

DEAD MAN IN DRUCE COFFIN

BEARDED AND OLD AND WRAPPED IN A SHROUD.

Connect to Claimant of Portland Title and Estate Talks of Fighting on Opening of Grave

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The Druce family vault in Highgate cemetery was opened today and the coffin, which Robert C. Caldwell of Staten Island, testifying the other day on behalf of George Hollamby Druce, said contained not the body of Thomas C. Druce but a roll of lead, was found to contain human remains.

The representative of a news agency, who was present, says: "When the coffin was opened it was found to contain the body of an aged bearded man. The plate bore the name: Thomas Charles Druce."

The point so hotly debated for years past in the fight for the Portland title and estate was settled at 12:15 P. M. Every step leading up to the disinterment has been accompanied with an appropriate air of mystery and melodrama.

Yesterday thousands visited the cemetery and stared in wonder. Within everything had been prepared for the final act to-day. All through the night, strict silence was kept among the tombstones. At 10 o'clock this morning, in pitchy darkness, 200 police arrived and surrounded the cemetery walls.

A patrol of mounted police was concealed within the walls. These precautions were unnecessary, as few of the public came to stand, unable to see anything, in the bitter cold. By 11 o'clock all who were to be allowed to witness the examination had assembled. They included Prof. Pepper, representing the Home Office; representatives of Herbert and George H. Druce, the Duke of Portland and Lord Howard de Walden, reporters for two news agencies and detectives from Scotland Yard.

George H. Druce, the claimant, twice made vain efforts to gain an entrance to the enclosure. He was forced to content himself with the presence inside of his representative.

The coffin had been little affected by time despite the fact that interment was made forty-three years ago. The original cloth covering of the outer shell was almost intact. It was necessary to wash the nameplate in order to read the inscription. The lid was easily unsecured. The inner leaden coffin was inscribed like the outer shell.

The leaden lid was cut through all around the edges. Then the lid was raised, bringing with it the top of the innermost wooden shell, displaying a shrouded human figure, which proved to be the body of an aged bearded man.

The body was remarkably well preserved. The skin was yellow and comparatively unblemished. The eyes had disappeared. Otherwise than these appearances, death might have been recent. The aquiline nose was entirely undecayed. The upper lip and chin were shaven. There were bushy whiskers about four inches long on each side of the face.

The newspaper representatives were allowed to see the corpse and were then excluded, while the Government and the other authorized representatives made a detailed examination.

Various photographs were taken of the interior of the vault and the positions of the different coffins, as well as of T. C. Druce's and of the corpse. The coffin was then resealed and replaced.

The fact that the coffin contains human remains solves the part of the mystery most interesting to the general public, but the actual effect it will have upon the strange drama cannot yet be determined.

The hearing in the perjury case will be resumed on January 6. Inasmuch as this case involves legal questions of a technical nature, independent legal opinion as to the result of the examination thereon can be obtained.

The point on which the present prosecutor's lawyers have seized is that it lies on the defendant to prove that the body exhumed at Highgate cemetery is actually that of T. C. Druce.

From the point of view of the general public the exhumation has knocked the bottom out of the whole question. This is plainly shown by its effect upon the shares of the company promoted under the name of G. H. Druce, Limited, to establish the claim to the Portland estate, with a capital of \$55,000, mostly in \$5 shares. These sold at a premium of 4 per cent. in October. Immediately the coffin was opened they became unsalable.

George Hollamby Druce, while admitting he is bitterly disappointed by the discovery of the body, does not admit it is that of his grandfather. He professes to believe that the issue of the pending civil action will not be affected by the discovery.

Mr. Coburn, the Australian barrister, who is associated with George Hollamby Druce, says that the mystery is still a mystery and that nothing but a complete and full civil action to establish the direct descent of George H. Druce from the fifth Duke of Portland will determine it. That action, says Mr. Coburn, will be brought by the question whether the Duke was involved in one mock burial or fifty. Mr. Coburn admitted that he was disappointed at the result of the exhumation.

Mr. Kimber, the claimant's solicitor, says the intention is to continue the case as if nothing had happened, because it must yet be proved conclusively that the body found in the coffin is that of T. C. Druce.

A special meeting of the claimant and his friends will be held in the afternoon to consider the situation in its new aspect.

The Home Office does not intend to issue any official report of the exhumation.

Hall Caine appears in a clairvoyant rôle in connection with the Druce case. The novelist sent to the Daily Mail the day before the exhumation a manuscript claiming in the most emphatic manner absolute knowledge that the coffin contained a body and that the body was that of T. C. Druce.

Mr. Caine wrote: "As a student of life I know it exactly by a kind of instinct and certainty of knowledge as the surgeon must have of the character of the disease that will be found in a patient before he uses the knife."

Mr. Caine protests passionately against the desecration of the grave and inferentially thinks if the Court relied upon his knowledge exhumation would be needless. The document, after declaring certainly that a corpse would be found in the coffin, says: "If I prove right I shall, as soon as the laws permit a full disclosure of the case, make an attempt to read the mystery by a light that will, I think, harmonize the material parts of its conflicting elements."

TITLE GUARANTEE AND TRUST CO

Capital and Surplus - \$12,000,000

170 Broadway, N. Y. 170 Nassau St., N. Y.

heard privately from Mr. Caine it is satisfied that the novelist is able to give a natural explanation of practically everything which has bewildered the public for, so many years.

Robert C. Caldwell, whose testimony in a London police court concerning his alleged knowledge of the dual personality of the Duke of Portland and the burial of 200 pounds of lead in the coffin exhumed yesterday startled London, was said to be bright in Staten Island, yesterday afternoon to make any statement. Caldwell is now under \$5,000 bail pending extradition on a perjury charge against him, based on his testimony in the case.

His daughter, Miss Caldwell, who is living with him on Staten Island, said that no one but his physician, Dr. Pearson, would be permitted to see him or hold any communication with him and that her father was much too ill to issue a statement.

Dr. Pearson would give no information concerning the nature of his patient's illness.

Mr. Caldwell's attorney, George Gordon Battle, when told that the roll of lead had not been found in the coffin, had little to say.

"My position in the case is no queer," said Mr. Battle, "that I don't like to speak definitely on the subject. My client, Mr. Caldwell, was not when he handed her over and is still too ill to go into the case with me. I advised his daughter as soon as he arrived in Staten Island to go to bed and remain there until he rallied. Consequently with the very slight knowledge I have of Mr. Caldwell's position in the matter I do not feel safe saying anything at this time for publication."

EARTHQUAKE TO THE SOUTH

In the Upper Andes, Perhaps, or Maybe in the Pacific Off Mexico.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

LAIBACH, Austria, Dec. 30.—The seismograph records at 8:10 this morning several heavy shocks of earthquake, the centre of the disturbance being about 6,300 miles westward from the observatory.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The seismographs of Prof. Belar at the Laibach Observatory, Austria, and Mr. Milne at Shide Hill House, Isle of Wight, recorded to-day one of the greatest earthquakes of recent years. Prof. Belar calculates that the centre of the movement was between Mexico and Colombia, and says the effects were probably formidable.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—A distant earthquake of considerable intensity was recorded by the seismograph at the Weather Bureau this morning, commencing at 12:33 A. M., seventy-fifth meridian time, and lasted for over one hour. The first preliminary tremors continued for 4 minutes and 55 seconds and the strongest motion occurred at 12:45 A. M., at which time it is estimated that the ground at Washington was about 5 millimeters.

ALBANY, Dec. 30.—An earthquake of large proportions was registered at the State station to-day. The instruments recorded its passage for about an hour, beginning at 12:23 A. M. The vibrations set up on both machines were large, those of the north-south pendulum measuring two and a half inches in amplitude as a maximum. From the duration of the preliminary tremors, about eight and a half minutes, the origin may be estimated at 4,500 miles from Albany.

A comparison of the amplitudes of the swings on the two records received indicates a source to the southwest, which would bring the centre of the disturbance in the Cordilleran region of Central or South America or else in the Pacific Ocean west of Mexico.

OWNER OF EMPTY BALLOON

Italian Seeking the Aero Club's Diploma Went Up Alone.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—An empty balloon which landed near Evreux last Friday night proves to have been used by M. Triaca, an Italian, who is going to New York to found a school of aeronautics, after gaining the Aero Club's diploma.

He says he made the ascent alone, this being one of the two ascensions alone which the club demands.

The New England, fair and colder, except snow in northern portions, 87° at 10 P. M.

There was a storm formation working inland from the Lakes and middle Atlantic States, and a few points in the Northern Rocky Mountain States.

Elsewhere the weather was generally fair. The Eastern coast winds from southerly quarters and warmer water into all the Atlantic States, East Gulf States and northward into the Lake regions.

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PRINCESS KNEW OF SCANDAL

Keener Sister Talked to Doctor About Her Brother—Then She Married Him.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BELLEVILLE, Dec. 30.—When the trial of Maximilian Harden for the publication of a criminal libel upon Count Kuno von Moltke was resumed to-day a deposition by Prof. Schweninger, taken in Munich on Saturday, was read. Dr. Schweninger, who was the personal physician of the late Prince Bismarck, deposed that he met Harden twice in 1892 and twice in 1897. He met him first on the introduction of Bismarck.

Harden on these occasions, met the hereditary Princess of Saxony-Meiningen, sister of the Kaiser. She was under his (the doctor's) treatment at the time. The Princess spoke to Harden about the Count von Hohenau and expressed incredulity as to the reports that were current about him, but she added that practices such as he was alleged to be guilty of were carried on even in the highest circles, as was well known.

Dr. Schweninger testified further that Frau von Elbe, Count Kuno von Moltke's divorced wife, had been with him (the witness) made advanced her husband's charges and had advanced her evidence. Witness considered her perfectly healthy at the time and that she showed no signs of trilateral poisoning. Witness introduced Frau von Elbe and Harden at the request of the former.

He had heard rumors concerning Prince zu Eulenburg and his friends even in Berlin at that time, and was of the opinion that the dangerous influence of the Liebenbergers as irresponsible advisers of the Crown. He had said that if it was so stupidly managed that the ruler noticed it, the camarilla could not last. Dr. Schweninger had heard Count von Moltke called "Sweet Kuno."

The testimony came to a close to-day. The addresses of counsel are expected to occupy all day tomorrow. To-day's proceedings made a most unfavorable impression as regards Frau von Elbe, consequently it was somewhat favorable to Harden, who seems to have been really misled by her stories. During the day von Moltke declared that the notorious scene was only a "feeler," to ascertain whether Frau von Elbe intended to use his friendship for Zu Eulenburg for the purposes of the divorce then pending.

OBITUARY

Julius W. Brunn, who died yesterday at his home, 430 Grand avenue, Brooklyn, was born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1853 and came to this country when he was 22 years old. After two years experience as clerk with Brulage & Co., he established himself in the export and import commission business in 1875 in the firm of Hageneyer & Brunn.

He was a member of the German Society, the German Club, the German League, the German Law Society, the German Athletic Club, the German Literary Society, the German Historical Society and the German Historical Society of the Lincoln Club. He is survived by three sons and two daughters.

Henry P. Sanders, for thirty-two years president of the Episcopal Church in Washington, died at his home in Washington yesterday in his seventy-third year. He was a member of the Episcopal Church, the German Society, the German Club, the German League, the German Law Society, the German Athletic Club, the German Literary Society, the German Historical Society and the German Historical Society of the Lincoln Club. He is survived by three sons and two daughters.

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FIND COOKE OF WHOLESALE GIRL

Hempstead Rector and Ward, With Baby, in San Francisco.

Former Pastor of St. George's Church Has Resumed His Trade of Painter and Decorator and Has Been Earning His Way—Tells Story of His Infatuation.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—After a search of eight months the Rev. Jere Knode Cooke, former pastor of St. George's Church at Hempstead, L. I., was found yesterday living quietly in this city in a little flat at 1139 Grand street, with the seventeen-year-old girl Floretta Whaley, with whom he eloped, and their two-month-old baby.

But the trail of the fugitives was only crossed, for this morning they had both left their home before sunrise and the flat was found locked and silent. During the eight months since he left Hempstead Cooke has been living in Los Angeles and San Francisco, earning a living for himself and Miss Whaley as a painter and decorator and sometimes accepting menial labor to provide for his little household.

The discovery of Cooke's identity is credited to Capt. James Cleary of the Moore agency in this city, who observed that a picture of Floretta Whaley, published in a local newspaper, greatly resembled the supposed wife of a man he knew under the name of Gerald Balcom.

The woman was visited at the Green street flat yesterday by the kitchen range maker for his Sunday dinner, while Floretta Whaley, with the pallor of recent motherhood still on her face, lay on a lounge in the next room, singing to her baby, a fine healthy boy.

The fugitive pastor at first denied his identity and insisted that his name was Balcom, but as he offered his visitor a glass of wine, trembled and he finally admitted that he was Cooke.

"Final!" he exclaimed. "Now the awakening. My God, what an awakening! Look here, give me a chance to get away. You are human; just as human as I am. I don't mind Sing Sing or hell; but it's a hell to be here only two months ago, and this will kill her."

"What's the use? What's the eternal use? The inexorable law will be, must be, and nothing can prevent it. I have preached it myself so often that I ought to know it now. Faith, there's nothing will paint a black sheep white."

"But look here; listen to my side. For ten years I have kept silent. For the last eight months I have borne without a murmur all the abuse, the vilest lies that yellow journalism could conjure, and now I will speak. It was only yesterday that a paper had a story about me giving away my wife to a man in Louisiana. As if that could be possible. Give her away? Give away my life?"

"I worked my way through college, writing for the papers and periodicals to make out my expenses, and then took a post graduate course there. I then entered the ministry, and was the rector of St. George's Episcopal Church at Hempstead, L. I., was given to me. Prior to this I had married, and three days after my discovery that I had married the most awful mistake a man could make."

"I don't intend to give all the details of the next nine years of my life, but it was hell. I awoke to love and everything else was worthless. You know the end. On the one hand was a loveless life with honor and wealth, and on the other the love and poverty. I stepped back to my old trade, learned fifteen years ago, and became a painter and decorator. And now all that is left is that I may receive a letter from Cooke when it was rumored that he was in Boston, and that he would still be served; but Mrs. Whaley said she would not have the warrant served and would object to its service."

On the other hand he believes that the moral value of the Japanese crews is immensely superior to that of the Americans. The strategic situation of the Japanese is also superior. They are in a position to seize Hawaii easily and this would prevent Rear Admiral Evans from reaching the Philippines. And he asks: "Are the Japanese going to do so?"

Sendoff for Whitman. This is the last day that Judge Whitman will sit in General Sessions and his friends in the Criminal Courts Building will gather in his court at 1 o'clock to show their appreciation of his services. District Attorney Jerome and his staff will be present, and it is expected that John B. Stanchfield and other lawyers will make speeches.

Field Maneuvers in Cuba. Artillery and Cavalry From Camp Columbia Going to Pinar del Rio. Havana, Dec. 30.—The artillery and cavalry stationed at Camp Columbia are about to march to Pinar del Rio, where they will take part in maneuvers lasting six weeks. The American forces in Pinar del Rio will take part in the maneuvers.

Immigrant Steamer Overdue. Canadians Anxious About the Mount Royal From Antwerp. St. John, N. B., Dec. 30.—Great uneasiness is felt here at the delayed arrival of the Canadian Pacific steamship Mount Royal, which left Antwerp on December 7 for this port and is therefore ten days overdue. The vessel is a sister ship to the Mount Temple, which was wrecked on Ironbound Island some weeks ago. Her ordinary time of passage is from ten to twelve days. She carries several hundred stowage passengers and a large general cargo.

Carrie Nation at Vera Cruz. Wants to See President Diaz and Turn Mexico to Teotalism. Mexico City, Dec. 30.—Carrie Nation, the temperance agitator of Kansas City, arrived at Vera Cruz to-day and will reach here to-morrow. She says that she will seek an audience with President Diaz with a view to getting Government aid in a temperance reform movement which she has planned to start in this country.

Interborough Lays Off Men. The Interborough Rapid Transit Company, operating the subway and elevated lines, has laid off 300 men in the repair department. The company will receive new equipment in the near future and for that reason can dispense with certain pairs to equipment now in use but which will be retired on receipt of the new. Under orders of the Public Service Commission the repair force enables it to save enough to meet the additional expense incurred by the increase in the operating force.

SUFFERED WITH ECZEMA 25 YEARS

Limb Peeled and Foot Was Like Raw Flesh—Had to Use Crutches, and Doctors Thought Amputation Necessary—Montreal Woman Writes of Cure Seven Years Ago.

BELIEVES LIFE SAVED BY CUTICURA REMEDIES

"I have been treated by doctors for twenty-five years for a bad case of eczema on my leg. The doctors tried to cure me, but failed. My doctor had advised me to have my leg cut off, but I said I would try Cuticura Remedies first. He said, 'Try Cuticura Remedies. I do not think you will do any good.' At this time my leg was peeled from the knee, my foot was like a piece of raw flesh, and I had to walk on crutches. I bought a box of Cuticura Ointment, and a bottle of Cuticura Pills. After the first two treatments the swelling went down, and in two months my leg was cured and the new skin came on. The doctor could not believe his own eyes when he saw that Cuticura had cured me and said that he would use it for his own patients. I used two cakes of Cuticura Soap, three boxes of Ointment, and five bottles of Pills, and I have now been cured over seven years, and but for the Cuticura Remedies I might have lost my life. I have lots of friends, and they are frequent users of Cuticura, and I always recommend it to the many people whom I meet. Mrs. Jean-Baptiste Renaud, clairvoyant, 277, Montana St., Montreal, Que., Feb. 20, 1907."

SLEEP FOR BABIES Rest for Mothers. Instant relief and refreshing also for skin-tortured babies, and rest for fretted mothers. A warm bath with Cuticura Soap and gentle anointing with Cuticura Ointment, the great skin cure, and purest of emollients.

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DEVELOPERS OF EARLY POWER

Our Service Concerns Men, Material, Machinery and Methods.

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