

RICH BUFFALO MAN

SHOT BY HIS WIFE.

**John H. Costello, Lumber Merchant,
Was Seriously Wounded—
Couple Had Separated.**

BUFFALO, May 4.—John H. Costello, capitalist, mine owner, and lumber merchant, was shot in the back and seriously wounded this afternoon by his wife in the corridor on the fourth floor of the Prudential Building. Immediately after the shooting Mrs. Costello walked down to Police Headquarters and gave herself up. She is in a cell, although no charge has been preferred against her and none will be lodged pending the result of Mr. Costello's wound.

The shooting was the outcome of years of infelicity and warfare in courts between the couple. The Costellos are well known in society. They have been separated for several years, and Mrs. Costello has made frequent attempts to gain possession of her children.

The police say that Mrs. Costello opened the door to her husband's office at 1:30 P. M. and found him alone.

"I would like to speak to you," she said.

Mr. Costello arose from his chair and walked toward the door. As he neared his wife she drew a pistol, supposedly from her pocket. Whether any words were spoken after that is not known. At the sight of the weapon Mr. Costello brushed past his wife and started to run toward the west end of the hall.

Then Mrs. Costello fired. The first shot went wide. Instantly there was a second report. Mr. Costello threw up his hands and fell in the doorway of Room 426. Mrs. Costello disappeared as the occupants of other offices on the floor rushed from their places of business. One man who was in time to see Mr. Costello fall says he saw nothing of the woman after that.

Mr. Costello was quickly carried into his own office. He was strong enough to stand up and talk.

"Who did it?" asked one of the men who had assisted him.

"Mrs. C—" was the answer.

Mr. Costello was removed to the General Hospital and the police were notified of the shooting. While Assistant Superintendent Cusack was on his way to the Prudential Building, Mrs. Costello walked into Police Headquarters and asked for Superintendent Bull. When informed that Gen. Bull was out, Mrs. Costello said she would wait for him. She was recognized by one of the detectives at Headquarters, who at once notified Assistant Superintendent Cusack.

"Where is the gun which you shot your husband?" Mr. Cusack asked Mrs. Costello.

"In my pocket," she replied.

Cusack reached into her pocket and drew out the pistol.

"Is that the gun?" asked Mr. Cusaack.

"Yes," was the reply.

Upon this admission Mrs. Costello was locked up on an open charge. The police tried to get more information from her, but she evaded all questions, and finally refused to answer.

The surgeons at the hospital probed for the bullet in Costello's back for some time this evening, but they were unable to locate it. The physicians, however, are hopeful of his recovery. He is resting easily tonight.

Mr. Costello is one of the best-known and wealthiest men in Buffalo. He made a fortune in the lumber business in Pennsylvania, and has extensive copper mining interests in the West. He is about fifty-three years old, and for some time has been living with his children in the Lenox Hotel, on North Street.

Mrs. Costello is forty-five years old. She was allowed \$100 a month alimony when divorce proceedings were instituted several years ago. Since that time the courts have been kept busy with the affairs of the couple. The alimony proceedings dragged for some time. They were followed by a long fight for the custody of the three children, and Mr. Costello finally won.

Mrs. Costello was not inclined to give up the children without a further struggle, and about a year ago she visited the Niagara Hotel, where Mr. Costello was living, and made a disturbance. She had been ordered by the court prior to that time to keep away from her family, and after the trouble in the Niagara Hotel Mr. Costello had been brought before a court on contempt proceedings. Justice Kenefick reduced her alimony to \$80 per month as punishment for her disobedience.