

# NIGHT WAS COLD

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BUT OH, HOW HOT THE SCRAP OVER THE KELSEY FURNACE!  
THE LAW WAS ON ONE SIDE  
SALOON KEEPER JIM HAYES AND HIS GANG KNEW HOW TO STAND THEM OFF.  
THE NUMBERS DIDN'T WIN  
AND CONSTABLE GOLDSTEIN SERVED HIS REPLEVIN PAPERS ON A RED HOT FURNACE IN  
HAYES CELLAR

There have been a good many lively times at Jim Hayes's saloon hotel in West Fayette street, but no other which quite equaled in any way the one that took place yesterday afternoon when the Kelsey furnace company replevined a furnace that had been set up before Hayes occupied the place. A number of the frequenters of the place had dropped in to get ready for a Christmas eve celebration, and everything was passing along at high tide when Constable Sam Goldstein, the hero of many a hard fought battle, and Maurice Shea, a law student in the office of Edgcomb & Rafferty, entered with the papers to take the furnace. The afternoon was cold and there was prospect of a colder night and a big trade, and Hayes did not see how he could do without a furnace, so he told the officer to stand room from under or take the consequences.

Constable Goldstein has had enough experience to know just about what would happen if he started to carry away the furnace; and he beat a hasty retreat. Coming back to the office of Edgcomb & Rafferty, he told what had happened, and Mr. Rafferty and E. B. Chapman, also of the law office and who doesn't mind a scrap, accompanied him to the saloon. Hayes and his friends had lost no time in making preparations for the reception of the reinforcements, and when Constable Goldstein appeared at the door of the bar room he was told to go to a place that he is not prepared for, and Attorney Rafferty, after being told what the proprietor, his bartenders and friends thought of him, was given the alternative of being thrown down cellar or leaving. Circumstances looked as if more reinforcements might come in handy, and Mr. Chapman and Attorney Rafferty went out to tell their troubles to a policeman, and that particular policeman happened to be Jake Geis. The Kelsey furnace people were also informed of what was going on.

In the meantime Constable Goldstein had not made good his escape from the barroom, but had run up against Jim Fenton with the result that he received a sharp punching and was thrown out of doors. He returned, however, with the law on his side, and Officer Jake, Attorney Rafferty, Mr. Chapman and Edward Perry of the furnace company besides. With a bold front the onslaught was made. But the space at the end of the bar and between the dining room door and the cellarway was packed with the enemy, all of whom had on their war paint and were said to have more than a good start for a Christmas celebration. Coats were off and hats thrown aside and "vengeance which blood alone could quell" had been aroused.

Constable Goldstein made a movement to pass, but threatening words and gestures caused the brave officer to think of his wife and little ones at home, and how they would pass Christmas in his absence, and he turned pale and declared that he would not run the risk. Officer Jake sent for larger reinforcements. In a short time two other policemen were there, and a wagon and four men had arrived from the furnace company's office close by. With this reinforcement they started once more for the cellar door. By this time the enemy had increased to about 20 men and there seemed no chance to a peaceful settlement. Lined up opposite the enemy, the officers told them what would be the consequences if they resisted further. The enemy replied in language of such decidedly Bowery flavor that it would not do to print what they said. They told the men who wanted the furnace that they had a lowly birth, more lowly in fact than people like to be accused of even on Christmas eve, and that dilapidated officers and blows and kicks, which would surely interfere with easy repose for some weeks, would result if any further move was made to take the furnace.

They still held the officers at bay, when Officer Woods arrived, making the twelfth man in the attacking party. Then there seemed to be a stir. About this time, Edward Perry started by a door way to an outside passage to the cellar. "Skinney" Hughes not unknown to fame, started in pursuit and an encounter took place. At this Officer Woods raised a window, jumped out and collared "Skinney," who was taken to the police station. While waiting for the return of Officer Woods, the opposing parties renewed their battle of words, and Hayes succeeded in breaking a lantern over the head of one of the men. When Officer Woods returned he coached up Constable Goldstein and urged him through the crowd to the dining room door. In this fracas several blows were struck but nothing more serious than sore ribs and bruised shins resulted. The dining room door was fastened but the officers forced it and entered the passage leading to the cellar. Then the coast was clear, the battle had been won.

In the cellar, however, another difficulty was met. Hayes, forewarned, had been forearmed and filled the furnace with coal and turned on the drafts. The result was that the furnace was red hot. But under the direction of the Kelsey company's employees this was soon remedied and the furnace was taken to pieces and carted to the establishment of the company.

The difficulty arose from the fact that the furnace had been sold in 1893 under a contract which left the title in the company. On the contract all but \$50 had been paid. Since the sale of the furnace the real estate has changed hands several times and the furnace company to realize their \$50 proceeded in municipal court, through Attorneys Edgcomb & Rafferty, in a replevin action.

It is quite probable that several arrests will be made.