

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 30, 1902.

OTHER MEDICAL MEN AGREE WITH DR. SCAMMELL'S DEDUCTIONS,

Judging from Autopsy, Oulton Could Not Have Moved After Injuries Were Inflicted—Gillespie on the Witness Stand—Examined As to His Time Wednesday Night—Repeats He Knows Nothing of the Old Man's Death.

As far as can be ascertained, no important developments have appeared in the mystery surrounding the death of Isaac Oulton. There have been some opinions advanced, weighty arguments thrust out, and confidential prophecies whispered as to the ultimate outcome of what is a widely discussed matter, but since Friday at all events, nothing has been revealed which sheds a light on the seemingly dark occurrence of Wednesday night. On Saturday afternoon the Oulton premises were again gone through, this time the cellar being explored. Here, nothing was found but heaps of debris and piles of brick, and the only thing which appeared in any way significant was a portion of brick masonry, which appeared to have been a recent construction. This work was, apparently a part of the cellar wall, and was back of an old dog kennel. Late in the afternoon a photo was taken of two rooms in which Oulton's body was found. Efforts on the part of the authorities to penetrate the mystery which seems to defy any positive theory of Oulton's death have been unavailing. On Saturday it was announced that the movements of deceased from 4 to 11 o'clock last Wednesday morning had been successfully traced, but beyond the latter hour his whereabouts could not be accounted for.

Of late have come certain assurances which show that Oulton was not solely dependent on the Gillespie family for his food and drink. Gillespie affirmed that he was to pay him \$5 per week for board. Now it is learned from different North End bakers that Oulton invariably purchased bread. One baker states that on Tuesday last he sold Oulton three loaves, selling the food at a reduced rate for it was very stale and almost in a condition to throw away. It was Oulton's sense of aversion and his hatred to make any expenditures that caused him to buy material in this condition, yet he bought bread. From inquiries directed Friday toward those people who this morning are in possession of information regarding the death of Isaac Oulton, one piece of information, which is regarded as important, has been obtained. It is to the effect that Isaac Oulton was seen alive and in company with a man on the Elm street dump between 10 and 11 o'clock on Wednesday night. It was Wednesday night he was found dead. According to all other previously available sources in this connection, Oulton was seen alive on Tuesday. On Tuesday afternoon about 1 o'clock he was observed by the clerks in Philip & Watson's, Douglas street, sitting on his barrow, according to the Gillespie family, he came to their home and partook of his supper, leaving shortly afterwards for his own home on the avenue. Now it is told from a reliable authority that on the following morning (Wednesday), he, in company with a man, was on the Elm street dump. The informant is Mrs. William Cameron, of 150 Victoria street. Her husband is a tinsmith.

Late Friday afternoon all the homes in proximity to Oulton's former abode, were called on to ascertain if Oulton had been seen passing on Wednesday morning. None of those interviewed had seen Oulton on Wednesday, indeed the majority of the householders had not seen him for days. Early Friday afternoon Sergt. Kilpatrick, Detective Killen and Officer Smith made further investigations in the old Oulton home. The lower room facing on the avenue was partly explored, but the interior was in a state of confusion, making the avenue one of inky darkness. From floor to ceiling on all four sides they made an effort to explore the room, a practical impossibility for the time being. Against the stacks of chests were heaps of furniture, leather, mouldy clothing, huge bundles, which to the light appeared cold and sticky. By the corner of a small lantern four chests were examined. The lid of each was nailed down, besides being in one or two instances secured by a padlock. One trunk was full of lace-old and damply mild. The other three contained a medley of material such as his stock in trade. The find was more remarkable for its variety than value. A general investigation was made in the room. The old door nailed across the window was pried off and for the first time perhaps in years the wretched room was invaded by a rush of wind and a flood of sunshine. On one shelf was a small Bible, underneath it part of the fourth reader. There was found in this room a chair, on the seat of which were four drops or rather splashes which were presumed to be possibly blood. The chair was secured by Detective Killen. Inside the stove the officers also found a handful of glass, evidently portions of a lamp chimney. A fragment of that part of the room where Oulton stood more glass was noticed, but the fragments were thick and straight. Axe handles, pickers, crow bars, stove legs, iron bars, long and short, wooden clubs, metal clubs were found. Dr. Scammell, Dr. Roberts and a few others came in and proceeded up the stairway accompanied by the officers. Later a walk was taken into the vacant lot, where underneath the window which looked down on Oulton's room lay a ragged litter of things. Inside, previously, Detective Killen had poked up a small blue lamp without a chimney and outside in this heap he also secured something which could be perhaps chased with the lamp and chair as a bit of evidence. It was a scrap of wrapping paper on which were several dark red blotches, pronounced by the physicians to be blood. There was a small mark on the paper which could possibly be accepted as the impression of a man's thumb or finger after the member had

been dipped in some fluid. The paper was secured by the detective. Another instrument picked up in Oulton's room resembled a slung shot. Some advanced the theory of a mineral rod, which was about one and a half feet in length, had a long, limber whale-bone handle with the end leather covered. W. B. Wallace made a personal examination of the Oulton premises, finding in the search several fragments of a lamp chimney near the stove. Mr. Wallace is strongly inclined to the belief that, providing Oulton was murdered, his assailant struck from behind. Considering this to be so, the weapon used would have been the slung-shot found in the Oulton house. Mr. Wallace affirms that Oulton could have been hit from behind with this slung-shot and wounds exactly as he received, if inflicted. It has been learned from the Gillespie family that on Tuesday last deceased enjoyed four fairly good meals. In the morning he had bread, butter and tea; for dinner fried meat, mashed potatoes and onion sauce; for supper bread, butter and tea, and a few hours later a meal comprising bread and milk with sugar—all made into a pap. From another source comes the intelligence that Oulton could not eat fried meat, for the reason that he had but one tooth.

Monday Mr. Wallace received a letter from Busby Oulton, giving Mr. Wallace full authority to take over all matters connected with Isaac Oulton's estate. Monday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, the coroner's jury and Chief Clark, together with a few police officers and Detective Killen, made an inspection of the Oulton premises. During the walk over the first floor Detective Killen picked up a large black cloth, which lay in the best corner of Oulton's living room. This cloth was spotted apparently with blood. It is supposed that Oulton was in the habit of wearing such a cloth about his head. Upon the window of this room the detective picked up a small blood-stained wooden block. Down further in the litter of rag and debris, a can was discovered in which Oulton had evidently prepared food. The vessel resembled a lard can, and was half filled with a sickly mass of stewed vegetables and meat.

On the 17th inst., Oulton drew two B. N. B. \$10 bills from his solicitor, W. B. Wallace. When asked why Oulton drew this, if he was reported to be constantly carrying sums about his person, Mr. Wallace replied that Oulton had been doing so for years. There was a rumor afloat Monday to the effect that kerosene oil had been noticed on Oulton's trousers, and that same was on an old cushion or pillow found in his room. A native of Cumberland county, N. S., remarked Monday: "I knew a Charles Oulton there, but never for a moment connected him with the miser whose death occurred last week. Charles Oulton and the members of his family occupied a splendid position in the town, and were highly respected. Charles Oulton was a justice of the peace for several years before his death." A variety of tales have been told about Isaac Oulton since Wednesday last, but thus far any narrative which has its basis the virtue of philanthropy has been missing. However, the following chronicles an act which he did, and may be accepted as possessing generosity more or less. The raconteur is now a young lady. The incident happened when she was a small girl. Her home was then on Douglas street, and it was while walking along this thoroughfare that she met Isaac. He regarded her with an amiable eye, and expressed the opinion that she was very pretty. He also remarked that he had never noticed her teasing him. In view of her agreeable face and the fact that she understood how to mind her own business, he felt constrained to tender some mark of his appreciation. He moved away a short distance and produced a money bag, from which he cautiously withdrew a cent. That was her reward. Asked as to what steps the crown would take in the Oulton case Attorney General Pugsley as chief law officer for the province, told The Telegraph that he could not arrive at any decision until the inquest has been concluded. He has already employed W. H. Trueman to watch the case in the interests of the crown.

The funeral of Isaac Oulton was interred at Fernhill cemetery about 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon. His resting place is designated as grave No. 29—single grave section. This location forms portion of a sloping hollow situated below the fountain, and within easy distance and sight of Supt. Clayton's premises. A funeral is depressing in its effects to the majority of those who witness it. Dull weather is somewhat similar to a burial in this respect, but when the two are combined the general tendency to regard the obsequies as possessing only one feature—sadness. Saturday afternoon cannot be recalled as being all with climate conditions other than rain, wind, and cold, which, though with the peculiar circumstances attached to the life and death of the man who was lowered into grave No. 29, made, to the few spectators, an event not only melancholy, but fully memorable. Deceased had been prepared for burial at Undertaker Chamberlain's rooms, Mill street. He was laid out in a plain black tie, white shirt and collar and black tie. His features were composed, but there was no disguising those significant marks on skull, temple and eye, with which the theory of foul play is associated. The funeral hour given out was 4 o'clock. Those in attendance were Rev. R. P. McKim, Undertaker Chamberlain, W. B. Wallace and Mrs. Corrigan. This woman

claims relationship to deceased, stating that her mother was his sister. Mr. Wallace represents the estate of the deceased. As the little party sat in the undertaker's rooms just prior to placing the casket in the waiting hearse outside, the face of the dead man was disclosed for a few brief minutes to permit of a last scrutiny by anyone present who wished. During the wait in the rooms Mrs. Corrigan, who is a tall, grey-haired woman, became much distressed. She would rise from her chair, walk to the window, return to the seat, and in other ways display evidence of a violent grief. After the features of Oulton had been uncovered, and viewed by one of those present, Mrs. Corrigan moved swiftly to the side of the casket and bowed herself over the scarred face beneath. In this posture she remained for several seconds. Then bending lower she softly kissed the glass and immediately after in a choking voice, murmured: "My poor —, they've murdered you." This was not the only distressing incident connected with the funeral. In the cemetery occurred another episode which, while of the same nature, did not reach quite such a dramatic point as that which transpired in the undertaker's rooms. It was at the graveside just subsequent to the lowering in of the casket and shortly after the commencement of the service. A solemn, beautiful words of the Church of England burial service were being slowly pronounced, Mrs. Corrigan, who had been gazing intently into the grave, fell sense reached its climax when she sank upon the heap of clay and gravel thrown up at the grave's edge. When she might have occurred next is distasteful to contemplate, but the moment she wavered and fell assistance was at once tendered her. She was escorted back to the coach and the interrupted service resumed and finished. It is stated that the solicitor for the late Isaac Oulton received positive information that some persons in the city who are endeavoring to claim relationship with the deceased have no ground for their claim.

Charles O'Hara Tells About the Fire. The inquest was resumed Friday night. W. H. Trueman represented the crown, and L. P. D. Tilley, counsel for Thos. Gillespie. (Chas. O'Hara, barber, was the first witness. He testified that he knew Oulton deceased about 11 years. A partition of lath and plaster separates his home from Oulton's. Could not remember when he saw Oulton last. Saw Oulton on the stairs of Mrs. Gillespie told tenants down stairs of fire in Oulton's house. Witness ran down stairs. Mrs. Gillespie had the key. She was in the room where he was found. Could not say who saw Oulton first. The lamp taken by Mrs. Gillespie is in good order. The chimney heard no noises within the struggle. Saw no blood. Did not suspect foul play. Had often heard noises through the partition. Did not see the body until he came back from 10:30 to 4 o'clock in the morning. It sounded like pounding. Saw quite a blaze, reaching almost to the ceiling. Did not see the body until he came back with water from his own house. Mrs. Gillespie went into O'Hara's house and returned with a lamp after he came in with the water. After he threw the water on the flames, he said: "Oh my goodness, Mr. Oulton is burned to death." He described the position of the body. Heard no noises within the past few weeks. Never was told, on inquiry, from Oulton, as to the cause of the noise. It Oulton over and called on cried out smoke would be heard in witness's house. Within the past month he saw no one frequenting Oulton's premises. To Mr. Trueman—Did not notice the kind of clothes Oulton was wearing. There was no fire in Oulton's stove, which was cold. To Coroner Roberts—Have seen deceased eating scraps of meat in his yard. To Mr. Tilley—Was shown where to get water to put out the fire by Mrs. Gillespie. The water was in a pot in an ell of Oulton's room.

Gillespie Boy Recalled. Gillespie was recalled. Described fastenings on the door he opened on Wednesday night. Door was fastened with a long stick. No string was on the stick. Had not been in Oulton's room since last winter. At that time the door was fastened in the same way. To Mr. Trueman—Father did not tell me how open the door. All I noticed was the stick. To Coroner Roberts—There was no chimney on the lamp he had. I saw no chimney broken. Dr. Addy Found No Blood. Dr. G. A. B. Addy, provincial bacteriologist, called on, said he received a spike about eight inches long and about three-quarters of an inch thick from Detective Killen. On the head of the spike was a small mass. Made a microscopic examination and was unable to find any blood. The stains I would take to be ordinary rust. It would be possible to distinguish blood on the iron if it were there.

Dr. Scammell's Important Testimony. Dr. J. H. Scammell, sworn, said on Wednesday night he viewed the body of Oulton in Chamberlain's undertaker's rooms. Mill street, and made a superficial examination of the body. Found rigor mortis well developed. On the left hip and on lower part of abdomen there was an extensive charring. On the left elbow and lower part of that arm were two bruises—one about two inches long and half an inch wide, the other three inches long and half an inch wide. On the left little finger and left middle finger the skin was broken and part of the flesh removed. It took in the last joint on each finger. There was blood over the face, part coming from the nose and some from the

mouth. The nose was broken on both sides. The region of the left eye was swollen, discolored and the eye closed tightly. Under the eyelids there was a little of blood. On the top of the head over the left forehead was a bruise about three inches long and one inch wide. I should say he had been dead at least eight or eight hours. It would be possible to have been 12 hours or longer. The abdomen was greatly distended. That was post mortem. It was decided to hold an autopsy. I did not form an opinion that night as to the cause of death. It would be impossible to do so. My general impression when I saw the body was that the man had been in a conflict. Witness held a post mortem examination Thursday morning at 9 o'clock. Re-examined the body. There were scattered slight bruises over the right temple, result of a fall or blow and possibly of a fist. Examined left hip; charred all over; no sign of inflammation or blistering. It was post mortem. Examined the head first. Removed the scalp where the abrasion was. Over the left forehead was a clot. Next removed the skull cap. Examined interior of the skull and no fracture was found. Under the tongue there was a wound. There was only one tooth in the head, a lower one. Made an incision in the chest and abdomen. Examined chest cavity and lungs. There was no fluid in the chest cavity. There was no sign of inflammation. The heart was normal in size and the valves were all normal and showed no signs of disease. The intestines were distended with gas. The stomach was normal and contained from six to eight ounces of partly digested food. The intestines were normal; the liver showed no signs of disease. The spleen was a little enlarged. The pancreas was thickened. Both kidneys were normal, the pancreas was normal. The brain was carefully dissected all through. There was no sign of hemorrhage or from any of the blood vessels, or no evidence of diseased conditions.

From the superficial examination made Wednesday night in conjunction with the post mortem examination the next day witness said he would consider the cause of death was concussion of the brain, which is practically a shock to the brain substance due to external violence. He did not think they could have been received by a fall. "I think it points very strongly to foul play; I think there was foul play." To Mr. Trueman—The grounds I take that the injuries could not be caused by a fall are the situation and extent of fall. The wound on the head could not be received by a man falling down head first from a height, as the bruise was more on the top of the head. A man could receive these injuries if he fell down stairs and tumbled over. If Oulton had been attacked from the front he would receive injuries like the one on the back and above the elbow, providing he threw up his arm in defence. The wound on the forehead would be the result of the tooth. The wound on the forehead was characteristic of a blow. There was no indication of that wound coming in contact with anything. There was no evidence of the man having heart failure or fainting spells. The wounds were so that the man could not have been loomed over; the wounds were not on the forehead. The nose was broken in a number of places and could cause concussion. The bruises on the face and head could not be caused by one blow. His hands were partially extended. He did not think the blow on the left side of head was from a hand. The blow on nose and left side was sufficient to fell a man. If the man had fallen down a pair of stairs more than likely there would have been a hemorrhage in the head. An ordinary fall in his room would not produce these wounds. He would have fallen in a hole in the wall or have been assaulted. Witness had been in the kitchen where Oulton was found. There was nothing on the wall. He had climbed the stairs for him to fall on upon the stove. Considering the space in the room a fall would not warrant such severe bruises. Supposing that the man had fallen down stairs and received the blows he would not be able to get to his bed himself. To Juror Russell—It would not be possible to receive the injuries by falling a couple of times. Heard on that witness said that he had examined the stairs in the house. Witness did not think it possible for a man to stumble going into the room and fall forward and receive the blows described. From the examination of the stomach witness said he saw pulp of orange, part of fish, some bread and just no sign of anything else. It might have been possible to have taken alcoholic liquor and it could have been absorbed. The court adjourned at 12:25 o'clock to meet again on Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock. There are five or six more witnesses to be examined.

The Inquest Resumes. The inquiry into the Oulton case was resumed Monday at the North End police station Monday before Coroner Roberts. The room was crowded. W. H. Trueman was present representing the crown, and L. P. D. Tilley and A. W. Baird for Thos. Gillespie. Mrs. Margaret Whelpley was the first witness. She said she resided on Douglas avenue, next to Oulton's. She had seen Oulton alive between 10 and 11 o'clock Wednesday morning, April 23. He passed her windows with his wheelbarrow. The barrow was full of rubbish. She had seen him very often. Witness had not seen any person frequenting Oulton's house Tuesday or Wednesday nights. Oulton always went in the side door. To Mr. Trueman—That Wednesday morning it was just by chance I saw him. Heard of his death on Wednesday night and remembered then of seeing him in the morning. Was positive of that fact. Dr. Murray MacLaren. Dr. Murray MacLaren was called to listen to Dr. Scammell, who repeated the evidence given by him Friday evening. Dr. MacLaren was then sworn and said: Concussion of the brain was a shock to the brain and such a condition would be produced by a fall or blow. He had heard Dr. Scammell's recital of his evidence on the post mortem examination as to the brain substance. He could not say whether the death was instantaneous or not. Under

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