

WORK OF NOTED DETECTIVE

Life Stories of Joe Petrosino, Assassinated at Palermo.

ZEAL IN RUNNING DOWN CROOKS

Notable Service of a "Sherlock Holmes" in Solving Mysteries of Crime—Completion Instances.

The assassination of Detective Joe Petrosino of New York to Palermo, Sicily, whither he was sent to investigate the operations of Italian and Sicilian criminal societies, is deeply regretted by the police department and the Italian residents of the metropolis.

One of the incidents of his career recalled by associates was the fact that six months before the assassination of President McKinley, in 1901, Petrosino sent word to Washington that there was a plot afoot to kill the president.

Following a Slender Claw

A case comparatively recent, which well illustrates how skillfully Petrosino could pick up a criminal trail and how tirelessly he could follow it, was that of a homicide committed in Van Cortlandt park.

The detective finally made out the name "Babbato Gialzo," and the address, "Box 28, Lambertville, N. J."

When he had found his man Gialzo admitted that he had written the name on the paper. He said he had given it to his friend Antonio Trostolo, who had gone to New York on the last pay day with \$600 or \$700.

Hurrying back to Lambertville, Petrosino while at the railroad station saw a man approaching on a bicycle who was wearing a hat and who carried one hand bagged.

To use Petrosino's own words, "He just shivered, like this, and refused to look at it. I was watching him closely and I said to myself then, 'You're guilty, you rascal.'"

Strollo afterward confessed the crime. He told how he had written to Trostolo letters purporting to come from the latter's brother and inviting him to come to Yonkers.

Long Chase Rewarded

Natalio Brogno was found dying from a stab wound in the back at Baxter and Leonard streets in July, 1898. There had been a saloon row and Angelo Carboni was arrested, convicted of the murder and sentenced to death.

"So I started out to get Ceramello," said Petrosino, in narrating the story. "I got trace of him in Jersey City, but he got away ahead of me. I followed him to Philadelphia and then to Millertown, in Delaware, but always arrived just too late to find him.

"One day, about a month after I had first started after Ceramello, I was standing on the corner of Elizabeth and Mott streets, when I saw his cousin. He knew me, but he didn't see me. I trailed the cousin into the Bronx and saw him go into a house. I watched that house until 1 o'clock in the morning, when I decided the man had gone to bed and I went to a place nearby and slept until 5. Then I got back on watch, followed my man down and saw him buy a ticket for Baltimore.

"I was afraid I might be recognized. At that time I wore no mustache and I pulled a false beard out of my pocket and put it on. You couldn't see my face at all after that and my best friend would not have known me. In Baltimore my man went to Corcoran alley—let me see, that was about 1 o'clock in the evening. Oh, I should have said that Ceramello, I had heard, was passing under the name of Floni. Well, his cousin goes into the house and I stayed outside so as not to scare them. I was out at 5 o'clock the next morning trying to get the local chief of police to give me a man to go with me and arrest Ceramello, but it was too early and the chief said I must wait till the detective came in.

"Then I turned to the man by the stove and I said, 'Come in' someone said. There were three men and a woman on my left and a man leaning over a stove on my right. He answered the description I had of Ceramello.

"Anybody till here?" I asked. "I'm from the health board and I hear you've got smallpox."

Little Ones Who Sang That the Church Fund Might Be Enhanced



GROUP OF YOUNG FOLKS WHO TOOK PART IN CANTATA AT DIETZ MEMORIAL CHURCH.

"What's your name? Floni. Come here." "There was an axe standing against the wall and as I spoke I kicked it away with my foot. Then I grabbed the man by the back of the neck and took him down stairs. On the way to the police station he confessed to having killed Brogno. I brought him back to New York and he was tried, convicted and sent to prison for life, while Carboni was pardoned.

"Didn't Ceramello resist when you seized him?" somebody asked. "I suppose, though, you had your pistol in your hand." "Fistful? Why should I? Petrosino retorted. "He was fifty-two years old and only about five feet two inches tall. No, I didn't take my gun out of my pocket. But, let me tell you one thing, I thought those people knew me and so I wore a false beard. Then I found that none of them knew what I looked like. That was enough for me in the whiskers line. I wear only my own now."

Discussing the hazardous character of his work, Lieutenant Petrosino once said: "There are many who would like to kill me and who would do so, if they had the chance. But the fact that I am alive means that I don't give them that chance. I never go into a place without figuring how I am going to get out of it. And I have friends down here. I am not going to get in a corner if I can help it, and I don't expect to. Of course there is always the chance, though; that is a part of this business and you have to take it."

He knew the underworld. Petrosino knew the under world of New York like an open book. When it suited his purposes to adopt a disguise he was an adept at the art. A few dollars changed made him a laborer, a prosperous patron or a flashy young sporting man. Thus he penetrated the inmost secrets of the back rooms of Mulberry, Mott and Elizabeth streets, those of the Twelfth street Little Italy and the newer Italian section on the east side of Harlem. He sat and sipped red wine while cunning murders were planned within earshot. He knew the earmarks of every section of his native country and could often tell by inspecting the scene of a crime whether its perpetrator was a Sicilian, Neapolitan or came from

the banks of the Tiber. He knew all their dialects. He was untiring in the pursuit, and never forgot a crime that barked him. Thus it came about that the chief feature of plot making was to devise a way of keeping the trail from the keen eyes of "Joe" Petrosino.

UP-STATE IN ON THE FUND

Schuyler Woman Gives Hundred Dollars Toward Child Saving Institute.

Table listing donors and amounts for the Child Saving Institute fund. Total: \$2,540.50

Omahans to Build Hospital if State Will Furnish Site

Dr. Harold C. Gifford and another Omaha man will give \$100,000 toward the erection of a new orthopedic hospital with the understanding that the state of Nebraska buys the site and installs a manual training department that the crippled children sent to the institution may learn trades and to do work which will make them self-supporting.

The plan of the Omahans is much broader than at first supposed. Nebraska has a small orthopedic hospital in connection with the Home for the Friendless at Lincoln. Dr. J. P. Lord of Omaha is superintendent. He has been doing a good work in limited quarters and some training is given the children admitted to the institution, but it is impossible under existing conditions to give them anything like the training which Dr. Gifford proposes to make possible if the legislature accepts the proposition.

The matter came to light when the University of Nebraska asked for sufficient funds to buy a campus for the medical department, which is located in Omaha at Twelfth and Pacific streets. The sum asked was \$20,000. Then Senator Ransom made the proposition that if the state would buy this campus, he knew a philanthropist in Omaha who would give \$50,000 to build the orthopedic hospital. It has since been learned that Dr. Gifford and his associate are willing to make it \$100,000.

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PROGRAM: ACT I.—Lecture—Science of Beauty Culture Practical Physical Culture. MUSIC ACT II.—Picturesque Physical Culture (the Yale System)—Calisthenics—For Strengthening, Developing, Reducing and Perfecting the Body. MUSIC ACT III.—Poetry of Motion—Correct Yale Walk, Grace of Gesture, Poise, Balance, Deportment. MUSIC ACT IV.—The Art of Beauty Culture—The Complexion, Care of the Skin, the Hair, the Brows, the Lashes, the Neck, the Arms, the Chest, the Limbs, the Feet, Remodelling of Features and Contour. MUSIC

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