YOUNG AUSTIN INSANE.

That is the Verdict of the County Board of Lunacy.

THE PRISONER ON THE STAND.

The Story of How He Borrowed the Pistol and Procured the Whisky Incoherently Related.

At the sitting of the county board of lunacy last evening the examination into the question of the sanity of young Austin, the Corinne newspaper man, who shot and fatally wounded Hall in the Chemical building, and who also robbed the Chemical National bank on Saturday last, was concluded.

L. S. Austin—old brother—was called, was the first witness called. He had known the accused a few weeks, and had only had a few short conversations with him. The prisoner evinced a total lack of memory. No one had left the witness of his perfect condition of mind, but this was so apparent that he noticed it very readily, and remarked the fact to Mr. Baxter, of the Tribune, with whom Frank was in company, he formed the opinion that the accused was delirious in reasoning faculties and incapable of observing clearly, and the act was such as he might have done. He appears to have no memory. There was no ground to suspect his honesty, and no criticism was apparent. He was mentally incompetent.

Henry Dobbs became acquainted with the accused in Seattle, 1889. He was there in the newspaper business. He was a very free talker, but nothing was very apparent as to his mental trouble. In 1891 he saw the accused in the streets and he appeared strange and devoid of that buoyancy he had previously possessed. The witness had met his family on accidental occasions. His appearance was dilapidated, and he seemed to have been run down by the rumour of bad. About that time his wife spoke to the witness about selling him cigarettes. He had a very short minutes appearance, never had any company. He had not seen the accused since last fall, after leaving said to Olympia, until a short time ago, on his arrival in this city. His general appearance is better than it was in 1891, but as reflected as it was then. Was first known to be active and full of business. The witness had not seen enough of him recently to form an opinion of his present mental condition. From what he had known of the man he concluded that the act was one done under an impulse, for his previous conduct would never have indicated any such tendency. There was something in his abstinence of expression that indicated some than ordinary depression resulting from simple bad luck.

Louis H. Roentz, the dashing young salesman of the London Saloon establishment, who has figured conspicuously before the public the last week for the shooting of Charles Evans, a San Francisco drummer, at the corner of West Temple and Fifth South streets under somewhat remarkable circumstances, was next placed on the stand. He said he had known the accused for a few years, first at Kansas City, where he had met him several times, and then considered him of unusual mind. Met him at the City Hall last Saturday, and he told how he had procured the whisky and how he attempted to get the money. The Prosecuting Attorney in reply responded to questions, and on Monday the accused asked a little of the Commissioner thought of selecting and sale no bad in bottles, and at the same time opening from the fact and took a knife from the bench locked and rubbed on the sill. The question of be exactly, but gave the knife to the witness which asked for it. He specially informed he a professional man in Kansas City, and said he was at one time engaged to his daughter.

The father of the prisoner was especially anxious that the son should be placed on the stand. To this Messrs. Murphy and Fickner consented and promised that they would take no undue advantage of him, and that if the result of the examination unfavorably affected the claims of the defense they would agree to dismiss the criminal proceedings now in progress.

The defendant took the stand and acted strongly throughout the examination, which was brief and severe.

In response to numerous interrogatories propounded by Judge Bartch and by the physicians as well as by the attorneys, much of the life and surroundings of the defendant were drawn out, but generally in short, monosyllabic words. The questions were invariably leading and were half-readily answered by yes or no. The story of procuring whisky, borrowing the pistol and procuring the knife, followed by the arrest, was treated, and while the patient had a recollection on each branch of the subject, his answers were often interrupted as to the whole. When asked as to counting the consequences of the act or probable results, he seemed to have never done so.

After drinking nearly a pint of whisky, the only thought that possessed him was to procure money to send for his wife, and he took that way to secure it. "I thought if he didn't have the money I wouldn't shoot him," said the defendant. He could not name the bank, but remembered the cashier and the fact that it was located on a corner. That was the first drink he had taken since he left the institute. The question of the insanity of the crime and the moral turpitude attaching thereto was passed upon, but little was elicited beyond the fact that he was now sorry for the act.

When asked regarding religious questions he replied he would assume a peculiar expression, and in explaining the latter written in Jesus Christ he said it was enclosed to his wife and intended only for her to read. He still he was a believer in predestination, and in answer to the request to define it, he said, "If a man is going to die at certain time he will die at that time" and when the attorney asked if that was not fatalism he nodded assent. He did not remember the incident referred to by Roentz in the evening regarding the matter of suicide, and said he could remember events that happened some days and others would be all blank. Last Saturday was a most miserable day to him, and he suffered a great deal with depressed spirits.

This concluded the taking of evidence and the commission retired, but soon brought in a verdict to the effect that the accused was insane and a most dangerous character to roam about and recommended that he be sent to the Territorial Insane Asylum. Steps looking to this end will be promptly taken.

When the result was announced Chevalier Hawley and several other persons engaged in conversation with young Austin said the latter taken leave of.

Mr. Murphy inquired of him if he was not sorry for shooting Mr. Hall, to which another and Mr. Hall's life of the latter in the very bad time. He hoped the end to come and granted the heart of Hawley and apologized to that gentleman. This remarkable case of the most congenial one of the Bad that ever occupied the attention of the County Board of this city.

An Invent Repeater

Two Salt Lake ladies, visiting in Washington recently were T. M. Rodgers, president of the Chevalier society, and E. Rossiter, of the Chevalier Society. They were in Mr. Hall's office on business matters. This reporter was in quality of representatives of the school, the editor of the Chevalier city, in the government. In recording of the declaration of the Chevalier II. Rossiter said to Mr. Hall "Five people in the Union number that we have a little society particularly encouraging, and one of the most complete gentlemen people in Chevalier. Our land is most fertile, and we some of the ladies of the society are interested in the matter of the school, in which our society is interested. C. H. MERRILL."

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S. C. M. I., Salt Lake City, April 20th, 1892.

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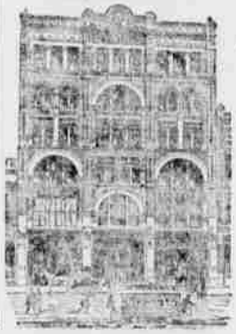

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