

SLEW FOURTEEN WIVES.

MULLER SAYS HE HAS KILLED FOUR THOUSAND PERSONS.

Accuses Himself of the Murders of His Father and Mother and of the Assassination of Several of His Children—Gave Himself Up at the Kassamarkt Police Station in Rotterdam—When the Officers Refused to Believe Him, the Criminal Laid on the Desk Four Bloody Human Ears—Now He Is Trying to Starve Himself to Death—He Was Confined in an English Asylum for the Insane Four Years Ago.

(By Anglo-American Press.)

ROTTERDAM, Nov. 1.

The notorious crimes of the late American murderer, Holmes, have been outdone by the wholesale butcheries perpetrated by Gustav Carl Friedrich Muller, a watchmaker of this city, who has surrendered himself to the police for the assassination of his wife and child, and who claims guilty to the murders of his father, mother, fourteen wives and several of his children. It is believed that Muller, though only 32 years of age, has murdered more than twenty persons, to all of whom he was bound by sacred ties. He is now trying to starve himself to death.

Muller entered the Kassamarkt police station a few days ago, and, approaching the officer on duty, exclaimed dramatically:

"I surrender myself! I have murdered my wife and child!"

"What do you mean?" asked the officer incredulously.

"Just what I say," answered Muller. "I have killed them both."

"Thought he was crazy," the officer said, still thinking the man was not telling the truth.

"It was in the kitchen this morning," Muller replied, "cleaning mussels for the midday meal when a voice called to me to draw my knife across my wife's throat, and I was compelled to obey. Then I killed the little one."

The officer, convinced that Muller was a drunkard or a maniac, laughed, which enraged his visitor.

"Perhaps you will believe me now," cried Muller, taking from his pocket and placing on the desk in front of the horrified officer four bloody human ears. "Go to my house, and you will find that what I have said is true."

The man was immediately placed under arrest, and Chief Strang, the head of the Police Department, was notified. Ordering two officers to follow him, the chief hurried to the prisoner's house and there found ample confirmation of Muller's tragic tale.

Both Were Butchered.
In the kitchen were the two bodies of Muller's wife and child, the heads of both having been nearly severed from the trunks. The room was spattered with blood.

Chief Strang went to the Kassamarkt station and subjected Muller to a rigid examination. Muller, without any compunction, confessed that these two murders were merely links in a long chain of crime. He told the chief he had butchered his father and mother and had married fourteen women in as many parts of the world all of whom he had done to death with a number of their children. He could not remember how many little ones he had slaughtered.

After completing his confession, Muller became morose, silent and refused to eat. He has declared his intention of abstaining from food as the only way in which he can commit suicide.

The police have given full credence to his story, and are making every effort to trace his other crimes. It is believed that some of his murders were committed in the States.

His English Record.

Muller Declined to Answer That He Had Butchered Four Thousand Persons.

(By Anglo-American Press.)

LONDON, Nov. 1.
Reports from Rotterdam, 1890, there made of an insane German watchmaker named Gustav Muller, who came from Berlin, the name of Muller, and who was said to have murdered his father and mother, and several of his children, and who was said to have married fourteen women in as many parts of the world, and who was said to have done to death with a number of their children, and who was said to have slaughtered many little ones, and who was said to have committed many murders in the States.

In the course of Muller's trial, which began on Monday, he was asked to answer to the question whether he had murdered four thousand persons. He refused to answer, and was committed to an asylum for the insane.

These being no doubt as to the man's sanity, the necessary certificate for his removal to a lunatic asylum was procured, and on the 15th of April, 1890, Gustav Muller was taken in the usual way to the London County Lunatic Asylum, at Banstead, in Surrey.

From inquiries made there yesterday

after the announcement of the crime at Rotterdam—there is no doubt that the Gustav Muller who was detained at Banstead, and the Gustav Muller who gave himself up for the murder of his wife and child to the Rotterdam police, are one and the same person.

In the book of entries at Banstead Gustav Muller is described as well built and well nourished, with healthy organs, and a "well-shaped cranium." His age was given as 27; by trade a watchmaker and goldworker. Nothing was known as to his religion or nationality, and whether he was married or single. Nor were any details forthcoming regarding the epileptic fits from which he was supposed to be suffering, the dates of their occurrence, his treatment in India and in Europe, and so on. But he was reported to suffer from suicidal mania, though not to be a dangerous lunatic.

Behaved Well at Banstead.

As a matter of fact Gustav Muller not only behaved very well indeed all the time he was at Banstead, quietly working on the farm attached to the asylum and carrying out all the orders given him without reluctance or demur, but showed no signs of delusions or hallucinations. Nor was he subject to any epileptic fits while staying at Banstead. His health was reported fair and improving; his mental state was stated to be "calm and placid," and his features did not indicate "any lowering of the intellectual grade." No tremor of his facial muscles betrayed any inward or mental disturbance. But, as Muller persisted in saying that he did not comprehend anything else but German, further investigation was, no doubt, rendered somewhat difficult.

On April 18, however, Dr. Shaw, the medical student of the asylum, who speaks German and French fluently, had a lengthy conversation with his Teutonic patient. The latter confirmed to him that he had come from India.

Fell from an Elephant.

While sojourning in that country, he said, he had toward the end of the year 1881 fallen from an elephant he was riding, in consequence of which he had to remain in a hospital for some time. He attributed his epileptic fits, and his mental condition, to that fall in India, from which he had never entirely recovered. He repudiated, however, the correctness of the statements in the certificate of the medical officer of St. George's workhouse, and certainly was not aware of having acted and spoken as therein stated. The doctor in Southwark, he said, must have misunderstood him, not being able to follow his German.

To Dr. Shaw, Muller must have, at any rate, spoken with great clearness and intelligence. He appeared thoroughly earnest and genuine, although he averred as a fact what was undoubtedly false—namely, that he was unmarried, adding, what was probably true, that he had no friends in England.

Had a Family in Berlin.

At that time Gustav Muller had a wife and child—a boy—living in Berlin. His parents were also alive in Germany, his father being a foreman on the Royal Prussian railways. This is proved by a letter, sent to Dr. Shaw at Banstead, from the secretary of the said railways at Berlin in May, 1890, therefore at the very time that Muller was detained in the asylum. In that letter the writer almost implores Dr. Shaw, in the name of a "mourning family," to tell him whether Gustav

the conjugal domus at Berlin. He had deserted his wife and child in January, 1890, leaving no trace of his whereabouts for fully three years and a half. This period in the murderer's existence is still largely a blank. It is only known that he wandered about in the world, visiting many countries, and finally finding his way to India, where, as we have already seen, he met with a serious accident toward the end of 1891.

There is no doubt that Muller absconded in January, 1890, from Berlin as a fraudulent bankrupt, but he persuaded his wife to take him back again after his return from England, and things seemed more hopeful for the Muller family, as Gustav seemed willing to settle down in life, and managed to obtain some lucrative employment in his old line of business at Berlin, he appearing to have been a really skillful artisan.

Deserted One Wife.

But Frau Muller was not destined to be quiet and happy for long. In 1895, toward the end, Muller vanished from the German capital once again, and it was then discovered that he, having sent his wife to the circus one evening, had managed to get hold of some 1,600 marks, which the poor woman had received as a legacy, and managed to keep intact in spite of her financial troubles occasioned by the former conduct of her husband.

Gustav Muller, who had married her in 1888, at Berlin, appeared to have decamped not only with all her savings, but also with the daughter of a man named Hannemann, who was living with his family in the same house where the Mullers stayed. It is this girl, Margaret Hannemann, and her little 1-year-old daughter by him, that he has foully murdered in Rotterdam, after basely betraying both her and his lawful wife.

With Margaret Hannemann Gustav Muller has lived as a husband, first at Amsterdam, afterward at Rotterdam. In both places they appear to have lived a comfortable life, mainly on the money stolen at Berlin, but at Rotterdam Muller managed to obtain profitable employment with a respectable watchmaker.

DOLL CAUSED HER DOWNFALL.

Eight-Year-Old Girl Arrested for Stealing a Waxen Doll.
(By Anglo-American Press.)
MANCHESTER, Eng., Nov. 1.

There was something very human in a charge of stealing a doll preferred against a child at Brighton police court yesterday. The small occupant of the dock was only 8 years old, and her name was Rose Coleby.

When passing a toy shop the other day Rose espied a doll displayed outside the fancy bazaar in a manner most attractive.

The child's weakness for dolls was not proof against the sudden temptation. She passed and repassed, and still returned to feast her eyes on the waxen beauty, and, at last, unable to resist any longer, she snatched it up and fled.

The shopman, however, was on the alert, and Rose and the doll were soon parted.

The case aroused considerable curiosity and amusement at the local court, but matters took a more serious turn when it was intimated that there was another charge against Rose of purloining a watch. On that account the child was remanded for further inquiries.

INTENDED FOR BRIDES.

A little basque, edged with bias velvet, was belted in with a filigree silver belt, and a hat of gray felt in the new mousquetaire shape was embellished with a rousset of gathered velvet and two amiable tail ostrich feathers in tones of shaded gray.

A gown recently made for the maid of honor had a skirt of cream bengaline and a puffed bodice of the same trimmed with guipure. A zouave of pink velvet and epaulets of cream lace and a big hat of pink velvet and white feathers completed the picture.

One of the prettiest costumes in a very complete trousseau which has just been sent up to Scotland was a little traveling gown of dove-gray facecloth. The button-over sacque bodice, so becoming to slight figures, had four rounded tabs, or scallops, which buttoned on the left shoulder.

A beautiful tea gown which comes from a very famous Paris atelier intended for an extravagant trousseau is of pale sapphire blue brocade. The gown is cut en princess and made with a full wattleau back, the plaits of the wattleau starting from a band of jeweled embroidery, which is placed across the back, between the shoulders, and which glitters with small sapphires, emeralds and diamonds.

A wedding gown carried out in a very original fashion is made in white duchess satin, with a court train, ornamented with a big true-lovers' knot, beautifully embroidered in pearls, bunches of orange blossoms and a bow drapery of white gauze. The whole of the front of the skirt is veiled with a gauze drapery of the finest and most delicate design and on one side there is a graceful chatelaine, formed entirely of long trails of orange blossoms. The bodice is particularly becoming, with its soft draperies of gauze and chiffon and its crossing bands of satin, on which appear smaller true-lovers' knots, traced out in pearls.

FAMED IN HISTORY.

The sacred crocodiles of Egypt were buried with her proudest kings.

The Sandwich islanders believe that the souls of their deceased monarchs reside in the ravens and they entreat Europeans not to molest them.

The calf, the white cow of Siam, the hawk, the ape, the ibis, the cat, the asp, the crocodile, dogs, beetles, frogs, mice and rats have all been held in reverence in different sections of the globe.

Spiders have played important parts. It is said when Mahomet fled from Mecca he hid in a cave and a spider wove a web over the entrance. When his pursuers came thither they saw the web and believed no one was there. It is said a spider performed the same kindly act for David when Saul was hunting him.

Swine were abhorred in Crete, weasels at Thebes, rats and mice in Troas, porcupines in Pessia, the lapwing in New Mexico, bulls in Benares, serpents in Greece and many of the African countries. The Hindoos never molest snakes; they call them fathers, brothers, friends and other endearing names. On the coast of Guinea a hog happened to kill a snake, the king gave orders that all the swine should be destroyed.

In 1609 an Englishman named Banks had a horse which he had trained to follow him wherever he went, over fences and to the roofs of buildings. He and his horse went to the top of that immensely high structure, St. Paul's church. After many wonderful exploits at home the horse and his master went to Rome, where they performed feats equally astonishing. The result was that both Banks and his horse were burned, by order of the pope, as enchanters.

POINTS OF ETIQUETTE.

An engagement ring that is not costly has, set in its gold band, a small turquoise.

After laying aside crape a gown of black camel's hair or vicuña cloth trimmed with wool braid on skirt and bodice may be worn.

A costly ring should not be worn by a girl in the workaday world to the office where she is employed, as it is in extremely bad taste.

Politeness demands that a lady permit a gentleman near her to restore to her a fan, glove, handkerchief or any small belonging which she may have dropped.

Fashionable gloves are of a pale tan with delicate stitching of faint blue or scarlet on the backs. The stitching is not conspicuous, and the four buttons proclaim that they are for street wear.

The good musician who can give pleasure to people and declines to do so without much urging is properly treated when her genius is ignored, and some more polite, but less able, girl is invited to be the musician of the evening.—Ladies' Home Journal.

ABOUT PEOPLE.

Mascagni is staying at Milan at the present moment. He has nearly completed his new opera "Iris," which may possibly be produced at Monaco.

Rudyard Kipling, who has been cycling in Dorsetshire, England, with Thomas Hardy, is negotiating for the purchase of a house and grounds at Rodwell, near Dorchester.

Tobacco experts say the cheapest cigar that J. Pierpont Morgan smokes costs him not less than \$1.25. His cigars are made in Havana of tobacco selected especially for him by an expert whom he sends to Cuba every year.

Piquet, the pianist who distinguished himself so greatly as a virtuoso at the Bazar de la Charite fire, was married recently in Paris to Mlle. Vieu, a damsel in his own sphere of life. At the Notre Dame de Pessance church, Piquet had only asked for a ninth-class marriage, but the clergy had prepared the church as if for a first-class one and the small building could hardly contain the numerous deputations from life-saving and other societies. Piquet received a number of marriage presents from persons whom he saved.

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