

"Before she began to talk I told her she could remain silent if she chose. She said, 'As soon as I came out from vespers I came home, then I left to go to father's.'"

"She would say no more."

"Again and again I urged her to confess having participated in the murder. I was telling her that her guilt was evident, and that sooner or later the truth would be known. A score of times she seemed to be on the verge of speaking. She would stop in front of me and seem to form a supreme decision, still the confession would expire on her lips."

"Finally I asked her point-blank, while looking her straight in the face:

"Are you guilty, yes or no?"

"No," she answered.

"I asked again, 'Is Sam Parslow guilty?'"

"She denied again, and said: 'The stories told about Sam Parslow and I are false. He is not my lover.'"

The woman would not add another word, notwithstanding all the coroner's urging.

The coroner, however, basing his decision upon the testimony heard at the inquest and upon the discrepancies in the statements of the two principal witnesses, Sam Parslow and Cordelia Viau, widow of the late Isidore Poirier, concluded that there was sufficient proof to authorize the arrest of these two persons; accordingly, the detective went in his turn to Mrs. Bouvrette's, and there said to Mrs. Poirier:

"Madame, however painful my duty may be, I must accomplish it without fear or favor. After hearing the evidence at the inquest I am compelled to arrest you, as I suspect you of not being foreign to the death of Isidore Poirier, your husband."

Hearing these words, the Poirier woman became pale as death. Her features contracted and her eyes reflected the expression of an exceeding fear. This emotion soon passed away, however; she soon became calm again and said with a decided air, "It is well."

The Chief Constable Brazeau, was in the meanwhile proceeding to the arrest of Sam Parslow, who was living at his brother George's house.

When Sam saw the officer he smiled sadly and asked:

"What is new?"

The Chief Constable answered:

"Sam, I have this morning received orders to arrest you."

"I was expecting this," said Sam simply. "I am ready to follow you."

The Chief Constable then handcuffed Sam and said, "Come." Then followed a pathetic scene.

Until that time Sam Parslow had remained unmoved. When, however, the time came for him to bid farewell to his mother, brothers and sisters; when the time came for him to leave this house where he passed his happy infancy and careless youth, where