

WHO KILLED DR. CRONIN?

SOME STARTLING DEVELOPMENTS.

Lawyers For the Defense Said to be Prepared to Introduce Sensational Testimony at the Proper Time—Four Jurors Finally Selected.

CHICAGO, Sept. 18.—The *Evening Mail* to-night prints a sensational article in regard to the Cronin case. It says the lawyers for the defense claim to be in possession of evidence showing that the murderers of Dr. Cronin were paid representatives of the English government, which had been duped by Cronin, who was supported by the British authorities to one of their American spies.

The form this evidence has taken and in which it will be presented at the trial on behalf of the defense is a number of letters written by Miss Le Caron, daughter of the notorious witness in the London *Times-Parnell* case, to her affianced husband, who is a well-known and prominent young Irish-American of Chicago. These letters have been written by Miss Le Caron from London at brief intervals ever since she joined her father in that city last winter after he had appeared as a witness before the Parnell commission.

The letters from Miss Le Caron, after the disappearance of Dr. Cronin, alluded frequently to him and intimated that the writer knew that the doctor was a victim of a vile conspiracy, of which she knew the particulars. But she never gave any detailed account of the information, which she meant to tell, indeed, she had obtained from her father, till after the arrest of Captain O'Sullivan and Begley. Then she became more definite. Le Caron, after his arrival in London, had warned Cronin and advised him to save himself by complying with what was expected of him. Le Caron was cautious. In his letters he did not indicate from whom this danger to Cronin was to come. Miss Le Caron, in her confidential communications to her lover, was not so discreet. In one of them she writes: "There is one man who got away and whom they should have arrested. Why did they not arrest Burlington? They might have learned a great deal."

The story outlined in the series of letters of which there are very many, is to the effect that Le Caron and Burlington were both British spies; that Dr. Cronin in his intimacy with them soon learned their real character, and in order to obtain from them fuller insight into their plans and duplicity, and designs of the English government, he permitted them to think that he was venal and could be hired by their employers. They made the proposition that he enter the American branch of the secret service of Scotland Yard. He apparently accepted. He obtained all their information without giving any in return. They became suspicious, and sought to obtain from him the secret of the plan which had given him in his supposed character of spy. He refused to give them up.

Meanwhile Le Caron was summoned to England to testify against Parnell. It was suggested to Cronin that he would be called upon later for the same purpose. Burlington, the other representative of the British service in Chicago, was told to look out for Cronin and obtain, at any price, the documents which would have revealed the close connection between certain high American officials and the London detective system. Cronin refused to yield, and threatened the exposure of the English services in America. The Scotland Yard people grew desperate. It was resolved to rob him of his papers, and it was in that attempt that the doctor was killed, the conspirators believing that he always carried the much-wanted papers on his person. Burlington, who it is alleged in these letters, should be watched, sold out his drug-store at North Clark and Lake, for a very low price and disappeared.

The *Evening Journal* has the same story in substance, and adds: "In opposition to the above it is claimed that at the proper stage of the Cronin trial the prosecution will produce as witness T. J. Kirby, Thomas Le Caron and Patrick Cooney, that is, it is said, to be the result of the efforts of Messrs. Hynes and Mills, council for the state, with the aid of the Pinkerton detective, Kirby, as agent of the British government, was in Chicago for months before the murder of Dr. Cronin, prying into the secrets of the Clan-na-Gael. He was very successful, and returned to London full of information, not only about the workings of the plot against Dr. Cronin and the manner in which it was carried out. It was the intention of the British authorities to put Kirby on the stand in the Parnell case, but it was concluded that the evidence of Le Caron would be needed to sustain the trial, and that Kirby would be strong enough, and that no good would come of disclosing Kirby's identity, and the nature of his errand to America, until absolutely necessary. By keeping Kirby off the stand the British authorities would be able to use him to good advantage in other cases."

After the trial Kirby went to Canada and was lost sight of until located a few days ago by the detectives. He was told what was wanted of him and for a long time refused to have anything to do with the case. Finally the matter was put to him in such a light that he consented to come to Chicago and appear as a witness for the prosecution, which required. Le Caron has revealed to the American detectives the names of certain persons whom suspicion has not heretofore rested, and like Kirby, will be on hand to testify when wanted. It may be well to state that in order to avoid any mistake about Kirby and Le Caron showing up when wanted, they have constant companions in the shape of some of Pinkerton's most arguable employees.

Industrial researches to-day by a *Times* reporter produced the young gentleman correspondent of Miss Le Caron. His name is George E. May. He is a clerk in a sporting goods establishment and was an acquaintance of the son of the Le Carons while they lived on Lasalle-ave. After a good deal of reluctance Mr. May finally admitted that he had been the recipient of letters from Gertrude Le Caron.

"I have received in all four or five letters from Miss Le Caron," said he this evening. Three while they lived in New York, the rest since they have been on the continent. I hate to have my name brought into this thing, but I pledge you my word that there is not even a reference made to Dr. Cronin in all the letters."

May claims that the family left Chicago some time in March and lived in New York City until about June 1. This, it is pointed out, would not harmonize with the supposed dates of the letter. Mr. May was certain Miss Le Caron had no other gentleman friend in Chicago with whom she corresponded, though he was aware she was writing to a certain Miss Richmond.

White Caps in Norwalk.

NORWALK, Conn., Sept. 20.—White Caps were abroad in this city this morning. Capt. Pierce, a well-known resident on Knight-st., received a notice to step out of politics or leave town. Big posters were nailed to his front door which were embellished with skull and cross-bones, a coffin, grave-yards, etc. There is no clew to the identity of the guilty parties.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

The State of Business Throughout the Country Encouraging.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: Throughout the country the state of business is encouraging, and the only disheartening features are in connection with the speculative operations. Stocks have not quite maintained the recent advance, the chief cause being the western railroad war. Speculation in breadstuff and cotton has been at a slightly lower range of prices, but with moderate transactions, and slackness of consumptive demand causes a weaker tone in the coffee and sugar markets, without material change in prices. Oil speculation is a shade stronger, and provisions steady. At Boston a conservative feeling still rules the money market and business has not wholly recovered from the recent set-backs, but is improving in wool and is steady in leather and lumber. At Philadelphia the jobbing dry goods trade continues good; the grocery trade improves, exceeding last year's; the paper trade decidedly revives; the liquor trade is active and drugs and chemicals moderately active, but in wool there is very little movement. At Chicago there is decline of receipts of wool and of grain, higher prices for wheat, leading farmers to hold back, but large activity in flour.

For the year thus far, trade exceeds last year's. Milwaukee reports constantly improving business. Kansas City reports business and collections a fair average for the season, and Cleveland and Toledo are in a similar condition. At Omaha business is improving and collections and, at Pittsburgh improvement is seen in bessemer iron and steel, in coke and coal, with resumption of glass works at 50 per cent higher wages. Southern products are all encouraging as to crops and present trade.

There is nowhere any stringency on money, the supply being ample for legitimate needs. Foreign exchange has dropped half a cent, and possibilities of gold exports appear more ready to meet the demand. The foreign trade has exceeded last year's by 32 per cent, the increase in imports meanwhile being but 3 per cent. The treasury also has been so managed that its actual holdings of cash are \$690,000 less than last Saturday. For the New York market, the value of all the imports for the interior without disturbance, but it is not forgotten that the demands are not yet over, the reserves are low, and there is no present prospect of supplies from abroad.

The reports of the market are gradually improving in condition. While the improvement is slow in wool manufacture, there is clearly a more active demand at Boston, and sales of wool there this week are 3,258,000 pounds, but the larger part of the wool in the washed state, has been secured by concessions in prices. The goods market is still uncertain. Jobbers hold considerable stocks

made from cheaper wool, which have to be cleared off before adjustment of the market to the present price, making a small profit.

A man named Michael Bradley who had gone almost crazy when told that all his family had perished in the landslide, discovered while working over the wreck of his house, his five-year-old daughter still alive. His wife was desirably ill.

Up to this time the number of bodies found

was twenty-five, and the number of wounded eighteen.

The city is thronged with strangers coming from all parts of Quebec intent on witnessing the effects of the terrible avalanche.

Among those who are still alleged to be missing beneath the ruins are Charles Allen and his wife, Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Henry, Richard Maybury, and wife, Mrs. R. L. Rawson, R. L. Rawson and family, Michael B. Leahy, and a number of others.

The loss sustained by the surviving victims of the disaster is very great. Some of the workingmen, who are deprived of homes, lose their summer earnings. Many are left virtually penniless at the commencement of a Canadian winter. The injured have been nearly all removed to the hotel Dieu, where they will receive all possible care and attention. The work of rescuing the victims is going on.

The bodies of the deceased members of the family were buried alive twelve feet below the surface of the debris. On being asked if they were safe, Mrs. Black answered: "My husband is killed at the door. The rest are safe, but I am afraid the house will not stand." Shortly after, Miss May Cudwell, a niece of Mr. Black, was extricated from Mr. Black's house. Her limbs were so stiff from inaction, that the least touch of her fingers caused extreme pain.

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