold Mr. E. Warner states that never in his recollection of the river, dating back more than 50 years, has the ice been sufficiently firm to carry teams directly across at his ferry just below Brinks rift. It is now solidly frozen over.

Out on the Susquehanna the conditions are threatening. The gorges extend for many miles and by reason of the low banks much of the land may be inundated causing great property loss. It is to be hoped that such conditions may ensue as will relieve fears and permit the ice to pass out without entailing damage.

Real Estate Transfers

- Solomon D. Rosencrans to Frank Rosencrans, 73 acres, Delaware, \$500.
- Ross B. Brodhead and C. W. Bull, executors to Happy T. V. W. Beger, farm in Milford township, Brookside, \$2.
- Abram V. Huff to Arthur C. Wolf, lots 532, 534, 536, 433, 435, Matamoras, \$4500.
- Levi Shaw et al. trustees to Nettie A. B. Welts, lands in Palmyra, Jacob Kimble, No. 169, 352 acres, \$1.
- Jas. C. Hanna to William J. Hanna, 15 acres, Delaware, \$164.
- Frank Carl to Laura Sprenger, 100 acres, Lackawaxen, \$1600.

Mysterious Circumstances

One was pale and sallow and the other fresh and rosy. Whence the difference? She who is blushing with health uses Dr. King's New Life Pills to maintain it. By gently arousing the lazy organs they compel good digestion and head off constipation. Try them. Only 25c at all druggists.

THE WASHINGTON LETTER.

Preliminary skirmishes in the presidential campaign thus far have been decidedly satisfactory. Little is now heard of "Hanna booms," and all discontent in republican ranks is expected to disappear after the delegates to Chicago are chosen. The president has expressed the wish that good men who are not office holders may be sent, and there are a plenty of such. The troubles of the democrats are so much greater than those of the republicans, that attention is now largely concentrated upon that party. The very existence of its principles, says Burke Cockran, depend upon its success in the pending campaign. The "check and check-book" campaign of Mr. Hearst is noticeable but it is not likely to cause the White House to be painted yellow for a generation to come. Senator Gorman's troubles in Maryland, in trying to land a senator of his own choice, may yet relegate him to his sylvan retreat at Laurel, Md., so far as presidential aspirations are concerned. Gen. Grosvenor, of Ohio, says President Roosevelt has put a star in the crown of his administration brighter than any American president has worn for the past thirty years. Senator Fairbanks is on the slate for vice president, and if the plan matures it will go far towards solving the problem in Indiana.

Senator Fairbanks made a long speech on the 2nd inst., vindicating the president's action in the Panama affair. He maintained that the form of government instituted in Panama after the revolution was of no consequence; the essence was to do it represent the wishes of the whole people. He would accept the president's and secretary Hay's word that the United States in no way abetted or aided the revolution, which was in the air, as a result of Colombia's long tyranny. The president had large discretion to do what he thought best, and he acted from his point of view.

Senator Foraker (Ohio) has introduced a bill to amend the Interstate Commerce and Anti-Trust acts, so to permit contracts or combinations in restraint of trade, if the restraint is reasonable. This would leave the courts to say what is reasonable restraint. The senator contends that to prohibit contracts in restraint of trade which are reasonable differs from the common law rule which has obtained for centuries in England. It is considered improbable that this bill will pass.

One of the jobs before Congress is the bill to purchase the sequoia groves in California. At the last session the price asked was \$150,000. At this session it has grown to \$250,000.—Congressman Wiley of N. Y. proposes to impose on the Treasury the Bank of England rule that paper currency once redeemed is never to be reissued.—By a vote of 39 to 20, the senate has agreed to allow the president to use his own judgment as to what information might be given that body when asked for.—The case of Senator Simoot, on trial for Mormonism, comes up this week. He has no intention of resigning.—The Interstate Commerce Committee is hearing arguments on the Quates bill which proposes to give the Commission power to check exorbitant railroad rates.—The House has voted the sum of \$170,000 as pay to clerks for extra services during the war with Spain.—Senator Foraker has introduced a bill to purchase ten acres of land on Meridian Hill, Washington, for \$750,000, on which to build a new and magnificent White House.

The Supreme Court is taking a three weeks vacation to give the Justices time to write decisions on cases argued, including that of the Northern Securities Company, and it has given leave to Georgia to file a bill against Tennessee on account of "the Ducktown nuisance."—It has decided that North Carolina must pay North Dakota the sum of \$27,400 for bonds of the N. C. Railway Company, held by the prosecuting state, or the marshal of the court will sell at public auction all the interest of N. C., in 100 shares of the capital stock of the road.—The attorney general of the Philippines is in Washington to argue before the Court the right of trial by jury.

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From Cure for Sick Headache

Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets are a certain cure for sick headache. If taken as soon as the first indication of the disease appears they will prevent the attack. Get a free sample at Balch & Son, Matamoras, all gen'l stores in Pike county and give them a trial.