

## THIS THE SECOND WILL OF SHIREY'S

George Thornburgh Tells of  
Drawing Up Papers for  
Eccentric Minturn Man  
Many Years Ago.

That the will of A. W. Shirey of Minturn, who was murdered a few weeks ago, leaving an estate valued at \$200,000 to the Odd Fellows, was not the first will he made leaving his entire fortune to people other than his relatives, was the statement made yesterday by George Thornburgh of this city. Mr. Thornburgh was practicing law in Powhatan about 27 years ago, and he says he made a will for Shirey at that time.

"Shirey was a peculiar and remarkable man," continued Mr. Thornburgh. "He was unpopular in his neighborhood and no one understood his eccentric ways. He came into my office one day and asked me to write his will. He left his entire fortune, with the exception of \$5 to each of his relatives, to a couple of women in Cincinnati. He never told me anything about the women, not even saying whether he had ever seen them. I learned afterward that they were not his relatives, but were members of some religious sect. He later destroyed the will."

### Shirey Was Uncommunicative.

"It was only natural that he should give his fortune to the Odd Fellows. He was looking for some institution that he could leave his fortune to and told me he did not intend to leave anything to his relatives. He was very singular and uncommunicative. I did not learn the cause of his distrust of his relatives. I thought when I heard he had joined the Odd Fellows that he would leave his property to the order, but thought he would give it for the erection of an orphan's home, instead of a sanitarium, as he did."

Mr. Thornburgh then told how Shirey made his fortune.

"When he first came to Lauratown, near Minturn," he said, "he did not have \$100. He started a small grocery store and was very frugal and industrious. As soon as he accumulated a little money he put it into land and kept adding to it until he owned a great deal of the best land in that part of the state. He was unpopular with his neighbors, chiefly because his business brought him into financial relations with a large number of people. He paid his debts promptly and insisted that other people do the same. I never heard it charged that he was not an honest man."

## Shirey's second will by Thornburgh, 3-19-1910

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