... IT WAS NOT A NIGHT-MARE.

Lauer Finds That He Was Awake When He Killed His Wife.

HE TELLS THE OLD, OLD STORY.

How He Shot the Burglar in White and Thought It Was All a Horrible Dream - Cowin's Severe Cross-Examination-Court Room Scenes.

The district court was filled yesterday morning when Judge Neville took his seat. The attendance was larger than upon any previous morning owing to the fact that it was understood that Lauer was to be placed upon the stand. The first witness was T. W. T. Richards, who was present when tests were made as to the light in the room. His evidence was simply corroborative of that given by Mr. Gibbon and Herman Kountz. He stated that the stove used in the room was one with which he was familiar and that if the fire in it was low it could be brightened up in fifteen minutes so that a newspaper could be read by its light. When John W. Lauer took the stand there was a hum of expectancy among the audience. He walked to the witness stand in an unconcerned manner, and gave his evidence without changing his tone or permitting his voice to falter in the slightest degree. It was noticeable that he used the word "tragedy" when-ever he spoke of the death of his wife.

Lauer Tells His Story. His examination was as follows:

Q. Mr. Lauer, you are the defendant in this case? A. Yes sir.

Q. What time did you reach home on the night before the shooting? A. I reached home on the night before the shooting about

home on the night before the shooting about 7 or 7:15.

Q. Who was with you? A. My wife was with me in the buggy.

Q. On reaching home what did you do? A. On reaching home I drove around to the back part of my house, in the alley behind the barn, and I backed the horse up against the barn, lifted my wife out of the buggy, unhitened the horse and took him out. My wife stood with me. I took him around into the barn on the opposite side facing towards the house, and my wife went around with me and waited at the door until I had put the horse away. When I had finished I went to the house with my wife. We went into the house and immediately lit a light, and then we set about preparing supper. It was a we set about preparing supper. It was a hasty meal because I got home late. I usually got home from 6 to 10 or 15 minutes after 6. ly got home from 6 to 10 or 15 minutes after 6. On this particular evening I did not get home until 7 or a quarter past. I recollect preparing supper. I think it likely I assisted as much as my wife. I usually did when I was home. After supper I helped my wife take the dishes off the table and put them away. After we had finished supper I think it was in the neighborhood of 8 o'clock—it did not take us long to prepare supper on account of the gasoline stove. Along in the neighborhood of 8 o'clock I went and lay down in the dining room. I lay down on the sofa in the northwest corner.

Q. Where was the light placed. Mr. Lauer?
A. On this particular occasion it was placed at the north end on the sewing machine that was sitting at the north end.

In reply to the question as to whether the

In reply to the question as to whether the window curtain was up or down, Mr. Lauer sald; "The curtain was down, because I pulled it down myself, and it remained that

pulled it down myself, and it remained that way until the next day.

Q. How were the blinds? A. At this particular time the blinds were open.

Q. What did you do there during the evening? A. During the evening, the first thing I recollect doing after supper was laying down on the sofa. I had been very busy that day and was very tired and I lay down on the sofa. I had been suffering with a boil on my right cheek. We had two or three daily papers there that evening, I am not positive which. My wife sat beside me as close as I am to the arm of this chair (pointing to the arm of the chair on which he was sitting) on arm of the chair on which he was sitting) on the smaller of two rocking chairs we had in the house. Her head was facing in the same direction as I was lying. I told her to read the paper to me and she sat on the rocking chair and read the paper. She did not read very long. She said, "John, I am tired, I would like to go to bed," I looked at my match and it was 20 or 25 minutes to nice watch and it was 30 or 25 minutes to nine, and I said, "No Sally, it is a little too early, I will try and read a little myself." She got I will try and read a little myself." She got up and went into the other room to undress, After a snort time, what I suppose would be time for her to undress, she came back in her night dress and came over to the sofa and said, "Move over on the backside of the sofa and let me lie down beside you." I threw and let me lie down beside you." I threw threw down my paper and she lay down beside me, laying on my right arm, snuggled down beside me and looked up in my face and blushed as though she had done something foolish, and we lay there talking for a little while. After talking a very minutes she said, "John, feel how my heart flutters." Of course, as she was lying on my right side, I could not feel hew my heart flutters." Of course, as she was lying on my right side, I could not feel her heart very well, so I said, "well Sally "if you do not feel well, let us go to bed." We got up, and while I do not remember the exact manner of taking off my clothes, I recollect undressing. My wife, I think, got in bed first. I am not positive, but it is the impression I have that she got in first. She then, while I was undressing, and that is connected with the other, got up again and said, "I forgot to prepare the oatmeal for breakfast" and I think the table with the others.

and said, "I forgot to prepare the oatmeal for breakfast," and I think that while she was preparing the oatmeal that I got in bed. After preparing the oatmeal she came and got in bed and we lay there talking for some little time. I will say that while we were lying on the sofa that we talked together at times. I do not mean the talked together at times; I do not mean to say that we were reading all the time. We used to sing, and on this particular evening I think we sang. It is my impression that we did.

Q. When you went to bed where was the light left? A. It was left on the east end of

the dresser. Q. How was that base burning stove left on that evening? A. It was left with the drafts closed, so as to make it run as low as

possible, simply to carry the fire through until morning.

Q. About what time did you touch the stove last? A. Just before going to bed; it could not possibly have been later than five minutes to 2. I am not positive. We did not lay on the sofa more than ten minutes.

Q. When you fixed the stove in that manner, how much fire was in it? A. Well, so far as throwing out light, it could not have been bright.

been bright.

Q. How long after you went to bed did you go to sleep? I know I must have fallen asleep yery soon; as regards my wife I do not know whether she went to sleep before I did or not. On this particular occasion I recollect distinctly of lying in bed and talking to my wife.

whether she went to sleep before I did or not. On this particular occasion I recollect distinctly of lying in bed and talking to my wife.

Q. What was the next thing that I recollect was when I was awakened out of a sound sleep. I was lying on my back to the best of my recollection and heard a noise in the next room. I was awakened out of a perfectly sound sleep and I supposed when I was being awakened that it was burglars. That was the first and only thought that I had at that time. I turned to my right side and grabbed for my revolver. On this particular night I had it prepared so that I could grasp it easily from under my pillow. I got my revolver just as quick as I could after turning over on my right side. I then turned in the direction of the next room and turned back on my back and looked over the foot of the bed. I did not see anything, but I heard a rustling in the other room. After hearing the noise in the other room, I heard a voice. I will not say that I heard voices. I supposed it was a burglar, but I did not recognize the voice, and supposed the burglar was talking to some other burglar. I naturally concluded there were two burglars at that time possibly in the room that I was in. That is what I thought at that time. But I heard in rustling and immediately after hearing this rustling and immediately after hearing this rustling and immediately after hearing this rustling the room that I was in. That is what I thought at that time. But I heard in rustling and immediately after hearing this rustling the same time yelled at the top of my voice. I will not say that yell was heroic. After firing and yelling at the same time, I sat up in bed and looked along

that it was my wife that came toward the bed. I jumped out of bed as quick as I could ran around the foot of the bed and I felt down on the floor. I felt my wife on the floor. I then turned and recollect before doing abything further I called my wife and shook her. I had my hands about her hips, I should transfine I called to her but there

shook her. I had my hands about her hips, I should imagine. I called to her but there was no reply. I turned to the dresser and lit the lamp that was on the dresser. Then I turned to my wife as she was lying on the floor. I am not positive as to whether she was lying on her face or not. My impression is that she was lying rather inclined to her face and I at once turned her over on her face and I at once turned her over on her back. Her head was distinct, that is, as far as any connection between her head and body was concerned, the body moved but the head did not move with the body. That is my impression and best recollection.

Q. Well, what was done then, John? A. Well then I knelt beside my wife, between the dresser and my wife's body, and looked down at her. Blood was gushing out of her nose and mouth, and it seemed to me, out of her cars. It looked to me as though it was coming out of her right ear. I do not recollect as whether I got up on my feet, I was amazed and horror struck. I felt of myself to see whether I was awake or not. I yelled as hard as I could yell and I recollect getting down on the floor and looking in my wife's face. The blood, I think, was still coming out of my wife's nose. I looked at her, shook her and called to her and there was no swer. I looked into her eyes, Her eyes were closed, almost to, and I could see the whites shook her and called to her and there was no swer. I looked into her eyes, Her eyes were closed, almost to, and I could see the whites of her eyes. Her mouth was perfectly motionless. She never breathed. The impression that I got that she was breathing was simply the blood coming out of her mouth in pulsations. It seems to me that this is the recollection I have of it. It seems to me that

mouth in pulsations. It seems to me that this is the recollection I have of it. It seemed to have come out of her mouth in pulsations, and that is what I may have taken for breathing; but as to her breathing, or being any life in the slightest except that I put my hand on my wife's heart and her heart beat. Outside of that there was no movement that my wife ever showed after.

Q. Then what did you do? A. Then I heard my sister up stairs; I heard her running around up stairs. I ran around to the door intending to call her. I recollect distinctly of running around to the northeast door of the diningroom. The door was fastened in such a manner that a person without light could hardly open it. (Here followed a description of the fastening to the door.) I recollect running back to the dresser and getting the lamp that was on the dresser and taking it and setting it on the table in the dining room. I went to the door and untwisted the wire and opened the door. By that time my sister was coming down stairs. I do not know whether she did say anything or not. It is my impression that she said something. I think she said "John, what is the matter?" but I was too excited to remember. Then, I think I said, "Minerva. run and get some help." I wanted to stay with my wife and see if she was not living. If she was allive I wanted to be near her and to do something for her if I could.

Q. After she started for help what did you do? A. I went back to my wife. I thought at all times that my wife was dead. I recollect distinctly putting on my clothes. I do not think my clothes were put on for to go down to the mill.

Q. When you went back, after you sent

down to the mill.

Q. When you went back, after you sent your sister for help, what was done with the light? A. After she went for help I took the light in on the dresser.

The Cross-Examination.

The first question asked by General Cowin in cross-examination was, "When did you first make the acquaintance of your wife?" The question was objected to by Judge Thurston. "There is one thing," claimed General Cowin, "which thing," claimed General Cowin, "which enables us to go into this whole matter. The witness said that he shot his wife by mistake, thinking she was a burglar.
That permits to ascertain the relations which they bore to each other."

Judge Neville stated that he knew such a question would arise and had looked up

the law Sunday. It was his opinion that the cross-examination of a defendant was different from any other witness. Judge Savage made an argument attempting to show that such a question was improper, and was not legitimate cross-examination. General Cowin suggested that he be permitted to ask that one question, which was unimportant, and that the argument be heard later. This was agreed to and he continued:
"What were you doing Friday?"

"On that day I was attending to my affairs. I met my wife a few minutes after 6 o'clock at Paxton & Gallagher's. We drove to the postoffice and several stores and then went home, arriving there a little after 7 o'clock. There had been no supper prepared."

as that her usual custom?" "Well, it was—" "I object," said Mr. Thurston. The objection was sustained, and Lauer continued: "I went out of the house and closed the blinds, except those in the dining room. Those on west side of the room were left open just as they were during the day." "Did you swear at the inquest the following morning, 'I returned to the house

'I did not.' "What did you do after coming into the The first thing I did was to light the gas oline stove and help get the supper. We had bought some wienerwurst because it was easily prepared, and we had some regard to each other's feelings."
"You did, eh?" said Mr. Cowin. "Is

'clock last night,' "

that the best instance of it that you can "I could give more." "After supper," continued Lauer, "I

chair near me. I asked my wife to read to me, which she did for about half an hour. After she finished I said, 'I'll read myself a little while,''
"When she stopped reading did you use any abusive language to her?".
"No, sir, I did not. She went into the bed room and changed her apparel and then came back to the lounge and lay

down beside me." The witness then stated in detail the occurrences of the evening. After they went to bed his wife got up and put some oatmeal on the stove to prepare it for breakfast. His wife afterwards came back to the room, blew out the light and went to bed.
"After she got in bed and the light was blown out, could you see her?" asked the

I could not; as a matter of fact did not see her until early the next morning when I lighted the lamp," Lauer then stated that he put coal in the stove, as was his usual custom before retiring. Gen. Cowin then subjected Lauer to a volley of questions about the position of the lamp, the lightness of the room, the place where his revolver was. "I saw a form."

lawver.

said Lauer, "and then looked to the right of the bed and also to the dining room. I could only see the dim outline of a head and could not distinguish who it was.

The Revolver in Court.

At this point Gen. Cowin asked for the revolver and Lauer remarked, "Oh you needn't bring it in. I'll admit that it was the same one that I used." "That's all right," said the general as

he took the revolver and handed it to the witness. "Don't shoot the reporters" ejaculated Judge Savage as he saw the muzzle of the weapon pointed toward the table where the newspaper men were writing "It isn't loaded," replied Lauer, coolly as he looked into the barrel. The re-volver was then placed under a piece of paper used to represent a pillow, and the witness showed how he drew it before

he fired the fatal shot.
"When you fired the shot was it lighter or darker than when you went to bed?" was the next question propounded.
"I can't say. I felt for my wife, and didn't look to see whether she was in bei or not. I put my hand over to where I thought she was lying and found she was

not there." How much could you see of the form at which you shot; could you recognize the head?"

"No, General: I couldn't tell whether it was the head of my wife or your head.

I wish it had been yours."

"I don't doubt it. You'd like to have my nead in range now, "gently remarked Mr. Cowin.

"I object to that," said Mr. Thurston. "and I want to have the exact language

taken down. It is brutal, vindictive, unprofessional and intended to in flame the passion of the audience." "If my remark was brutal," general rising to his feet, "It was simply a just reply to a brutal answer made by the witness. He said that he wished the head at which he shot had been mine." The witness was then questioned as to what he did after he fired the shot and

said that he got up and shook his wife and called to her without getting any re-sponse. He then went to the dresser and lighted the lamp in a state of great ex-citement. At this point Judge Neville looked at the clock and adjourned court till two o'clock.

Afternoon Session The court room was crowded in the afternoon, about 200 ladies having seats

inside the railing.

The question of the right of the prosethe question of the right of the prose-cution to go into Lauer's relations with his wife was deferred until later in the day and Gen. Cowin proceeded with the cross-examination. In response to a cross-examination. In response to a question he stated that he did not know hat his wife was dead until he lighted

the lamp. Every detail of the proceedings of the night was fully examined.

"Now, Mr. Lauer," continued Gen.
Cowin, "you lighted the lamp and got down bosside your wife. Did you feel of her heart; I don't think I did. The body was

ying on its right side—that is inclined to the right."
"When you first looked at the body after lighting did you know she was dead?"
I thought she was fatally hurt but I did not know she was dead until I turned her over on her back. I could not see the wound."

"Why did you turn her over on her back?"

"To find out how badly she was hur". raised the head a little and saw the see no evidence of life, but when I touched the body in the region of the heart I could feel its peating. "You didn't touch her in any place where there was bloodb."

"No sir, I did not. I looked at her face and knew the wound was in the center of the face. I have always known that the heart ceased to beat after

"Did you do anything to ascertain if she was dead beside feeling her heart?" "Nothing but shake her."
"Did you attempt to wash the blood from her wound, get water, or try to get "I did not."

"How long did you remain by the body?"
"Not more than half a minute, but I was satisfied that life was extinct. After getting up from the body I pinched my-self, looked at the bed, turned to my wife and became satisfied that I was

"You were not sure that you were awake before then?"

"I was not."
"When you knelt by her body again did you press your lips to hers?"
"I did not." "Did you take out your handkerchief and wipe the blood from her forehead?" "I did not."

"Did you bring water to cool her parched lips?"
"I did not." "No," said Gen. Cowin impressively,

"you did none of those things."
"Are you sure that Sally Lauer did not eream before you fired the shot?"
"If she did I did not hear her." Lauer then went on to say that he heard a noise in his sister's room and called to her to come into the room. She came toward the door and he told her that he had mistaken Sallie for a burglar and shot her. injured, but at once wen tfor help.

'Had you thought of getting a doctor up to this time?'

'I had not-I didn't think of auy-"When you went back to your wife's body didn't you do so with the idea of being present if she did return

"That was just exactly I thought." "But you didn't think to send for "No sir."

Lauer was then examined as to the manner in which he dressed himself but seemed to have forgotten all about how

Upon the Rack.

The cross examination proceeded as follows:

Q. Mr. Lauer, after you went to the body, felt of it near the hips you think, then, after putting one hand on the hip and another on the shoulder and shaking the body and speaking to her and receiving no reply, did you then know that she was dead? A. I did not. Q. Did you then put your hand on her in the vicinity of the heart? A. I do not recol-lect that I did.

lect that I did.

Q. This is all you did until you lit the lamp, was it? A. To the best of my recollection that is exactly right.

Q. Where did you put your pistol? A. As to where I put my pistol I do not know.

Q. Did you put it in the dressing case? A. I do not know where I put it.

Q. When you got up to light the lamp where did you find the match? A. Well, as to where I found the match I am not positive. I must have found it in the little match stand that stood opposite the lamp.

stand that stood opposite the lamp.

Q. Where was that match stand located?

A. On the right hand side. A. On the right hand side.

Q. After lighting the lamp you then looked around at the body, did you? A. I did; yes sir, I got down on the floor beside it.

Q. Now up to this time after getting out of bed you had done nothing, said nothing, you had done nothing other than simply feel the body of your wife, shake her and call to her and light the lamp? A. That is all I had done up to this time.

Q. Now you lighted the lamp, turned tround and saw the body of your wife on the ? A. 1 did. Upon the floor? A. Yes, sir. You got down by the side of it, did you?

A. Yes, sir.
Q. Now, did you feel of her heart? A. I do not think I felt of her heart irst.
Q. In what position was the body when you first lit the lamp? A. It was inclined toward the face; I do not think it was entirely on the face.

the face; I do not think it was entirely on the face.
Q. Was not the body at that time lying on its right side? A. No, I do not think it was. It was on the right side rather than on the left, but it was inclined towards the face.
Q. When you first looked at the body, after lighting the lamp, did you then know that your wife was dead? A. I do not think that I thought she was dead. When I saw the blood was coming from her mouth, then I thought my wife had been hurt fatally.
Q. Then you turned her over on her back towards the south. A. Yes, sir, towards the south.

Q. Did you then see the wound? A. Well. Q. Did you then see the wound? A. Well, I don't know that I can positively say—well, I know that I did not see the wound.
Q. Are you sure that you moved her body,
Mr. Lauer? A. I am positive that I did.
Q. Mr. Lauer, what did you turn the body on its back for? A. To see how my wife was burt. vas hurt. Q. It inclined towards the right. A. Yes,

Q. The wound could not be seen? A, It was not on account of the inclination of the body; it was because the face was covered

with blood,
Q. Do you know how you left the head? A,
I think r am quite positive, as I now said,
rather ware inclined towards the position in
which the body lay.
Q. Could you see then any evidence of life
in the body? A. I could not see any.
Q. When you felt the body in the region of
the heart, could you feel the beating of the
heart? A. Yes, sir; I did.
Q. Did you take hold of her head? A. I
think I touched her forehead; there was no
blood on the forehead.
gQ. Your hands were perfectly clean so far
as the blood was concerned. A. Yes, sir;

as the blood was concerned. A. Yes, sir; perfectly clean.

Q. Did you swear at the coroner's inquest in this language nearly, "I think she was lying on her right side. I think that I turned her a little." A. I do not know as to that.

Q. You felt in the region of the heart and her heart was beating; did you make any farther examination of the body to ascertain whether or not there was still life? A. An ocular examination, that is all.

Q. Did you know the beating of the heart might exist after death? A. I have always known that.

Q. When you felt the beating of the heart blood was concerned. A. Yes, sir;

you were satisfied that life was extinct, were you? A. I was not satisfied; no, sir.

Q. You did nothing else only just to look at her? A. I recollect distinctly of taking her arms in mine and slaking and moving her after I lighted the lamp, but did not change her position at aff.

Q. Did you take a cloth; a handkerchief, or anything and wipe the blood from her face? A. I did not; I thought my wife was dead.

Q. Did you go and get any vater and attempt to bathe her face; did you go and get anything for her? A. I did not.

Q. How long did you remain there by the body making this examination? A. I did not remain but a very short time.

Q. A few moments? A. I do not know as to the number of monients.

Q. How long did you remain by the body after lighting the lamp? A. I do not think it could have been more than half a minute.

Q. And in that half minute you satisfied yourself that life was extinct. A. I think I was certain almost instantly.

Q. Although the last you knew from physical examination the heart was still beating.

cal examination the heart was still beating A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, after getting up from the body what did you do next? A. After getting up from the body I pinched myself, looked in the direction of the bed, looked back at my wife and walked back and ferth in the room to satisfy myself that I was awake.

Q. Before this, you were rot satisfied that you were awake.

A. I was awake.

you were awake. A. I was awake.
Q. And then you walked up and down for a time, did you? A. I did.
Q. Then did you feel of the body again? Did you press your lips to bers then? A. I did not.
Q. Did you take out your handkerchief then to wipe the blood from her face? Did you then get a drop of cold water to cool her parched lips? A. I did not.
Q. Now then, how long did you kneel by her this second time? A. It could have been but a short space of time; I do not know just how long it was.
Q. Then you got up again? A. I think I

how long it was.

Q. Then you got up again? A. I think I was yelling at the top of my voice.

Q. You yelled at the top of your voice when you thought you had shot a burglar?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Did you keep that yelling up? A. For some time I did. I think it was as much from fear as anything I know of.

Q. Why did you not yell before you shot?

A. I never thought of that.

Q. Are you sure Mr. Lauer, that Sally Lauer did not yell when you pulled that pistol? A. I cannot say as to that.

Q. Now then, after getting down beside the body the second time did you get up and walk again? A. I do not know just exactly what I did then.

Q. You finally went out into the sitting room? A. I had. I had been walking back and forth between the two rooms.

Q. You then heard Miss Lauer coming down, did you? A. No, I think I heard some

what did your A. No, I think I heard some kind of a noise up in her room.

Q. What did you say to her when you called her? A. I think I called to her to come into the room. My impression is that she did not come into the room. I tried to induce her to come into the room. She asked me what was the matter and I told her that I had mistaken Sally for a hereles and shot her

what was the matter and I told her that I had mistaken Sally for a burglar and shot her.
Q. She said she would run and get help?
A. That is what I remember.
Q. Had you up to this time thought of getting a doctor? A. I had not thought of getting a doctor then.
Q. Is it a fact, Mr. Lauer, that you stated at the preliminary examination and to four or five persons that morning that there was no use of sending for the doctor because you knew she was dead already? A. I may have said so.

said so.

Q. Now, then, up to this time, Mr. Lauer, you had done nothing that you now remember except what you havelrelated, had you?

A. I do not recollect flything.

Q. Well, then, after Miss Lauer went out

Q. Well, then, after Miss Lauer went out you went back to where your wife was because you did not want to leave the body?

A. I think that was the reason.

Q. You thought if she did come to life again you wanted to be there? A. I do not know that I thought in that manner.

Q. Did you, Mr. Lauer, at that time, have a feeling that if there should be a return of life you wanted to be there, but you did not think of sending for the doctor to help the return of that life, did you? A. I know that I did not think of sending for the doctor.

Q. And you had thought the proper thing to do was to leave the body lying on the floor—you had thought of that, had you not? A. I thought I did not want to leave; I certainly did want to be near my wife.

did want to be near my wife.
Q. And so you remained near her, did you? Q. But you did not raise your hand to restore consciousness, or anything of that kind, did you? A. I do not think I did anything to restore consciousness but shake her.
Q. You simply shook her and yelled to her?

A. I used that expression.

Q. Well, when you went back into the room did you again kneel beside your wife?

A. I did. Q. How long did you stay that time? A. I do not think I stood still anywhere. I walked around the room. I went and put on my Q. Do you know where you found them?

Q. Do you know where you found them? A. No, I do not. Q. You put on your shoes, your vest, your coat? A. I presume so. I know I must have put on my pants. I must have used some kind of intelligence.
Q. Who was the first person to come there?

The first person to come, I think, was old Mr. Lee.
Q. Did you go out into the kitchen before this time? A. I did not.
Q. When did you go into the kitchen? A. When Mr. Drexel was preparing the body.
Q. You did not go into the kitchen, then, until Mr. Drexel had commenced preparing the body for examination. A. I know that I did not go in until then. I went through the door from the dining room into the kitchen.

door from the dining room into the kitchen.
Q. Did you find that door at that time locked? A. I think it was locked.
Q. With those wires in? A. I presume the wires were in. Wires were in.

Q. Your wife was no longer there, was she? A. I didn't leave my wife.

Q. After you got your clothes on you thought of going for Dr. Parker. He only lives two blocks and a half away, now why didn't you go? A. I did not want to leave my wife.

my wife.

Q. You did not know yet whether she was dead or not, did you? A. I was very much excited, and I think that had something to do with my actions at the time.

Q. You thought it was a proper place to leave the body? A. I thought I would rather not disturb the body.

Q. When you got on your clothes you did not then know whether life was extinct or not? A. I did, I think, from the first moment. My impression was that she was

ment. My impression was that she was dead.

Q. The reason, then, that you did not go for Dr. Parker was because you did not want to leave the body of your wife? A. That is Q. Is it not another reason that you cared nothing about that, Mr. Lauer? Why did you not pick her up and lay her on the bed? A. I did not wish to move my wife.

Q. Mr. Lauer, the bed was not disturbed after you two got up? A. No, sir; nobody tonehed it. I presume. other you two got up? A. No, sh'; nobody touched it, I presume.

Q. Was your wife in the habit of getting up nights? A. I cannot say that it was a habit; I wril say that she had operationally got up in the night.

Q. Did you swear that the had never got up in the night before? A. I do not think I swore that she never got up in the night before.

O. Mr. Lauer, you did nothing with the on the back? A. Yes, I did; from facing towards the north.

O. Who put that cover on her? A. I did.

O. When did you dorling? A. I did that when I heard somebody epining.

O. Where did you get that cover? A. On the foot of the bad. he foot of the bed

Q. At the time that your wife went to bed that night, and before she put the oatmeal on the stove, was her hair up? A. Weil, sir, I do not know.

Q. She had a very large amount of hair, bad she not? had she not? A. Yea, sir. 5
Q. Long? A. It was 12
Q. Bulky? A. Bulky.
Q. At the time she got up and put the oatmeal on the stove, was her hair up or down?
A. I do not know. Q. At the time you went to the body to se

it, what was the condition of her hair? A. Her hair was under her head, seemingly, to me; I cannot say whether it was down or When you went to the boay of wife, why did it occur to you to leave her for the coroner? A. Well, sir, I do not think it occurred to me to leave her for the coroner at

that you did to a number, that you left her for the coroner? Did you make a statement to a number of persons that when you went to the body of your wife, instead of picking her up and putting her on the bed, you left her for the coroner? A. I do not think I ever said it in the manner in which you have not it. put it.

Q. Will you swear that you did not say it in the manner in which you have said it?

A. As to when I left the bed and went to the body?

Q. Yes. A. Very well, sir; I do not think that I ever made that answer in reply to such that I ever made that answer in reply to such a question as you have put.
Q. Did Mr. Baldwin, in the presence of the district attorney and Major Dennis, ask you how this occurred? A. I think it is likely. (Question objected to).
Q. Did you go into the bed room and there explain to him how it occurred, in the presence of the district attorney and Major Dennis? A. I think it is likely.
Q. Now, then, in that explanation, did you say that you felt over for your wife and found she was not there? A. I presume I did.

did.

Q. Did you say that you then jumped out of bed and saw the body of your wife? A. I will say that I saw my wife lying on the floor.

Q. Did you say to Mr. Baldwin, Major Dennis and the district attorney that you thought she was breathing? A. Well, sir, my impression is that I did. I did think she was breathing when I saw her and I think I did so state. O. Did Mr. Baldwin then say to you, "Why didn't you pick her up and put her on the bed."? A. I do not think he said it in exactly

those words; it was that in substance.
Q. Did you reply, "I left her for the coroner."? Did you or not say to Mr. Baldwin, Major Dennis and the district attorney, "No, I left her for the coroner, or left her until the coroner would come," or words to that effect?
A. I think I did.

O. Now Mr. Lever, Did you think your A. I think I did.
Q. Now, Mr. Lauer, Did you think your wile was breathing when Mr. Gallagher got there, half an hour after the shooting? A. No, sir. That was not after Mr. Gallagher got

there.

Q. Why did you think the best place for her was on the floor? A. Well, sir, I do not know that I thought that the best place.

Q. Why did you think the best place was where you shot her? A. It occurred to me to leave her where she lay at that time.

Q. Mr. Lauer, have you studied the question as to how many men have been found guilty of murdering their wives? A. No sir.

Q. Have you been looking over the questions.

guilty of murdering their wives? A. No sir.

Q. Have you been looking over the question some? A. I do not think I have been looking over the question any.

Q. Did you examint it some before this tragedy? A. I cannot say that I did.

Q. Mr. Lauer, did you love Sallie Lauer?

A. I did, and I love her yet.

Q. Love her dead? [Question objected to; objection overruled.] A. I love her memory.

Q. Did you at one time hit her over the head with a pistol, nearly breaking her nose? [Objected to; objection sustained.]

Q. Did you ever manifest your love for her by breaking her nose with a pistol? [Objected to; objection sustained.] by breaking her nose with a pistol? jected to; objection sustained.]

They Lived Happily. When Lauer walked down from the which Lauer wasked down from the stand his seat was at once taken by John G. Bell. Mr. Bell testified that he knew the Lauers very well and that he had never seen anything to make him think that they were not on the most pleasant terms. On the cross-examination Gen-eral Cowin brought out the assertion from the witness that he had never seen

any abuse given by Mr. Lauer to his wife while he was present.

Miss Emma Savage, who lives directly west of the Lauer house, was the next witness. She testified that she had been in the habit of visiting the Lauers several times a day. They seemed to be loving and kind. She was awakened by Miss Lauer on the night of the tragedy. She looked at the west window in Lauer's dining room and saw, that the curtain while he was present. dining room and saw that the curtain was down. On cross-examination she saw a light in the dining room until On cross-examination she

nearly 9 o'clock.
"Call Miss Minerva Lauer," said Mr. Thurston, after he had dismissed the former witness.

For a Brother's Life. The interest of the audience at this point began to increase, and as Miss Lauer walked to the witness stand every eye in the court room was centered upon She was neatly attired in a suit of well-fitting black, in which she looked exceedingly pretty. She gave her testi-mony in a rapid, distinct manner and could be heard in every part of the room. "I saw Mr. Lauer," said she, "about 1 o'clock on the afternoon before the sad

accident occurred. That afternoon I was invited out to spend the afternoon and take tea with a friend, and did not return until 8 o'clock in the evening, When I got back I went at once to my room, which is directly over my brother room, and commenced to sew. From the position of my room I could readily hear what was going on below. I heard my brother humming a tune, and in a few moments I thought I heard he and Sally singing together, at one time. Then I thought that I could hear somebody reading aloud, but I could not tell what was being read. After a while I heard my brother's heavy breathing, and knew that

one of them had gone to bed. "Now, Miss Lauer," said Mr. Thurs ton, "you were in your brother's house for a considerable length of time, and I

wish you'd tell the jury whether or not he lived happily with his wife."
"Yes, indeed," said the witness, turn-ing towards the jury and stretching out her hands in a supplicating, they did live happily together. Of that I can give you positive proof. John grational and whim. There her hands in a supplicating manner ified her in every wish and whim. There was nothing in his power which he did not do for her happiness. He even used to relieve her of her household cares to a great extent. He invariably used to prepare breakfast in the morning and would always assist her with the dinner and supper. No one could have been more kind and affectionate than he. I assure you," continued she, turning her beautiful eyes towards the jury, "that he was a kind and affectionate husband."

"Tell when you were first aroused," said Mr. Thurston, flaconically, as he carefully adjusted his gold rimmed spectacles and glanced at General Cowin

in an absent manner.
"I heard a shot," said Miss Lauer with another appealing glance at the jury, while a winning smile found its way to her lips, "and at the same time I heard a scream—a terrible scream. I next heard my brother runand hamenting. I got up instantly and pounded on the floor, calling out to him to know what the matter was. I at once thought that burglars were in the house and knew that I ought to go down stairs. I was a coward though, and waited whole minute before I dared to go out of my room. When at last I reached the ottom of the stairs I met John who said, Minerya, I mistook Sally for a burglar and shot her.' I tried to go in the room where she was, but he caught the arm I then and rushed out to I tried to Mrs. Savage's house for help. go into John's house again wouldn't let me do so."

He Washed the Dishes. "Now, Miss Lauer," said Gen. Cowin as he began a cross examination, which was so skillful and adroit that the witness did not seem to appreciate the fact that she was being subjected to the piti-less fire of one of the best criminal law-yers in the United States. "Now, Miss Lauer," continued Gen. Cowin, "you say that John always got breakfast?"

'Invariably. "You never saw a kinder husband or a better wife. He never got mad at her?" "No, sir." He never got offended at her in the least degree. He was too

"Of course, of course," murmered the general. "But now suppose the case of an ordinary mortal, don't you think he'd get mad if his wife lay in bed and made him get up and prepare breakfast?"
"John didn't get mad."
"He used to wash the dishes didn't he,

breakfast, dinner and supper dishes? "He did." "I suppose one would wash and the other would wipe, that is when they were not kissing each other."
"Well they did kiss each other. It was

John's aim to gratify every wish ex-pressed by his wife."
"Now Miss Lauer, you say you were awakened by a shot and a scream."
"Yes, a terrible scream, a horrifying

at once got up and on the floor and calle on the floor and called to and Glassware, he sure and get prices at 1. I heard him rushing about the Moody's China Store, 302 N. 16th St.

What did you do?"

room and screaming. I waited a moment till I summoned enough conrage to go down stairs. I thought that burglars had shot John, and I was afraid of my life. I saw him at the entrance to his room, and he had an agonized expression on his

BRISTLING WITH ACTIVITY.

Wheat Buoyant at the Opening and One-

Half Cent Above Saturday.

PORK SLIDES DOWN 35C A BARREL

Corn and Oats Break, in Sympathy

With Wheat-Trading in Pro-

visions Active-Live Stock

and General.

CHICAGO GRAIN MARKET.

CHICAGO, March 15,- | Special Telegram. |-

WHEAT-The leading speculative markets

were all bristling with activity this morning,

and wheat was very buoyant at the opening.

starting sales for future delivery being at a

full half cent above Saturday's closing price.

The under lead was pork, and everything in

the list took the downward track, and the

general break that followed caused the most

intense excitement for a time. Pork slid

down 35c per barrel so easily that it fairly took the breath away from the bulls, and be-

fore 12 o'clock the May option touched \$9.70.

Lots of 10,000 barrels were freely offered by

a prominent trader at \$9.75, but buyers

did not appear in large numbers on

those terms. The day was full of surprises

to everybody and the markets were all ner-

vous and unsettled. Speculative trading in

the aggregate reached a larger amount than

for a long time past. Both Liverpool and

London cables came in very strong this

morning, with wheat reported a turn dearer

in all positions, and California sorts were re-

ported 6d higher. Private cables were con-

firmatory of an improved condition of affairs

abroad, and on this news the market here

went up at the opening. May property quickly sold to 86c, and considerable long

wheat came out at over 86c. The close of

business last Saturday doubtless found the

local crowd pretty well loaded up. Trading

at 864c was light, however, and at that

point there was a sudden reaction that

carried prices down to 854e without

scarcely a stop. The principal cause of

the break was a sharp downward turn in

provisions. In addition to this the New

York market was off nearly bec. Export

clearings were higher than expected, and the estimated decrease in the visible supply dur-

ing the past week proved smaller than was generally expected. There was but a feeble

reaction during the latter part of the morn-

ing session, and at 1 o'clock 85%c was bid.

We under Saturday's closing figures. There

was a fair run of outside buying orders early,

and Wall street sold considerable wheat here,

it was said, through their Chicago represen-

tatives. Lester, Everingham and the Eldridge

crowd were free buyers, with Cudahy, Kent, Farley and Hobbs named as among the

largest sellers. The general feeling of weak-

ness to-day was intensified by a decline in

MINOR GRAINS-Corn broke 36c in sym-

pathy with wheat and provisions, and under

the hammering of one or two local houses.

Farley & Carter being prominent and heavy

sellers, May sold off to 39c by 1 o'clock.

St. Paul stock.

face."
"What light was there that enabled you to see his expression?"
"Ithink there was a lamp which shone out into the hall."

"You say you got out of bed in-stantly and heard John rushing about. What do you mean by instantly?"
"I mean instantly, that is just as soon

as I could get out."
"Ah, yes; you heard him running about the room as you heard the shot."
The examination continued for some time, but from this point no new were developed. Ben Gallagher was then recalled and testified to the hapry relations existing between Mr. and Mrs. Lauer, after which the court adjourned.

While every person connected with the trial is an object of interest, General Cowin seems to be the central figure. His cross-examination of Lauer yesterday was a piece of work which the lawyers say has never been equaled at the Omaha bar. He proceeded in a masterly manner, and while he was at times severe with the witness, he never forgot that he was a gentleman before he was a lawyer. His argument is looked forward to with a great deal of interest.

DYING IN SQUALOR. A Female Miser Worth \$150,000 Bequeaths \$60,000 to Benevolent

Bocieties. A Rochester, N. Y., special savs: Mrs. Elizabeth E. G. Emerson has lived in Rochester over thirty years, formerly at a hotel, where she was noticeable as an intelligent and attractive woman. Then intelligent and attractive woman. Then she bought a house, shut herself in, kept aloof from everybody, even the church, and became the mystery of her neighborhood. She never went out except for necessities. She lived in squalor and her garments were filthy. Three weeks ago she fell ill, but would allow no one to assist her. By accident her condition was sist her. By accident her condition was discovered and her neighbors sent a nurse to care for her, but she would have driven the woman away had she not been too weak. Five days ago, when dy-

ing, whe wrote this message:
"It is my wish that my departure and burial be as private as possible. To en-force this, I request that no notice of either be sent to any newspapers. I request the officiating clergyman to state that it was my wish to have only a Christian burial, free from all worldly customs. Such was the Savior's, and such should be his followers.'

The fact has just come to light that this remarkable woman was worth about \$150,000. She left a will, drawn by herself, devising \$60,000 to the Presbyterian benevolent societies and the remainder to the children and grandchildren of the Rev. D. W. Eastman of Smithville, Ontario, whose daughter it is said she was. She was twice married, her first husband's name being Gilbert.
The executors named are Charles E.

Pond of this city and C. G. Clark of New York, secretary of the American Express

and telegraphed that the bill was

whom he promptly named Horatio

mour, and so wrote the governor, albeit he supposed the old gentleman had for

gotten him. In return he received a let

the letter the governor speaks feelingly

of his own age and approaching death

and adds some lines for the boy which when he is old enough to read, should

and doubtless will influence all his after life for good Possibly this little story of

what the old governor did for a poor un

known young man may cast a ray of light upon his unequaled popularity.

Philadelphia Ledger: The small sav-

ings of a thrifty community make a large

aggregate The "Old Saving Fund," as

it is called, at the southwest corner of Seventh and Walnut streets, contains nearly \$26,000,000 that are the savings of

over 105,000 persons. At least half of

these people are women, and nearly 23,-000 new accounts were opened last year.

This venerable institution, which enjoys so largely the confidence of the communi-

so largely the confidence of the community, has been over seventy years growing to its present condition, and has all the time been increasing the surplus held for the protection of the depositors, its assets upon January 1 having been \$27.366,628, or \$1,950,477 in excess of the aggregate deposits, \$25,407,150. Of this large sum

held \$1,430,554 in eash ready for draft

and \$2,861.025 in temporary loans capa-ble of immediate conversion into cash.

Its invested assets are in the United States,

state and city loans and solid railway mortgages, and are carried in most in-

stances at figures much below the market value, so that if realised upon the surplus would be largely increased. Nothing is carried at a valuation above

par, and many items are at lower figure

o that it the magnificent list of \$19,370 228 of government, state, city and

bonds were converted into each at pre

ent prices the surplus of the saving fund would far exceed \$1,000,000. It can be

said without exaggeration that no simi

liar institution in the world can exceed its showing of assets, its margin of safety for depositors, or the unquestioning trust imposed so properly in it by such a large number of people. The "Old Sav-

ing Fund" keeps the money of one eighth the entire population of Pailadelphia and

were it not for the rigid rule restricting

each one's annual deposit to \$200 the ag-gregate would probably be doubled. Of the adult population of this community we think fully one third have at times

been represented among its depositors.

ter which I now hold in my hand.

contained a check for a round sum.

Company. Mrs. Emerson left a note also stating that she had no child, sister or brother, father or mother living. Trading was larger than for some time past. Oats were also more active but lower, closing 1/c off at 1 o'clock. Gov. Seymour and the Young Lawyer. PROVISIONS-There was an active trade in Portland Argus: The New York Sun says of Mr. Seymour: "No man, we sup-pose, in the history of New York ever enprovisions, wholly on speculative account, and prices were weak, pork falling off 30c per barrel from Saturday's prices and lard 5c per 100 pounds, and while there was some joyed such unqualified popularity among the members of his own party," and the reaction, the falling off was rather heavy. Sun is wholly right in the matter. I have Large lines of pork were offered by proma lunch acquaintance who is a good fel-low and a good lawyer, but who does not inent houses known to be long, and it was rumored that the syndicates were letting get on in the world. Some two years ago he thought he would like a certain go. This latter, however, was not verified post at Albany, and as he had no politi-cal influence, he took a whim to place his up to the close of the morning session. It is estimated that at least 75,000 case before Mr. Seymour and invoke his powerful aid. He went to Utica and told barrels of pork changed hands. Lard was the least weak, though offered freely, while governor who and what he was an ribs were hard to sell. The receipts what he wanted, after hearing which the were up to expectation, and prices were a kind old gentleman invited him to re-main while he went to lie down and rest, nickel lower. AFTERNOON BOARD-On the afternoon for he was too feeble to sit up long at any board there was a moderate amount of activ-The governor kept that young ity in wheat, with the bears the strongest man in his house two days and nights, talking with him now and then, and all men in the pit. By vigorous hammering May wheat was crowded down to 841/6@85c, the time taking his measure. When satclosing at 85c. May corn was 1/2 lower, and islied that the young lawyer had spoken the truth and was really deserving the oats were a shade easier. Pork lost 5c per governor gave him a letter to the official barrel. Lard was steady. an Albany in whose department the de 2:45 p. m .- Puts on May wheat, 841/@84%c; sired place was, and also slipped into his hand a goodly roll of bank bills, and in answer to the young man's protest calls, 85%c bid. Chandler-Brown Co.'s Report. The following report of Chicago's speculaagainst taking the money, he quietly re-marked: "When you are as old as I am tive markets is furnished the BEE by W. P. Peck, Omaha representative of Chandleryou can pass the money along to some other struggling young man." He also

Brown Co., of Chicago and Milwaukee: told the lawyer to stay at a certain hotel while in Albany. The young lawyer went to Albany and presented his letter, and was received like an ambassador Wheat opened firm. Cables quoted English markets strong and in good demand. California and spring 6d higher. New York dispatches were also strong, but owing to an esfrom King Charlemagne. He was intro imated decrease in the visible supply of only duced all around as the friend of Gover half a million bushels wheat broke off, Fraley nor Seymour, and honors were showered upon him. When he went to pay his bill he was informed that Governor Seymour and Cudahay being heavy sellers. New York reported five loads taken for export up Receipts of primary markets, 225,000 bushsent to him. A few weeks ago the law yer became the father of a bouncing boy els; shipments, 48,000 bushels,

Car lot receipts at Chicago 72 wheat, 457 corn May wheat opened at 86 ke, sold to 86 ke and gradually declined to 85%c, where it closed at Corn and oats easy at 14@14c off. Provisions weak. Pork selling 35c off, lard

ic. ribs 10c.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

CEICAGO, March 15 .- [Special Telegram.] -CATTLE-The top price for shipping cattle was about \$5.50, and dressed beef men paid \$5.25 for a few good to choice cattle. Receipts to-day were not large, but there was an extremely duil feeling in the market for some reason. Bids were 15@30c lower than on Friday, and there was a very slow movement. New York and Liverpool were steady, and salesmen could see no reason for making the concessions which puyers wanted, and so trading was very slow. Sales averaged about 106g20e lower than the closing prices of last week, with isolated cases where the decline was much more. Some 1,400 lb meal-fed cattle for which only 5c was bid, were held over. Samehow buyers seemed quite indifferent Some 1,107 lb corn-fed Colorado cattle sold at \$1.87%, and some 1,148 lb sold at \$8.50. They were out of the same lot which averaged 1,179 lbs, and sold Friday at \$3.75. Shipping steers, 1,850 to 1,500 lbs, \$4.8565.65; 1.000 to f,350 lbs, \$4.70@5.40; 900 to 1,200 lbs,

Before buying your outlit of Crockery, Hous-The hog market was also dull and bothe lower. Packers are not willing to ge