

OUR SERIAL

STORIES OF THE SECRET SERVICE

BY
Capt. Patrick D. Tyrrell

STORY No. 2

The Bothamley Murder Mystery

Being an Account of the Efforts Made by This Government to Bring to Justice the Murderer of Clement L. Bothamley, an Englishman Killed in Kansas.

By CAPTAIN PATRICK D. TYRRELL

[Copyright, 1905, by Marion G. Schefflin.]

The facts gathered up to that time touching the career of Nellie Bailey were such as to strengthen my rapidly forming opinion that the woman was capable of deeds more desperate than flirting, although nothing in itself more serious had been unearthed. It was not difficult to imagine, however, the lengths to which such a woman might go to free herself from the thralldom of marriage to a jealous husband for whom, I was convinced, she bore no real affection. Her husband's possession of several thousand dollars in cash, coupled with her moderate love of feminine finery, rendered stronger any other motive she might have had for wishing her husband out of the way.

The withdrawal of his funds from the bank and his sudden disappearance from De Smet presented themselves to me as additional grounds for harboring the theory that had been forcing itself on me—that Shannon Bailey had been murdered by his wife.

From the depths of my infatuation for his wayward wife I found it difficult to believe that he would voluntarily absent himself from her for two months. While she claimed to have been in communication with him I could find no trace of any exchange of letters between them, a fact that still further strengthened my belief that if the facts could be obtained they would tell a story of a peculiarly deliberate and atrocious crime.

At this juncture a bit of information—starting to me in view of the theory I held—was introduced into the investigation by Mr. Ruth. A few days before my arrival in De Smet it seems there had been found in an unfrequented place on the prairie, 3 1/2 miles from De Smet, the bones of a man. All the parts had been heaped together without even pretense at burial. The skeleton had been dismembered and the flesh scraped from the bones. But there was nothing in the heap of bones which might establish the identity of the victim. By measurement it was found that they had been the bones of a man about the height of Shannon Bailey. There all clues were lost.

It seemed to me that the most promising channel for investigation from this point was a search of the premises formerly occupied by the Baileys. Ruth accompanied me in this search and, that no unjust suspicions should be given circulation concerning the former mistress of the house, we went about the task quietly. The house had, of course, been dismantled of the furnishings used by the lawyer and his wife. On the first and second floors nothing whatever was found that might, by any stretch of imagination, lend color to my suspicions.

Armed with spades we then descended to the cellar. Carefully testing the condition of the dirt floor, we again met with failure. But one spot remained unexplored, the small area under the wooden stairway that formed the cellar entrance. As a last resort, I thrust a spade into the floor under the stairs. It sank deep into loose dirt. Quickly we removed the top soil, and as we did so the awful, sickening odor of decomposed flesh became almost overpowering.

At a depth of a little more than two feet the spade struck a mass of flesh. Although almost overcome we completed the excavation, to find a mass of flesh buried in quicklime. Not a bone was there to be found in this sorry grave! There was not the slightest doubt of the flesh being that of a human being, and the quantity indicated clearly that it had been stripped from the bones of a full-grown man. The action of the lime and decomposition had done their work well enough to obliterate opportunity for identification.

In the meantime a woman in De Smet had been found who had had a letter from Mrs. Bailey in which the latter said her husband had just spent some time with her in Elgin. This indicated two things: First, that Mrs.

Bailey had really gone to Elgin; and, second, that she believed it expedient to keep alive in De Smet the belief that her husband was living. Therefore I went to Elgin.

No difficulty was experienced in finding that Mrs. Bailey had stopped with one aunt for two days, leaving to go to another aunt, with whom she had spent six weeks. It required some cautious inquiry, however, to develop the fact that Nellie Bailey had brought with her to Elgin her husband's jewelry, among it the watch formerly carried by him and bearing his name. I reasoned that if Shannon Bailey had been alive it was altogether improbable that his wife would be in possession of the watch, especially as she had a reliable timepiece of her own. Her possession of other trinkets formerly used by her husband gave additional color to the theory that Bailey was dead.

Then this fact was learned: The aunt with whom she was visiting had a daughter about Mrs. Bailey's age, and one day the two had gone fishing. When Mrs. Bailey left the house she took a package from the bosom of her dress and gave it to her aunt with strict instructions to take good care of it. Curiosity on the part of the aunt prompted her to examine the package, which contained several thousand dollars in bills of large denomination. In Elgin Mrs. Bailey said her husband was in California, and I could find no trace of his having been in Elgin, as his wife claimed in her letter to her friend in De Smet.

In the course of Mrs. Bailey's visit to Elgin there were many minor events, all pointing in the same direction, but with which I shall not encumber this narrative. Ever restless, the woman went from Elgin to Waukesha, Wis., where she at once became acquainted with Robert Reize, the 28-year-old son of the proprietor of the leading hotel of that place. The young man apparently fell prey to the woman's wiles without even a pretense of resistance, and in a few days was securely chained to the wheel of her chariot. The sudden and ardent at-



BAILEY SHOT AT HIS WIFE'S NEW ADMIRER.

tachment between the two became a matter of general knowledge and comment, and the parents of the young man evinced the bitterest opposition to it, but without avail.

Young Reize announced that he was going to stage a play in which the fair Nellie was to assume the star role. After leaving Dakota Mrs. Bailey had traveled under her right name, declaring in both Elgin and Waukesha that her husband was alive. Her infatuation for young Reize, however, seemed to be as sincere an affair as it was in her nature to harbor, enough so, at least, to prompt her to take the initiative and entice her lover into marriage. Reize, who was much the weaker character of the two, feebly protested against being made the instrument through which the crime of bigamy, as he supposed, was to be committed by his inamorata, but his protests were silenced by her vehement and oft-repeated assurances that "Shannon would never appear to bother them." On this point she was very positive.

It is not likely that Reize had any conception of the full significance of these words. Mrs. Bailey insisted on the marriage being kept secret until "legal separation" from Bauey could be brought about. Reize finally agreed and the marriage took place without further delay. At Waukesha, as at Elgin, Mrs. Bailey exhibited the watch formerly worn by her husband, Reize, among others, having seen it.

The marriage at Waukesha had placed the woman in this position: If Bailey were alive she was a bigamist, and if he were dead she was undoubtedly his murderer. Her vigorous assurances to Reize that there was no danger of Bailey ever bothering them had for me, of course, a gressome meaning. Strange as it may seem to those uninitiated in the ways of such a woman, I finally believed her to be a woman who would commit the greater crime of murder rather than place herself in her husband's power by committing the lesser crime of bigamy. At any rate, her positive statements to Reize that Bailey would never bother them was in my opinion an important link in a long chain of circumstantial evidence.

Almost immediately after her marriage—real or mock—to Reize, Mrs. Bailey said she had to make a trip to Kansas to sell a farm she owned there and would then come back to Reize with \$18,000; and, in connection with this pretense, I succeeded in establishing a fact of the utmost importance—that she had been receiving letters from Clement L. Bothamley during her stay in Wisconsin. It was not my good fortune to secure any of these letters, but the fact that such a corre-

spondence had been carried on was well established. Her statement to Reize that she was going to Kansas to sell a farm was clearly a subterfuge to escape unsuspected from the man whom she professed to love so deeply to go to another admirer.

She left Waukesha still protesting the liveliest affection for Reize and went to Newton, Kan., sending to her Wisconsin lover from several points en route messages of undying love. Bothamley had evidently been advised as to the exact time of her arrival, for he met her at the train and later took her to his ranch under the name of Bertha Bothamley, his sister.

From her journeyings of thousands of miles subsequent to her marriage with Shannon Bailey there seemed to be nothing more obtainable in the form of evidence against Nellie Bailey, or Nellie Reize, than I have related. Any additional evidence must be obtained in Kansas near the scene of the Bothamley crime. The sending by her from Skeleton ranch of the "Sarah A. Laws" deed to the Bothamley ranch should prove a valuable bit of information if the mystery of the identity of "Sarah Laws" could be solved. The key to this puzzle finally was found in Wichita.

Two days before Bothamley and the woman had started to Texas they appeared at the office of a lawyer in that city and solicited his services in the drawing of a deed to the 640 acres of land in question. To this lawyer the woman was introduced by Bothamley as his wife, Bertha L. Bothamley, and they desired to convey the ranch property to one "Sarah A. Laws." The instrument was drawn, the fee paid, and the couple departed, leaving no suspicion that either was other than as represented. In the transaction the grantee did not put in an appearance, but there was nothing in this circumstance to arouse suspicion.

Knowledge of this visit to the lawyer enabled me to see what the plan might have been. Further investigation revealed the fact that within an hour from the time Bothamley and the woman had left the office where the

deed was drawn in favor of "Sarah Laws" they had visited the office of another lawyer, and asked him to draw a deed to the same land, "Sarah A. Laws" being the name given as the grantor, and Bertha L. Bothamley as the name of the grantee. In the office of this lawyer, Bothamley introduced the woman as Sarah A. Laws. This was the deed that was afterward sent by the woman from Skeleton ranch to the clerk of Harvey county for record, the character of "Sarah A. Laws" having been purely fictitious.

This was the most convincing circumstantial evidence developed, going to show that the flight to Texas had been planned weeks, and possibly months prior to the start, and that Bothamley had fallen so completely under the spell of the woman that he had been induced by her to convey his ranch to her, the roundabout method described being used for the purpose of forestalling the comment a direct conveyance undoubtedly would have caused.

With the facts as here related in my possession I conferred with Col. Hallowell, and we took an inventory of the evidence in our possession. Of its circumstantial character there was, of course no doubt. The outline of the facts I have related was strengthened by a search of the personal effects belonging to Bothamley at the time of his death, and of the contents of the car in which he died. In a box in the car, besides a large quantity of jewelry which had belonged to the woman with whom Bothamley had come to America, was found a bottle of morphine. I tried to establish the identity of the purchaser of the drug, but was unsuccessful, for, after locating the druggist who sold it, I found him unable to recollect the person who had bought it. The facilities for the exhumation and examination of bodies on the frontier were not such as to make an analysis of the Bothamley stomach feasible, and the part played by the drug in the death of the Englishman, if any, was left in doubt.

When we had finished taking stock of our evidence Col. Hallowell, known throughout Kansas as "Prince Hal," and I decided that we could go into court with a circumstantial case of great strength. Personally I was confident of being able to present such evidence as would convince any unprejudiced juror of the guilt of Nellie Bailey or Reize.

The physical circumstances surrounding the death of Bothamley, had the accused been a man, would have gone far of themselves toward convicting. These circumstances, considered in connection with the history of Nellie Bailey from the time of her

marriage, the disappearance of her husband, the finding of the human bones and flesh, her possession of his jewelry and money, her marriage to Reize and her confidence that Bailey would never bother them, the evident attempt on her part to secure title to Bothamley's ranch—all these things and many minor circumstances seemed to me to constitute a case of most merit from the legal viewpoint. In this view Col. Hallowell agreed with me. The genial United States district attorney and I differed, however, on one material point—the chance of securing a conviction.

"Remember, Tyrrell," he said, "that it's a woman on trial, and a pretty woman."

The trial of this remarkable woman was one of the most memorable in the history of Kansas. She had ample means and had retained able counsel. Col. Hallowell, in his capacity as United States attorney, represented the prosecution, as the crime had been committed in the Indian territory, where there were no local courts. The government's array of circumstantial evidence was marshaled before the jury with much skill and force by Col. Hallowell, and a display of correlated facts produced that would have caused an ordinary defendant to weaken. But the little blue-eyed woman remained as calm, as the incriminating circumstances were piled up against her, as she had been from the first. Counsel for the defense made the best of the somewhat meager case they had, but when the evidence was all in there was a wide margin in favor of the prosecution. After the summing up by the lawyers Col. Hallowell said to me:

"We are up against it. Every man on that jury knows she is guilty, and not one of them will vote for conviction."

His knowledge of western juries in cases where women were the defendants was accurate. After due deliberation the jury filed into the room and submitted to the court its verdict: "Not guilty." Judge Foster, who heard the case, said after the trial that there was not the slightest doubt in his mind of the woman's guilt. But she was free. Robert Reize had come to Kansas to attend the trial, and immediately after the verdict disappeared with the woman I believed to be his wife, and who was his lawful wife, if the bones and flesh found in Dakota had been those of Shannon Bailey.

I found afterward that while the jurors almost unanimously expressed themselves as believing the prisoner guilty, they had applied to the case their sense of rough frontier justice, reasoning that Bothamley had been a man whose early advantages and intelligence should have led him into a different life, and that if he met death at the hands of one woman, after he had led another to desert her home for him, besides deserting his own wife and children, he was meeting with no more punishment than he deserved. As a man I have no quarrel with this reasoning. As an officer of the law at that time I felt much disappointment at seeing the hard work of months go for naught, especially as that hard work had developed what to my mind was a sound case.

So far as I have been able to learn, Shannon Bailey has never been heard of since the day he disappeared. I have recently written to his brother, who formerly lived in Ohio, but received no answer. I will stake my reputation that we found all that was mortal of him on the Dakota plain and in the cellar of his former home in De Smet.

STORY No. 3 WILL BE "THE MISSOURI LAND LEAGUERS."

WHY HE QUIT THE CHURCH

When He Paid He Was "Brother," When He Didn't He Was "Dat Ole Niggah."

Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, always cleanly shaven and unusually fastidious in his choice of a barber, used to tell this story of the colored gentleman who was accustomed to remove the surplus hair from his face when he visited Boston. The knight of the razor was named Dickson. One morning the senator opened a conversation by saying: "I believe you are a member of the African church in — street?" "No, sah; not at all, sah," was the reply, made with much dignity. "Ah, I thought you were when I was here last." "But not dis yeah, sah." "Ah, have you resigned?" "Wal, sah, it wuz dis way: I jined dat chuch en good faith de first yeah I give \$10 to 'dis de stated gospel, en all de chuch people calls me 'Brudder Dickson.' De second year ma bizness fell off, en I give five dollars; en all he chuch people dey call me 'Mister Dickson.' Do dis razzah huhn yo', sah?" "Not at all; it is very easy." "Thank ye, sah; well, de third yeah I feel so pohly dat I don't give nuthin' t' all yo' preachin', en den all de chuch people dey pass me by en say 'dat ole niggah Dickson.' After dat I quit 'em."

Shipped a Skipper.

"It's mighty easy to make a mistake in a person," remarked John A. McCall a few days ago to a friend. "It's like the case of a sea captain I once knew. He got married late in life and progressed little further than the honeymoon when his wife packed up her duds and ran off with a handsome man."

"Well," remarked the captain ruefully, as he contemplated the deserted home, "seems like I got things wrong. I thought I had got a mate, but it seems I got a skipper instead." —N Y Times.

BABY COVERED WITH SORES.

Wound Scratch and Tear the Flesh—Less Hands Were Tied—"Would Have Died But for Cuticura."

"My little son, when about a year and a half old, began to have sores come out on his face. I had a physician treat him, but the sores grew worse. Then they began to come on his arms, then on other parts of his body, and then one came on his chest, worse than the others. Then I called another physician. Still he grew worse. At the end of about a year and a half of suffering he grew so bad I had to tie his hands in cloths at night to keep him from scratching the sores and tearing the flesh. He got to be a mere skeleton, and was hardly able to walk. My Aunt advised me to try Cuticura Soap and Ointment. I sent to the drug store and got a cake of the Soap and a box of the Ointment, and at the end of about two months the sores were all well. He has never had any sores of any kind since. He is now strong and healthy, and I can sincerely say that only for your most wonderful remedies my precious child would have died from those terrible sores. Mrs. Egbert Sheldon, R. F. D. No. 1, Woodville, Conn., April 22, 1905."

"It's a curious fact," said Uncle Eben, "dat de man who allus seems to be doin' de mos' hurrying is de man dat's allus behin' time." —Washington Star.

A Guaranteed Cure for Piles.

Itching, Blind, Bleeding, Protruding Piles. Druggists are authorized to refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure in 6 to 14 days, 50c

One-half the world doesn't know how the other half lives because fully one-half mind their own business.

Sore Throat, Croup and Tonsillitis will promptly yield to an application of Dr. Bayer's Penetrating Oil on a cloth around the neck. 25c a bottle.

The trouble with taking a day off is that you can't put it back.

When the crispy mornings come, you will be delighted if you have Mrs. Austin's Pancakes for breakfast.

There is a good deal of fun in keeping other people from having any.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is an infallible medicine for coughs and colds.—N. W. Samuel, Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1900.

You may kill time, but it will come back to haunt you.

For 33 Years

Shiloh's Consumption Cure, the Lung Tonic, has been before the public, and this, together with the fact that its sales have steadily increased year by year, is the best proof of the merit of

Shiloh

as a cure for Coughs, Colds, and all diseases of the lungs and air passages. Those who have used Shiloh would not be without it. Those who have never used it should know that every bottle is sold with a positive guarantee that, if it doesn't cure you, the dealer will refund what you paid for it. Shiloh

Has Cured

thousands of the most obstinate cases of Coughs, Colds and Lung troubles. Let it cure you.

"I think your Shiloh's Consumption Cure is the greatest medicine ever discovered. My baby, who is now nearly two years old, was brought up on Shiloh, and a fatter baby or a healthier one cannot be found. If he is croupy at night or has a cough or cold, one or two doses always relieves him. I would not be without a bottle of Shiloh's in my house for many times the price of it. It has saved me many doctor's bills.—Mrs. J. B. Martin, Huntsville, Ala."

SHILOH

25c. with guarantee at all druggists

Robbed in Church.

Just think what an outrage it is to be robbed of all the benefits of the services by continuous coughing throughout the congregation, when Anti-Gripine is guaranteed to cure. Sold everywhere, 25 cts. F. W. Diemer, M. D., Manufacturer, Springfield, Mo.

No man so nearly approaches a nonentity as a prominent woman's husband.

THE BEST COUGH CURE

When offered something else instead of

Kemp's Balsam

stop and consider: "Am I sure to get something as good as this best cough cure?"

If not sure, what good reason is there for for taking chances in a matter that may have a direct bearing on my own or my family's health?"

Sold by all dealers at 25c. and 50c.

You Will Prosper in the Great Southwest

In Oklahoma, Indian Territory and Texas are vast areas of unimproved land—land not now yielding the crops of which it is capable. The same conditions apply to the towns. Few lines of business are adequately represented. There are openings of all sorts—for mills and factories, for small stores, for banks, newspapers and lumber yards. You have only to get on the ground to prove this. To enable you to do so the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Ry offers

Rates Cheaper Than Ever

February 6th and 20th and March 6th and 20th

On above dates most lines will sell both one-way and round trip tickets at exceptionally low rates. If your nearest railroad agent cannot give you the rates, write me for particulars.

If you're in any way interested in the Southwest, I'd like to send you my paper "The Coming Country." Address

H. F. BOWSER,
408 Traction Bldg., CINCINNATI, O.
Tickets on sale everywhere, via

New Prize Puzzle "Dress Parade"

Fun for young and old. May solve it once then fall ten times. Boys and girls can make money as agents. Price 10c. ACME BROS. CO., 1411 Fairmount Ave., PHILA.

PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION

CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.

A. N. K.-C 2112

IN ALABAMA

THE LAND OF SUNSHINE AND PLENTY

OWN A FARM AND BE INDEPENDENT

We have a tract of the finest land in Southern Alabama to be sold in 40 to 160 acre tracts. **CASH OR EASY PAYMENTS.**

LOCATED IN WASHINGTON COUNTY—MOST HEALTHFUL SPOT IN THE SOUTH

No cold weather, no coal to buy, less clothing, and, in fact, living is one-half the cost as in the north. A man with very little capital can own a forty-acre tract and become independent in a few short years by raising vegetables and fruits for the northern and eastern markets. We have the best shipping facilities, both by water and rail, making our lands the best garden spot in the country. This section offers more advantages for the wage earner or the man with a small capital than any spot on this green earth. This land will yield larger profits than you can realize out of northern land worth \$150 per acre. The land is a rich sandy loam, with a clay subsoil, and grows peaches, pears, grapes, figs and all kinds of small fruits and vegetables in great abundance. Also corn, oats, sweet and Irish potatoes and cotton. This location is famous for its salubrious climate and curative powers. Plenty of creeks and pure spring drinking water. We are erecting a hotel, church, schoolhouse and store building in our new town.

FIGDALE, ALABAMA

The Company's excursion will leave Chicago on February 20th. The fare for the round trip will be \$10.00 and furnishes a delightful excursion to the south without expense to the purchaser. **WRITE AT ONCE FOR CATALOGUE AND ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET.** Address: DEPARTMENT D.

TOMBIGBEE VALLEY LAND CO., SUITE 829-831, 110 LA SALLE ST., CHICAGO, ILL. BRANCH OFFICE: Suite 619 City Bank & Trust Co. Bldg., MOBILE, ALA.

NO MORE MUSTARD PLASTERS TO BLISTER.

THE SCIENTIFIC AND MODERN EXTERNAL COUNTER-IRRITANT.

CAPSICUM VASELINE

EXTRACT OF THE CAYENNE PEPPER PLANT

A QUICK, SURE, SAFE AND ALWAYS READY CURE FOR PAIN. PRICE 15c.—IN COLLAPSIBLE TUBES—AT ALL DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS, OR BY MAIL ON RECEIPT OF 15c. IN POSTAGE STAMPS. DON'T WAIT TILL THE PAIN COMES—KEEP A TUBE HANDY.

A substitute for any and superior to mustard or any other plaster, and will not blister the most delicate skin. The pain-allaying and curative qualities of this article are wonderful. It will stop the toothache at once, and relieve Headache and Sciatica. We recommend it as the best and safest external counter-irritant known, also as an external remedy for pains in the chest and stomach and all Rheumatic, Neuralgic and Gouty complaints. A trial will prove what we claim for it, and it will be found to be invaluable in the household and for children. Once used no family will be without it. Many people say "it is the best of all your preparations." Accept no preparation of Vaseline unless the same carries our label, as otherwise it is not genuine. If you cannot obtain it from your druggist send 15 cents in stamps or money and it will be sent to your address by mail.

CHESEBROUGH MFG. CO.

17 STATE STREET, NEW YORK CITY

PRICE, 25 Cts.

TO CURE THE GRIP IN ONE DAY

ANTI-GRIPINE

HAS NO EQUAL FOR HEADACHE

ANTI-GRIPINE

IS GUARANTEED TO CURE GRIP, BAD COLD, HEADACHE AND NEURALGIA.

I won't sell Anti-Gripine to a dealer who won't guarantee it. Call for your MONEY BACK IF IT DOESN'T CURE.

F. W. Diemer, M. D., Manufacturer, Springfield, Mo.