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Revealed in Sleep.

Crimes Confessed by their Perpetrators While Slumbering. Dramatic Episode That Followed a Wedding in a Prussian Town—A Doze That Brought Retribution. Overheard in a Lodging House.

Criminologists say that the greatest terror that afflicts that fraction of humanity suffering from an unseemly conscience is not dread of the police by any means nor awe of any other acknowledged enemy of law defiers.

What the criminal dreads is sleep. Sleep is, it appears, the friend of the righteous only. To men with the knowledge of dark deeds stored within them sleep is the most treacherous of foes. The countless poems that have been written in praise of it very naturally appear as so much cold blooded mockery to such as are in hourly dread of betraying themselves under its influence.

An untold number of crimes have been confessed by their perpetrators during sleep. Is it any wonder that those conscious of irregularities of conduct prefer to remain awake?

Perhaps the entire history of crime contains no more dramatic episode than that which occurred some years since in a Prussian town. The husband of a certain attractive young woman had vanished in a mysterious manner from his home, and all attempts to trace his whereabouts failed completely. Meantime a neighbor called Schmidt, who had been devoted to the young wife before her marriage, reappeared on the scene and paid her assiduous attentions. So successfully did he press his suit that within a year of his rival's disappearance the woman consented to marry him, and they were united at the parish church.

Now comes the extraordinary sequel. On the second night following the wedding the newly made bride lay awake, unable to slumber. Presently there came a gringing cry from the sleeping form beside her, and a moment later the man in a loud voice proclaimed that he had killed the missing husband and had buried the body in a neighboring wood. This statement the sleeper reiterated several times, naming the exact spot where the corpse lay interred.

The wife, well nigh mad with terror, drank in the confession and next morning carried the remarkable story to the police bureau. The place named by the sleeper was searched, and, sure enough, the body of the vanished man was discovered there. The murderer was at once arrested and brought to his trial, where he was found guilty and sentenced to death. He went to the scaffold cool and cynical, having been sent there by his own confession, made during sleep.

Some what similar in several details was the case of an Austrian peasant who murdered his friend in order that he might woo the latter's sweetheart, a girl of unusual beauty. All attempts to trace the missing man had failed, and doubtless the affair would have remained a mystery to the end of time had not the criminal signed his own death warrant by confessing the crime while dozing by the fire in a friend's cottage. Bit by bit he described the incidents of the terrible affair, stating that he had destroyed his victim's body by fire.

Horried by this awful confession, the friend immediately went out and sought a magistrate, to whom he confided the singular record. The man was then arrested and his cottage searched. Some garments and a watch belonging to the deceased being found there, his guilt was considered beyond a doubt when placed in the dock he made a full confession, repeating, in fact, what he had said during his slumber. The scoundrel was sentenced to death and was eventually executed amid the execrations of the populace who had assembled to witness his end.

Less tragic in tone, but sufficiently interesting, was the case which occurred, not so very long ago, in an American sleeping car, when a detective, who chanced to be occupying a certain lower berth, heard the sleeper above him burst forth into a long winded confession regarding several jewel robberies wherein he had taken part. Much impressed by the slumbering fellow's words, the official kept an eye on him. Further inquiries proved that the confession had been an exact record of what had taken place.

Many years ago a Liverpool common lodging house was the scene of a sleeping criminal's confession. The room was occupied by himself and another, a young sailor, who was on his "beam ends" and well nigh penniless for want of a ship. While the sailor was lying awake, contemplating his dire position, he suddenly heard a curious and ghastly laugh issue from his room companion's lips. The laugh was followed by a long and rambling description of a murder he had committed in a suburb of Liverpool, and so horrible were the details uttered by the unconscious tongue that the sailor came near to fainting with terror.

However, he mastered his emotion and, having assumed some clothing, crept down stairs and informed the landlord of what had occurred. The latter at once fetched a policeman, who accompanied him to the bedroom, where the constable immediately recognized the sleeper as the man "wanted" for the crime in question. He was, of course, arrested, and at the trial which followed he was found guilty and sentenced to death. As for the sailor, he came in for a considerable reward from the murdered man's relatives.

A Russian woman while fast asleep in the hut of a shepherd, where she had taken refuge from a heavy snowstorm, confessed to having killed no fewer than seven infants entrusted to her charge. The shepherd's wife overheard the terrible admission and caused the woman to be detained. Investigations proved beyond all doubt that her unconscious lips had spoken absolute truth, and she was sent to penitentiary for life.

Perhaps one of the most extraordinary cases of a crime revealed during sleep was that of a Polish pedler who had killed a merchant on the road. Glesa and robbed him of a huge sum. The confession was made while the criminal was dozing on a sledge and was of course, overheard by the driver thereof. The barrenness of the snowclad landscape and the speed at which the sled was traveling added to the weirdness of the confession, and as a result of the same and of investigations which followed it the pedler was convicted and condemned to lifelong imprisonment.—Pearson's Weekly.

Didn't Agree With Him.
"You should never take anything that doesn't agree with you," said the doctor.
"If I'd always followed that rule, Marie," said the patient, turning to his wife, "where would you be?"

When the millennium arrives, the quiet, gentle man will be treated as well as the kicker.—Aitchison Globe.

One of Barnum's Schemes.

"One of P. T. Barnum's most successful feats of bamboozlement," said a New Yorker, "was played upon the Canadian customs authorities. The veteran showman's tours were always planned far in advance, and one winter he made up his mind to take his great circus and menagerie through Canada during the summer after the next. This gave him about two years in which to mature his plans.

"One important item of a showman's expenses consists of his advertising placards, and Mr. Barnum was always lavish with these gaudy prints. He was aware that the Canadian government imposed a high duty on this class of imports, and yet he wanted to paint Canada red, yellow, blue and green with a lavishness that no showman had ever displayed before. "Now, there was no printing house anywhere in Canada that could begin to turn out the kind of work that Mr. Barnum required either in size, color or finish. Nevertheless his immense posters came under the same classification as much smaller lithographs and printed colored matter. They hoped that the Dominion custom authorities would not abate one jot of the full toll, but would rather rejoice at the opportunity to mulct the foreigner who would convey so much money out of a country.

"So Barnum studied the question awhile and finally sent out on a great lot of circus posters of the most gorgeous designs whereon yellow lions and clawed striped tigers and brown bears glowed with blue hippopotamuses till they flowed into beautiful crimson backgrounds. No agent appeared when the posters were detained by the Canadian customs officials to pay duty. They were snatched and held for twelve months, then duly advertised for sale for three months more and finally put up at auction with a lot of other unclaimed parcels and were designated in the catalogue merely as 'colored prints."

"Nobody took any interest in them when the auctioneers called for a bid, and finally the whole batch was knocked down for a song to a secret agent of the circus who had been sent up by Mr. Barnum for that express purpose."

Select Their Own Coffins.

The undertaker nodded in a friendly manner. "You look healthy enough," he said.

"I am healthy," laughed the caller.

"Ah," said he, "then you didn't come to pick out a coffin for yourself?"

"Hardly," was the startled reply. "Do people come here for that purpose?"

"Lots of 'em," said he. "A good many more people pick out their own coffins now than when I first started in business.

Then it was a novelty for a man to come in and ask to be shown a comfortable coffin that would fit him, but now such requests are common. Often people in seemingly good health undertake such a quest. They seem to regard the selection of a casket of equal importance with the making of a will and do not deem it advisable to wait until sickness comes before making preparations for the inevitable.

"I have on my order book now no fewer than two score commissions to provide prospective customers with a certain style of coffin whenever it may be needed. These coffins are always chosen with strict attention to detail in material and trimming, and some of the future occupants drive a pretty close bargain for their last house. This haggling seems fearfully bad form in persons who will be all over and done with when the commodity in question is brought into requisition, and one cannot help but wonder why they don't wait and let their survivors attend to the scrapping.

"But not all the people the purchase of whose coffins is personally conducted come to me. Occasionally I go to them, and I am no longer surprised to receive a summons to bring my samples to invalids who are unable to leave the house. They are unwilling to trust the final disposition of their bodies to their friends.

"There are some who go a step beyond the selection of a coffin, who buy it outright and store it away in their own home. As a rule all these ultra particular people are willing to trust the honesty of the undertaker, and the fraternity honors the confidence by fulfilling to the minutest detail their antemortem instructions."—New York Press.

Pickings From Fiction.

The man who hesitates may be lost, but the woman who hesitates is surely won.—"The Spinster Book."

I know something better than the usefulness of piety. It is the piety of usefulness.—"The Lion's Whelp."

Any man who's got a woman wrapped round his finger has also got her wrapped round his throat.—"The Cavalier."

If you want to force the hand of fortune, scheme, scheme, all the time! Outscheme the other fellow.—"Lazars."

As it must happen in this world, the answer to our prayers comes in a way and at a cost we little dream of.—"Sylvia."

In order to be happy a woman needs only a good digestion, a satisfactory complexion and a lover.—"The Spinster Book."

There are but two sorts of women in the world—those who take the strength out of a man and those who put it back.—"Kin."

Good health is very much like money—it is valued most by those who have to work hardest to get it, and it is squandered by those who come by it easily.—"Caleb Wright."

You are not to suppose that the one man was a saint and a hero and the other a fool and a ruffian. No; that sort of thing happens only in books.—"Ruling Passion."

For there isn't no law brought in yet against tellin' the truth about a party after they're gone, thank God, though 'tis a dangerous offense while they're livin'.—"The Striking Hours."

Sulphur.
Sulphur occurs very widely distributed in the mineral kingdom, partly free and partly combined with other elements. The free sulphur is either found pure in regularly formed crystals or intimately mixed with earthy matters. In its native state sulphur is largely found in Sicily and Italy and as a general rule in abundant volcanic districts. The brittleness of sulphur renders the cleavage imperfect. Sulphuric acid is an important combination and a very dangerous one in inexperienced hands. Sulphur combined with a number of elements, such as iron, copper, lead, etc., furnishes the sulphides. In the vegetable kingdom sulphur is a small constituent of the albuminous bodies and of certain volatile irritant oils; moreover, the vegetable juices contain it in the form of certain sulphates.

Household Hints.

Small bags of unground pepper pinned among clothing in closets will keep away moths.

The great secret of applying furniture cream is not to put too much on at a time and to rub it thoroughly well in.

The frequent washing of windows might be avoided if a practice were made of dusting them as often as the furniture in the rooms.

When cut glass is old, it takes on a dull gray tinge. It is not dirt and may be brightened and the film removed by washing with diluted hydrochloric acid and water.

Never permit the light to shine directly on mirrors for any length of time nor allow them to get unduly heated by being too near a gas jet, as in either case the quicksilver is likely to be injuriously affected.

To clean stone stairs and halls boil a pound of pipemakers' clay with a quart of water, a quart of beer and a bit of stone blue. Wash with this mixture and when dry rub the stone with flannel and a brush.

A writer who seems to know says that table linen should always be hemmed by hand not only because it looks more dainty, but because there is never a streak of dirt under the edge after it is laundered, as there is when it is hemmed by machine.

Had Him Fast.

If Paris is prolific in producing thieves, it is also most fruitful in expedients for catching them. Dr. Rousseau, a dentist, living in the Rue des Martyres, adopted a novel and amusing method. Dr. Rousseau and his wife were walking on the boulevards when a young man snatched a handbag containing jewelry and money which madame was carrying.

The dentist was unable to catch the thief, but had time to distinguish his features, though he never expected to see him again. By a curious coincidence, however, the thief came to the dentist's day or two later to have his teeth attended to.

Dr. Rousseau, concealing his astonishment, asked him to take a seat, as it would be necessary to take an impression of the jaw, and this he immediately proceeded to do. When the dentist considered that the plaster was sufficiently solid he called the patient to his help. "The thief that he was at his mercy and had better follow him quietly to the police station.

The man wildly gesticulated, but finding that his wide open mouth was imprisoned by a solid block of plaster of Paris he consented to go to prison.

Purchased Coal Lands.

James L. Mitchell Buys a Big Block in Cambria County.

James L. Mitchell, the well known coal operator, at one time of Gallitzin, but now of Philadelphia, who last spring sold all his valuable mining property on the Alleghenies to the Webster Coal and Coke company, has again entered the bituminous field and is looking up as the largest individual owner in the bituminous field of Cambria County, Pennsylvania. He recently acquired 12,000 acres of excellent coal land in Cambria county, extending from Summerhill back to Ebensburg and into the Blacklick region. In another part of Cambria county he has secured a tract of 3,000 acres, with the purpose of operating it at once.

Mr. Mitchell on Friday became the owner of the property of the Bennington Coal and Coke company at Bennington. It embraces about 4000 acres of land underlain with the E vein of coal, which is worked from a slope. The deal includes fifty coke ovens, a number of buildings as well as the Mountain Supply company.

The Bennington operations are considered among the best in the regions and were owned by T. J. Baldrige, J. King McLaughlan and R. H. Spandley, all of Hollidaysburg. Mr. Spandley was secretary, treasurer and general manager of the company and he has been retained as local selling agent by the new owner.

Both Eyes Destroyed.

Henry Clause, a young married man of Petersburg, had both eyes blown out by the explosion of a dynamite cartridge while working on the foundations of ex-Lieutenant Governor Watres' new home on the East mountain near Scranton.

Bedford Woman Dead in Barnyard.

Heart failure caused the death on Christmas day of an aged lady in Bedford county. Rachel Blackburg was found dead in the barnyard of the farm on which she lived near Pleasantville on Wednesday morning. She was about sixty years old.

Wedded at Seventy-Eight.

Horatio N. Guldin, 78 years old, and Mrs. Mary Shaner, a widow, were wedded Saturday at Gilbertsview, near Pottstown by the Rev. J. O. Bahner. The happy couple are healthy and wealthy.

—Mr. Charles F. Lummiss, author and champion of the Western Indians, will soon go to Washington to confer with President Roosevelt on the subject of the approaching eviction of aborigines from their home on the Warner ranch in San Diego county, California.

HEADS SHOULD NEVER ACHE.—Never endure this trouble. Use at once the remedy that stopped it for Mrs. N. A. Webster of Winnie, Va., she writes "Dr. King's New Life Pills wholly cured me of sick headaches I had suffered from for two years." Cure Headache, Constipation, Biliousness. 25c. at Green's pharmacy.

Medical.

AN ANCIENT Foe
To health and happiness is Scrofula as ugly as ever since time immemorial.

It causes buncles in the neck, disfigures the skin, inflames the mucous membrane, wastes the muscles, weakens the bones, reduces the power of resistance to disease and the capacity for recovery, and develops into consumption.

"A bunch appeared on the left side of my neck. It caused great pain, was lanced, and became a running sore. I went into a general decline. I was persuaded to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, and when I had taken six bottles my neck was healed, and I have never had any trouble of the kind since." Mrs. K. T. Snyder, Troy, Ohio.

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