

PLUMB IS NOT REPENTANT

Murderer of Alexander Masterton Expresses No Regret.

WANTS A SANITY COMMISSION

Police Captain Price and Mr. Thompson the Only Persons He Would See—A Girl Brought Flowers.

But for the visit of his counsel, Henry Thompson, and Police Captain Price, James Neale Plumb, the murderer of Alexander Masterton, spent a lonely day in the Tombs yesterday. According to his jailers, there are evidences that he is breaking down, but he has expressed no regret for his act.

Plumb was summoned from his cell yesterday when Mr. Thompson called. He greeted his lawyer cordially. The two had a long conference. Police Captain James Price of the West Thirtieth Street Station called and talked with Plumb. Capt. Price has known the aged murderer for many years. He said his visit had no special significance.

Mr. Thompson said that Plumb's defense had not yet been outlined, but it is evident that insanity will be the plea. He will make no statement at the inquest, and will be held for the Grand Jury. A commission to inquire into his mental condition will then probably be asked for.

"Is there any truth in the statement that Plumb is penniless?" was asked of Mr. Thompson.

"That is not strictly the fact," replied Mr. Thompson. "But it is true that he has very little money. None of his relatives has done anything for him, not even his son and daughter, but he has still had enough to get along on."

Among Plumb's other callers yesterday were his nephew, Louis Atherton, and C. W. Kellim of Paterson, N. J., an old employe of Plumb's father. He saw neither of them.

It was learned yesterday at Mr. Masterton's residence, in Bronxville, that several days before the receipt of the letter from Plumb making the fatal appointment at the Burlington, Plumb sent another letter to his victim, in which he stated that he was going to Manila, and would perhaps never return. He said that he had certain papers which he thought Mr. Masterton ought to have, and offered to give them to the banker at any time he might fix.

Ives Plumb was a visitor at the Masterton home on Thursday, and was warmly received by the family, with whom he has always been a favorite. Mrs. Masterton, who was prostrated by the shock of her husband's death, was improved yesterday, and is not now thought to be in immediate danger. Members of the family have arrived from various parts of the country.

The funeral will take place to-day from the Reformed Church, which the dead man attended for many years. The body lies in a massive oaken coffin in the main parlor of the residence. On the silver plate is the simple inscription:

May 3, 1899.
Alexander Masterton.

In his 74th year.

Mr. Masterton was held in high esteem by the inhabitants of Bronxville, and in every instance yesterday where a flag was displayed it was flying at half-mast.

A girl apparently not more than fourteen years old, with a big bunch of flowers in her hand, called at the Tombs yesterday to see Plumb. She was asked the nature of her errand, but refused to give any information or to give her name. She wished to see Mr. Plumb, she said, to give him the flowers, which had been sent by a woman. She was not allowed to see the prisoner, and learning that it was against the prison rules for him to receive flowers, went away, carrying them with her.

FIREMEN IMPRESS ENGLISHMEN

An Exhibition Drill by Calcium Light at Fire Headquarters Delights

Mr. Hewitt's Guests.

What New York's firemen can do to save life and property was demonstrated at Fire Headquarters last night for the benefit of a small but delighted audience of Englishmen. Ernest Cunard of the Cunard Steamship Company, Sir Charles Hunter, a Director in that company; Clyde Bailey, and J. Harbottle composed the party of spectators. They have for some days been the guests of ex-Mayor Hewitt. As they sail to-day for home they expressed a wish yesterday to see something of the workings of the Fire Department, the fame of which, they said, had long since reached England.

Fire Commissioner Scannell said he would be delighted to show what his men could do, and asked ex-Chief Hugh Bonner to take charge of the exhibition.

Mr. Hewitt and his guests reached Fire Headquarters shortly after 7 o'clock. Some hundreds of people had gathered to look on. Mr. Scannell had three calcium lights so arranged in the drill yard that the entire building and its surroundings were brilliantly illuminated. Mr. Bonner selected the life-saving class under Chief Instructor Henry W. McAdam to give the exhibition of lifework.

The men used ropes, scaling ladders, and all the other ordinary apparatus and gave a superb exhibition of agility and daring. The crowd cheered and the visitors grew enthusiastic. Commissioner Scannell suggested the use of the hand net. This was brought out. Firemen jumped into it from the first, second, and third floors. A movement was seen on the roof, and the crowd grew anxious, believing that Instructor McAdam in his desire to impress the Englishmen was about to take a big risk. Then a figure in the white uniform of a street cleaner plunged over the edge of the roof and was caught in the net.

It was a dummy weighing 154 pounds. Instructor McAdam said his men would easily make the jump from the roof or sixth floor in daylight, but he would not allow them to risk it in a calcium light. This ended the outside exhibition.

Hook and Ladder Company No. 16, in the Fire Headquarters Building, was visited and the horses were hitched and made ready for the dash in four seconds. Engine Company No. 39 made a display equally good, and the visitors were astonished.