

WAS HE FORCED FROM DELEVAN HOUSE WINDOW?

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THOMAS MCEVOY, A VISITING FORESTER, THE VICTIM

LANDED ON HIS HEAD AND HE MAY DIE – MYSTERY SURROUNDS THE CASE – AFFAIR
OCCURRED AT 4:00 O’CLOCK THIS MORNING.

Thomas McEvoy, of Rosendale, Ulster County, a delegate to the General session of Grand Court, State of New York, Foresters of America now being held in this city, lies in a critical condition at St. Joseph’s hospital. His skull is fractured at the base of the brain and all hope of his recovery is despaired of.

McEvoy either fell or was pushed out of a third-story window in the Delevan house at 321 West Fayette-st. about 4 o’clock this morning. He landed on his head with great impact on the sidewalk. Somewhat of a mystery surrounds the injuring of McEvoy.

He came to the city yesterday to represent Court Jeppenburg of Rosendale at the Foresters’ convention. He registered at the Onondaga house in North Salina-st. He attended the sessions of the Foresters at Turn hall yesterday morning and afternoon and in the evening in company with some of his friends and acquaintances he was present at the social session tendered to the delegates at Elks’ hall by Court LeMoyne.

It is said that he left the hall about 11 o’clock ostensibly to go to his hotel. When his brother Foresters next heard of him he was lying at St. Joseph’s hospital with his skull fractured.

Patrick McMullin was one of the first at the scene after the fall. He is firmly of the belief that McEvoy was forced out of the window and he gives his reasoning for so doing as follows –

“Knowing as I do the unsavory reputation of the Delevan house, and the mysterious conduct of Proprietor Hayes after the fall and this together with the position of the injured man’s body, while he lay on the sidewalk convinces me that the man was forced out of the window. When I reached the scene the man was unconscious. He lay upon the sidewalk, his head in a pool of blood.

“I asked Hayes to get a blanket to throw over the man as the air was chilly. He said that he didn’t have a blanket and appeared unconcerned. I finally prevailed upon him to get a covering of some kind over the injured man who had on neither coat, waistcoat or shirt. I rolled up the blanket and intended to place it under the man’s head when Hayes called to me not to do so as the blood would soil it. I did nevertheless make a pillow of the blanket.

Then Proprietor Hayes told his man, who is employed at that hostelry, to keep mum and not give out any information. I thought this very curious for the reason that I hadn’t asked any questions.

“Three heads stuck out of the window through which the man came. The heads were those of women. No one said a word, but all looked complacently upon the mangled form below.

“When the ambulance came I helped to lift the man into it and in so doing was covered with blood. The man’s face was bleeding frightfully.”

This morning a member of the Foresters started out to unravel the mystery surrounding the injuring of the Rosendale man.

The Delevan house was visited and its proprietor, James Hayes, told the following story: -

“McEvoy came here about 2:30 o’clock this morning and asked for a room. I took him to room No. 11 on the third floor. He had been drinking, but he was not under the influence of liquor. No, there was no one with him. I went to bed about 3:30 o’clock and about 4 o’clock I was awakened by a rapping on the door. I asked what the matter was and the reply was to the effect that someone had fallen out of the window. Going outside I found that man I had placed in room No. 11 lying on the sidewalk in an unconscious condition.”

Hayes said that no one occupied the room with McEvoy. On looking at the register on the bar it was found that the man assigned to room No. 11 last night was written “James Green.” Hayes explained this by saying that the boy about the hotel wrote the name on the register after McEvoy had retired.

McEvoy was removed to St. Joseph’s hospital in Burns’ city ambulance. About the time McEvoy was injured Patrolman Lee was in the vicinity of the New York Central station. Hearing that a man had been injured at the Delevan house he went there to see what had happened. He met Oran Bettinger of Liverpool in front of the West Fayette-st. entrance of the station and the latter said that he had seen the man fall from the window.

“When I first saw the man,” Bettinger said to the patrolman, “his body was hanging out of the window and he was clinging to the sill apparently endeavoring to pull himself back into the room. Almost the next instant he fell to the sidewalk.”

Mr. McEvoy is about 35 years of age. He is a brother-in-law of James L. McCarton, grand chief ranger of the Foresters of America. Mr. McEvoy has a wife and three children living at Rosendale.