

TAMPA MORNING TRIBUNE

TAMPA, FLORIDA, MONDAY, APRIL 12, 1909

NO DEVELOPMENTS IN FICARROTTA CASE

OFFICERS ARE ENTIRELY AT A LOSS AS TO CULPRITS

No Clues Have Been Discovered by
Which the Assassins Can Be
Traced or Identity Discovered

Unless some new clue is discovered at once regarding the assassination of G. Ficarrotta, the wealthy West Tampa wholesaler, in front of his home at 8 o'clock Saturday night, there is believed to be small chance that his assassins will ever be discovered or brought to justice. Dilligent search and inquiry made yesterday by acting members of the sheriff's office failed to elicit any information which can be of any aid to them in ferreting out the mystery. The men are believed to be concealed by confederates in some part of the city.

Among those questioned yesterday by the officers were members of Ficarrotta's family, all of whom declared that they knew no cause for the assassination and were at a loss to explain it. None of them knew of any enemies which Ficarrotta might have had or any reason why he should have been sought out for the vengeance of a Black Hand organization. Ficarrotta's two little boys and little daughter, who were standing near him at the time of the shooting, having come out from the gate to meet him, cannot give an intelligible account of the affair.

Gun May Be Clue

One of the mysteries of the affair is why the murderers dropped two of their guns after Ficarrotta had been killed. It is generally supposed that they did this because they perceived the approach of neighbors, and threw the guns down that they might make better speed in their flight.

On the stock of one of the guns is a small silver plate of unusual design, and today inquiries will be made of Italians, Cubans and American in all parts of West Tampa as to whether they have ever been seen the gun before.

This morning the jury of inquest, which Saturday night viewed the body of Ficarrotta as it lay disfigured and covered with blood in the street, will meet with Justice Boyett to continue their investigations.

Funeral Yesterday Afternoon

From the residence on Green street at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, the funeral was conducted, interment taken place in Oaklawn cemetery under direction of J.L. Reed. The funeral was one of the most largely attended in the history of the city, and as the procession sadly wended its way through the streets, scores of people bared their heads in accordance with the Latin custom.

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