

by the Court that the District Attorney had consented to have one of the spots cut from the shirt, provided the piece was cut from the shirt in open Court, in the presence of all the experts, and by the sanction of the Court.

## THE HILL MURDER.

### Continuation of the Trial of George S. Twitnell, Jr.—The Line of Defence.

From the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, Dec. 26, 1868.

The crowd in and about the Court-room this morning was as large as upon any previous day. The prisoner was in the dock, looking as usual—perfectly self-possessed. At 10:30 o'clock, before Mr. PRATT resumed his opening, Mr. MANN asked permission to cut from the shirt-bosom one of the numerous spots of blood, in order to have it examined by the expert for the defence.

The Court declined to accede to the request. Mr. PRATT resumed his opening for the defence. He asked the jury to be patient, and not to form a judgment until the case was at an end. The defence would prove that the wounds on Mrs. HILL's head could not have been inflicted with a poker; that JOSEPH GILBERT was not to be believed; and, further, that the Commonwealth was mistaken when it asserted that no one was in the house except the prisoner; that Mrs. HILL frequently said that the house was for her children; and, further, that the prisoner was not peculiarly embarrassed.

At 11 A. M. Mr. PRATT concluded for the defence. He stated that as it was the darkest hour just before the dawn, so it is now the darkest hour for the prisoner at the bar. The clouds that have been lowering over his head since this protracted trial began are about to be dissipated by the sunshine of truth. The Commonwealth have endeavored to establish certain points as links in the chain of circumstantial evidence going to show the guilt of the prisoner.

*First*—That Mrs. HILL was murdered.

*Second*—That the deed was done by the poker.

*Third*—The blood upon defendant's clothing.

*Fourth*—The missing money.

*Fifth*—The conspiracy to get and keep the house at Tenth and Pine.

*Sixth*—The evidence of Mr. Jos. Gilbert.

*Seventh*—The distress of defendant.

*Eighth*—Statement that there was no other person in the house.

As to the first, we cannot deny the terrible fact that Mrs. HILL was murdered.

As to the second, we will be prepared to show that such wounds as were found upon the scalp and skull of defendant could not be produced by such an instrument as the poker.

*Third*—We will be able to show by experts entitled to credit, by experts of experience, and by other testimony, that the blood upon the defendant's clothing could have been got there after the body was found in the yard.

*Fourth*—We will establish the fact that, notwithstanding the vigilance of a skilled detective-police force, and the earnest and unceasing efforts of the officers of the law, not one dollar or one penny of the missing money has been traced to the defendant's possession.

As to the fifth point of the Commonwealth's case, we have testimony not to be disputed that the house at Tenth and Pine streets was purchased and given to CAMILLA E. TWITCHELL, wife of the prisoner, and that since the purchase the deceased has been constantly giving to her daughter furniture, and that all the furniture in the house, except the piano, was the property of defendant's wife, purchased in her name.

*Sixth*—As to the evidence of JOSEPH GILBERT, we will show that no reliance whatever is to be placed upon it. We will show from witnesses of the highest respectability and credit, that JOSEPH GILBERT's character for truth is not to be depended on.

*Seventh*—It is our purpose to show that defendant's credit in the community was good, and he could have raised any reasonable amount of money if his necessities required it.

The Commonwealth have laid much stress upon their statement that there were no other persons in the house but the prisoner and his wife. We content ourselves now by stating in all sincerity that there were other persons there.

We ask you to bear with us, gentlemen of the jury, until the conclusion of our case: until you hear all that we have to offer. Suspend your judgment until the conclusion of the case; and then, if we establish a reasonable doubt of the prisoner's guilt, we shall claim that you cannot withhold from the prisoner at the bar the full benefit of it. We ask simply the justice to which the defendant is entitled, and which any of you may at some time, under the force of circumstances, be compelled to ask from a jury of your peers.

At the close of Mr. PRATT's address it was stated