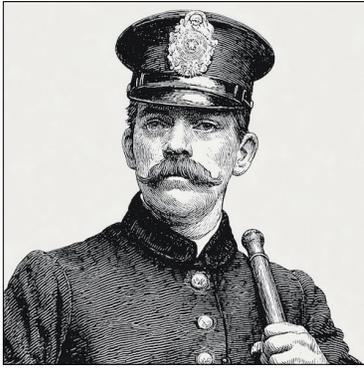


Breaking News • July 5, 1872



Officer Martin Fennel

Two young women approached me on my regular street beat. They were frantic and out of breath, as they had run all the way from 24th & Mission. I was informed a man had taken poison and immediately enlisted Assistant Physician Dr. Coleman from the Marine Hospital on Valencia Street. We proceeded post haste to the residence of the man. The front door was locked, I went around to the back to gain entrance and Dr. Coleman joined me once I let him in through the front door. We proceeded upstairs to the front room of the living quarters. There we found, one Nicholas Carr, seemingly calm even though he was wearing an undershirt covered in blood. An ounce bottle of Laudanum sat on a nearby table, nearly drained of its contents. Carr did not appear to be under the influence of the narcotic. He stated he had made up his mind to die, taken a large dose of the drug and stabbed himself four times, accounting for the blood on his clothing.

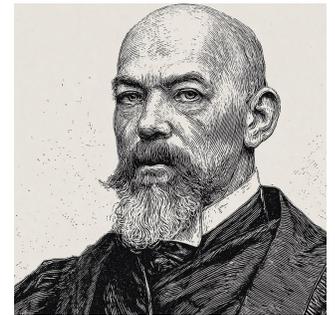
Having previously visited the home concerning a domestic squabble, I inquired to the whereabouts of his wife. He replied in a cool matter-of-fact manner, *"She is in the other room dead: I killed her, and, as you see, I've tried to kill myself."* An old pistol was further evidence of those attempts, along with a blood-covered knife and broken scissors laying together with what was left of the Laudanum.

Dr. Coleman and I found her in a back bedroom, stiff from rigor mortis, indicating she expired at least the day before. I sent for

the Coroner and back-up from the Police Office. In the meantime, Dr. Coleman made arrangements to move him the short distance to the nearby Hospital lest his stab wounds reopen and he bleed to death.

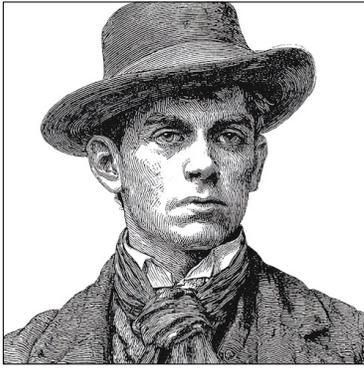
A coroner's deputy soon arrived and shortly after Dr. Stillman himself and our Bulletin reporter.

Very few of the neighbors knew that anything unusual had occurred, A few curious boys stood at the door.



Coroners J. Titcomb & Dr. Stillman

On entering, the woman was found as stated by Officer Fennel. On the floor under her was a small pool of blood: and about 2 feet distant a much larger quantity of blood, where somebody had evidently been lying. The bed also showed marks of blood as if a person wounded, had crawled into it, the wall was marked with splashes of blood, and the handle on the door on the inside of the room, covered as if opened by Carr after the tragedy. The woman's head was lying on a pillow and her clothing was neatly arranged, as if by her husband, after her death. Excepting the disorder in this room, where the bloody deed was committed, and some marks of a previous struggle in the first chamber, the house was in perfect order: after everything being cleanly and neat, the rooms handsomely carpeted, the furniture new and a good quality, and everything indicative of plenty, and so far as such things go, of comfort.



**SF Bulletin Reporter
First on the scene**

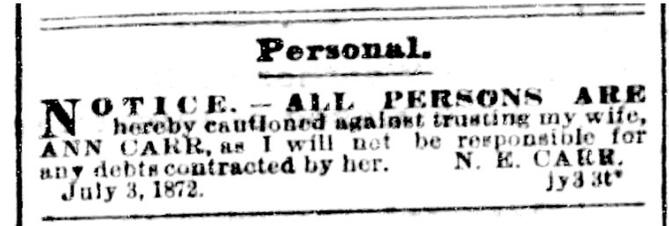
At his home and at the Hospital, this reporter spoke with Nicholas Carr about the tragic events and gathered his initial thoughts for The Bulletin. Mr. Carr, convinced he is not long for this world, was hurriedly drawing up a will with the counsel of his lawyer, W. C. Barnett and tying up the loose ends of his business affairs. It is as complete as possible, if disjointed due to the wounded man's circumstances.

*What follows is a portion of his **ante-mortem statement** in the presence of his lawyer and witnessed by Coroners Stillman and Titcomb, Dr. Coleman, Mrs. Eager and a Mr. Morrison. Considering his mortal longevity was in question, **he was quite calm while making it, and two or three times even laughed.***

...

Carr asserts his married life with Ann was an unhappy union. Prior to their marriage, he had been deceived about her character, citing scars from a previous venereal disease, as well as a living husband, despite her claims of being a widow. Worst of all she was intemperate, drinking heavily for weeks at a time, which transformed her into a wild woman, often trying to kill him. She spent his money on frivolous household purchases; furniture, carpets etc. When her demands weren't met, she would become destructive. Recently, a \$25 carpet was destroyed because Carr would not allow a matching chamber set to also be purchased at the time.

This incident a few weeks prior prompted Carr to place a notice to merchants in this newspaper, among others.

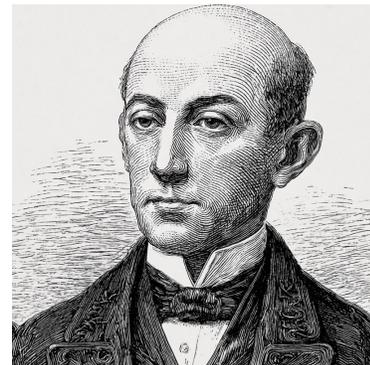


Upon reading it, she retaliated with drink-fueled anger, wreaking damage to the house, breaking all the latches off the doors. She swore and tore about the house, finally exhausting herself and retreating to the back bedroom. Trying to pacify and console her, Carr encountered more violence and screams of "Murder!", as was her habit. His efforts were hopeless to her tirades and state of mind, so he retreated to the front room and blockaded himself inside for peace and protection.

She got an iron bar, pried open the door and rushed at him with a butcher knife, he wrenched the knife from her and pushed her back into her own room. She then got a hatchet, and in the struggle he saw one-half of a pair of shears lying on the table, and taking it up in a moment of phrenzy, he stabbed her with it.

23 times

At the scene, Stillman arranged for Mrs. Carr's body be delivered to the Morgue for a post-mortem examination by Dr. Edwin Bentley. The Inquest will proceed on July 10 after a jury is sworn in for a viewing of the body.



Dr. Edwin Bentley

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE OF THE CORONER

AUTOPSY REPORT

CASE NO. 07041872 Name of Decedent Ann Carr nee Boucher

Gender Female DOB November 27, 1822 Race Caucasian

Address 3330 Twenty-fourth Street, San Francisco Occupation Homemaker

DESCRIPTION OF BODY

Eye Color Hazel

Hair Color Dark Brown

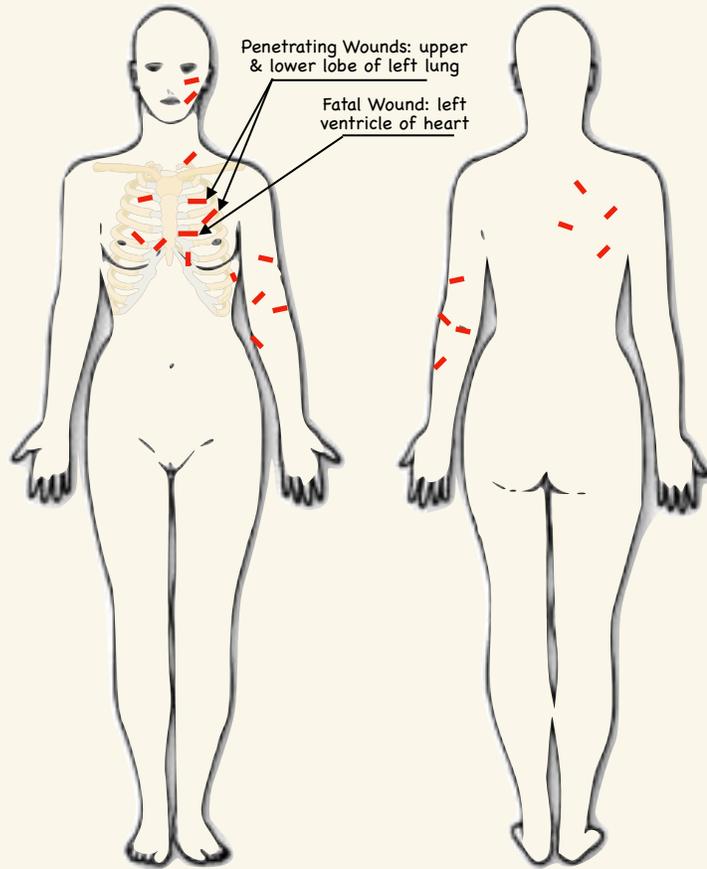
Height 5' 6 3/4"

Weight 140 lbs.

Description of Injuries

There are indications of a life dissolutely spent. The clothing is quite bloody and on removing it, twenty-three punctured wounds are disclosed on the left arm, left side of the face and chest.

Most are superficial; three or four — penetrated the cavity of the chest; one is between the second and third ribs and penetrated the upper lobe of the left lung; a wound between the third and fourth rib ribs entered the lower lobe, and another between the fourth and fifth ribs entered the left ventricle of the heart; two or three of the chest wounds are on the right side, and three or four were on the back of the chest. the wounds vary from a quarter of an inch to an inch.



Other Significant Observations

I examined the liver, but it was not remarkably fatty; it was quite healthy;

| PROBABLE CAUSE OF DEATH | MANNER OF DEATH | FURTHER ACTION |
|--|--|---|
| <p>From the general indications of the body - the wounds scratches, etc. - the wounds were inflicted in the course of a protracted struggle between the deceased and the assailant. The only wound that was at all fatal was the one that entered the left ventricle of the heart, and that caused the death of the woman.</p> | <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Accident <input type="checkbox"/> Natural <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homocide </p> | <p>Prepare body for viewing by jury sworn in for Coroner Stillman's Inquest next week on Thursday, July 11.</p> |

Date July 6th, 1872 Signature Dr. Edwin Bentley