

COUSINS. N. M. PRARD. L'homme, diton, estait les petits cousins. [scribble] you ever a cousin, Tom? ...

THE MISSING BOOT.

CRIME FOR WHICH TWO INNOCENT MEN SUFFERED.

It was found in a Grating Among the Ruins—One of the Strangest and Most Complicated Stories of Crime and Circumstantial Evidence Ever Narrated.

The last act in a judicial drama of unusual interest had just been performed in France. The facts are of a remarkable nature, and furnish another instance of the falsity of the proposition that circumstances cannot lie.

On September 10, 1869, Jean Loume, father, accompanied his son to the stiller dwelling and spent the evening there. They started to return home at 8 o'clock in the evening, and had a six miles to walk. His horse, who had been ridden by Henri Loume, declined.

On the wedding day was fixed, and Henri Loume said that as he turned the corner in the road they flames and smoke issuing from the men's dwelling, and at the same time two men sprang over a fence and fled down the road in an opposite direction.

It was very evident that a murder had been committed and that the house had been fired to destroy the evidence of crime. A sharp investigation was on foot, and some one insinuated suspicion that Gormez had been detected by Jean and Henri Loume.

It was a mystery to all as to what motive the prosecution would urge as having prompted to the crime. When the same on, however, it was shown Jean Loume had recently purchased from Gormez a considerable tract of valuable land, the consideration of which was \$2000.

It was claimed by the prosecution that Gormez had been detected by Jean and Henri Loume, and that the latter had been induced to join in the plot in the hope of getting possession of his uncle's property.

When the theory had been developed so far the Mayor suddenly exclaimed: "My God, I see it now! I remember distinctly that August Terneaux was in my office at the very time when Loume and Gormez signed the deed by which Gormez transferred his land to Loume, and Loume agreed to pay him an annuity of \$2000, and I remember Terneaux saying, in a joceous way, 'Now, Monsieur Loume, you may pray for cholera.'"

With great secrecy all the facts were laid before the proper authorities, and after some delay, August Terneaux was arrested on suspicion of having killed Gormez.

pass down the road toward Basaille, and it was shown, so far as any proof could be adduced, that these two persons had been seen by no one else.

An iron monger, of Roelle, swore that he sold the hatchet to young Loume, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a few days before the murder, but he couldn't swear positively that the purchaser was Loume.

For the accused, testimony was offered showing their good character, and Monsieur Rottiller and his daughter testified as to their having been at their dwelling from 5 to 8 o'clock on the evening of the crime. The jury acquitted the elder Loume, but found the younger guilty with extenuating circumstances, and he was sentenced to imprisonment for life.

He was first sent to the bagne at Rochefort, but subsequently transferred to Brest. This was in February, 1870. His friends did all in their power to secure a mitigation of his sentence, but in vain, and his betrothed spent thousands of francs in consulting eminent counsel, and did all in her power to secure the release of Henri, whom she believed to be utterly innocent.

After a few months had passed, August Terneaux renewed his solicitations for the hand of Margaret Rottiller. It was in vain, however, for she remained true to her first and only love, and declared her intention of going into a nunnery rather than contract marriage with any one but Henri.

In the mean time Jules Gormez, the murdered father's nephew, and only known relative, had taken possession of the estate, but did not disturb the ruins of the old dwelling. He removed from the locality, and was said to have gone to sea.

In January, 1876, he unexpectedly made his appearance at La Motte, and offered his dead uncle's property for sale. Monsieur Rottiller purchased it, and conveyed it as an act of friendship to the old Loume and his wife, whose circumstances had been greatly reduced by their unfortunate son.

Soon after this conveyance was effected Loume and his hired man went to work to remove the ruins of the burned dwelling. After they had been at work some time, and had carted away a large part of the debris, they came to an iron grating which had formerly been fixed in front of one of the windows to give light to a cellar.

The grating was still in its place, though forced down by the weight of material which had fallen upon it, and when the grating was fully exposed to view a singular fact was disclosed. Between the bars was fixed a man's half boot. It was held tight in the bars just above the heel. It was in good condition, though wet, and looked as though it had been there for some time.

Loume's attention was called to this fact, and the sight of it raised a strange turmoil within him. The scenes of that dreadful night when he and his son discovered the dwelling on fire came up before him with startling vividness. One after another each circumstance arose in his place, and not the least important of them was the fact that on that night two men came from the direction of the dwelling, leaped the fence and hastened on the road toward Basaille, and that one of the men

had no boot on the right foot and walked lame. A glance at the boot fixed in the grating showed that it was the right one. Here the old man saw a vindication of his son's character, for did not this boot, found after seven long years fixed in the grating before the murdered Gormez's dwelling, substantiate the testimony that he and his son had given?

No one had approached the dwelling since the corpse was removed. The ruins had lain there untouched through all those years, and what could be plainer than that one of the murderers of Gormez, in escaping by the window, had caught his boot in the grating; that it had been firmly fixed there; that he had sprained his ankle or hurt his foot in trying to extricate it with the boot on; and that finally, as the flames gained ground, and as a last resort, he had drawn his foot from the boot and left it sticking in the grating.

All these thoughts passed through Loume's mind like a flash. He called the attention of the men to the boot, and got from them an explanation how they had come upon it in removing the ruins of the walls. Then he dispatched one of them with a brief letter to the Mayor of La Motte, and remained on watch with the others until his lordship arrived. The functionary was soon on the spot with a local judge and two constables.

Loume pointed out the boot and gave his explanation of the extraordinary circumstance. The Mayor and his companions were greatly astounded, and coincided with Loume that it was calculated to throw light on the crime for which his son was enduring a dreadful imprisonment.

The grating was carefully raised and conveyed, with the boot still fixed between the bars, to the office of the Mayor of La Motte. There another fact of a staring nature was revealed. On the lining of the boot, near the top, was a name in ink, still distinctly visible. That name was "AUGUST TERNEAUX."

The facts just narrated were kept secret, and Loume sent for an eminent lawyer to consult with him on the discovery. On his arrival, every circumstance was gone over with great care. Young Terneaux was the rival of Henri Loume, and jealous of his success with Margaret Rottiller. But what had that to do with the crime? How could he have perpetrated the deed on the very night he knew that the Loumes were passing along the road, and might have thrown the hatchet into the old well some day after the crime was done, and then started the rumor that first threw suspicion on Jean and Henri Loume.

But supposing that Terneaux was one of the perpetrators, who was the other? Gormez's nephew, who was a wild youth of loose habits, and might have been induced to join in the plot in the hope of getting possession of his uncle's property.

When the theory had been developed so far the Mayor suddenly exclaimed: "My God, I see it now! I remember distinctly that August Terneaux was in my office at the very time when Loume and Gormez signed the deed by which Gormez transferred his land to Loume, and Loume agreed to pay him an annuity of \$2000, and I remember Terneaux saying, in a joceous way, 'Now, Monsieur Loume, you may pray for cholera.'"

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after some delay, August Terneaux was arrested on suspicion of having killed Gormez. A tremendous excitement was created, and public feeling rose high against the man who was supposed to have plotted to ruin his rival in order that he might win the hand of his affianced. Terneaux was removed to jail, and the severity of young Loume's sentence was relaxed.

When Terneaux's trial came on the head counsel in France were employed, and he would have been acquitted without doubt if Jules Gormez, the murdered man's nephew, had not turned up at an inopportune moment. He was arrested, and after denying all knowledge of the crime, at length agreed to testify for the prosecution on condition that he was dealt with leniently.

Thereupon he swore that Terneaux agreed to give him one thousand francs if he would aid him in the murder of Gormez, and that he was induced to agree to that proposal by the prospect of getting possession of his uncle's property. He swore furthermore that Terneaux told him he would find out the best time for the perpetration of the deed, and that he intended to get even with young Loume for having supplanted him in the affections of Margaret Rottiller.

Jules swore that Terneaux came to him on the afternoon of the murder and said that Jean and Herbert Loume had just started for Basaille, and that probably they would not return until late, and arranged that they should watch for them.

As they came in sight across the fields, and so out of a considerable distance, and thus accomplish their object, and have the house in flames by the time that Jean Loume and his son reached the road in front of the dwelling. The idea was that they would hasten to the house to render assistance, and their presence he thus secured on the scene, so as to aid in fixing suspicion on them at the right time.

Jules swore that on reaching Gormez's house the old man was sitting with his back to the window, dozing, and that Terneaux told Jules to enter the door and ask for a drink of water. Jules said that he did so, and that as the old man was getting it from a side-table, Terneaux entered stealthily and hit him on the head with the hatchet which he had brought with him.

Gormez staggered and fell behind the door, which closed with his weight. He grasped the handle and tried to rise, but Terneaux again struck him on the head and flung him. They then piled up some beds and furniture, and set fire to them. Finding themselves unable to get out at the door for Gormez's corpse, Jules opened the window and sprang out. Terneaux followed, but his boot heel stuck in the grating, and he severely bruised his ankle. Then he tore the foot out of the boot, for the flames had reached the window, and escaped with only one boot.

Terneaux firmly denied every part of this statement, but he was convicted and sentenced to the bagne for life. Young Loume was thereupon released from prison and restored to his civil rights. In a few weeks he became the husband of Margaret Rottiller. Jules Gormez was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, and everybody was satisfied that justice had been done.

THE ASTONISHING SEQUEL. Strange as it may appear, no one ever thought of questioning the ironmonger of Roelle as to whether he identified Terneaux as the man who had bought the hatchet from him. But before a week had passed after Terneaux's conviction, a circumstance occurred which directed attention to that subject.

One Souberet, a shoemaker of Roelle, happened to enter a cabaret where the subject of crime was under discussion. Some one spoke of the hatchet having been found in Loume's well, whereupon Souberet said: "Now that the thing is over and no trouble can come of it, I don't mind saying that the hatchet was brought to my shop to be sharpened just before the murder was committed."

All expressed surprise and many questions were asked, to none of which Souberet would give satisfactory answers. Afterward he said he was only joking, and that what he did say he said to cause excitement.

The remark had been overheard, however, by one who was friendly to Terneaux and believed him innocent of the crime. This man, named Lebot, mentioned the matter to the Mayor, who in turn went over to La Motte and communicated the matter to the Mayor of that place. Souberet was sent for and questioned, and he gave such evasive and unsatisfactory answers that strong suspicions were aroused. Then the fact became known that Souberet had been Terneaux's bootmaker, and on being communicated with that unfortunate man said that he had a pair of half boots at Souberet's to be mended at the very time he was charged with having murdered Gormez.

The excitement which arose in view of these facts was greater than ever before or since the first trial. Souberet was questioned closely, and at length admitted that

JULES GORMEZ PUT UP THE JOB to murder his uncle, that he bought the axe and sharpened it on Souberet's grindstone, and that both of them put on for the occasion two pairs of boots which were lying in the shop, so that their footsteps might not betray them. That part in the crime, which Jules attributed to Terneaux, was undertaken by himself, and Jules was the first to whisper to Terneaux a suspicion of Loume, and to suggest that Gormez was murdered to get rid of the payment of the annuity, about which Jules was well informed.

This is the sequel and the last act in the judicial drama to which reference was made at the beginning of this article. In October last Souberet was consigned to the bagne for an equal term with Gormez, and Terneaux was released from his unmerited punishment.

I DON'T REMEMBER THE NAME. In a Connecticut district school a few days since a little boy six years old was seen to whisper, but denied doing so when reproved by the teacher. He was told to remain after school, when the teacher, trying to impress upon his youthful mind the sinfulness of not speaking the truth, asked him if he did not tell him in the Sunday school where bad boys went who told falsehoods. Choking with sob, he said, "Yes, marm, it is a place where there is a fire, but I don't just remember the name of the town."

The Petersburg Index informs its readers that "Mr. Wiley Sykes, of Northampton county, N. C., on his way twenty-seven 4 1/2 pound bales of cotton and twenty-eight barrels of corn with one horse," but how high he raised them it does not say.

FOUR-FOOTED FELONS.

Curious Old French Laws—Pigs and Cattle Executed for Murder.

A learned juriconsult, M. Berriat St. Prix, examining the archives of the old French criminal courts, found more than sixty accounts of trials in which swine or other animals were placed at the bar as criminals, or offenders accused of crime. These occurred at various dates, from the twelfth century down to the nineteenth—the latter centuries of the Middle Ages and the earlier of the modern. The Church has been accustomed to pronounce anathemas, on some occasions, against certain noxious vermin, such as field-mice, May bugs, caterpillars, snails and others hurtful to the farms and gardens. But the criminal trial of animals was a different thing altogether.

The instances ferreted out by M. Berriat St. Prix related mostly to offenders of the porcine genus, but some applied to bulls or cows and other animals.

One of the trials took place in the year 1296. The officer of justice of the Monastery of Sainte Genevieve brought to trial a hog that had killed and partly devoured a poor little infant at Fontenay aux Roses, near Paris. The culprit, found guilty, was sentenced to the punishment of being roasted to death—an example of roast pork which will probably be rather new to most readers.

Again, in the year 1386, a magistrate of Falaise, in Normandy, after formal examination into the facts, condemned a sow to be mutilated in the leg and the head, and then to be hanged, for having killed and partly devoured an infant. Of course the prisoner at the bar was neither asked nor expected to give evidence in her own defense. The executioner was furnished with new gloves on the occasion.

Again the judicial officer of the Abbey of Beauray, near Beauvais, instituted a formal inquiry into a charge brought against a bull, of having viciously killed a maiden thirteen years of age, in the Seigneurie of Cantry, a dependency of the Abbey. The facts were investigated, the animal found guilty, sentence passed, and the bull put to death by hanging. No far as appears, the four-footed beasts condemned after these curious trials were not put out of the world in the usual way; they suffered the more ignominious death of felons.

Just before the close of the fifteenth century, in the time of Henry the Seventh, a zoological trial—if the term may be used—was held, concerning which M. Berriat St. Prix gives us some of the technical records of procedure. It was held before the bailli or judicial officer of the Abbey of Josphat, near Chartres: "Monday, April 18, 1499, an inquiry was held before us, at the request of the procurator of Messieurs the Monks of the Abbey of Josphat, against Jehan Delalande and his wife, prisoners in the jail of this abbey, by reason of the untimely death of a child named Gilon, about a year and a half old, which child had been duly nursed and nourished by its mother. The child was murdered by a pig, about the age of three months, belonging to the said Delalande and his wife. Considering the charge brought, and the evidence taken, we have condemned and do hereby condemn the said pig, for the reason and cause established, to be hanged and executed by our executioner, in the jurisdiction of Messieurs our Superiors, and by virtue of our definite and lawful power. Given under the countersign of the said bailliage, the year and day above named. Signed, C. Brlsge."

There is no statement that Delalande and his wife bore any part of the punishment inflicted on their porcine property.

One of My Letters. (Boston Letters.) Three score and ten is not a very green old age if, as astronomers assert, the period of time in which this earth will be inhabited is as a minute to eternity of its actual existence. And yet some people really forget that they were ever young.

There she stood, the apple of their eyes, trembling with suppressed weeps. Their frowns deepened as the mother wiped her glasses preparatory to reading a letter found in the girl's pocket. It began, "Angel of my existence."

"What!" howled the male parent, "You don't mean to say it begins like that? Oh! that a child of mine should correspond with—But pray proceed, my dear."

"Hem! existence spelled with 'a' too!" proceeded the mater. "Why the lunatic can't spell." "It is impossible for me to describe the joy with which your presence has filled me."

"Then why does he attempt it, ass! But pray, don't let me interrupt you. Go on; go on; let joy be unconfinned."

"I have spent the whole night in thinking of you"—(that's picturesque, any way)—"and in bitterly deploring the obstinate, besotted old whelp who will not consent to our union."

"Oh! let me get at him. Whelp, is thy servant a fond that he should thus be spoken of?"

"But Theodorus, my dear," interrupted his other half. "Yes, yes; one moment; I was about to observe that the hand that could pen such words would not hesitate to scalp the most cherished relative."

"Theodorus, I didn't see this over the leaf."

"Eh! let me see; hum! 'Yours with all the love of my heart'—Theodorus, May 10, 1837. 'Why, bless my eyes, it's one of my letters.'" (Sensation.) "Yes, pa," chimed in the 'Olive Branch.' "I found it yesterday—only you wouldn't let me speak!"

"You may go to the park, my child. Hem! We've made a nice mess of it." "Yes, love. Next time we will look at the date first."

INSURANCE.

FACTORS AND TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY,

Paid up Capital, \$1,000,000. Assets April 30, 1877, \$1,282,908 66. ISSUES POLICIES COVERING FIRE, RIVER AND MARINE RISKS.

LOWEST TARIFF RATES. ED. A. PALFREY, President. JNO. CHAFFE, Vice President. THOS. F. WALKER, Secretary.

John I. Noble, T. L. Lyon, John Chaffee, Samuel H. Boyd, Richard Milliken, Joseph McElroy, J. I. Warren, Wm. J. Boban, R. T. Buckner, B. F. Eschmann, Sam'l Friedlander, Wm. C. Black, A. A. Yates, Chas. Chaffee, John L. Adams, Wm. Hartzell, Isaac Sisker, C. J. Lands, R. M. Wainwright, A. T. Janin, A. H. May, Jas. Bowling, S. H. Snowden, A. M. Bickham, act.

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Corner Tremont and Church Streets, Galveston, Texas.

SBISA & ORFILA, Lessees. (Formerly of the Grand Southern Hotel.) The Palace Hotel of Galveston.

IS NOW OPEN FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF THE PUBLIC.

Being built at a cost of \$400,000, it will be first class in every respect, with all the latest improvements. ELEVATORS, ELECTRO ANNUNCIATORS, etc.

BATH ROOMS ON EVERY FLOOR. We therefore take pleasure in soliciting A CONTINUANCE OF THE PATRONAGE extended by the commercial men to the late Grand Southern Hotel.

SBISA & ORFILA, Lessees, Formerly of Grand Southern Hotel. ANTHONY SBISA, Jr., Chief Clerk. 77 6m

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Wholesale Grocers, DEALERS IN WINES AND LIQUORS, And all kinds of WESTERN PRODUCE, At the Blue Stores.

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Undertakers and Embalmers. All business entrusted to the firm will receive prompt and careful attention at moderate rates. Carriages to hire. 1028 17

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Manufacturer of the most improved STEAM TRAINS FOR MAKING SUGAR, And every description of Copper, Brass and Sheet-Iron Work.

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TO ALL SOUTHERN CITIZENS. I am of the same opinion as yourselves any am determined to help build up the manufacturing interest of our native State in order to help the laboring classes and keep the money which would otherwise go to the North, at home.

About a year ago I started my Factory, and by using the best material and paying my hands promptly, I have been enabled to extend my business and support 500 women and children that would have otherwise left the State, in order still to increase my Factory, I would securely call upon the merchants, not only of the city, but of the whole country, to give me their aid and encouragement. Come and see me. 264 17 JNO. HANSEN

INSURANCE.

MERCHANTS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ORLEANS.

104 Canal Street, 104. TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL STATEMENT.

In conformity with the requirements of their charter, the Company publish the following statement: Premiums received during the year ending May 31, 1877, including unearned premiums of the previous year—

On Fire Risks \$361,296 66 On Marine Risks 24,478 On River Risks 35,679 97 Total Premiums \$421,454 65 Less Unearned Premiums 118,118 00 Net Earned Premiums May 31, 1877 \$303,336 65

Lessons paid— On Fire Risks \$117,887 98 On Marine Risks 17,953 50 On River Risks 5,895 77 Taxes and expenses, less Reinsurance and returned Premiums 16,104 09 \$157,841 74 Profit \$145,494 91

The Company have the following assets: Real Estate \$289,079 40 City Bonds 110,619 00 Bank, Building and other Stocks 129,286 00 and Mortgage Bonds 314,948 00 Notes secured by mortgages 43,807 97 Bills receivable 75,106 18 Premium in course of collection 48,097 88 Cash on hand 77,007 88 Total \$1,096,944 36

The above statement is a just, true and correct transcript from the books of the Company PAUL FOURCROY, President. G. W. NOTT, Secretary.

STATE OF LOUISIANA. Parish of Orleans, City of New Orleans, I Sworn to and subscribed before me the seventh day of June, 1877. JAMES FAHEY, Notary Public.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held on the seventh day of June, 1877, it was resolved to declare a cash dividend of twenty per cent on the net earned participating premiums for the year ending May 31, 1877, payable on the third Monday of July next.

Also, to pay to the Stockholders, on demand interest at the rate of five per cent per annum on their stock.

DIRECTORS: F. Maspero, H. Y. Bobe, D. A. Chaffee, E. Tohy, P. Fourcroy, J. M. Allen, J. Z. Hoff, W. W. Smith, Charles Laflite, D. Fatio, Jos. I. J. Fernandez.

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE CRESCENT MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

NEW ORLEANS, MAY 19, 1877.

The Trustees, in conformity with amended charter, submit the following statement of the affairs of the company on the 30th of April, 1877:

Fire premiums \$188,068 51 Marine premiums 29,316 96 River premiums 81,294 88 Earned premiums, less reinsurance and return premiums 228,286 36 Losses paid and estimated, including all known and unpaid, say: Fire losses \$67,398 59 Marine losses 7,265 41 River losses 26,510 20 \$101,174 20

Taxes, expenses, discount in lieu of participation, etc., \$61,892 58 Less rents, salary savings, etc. \$1,766 72 \$40,125 86 \$160,270 97

Gross profits \$79,979 08 Of which \$66,587 86 is appropriated to balance interest and liquidation of doubtful assets.

The company have the following assets— Bills receivable \$68,548 38 Loans on Bonds and Mortgages 55,948 38 \$124,496 76

Loans on call \$74,584 15 Cash 63,846 71 \$138,430 86

City Bonds \$75,666 00 Bank and other Stocks 78,416 00 Real Estate 139,554

Premiums in course of Collection and Suspense Account 38,416 94 Total assets \$661,458

The above statement is a true and correct transcript from the books of the Company. THOS. A. ADAMS, President. HENRY V. OGDEN, Secretary.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this nineteenth day of May, 1877. W. B. KLEINFELTER, Notary Public.

The Board of Trustees this day resolved, that after paying the annual dividend of 2 PER CENT Capital Stock of Company, that a dividend of TWENTY PER CENT in cash be paid on MONDAY, June 11, to those parties entitled to receive the same.

THOS. A. ADAMS, Fred C. Cameron, Sam'l H. Kennedy, Andrew Stewart, John Phelps, Joseph Stone, Adam Thomson, George Martin, Henry Abraham, Alfred Mouton, Victor Meyer, L. C. Jurry, Edward J. Gay, Edward Nello, Geo. W. Bonell, Simon Hornschel, A. Levy, Simon Forchheimer, Wm. H. Matthews, Jos. B. Wall, Paul E. Mortimer, R. B. Post, J. Adams, W. B. Cotner, Ed. Pilebury, Henry M. Proston, Jno. K. King, Robert G. Bush, my 17 J. J. Levy.

SUN MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

Paid Up Capital, \$500,000. FROM THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR 1876.

Net annual earned premiums and Discounts \$407,290 Less Expenses 227,207 24 Reserved fund \$180,082 and Dividend on capital 19 per cent. \$2,247 47—\$388,766

Net Profit \$71,396 91 Assets of the Company estimated at their cash market value: Stocks, Bonds, Loans and Bills Receivable 236,526 17 Cash on hand and premiums in course of collection 136,238

Dividend paid on stock ten per cent per annum, and on participating policies twenty per cent payable in cash. This old and reliable company is issuing policies on Fire, River and Marine risks on the most favorable terms. All losses promptly adjusted and settled upon liberal terms, not only of the city, but of the whole country, to give me their aid and encouragement. Come and see me. 264 17 JNO. HANSEN