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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1903.

THE BURDICK MURDER CASE.

For more than a week the daily papers of the country have been printing long accounts of the Burdick murder case at Buffalo, N. Y., and a day or two ago the great press associations of the country sent out thousands of words giving in detail the testimony of Mrs. Burdick, the wife of the murdered man. This testimony of Mrs. Burdick was given before the coronor's jury investigating the case, in the hope of finding out who is the murderer. While the woman was kept on the witness stand for hours, and subjected to a rigid examination, when she had finished she had told nothing, so far as the reader could gather, that would fasten suspicion strongly enough on any one to warrant their arrest.

The case is one of the most scandalous and sensational that has been reported in the papers for a long time. Several weeks ago Burdick, who was a wealthy man, was found in a ground floor room of his house murdered. An examination convinced the authorities that the deed had been committed by some one acquainted with the house, and that the murderer had been deliberate in his visit to the house and in his departure. The officers at first said they suspected a woman, and when the fact became known that Burdick was applying for a divorce from his wife on statutory grounds, the supposition was that she was the suspect. But it developed that his wife was absent from Buffalo when her husband was murdered, and then the police arrested two girls who were employed in Burdick's factory. These girls were released in a few hours. Then the police said the suspect was a man, but they did not make any arrests.

A few days before the coronor's inquest began there was a sensational development in the case. Arthur L. Pennell, who was mentioned as the co-respondent in the case, went riding in an automobile with his wife; the machine ran over a high embankment, and the two were killed. Then the sensation lovers said the affair was not an accident, but that it was a deliberate attempt at suicide, and a successful one. But an investigation showed the brakes of the machine were set, the current was reversed, and that Pennell had done all in his power to stop the automobile from jumping the embankment.

Beyond this Pennell affair there were no particular developments in the case until Mrs. Burdick took the witness stand. The story told by the woman and the letters read by the state's attorney written her by Pennell and acknowledged to have been received by the woman, showed a most deplorable condition of affairs. The woman said she had twice left her husband or been sent away by him because of Pennell, and that both times he had taken her back at the solicitation of Mrs. Pennell. There was no question as to Pennell's infatuation for Mrs. Burdick, but one feature that was brought out was the statement that Mrs. Pennell was in love with Burdick. There was also an intimation that Mrs. Pennell hated the scandal of the divorce proceedings worse than anything else and a hint was given that she would not have stopped at anything to have prevented Burdick pushing his case against his wife and involving Pennell.

He who reads may find the moral in this Burdick story. Three souls unshriven have gone to meet their Maker because of a violation of the seventh commandment. One woman, the cause of the trouble, would undoubtedly welcome the grim messenger. An aged mother is prostrated and four innocent children will have to bear to their graves the burden of the sins of their parents. Had any of the actors in this tragedy counted the cost would they have followed the course which has had sure dire results? That is a question every man and woman who is tempted should ask, and on the answer may depend the weal or woe of innocent children and aged parents.

The building season has opened in Chicago and with it has come a strike. There are two unions in that city of sheet metal workers. One union went on strike March 10 and members of the other took their places. Now the advisory board of the building trades unions have ordered all their men to quit work on all buildings where the members of the taboored metal workers' union are employed. The outlook is bad for those mechanics who have had little work during the winter months.

TROUBLES OF DEMOCRACY.

In their efforts to get together the democrats of the nation are not making much progress, but on the other hand they are apparently stirring up more dissension, and driving the separating wedge in farther. Several weeks ago there sprang from some unknown source a boom for Judge Parker, of New York, for the democratic nomination for the presidency. That boom did not die a bornin', because the publicity bureau for Parker is still busy sending out two and three times a week columns of laudatory stuff about Parker to the democratic papers of the country.

Bryan has not openly opposed the candidacy of Judge Parker, but he has served notice on the eastern democrats that his followers will not support a presidential candidate who is foisted upon the convention by those democrats who were lukewarm in their support of the democratic platform and democratic candidate in the last two presidential elections.

Grover Cleveland has been nominated for the presidency by the New York World, a professedly democratic paper, and no sooner had his boom been launched than the other alleged democratic paper in New York city, Hearst's American and Journal, noted the fact and it had one of its bright young men write an interview supposedly with Cleveland in which the former democratic leader said that under no circumstances would he be a candidate for the presidency. Following this, Cleveland came out, and said the interview was false, and that he never said he would not accept a nomination.

When the senate met in extra session a few weeks ago Senator Gorman, of Maryland, was boosted into the place of leader formerly held by Jones, of Arkansas. The democratic papers took this as a sure sign that Gorman was the Moses who would lead the democracy out of the wilderness into the promised land of federal offices and power. But there are others who aspire to do the Moses act, and now there is an effort being made by these other saviors of the party to minimize the effect of the Gorman business as the democratic leader in the senate.

The democrats of the nation look to New York for their cue and judging from the latest returns from the Empire state the indications are that harmony is an unknown quantity in their party now. The Albany, N. Y. Argus, the leading democratic paper in the interior, lets the cat out of the bag a little ways, far enough to see the claws, anyway, in a recent editorial, when it says:

"Democrats in other states should not be misled by the Brooklyn Eagle or the New York World. With either, Democracy is but a mask, a means to betray. Both supported Seth Low for mayor in 1901 and both will support him for re-election. Both refused to support the Democratic State ticket in 1902, and neither is anything other than an ally and supporter of the Republican State machine as against the regular Democratic organization in this State.

"Of late, these papers have been full of wars and rumors of war to be made by democrats of this state against Mr. Bryan. The World and the Brooklyn Eagle are not in the confidence of any accredited democratic leader in this state. There is no plan to 'humiliate' Mr. Bryan; no 'war' against him; not a word of truth in all the vicious trash published in these papers and telegraphed out West, to serve there, it is hoped by its authors, its intended purpose of dividing and demoralizing Democrats, and making republican victory easy in 1904.

The republicans of Butte having endorsed the democratic candidate for mayor, and the citizens party having done likewise, and Mr. Patrick Mullins being the anti-trust democratic candidate for the same office, and Larry Dugan the labor democratic nominee, and Mr. Leamy the social democratic nominee, the question is, "Where do the republicans get off?" It has been a long while since Silver Bow sent a republican to the state legislature, and the action of the party this spring in Butte may account for the lack of republican votes in that city when the republicans in other parts of the state are doing their duty.

As predicted, there was a string on the Castro resignation. Like the Montana candidate for the legislature, the president of Venezuela has "yielded to the solicitations of his friends," pulled back his resignation of the presidency and is once more back in office, while the populace shouts "Bravo!"

Population of London and England.

London's population is now about 4,536,034, an increase of some 308,717 in the last ten years. Notwithstanding this, there are now 500 fewer births daily in the United Kingdom than 20 years ago. The decline of the birth rate is a menace that is causing thoughtful Englishmen more concern than the loss of trade and revenue. It may appear incredible, but it is perfectly true, that births in England are falling off at the rate of about 1,000,000 in five years.

Need Enjoyed It.

Thomas B. Reed was once the victim of a printer's error the unusual aptness of which, after the first flush of indignation had subsided, appealed so strongly to his sense of the comic that he never failed to refer to the matter with the keenest gusto whenever he met the man whom he, with the utmost mock solemnity, always held responsible for it.

The late Colonel John A. Cockerill's handwriting in the heat of composition was sometimes liable to lose itself in an almost interminable tangle, decipherable only with the greatest difficulty. On one occasion he undertook to say that "any one can see Tom Reed has the face of an honest man," but was horrified when he opened his paper the following morning and found that the types made him say that "any one can see Tom Reed has a face like a harvest moon."

Wonders of the Human Heart.

The workings of the human heart have been computed by a celebrated physiologist, and he has demonstrated that it is equal to the lifting of 120 tons in twenty-four hours. Presuming that the blood is thrown out of the heart at each pulsation in the proportion of sixty-nine strokes of nine feet, the mileage of the blood through the body might be taken at 207 yards per minute, seven miles per hour, 168 miles per day, 61,320 miles per year, or 5,150,000 miles in a lifetime of eighty-four years. In the same period of time the heart must beat 2,869,776,000 times.

Sadiron and Tailor's Goose.

A "sadiron" is the style in which the common flatiron is spoken of in print, says the Syracuse Herald. "Sad" is an old English synonym for heavy, and Spenser wrote, "More sad than lump of lead." A "sadiron" was a heavy iron and long ago was applied to the flatiron now in common domestic use. The tailor's "goose" was so called because the handle bears a fanciful resemblance to the neck of a goose. This name because it had a reason for being still survives.

Literary Diseases.

Many occupations have diseases which are more or less incidental to them, and literature is not exempt. The two most prevalent literary maladies are writer's cramp and swelled head. The unfortunate thing about writer's cramp is that it is never cured. The unfortunate thing about swelled head is that it never kills.—Exchange.

The Trouble With Poultry.

An old woman who went into the poultry business under the expectation that she could make a fortune by selling eggs has quit it in disgust because, as she says, "the hens never 'll lay when eggs are dear, but always begin as soon as they are cheap."

A Quick Answer.

Johnny's Elder Brother (who wants Johnny to go on an errand)—Didn't you know I was looking for you everywhere?

Johnny—No, I didn't. If I had, you wouldn't have found me.—Clums.

The Frosted Hand.

"Yes, and after she refused me she waved her hand in farewell."

"Sort of cold wave, wasn't it?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A chimney of 115 feet height will, without danger, sway ten inches in a wind.

Beware of the man whose dog dislikes to follow him.—New York Life.

NOTICE.

The annual meeting of the Montana Stockgrowers' Association will be held in Miles City on April 21, 1903. Special rates will be given by the railroad companies.

W. G. PRELUTT, Sec.-Treas.

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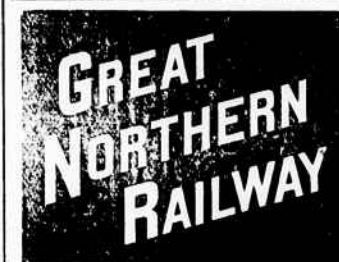


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