

THE HOLMES HORROR

Both Husband and Children Were Murdered Out of Greed of Gain.

She Bade Good-Bye to Her Little Ones and Never Saw Them Again.

Till She Found Them Lying Cold in Death on the Morgue Slab.

During the Sorrowful Tale, Holmes Sat the Only Person in Court Unmoved.

Philadelphia, Oct. 30.—For four long hours to-day, under the scrutinizing gaze of a court room crowded with strangers to her, a pale, worn woman underwent an ordeal which well might have broken the nerve of many a strong man.

She was Mrs. Carrie Alice Pietzel. With bravery and fortitude she stood the test in spite of the fact that her physical condition has been shattered by the battalion of woes under which she has all but succumbed, that she was obliged to interrupt her pitiful narrative at frequent intervals to accept spoonfuls of medicine from the nurse who attended her.

In a voice broken with grief she told the whole distressing story. How her husband was spirited away from her and murdered out of sheer greed of gain; how she bade her little ones good-bye, confiding them to the care of Holmes in all truthfulness, little thinking that when next she set eyes upon them the two little girls would be lying side by side on the marble slab of a morgue, cold in death, and the boy a parcel of blackened bones.

Her bitter sobs she related every detail from the first meeting with Holmes up to the day when she was spirited away from her and murdered out of sheer greed of gain; how she bade her little ones good-bye, confiding them to the care of Holmes in all truthfulness, little thinking that when next she set eyes upon them the two little girls would be lying side by side on the marble slab of a morgue, cold in death, and the boy a parcel of blackened bones.

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been killed by an explosion, but Holmes told me my husband was all right. Alice left St. Louis in Holmes' care. She went at Holmes' suggestion to Philadelphia to identify the body because I was sick. I asked Howe to take care of Alice, and Holmes said he would. Minnie Williams, Holmes' cousin, he said, would take care of her. I never saw Holmes on September 27th, when he came to our house and said he had brought Alice back to Cincinnati. He said he would take Howard and Nellie to Alice so she would not be alone, and had made arrangements for Alice to meet them in Cincinnati. I took Nellie and Howard to the depot. Howe was there and said the insurance money had been paid. Holmes said to Howe, "You had better give her some money," and Howe gave me \$5. I bade the children good-bye and they got on the car. On October 22 Holmes came to the house in St. Louis and we went to Howe's office. Holmes was there and Howe said the scheme was a fraud and he washed his hands of it.

"They wanted me to sign a paper in regard to Howe's fee and after being assured that it would not be implicated in the case, I did so. Holmes then went under the name of Howard. He demanded \$300 or \$400 of me, and I gave it. He wanted to go to some bank and pay off the note due on the Fort Worth property. I got the \$5000 and he took it around to the bank. He took the money to a side window. Then I came back and brought the note, saying it was paid. He told me to take care to show it to Ben when I saw him.

"How much did you get in all of this insurance money?" "I received \$500. That was all I ever got."

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"I received \$500. That was all I ever got."

"After this money transaction, what became of Holmes?" "He took another \$200 for the children who, he said, would need some in Indianapolis, went away, and some time after sent a letter from Detroit to me to come on here and see my husband, but he sent me to visit my parents at Galva, Ill."

In answer to further questions, Mrs. Pietzel went on: "When I went to Detroit with Dessa and the baby he met us and took us to Geese's European hotel. I said I expected to hear from the children, and he said they would write in a few days. Holmes registered for me as Mrs. Adams. We remained in Detroit until October 18. He said he looked all over the town and could not find a vacant house where it would be convenient for me to see Ben. On the morning of the 18th he said he had better go to Toronto. He thought Dessa should join the other children in Indianapolis, where they were in charge of a widow, he said. According to his story, he had bought some property there for his wife's mother, but as she was not ready to move into it, I could live there free of rent. I asked him the name of the widow my children were with and he said: 'It's a peculiar name; I cannot think of it now.' We went to Toronto, where he also registered me as Mrs. Adams. My husband, he said, was in Montreal waiting for word to come on. On that day he brought me a letter from Nellie. It was in cipher, and he read it to me thus: 'Dear Mama: We are all well and going to school, but Howard won't mind Alice. He will get dirty. We have plenty of money, and the woman who took care of us. We're in Detroit from October 18th to the 25th. Holmes did not stop at the same house with me. I don't know where his different stopping places were. On the afternoon of the 25th he came to the hotel and said he wanted me to hurry up and go to Prescott, Canada, and there cross over to Ogdensburg. He went to Prescott and stayed at the National hotel until November 1st. From there we went to Burlington, Vermont. Holmes here rented a furnished house on Minooka avenue. He told me that I had worn out the name of Adams and to take the name of Cook. The second week we were at Burlington I said I was not going to stand it any longer. I wanted to see Ben, and I told Holmes I believed he was lying to me. He denied this. I said: 'I do not hear from my children, and I said I would get the rent from the Fort Worth property, and I have not a scratch to show. I said I would go to the children in Indianapolis, but he said: 'No, not till you see Ben.' He said he was going to take Ben to the United States, get him to sign papers about the Fort Worth property, and sell it. For two or three days I did not see him, and then he came and told me he had taken the children to Toronto. He said he would not catch cold and that they were perfectly happy. I never saw him on Sundays. He never came around. He said he would have to go to Montreal, as Ben had been drinking. He told me to go into the cellar and under the potato bin I would find a bottle of dynamite which I would carry to the attic. I did not carry it up stairs, though. Holmes was there known as Judson. He told me Ben had been drinking and was sick, and asked me what I would do if he should die. He said: 'I have one grave marked for him.' All my letters were given to Holmes to mail. He said he sent them to Chicago, where Pat Quinn, the janitor of the 'castle,' took care to get them to my husband.'

in the morgue at Toronto. I never saw Howard, except what belonged to him. Indianapolis, in the coroner's office. This ended the examination in chief. In answer to questions from Mr. Rotan, the witness said she was married to Pietzel in Galva, Ill., in 1878. She did not know where Holmes had been until she met him in 1889. She first met Holmes in the restaurant at 63rd and Wallace streets, Chicago, the "Castle," when she was with her band there in 1885. She did not see much of Holmes until the insurance matter came up. A long line of questions were put to Mrs. Pietzel, many of which were ruled out on the ground of irrelevance.

At 5:30 a recess was taken and up to that time her testimony had not been shaken. Court re-assembled at seven o'clock and during the few moments which elapsed before the business of the case was resumed Holmes sat in the dock reading "St. Nicholas" Digest. Law. At 7:15 o'clock Mrs. Pietzel's trying ordeal was resumed. After she had taken a liberal dose of medicine from the nurse who accompanied her and her daughter Dessa, the cross-examination of the witness, and 8:25, but developed nothing to controvert her evidence in chief.

District Attorney Graham then showed her the crayon portrait of Pietzel, and she said: "Yes, that is a good picture of my husband as he left home." This concluded Mrs. Pietzel's testimony, and at 8:30 she gave way for her daughter, Jeannette, "Dessa." Her testimony was largely corroborative of that given by her mother concerning the departure of the property were completely stated and it was thought best to use that name.

The court consented to Holmes conducting the cross-examination. Then, arising, he stood in the corner of the dock nearest to the witness stand and addressed his questions tremulously direct to the woman he calls his wife. She never raised her eyes, but gave her replies in a whisper to the crier, who repeated them aloud.

NEWFOUNDLAND BAD SHEEP

A Special Supreme Court Session to Try the Smugglers and Bankers.

Customs Officials to be Dismissed for Negligence or Complicity With Smugglers.

St. John's, Nfld., Oct. 31.—Owing to the prosecution of the bank directors and smugglers a special term of the supreme court will be needed. The trials of the smuggling cases are of such a character as to require that they shall be heard before a jury. The crown prosecutor admits that there is little prospect of the jurors convicting the smugglers.

An investigation has been ordered into the workings of the customs department preliminary to the dismissal of a number of officials, whose negligence or complicity permitted the smuggling in the districts for which they were responsible.

DOINGS IN THE DOMINION.

Chapter of Drowning Accidents—Shooting Scrape—A Patron Unseated.

Montreal, Oct. 31.—Albert Gette, furniture dealer, has assigned on the demand of Mr. Buck, of Brantford, Ontario, liabilities \$38,000.

Peterboro', Ont., Oct. 31.—Capt. Reynolds, of the steamer Golden City, was drowned from a canoe in Deer lake on Monday afternoon. He was not mistaken until next day when the canoe and his hat were found floating in the lake. He leaves a widow and two young children.

Halifax, N.S., Oct. 31.—A sad drowning accident occurred off Lockport harbor, near Guilford, yesterday, in which three fishermen of Western Head, Frank Williams, his son Frank, aged 8, and Nicholas Holland, a young man of 25 years, lost their lives by the capsizing of their boat.

Clarksburg, Oct. 31.—T. B. White died suddenly this evening at a public meeting. Mr. White was an active member of the Farmers' Institute and Agricultural Society.

Hamilton, Ont., Oct. 31.—The proprietors of the St. Nicholas hotel have entered an action against the Spectator Printing company for \$10,000 damages on account of a recent news item in the Spectator reflecting on the reputation of the St. Nicholas.

Toronto, Oct. 31.—George Tucker, Patron of Industry, appealed against the decision of the lower court unseating him as a member of the legislature for the acts of his agent. The appeal was dismissed in the court of appeals yesterday.

Cobourg, Oct. 31.—K. Y. Cruickshanks, a lawyer, was shot by George Phillips, an old resident, in the former's office last evening. Three of the bullets took effect, one in the neck, one in the cheek, and a third in the right hand. Cruickshanks was found nearly dead afterwards by Lawyer H. F. Holland. Phillips cannot be found by the police. The motive for the crime is not known. At a late hour Cruickshanks was in a very critical condition.

Cable News.

Friedrichsruhe, Oct. 31.—There is absolutely no foundation for the sensational report that Prince Bismarck is self with himself, still occasionally giving a sob.

When he came up he said it was a messenger from the Pennsylvania railroad, and that he was to see some official of that company at the messenger's home next morning to close out contracts for copying. Afterwards he said the caller was B. F. Peltzel. This was the day before we left Philadelphia. "Was he at home next day?" "Part of the day. He went out at half past ten a. m. and came back between 3 and 4 in the afternoon. He said he had been at Nicetown, a suburb of Philadelphia."

"Some time afterwards he went to St. Louis. When he returned from this trip, he said he had sold a block for \$35,000, \$10,000 in cash, balance payable semi-annually.

Of the money he received for the Fort Worth property he said he had sent \$5,000 to his broker, Mr. Blackman, Chicago. He gave me \$2,000, more or less, and also gave me several presents: a Bible, locket, diamond earrings and a little heart set with pearls. He next left me about October 9th or 10th, and said he was going to Cincinnati. I went to my mother's home at Franklin, Ind. Afterwards I visited Toronto, Prescott, Canada; Ogdensburg, New York, and Burlington, Vt., and returned to Philadelphia on the latter place, and then went to Boston. Here we remained a week when he was arrested."

"Did you, during all