Chestertown Transcript

THURSDAY, OCT. 26, 1882.

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It is desirable that communications be in by Saturday night if possible, and in any case not later than Monday night or Tuesday morning.

THE MORRIS TRIAL.

18 YEARS IN THE PENITENTIARY.

A NARROW ESCAPE FROM HANGING.

His Own Statement of How the Shooting Occured.

Joseph Morris, who has been in the Chestertown jail, since 23d of last July, charged with the wilful murder of Mrs. Emma Turner, was brought into court for trial last Monday afternoon. It had been noised abroad that the trial would come up on Monday, and there was in consequence a large crowd in attendance when court opened in the morning. The case was not called till two o'clock, however, but in ten minutes after Morris came into court, the house was packed. Until the sitting of court began, Morris appeared rather indifferent, and seemed to feel a conviction that he would be cleared. During the week previous to his trial, however, he began to manifest great uneasiness, and has since continued in a more apprehensive state of mind. He wore a brain new suit of blue cloth with sack coat, when he was brought in for trial on Monday, and his hair, which is rather thin on top, was accurately parted and smoothed back, and he had the general appearance of having been slicked up for the occasion. His skin has grown fairer, and he seems to have lost some flesh during his confinement. When he stood up and the indictment was read, he plead not guilty through his counsel, C. H. Baker, Esq. Mr. Baker, as counsel for the prisoner, said that he would select to try the case before the court. H. W. Vickers, State's Attorney, made an opening statement to the court outlining what the prosecution expected to prove. He said that the State would expect to prove that on Wednesday, the 19th day of last July, William Turner, who at that time kept a store at what is known is Morris' Station, situated in the upper part of this county, left home on the morning train for Philadelphia, leaving at home his wife, Emma Turner, and his daughter, Ida Turner. That in the absence of the husband, Wm. Turner, Joseph Morris, Jr., had endeavored to have the wife, Emma Turner, meet him, Morris, out Wednesday night, or to allow him to stay with her that night. That Mrs. Turner had sent Morris word that her husband would be at home that night, for the purpose of keeping Morris away. That on Thursday morning, the 20th day of July, Morris again went over to the house of the Turners, going through the store, and passing through the sitting room, and that he left the house at or about eleven o'clock in the morning. That, after his departure, Mrs. Turner missed a pair of gold rimmed spectacles, and a pair of scissors. She asked the daughter Ida concerning them, and the daughter answered that she knew nothing of them, but that Joe Morris had passed through the sitting-room that morning. The mother sent the daughter to the house of Morris, some two hundred yards distant, to ask for the scissors and spectacles. On the daughter appearing at Morris' house and asking for the articles, he denied having them, and when she insisted that he did have them, he raised his hand to strike her, the father of Morris who was present, prevented him striking the girl. She snatched his coat back, and saw the spectacles in his vest coat pocket. She returned home and told her mother. The mother then went to the house, and demanded the stolen articles, but Morris refused to give them up. Mrs. Turner then took Morris' best hat and returned to her home. During the afternoon of the same day, Morris again came over, bringing a gun. He asked for his hat. Mrs. Turner told him that she knew nothing of his hat. She was sitting in a rocking chair, and Morris passed behind her, and cocking the gun, placed the barrel to her back. The daughter sprang forward, with a scream, and threw up the gun. The two succeeded in obtaining the gun from Morris, and the daughter took it out and hid it in some high grass. After his gun was gone, he kept up an importunity for its return. The mother finally told the daughter to get the gun as she feared that Morris would burn the house down. The daughter got the gun, and the mother met her outside the door at the pump, and the two took the caps off, and poured water in the tubes, before returning the gun to him. Morris, before leaving, went outside and mixed a powder in a tin whisky, which he endeavored to have the mother and daughter drink. That about this time, John Rittenhouse appeared at the store, and that Morris as he passed through the store, told Rittenhouse that he had been out shooting woodcock. That shortly after the departure of Morris, two shots were heard from the direction in which he had gone, and that shortly after the report, Morris again appeared from the direction of the shots, entered the store, said something to Mrs. Turner about his hat, raised his gun to his shoulder, and fired directly at her. That the load entered her body, and that she was thereby killed instantly dead. The State's Attorney said that he further expected to prove that Morris had previously endeavored to induce a party to administer poison to the Turners, and that he had said, that if Turner ever left home, he would find more blood on his return home than he ever saw before.

The first witness called was Wm. Turner, the husband of the dead woman, who testified to the fact of his absence from home on the day previous to and on the day of the tragedy.

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 inquired of her mother about them, 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 for another tube. 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.

The court again assembled at 8 o'clock in the evening. By the time the accused was brought in, the house was tightly packed from the doors to the judges' stand. Literally every square inch of room was occupied. The defence asked for the recall of Ida Turner, and she was again put upon the witness stand, and subjected to a lengthy cross-examination. The witness was at first much discomposed by being sharply questioned and began to cry. She soon regained her composure, however, and told her story in a more direct and positive manner than when on the stand before. She did not deviate in any important particular from her previous statement. The only additional fact of importance that was brought out, was that witness wanted the mother to pour water in the barrels of the gun beside pouring it in the tubes, when Morris' gun was returned to him, after he had first made a demonstration against Mrs. Turner.

After Ida Turner was dismissed, John Rittenhouse was called. He is a German, and though he speaks English clearly, he speaks it 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 Mrs. Turner 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.

THE DEFENSE.

The first witness called by the defense was James H. Reed. He testified that he lives right close to old man Morris, and close to the Turners. Was working on the road on the morning of the 20th of July, and was doing nothing in the afternoon. Old Man Gentleman Joe came to his place to get some water, and when he went home witness went with him to get some parsley for his pig. When they got to the house, heard the report of a gun at the Turners. Heard somebody screaming. Old Man remarked that Joe must have done some mischief over there. Pretty soon Joe came up. The old man said to him, "Joe, have you shot Emma, or have you shot Ida?" Joe replied, "Pap, if I have shot anybody, I did it accidentally." It was five or eight minutes after the report of the gun that Joe came up. Was at the jury of inquest. Saw Mr. Rittenhouse there, and heard his testimony. Testified that Rittenhouse had said before the coroner's jury, that he, Rittenhouse, was looking out the window when he heard the report of the gun, and that when he looked around, Morris seemed to be lowering gun from his shoulder. Has often seen Morris and Mrs. Turner together, and knows them to have been friendly. Has seen Mrs. Turner take a drink. Did not know that he ever saw her drunk. The Court here objected to this form of evidence, saying that whether Mrs. Turner was or was not in the habit of drinking, had no bearing on this case.

Cross-examined by the State, said that he could not remember exactly what Old Man Morris had said to Joe when the latter came from Turner's, after the shooting, but that he spoke something rough to him. On being asked as to what he had testified before the coroner's jury, witness could not give any satisfactory account. He said that he could remember what Rittenhouse said, but confessed that he could not remember what himself had said.

Here the witness was dismissed, and Court was adjourned to meet at 9.30, P. M., on Tuesday.

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 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.

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R. E. Knighton.—Was on coroner's inquest; does not remember Rittenhouse's testimony there. When in the store, he asked Mrs. Turner if she had any fine shirts. She showed him some, and said the twelve was seven. He took one and gave her a dollar to work a hole in the bosom for a stud. He went out to the railroad and loaded his gun, and then went to the house to get some cut wad. Ida came over, and charged him with having spectacles, but he denied having them. After Ida, her mother came, and he told her if she would go home and look on table under the dress she would find them. He went into the woods after Mrs. Turner left, and fired his gun off two or three times. He then found that his caps were gone. He then went up by the darkey church to the Turner's store with his gun on his shoulder. When he got to the store, he saw Rittenhouse and Mrs. Turner. Witness said to Rittenhouse, "Hello, Doc, how's the world using you?" He then told Mrs. Turner he wanted three cents worth of caps, and she gave him 18 twisted in a piece of paper. He had set his gun down by a barrel, and was standing talking with Rittenhouse. He picked up his gun and started out, when Mrs. Turner said something to him. He turned and asked "What did you say?" and his gun just then went off. It was lying across his arm, and as he turned the muzzle pointed directly at Mrs. Turner. He does not know how he got out the door. In an instant after the shooting, Ida ran down stairs and said, "Joe Morris, you ——— you have shot my mother, and I'll shoot you." She ran back up stairs, and he believed that she would shoot him. He was dreadfully frightened and shocked. Pretty soon he saw Ida Turner come out the door with a pistol. She said, "Look out, you ———," and threw up the pistol and shot. She called to him, that she wished he would come back, that she would shoot him. He went to his father's house and went up stairs and walked the floor, wrung his hands and cried. He was not sure of the result of the shot, but pretty soon he heard that she was dead. Then he heard that they were going to lynch him. He thought that he had best keep himself concealed, until he could safely give himself up. He went off into the swamps, and told his father that when the jury of inquest met, he wanted to be there. He told his father where he could be found. He came out Thursday night near the railroad. He came near to several groups that were discussing the tragedy, and from what he could catch they had determined to hang him. He became, while hiding, nearly famished for water. The ponds were all dried up, and he could not get water without going up to a house. About Friday noon, he went to old man Foreaker's. Foreaker and his wife were at dinner, and Morris sat down and tried to eat, but couldn't eat anything. Asked Mrs. Foreaker to send one of her little boys to the station for his father. Pretty soon his father came and brought him something to eat, but he couldn't eat. He asked his father to see Mr. Reed, and get him to meet him that night, and take him to Galena. Reed did not come, so about midnight he walked to Galena. He went to Mr. Jacoby's door and rapped. Mr. Jacoby came to the door and let him in. This was about two o'clock Friday morning. Next morning Mr. Gilpin brought him to town. There had never been anything but friendship between him and Mrs. Turner. Witness here took a stick and illustrated the manner in which he was carrying the gun when it went off. When his gun was discharged it kicked up, and he grasped the barrels in his hand.

Cross-examined by the State. He acknowledged that he had had a difficulty in Christmas with Turner, the husband of the deceased woman, and that Turner had given him a severe whipping. Turner was also a witness against him in Baltimore. To the court he said that he first went to Turner's to procure ammunition. Rittenhouse was not there at that time. He returned to the store after firing off gun in the swamp several times. After getting the caps, he never left the house before the shooting occurred. There was no bullet in the gun to his knowledge, and if there were a bullet, it must have occured from his having some loose cartridges in his pocket, which he gathered up, unknowingly. His relations with Rittenhouse have always been kindly. He has heard, however, both before and since the shooting, that Rittenhouse has a grudge against him.

John M. Connor was sworn. He testified that he knows Wm. H. Farrell, has heard his character for truth and veracity discussed, and wouldn't believe him on his oath in a court of justice.

Thomas H. Tucker swore he knows Wm. H. Farrell and would not believe him on his oath.

The defense here closed its case, and the state commenced rebuttal.

Wm. Davis testified that he lives a mile from Hannah Hudson, was at her house the day after the shooting. She said to witness on that occasion.—"Joe has made his words come true, when he was here last Sunday, he said he would get square with Emma Turner, d—n her. Witness had heard Mrs. Hudson's character discussed, and would not believe her on her oath.

George Davis testified that he had talked with Hannah Hudson Saturday after the shooting, and she said to witness on that occasion that all the county was against Joe, but that she wasn't, and that if a lie could clear him, she would swear to it.

Harry Price, testified knows, Hannah Hudson and sallie Bell Thompson, has heard their characters discussed, and wouldn't believe them in a court of justice.

Edward Morgan, testified knows, Hannah Hudson Sallie Thompson and Wilhelmina Tucker, and would not believe them under oath in a court of justice.

A SENSATION.

At this point the lank figure of Miss Wilhelmina Tucker arose from the back part of the court room. There was wrath in her countenance and resolution in her eye. The slur which the last witness had cast upon her respectability was more than she could stand. She began an impassioned address to the court, but the court stopped her and told her that she must communicate what she had to say through the counsel for the defence. With this advice, Miss Wilhelmina stalked into the bar, seized the counsel for the prisoner by the arm, and holding him firmly, she placed her lips within a half inch of his ear, and in a whisper that could be heard all over the court room, proceeded to tell him the wrong which the witness on the stand had done her innocence. The face of the counsel for the prisoner got very red, and he finally broke away from Miss Wilhelmina's grasp. The house roared and even the judges smiled. Finding that the counsel for the defense was not to be depended upon to champion her cause, Miss Tucker turned to the judges, and spoke her own cause. Her speech was to the effect, that, Edward Morgan the witness who had testified against her character, had kicked his own wife out of doors, and was now living with another man's wife and that he was a pretty sort of a somebody to come down here and swear about her bad character. By the time Miss Wilhelmina Tucker had been squelched, Mrs. Hannah Hudson was on her feet, and was making a move toward opening a speech in defense of her character. Mr. B. B. Wroth caught her on the fly, and saved the court from being captured.

James Darrell testified that he would not believed Hannah Hudson or Sallie Bell Thompson on their oaths, and the State here rested its case.

The counsel for the defense had no other testimony to introduce, and the case was submitted to the court without argument. The counsel for the defense, however, said to the court, that the case had been pressed upon him by the court,—that he had had a very short time in which to prepare, and that he hoped the accused might not suffer from any inexperience, lack of skill or want of precaution on his part. He felt sorely the responsibility of the case, but had done the best in his power under the circumstances. The court assured him that in the opinion of the court, he had done all that could have been done in the case, and that he had managed it as well as could have been managed. That he could not of course be expected to manufacture evidence to sustain his case.

A breathless silence fell upon the court-room, and for about ten minutes the judges remained in close consultation. At the end of that time, Judge Robinson announced that a verdict would be given at eight o'clock that evening. In three minutes the court house was cleared.

THE VERDICT.

Early in the evening, a great throng began to assemble to hear the verdict. Opinions differed, but the general belief seemed to be that Morris would probably have to hang. As soon as the judges took their seats, a quiet fell upon the packed house, and Judge Robinson delivered the following verdict,—

The Court had fully considered the case, and had no doubt as to the guilt of the prisoner. The case, however, is not devoid of difficulty. The only person who witnessed the homicide was Rittenhouse, who testified that he saw the prisoner cock the gun, put it to his shoulder, point it in the direction of deceased and fire. Witness heard her fall. If the case rested solely upon the testimony of this witness, we should be obliged to find the prisoner guilty of murder in the first degree. But there are in this case many peculiar circumstances. In the first place, there was a total absence of any motive. The evidence showed that the prisoner and the deceased had been and were at that time, even on the day of the homicide, on the most friendly terms. Then, again, the deed was committed in broad daylight and in the presence of Rittenhouse. To justify a verdict of murder in the first degree, we must be satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt, that the prisoner was guilty of wilful, deliberate and premeditated murder,—a preconceived purpose on his part to take the life of deceased; and the trouble in the case is to find when such a deliberate purpose was formed in the prisoner's mind, and the motive which impelled him to commit the crime. If such should have been his deliberate purpose, it is difficult to imagine why he should have gone to the store in the day time, and in presence of a witness, to have executed it, especially, as the evidence shows, that on the very day of the homicide the prisoner was with the deceased, and had the opportunity, more than once, to take her life, if he so desired. He was with her, in her own house, in a sitting room adjoining the store. Then, again, she was with him alone at his father's house, the most friendly relations existing between them. It is certainly an extraordinary case, and one almost without a parallel; and yet, we cannot accept the theory set up by the defense, that the shooting was accidental; this theory is entirely unsupported, except by the testimony of the prisoner himself, and is inconsistent with all the other evidence in the case. After full consideration of all the evidence, absence of proof of motive, the friendly relations existing between them, and the circumstances under which the homicide was committed, the difficulty in our minds is in saying whether it is a deliberate, wilful and premeditated murder, which is necessary to constitute murder in the first degree, or a homicidal impulse, conceived and executed at the moment. In giving the prisoner the benefit of the doubt, which exists in our minds in this respect, we have concluded that he is guilty of murder in the second degree.

BARRETT, NEPHEWS & CO., of 43 North Charles street, formerly No. 110 West Baltimore street, the old established dyeing house, is prepared to do all kinds of work in their line with neatness, cheapness and dispatch. In dress goods of all wool and also of cotton and wool, etc., their success is greatly superior to that of a year ago. The firm lay aside every year a certain amount of their profit to buy the most improved machinery, and during their existence have expended over one half million of dollars in that department alone. This firm calls especial attention to the rapid advances made by them during the past few years in the art of dyeing. It has been the desire and aim to present to their customers work perfect in every respect.

THE STATEN ISLAND
FANCY DYEING ESTABLISHMENT,
No. 43 N. Charles street.

Sept. 28, 1882—6m.

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 to claim to sell cheaper than the others, &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 W. Pratt St., through to 55 Hanover St., Baltimore, Md.

TO

PURCHASERS

—OF—

Phosphates!

Having recovered my health I am now canvassing for my popular brands of Phosphate, &c.

T. W. WICKES,
Chestertown, Md.

Fo Farmers!

Merchants

—AND—

All Others.

AS THE PAINTING SEASON

Is Now Upon Us

It Would be well to Consider:

FIRST—If your Buildings need Paint.

SECOND—What kind of Paint to use.

THIRD—Where To Buy.

The above are matters which demand your especial attention. I therefore ask you to kindly examine my stock. I am quite confident if you do I can convince the most credulous that my prices are low and my goods the

Very Best

The Market Affords.

Stock always Large, and any material needed by a Painter—either for House, Sign or Coach Painting—can be had from me.

Goods only sold on time when settlements are promptly made with bankable notes.

LOUIS K. STAM.
Sept. 14, 1883.

NOTICE.

C. F. STAM has just received a large stock of the

NEW METHODIST HYMNALS,

very nicely bound, and which he is selling very cheap, from 50 cts. to $3.00—an examination of stock and prices is solicited. Call at the corner Drug store. [Jan. 8, 1880.

SHOES

FOR LADIES, MISSES AND CHILDREN.

A full line of Low Cut Shoes.

MRS. KATE GILL,
opp. Voshell House, Chestertown, Md.

MACHINE OILS!—Parties wishing Machine Oil can buy it cheaper from Thos. L. Hines & Co., than anywhere else in the county. They keep a first-class article, and sell at bottom prices.

ATTENTION called to Good Things—a HUDGINS' BAKERY

IF YOU WANT A GOOD PUMP, call at J. K. ALDRIDGE'S.

LADIES' BALBRIGAN HOSE;
" ENGLISH Iron Frame Hose;
Misses Fancy Colored Hose, For sale by T. W. ELIASON, Jr.

FODDER YARN! FODDER YARN! Four kinds, and we think the cheapest in the market, at J. K. ALDRIDGE'S.

Bolts! Bolts!! Bolts!!! 100 assorted bolts—all sizes, for $1 25—at T. L. Hines & Co's.

FARM BELLS—for sale by T. L. HINE & CO.

FRUIT Jars and Jelly Glasses, as cheap as the cheapest. SPARKS.

C. N. OEHM & SON

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' Suits, which we are prepared to offer at wonderfully 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.

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,
S. W. COR. BALTIMORE AND LIGHT STS
LARGEST ESTABLISHMENT
IN MARYLAND.

THOMPSON'S LINE.

PEACH ARRANGEMEMT.

On and after August 7, 1882,

Steamer COMMERCE

Will leave Buckingham DAILY at 5 P. M., Snitcher's Wharf at 6, Chestertown at 7, and Quaker Neck at 8, arriving in Baltimore at 1 A. M. Returning, leaves Baltimore daily at 8 A. M., making the above stops.
Freights as low as any other line.
FARE 50 cts. Staterooms Extra.
SPECIALTY.—Careful handling of Empty Boxes and prompt returns.

Steamer GEO. S. RIEMAN,

Will leave (with tow) Swan Creek, Rock Hall, at 9 A. M., DAILY. Returning, leaves Baltimore at 3 P. M.
Freights received daily at Hughes' Quay, Baltimore.
For further particulars apply to JOS. W. THOMPSON, Manager.
Aug. 24, 1882—tf.

Barber Shop.

THE Barber Shop at the old stand, corner of High and Court streets, formerly conducted by Woolford & McCoy, is now conducted by WOOLFORD

Prompt and polite attention shown to all customers. April, 1881.

Ice Cream Rates, for 1882

10 Gallons and more, one dollar per gallon	
5 "	1.25
1 "	1.50
½ "	.75
¼ "	.50

WILLIAM PERKINS.
June 8, 1882. Chestertown, Md.

"FARMERS."

If you need a Horse Rake, call and examine our patent Iron Horse Rake. Cheap, simple and durable. We propose to sell these rakes at but little advanced, and parties wishing a rake will do well to get our prices.

T. L