

EXTORTION.

REV. F. C. OBERHOLZER A VICTIM OF CONSPIRATORS.

Four Men Accused of a Dastardly Crime Are Held for the Grand Jury.

John M. Fitzgerald, William E. Hall, better known as "Kid" Hall, the proprietor of the notorious saloon at 22 Front street, "Wink" Williams, the printer, and Al McIntyre, the cartman, were arrested last week on the charge of extorting money from Rev. F. C. Oberholzer, pastor of the church of the Holy Redeemer, by threats of exposure and death. In his affidavit Father Oberholzer says that these men got from him \$450 before he went to a lawyer for advice. They demanded \$500 the last time, which was more than the priest could stand. It was when that request came that he told all that had happened to his attorney.

The first alleged attempt was made Friday, June 18th, in the afternoon. Father Oberholzer was walking up Main street when, he says, he was approached by Williams. The man said he had been doing some printing for Father Fitzgerald, and wanted him to see it.

Father Oberholzer says he allowed himself to be enticed into Williams' printing office, 81 East Main street. According to the priest's story, once inside the office the man locked the door. The other two were there. Father Oberholzer says he was seized and threatened with death if he did not sign a check, which they had already prepared, for \$2,500.

One of the men had an ax, it is alleged, and held it suspended over the priest's head, crying that if he did not sign the ax would descend. Father Oberholzer says at first he refused to sign. The men, it is alleged, then came down to \$250, and said that if he would bring them that amount they would let him go. Besides the death, it is alleged, they threatened him with exposure, saying they knew of certain acts of immorality of which he had been guilty and would tell them broadcast. They succeeded in so working upon his nerves, it is claimed, that they got him to promise them to bring them \$250 at once.

They let him go to his rectory on Hudson avenue, he says, and he returned with the money. They told him, he says, they wanted more by Monday. Monday he sent \$150.

About a week later there came a letter asking for \$500. This was too much, and the priest went at once to his attorney. He took the letter with him.

Father Oberholzer told his attorney that the reason he went up to the office so easily was that Williams, one of the party, told him that he was a great friend of Father Fitzgerald's. Father Oberholzer was getting up an entertainment and he thought that perhaps he might want his printing done there, too.

The attorney advised him to give them no more money but await developments. This Father Oberholzer did. Once the blackmailers sent a woman down to the church to get money. Once they went down themselves.

The last time that the men made an attempt to get money was Wednesday night of last week. They all drove down in a hack and stopped at Schwartz's saloon on North Clinton street. They went to the parish house and raised a row. The men drove away discomfited and did not get anything. This was the last straw, and the priest and his lawyers decided to bring the affair to an end.

The police court room was filled to overflowing when the case was called Wednesday morning. Every seat was occupied and men and boys were standing all around the sides of the room, eager to grasp the details that were to be revealed. The most important part of the testimony was the introduction into evidence of a letter alleged to have been sent by the gang of conspirators to Father Oberholzer.

This is written in ink on one side of a sheet of common ruled note paper. Father Oberholzer says it was brought to his house by a woman a day or two after he had consulted his attorney, William H. Sullivan, and that when he put the letter in his pocket the woman became quite excited and demanded it back, but he refused to return it. The prosecution claims that this letter is in the handwriting of Father Fitzgerald, and if it can be proven that such is the case there is little doubt but that he will be charged with blackmail in addition to his other troubles. Three experts on handwriting swore Wednesday that in their opinion the letter was in Father Fitzgerald's handwriting. They compared it with three other letters written by Fitzgerald, and were positive in their statements that the letter signed by Williams was in the same writing as the three other letters shown to them.

Father Miller, Father Oberholzer's assistant, was on the stand Thursday morning. His testimony was very

interesting in that it showed Father Fitzgerald's connection with the disreputable gang in its efforts to extort money from Father Oberholzer. Father Miller's story of the ex-priest's actions in assisting the Front street gang to fleece the rector showed Fitzgerald up in a bad light. It showed that Fitzgerald had pretended to be sorry for the embarrassing position of Father Oberholzer, and advised him to settle with the gang for \$1,000, whereas he was apparently a pal of the extortionists in their nefarious schemes.

The prosecution concluded its case yesterday and an adjournment was taken until Friday morning at which time the defence was commenced.

The trial culminated Friday the four men held for the grand jury

Open Electric Cars.

Open cars have been put on the Park avenue and University and Lyell avenue lines by the Rochester Railway company, and will be run as long as the hot weather continues. It is the intention of the company to put similar cars on other lines as soon as they can be fitted up. The innovation is a popular one, as the cars are far more comfortable during the warm weather than were the closed cars. The three rear seats of each of the open cars are reserved for smokers.

Married at Holy Rosary.

A very pretty wedding took place in this church Wednesday morning, when Miss Margaret Streblor and Mr. Francis O'Brien were united in marriage by Rev. John O'Brien, brother of the groom, assisted by Rev. J. Van Ness, pastor of the church. Frank Zoller was best man and Miss Edith Van Scriber bridesmaid. Many friends of the bride and groom, both of whom are popular young people, were present in the church and all united in wishing the happy couple success in life.

PERSONALS.

Mrs. Henry McFarlin and her daughter Mary, of 188 Scio street, are spending the summer at Alexandria bay.

Mrs. W. P. Hamlin and Miss A. M. Watkins of this city have returned from an extended tour of Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Ryan and Mrs. Charles Leyden of Toronto are spending a few days with Mrs. E. C. Sheridan.

John B. Howe, editor of the Herald, is enjoying a brief vacation with his family at Cape Vincent on the St. Lawrence.

Mrs. P. E. Connaughton and daughter Elsie, and Miss Lizzie F. Wiggins of 30 Glasgow street, have gone to Missoula, Montana, to visit their brother, L. P. Wiggins.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

A buggy belonging to Dr. P. C. Guinan of Cataract street was wrecked Monday morning on North Clinton street. Dr. Guinan left the horse in front of the drug store kept by Joseph Flannery at the corner of North Clinton and Andrews streets.

While he was inside a horse attached to a milk wagon ran by his horse, colliding violently with the doctor's buggy. The milk wagon, in which there was a driver, passed on, and the owner made no attempt to find out how much damage he had done to Dr. Guinan's carriage. The driver and Dr. Guinan's little daughter, who were in the carriage, had a narrow escape.

OUR NEW PREMIUM FOR 1897.

Have you seen our premium for 1897 which we are going to present to paid in advance subscribers this year? It is a handsome picture of the Crucifixion, 17-24, beautifully colored in artistic shades, and is certainly a picture that should be in every household in the diocese. Every subscriber, both old and new, that pays \$1.00 in advance, is entitled to one.

OUR AGENT.

Mr. C. A. Hudson will call on our city subscribers who are in arrears next week. We trust they will be prepared to pay him.

The New Tariff Law.

Which has just been signed by the President may be appropriately considered an Industrial Declaration of Independence. An official text of the law has just been published by the American Protective Tariff League, and should be carefully examined by every citizen. Protectionists ought to have a few copies of this law for distribution. Five copies will be sent to any address for ten cents. Ask for Document No. 30 and address W. F. Wakeman, General Secretary, 135 West 23d street, New York.

We have a select line of fine wedding invitations at reasonable prices. Call and see them at the CATHOLIC JOURNAL office, 324 1/2 East Main St.

SOCIETY NEWS.

(Continued from 1st page.)
Knights of Columbus.

A good representation of Auburn council No. 207, attended the institution of a new council at Fulton Sunday. Syracuse council had charge of the ceremonies, which were carried out in a highly successful manner. The Auburn knights report the new members to be excellent entertainers.

Brother Barnes of Rochester, of whom the Auburn members think very highly, seems to be growing more and more into general favor amongst the knights. He was in Fulton Sunday, and by his courteous and gentlemanly manner at once commanded the attention and respect of those who had not had the honor of his acquaintance before.

The order is being introduced into the west. A number of new councils have been organized in Chicago, and though the order is but a year old in that city, numbers over 2,000 members.

Organized in 1892 to commemorate the discovery of America, the organization is becoming strong, appreciated and numerous in Catholic church circles.

James J. McCarton and William Daly of New York, two members of the order, are visiting friends in the city.

Hon. John J. Delaney, past state deputy, was a recent visitor to the Summer school. A big council will be organized at Plattsburgh early in August. It is being organized by Mr. Mosher, secretary of the Summer school.

The County Board, A. O. H., has ordered a general parade for August 19th.



JAMES M. NOLAN
(A prominent member of the C. R. & B. A.)

Society Calendars.	
C. R. & B. A.	
Monday—58, 81, 93.	
Tuesday—12, 34, 121.	
Wednesday—34, 88, 117, 131.	
Thursday—58.	
Friday—87.	
C. R. & B. A.	
Monday—52.	
Tuesday—27.	
Wednesday—23, 66.	
Thursday—44, 56.	
Friday—39.	
D. O. F. E.	
Monday—1.	
Tuesday—7.	
Friday—3.	
A. O. H.	
Tuesday—6.	
Wednesday—3.	
Thursday—1, 7.	
Y. M. I. meet Friday.	

PRESIDENT FREES HIM.

Mail Robber Served With Life During the War.

President McKinley received a letter from Robert Allen, an old soldier who fought at his side during the war, appealing for a pardon. Allen was in jail out west for robbing the mails. The president promptly wrote ordering Allen's release.

Young William McKinley and young Robert Allen were comrades in the civil war and fought side by side for the preservation of the Union.

But just after McKinley was elected to the highest office in the United States his old companion in arms, Allen, was sent to jail for robbing the mails.

His offense was a very serious one. He robbed the United States mail at Pierce City, Mo., and clubbed the man in charge of it.

He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment and sent to jail at Jefferson City, Mo. As soon as he arrived there he wrote to President McKinley asking for a pardon in the name of their old companionship.

Allen addressed the president as "my dear old comrade." He recalled the battles in which they had fought together, mentioning scenes that will be impressed on President McKinley's mind while he lives.

The president considered the letter and it troubled him. He had the highest office in the land, and a slight use of his great power would suffice to save an old comrade from imprisonment and disgrace. Allen had no moral or legal right to a pardon, but are sentiment and old companionship to count for nothing? That they count for much was the view of the major, and Allen was pardoned.

When he received it recently, he remarked that it was only what he expected from an old comrade.—Exchange.

Subscribe for THE JOURNAL.

PASSES TO THE KLONDIKE.

By Way of the White Pass to Much Easier Than by Chilkoot.

Harry Fitzgerald was a passenger from Juneau on the Walla Walla, which arrived Saturday, brings valuable news regarding the two best known passes to the Klondike—the Chilkoot and the White.

"I went over the White pass to Lake Linderman on June 17, just a month before the work on the trail was completed," said he. "I think it is by all odds the best of all the passes, and I do not understand why so many go by the way of the Chilkoot, particularly at this time of the year."

"On the American side private individuals have built the White pass trail, and the Canadian government had 35 men working for four months on the Dominion side, so that there is now a fine broad trail over which horses and mules can travel easily. The trail starts at Shagaway, about three miles from Dyea, and in a more accessible landing place than the latter."

"From Shagaway, where a wharf is to be built, the road rises steadily and continuously until the summit is reached at a point 1,100 feet lower than the highest point on the Chilkoot. The descent to Lake Linderman is about the same as on the Chilkoot. Packing over the White pass costs 15 cents a pound."

Mr. Fitzgerald states that great quantities of food are piled up along the trail at intervals all the way from Dyea to Sheep Camp, which is six miles from the summit. He says that in some places the piles are as high as two story houses. Not half of these provisions can get over this winter, but he says that there is little danger of spoiling, as nearly all is canned goods and flour in stout canvas sacks. The Indian carriers are working for those who pay the most, and as the rush is increasing and the adventures are impatient the natives are getting rich. Mr. Fitzgerald will return in four months. His destination will be the Stewart river, where he believes the discoveries will eclipse those of the Klondike.—New York Journal.

LIKE THE CEREMONY.

A Kansas City Couple Remarry Every Year.

Just before Probate Judge Herr closed his office the other night he was paid a visit by a very strange couple. The visitors were a middle aged man and woman, fairly well dressed and very good looking.

"The man asked the judge if he would issue them a marriage license and perform the ceremony. It is needless to say that the judge answered in the affirmative. The man gave his name as G. O. Hopkins, and his companion answered to the name of Lillian Hopkins.

"Are you related to each other?" inquired the judge. "Slightly," responded the visitor. "We are man and wife."

Judge Herr naturally asked him his reason for being married again, and the stranger related a very remarkable story. He stated that they were married five years ago in the city of Chicago and have celebrated their wedding anniversary each year by getting remarried.

"My wife and I entered into an agreement," said he, "when we were first united in the holy bonds of wedlock, to the effect that at the expiration of the first year our marriage should become void, and if we wanted to live together longer we should get married again. Our adventure with Cupid has proved a happy one to both, and for five consecutive years we have lived together and have been married each year."

Judge Herr was rendered almost speechless by the stranger's story, and, after much deliberation, refused to marry them, as he was in doubt as to whether or not he had the power to do so. Hopkins talked intelligently and did not have the appearance of a "crank."—Kansas City Journal.

To Start a Klondike Newspaper.

One of the first newspapers to be started in the Klondike region will be owned and operated by a Chicago woman.

Mrs. Caroline Westcott Bonney, who will leave immediately for the Alaskan goldfields, will take with her a small hand press and an outfit comprising all the necessities of the newspaper business when conducted on a small scale.

She expects to reach the Klondike before the beginning of winter and firmly believes the success of her venture is assured.

She published a newspaper in Leadville, Colo., for nearly a year at the time when the boom was at its height, and for over 1 1/2 years she did the same thing in Durango, Colo.

Told Stories in His Sleep.

Discovering that her husband while asleep would answer truthfully questions put to him, Mrs. Lillian Hale of Newark, N. J., says she once examined him and got information that was discreditable to him. She confronted him with this knowledge when he awoke, and after breaking down and confessing he disappeared. Subsequently his wife applied to the overseer of the poor for support for herself and two children.

The Looking Glass.

"Where are you going, my pretty maid?" "I'm going to Klondike, sir," she said. "Can I go with you, my pretty maid?" "If you can't be persuaded for love," she said.

Then he gazed in the sky and he looked in the mud. The quick and span man with the batonhole said: "For he had but a single suit of cash and not enough to jingle of cash."

He could cut a dash as a summer resort and dance with a heel and toe sobor. But he couldn't dash for the pole, could you? Or dash for the wave if you had a the glass.

So the quick and span man and the looking glass will not go north together, I'm afraid. For the quick and span man will be left the price. He's a wily fellow, but that cuts no ice. —Baltimore Courier-Record.

VALUABLE FIND OF GOLD.

A California Digger Finds Treasure Within a Week.

A special from Jamestown, Tuolumne county, Cal., gives details of a remarkable find of a pocket of gold yielding within a week \$42,000 in the old Mammoth mine near Sonora, which had been regarded as worthless. A Colby, a pioneer of Tuolumne county, and Roy Beckwith, a youth of 19, are the lucky finders of the pocket, which is not yet exhausted.

The Tansy mine recently was purchased of F. Tansy for \$400 and is under lease to Colby and Beckwith, who pay 25 per cent of the proceeds of the mine. The latter were looked on as cranks for leasing the supposedly worthless mine. When almost discouraged at the prospect of getting nothing for their labor, fortune smiled on them.

The Tansy is on the same lead as the Bonanza, which in early days was the richest pocket mine known, and which has a record of yielding \$350,000 in a single afternoon.

Colby at one time worked the Bonanza mine and took out many thousands only to spend them searching for more gold, and it was by exercising knowledge he had of the dip, angle and direction of the Bonanza mine that he was enabled to sink a shaft almost a mile from the Bonanza and strike the same lead and another pocket of gold the value of which has not been equaled in many years. It comes, too, when most needed, as Colby had expended his last dollar in mining operations.

A special bulletin from Redding, Cal., says that authentic news has just come in from Hall City, Trinity county, by stage, of the discovery of an immense body of ore 600 feet wide and many miles in length near there. It is supposed to be the mother lode of Sierra Madre, for which miners have been searching for 30 years and from which geologists say all rich quartz and gravel of the Sierra foothills have been brought by glacial action.—Chicago Tribune.

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