

THE GUN

The Syracuse Daily Journal, Syracuse, NY, Monday, April 29, 1872

PROBABLE HOMICIDE IN SALINA

AN ATTEMPT TO ENFORCE THE LAW MEETS WITH RESISTANCE

A GAME CONSTABLE SEVERELY INJURED AND ANOTHER MAN DANGEROUSLY SHOT – ARREST OF THE GUILTY PARTIES

A shooting affray occurred in the town of Salina, Sunday forenoon, by which a man named Michael Gleason sustained injuries which will probably prove fatal. The facts as we learn them are substantially as follows: - Yesterday morning, a German named George Sterzer, residing at No. 8 John street, in the Second Ward, started out hunting, having a single-barrel shot-gun. He proceeded to "Alvord's Hash(?)," about two miles east of the Richmond House, on the Brewerton plank road. While hunting for woodchucks, Sterzer fell in with another young man named Louis Roch, residing in the First Ward. Together they went to the farm of Mr. Malloy, in that section, where the shooting occurred. About nine o'clock in the forenoon, Game Constable William B. Garrett, who resides in the above vicinity, together with his hired man, Milton Moore, went to the house of Michael Gleason, residing near, to look at some pigs. While there one of the neighbors, who was present, said that parties

WERE HUNTING

Somewhere near, as he had heard shots during the morning. Mr. Garrett said that he would go after the hunters, after they had got through at Gleason's. While at Gleason's, two men, with guns and dogs,

were seen, but disappeared over a ridge. After finishing his business at Gleason's Garrett, accompanied by Moore, Gleason and his little boy, started over the ridge. Just over the ridge they fell in with Roch and Sterzer, the former sitting on a fence and Sterzer standing a little distance from it. Mr. Garrett asked the hunters what they were hunting for, and they said skunks and muskrats. Constable Garrett inquired of them if they did not know that they

WERE BREAKING THE LAW

by hunting on Sunday. Roch said he'd "be damned if he did," and that it was none of his (Garrett's) business whether he (Roch) did or not. Garrett then informed them that he was Game Constable for the town of Salina, and that he should have to arrest them, for violating the law, and take them before a justice, who lived near the place, and advised them to go along with him quietly. Roch, on hearing this, said: "I'll be damned if I will, any way." Garrett then got off the fence, on which he was sitting, and started for Roch, who jumped down from the fence and, drawing up his gun, threatened to shoot Garrett if he touched him. Garrett grabbed hold of the barrel of the gun and turned it to one side, catching Roch by the collar of his coat. While

struggling with Roch, Moore and Gleason came up to help Garrett, who told them he could manage him and asked them to secure the other man, Sterzer, who has gone of several rods. Gleason and Moore started for Sterzer, and in a moment or two Garrett, who was struggling with Roch, heard

A SHOT

On looking at the others he saw Moore running off, and Gleason staggering toward the fence. Garrett halloed to Moore not to go away, but he said he was going for help, and continued on. Roch then halloed to Sterzer to come and help him. Sterzer came up, and clubbing his gun, began belaboring

GARRETT OVER THE HEAD

Garrett attempted to save both his head and his person, and it was not until they had threatened to kill him, and his hand had been severely cut, two fingers of his left hand broken his right wrist badly gashed, and his arms weakened from blows from Sterzer's gun, which was broken from the blows struck with it, that Garrett released his hold of Roch and his gun. On releasing his hold of Roch, he said Sterzer started and was followed by Garrett. After bringing their pursuer to several halts, by presenting Roch's gun and threatening to

BLOW HIM THROUGH

if he followed them, they reached Alvord's cider mill. From there they crossed to another farm owned by Mr. Higgins. Garrett who had continued to follow them, here went into Alvord's and informed several persons there what had happened, and accompanied by several of them they continued the chase. They came up with

them soon after, but Sterzer took off his coat and made his escape, running towards the city. Roch was taken into custody after a struggle and taken before Justice Phillips, who committed him to the

PENITENTIARY,

where he was subsequently lodged and is now (???). Gleason, who was shot, states that he, at the request of Garrett, seized hold of Sterzer and held him so long as he could, and that he finally broke away for him and

SHOT HIM

in the right side above the hip, holding the muzzle of the gun so close to him that his clothing was set on fire. Gleason attempted to reach home, but, on getting to the fence, found himself unable to get over it. Moore soon returned with help, and Gleason was conveyed home and Dr. Didama summoned. On examination it was found that the entire charge of shot had entered Gleason's side, a portion passing entirely through his body. One of his ribs was also broken. Gleason's wound is a terrible one, and it is exceedingly doubtful if he can survive. Sterzer, on escaping from Garrett and the others, went to Haberlee's Brewery where he works, and, to company with Mr. Haberlee, subsequently went to the Police Office, when he stated he got into difficulty, and he

GUESSED SOME ONE HAD GOT SHOT

He was rather reticent of the affair, and Justice Corbett released him on giving security that he would appear this morning. The facts in the case were subsequently learned, and Sterzer was arrested soon after. He was arraigned this morning, and stated

the facts substantially as above, with the exception that the

SHOOTING WAS ACCIDENTAL

He was committed to the penitentiary to await the result of Gleason's injuries. He has been fully identified as the party who shot Gleason, and does not deny it. Sterzer has a wife, and has heretofore borne an excellent reputation and seems fully to realize that he has got himself into a bad scrape.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Goodalls and Chief Davis left this forenoon for Gleason's house, to take his statement in case of his death, as the latest accounts from

him represent him in a very precarious condition.

The affair caused great excitement in the locality in which it occurred, and as the residents thereabouts have been greatly annoyed by hunters, banging away on all days of the week, and now that an attempt to enforce the law has been made, and by so doing two respectable neighbors have been seriously and dangerously wounded, those interested do not possess very friendly feelings towards the law-breakers. We doubt not an examination of the prisoners will take place as soon as possible, with a view to their committal to trial.