

THE TORN GLOVE.

A DETECTIVE'S STORY.

On the 4th of January, 18—, a startling rumor prevailed in the city of New York that Mr. Stephen Meredith, a respectable merchant and citizen, had been found assassinated in his bed. His house, which was situated in Canal Street, was immediately surrounded by a curious crowd, and upon inquiry it was found that the news was only too true. The utmost consternation prevailed, and a hundred rumors were afloat, but nothing definite could be learned.

At this period I was engaged as a regular detective officer, and Mr. Meredith's partner called on me the same afternoon to investigate the matter, as the inquiries of the authorities up to that time had led to no result.

My first proceeding was to make inquiries with respect to Mr. Meredith's past history, and the information I gathered amounted to substantially as follows:

The unfortunate gentleman was English by birth, who, at twenty years of age, emigrated to this country. He immediately obtained a situation as clerk in a commission house, and soon rendered himself so useful that his employers took him into partnership, and finally he became head of the firm. His integrity was unimpeachable, and he was universally respected by all who knew him. He had never married, but entertained a good deal of company at his house. His partner, Mr. Johnson, (for it was from him I obtained this information,) further informed me he was not aware Mr. Meredith had an enemy in the world.

I next proceeded to visit the scene of the tragedy, and on inquiring at the residence of the deceased in Canal street, I was immediately admitted.

Found that everything remained in exactly the same state as when the murder was first discovered in the morning. I entered the fatal chamber, and found the deceased lying on the bed. A cursory examination of the body was sufficient to decide how the unfortunate gentleman had come by his death, for on one of his temples was a blue mark, showing where a bullet had penetrated to his brain.

The room in which the deed had been committed was on the third floor, fronting the street, and the door opened into a corridor, which was common to several apartments. The second floor was used as a drawing-room and breakfast-parlor, and the ground floor was used as a drug store.

On the very outset of my investigations I was surrounded by mystery, for the two servant girls, the only inmates of the house besides Mr. Meredith, informed me that the front door was fastened on the inside in the morning when they went down stairs, thus showing to a certainty that no one had entered the house by that means.

They further informed me that the fact of Mr. Meredith not rising at his usual hour had first aroused suspicion that something was wrong. One of them went to his chamber door, and knocked several times without receiving any answer. Very much alarmed, she tried the door, and to her surprise found it fastened on the inside.

She immediately went down to her fellow-servant, and calling in some neighbors, they proceeded to break open the door. They found Mr. Meredith dead in his bed. The unfortunate gentleman appeared to have died without a struggle, for the bedclothes were not in the least deranged, and he lay there as calmly as if asleep.

The difficulty with which I had to contend in the first instance, was not who had committed the murder, but how it was possible for any one to have done the deed at all.

From the above statement it will be seen that no one had broken into the house, as the doors were all fastened, and even the victim's chamber door was found to be bolted on the inside.

When I had obtained the above particulars, I proceeded to examine narrowly Mr. Meredith's chamber. It was a lofty room at the top of the house, as I have before stated. On walking up to the windows, I found they were surrounded by a balcony common to that house and the one adjoining. Here then was a mode of entrance into the chamber, but the windows of the apartment were both fastened, and I learned that they were thus found when the room was first entered. It is true there was a pane of glass broken, but that had evidently been occasioned by the concussion of the gun or pistol with which the deed had been committed, for the pieces of broken glass were strewn on the balcony.

My next proceeding was to visit the adjoining house, which I found was occupied by Mr. Rignal, the proprietor of the drug store, a young unmarried man, against whom there could be no suspicion, as he bore an unimpeachable character for honor and integrity.

In answer to my inquiry, he stated that although his bedroom was only separated from that of the deceased by a thin wall, he had heard no report of a pistol-shot during the night. Nor could I learn that anybody in the house or neighborhood had heard any report.

Here was a new mystery, which served to complicate matters considerably, indeed.

In the midst of my inquiries the coroner arrived, and the jury proceeded to investigate. I need not dwell on this matter, as they discovered no more than I have stated above, and after an hour or two they brought in a verdict that Mr. Stephen Meredith had come to his death from the effects of a poisonous substance.

Having thus settled the matter, they all adjourned to a neighboring tavern, to talk the matter over their cups. They invited me to accompany them, but I felt in no mood to do so.

I returned home a good deal crest-fallen. This had been the only case where I had been so completely non-plussed as not to have discovered some clue; but in the present case I was utterly in the dark. That evening, while smoking a cigar, I thought over the matter in every possible light, until at last, weary of fruitless endeavor, I retired to bed.

It was quite morning before I fell asleep, for this tragedy still continued to occupy my thoughts. My professional reputation was at stake in the matter, and often or twice I upbraided myself for not having made a more thorough examination of the premises, and almost felt tempted to get up and go to the house again, late as it was; but then, when I attempted to individualize where I had been remiss, I could not do it.

I did not awake until late the next morning, and perhaps should even have slept later, had not my wife informed me that Mr. Johnson, the late Mr. Meredith's partner, wished to see me. I got up, and hurriedly putting on my clothes, went down stairs to the parlor, where I found the gentleman who had first introduced the matter to me, pacing up and down the room.

"Well, Barker," said he to me, "the murderer is taken."

"The murderer taken," I repeated, "impossible! It is a fact."

"Who is it?"

"Rignal, the proprietor of the store."

"That cannot be; I saw Mr. Rignal yesterday, and am persuaded that he could not have committed the deed."

"Your opinion is at fault for once in your life," he returned; "the evidence is overwhelming."

"What is the nature of it?"

"Why, you know he occupies the next house. The balcony outside the windows runs along both houses. It appears that in the night he entered Mr. Meredith's room by the balcony, and shot the poor old gentleman with a revolver."

"And who has discovered the mare's nest?" I asked.

"Sullivan and O'Keefe, who have been investigating the matter all night," he said.

"These were the names of two rival detective officers, and should it prove true that they had been successful when I had failed, I knew that my prestige was lost, and that I should have to seek for some other means of livelihood."

"Mr. Johnson, they must be mistaken; the windows were all fastened down when the body was discovered."

"Yes, but there was a pane of glass broken next to the fastening. Besides, they have discovered the pistol with which the fatal shot was fired in Rignal's possession; his hand, too, is badly cut with the broken glass."

"But what was the motive?"

"Revenge, it seems; Mr. Meredith and the druggist had a violent quarrel the evening before."

"I must confess that I was staggered; but still I felt that this man Rignal could not have committed the deed. When I conversed with him the day before, the impression he had made on my mind was so favorable that I had not entertained the slightest suspicion that he could be the guilty party."

"It is strange, Barker," said Mr. Johnson, "that you did not notice one of the panes of glass broken?"

"I did notice it, but my impression was that it was broken by the concussion of the pistol-shot; and even now I cannot understand how it could have been broken on the outside, for all the fractured glass was strewn on the balcony; in the other case it ought to have been in the room."

"I am surprised, Barker, that it should not have struck a man of your acuteness and penetration that it was very easy for the assassin to throw all the glass out of the window after the deed was committed, for the very purpose of blinding people, as it seems to have done you," he remarked.

"Why, you ought to have been a detective officer yourself, Mr. Johnson; but we shall see. It is my opinion that Rignal did not commit the deed."

"Well, all I can say is, the evidence is most conclusive; but I must go and dress for the funeral; it takes place to-day. Do you mean to investigate the matter any further?"

"Well, yes. I shall at all events convince myself with respect to this druggist's guilt or innocence."

Mr. Johnson then left me.

I determined the moment that I had taken breakfast to call and see the accused, and hurried through my meal for that purpose.

I had already opened the front door, when I saw a young lady in the act of ringing the bell. Supposing it was some visitor to my wife, I was about passing on; when she accosted me.

"Can you inform me if Mr. Baker is within, she asked."

"That is my name, madam, I replied. Did you wish to speak with me?"

"If you please—on very important business."

I led the way back again into the parlor, and asked my visitor to be seated. I now had an opportunity of scrutinizing the young lady more closely, and was compelled to acknowledge that she was one of the most beautiful girls I ever beheld. She could not be more than eighteen years of age, and possessed a purely American face, that type of womanly beauty which claims the notice of all strangers who visit our country. Her face was oval, her eyes black, and shielded by long dark eyelashes; her nose was purely Grecian, and her red, pouting lips, slightly separated, revealed a magnificent set of teeth, white as ivory. Her complexion was very fair, and her cheeks tinged with the hue of health. She was above the middle height, and her form was most gracefully rounded.

"Mr. Barker," she commenced, as soon as she was seated, "I have come to see you on a most painful business. My name is Mary Murdock, and I am a cousin to Mr. Rignal, who is arrested for the murder of Mr. Meredith. I have just learned from him that you saw him yesterday, and at once concluded to apply to you in my trouble."

"My dear young lady," I replied, "you may command my services in any way I can be useful."

"In the first place, let me ask you, sir, if you believe my cousin guilty of the foul crime laid to his charge? From what he told me about you, I cannot believe this to be the case; should I, however, be deceived in the matter, my visit will be fruitless."

"I will be candid with you, Miss Murdock. I do not think Mr. Rignal is guilty of the murder. I am a pretty good judge of character, and my interview with Mr. Rignal impressed me so favorably yesterday, that I cannot think my judgment has been deceived."

"God bless you for saying that," returned the poor girl, clasping her hands together. "You are right, sir—indeed you are. James Rignal is as innocent as I am. Forgive my emotion, sir, but if you know how heavily my heart is oppressed, you would make some allowance for me. I will disguise nothing from you—Mr. Rignal and myself have been engaged to each other for more than two years, and we were to have been married next week. And now this terrible charge has wrecked all our hopes."

The poor young lady could not go on, but burying her face in her hands, the pearls tears trickled slowly through her fingers.

"Cheer up, my dear young lady," I replied, trying to comfort her. "I will use every endeavor to prove his innocence, and I have but little doubt I shall be successful. I was about visiting him when you came here. After I have had an interview with him, I shall see my way clear before me. Call on me to-morrow, and I hope to be able to give you some good news."

She dried her eyes, and pouring out a flood of heartfelt thanks, bade me good morning.

I immediately directed my steps to the Toombs, and had no difficulty in obtaining an interview with the prisoner. I found him in a bare cell, with nothing but a couch on which to sit. He was a fine young man, about twenty-five years of age, his face decidedly intellectual, and his clear open expression was certainly strong moral evidence against his having committed the deed with which he was now charged.

His eyes lighted up when he saw me, and he pressed my hand with much emotion.

"I little thought, Mr. Barker," said he, "that when I saw you yesterday I should stand charged with this horrible crime."

"Be of good cheer, Mr. Rignal. I am persuaded of your innocence, and I have but little doubt I shall discover something in a day or two, which will prove it to the world. I want to ask you a few questions."

"I am ready to answer any thing you may ask me."

"It appears that on examining your rooms, a revolver was found with one of the barrels discharged?"

"That is true; the revolver belongs to me, and I fired of the barrel at a cat in the yard a day or two since," he answered.

"It is also said your hand is cut with glass?"

"That is also true. Just before closing my store yesterday, I broke a gallon bottle, and cut my hand severely," was his reply.

"Did any one see your hand cut before retiring to bed that night?" I again asked.

"No, it was late; and I tied my handkerchief tightly round my hand, and went to bed immediately."

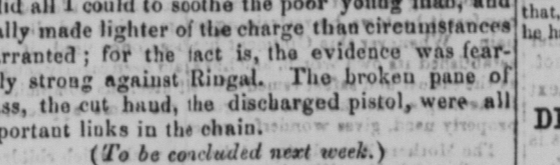
"That is unfortunate; but never mind. I believe all you have told me, Mr. Rignal, and have but little doubt I shall be able to ferret out the real criminal. By-the-by, a young lady called to see me this morning."

"It was Mary Murdock, I am certain," said he, his eyes lighting up with joy; "dear, dear girl. I assure you, Mr. Barker, I feel the humiliation of my present situation, and yet I know her heart too well to think for a moment that she believes me guilty."

"Have no fear on that head; she is as thoroughly convinced of your innocence as I am."

We continued to converse for some time longer. I did all I could to soothe the poor young man, and really made lighter of the charge than circumstances warranted; for the fact is, the evidence was fearfully strong against Rignal. The broken pane of glass, the cut hand, the discharged pistol, were all important links in the chain.

(To be concluded next week.)



UNDER ROYAL PATRONAGE

THE "WAVERLY HOUSE,"

78, King St., --- St. John, N. B.

THIS HOUSE HAS BEEN PATRONIZED BY H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, H. R. H. PRINCE ALFRED,

By all the British American Governors and by the English Nobility and Gentry, as well as by the most distinguished Americans, whom business or pleasure may have brought to St. John, who have joined in pronouncing it

THE FAVORITE HOUSE OF THE PROVINCES

The Proprietor, thankful for past favors, would respectfully intimate to the travelling Public that he will spare no pains or expense to render the House still further deserving their patronage.—Every attention paid to the comfort of guests.

JOHN GUTHRIE, Proprietor.

St. John, N. B., Oct. 31, 1863.

Fire! Fire!! Fire!!

McKINNON & FRASER'S

CARRIAGE FACTORY,

PRINCE STREET,

RE-OPENED!

THE Subscriber, in announcing the re-opening of their Factory, destroyed by fire in the early part of the Summer, avails themselves of the opportunity of returning thanks for the very liberal patronage extended to them in the past, and respectfully request a continuance of the same for the future. Their new Factory being so large and so well fitted up as to be second to none in Prince Edward Island, and moreover, a large Stock of the very best Materials used in their trade having been lately received by them from the United States, their facilities for carrying on business are greatly increased, and they are now prepared to supply

Carriages, Sleighs, &c.,

in as good style as can be got up in the City, and upon as reasonable terms.

Job Work of all kinds in our line strictly attended to.

Painting also done in the best style.

McKINNON & FRASER.

Upper Prince Street, Charlotte, N. B.

October 3rd, 1866.

Notice to Debtors.

ALL persons indebted to the foregoing Firm are earnestly requested to make immediate payment of their respective Accounts. The losses sustained by the burning of their Premises demand that these outstanding debts be paid up at once.

McKINNON & FRASER.

Upper Prince Street, Charlotte, N. B.

October 3rd, 1866.

YARMOUTH STOVES!

JUST RECEIVED by the Subscriber, per Schooner Mary from Yarmouth, a full and complete Cargo of those celebrated Stoves, consisting of Cooking, Hot and Franklin, the character of which is so well known to our Island farmers, to whom they have given such general satisfaction. They will be sold at the usual terms, for Cash or approved Notes.

To be had of R. J. CLARKE,

Orwell Cheap Store,

September 12th, 1866.

KENT STREET CLOTHING STORE

THE Subscriber has just received, and offers for sale on reasonable terms, the following goods:—

Black Broadcloths and Doerings, to be had in Tweeds and Silk Mixtures,

Heavy White and Beavers, &c., &c.

The above Goods will be found suitable for Fall and Winter wear, and can be recommended to the Public as being of a first-rate quality. He has also on hand, and is manufacturing continually, READY-MADE CLOTHING in—

Over Coats, Sack Coats,

Shooting Coats, Pants, Vests, &c.

The Subscriber pays particular attention to the wants of working men; and to accommodate them, he is manufacturing Honespun suits, which kind of wear will be found to give more satisfaction to laboring men and mechanics than anything else they can purchase.

He also takes this opportunity of sincerely thanking his numerous friends and customers for the very liberal patronage bestowed upon him during the last nine years, and to respectfully solicit a continuance of the same, as he is better prepared to accommodate them than this Fall than he has ever been before.

PATRICK REILLY.

October 10, 1866.

1866, Spring Goods, 1866.

THE Subscriber has now completed his Importations for the Season, per ships "Lotus" and "Ariadne" from BRITAIN, consisting of—

Black Broad Cloths and Doerings, Fancy Coatings and Scotch Tweed Dressings, Ready-Made Clothing,

Hats and Caps, Gloves, Scarfs, Ties, Blouses, Grey and White Cottons, sheetings, checked shirtings, printed Cottons, ginghams, jeans, onsburgs, baggings, tickings, Cotton Warp, white, red and blue, (waranted superior quality); white and scarlet flannels, awnaris, parasols, Hats, bonnet-shapes, ribbons, falls, white and colored Hosi, hoop skirts and a general assortment of

Seasonable Goods.

Cheerful choice Cotton TEA, Sugar, Molasses, Liverpool Soap, glass, nails, salt leather, &c.

W. H. WILSON.

McNeill's Old Scotch Whisky, &c. &c. &c.

Charlotte, N. B., June 13, 1866.

A FINE CHANCE FOR SPECULATORS

ENTERPRISING MEN

THE undersigned has been instructed by the Owners to offer for SALE, or to RENT, several valuable FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD PROPERTIES, and FARMS, in BELFAST and other parts of the Island, in good cultivation, well wooded, and possessing other advantages; and for which good and valid titles, and immediate possession can be given.

Also, four LOTS, being the residue of thirteen Building Lots, (the other nine having been sold the present Season) in that most advantageous mercantile situation known as "SUMMER HILL," adjoining MONTAGUE BRIDGE, ten miles from Georgetown, where close to 150,000 bushels of Produce are annually shipped, and nearly all paid for in Cash, Americans and other speculators purchase here and ship for Great Britain, the United States, &c.

A number of Stores, Wharves, a Meeting House, Post Office, and Temperance Society have been established for some time, with many Grist and Saw and Cloth Mills in the vicinity; where also any quantity of all kinds of lumber can be had at a moderate low rate. "SUMMER HILL" is the only Freehold Property for sale in the place which renders it most desirable for the above class of artizans, nor so much wanted in this rising town.

A STORE and DWELLING on it, capable of holding 15,000 bushels produce, with a double Wharf and site for a Lime Kiln, will be sold or leased on reasonable terms.

Plans, particulars or any other information can be obtained by calling at the office of Messrs. BALL & SON, Land Surveyors, Charlottetown. Reference can also be had from W. SANDERSON, F. P. NORTON, THOS. ANNEAR, Georgetown; JAS. BOBERTACK, Campbellton, Lot 4; F. W. HUGHES, Esq., Charlottetown, and to the subscriber at Orwell, who is also Agent for the sale of Manny's Sewing Machines, the celebrated Yarmouth COOKING STOVE, and also for the Filling Mills of Messrs. BOURKE, Mill View, the Honble. JAS. McLAUREN, New Perth, FINLAY W. McDONALD, Pictou; where CLOTH is received and returned with despatch.

Orwell Store, Aug. 10, 1864.

REMOVAL.

DR. WIG. SUTHERLAND has removed from his late residence on Queen Street

To the Corner of Great George & Kent Streets and would respectfully inform his friends and customers, that by late arrivals of direct importations from EUROPE, he has greatly added to his

LARGE STOCK

DRUGS, CHEMICALS, PERFUMERY and TOILET ARTICLES in variety.

DR. SUTHERLAND returns thanks for the patronage so liberally extended to him since his residence in Charlottetown, and hopes the same may be continued towards him trusting that by assiduity and attention in every branch of his profession, he will retain the confidence of the public.

THE DISPENSARY is under the Doctor's own supervision.

Advice to the Poor Gratis.

Charlottetown, May 19,

Ex JANE, from Halifax, N. S.,

60 Puncheons MOLASSES, of various qualities, 10 Hhds. bright SUGAR.

For sale by OWEN CONNOLLY, Charlottetown, September 19, 1866.

Peterson's Familiar Science

A BOOK FOR EVERYBODY!

THIS Work, which is intended for the use of Families and Schools, contains a vast fund of useful information in the form of answers to 2,000 questions on every conceivable subject, and is written in language so plain as to be understood by all. Teachers and Pupils preparing themselves for the profession of school-teaching, as well as for any competitive examination, could not have a more useful book.

For sale by B. REILLY, Herald Office, Kent Street, Dec.

HENRY A. HARVIE,

Bookseller and Stationer,

Dealer in Hardware, Fancy Goods, &c.,

BEGS leave most respectfully to announce to his many friends in town and country, and the public generally, that he has REMOVED (with one-half of the Stock of the late Firm of LAIRD & HARVIE,) from the Old Stand, Queen Square, to his

New Stand, Queen Street,

recently BELL'S Clothing Store, and directly opposite the Store of WM. McGILL, Esq.

Having had sixteen years practical experience in the above line of business, and having RE-FITTED his Establishment, and intending to do business as much as possible on the CASH SYSTEM, is prepared to supply Wholesale and Retail Customers on the very best of terms.

MR. HARVIE embraces this opportunity of thanking those friends, and the public generally, who have so kindly patronised him while in connection with the late Firm of LAIRD & HARVIE.

HARVIE'S BOOK STORE, QUEEN-STREET.

Charlottetown, July 11, 1866.

CHILDREN TEETHING

MRS. WINSLOW,

An experienced Nurse and Female Physician, presents to the attention of mothers, her

Soothing Syrup,

For Children Teething,

which greatly facilitates the process of teething, by softening the gums, reducing all inflammation, will allay all pain and spasmodic action, and is

REGULATIVE TO THE BOWELS.

Depend upon it, mothers, it will give rest to yourself, and RELIEF AND HEALTH TO YOUR INFANTS.

We have put up and sold this article for over thirty years, and can say with confidence and truth of it, which we have never been able to say of any other medicine—never has it failed, in a single instance, to effect a cure, when timely used. Never did we know an instance of dissatisfaction by any one who used it. On the contrary, all are delighted with its operations, and speak in terms of highest commendation of its magical effects and medicinal virtues. We speak in this manner, when we know, after thirty years' experience, and pledge our reputation for the fulfillment of what we here declare. In almost every instance where the infant is suffering from pain and exhaustion, relief will be found in fifteen or twenty minutes after the syrup is administered.

This valuable preparation is the prescription of one of the most experienced and skillful nurses in New England, and has been used with never failing success in

THOUSANDS OF CASES.

It not only relieves the child from pain, but invigorates the stomach and bowels, corrects acidity, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. It will almost instantly relieve

GRIPING IN THE BOWELS, AND WIND COLIC

and overcome convulsions, which, if not speedily remedied end in death. We believe it the best and surest remedy in the world, in all cases of Dysentery and Diarrhoea in childhood, whether it arises from teething, or from any other cause. We would say to every mother who has a child suffering from any of the foregoing complaints, do not let your prejudices, or the prejudices of others, stand between your suffering child and the relief that will be sure—yes, absolutely sure—to follow the use of this medicine, if timely used. Full directions for using will accompany each bottle. None genuine unless the fac-simile of CURTIS & PERKINS, New York, is on the outside wrapper.

Sold by druggists throughout the world.

Principal Office, No. 48 Dry Street, New York.

Price only 35 cents per Bottle.

Oct. 8, 1866.

Administrators' Notice.

ALL Persons indebted to the late JOHN SUTHERLAND, of St. Peter's Bay, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment; and those having legal claims against the said Estate are requested to present the same, fully attested, to the undersigned, for settlement, within six months from date.

JANE ELLEN SUTHERLAND, Administratrix.

Dec. 3, 1866. ex dn

THE CHEAPEST AND SAFEST DOCTOR.