BICYCLE SHERIFF.

HE LIVES IN TEXAS AND IS A TERROR TO CRIMINALS.

If They Try to "Monkey" While En Route, He Throws Them and Covers



HE bicycle has become an assistant deputy sheriff. Josh Messenger, deputy sheriff of Grayson county, Texas, is the man who has made K so. He arrests his prisoners all through his territory and brings

them back to jail on his wheel. How he does it he tells himself in the following language:

"Some people think my way of bringing a prisoner in is queer, but that is because they do not know the circumstances. I have been in this business for four years, and after thinking it over, made up my mind to see what I could do with the bike. I rigged up a step on the back of the wheel just like the ordinary rear one, only bigger, and I was ready to try it. I weigh 175 pounds and my wheel weighs 25. That makes 200 pounds for me to pedal along, outside of the prisoner. I meant to say that I had a rear step on each side of the wheel, making two all together. I found that my scheme worked to a charm, and I had a number of instances where people thought the prisoner would get the better of me. Folks said they should think I would be afraid to risk myself in the prisoner's power to that extent.

"I nad to go out to Southmayd the other night to get a man, and he thought he was going to have an easy time to get away, but I showed there was nothing of the sort in prospect for him. As a matter of fact, it is every bit as safe to bring every prisoner in standing on the rear step of your wheel as in any other way, and possibly safer. If the fellow is on one horse and you on another, he may make some motion and get the better of you before you can help yourself; but if he is standing on the step of your bicycle, he's got to hold onto your shoulders. It does not make a bit of difference how dark a night it is, if he goes to make the least unusual motion you can feel him and you can throw him off the wheel before he can wink an eye. Before he can get up again you can cover him with your gun, and there he is.

"There were, as I have said, a good many reasons that got me to think of using the bicycle as I use it now, but I guess the principal one is this: One time I went out after a fellow named Zeb Hannon, who was wanted as a prosecuting witness in a certain case. own a horse and couldn't borrow one. and he swore he wouldn't walk.

"I was sort o' puzzled at first, but finally I happened to think maybe he could ride behind me on the step of my bicycle, and I told him so. He said he never was on a bicycle and he couldn't ride one. I to'd him I didn't know whether he could or not, but just to try, and if he couldn't I'd let him off from going to town. I guess he thought that was a good way to get out of it, for he hopped up behind me, cheerful as you please. I didn't know which was the more surprised when we found that the scheme worked to perfection. I brought him over mighty rough roads, too-only a horse trail part of the way. A blcycle can come mighty near going where a horse can



BRINGING IN A PRISONER.

It's only the dude riders that can't go where the roads happen to be a little bad."

Spitting an American Privilege. W. B. Bradbury of San Francisco, Cal., has been sentenced to twenty-four hours' imprisonment in the county jail for violating the civic ordinance prohibiting expectorating on the floor of street cars. This was Bradbury's second offense. 'He claims the privilege of spitting when and where he pleases as an inalienable American privilege and will make a test case of his punishment.

No two clocks can be made to keep time exactly alike and strike simultaneously.

GHASTLY FIND IN A CAVE. Human Bones, Supposed to Here Me

longed to Victims of Robbers. Mention was made some days since of the accidental discovery of a cave along the old Pittsburg and national pike, on the east side of Laurel hill, and the intention of the discoverers to Them with His Gun-Tells How He subsequently investigate their find. This, says the Johnstown Tribune, was done Tuesday by Dick Castner and Benjamin Gilbert, two young men of Mount Pleasant. They set out, armed with shotguns and a lantern, and started in on a tour of inspection. They found in the 1,700 yards they went a number of rooms on either side of the main channel. Several sparkling lakes, in which, they say, millions of fish live without molestation, were found. They also discovered a number of old bones, which are believed to be from human bodies. When a little over 1,700 yards from the opening of this wonderful cave had been covered the light went out and they found it impossible to continue their investigation. Slowly they retraced their footsteps. Many daring robberies in the days of the old stage coaches, and when the only means of transportation was by road wagons and these coaches, were committed. The eastern slope of Laurel

HER NOTE CAUSES TRACEDY. Preston Thornton Kills Himself at the Feet of His Betrothed.

hill and the western slope of the Alle-

ghany mountains were the base of op-

erations for these brigands.

A note breaking an engagement that had existed for more than three years caused Preston Thornton, one of the most prominent young men in Louisville, Ky., to shoot himself under the heart. The act was done at the feet of the young woman he would have made his wife. 'The young lady is Miss Nettie Bell Smith, eldest daughter of Milton H. Smith, president of the Louisville and Nashville railroad. Thornton received the note that morning on his return from a trip to Lexington,



PRESTON THORNTON.

Ky., the home of his parents, and immediately went to the home of the I found him nine miles out in the young lady to see if a reconciliation country, and I found that he wasn't | could not be effected. They met with very anxious to come in. He didn't pleasant greetings, but there was a look of determination on the face of the young man. He immediately brought up the question of their engagement, and pleaded with her to forgive him for anything wrong he might have done, but she remained steadfast and refused to renew the engagement, whereupon he drew a revolver and, amid his erstwhile sweetheart's scream's and protestations, shot himself below the heart.

> Steals to Buy a Marriage License William Crull was arrested in Anderson, Ind., the other night charged with stealing a load of corn near Pendleton the preceding night and marketing it in Noblesville. He confessed to the theft and gave the particulars, the most important feature of which is that he was to be married and had to send word to the bride-elect. He says frankly that he was out of money and did not have enough to buy the license. He hit upon the plan of stealing the corn and thus realized enough to get the license. He came to this city with the money for that purpose. He has a good reputation aside from this and his frankness will probably clear him. The engagement is off.

Male a Cannon to Kill Himself. Godfried Balske, aged 83 years, committed suicide at Defiance, Ohio, the other day in a most horrible manner. He was a gunsmith by trade, and constructed of a piece of gas pipe a cannon which he fastened to a block of wood. Balske seated himself on a chair in front of the cannon, opened his shirt, deliberately ignited the fuse and waited for death, which was instantaneous. He used a piece of iron for a bullet, and was found in the chair after the load had passed through his heart. Ill health is given as the cause.

Fatal Fight of Moonshiners. The Heitfelds and Cawans, rival moonshine factions plying their business in the Ponville Ridge mountain, Hancock county, Tennessee, met at a singing at Coal Branch schoolhouse the other day. A fight ensued, which lasted an hour. Several hundred shots were fired and James Heitfeld was killed and Tom Cawan was mortally wounded. The Ponville Ridge mountains are inhabited almost entirely by moonshiners and no arrests are ever made for lawlessness. Human life is cheap and the Winchester is the arbiter of all dis-

How He Got Rich. Hicks-How did Jackson make all his money, anyway? Dix-Out of literary work. Hicks-You don't mean it! Dix-Yes, I do. He had to get out of it, because he couldn't make a dollar in it .- Somerville (Mass.) Journal. which occurred March 27 last, at the

BAYINGS AND DOINGS OF THE PLAYERFOLK.

Miss Rose Coghian Believed to Be Nearing the End of a Brilliant and Successful Career Before the Footlights-Stage Whispers.



ANY friends, both public and private, have heard recently with great regret of the serious sickness of Miss Rose Coghlan. It is not given to many actresses to remain before the public for so long as Miss Coghlan has, and

still to retain the freshness and buoyancy of youth completely unimpared as she does. Vigor, brilliancy, and exuberant life are, and always have been, the characteristics of Miss Coghlan's acting. These qualities are never lacking in snything that she does. They are refreshing, too, in these days when a rather bloodless manner of stage performance has its apostles, and, stranger yet, its admirers. Miss Coghlan never lacked in naturalness, either, and if some of the newer comers on the stage could keep their unconventionality, which is no better than hers, and could add to it some of the vigor which she learned from the old-fashicned actors with whom she was associated, it would be better for the theater of today.

THEATRICAL TOPICS. Murray Hill theater, was made in "A WIFE SEEKS RELIEF. later indicted for conspiracy. Mr. and Divorce Cure," which served to intro-duce her most idvantageously, and for her creation of the principal role therein she received much favorable comment. Miss Bancker is an actress of considerable ability, and has shown herself capable of sustaining with credit both emotional and comedy

> Miss Anna Ward Tiffany is a woman who has successfully taken broad Irish roles, in which brogue and "bulls' form the ground work and rapid speech in the superstructure. Miss Tiffany has a magnetic presence on the stage, and her enthusiastic rendition of Irish characters are of interest. Just now she is playing a small but merry part in "The Electrician," one of those old-fashioned melodramas brimming .with brave speeches and timely interferences, and oozing wilful complicity at every pore.

In the melodrama, "At Piney Ridge," Miss L. Barnard appears in a character part which is thoroughly sustained from the rise to the fall of the curtain, him to produce the children. Two Miss Barnard renders her impersonations with earnestness.

Here is a yarn from the Rialto to be accepted (or not) at its face value: One of the most popular Italian comedians was playing with great success at the municipal theater at Turin the school at Cornwall Heights, with strict part of a thief. About 1 o'clock on a orders to the principal not to let his certain afternoon he went out to lunch somewhat untidily dressed, as he had not had time to change his clothes. boys who had witnessed the performance the preceding day and had en-As Madam Montbazon, a leader of thusiastically applauded the actor,

CHAPTER IN A MILLIONAIRE'S DOMESTIC LIFE.

the Declares That Her Husband Made Life a Burden-Wants Allmony, as She Has No Means of Support-A Sensational Case.

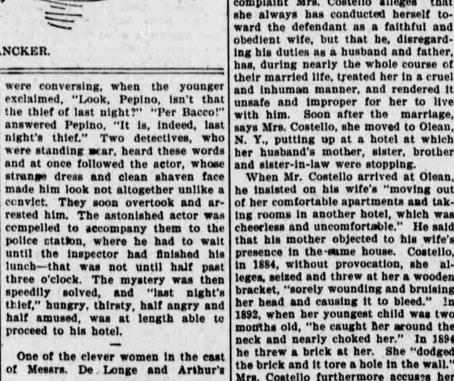


OHN H. Costello, the millionaire tanner of Costello, Pa., is being sued by his wife, Sarah Caroline, for a limited divorce on the ground of cruelty and abandonment. Mrs. Costello also asks for alimony and the custody of ber children. The papers were served

on the defendant the other day in the supreme court of Orange county, at Newburg, N. Y., where Mr. Costello had gone to answer a writ calling upon months ago Mrs. Costello brought habeas corpus proceedings against her husband to secure the possession of her 6-year-old son, Robin, and her 8-yearold son, Thomas A. Costello. Mr. Costello had the two little boys in his possession and placed them in a boarding (Costello's) wife see them. After trying in vain several times to see her little boys, Mrs. Costello brought this At the corner of the street two little suit. When it first came up Mr. Costello was absent in Mexico, and Judge Hirschberg postponed argument to allow him an opportunity of being present. Judge Hirschberg ruled that as the children are in the possession of Mr. Costello, and there has been no divorce proceedings between the couple, Mrs. Costello could not have possession of them, but that she could see her boys occasionally, while they were at school. They clung to their mother as long as possible while she was in the court room. While in court Mr. Costello was served with a summons and complaint in a suit for limited divorce. It is alleged that Mrs. Costello's lawyers had been trying to serve the papers on her husband for some time, but could not catch him, and that the habeas corpus proceeding was merely a clever ruse for the purpose of getting him where he could be served.

In her affidavit Mrs. Costello tells a long story of abuses and suffering during her married life. The defendant is a son of Patrick H. Costello, who founded the town of Costello, Pa., and died worth \$2,000,000. He is a large, handsome man of forty; Mrs. Costello is six years his junior. His home is in Niagara; Mrs. Costello came from Camden, N. J., and is at present living in Newburg. The Costellos were married in Camden, N. J., in 1881 and had seven children, only three of whom are living. These three are boys. The eldest is 14 years of age; the youngest is G. All three are at school, one in Buffalo and the others in Cornwall. In her complaint Mrs. Costello alleges that she always has conducted herself toobedient wife, but that he, disregarding his duties as a husband and father, has, during nearly the whole course of their married life, treated her in a cruel and inhuman manner, and rendered it the suicide and his wife. Mrs. Mittunsafe and improper for her to live with him. Soon after the marriage, says Mrs. Costello, she moved to Olean. N. Y., putting up at a hotel at which her husband's mother, sister, brother

When Mr. Costello arrived at Olean, he insisted on his wife's "moving out of her comfortable apartments and taking rooms in another hotel, which was cheerless and uncomfortable." He said that his mother objected to his wife's presence in the same house. Costello, in 1884, without provocation, she alleges, seized and threw at her a wooden bracket, "sorely wounding and bruising her head and causing it to bleed." In 1892, when her youngest child was two months old, "he caught her around the neck and nearly choked her." In 1894 he threw a brick at her. She "dodged





JOHN H. COSTELLO.

ausband of calling her offensive names servants, and of making allegations about her character. Mr. Costello has twice sued his wife for an absolute divorce. He brought his first action in his second action in 1893, she says, and after a long trial before a jury in Coudersport, Pa., a verdict was rendered in her favor, allowing her \$300 a month alimony. He paid the alimony for a few months, according to her affidavit, but discontinued it after that, and since that, she says, she has been living on borrowed money, and owes a bill at the Fifth Avenue hotel, in New York, amounting to \$500. Costello, it is alleged, brought his action against his wife on testimony furnished by private detectives in his employ, and he, with one of the detectives, was arrested and

Mrs. Costello were married in 1881,

LEAPS FROM 13TH FLOOK. Chleago Man Fires a Bullet Into Hie Brain and Falls 160 Feet.

William F. Mittman, a Chicago dancing master, stood on a narrow railing surrounding the interior court on the thirteenth floor of the Chamber of Commerce building the other morning and fired a bullet into his brain. His bosy lunged forward, and, gathering momentum as it dropped, whirled through the 150 feet between the railing and the mosaic floor below. A moment later the human form struck the pavement and the crash alarmed every occupant of the building. The crushed body did not quiver, for life had fled. A note found in the dead man's hand read as follows:

"May 25, 1897.—Now, Flora, you see I have done just what I said I was going to do. I intended to do this yesterday, but I thought I would give you one more chance; but you were just as stubborn as ever. I saw there was no more hope left.

"This is a case of domestic trouble which was brought about six years ago. Not financial, because I had plenty of money. My dancing class was a success, but I did not pay any bills, because it was no use. I spent the money on account of my home troubles. My wife knew I made lots of money, but she did not know where it went, and never will. I said to her if she keeps up her high temper she would be sorry for it, but she did not care, and roasted me almost every day, and made the expense very heavy. Every time we had a fuss it cost me \$1 to \$10 a fuss. I managed to keep my life insurance paid up. That I did on account of my premy little girl, Ruth. I am sorry that I have to do this for her sake, but it is better for me. I can't live with her

"I hope, Flora, you will be satisfied



WILLIAM F. MITTMAN.

and when you get the money from the lodge, National Union and Royal League, you will be able to buy a horse and carriage, plenty of dresses and everything you want. I could have done a great deal more for you if you would only agree with me, but you accused me of something I was not guilty of. You thought I was always giving money to my sister, which was not

true. At the Mittman home it was denied that there had been quarrels between man was too much prostrated to talk, but her mother, Mrs. Maria Mundt, who lived with the Mittmans, said she and her daughter were firmly convinced

that Mittman had been insane. Mittman was 38 years old and for many years had taught dancing. He taught classes at Kretschmar's, 631 North Clark street, and gave private essons at his home. He married Miss Flora Mundt six years ago in the house where the family still resides. For about the same length of time he has been employed by Bunge Bros. The members of the firm say his accounts are all right. Mittman has one child, Ruth, who is beautiful, and seems to have been almost worshiped by him.

Another Victim

Romantic Lover (to himself)a-She has refused me. She shall suffer! I will darken her life at the cost of my own. Ah, ha, proud beauty! You shall drag through the coming years knowing that a suicide's blood is upon your head.

(Shoots himself. Curtain.) The Proud Beauty (reading from the paper the next day)—Mr. A. S. S. Softhead, a boarder at Mrs. Slimdlet's boarding house, No. 33333 Avenue X, committed suicide last evening in his room. He had appeared unwell for several days. Thus one more case is added to the long list of suicides from la grippe. .

Shoots to Save His Wife. Crazed with drink, Clinton Rouck, Newton Fritz and Harry Hufford entered the house of Henry Van Buskirk, near East Stroudsburg, Pa., the other day, and attempted to assault his wife. The husband was in bed with pneumonia. Hearing his wife's cries for help, he secured a reolver and fired. The ball entered Rouck's stomach. The latter fired four shots in return. one striking Van Buskirk in the right breast, penetrating the lungs. Both are dead. Rouck and Fritz are now under arrest, but Hufford has so far eluded capture.

Robbers Murder Man and Wife. Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Bokell, living in the country near Howard Lake, Minn., were robbed of \$400 and murdered last Sunday night. The instrument of leath was an ax, which was found in the yard covered with blood. There is no clew to the murderers.

theater boys sell dates, figs, bread and wine in the seats.

exclaimed, "Look, Pepino, isn't that the thief of last night?" "Per Bacco!" answered Pepino, "It is, indeed, last night's thief." Two detectives, who were standing mear, heard these words and at once followed the actor, whose strange dress and clean shaven face made him look not altogether unlike a convict. They soon overtook and arrested him. The astonished actor was compelled to accompany them to the police station, where he had to wait until the inspector had finished his lunch-that was not until half past

EMILY BANCKER.

the "Fronde," in the ill-fated comic

opera "The Wedding Day," at the

Casino, Miss Lucille Saunders did some

creditable singing and acting. Miss

Saunders appeared in "The Gipsy

Queen" last fall, and previously held

good engagements in various comic

Miss Alice Evans, known in private

life as Mrs. Wilton Lackaye, is an

actress who has won some favor in the

eyes of critical metropolitan audiences

She has had an extended and varied

experience on the stage, and at differ-

ent periods in her career has essayed

roles that were both important and

popular. Her best work has perhaps

been in the way of character interpre-

tations. She is a woman of engaging

presence, and has given much of her

time to the sincere study of her art.

Eleanor Dure was enthusiastically

received in Russia. There were never

less than five thousand rouples in the

theater at each performance. In Berlin

there was at least forty-eight hundred

marks in the house at every represen-

tation. She was most successful in

"The Second Mrs. Tanqueray," and in

"Magda." Sudermann was enthusiastic

in his praise of her. "You are the real

author of the play," he said to her,

If the theater managers are to be be-

lieved, and they should be trusted for

the statement the bicycle is playing

havoc this spring with the attendance

at most of the big playhouses. The

mild evenings of late have enticed out-

of-doors the majority of persons who

ride wheels, and who might otherwise

be counted on as purchasers of theater

Mrs. Selena Fetter Royle is a south

ern woman who has attained consid-

erable celebrity on the stage. She is

the wife of Edwin Milton Royle, who

is best known as the author of the

play "Friends," which was seen two

or three seasons ago. Mrs. Royle is a

member of her husband's company,

which is now "on the road." She made

her greatest "hit" as the kittenish

widow in Bronson Howard's play,

Emily Bancker is an English actress,

who began her American caseer in

Rosina Vokes' company, and first

strove for stellar honors in the comedy

known as "Our Flat," in which she

played successfully for several seasons.

Her recent metropolitan appearance,

"The Henrietta."

after he saw ter in his drama.

opera companies in London.

proceed to his hotel. One of the clever women in the cast of Messrs. De Longe and Arthur's



AGNES FINDLAY.

comedy, "The Gay Mr. Lightfoot," which was recently put on the stage of the Bijou theater, is Miss Agnes Findlay. An English actress, Miss Findlay made her initial appearance in this country in the play just named. She plays her role acceptably, and seems to be a good character actress of the Alice Fisher stripe. In other words, she is not afraid to transform herself into a treature hideous and unlovely. She does not hesitate to hide her personality under a covering of thick words, rags and painted wrinkles. Bravest effort of all, however, on Miss Findlay's part, she makes her-self appear ugly in the interest of pure comedy and rollicking fun.

The people of Borneo make boer from

in the presence of her children and the 1891, and discontinued it. He began

During the entre-acts of the Greek