

INNOCENCE

Of Romulus Cotell.

Attorneys Expect to Establish the Same.

An Important Affidavit In the Case.

Overheard Conversation of Strong and Sister.

Will Go Before State Board of Pardons Soon.

"We are working in the interests of Romulus Cotell, because we believe he is innocent."

Attorney Harvey Musser made the above statement to a reporter for the DEMOCRAT Tuesday. Continuing he said, "There is not the shadow of a doubt in my mind, that he is confined in the penitentiary for the crime of another. Mr. Voris and myself will go before the Board of Pardons at one of its coming meetings, and ask for the pardon of Cotell. We expect to show that the evidence, on which he was convicted was insufficient. We have new evidence tending to prove this."

The attorneys for Cotell have no hope of any remuneration for their services. They are active in his behalf because it is their belief that he is not guilty of the triple murder on the Stone farm. During the conversation with a DEMOCRAT reporter Mr. Musser said that he had secured an affidavit which would be presented with the application for a pardon. The affidavit is now in the possession of Detective Ed Dunn. The party who makes the sworn statement, says that he overheard a conversation between Anson B. Strong and his sister, at the house of the last named in Ravenna, in which Strong referred to Detective Dunn and his visit to Ravenna, a few days after the murder was committed. It will be remembered that a suit of clothes, owned by Strong, was found at the house of his sister. The garments were covered with mud and horse hairs. The night of the Stone murder a horse was stolen from the barn of a neighboring farmer. Detective Dunn traced the horse to Kent. He found evidence of the fact that Strong was in the village earlier in the evening. Strong did not deny that he was in Kent at the time.

In the affidavit it is alleged that Strong, in conversation with his sister, said that Detective Dunn tracked the stolen horse on the wrong streets, that he was not on those which the detective claimed. There are other important details of the affidavit which the attorneys do not wish made public at the present time. They are hopeful of establishing Cotell's innocence and will work vigorously to that end. Mr. Musser expects to go to Ravenna in a few days.

COUNTY JAIL.

Reference Made to Its Condition in State Bulletin.

In the last issue of the Ohio Bulletin of Charities and Correction, published by the Ohio Board of State Charities, the following reference is made to the Summit county jail, "Very bad. Special committee appointed from grand jury urging the County Commissioners to make the necessary improvements."

Derrick Blown Down.

The 100-foot derrick of Well No. 2, just north of the Akron Salt Co.'s plant, was blown down by the high wind last night. The well had never been used on account of tools having been lost in it and never recovered.

We are open evenings. A. B. Smith, No. 223 South Main st.

"Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home."

But remember that the pleasures of home are enhanced most wonderfully by the addition occasionally of new articles of Furniture, Rugs, Draperies, a pretty Lamp or some of the many articles to be found in a well appointed house furnishing establishment. Also remember that

CHRISTMAS

Is just the best time to make such additions. There's nothing finer for gifts.



BURDETTE L. DODGE,

Seller of everything to furnish a house,
South Howard street.

CUT OFF

John Carr's Nose With a Sharp Knife.

Louis Ley Objected to Being Accused of Theft—Police Court.

When Officers John T. Mahony and Joseph Kempel arrived at the home of John B. Carr, on S. Main st., Tuesday evening at 6 o'clock, a big fight between Louis Ley and Carr was in progress. Carr accused Ley of taking his watch, and the latter struck him with a knife. Carr's nose was almost cut off, and has a gash on his neck near the throat, and his upper lip is also cut. The case will be heard Thursday morning.

Edward Healy has filed an affidavit against Ley, accusing him of stealing a muffler and pair of gloves.

Walter Delremple, accused of grand larceny, waived a preliminary examination and was bound over to Common Pleas court. Bond \$500.

George Thomas and George Washington Hancock, accused of stealing two pairs of boots from the store of J. W. Hollander, and a pair of scissors and some combs from Vorwerk & Neese's barber shop, were each fined \$10 and costs and sentenced 30 days to the works.

Case against Anthony Waldvogel, accused of selling liquor on Sunday, continued to Dec. 16.

Ernest Bennett, for escaping from the street gang, was fined \$5 and costs and sentenced 10 days to the works.

Vagrancy—Jacob Seaman—\$5 and costs and five days to the works.

Intoxication—H. F. Kenney, John Detrick, Tim Werling and James Bentley—each \$2 and costs.

BRISK TRADE.

Canal Men Are Kept Busy—New Coal Pits.

Two large coal pits have been opened near Trenton, O., 65 miles south of Akron, and local canal boatmen say that this means a good coal traffic trade for them this winter. Owing to the scarcity of freight cars the coal trade with the canal boatmen has been pretty brisk of late. Captain Martin, one of the oldest canal boatmen in this city said Tuesday evening that at least 75 extra boats could do well on the canal at present.

THE WEATHER:

Fair; colder tonight; continued cold Thursday.

ANNEXATION

Project Approved.

Chamber of Commerce Urges Prompt Action.

Favors Building of an Auditorium.

Special Committee Will Ask For Subscriptions.

Resolutions on Death of J. W. Little Were Adopted.

At the initial meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, under the administration of President Steiner, the members unanimously expressed themselves in favor of annexation.

Upon motion of D. A. Doyle the president appointed a committee of six to meet with the County Commissioners Wednesday and urge immediate action. The committee is as follows: George C. Berry, chairman; Hon. Geo. W. Crouse, R. H. Wright, J. T. Diehm, Henry Perkins and H. A. Kasson.

In introducing the matter, Mr. Doyle said he believed there was an inclination upon the part of the Commissioners to grant the petition for annexation, but that it behooved the Chamber of Commerce to take up the matter at once. Mr. Doyle stated that the Commissioners' duties were of a semi-judicial character and while lobbying would not be tolerated, an active interest should be shown.

It was suggested that the fact that the decennial appraisers have been elected would raise an objection against annexation. Mr. Doyle said that obstacles were ever present and the whole matter would solve itself. "The law makes provisions and there is no use of straining at a gnat," said Mr. Doyle. "Somebody is throwing these objections in the way. The thing to do is to go ahead and annex the territory."

Hall Project Endorsed.

Mr. D. P. Wheeler offered the following resolutions:

"Whereas, the City of Akron for a long time has been, and now is, without a proper and suitable building in which conventions, concerts, public meetings and gatherings of a like nature might be held, and whereas, the members of the German societies of this city and other citizens are now endeavoring to secure the erection of an auditorium, and

"Whereas, the nature of the enterprise merits the co-operation and enthusiastic support of all citizens of Akron;

"Now therefore, be it resolved that the Akron Chamber of Commerce does hereby express its hearty approval of the movement thus commenced, and declare its intention to render every assistance possible;

"And be it further resolved that the president be instructed to appoint a committee of ten members who shall assist in securing subscriptions to the capital stock of the corporations about to be organized,"

The Committee.

The resolutions were adopted and the committee follows:—Capt. H. O. Federle, chairman; D. P. Wheeler, B. L. Dodge, R. M. Pillmore, James T. Diehm, R. T. Dobson, Emil Gammeter, W. A. Upham, William Byrider and W. E. Young.

Mr. R. H. Wright moved that it be the sense of the Chamber to make the shares for stock in the proposed building \$10 instead of \$100 and correspondingly increase the number of shares. Carried.

Municipal Code.

Mr. Berry moved that the legislative committee make arrangements to bring a speaker to Akron to address the citizens upon the proposed

P. H. Schneider Co.

Largest Exclusive Dry Goods Store in Akron.

Holiday Goods Galore

The very choice and new novelties and fancy goods in large assortment at LOW PRICES.

Toilet Sets, Manicure Sets, Writing Sets, Shaving Sets, Glove and Handkerchief Boxes, Collar and Cuff Boxes, Sterling Silver Novelties of all kinds, Bric-a-Brac Jewelry, Purses, Dolls, etc.

Dry Goods

Suitable for HOLIDAY GIFTS, in large assortments, of the most desirable, selected with great care, especially for Christmas trade.

Handkerchiefs, Mufflers, Furs, Cloaks, Suits, Silks, Dress Goods, Silk Waists, Petticoats, Umbrellas, Kid Gloves, Mittens, Blankets, Quilts, Towels, Napkins, Table Linens, Etc., Etc.

Open Evenings Beginning Tonight.

P. H. Schneider Co.
155 and 157
South Howard street.

Municipal Code which is now agitating all who are interested in municipal reform. The motion prevailed.

The question of increasing the membership was discussed. New members will be sought and both old and new members will subscribe anew to membership.

Mr. Joseph Benner was elected treasurer in the place of F. H. Adams, who refused to serve.

Secretary Snyder reported that several matters were being considered by the manufacturing committee.

Resolutions Adopted.

Messrs. Emil Gammeter and T. C. Reynolds, appointed by the Chamber of Commerce to draft resolutions upon the death of the late J. W. Little reported as follows:

"The Akron Chamber of Commerce feeling that in the death of Joseph W. Little this city has lost one of its most useful citizens in life and example, and this body one of its most valuable members, desires to add its heartfelt tribute to those of all who have known him.

"He was ever faithful and zealous in the work of the Chamber and untiring in all things that would help this community morally or materially. The aim of his life is well stated in his own words at our last meeting in October, 'Everything that is for the good of the city affects every person in the city, and everything that is bad in the city also affects every person in the city.'

"If this thought could be fixed in the mind of every man in Akron it would be an imperishable stimulus to the proper public spirit and truest possible memorial to our brother whose call home has been so sad a loss to every circle in which he moved."

Card of Thanks.

We desire to express our thanks to all of our kind friends for sympathy and assistance during the sickness and burial of our beloved husband and father; also to the pastors and singers and Aultman & Miller Co.'s and Enterprise Mfg. Co.'s employees, and church societies for their beautiful floral offerings.

Mrs. JOSEPH YOUNG and family.

SALARY

Of the Prosecutor

Increased by the County Commissioners.

Claimed That His Duties Are Greater

Than When He First Took His Office.

Hereafter He Will Receive \$870 Per Year, Besides Fees.

At the session of the County Commissioners Monday the salary of Prosecuting Attorney R. M. Wannamaker was increased \$370 per year.

The increase was authorized by a resolution, which received the unanimous vote of the Board. It was not in the nature of a surprise to the Prosecutor, as he had asked that it be granted.

Heretofore he has received \$500 per year. With the extra allowance his salary amounts to \$870. In addition to this he is allowed fees for the preparation and trial of criminal cases, making his total salary about \$2,000 per year.

Mr. Wannamaker claims that the duties have multiplied rapidly since he took the office, and that he has been called upon to counsel with the Commissioners in many important matters. The resolution was not made public. It is entered, however, in the minutes of the Board. The increase dates from Dec. 1, 1899.

LAST LINKS.

ANNUAL MEETING—The annual meeting of the B. & O. will be held Friday.

WILL PREACH—Rev. A. B. Church, pastor of the First Universalist church, will preach to the Hebrew Reformed congregation Friday evening at 7:30. Rabbi I. E. Philo, on account of Mrs. Philo's illness, is unable to occupy the pulpit as usual.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES—Two cases of whooping cough in family of James Christy, Jr., 547 E. Buechel ave.; scarlet fever, George M. Derickson, 483 1/2 East Center st.; membranous croup, Chas. A. Ries, 1017 Bowers st., and R. Chandler, 118 Halstead st.

ROUTINE BUSINESS—At the regular meeting of the Akron Underwriters' association Tuesday afternoon nothing but routine business was transacted.

WILL BUILD—Charles Chapman will build an elegant new home on East Market st.

FROM SOUTHERN OHIO—A colony of six families have moved to Akron from Athens county. They are located in the Sixth ward.

COMEDY COMPANY—MacEvoy's famous original Hibernian and Comedy company will on Thursday and Friday evenings, Dec. 14 and 15, appear at St. Mary's hall. Thomas A. Russell, of New York, the great Irish comedian, will also be present. The event will be full of interest and humor.

CHRISTMAS TREES—Christmas eve, at Market House hall, the Second Benevolent society, will conduct a Christmas tree and dance; at the same hall Christmas night the Badenser Verein will conduct a similar event; and the Saengerbund society will also conduct a Christmas tree and dance at the same hall New Year's eve.

RECITAL—The recital given at Tip Top hall Tuesday night, under the auspices of the K. O. T. M. by A. A. Farland of New York, bandolier, assisted by the Schubert Mandolin club, local, was well attended and successful. All the performers were possessed of fine ability, and Mr. Farland's performance on the banjo was superb, and the music produced delightful and harmonious.

AGED WOMAN KILLED.—Mrs. Emanuel Moderehl, 60 years of age, was killed by a P. & W. train at Youngstown Tuesday.

AKRON BRICK.—The 600,000 brick being used in erecting F. E. Myers & Bros.' new building at Ashland, were made in Akron.

M. O'NEIL & CO.
Main Floor Annex.

Special Exhibit and Sale

Umbrellas

For Christmas.

Latest Styles for Men, Women and Children.

IVORY HANDLES, mounted and plain. Handles of Horn, mounted and plain. Furze, Boxwood and Pearl Handles, and Covers of all the newest colors, both plain and with borders, at prices within the reach of everybody.

Men's Umbrellas 50c up.

Ladies' Umbrellas 50c up.

Children's Umbrellas 40c up.

—SPLENDID LINE OF—

Leather Dress Suit Cases, Telescopes, Traveling Bags, Etc.

Inspect our elegant selections of Holiday Linens. The GREAT HOLIDAY JEWELRY SALE is going on in the same annex.

M. O'NEIL & CO.

THE EAST OHIO GAS CO. will charge after January 1, 1900, cost price for all natural gas, but will continue until that time at the cost price established in 1898, which is the present price. Every one is aware of the large increased prices of all iron goods within the past year. Applications filed at the office prior to January 1, will receive our prompt attention at the old prices. Streets not already piped, if sufficient applications come in to justify the piping, will be piped early in the spring, and all applications made will be entitled to same rate for material and fitting, as those streets already piped.

The East Ohio Gas Company.

E. STRONG, General Manager.

WALKED

Half a Mile With Crushed Skull.

Remarkable Nerve of an Injured Man—He Cannot Recover.

The condition of Jay Sherbondy, injured while passing through the Dodge woods on Sherbondy hill Tuesday is so serious that the physicians in attendance say he cannot recover. There is a fracture of the skull at the base of the brain.

Although it is not definitely known, it is believed that he was struck by a falling limb, blown from a tree by the high winds. He must have been unconscious for some time. Later he recovered sufficiently to walk to the home of Eli Harter, some distance away. When he reached the house, he was unable to give any account of the accident, his remarks being few and incoherent. He was recognized and immediately taken to his home on Wooster ave., a short distance south of the city limits. In the woods at the foot of one of the trees, a large limb was found. Near it was a pool of blood. This is believed to be the place where Sherbondy was injured.

ASKED

By Members to Hand In Resignation.

Pastor and His People Do Not Agree—No Action.

Rev. Jacob Dahlman, pastor of the German Reformed church insists that he has not resigned.

Rev. Dahlman admitted that his resignation had been asked for, but said he had not yet decided what action he would take.

Rev. Dahlman's term of service dates back 19 years. It is said that his congregation desires a change of pastors.

Members claim that the church has not been making sufficient advancement, while on the other hand Rev. Dahlman maintains that the

church membership has increased materially.

"There is always some dissatisfaction in every church organization" said Rev. Dahlman Wednesday.

A member of the consistory said that the congregation desired a new minister, but beyond that point was very reticent.

SUCCESSOR

To Colonel Dick Will be Elected.

Lieut. Col. Vollrath Will Have no Opposition—Other Officers.

Lieut. Col. Edward Vollrath, of Bucyrus, will be Colonel Dick's successor. The nominating convention, which consists of a delegate for each company and one from the field and staff officers will meet next Monday. Lieut. Col. Vollrath's promotion will leave a vacancy, and Majors A. B. Critchfield of Shreve, and C. C. Weybrecht of Alliance, will undoubtedly be nominated. Whichever one is elected it will create a vacancy in the list of majors, and the orders just issued provide for the election of a third major, one more than at present. Thus candidates for two positions as majors will be chosen.

Capt. F. S. Marquis of Mansfield, is the ranking captain and has been spoken of for the place. Who the other candidates will be is mere conjecture, as the orders were only issued Tuesday.

NOT A TRUST.

Decision of Supreme Court in Insurance Cases—Pending.

The Supreme court gave its decision Tuesday in the insurance trust cases. Attorney General Monnet asked that 11 companies be ousted from doing business in the State. The court held with the companies.

The action against the Akron Underwriters association is still pending. This will test the question of whether such associations are illegal under Ohio laws.

Serious Injury.

Mr. Gottlieb Reichert of Cuyahoga st., near the covered bridge fell on the ice and broke his right leg, at the hip. His condition is quite serious. He is the father of Mrs. Wm. P. Plappert, E. Exchange.