

BABY DEAD, FATHER AND MOTHER DYING.

William H. Loftus's Family Asphyxiated by Escaping Gas.

Suspected of Robbing the Gorham Manufacturing Company, He Had Been Discharged.

POLICE HAVE A SUICIDE THEORY.

But Though the Stolen Goods Were Found in the House, Most of the Facts Go to Sustain a Theory of Accident.

William H. Loftus and wife, living at No. 1000 Lebanon street, in the annexed district, were found unconscious in bed yesterday morning. Between them was the dead body of their four week's old baby girl. The police have placed the parents, who are still unconscious, in the Fordham Hospital, under guard.

George Loesch, the landlord of the house, noticed the odor of gas early yesterday morning, and traced it to the second floor, which was occupied by the Loftus family. He knocked at the door and, receiving no response, called John Falk, of No. 774 East One Hundred and Seventy-fourth street, who was passing. They broke in the door. Gas was escaping from one of the three jets of the chandelier. Word was immediately sent to the Tremont Station house, and Acting Captain Sheldon visited the house. He found letters addressed to Loftus, care of the Gorham Manufacturing Company, and at once notified the latter. The company sent Detective Larkin, who is in their employ, to the house.

Captain Sheldon pointed out several bolts of silk plush, which the detective at once identified as property which had been stolen from the company during the last three months. He said that Loftus had been employed as a watchman, and during the time he was there silk plush used for lining cases mysteriously disappeared. He was suspected, but there was no direct evidence against him, so he was put under surveillance. The goods continued to disappear, and the company discharged Loftus on Monday.

The same day he moved from No. 331 East Twenty-fifth street to the house in which he was found unconscious yesterday. The goods were taken to the station house, and an officer placed on guard at the hospital to arrest the man and wife if they recover, which the physicians consider extremely doubtful.

low and had been blown out by the draught from the open window.

Acting Captain Sheldon argues that Loftus, being out of employment and under suspicion of having stolen from his last employer, was despondent, and persuaded his young wife to die with him. A young woman who has known Mrs. Loftus for eight years says that Loftus's wife loved him so much she would do anything he desired.

Loftus is about twenty-five years of age, and his wife three years younger. Mrs. Loftus was formerly Elizabeth Eufinger, and up to two years ago, when she married Loftus, lived with her widowed mother at No. 322 East Twenty-sixth street.

Up to a late hour last evening no Coroner had called at the house, and the body of the infant rested on a mat near the foot of the bed, covered by an apron.

SIGHT FOR A BLIND MAN.

Delicate Operation Performed with Success by Surgeons at the Metropolitan Hospital.

James Neary, whose right eye has been totally blind for six months, had an operation performed on Wednesday at the Metropolitan Hospital, which, it is expected, will result in fully restoring his sight. His left eye with the loss of vision in the other. Dr. G. C. Boyce, of the New York Ophthalmic Hospital, performed the operation, assisted by Dr. C. H. Wendt, of the Metropolitan Hospital staff.

When the patient was stretched on the operating table the region about the blind eye was thoroughly cleansed with green soap, and the eye itself was washed with bichloride of mercury. Cocaine was freely applied to deaden the pain caused by the removal of the cataract. The surgeon first made a dextro incision in the upper portion of the cornea, near the conjunctiva. A needle was then inserted into the eye ball, until the opaque lens, the cataract, was forced through the opening.

The iris was then straightened out into its normal position, the eye was gently closed and bandaged, and the operation was over. The patient was carried to his ward and placed on his cot. For forty-eight hours he will be kept flat on his back, without turning in the slightest degree to either side, and then, the doctors say, his eye will be as well as it ever was.

GIRLS SUE A CLERGYMAN.

Court Directs Rev. Isidore Cohen to Pay Them Their Earnings.

Rev. Dr. Isidore Cohen, who lives at No. 175 East One Hundred and Eighth street, was defendant in seven actions, tried before Justice Rosoch, in the Fourth District Civil Court, yesterday. The complainants were Fanny Greenberg, Bessie Goldberg, Caroline Kingsberg, Lottie Zucht, Millie Cohen, Rachel Buckel and Gussie Bornstein. The plaintiffs sued to recover the sums of \$10.05, \$15, \$7.48, \$16.50, \$9, \$15 and \$11 respectively, for work, labor and services.

NO RAILWAY STRIKE IN PHILADELPHIA.

Attempt to Tie Up the Surface Lines Results in a Fiasco.

Traction Company Employees Refuse to Be Dictated to by the Leaders.

STREET CARS RUNNING AS USUAL.

Failure Likely to Result in the Dissolution of the Big Quaker City Union.

Philadelphia, April 30.—Organized labor received a hard blow here to-day when the Central Union of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees ordered nearly 5,000 men to strike and less than 10 per cent obeyed the command. Philadelphia went to bed Wednesday in fear and trembling; this evening the city is all smiles, for the trouble anticipated did not materialize, and, instead, what was regarded as one of the strongest local labor unions in the country is on the verge of dissolution. It all came about in this way:

The local branch of the Amalgamated Association last December had a grievance against the Union Traction Company, an organization capitalized for \$150,000,000, and controlling every surface railroad but one in Philadelphia. At that time fully nine-tenths of the people of the city sympathized heartily with the company's employees when they struck, and they received the moral support of citizens. As a result, labor won a significant victory over capital.

Encouraged by this success, and entreating other grievances, the local union a week ago made certain other demands upon the company which were not entirely supported by either the public or by many members of the union, and which, on Wednesday, were finally and peremptorily refused by the Traction Company. Then, in a secret session, the Executive Committee of the union decided to order a general strike to begin at 4 o'clock Thursday morning, and loudly proclaimed that over forty-five hundred men would quit work at that hour, leaving Philadelphia practically without transportation facilities.

CARS RUNNING AS USUAL.

Therefore, Philadelphia arose this morning confidently expecting to walk in town to its business. No such thing happened. Philadelphia found its electric and other surface cars running on schedule time, and the motormen and conductors looking as sleepy and indifferent as is their wont. Philadelphia could not understand it, but by degrees they learned that the union members by an overwhelming and unprecedented majority had refused to follow

their leaders. Less than three hundred men out of a total membership of 4,680 had obeyed the executive command.

At the strikers' headquarters only a deep sense of gloom was discernible. It was the most disastrous defeat organized labor, dictated by labor leaders, had ever known, and the chairman of the Executive Committee, Edwin Byrne, was not slow to realize the fact.

"Go back to your work by noon if you wish to hold your jobs," he said, and his advice was very generally regarded.

The regular week day schedule for the running of cars on ordinary occasions calls for 1,307 to be in operation at 9 o'clock in the morning. At that hour this morning there were 1,243 running. On the first day of the strike in December last 400 men took out the company's cars, while this morning over 4,000 were at work.

As the sun grew warmer the leaders plucked up courage and, as a dying man clutches at a straw, determined to call a mass meeting to be held in Harmony Hall this evening to awaken enthusiasm, but when the owner of the hall demanded a rental guarantee of \$25 and that sum could not be raised the plan was necessarily abandoned.

The committee determined to hold a session and issue a manifesto. Five o'clock was the time specified, but when that hour arrived only three members were present, so no meeting was held and no manifesto issued.

LEADERS IN A WRANGLE.

Then the leaders began to abuse one another. It was not an elevating spectacle, but it was interesting as showing that labor union men are not mere creatures of the wills of others. While the men held aloof the committeemen buried anathemas at the president of the National Association, W. D. Mahon, of Detroit, who managed the successful strike of last December. All day long telegrams were being sent him to Toledo, Ohio, but apparently he turned a deaf ear to all appeals to journey at once to Philadelphia, for no reply did he vouchsafe.

Then it was charged that Mahon had sold out to the Union Traction Company. Chairman Byrne declared openly that for his part he had done forever with street railway unions, and William Thompson, another leader, said the same thing.

Mr. Byrne made another declaration, which was to the effect that he had never favored a strike at this time, anyhow, but that he was compelled to order one because the committee of which he is a member had unanimously voted to order one.

Other members of the committee went so far as to state that they knew positively that three of the Executive Committee had been in the employ of the Traction Company as spies for weeks, and had faithfully reported to the president of the company all the doings and plans of the committee.

Many members of the union tore the association buttons from the lapels of their coats, and trampled them under foot; committeemen declared that the Philadelphia branch would speedily go out of existence, and in short what was solemnly promised would be the greatest street railroad strike the United States had ever known, turned out to be a mere fiasco. There was no excitement and no interest manifested in any quarter of the city after 9 a. m.

RAINES LAW ATTACKED.

Arguments Heard in the Court of Appeals on the Constitutionality of the Excise Measure.

Albany, April 30.—In the Court of Appeals this morning the Einsefeld case, involving the constitutionality of the Raines Liquor Tax law, was argued. The appeal was from the order and judgment entered on the decision of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, First Department, affirming a decision of Justice Pryor at Special Term, directing a judgment dismissing a writ of certiorari directed to the Commissioners of Excise of New York.

Fred E. Einsefeld applied to the Commissioners of Excise of New York City on March 23 last for a license to carry on the business of retailing wines and liquors on the premises No. 69 Beekman street, in the city of New York, for one year from March 23, 1898. The Commissioners refused, on the ground of want of power to issue a license under the Raines law.

The case was heard to-day as a result of a motion made on Monday last before the Court of Appeals by Louis Marshall, of New York, requesting a hearing before the court should adjourn for the Spring recess, which it will do at the close of the week. Mr. Marshall argued the case for appellants, and Attorney General Hancock for respondents, the New York City Excise Commissioners. The arguments were on the same grounds as in the lower courts, but were considerably elaborated.

The Court of Appeals chamber was comfortably crowded during the progress of the arguments. In the audience were many prominent lawyers, a number of judges and several brewers. At the conclusion of the arguments, Joseph H. Choate, of New York, made an impromptu argument for the appellant in answer to the address of the Attorney-General.

WEBER A NON-RESIDENT?

On This Ground the Court Granted an Attachment Against the Property of the Piano Man.

Because Albert Weber, the piano man, would pay a little bill for coal, Oscar Compton has attached his property for the amount due, and Weber failed in the City Court yesterday to have the attachment set aside on the ground that he was a resident. Compton obtained the attachment because

Changes

Sudden changes of climate to unfortified bodies mean coughs, colds, pneumonia and all their direful train of results.

Scott's Emulsion.

of Cod-liver Oil will fortify the system and enable the weakened constitution to throw off disease.

You Have Worn Other Hats:

Now try McCann's, 210 Bowery, most style, least money. Near Spring st.

he showed that Weber did not reside permanently in this city.

Weber swore that he lived in a flat at No. 344 East Sixty-fifth street, and that Daniel McGeehan was his landlord. Compton maintained that the flat wherein Weber said he lived was rented for \$12 monthly to McGeehan, who, he said, was Weber's body servant. Weber, he declared, had a costly apartment at Ninety-sixth street and

Columbus avenue, and resided most of the time in Leadville, Col.

"You cannot convince this Court that Albert Weber ever lived in a tenement house," interrupted Justice Fitzsimons, addressing Weber's attorney. "If Weber imagines he can impose on the Court by any such strategy, he is mistaken, and it would be just as well for him to keep out of the jurisdiction of the Court. I deny his motion."

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SALE OF SHAWLS. In the Basement.

Colored Cashmere Shawls, 75 cents and \$1.00 each; were \$2.00 and \$3.00. Chudda Shawls, \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50 each; were \$3.00, \$4.00 and \$6.00. Scotch Plaid Shawls, \$2.50; were \$5.00. Silk and Wool Persian Shawls, \$6.50 to \$10.00; were \$12.00 to \$20.00. Broche Long Shawls, \$7.50 to \$15.00; were \$25.00 to \$30.00.

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