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# TRIAL OF JOSEPH H. MORRIS

INDICTED FOR THE

## MURDER of Mrs. EMMA TURNER

ON THE AFTERNOON OF THURSDAY, JULY 20, 1883, IN THE STORE OF WILLIAM TURNER, AT MORRIS' STATION, KENT COUNTY, MD.

## Verdict of Murder in the Second Degree.

This case was called for trial on Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Chas. H. Baker, Esq., had been assigned by the Court as counsel for the defense; the State's Attorney, H. W. Vickers, assisted by Jas. T. Rowley, Esq., for the prosecution. Hons. John M. Robinson, Joseph A. Wickes and Frederick Stump were on the bench, and the court-room was crowded with a throng of spectators. As the prisoner, Morris, took his seat in the dock every eye was turned upon him; he is a man of some thirty-two years of age or thereabouts, light sandy hair, full red moustache, restless light-blue eyes, a florid complexion, weighs about 175 lbs., and was dressed in a new dark-blue suit. To the indictment he pleaded "Not guilty," in a firm, clear voice, and elected to be tried by the Court.

Prosecuting attorney, H. W. Vickers, opened with a brief and succinct statement of the case. On July 20th, a household of three contented persons was broken up by the death of the wife and mother, Mrs. Emma Turner, in a most unnatural manner, and, as the State claims, by a foul murder, William Turner, while away in Philadelphia, met with the loss of his wife. On Wednesday night the prisoner, Joseph H. Morris, made an unsuccessful attempt to enter the house but was foiled by Mrs. Turner, who stated that her husband would return from the city on that night, and should be find her and Morris together would kill them both, but this was a device merely to get rid of the traverser. The next day (Thursday) Morris again visited the house, and while Mrs. Turner was asleep in a chair, in her sitting-room, he left the house taking with him a pair of spectacles and scissors belonging to Mrs. Turner. She awoke and sent her daughter Ida after them; in this Ida failed, but succeeded in seeing the spectacles in Morris' pocket; Mrs. Turner then went after them herself, but not being able to get them, left, taking with her Morris' best hat. Morris then went over to Mrs. Turner's with gun and game-bag. Ida, sitting in a back room, through the open door, saw and heard as follows: Morris in a rough voice came in and demanded of Mrs. Turner "What's the matter with you?" Mrs. Turner said "Joe Morris, I'm mad. you have stolen my scissors and spectacles and if you had not done so I could have gotten well under way with my dress." Ida then saw Morris walk behind Mrs. Turner, cock his gun, and point it at her; she (Ida) screamed "Don't shoot my mother," ran to him, grabbed the gun, and with her mother's assistance wrested it from him. Ida then took the gun out, hid it in the weeds back of the stable, but brought back the gun to Morris at her mother's solicitation, who was afraid lest Morris would come and burn the house in the night; she did so, having first dampened the nipple. Rittenhouse then appeared on the scene and Morris and he passed a few words about gunning; Morris went off and fired two shots from his gun, then came in the house again, saw him, without any warning, bring his gun to his shoulder, heard him cock the left hand barrel, saw him run his eye along the barrel, and heard Mrs. Turner's death scream, and, also heard her fall; then bringing his gun to a "charge bayonet" he backed out, covering thus the threshold of death's chamber, and so backed off some forty feet. Ida came in, saw the dreadful scene, went up stairs and got a revolver, came down and fired at Morris as he went off, and coming back fainted away. The State, also, expects to prove that previous to this Morris had attempted to induce a man to place a package in Turner's water bucket. And, also, a conversation in which Morris had said that some time Turner would go away from home with a free good will, and a free good heart, but on his return would find more blood on his floor than he had ever seen there before, and said if the party should tell Turner what he said he would kill him for doing so.

### Evidence for the State.

William Turner, the husband of the murdered woman, was the first witness called. His testimony was as follows: Is 35 years old; was born in Northampton county, Va.; has been here 19 years; has been married 16 years; his wife was a large woman, weighing 212½ pounds; was not at home at the time of the tragedy; went to Philadelphia on morning train Wednesday, July 19; on his return Thursday, found his wife dead.

The second witness was Ida Turner, the daughter of the dead woman. She has light hair and blue eyes, and is a very neat-looking and rather pretty girl, aged apparently about 15 years. She stated her age, however, as 13. She testified, that on Thursday morning, the 20th of July, Morris came to their house at about ten in the morning, and left at about eleven. That her mother was lying down while Morris was there, and after he had gone, she missed her spectacles and scissors. When she learned that Morris had been there, she said that she believed that he had taken them, and sent witness over to the Morris house to get them. When witness demanded the spectacles and scissors of Morris, he denied having taken them. She said, You did take them. He replied, I didn't. Witness again charged him with it, and he raised his hand to strike her. The elder Morris, who was present, caught Joe Morris' wrist, and prevented his striking. Witness then snatched open his coat, and the spectacles were revealed in his vest pocket. She returned and told her mother. Her mother then went to the Morris house, and after an interval returned with Morris best hat. On the afternoon of the same day, witness testified that Morris came over to their house, bringing a double-barrelled gun. That he said to her mother, "What is the matter with you?" She replied, "I am mad. If you had not taken my scissors and spectacles, I could have been sewing on my dress." Witness' mother was sitting in a rocking chair, and after some further talk, Morris passed behind her and placed the muzzle of the gun to her back. Witness heard the gun go, Click, click, and sprang forward, crying, "Don't shoot my mother." She threw Morris' gun up, and while her mother was getting her spectacles and scissors from Morris' pocket, witness got the gun from him and took it out and hid it. Morris kept asking for the return of his gun, and finally the mother told witness to get it. Witness got the gun, and her mother met her out by the pump, and the caps were taken off and water poured into the tubes. When the gun was returned to Morris, he asked witness what she had done with the caps. She replied that she had thrown them away, and he said that that was all right. Before he left, he went outside and poured out what seemed to witness to be whiskey. He asked witness to drink it, but she refused. He then said he would make her mother drink it, and set the glass on the table. Witness picked up the glass and the contents looked greasy. She threw the stuff out and there was a white powder at the bottom. Morris took his gun and left, and while witness was up stairs, dressing, she heard Morris come back, and enter the store, and say something to Mr. Rittenhouse who was there. She then heard a gun report, and heard her mother scream. She rushed down, and found her mother shot. She ran back up stairs and returned with a revolver, and fired once at Morris as he retreated. The cross-examination failed to shake witness' testimony in any important particular. After Ida Turner was dismissed, the court adjourned till half-past seven o'clock in the evening.

### Evening Session.

At the evening session of the court a much larger number of persons were present than in the afternoon, the folding doors were thrown open, and it is estimated that five hundred persons were crowded in the room and hall.

The cross-examination of Ida Turner was continued on request of attorney for defence that she re-state the evidence as given at the morning session. Ida was so overcome by having again to re-call such painful scenes that it was some time before she was able to resume her narrative. Witness did not say to Morris, when she demanded her mother's scissors and spectacles from him at his father's house, on the day of the shooting, and when he denied having them in his possession—"You're a d——d liar, you have got them!" Nor did she say, when he attempted to strike her at the same time—"You'd better not hit me, Joe Morris, you d——d red headed son of a ——!" Witness does not swear. Her mother was not over at Morris' on Wednesday night nor early Thursday morning. Her mother did not drink whiskey; nor was Morris in the habit of furnishing it to her.

After Ida Turner was dismissed, John Rittenhouse was called. He is a German, and though he speaks English clearly, he does so very slowly and deliberately. He testified that on the 20th of July last, he went to Turner's store, at about five o'clock in the afternoon to buy goods. When he got to the store he found prisoner at the bar in the sitting-room. Witness walked into the store, and Morris came into the store from the sitting-room. Witness said to him, "Well, Joe, have you been killing woodcock?" Joe replied, "Yes, I have killed one." Witness told him to come over by the cypress, there were plenty over there. Joe said he thought he would. Morris then passed out of the store-room, and witness heard two gun reports. Before Mrs. Turner had finished wrapping up his goods, Morris returned. As he came in the door he said to witness, "Well, Doc, how is the world using you?" Witness was sitting on a box by the window, with his elbow on the sill, and facing the door at which Morris had entered. His horse, which was standing near the window on the outside, just then began to move. He cast his eye out to his horse, and he heard Joe mutter something indistinct. He looked toward him, and saw him cock his gun, raise it to his shoulder, point it in the direction of Mrs. Turner, and fire. Morris then brought his gun to a present arms, and backed out the door, covering witness. Witness did not see Mrs. Turner fall, but heard a noise like a dead weight falling. He immediately went to Mrs. Turner, and spoke to her, but she could not speak. He went up stairs, got a pillow, raised her head and placed it under.

Cross-examined by defense, witness said he could not have called Morris a drunken man. Didn't think he could have had many drinks. He went to Mrs. Turner's house that afternoon about the time 5 o'clock train passed. He entered store-room. No one was in the store-room when he entered, but he saw the accused in the sitting-room. Witness went over the story of the killing again, and did not deviate from his previous testimony. In explaining his testimony given before the coroner's jury, witness said that it was not exactly the same as he had given before the court. It differed in that he had not testified to his full knowledge before the coroner's inquest. There he had said, that he saw Morris when he seemed to be lowering his gun from his shoulder. He did not say that he had seen Morris raise his gun, and point it in the direction of Mrs. Turner. Witness maintained that he had not told an untruth to the coroner's jury, but confessed that he had not told the full truth. The court allowed him to give his reasons for having not told the full truth. Witness said that it was because when the inquest was held, the prisoner was still at large, prowling in the woods. The accused knew that witness was the only person saw the shooting. He was afraid that if Morris knew that he had testified directly against him, Morris might shoot him. Witness said that not many questions were asked him on the coroner's jury, and he avoided giving direct answers.

Perry Jordon, colored, was called, testified he lives at Morris' Station. Was at Turner's store on afternoon of the killing. Saw Joe Morris come up and walk in the back way with a double-barrel gun. After a short time he heard Ida Turner cry out, "Don't you shoot my mother." Saw Ida go out the door with the gun.

Cross-examined by defense, witness said that he was cleaning stable at the time. Stable was about as far from the house as the court-room door (about 40 ft). He saw Morris enter the house with a gun. Witness was before the coroner's jury.

Benjamin McKenney, colored. Was at Turner's store on the day of murder. Saw Morris come in back way with gun. Set his gun down and went to house door and looked in. Came back, got his gun, and went into the sitting-room. Pretty soon he heard Miss Ida scream, "Don't you draw your gun on my mother." Saw Miss Ida go out of the house with gun.

Cross-examined by defense, witness repeated his testimony without important deviation.

Lizzie Benjamin, colored, testified, lives at Morris' Station. Took a message Wednesday night previous to the shooting, from Mr. Joe Morris to Mrs. Turner, and brought back an answer. Mr. Morris told her to ask Mrs. Turner if he might stay with her that night. She asked Mrs. Turner, and Mrs. Turner sent word back that her husband might come home that night, and if he found Morris there, he would kill them both. When witness delivered this message to Morris, he said, "If she does not want me to come, I will not come."

Wm. H. Farrell, a white witness, was sworn. Lives within a mile of Morris' Station. Was to work for the Morrises last spring. One evening Joe called him out to the barn, and said to him, "Sweet William, I want you to do me a little favor. Witness told him he would do anything he could for him. Joe then took out a small package, and asked him if he would not take it over to the Turner's and put it in the water bucket. Witness refused, and Morris made for him. Witness struck for the pines, and Morris ran in and got his gun, and shot at witness just as he reached the pines. On another occasion, about six weeks prior to the shooting, witness was sitting with Morris along the railroad. Morris said to him, that if Turner ever went away from home, he would go with a free good will and a free good heart, but that when he came home, he would be a much sadder man, as he would have more blood in his house than he had ever had before. Witness said, "Joe, suppose I tell Mr. Turner this," and Morris replied, "If you do, I will kill you."

Cross-examined by the defense, witness said that he had never told this story before, except to the State's Attorney. He was afraid to tell it before Morris was taken to prison.

Dr. Latimer, testified that he was at the inquest, and made a subsequent post-mortem examination of Mrs. Turner's body. He said there were two separate and distinct wounds, about three inches apart. The larger wound was about the nipple of right breast, the smaller lower down. Smaller wound was smooth and even, such as shot could not well make. Small wound was something like a minnie ball would make. Found shot all through large wound, but found no ball or anything else in small wound. In his opinion the gun, when discharged, must have been held nearly in horizontal position. If there was any variation, the deflection was downward. Thought gun might have been held at shoulder and have made the wound.

Cross-examined by defense, said the wound was nearly directly through. The lower wound passed through the liver and stomach. Witness said that he did not consider it his province to decide the respective heights of Morris and Mrs. Turner, or to say what degree of deflection a shot would have, when fired from Morris's shoulder and taking effect in Mrs. Turner's breast. He could not give opinions upon these points. In response to questions from the court, witness said he thought either wound would have been fatal. There were shot from the large wound in the spine.

Wm. H. Davis testified, was at the coroner's inquest and examined the gun found in Morris's house. Found right-hand barrel loaded, left-hand barrel empty. In answer to the court, witness said that he saw the gun up stairs, lying on the bed. Did not know for certain that it was Morris's gun.

Cross-examined by defense, did not say that he would kill Joe Morris. Did not say on that occasion, "Come on, boys, and we'll stretch him before night."

Wm. H. Simpson testified that he helped to examine the gun at Morris's house on Friday following the shooting. Gun had load in right-hand barrel, no load in left-hand barrel. A gun was here handed witness which he said he thought to be same gun.

The prosecution here rested their case.

### Evidence for the Defense.

James H. Reed was the first witness called for the defence. Lives near Morris' Station; on 20th of July was working on road, took a little dinner, and in afternoon did nothing, started over in direction of Turner's store and saw Joe Morris walking down towards his father's with gun on his shoulder; witness heard Ida scream and halloo and shoot a pistol as he passed Morris; Mr. Morris, Sr., said, "Joe must have shot some one over there." Joe said, "Pap if I have shot anyone the gun went off accidentally." Witness was at coroner's jury, saw Rittenhouse there; heard Rittenhouse say that he, (Rittenhouse), went over to Turner's in the afternoon to buy some provisions; that Morris was there, that he went out, and in a few minutes came back saying, "Well, Doc, how is the world using you?" he replied, "Elegant, Joe, elegant;" that he, (Rittenhouse,) looked out of the window and as he looked around saw Joe Morris taking his gun down from his shoulder. Witness has seen Mrs. Turner drinking; she and Morris always seemed friendly.

Cross-examination. Can recollect Rittenhouse's testimony before the coroner, but cannot remember what he, himself, said.

TUESDAY MORNING.—Court met at 10 o'clock, Judges Robinson, Wickes and Stump, on the bench. The court-room was again crowded with people.

R. E. Knighton.—Was on coroner's inquest; does not remember Rittenhouse's testimony there; Rittenhouse showed jury where he was sitting; said that he was looking out of the window; turned and saw Morris in the act of taking his gun from his shoulder, that he heard Mrs. Turner fall; got up and went around the counter.

Cross-examination.—His memory is very indistinct; does not remember the day of the month of the shooting.

Wilhelmina Tucker.—Lives 2 miles from Turner's store; when Mrs. Turner was killed witness was in John Golt's store; Rittenhouse came up on porch and said to witness, "You'd better go down to Turner's store for Joe Morris has killed Mrs. Turner;" I said, "Doc, that can't be:" I asked, if he thought Joe meant to do it, and Rittenhouse said he didn't know whether he did or not, for he didn't see Joe shoot Mrs. Turner, though he heard her fall; that Mrs. Turner was not dead when he left, was breathing at that time; this was the first intimation she received of Mrs. Turner's death; received from Rittenhouse's mouth. Witness went to store and helped dress Mrs. Turner and wash her wound. There were two wounds on the left breast, one small and one large. From the small wound she pressed blood and a number of very small fine shot. She saw Ida next day and Ida said to witness, she was out in the yard after Morris had shot her mother and said, "Joe Morris, you red headed son of a b—, you've shot my mother," and then shot at him herself.

Cross-examination.—Saw Mr. Morris last Friday in town; Mr. Morris did not tell her what he wanted her to swear to, (at this point witness became very indignant, loudly proclaiming her truthfulness.) Joe Morris is the father of one of her children. She is not married yet.

Mrs. Hannah Hudson.—Lives 1 mile from Morris' Station; heard of Mrs. Turner's death on Thursday afternoon; Rittenhouse came to witness' house on Monday after the shooting; asked him if he thought Morris shot Mrs. Turner on purpose, he said no he did not, that he did not see him shoot. Some two or three weeks after Rittenhouse was in witness' yard; said to her that he did see Joe Morris shoot Mrs. Turner. Witness said you differ from what you first told me. Rittenhouse replied, "Yes, but God d——n him, I'm going to hang him if I can."

Cross-examination.—Never said to any one, "Joe has made his words come true at last;" never had any talk with Mr. Wm. Davis about the case. Did not tell Davis, Morris was at her house on Sunday before the shooting, and said to her, "Dam Emma Turner, I'll get even with her yet." Never told George Davis she was going to Chestertown and swear to a lie to save Joe Morris.

"Sadie Bell" Thompson.—Lives near Morris' Station; heard of the murder of Mrs. Turner on that day; saw Rittenhouse on Monday, after shooting, in her grandmother's presence. Witness was not in room, and did not hear what Rittenhouse said, except that he spoke of Morris in a very rough manner, and that he did not see the shooting; after this, at another time, Rittenhouse was with her, Joe Skeggs was present. Rittenhouse came in after water, sat down, said he was buying some things, got them, took them out to his dearborn, and after a conversation with Morris turned to speak to his horse with head out of the window, heard gun go off and Mrs. Turner fall, did not see Morris take the gun down from his shoulder nor put it up; met Rittenhouse again on the road between Golt's and her house, asked Rittenhouse what made him so hard on Joe, he said, "I don't like the son of a b——, no how, damn him, I'm going to hang him if swearing can do it, I intend to stretch his d——n neck as long as a fence rail, until his tongue hangs out a foot long, as the old saying is.

Cross-examination.—Has never been summoned as a witness in this trial; came down of her own accord. Often met "Doc" Rittenhouse, as she pretty nearly all the time is running about the forest; was married in Nov. 1880, has a certificate home; will send it down if State's attorney insists; her husband has left her.

James A. Morris, son of the prisoner, testified—Is 16 years old, lives at Chesapeake City, was at his grandfather's at time of shooting. Saw Mrs. Turner at his grandfather's on night before the shooting, at 10 o'clock. She asked for Joe, saying he had promised to go to Townsend and get her some whiskey. On Thursday morning saw Mrs. Turner out early in the morning; she went over to his grandfather's and went up stairs to his father; witness and his grandfather went off and left them together. Between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon Mrs. Turner came in Morris' house again and asked for her specs and scissors; Joe Morris said they were on the table at her house, she took his hat and went off. His father had been drinking a right smart on Thursday; witness did not see Ida at his house, but was not home all day.

Cross-examination.—Did not tell Mr. Simpers nor Mr. Davis that his father was sober on Wednesday and on Thursday, the day of the murder.

Joseph Morris, Sr., father of the prisoner, lives at Morris' Station, about 200 yards from Turner's store; on day of Mrs. Turner's death was at work on the road in the forenoon; after dinner, while he and Joe were in the room, Ida came in and said, "Uncle Joe I want you to make Joe give me ma's specs and scissors;" Joe denied having them; Ida said, "you're a liar;" Joe said, "don't call me a liar;" Ida said, "you are, and a d——d liar," at same time grabbed his coat, saying, "There they are, now," but witness examined his pockets and did not find them there; Ida insisting Joe had the scissors called him "a d——d lying son of a b——;" Joe raised his hand slightly, but did not attempt to really strike her; soon Mrs. Turner came over and went up stairs with Joe; witness heard them laughing and talking, and Joe said, "Em, come, let's take a drink;" saw Mrs. Turner at his house on Wednesday night, she asked for Joe, and said he had promised to go to Townsend and get some whiskey. Never saw anything but friendship between Mrs. Turner and Joe Morris. As witness came up the road he heard a gun go off, then Joe Morris came out of Turner's store and walked over to the house, which witness had by this time reached. Witness asked Morris what on earth was the matter over there, saying that he heard Ida hollering; but Morris walked in the house without saying a word; he looked very badly and went up stairs; witness saw him wringing his hands and crying, apparently greatly excited and very sorry, and said, "Pap, the poor woman is dead." He remained in the house about 15 minutes.

Joseph H. Morris—prisoner—Makes his home with his father; on Wednesday 19th, was at home; was at Clayton Monday; Mrs. Turner came over Wednesday morning with Lizzie Benson; no one there but himself; went in the house; Mrs. T. said she was dry, gave Lizzie a drink, she and he drank nothing till after Lizzie left; saw her again on Thursday about 3 o'clock; she came over to his house on Thursday morning, he was at home alone; was not up; I called and she answered and came up to the head of the stairs and talked with me; he shut the door and she stayed an hour or two and they were drinking and enjoying themselves; stayed about the house until about 3 o'clock, then took his gun and game-bag to go kill woodcock; found he had no ammunition and went over to Turner's after some; Mrs. Turner was sitting just inside the sitting-room sewing; walked up to the door and asked for ammunition; stepped in; a round table was to the right of where she sat sewing; was sitting talking to her when Ida came in; she took a seat back of him and asked him to hold the gun some other way; he said the gun could do no harm as it was unloaded; she insisted and then attempted to take it away from him and did so, taking it out, he did not know where; he insisted upon her getting it for him; she refused, but her mother compelled her to get it; he picked up the spectacles and scissors to plague her, and pushed them under the table-cover; the gun was just as she took it from him when it was returned; asked Mrs. Turner if she had any more fine shirts; said she had; got down a box and picked out one, which she said was 80c., he gave her a dollar and said to her to work the button-holes and give me a couple of cigars, and we'll call it square; said he would get the shirt to wear to the bush-meeting Sunday; went out and loaded his gun; then went to his house; Mrs. Turner came over and asked for her spectacles and scissors; said he hadn't them; she said Ida said he had; she then took his hat and laid it on the grass; he missed his caps while out gunning; went to Turner's store; walked up to the door of the store and said to Rittenhouse who was there "How's the world using you?" &c. went up to the counter asked for some caps; she got them and counted him out 18; put two on his gun and set it down by a fish-barrel near the door; Mrs. Turner then handed him 16 wrapped up; while talking to Rittenhouse he asked "Where are you going?" "Over by old Hannah's;" Rittenhouse said there were many woodcock by the cypress. After talking awhile he took up his gun and threw it over his arm. Mrs. Turner said something as he started out of the door, he turned and said "Hello, what's the matter?" and just then his gun went off and he heard Mrs. Turner fall; so much shocked was he that he jumped back; Ida came in and said "You red-headed ——— you have shot my mother." Said she'd shoot him; fearing she would, he went off out the door; don't know whether he went backward or not; as he got a few steps off heard Ida running out of the sitting-room door, she had a pistol; he hurried on a little, and she said "Look out you I'm going to shoot you," then said "I wish you'd come back here I'd shoot you." Went on over home and up stairs; put his gun away, and then walked up and down the road thinking about the matter, much worried, crying and wringing his hands; heard Mrs. Turner was dead and then that he would be lynched; being frightened he concealed himself; said to his father he wanted to be at the inquest and make a statement; went off in the swamp telling his father to send for him when Constable Jacoby came. If the girl had not threatened to kill him he would have stayed and rendered his services to Mrs. Turner. Went out of the swamp and on the railroad; heard several crowds talking, who from; what he heard, were bent on lynching him; stayed around there till about 3 o'clock, nearly suffocated for water, as it was all dried up in the swamp; went over to old Mr. Foreacre's who remarked "Why, Joe, you look worried." I replied "Why, dad, haven't you heard?" "Yes," he said, "I have." Morris said "Yes, its worrying me almost to death." Tried to eat his dinner but could not eat much; drank a cup of coffee, talked a little while, asked him to send one of the boys for his father; Joe went in the woods, told Foreacre where he was; soon his father came, he had something for him to eat but could not eat, drank a little coffee he brought with him; told him to send Reed to bring him a shirt or two and at 9 o'clock meet him at the corner of Mr. Bramble's field to take him over to Galena; waited till midnight, then walked to Galena (Reed didn't come for him) and gave himself up to Jacoby at 2.10 A. M., Saturday morning; rapped him up and told him how it happened; both dozed asleep the balance of the night; took breakfast with Jacoby and wife, and came to town with Mr. Gilpin, Jacoby having a wounded hand.

Cross-examination.—Had a difficulty with Turner at Turner' store where Turner whipped him. Turner was witness against him at U. S. Court in Baltimore. The question "Have you been tried for perjury in this court?" was ruled out.

By Court—After getting the shot in the morning loaded his gun and went to his father's house; having no caps went to Turner's store for some; did not go out and discharge his gun; did not leave the house after buying caps until after Mr. Turner was shot; Rittenhouse was at Turner's when he went; the prisoner's only way of accounting for the presence of any solid projectile in his gun on that day was that he bought a few cartridges in Clayton; he thought they were all used up, one of these might have been in his pocket and gotten in the gun as he loaded it.

John M. Connor—A clerk in Smith's store in the Forest, knows Wm. H. Farrell, his character for truth has been discussed in the neighborhood where he lives, from this character, as he has heard it, he would not believe Farrell on his oath.

Thos. H. Tucker—Knows Wm. H. Farrell, and has heard his character discussed, and would not believe Farrell on his oath.

Defense here closed.

STATE IN REBUTTAL.

Wm. Davis, sr.—Lives a-half mile from Hannah Hudson; on the day after the shooting went over there, she said to witness "Joe made his words come true for what he said to me on Sunday that 'He would soon be square with Mrs. Turner, damn her.'" Two or three weeks before court she said to witness "every damned thing in the forest is going to swear against Joe but I'm going to swear for him and if lying will save him I'll do it." Would not believe Mrs. Hudson on her oath.

George Davis—Was at Hannah Hudson's two weeks after the murder and Hannah said to witness "Are you gunning for Joe?" "No," said I, "The men in Chestertown will gun for him at court." Said she, "Well, all the county is gunning for him, but if a lie will save him, I'll swear to it for him." She said Sadie Bell had left her house and gone with her baby and clothes to wait on a Mrs. Wilson at Ben Ford's in Del.

Harry Price—Lives near Masseys; knows Hannah Hudson and Sadie Bell; has heard their reputation discussed; it is bad; would not believe either of them on oath.

Edward Morgan—Lives in Delaware, near Morris', knows Hannah Hudson, Sadie Bell and Wilhelmina Thompson, has heard their reputation discussed and would not believe either of them on their oath in a court of justice.

James Darrell—Lives near Delaware, in Kent, knows Hannah Hudson and Sadie Bell and has heard their character for veracity discussed; would not believe either of them on their oath.

Here the evidence was closed.

Mr. Baker, counsel for defense, addressing the Court, said he had drawn out the evidence as best he could, he took the case unwillingly and expected assistant counsel, but alone and unaided had done only what could be done under the circumstances. One with more experience might have done better; he felt like pleading for life but knew that the Court would do as the justice and evidence of the case behooved them.

Judge Robinson—You have done, sir, your whole duty and have presented the evidence as ably as it could be—you could not, of course, manufacture testimony, and the Court is satisfied with your course.

The three Judges then for a few moments consulted together, while the spectators crowded the court-room in every part, waiting with breathless interest for the announcement of the verdict. In a little while Judge Robinson announced that the verdict would be rendered at 8 P. M., and the throng of spectators at once departed.

### Evening Session.

On Tuesday night a larger crowd was present, if such could be possible, than at last night's session. The prisoner, when he came into the court-room at 8 o'clock, appeared to have little appreciation of the awful situation as he took his seat in the prisoner's dock—from which he was to rise a man condemed to death or to a long term of service in the penitentiary. In ten more minutes the Bench were seated, and in the midst of the most profound silence, Judge Robinson delivered the verdict and sentence of the court as follows:

"We have fully considered the evidence in this case. We have had no doubt in our minds of the guilt of the prisoner at the bar. Our only trouble has been to determine the degree of his guilt. The only witness present at the shooting was John Rittenhouse; if our verdict rested on his evidence alone—assuming it to be true—there would be no difficulty in finding a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. Rittenhouse testified that he saw Morris cock the left-hand barrel of the gun, raise it to his shoulder, point it in the direction of deceased and fire; heard Mrs. Turner fall. If the case rested here we should find the prisoner guilty of wilful murder. Rittenhouse's testimony must be accepted as true; the defendant has not assailed his character, and as to the truth of the witnesses who have been called to impeach his testimony, to them we have given no credit whatever. I have never heard of such a case as this, no such case can be found in any book; no motive can be found for the deed. There was a friendly meeting on the morning of the tragedy. His taking her scissors and spectacles, and she in turn taking his hat, of which he soon after re-possessed himself—all this we look upon as mere playfulness. There was no motive, we say again, impelling him to take her life. If he wished to enjoy unlawfully her society, he could not do so by taking her life. Now let us look at it; that he goes without motive, in the broad daylight, and in the presence of Rittenhouse, deliberately takes the woman's life, is an improbable thing; and at the same time never attempts to kill Rittenhouse, the only witness, as he knows, of the deed. We don't understand the case. The evidence is of such a character as to compel us to find the prisoner guilty, and with us is the question to determine the degree. We reject altogether the theory of accident, that is altogether inconsistent with the nature of the case. It is impossible to believe it was an accident, when we consider the conduct of the party. Considering, therefore, all the circumstances of the case, and giving the prisoner the benefit of the doubt, in our minds, we have reached the determination of rendering a verdict of guilty of murder in the second degree.

"So, Mr. Clerk, we will say, the verdict of the court is Guilty of murder in the second degree. Mr. Baker, is there any reason why sentence should not now be passed upon the prisoner?"

Mr. Baker.—"I know of none, sir."

The Court.—"Then the sentence of the Court is that the prisoner be confined in the penitentiary for the term of 18 years from this date."

The prisoner sat steadily eyeing the Court during the delivery of the verdict, chewing away upon a huge quid of tobacco and spitting now and then upon the floor beside him. At its close he carelessly remarked: "Well, that's better than hanging!"


AN IMPORTANT MOMENT.—It is puzzling to decide between the rival clothiers where a man should buy his Clothing, if he seeks enlightenment by reading the advertisements, for he will find each claim to sell cheaper than the other, &c. We say to you, buy from a house of known reputation for square dealing, where goods are sold by the manufacturers themselves, upon precise statements as to kind and quality, and at a strictly uniform low price, and where you can go back for your money if, after reaching home, you should think you had purchased unwisely. Such a house is C. N. Oehm & Son, 230 West Pratt Street, through to 55 Hanover Street.

ALL LADIES know their faces are more attractive when free from pimples. Parkers Ginger Tonic is popular among them, because it banishes impurities from blood and skin and makes the face glow and the eye sparkle with health.


BALTIMORE MARKET.—The Baltimore papers of Thursday quote as follows:

WHEAT—Longberry $1 08@1 14; Fultz $1 03@1 08 for fair to good. CORN—White, prime 78@80; yellow, 80@85. OATS, Maryland, 46.


## Ladies' Shoe Store!

MRS. KATE GILL
Has just opened
A FULL STOCK OF
Ladies', Misses and Children's Shoes
An Excellent Quality.
French Kid Buttoned Boots,
for Ladies.
Cloth and Lasting Upper and Kid,
for Ladies, Misses & Children.
Also, full line of Pebble and Goat Button SHOES of different qualities.
A good School, Sola-tip Shoe; a nice soft kid Shoe for infants.
The public are respectfully invited to call and examine my stock before buying elsewhere. MRS. KATE GILL.
Oct. 7, 1882.

## T. W. ELIASON, JR.,

LARGE STOCK OF
LUMBER,
For SPRING TRADE,
at as Low PRICES as the advance will allow.
TERMS LIBERAL and special prices made for large cash or credit purchases.
Give me a call before sending your orders away from home, and the probabilities are that I will save you money, either in cash or quality of material.
April 1, 1882. T. W. ELIASON, JR.

LEMONS, Oranges and Pickles at LAMBERT'S.

1882 —AND— 1883
NEW STOCK!

## S. R. STEPHENS & SON

MAMMOTH STORE,
At MASSEYS, Kent Co., Md.
ALL KINDS OF GOODS for LADIES GENTLEMEN and CHILDREN
AT CITY PRICES!
1500 Yards CARPETINGS,
consisting of Brussels, all wool and half wool Ingrains, Hemp, Cottage and Stair Carpets from 20 to 85c. per yard.
Fine CASHMERES and all kinds of LADIES' DRESS GOODS.
SILK TRIMMINGS,
Fine Col'd and Black Silk Gloves,
New Style Ladies' Collars;
Ladies' and Gents' Water-proof Gossimer Coats,
Ladies' Fine City Made Gaiters,
Ladies' Latest Style Hats,
A large stock of Men's and Boys' First Class CLOTHING, ready made or to order,
Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps,
Blankets and Comfortables from 1 to $4.50
Clocks, Looking Glasses, &c.
Notions, Hardware, Tinware, and all goods can be had at very low prices. Our friends and the public will please call and see our stock.
Country Produce taken in exchange for goods
Agents for Wanamaker & Brown.
Agents for Lucas' Paint.
S. R. STEPHENS & SON
Sept. 30—6m.

CHARLES A. MILLER'S
[TRADE MARK]
QUINTESSENCE OF
Phosphated Iron, Quinine & Strychnia
Put up in Pills and in Liquid Form,
And is a sure cure for DEBILITY resulting from any cause, *thinness* or *sluggishness* of *the blood, derangement* of the *Digestive Organs*, Diseases of the *Nervous System, Typhus, Typhoid and Intermittent Fevers, Ague and Fever*, and is the very best counteracter of *malarial influences* and cure for *malarial diseases*, and as a *nervine* and *sedative*, quieting the nervous system, and inducing Refreshing Sleep, it has no equal. *It is endorsed by medical practitioners* here and is frequently prescribed by them in their practice, and is considered one of the very best remedial agents known for the diseases for which we recommend it. We challenge the closest scrutiny into its composition and virtues. Read the following:

EXPLANATION OF THE ABOVE MEDICINE.

PHOSPHOROUS—Means light, and medically imparts strength and vigor to the system, as the rays of the sun do to animal and vegetable life.
IRON—Is a purifier and enricher of the blood, the most important of the constituents of the human body.
QUININE—Is the Tonic of Tonics, and exercises a powerful and healthful influence upon the digestive organs, and finally
STRYCHNIA—In very small proportions (as in this combination) is a most excellent nervine, acting upon and regulating the entire nervous system. Ask your physician about the above formula, and he will say it is good.
Price in large bottles $1; Trial bottles 35c.
Pills in boxes $1 per box, or six boxes for $5. Sent by mail to any point, free of charge, upon receipt of price. Prepared and sold by
DAVIS & MILLER,
*No. 12 N. Howard St., Baltimore.*
A pamphlet of full explanations of the above medicine, and treating of its composition and administration, and stating the diseases to which it is applicable, will be cheerfully given to any one who may call on me, it will be sent free to any address furnished by postal card, and will also hereafter accompany each bottle. o21y.

WHEN
YOU VISIT
BALTIMORE
DON'T FAIL TO CALL
—AT THE—
"EXCELSIOR"
AND SEE THEIR
1882. FALL 1882.
DISPLAY
—OF—
CLOTHING
HATS, CAPS,
—AND—
Furnishing Goods.
OUR MOTTO:
ONE PRICE!
AND THAT THE
LOWEST.
EXCELSIOR
One Price Clothing House,
S. W. COR. BALTO. AND LIGHT STS.
*Largest Establishment in Maryland.*


In the Circuit Court for Kent County,
*IN EQUITY.*

In the matter of the TRUST ESTATE OF SAMUEL KERR, late of Kent County, Maryland, deceased.

ORDERED, this 26th day of September, 1882, by the Circuit Court for Kent County, in Equity, upon the petitian of ANDREW KERR, filed in this Court, asking to be released and discharged from the further execution of the Trusts which devolved upon him as surviving executor of the will of the said Samuel Kerr, deceased, and upon the full and particular account of his receipts and disbursements as such trustee accompanying said petition, that the said Andrew Kerr be released and discharged, and that a new trustee be appointed in his place and stead; unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 10th day of November next; Provided that a copy of this notice that the said Andrew Kerr has filed such petition and account, be inserted in some newspaper published in Kent county, Maryland, once in each of four successive weeks before the said tenth day of November.

JOHN M. ROBINSON.

True copy.—Test:
SAMUEL BECK, Clerk.
Oct. 7, 1882—4t.


THE largest and best assortment of Pocket and Table Cutlery in Kent county. Scissors, Razors, Razor Straps, &c. JOHN K. ALDRIDGE.

COAL HODS, Shovels, Pokers, Zinc, and Crystalized Stove Boards, at oc21. JOHN K. ALDRIDGE'S.

# WANTED!

Gentlemen who have been deceived by tinsel show and bombast of expensive Stores to try us.

Gentlemen who do not have much faith in Ready-Made Clothing, and those who have not been suited elsewhere, and those who have not been properly fitted, and those who can't get Style enough to suit them, and those who have only a limited amount to spend for Clothing, and last, those who have paid too much for their Clothing, to come direct to us, and we would also like

# 10,000 LADIES

To inspect our immense Stock of Elegantly-Made Boys' and Children's Suits, which we are prepared to offer at wonderully Low Prices—so low that mothers need not fret and worry over making their Boys suits, but should come direct to us, and save both time and money, and have their Children clad stylishly.

Gentlemen and Ladies of this County, we invite you to our Mammoth Establishment, whether you wish to buy or not.

# C. N. OEHM & SON,

The Baltimore Clothiers,
230 W. PRATT STREET,
THROUGH TO
55 HANOVER STREET.

To those who prefer to order their Clothing made to measure, we unhesitatingly state that in our Custom Department the most fastidious can be suited in Make, Quality and Price.

EVERYTHING SOLD UNDER A GUARANTEE.
Sept. 9, 1882.

FALL and WINTER
ARRANGEMENT.
On and after FRIDAY, Sept. 22, 1882,
Steamer PILOT BOY
Will make Two Trips between Baltimore and Tolchester every
TUESDAY and FRIDAY,
Leaving Baltimore, from Pier 16 Light St., at 7 A. M. and 2.30 P. M., and from Tol