

A GAPING, CHASTLY WOUND

Severs His Jugular and Lets Out Ruble's Life.

A CRIME CLOTHED IN MYSTERY.

Leavitt Burnham Left Out—Custodian of Jordan—Accidents—Strike of Specht's Men—Asphyxiated—Marsh's Bank.

Who Killed Christopher Ruble?

Coroner Drexel was summoned at 6:30 yesterday to investigate the death of a man who was found, with his throat cut, lying near the intersection of South Twenty-fourth street and the Union Pacific track. The case proved to be a mystery, which will only be cleared up, if ever, by the most shrewd and careful work.

The coroner, accompanied by Officer Peter Matza and a reporter of the BEE, drove out, shortly after the first notification had been received, to the scene of the tragedy. The drive was over a series of hills and valleys, which made the trip anything but a pleasant one.

The body of the dead man was found lying in the rear of the cottage of a German by the name of John Miller, a few feet away from the railway track. He was lying on his side, his head toward the ground. For several feet around the ground was soaked with blood, while leading around the side of the house for a distance of about ten or twelve feet was a trail of blood. A post-mortem examination of the corpse showed that almost beyond question the case was one of murder. There was a heavy gash, probably from a five-inch length, and two to three inches in depth, on the left side of the neck, which must have caused death almost instantaneously. In addition to this there was a cut, about two inches in length, on the left side of the chest, and another on the right arm, a few inches above the elbow, on the inside. No one appeared to be able to identify the dead man, but it was not until the coroner had been informed of the death of a German of perhaps 33 or 34 years of age, and that his name was Ruble, as a bank book, bearing the stamp of the Omaha Savings Bank, was found in his pocket with that name on it. Beyond that and a postal card bearing on the reverse side the printed address of the "Anzeiger des Westens," the German journal of St. Louis, there were no papers on his person. He was dressed neatly but plainly in a suit of dark jeans, the coat and vest of which were open.

THE THEORY OF MURDER.

As already intimated, every circumstance connected with the case points to the theory of murder. About a quarter past 10 o'clock yesterday the occupants of the Miller house, near which the body was found, were awakened by the screaming of a man who was evidently struggling with an assailant. Miller dressed himself as rapidly as possible and went out doors, followed by his wife. When they reached the rear of the yard they found the dead man lying on the ground with his throat cut. All life being extinct. Several other German and Polish families in the neighborhood were aroused by the cries and came out, but as soon as they ascertained that the man was dead they returned to their homes. Miller, as well as the other neighbors who were questioned about the affair, stated that there was no one in the neighborhood when he went out to investigate the cause of the screaming.

The fact that there are so many knife cuts on the head and body of the dead man is prima facie evidence that he was murdered. If the case was one of suicide, Ruble would not have cut himself in so many places. The circumstance which cuts on the other side is the fact that Ruble is attempting to ward off the attack of the unknown assailant, threw up his arm to parry the thrust. In fact, the horrible manner in which the dead man is chopped, shows that the struggle must have been a terrific one. The trail of blood from the front to the back of the house, shows that the poor fellow must have been stabbed at the front door, and then ran around to the back door, where he fell dead. Near the casement of the side door there is also a large pool of blood, which makes it probable that Ruble either while still struggling with his assailant, or immediately after the death-thrust had been received, tried to force his way into the house. The wounds were probably made by a sharp knife, and the strikingly sharp knife. A careful search of the ground for many feet around failed to disclose the instrument with which the deed had been committed. This circumstance, too, makes it probable that the theory of suicide, for had Ruble killed himself, the knife or razor with which he cut his throat would have been found by his side. Assuming then that Ruble was murdered, which is almost beyond the possibility of a doubt the only thing probable, the motive is the next thing to be determined. At present, it would seem, must remain a mystery for the most diligent search has so far failed to reveal any circumstances which will throw light upon the matter. It was thought, however, that the man who was found by tramps intent upon robbing, and that, in defending himself, he was killed. There is absolutely no clue to the perpetrators of the deed.

WHO KILLED HIM?

After carefully making a preliminary examination of the case, Coroner Drexel removed the body to his office. Here hundreds of curious persons pressed in to view the remains, and it was not long before one of the spectators, Fred Miller, proprietor of the City Hotel, identified the corpse as that of a man who had boarded at his house for nearly a year and a half. Mr. Wirth stated to a reporter for the BEE that Ruble was a young man of about 21 years of age, and had been living in Omaha nearly two years. He came here from Bavaria, where he still has relatives living. During his stay in Omaha he has been doing odd jobs, part of the time driving a team. At other times, he has been engaged in farm work, just outside the city. He was a frugal, economical young man, and managed to save up considerable money, more than \$500, of which now stands to his credit in the Omaha Savings bank. Lately he has been out of work. On Monday of this week, he started to Lincoln, saying that he thought he could find employment in that city. Yesterday he returned, but for some reason did not go to the City Hotel. He left his baggage at the depot, and started away according to want to avoid his friends. Nothing was seen of him alive.

THE CASE IS UNDOUBTEDLY ONE OF MURDER.

"The case is undoubtedly one of murder," said Mr. Wirth. "He is my neighbor, and I know him well. He fell in with some ruffians who imagined that he had money on his person, and after arming here waylaid and killed him. Of course Ruble had some enemies, but none of them think there is any chance of their having murdered him. He was a peaceable, quiet fellow, who preferred to be let alone and to let everybody else alone. He was not in any way more than \$10 or \$12. How much he had with him when he went to Lincoln I can not say."

THE CORONER'S JURY COMMENCED THE WORK OF TAKING THE TESTIMONY IN THE CASE AT 8:30 O'CLOCK YESTERDAY AFTERNOON.

Mr. Jordan of course is a democrat and is reputed to have been one all his life. He has resided here off and on during the past twenty-five years, at one time

and was told that a man was lying dead near his house. Witness noticed the corner of the job.

The second and principal witness was John Miller who lives near the railroad track at the corner of Twenty-third street. He testified: Went to bed at 8 o'clock Tuesday night and about two hours later was awakened by some one knocking at the door. I went to the door and opened it. A man who was standing before the door said, "For God's sake stop my blood or I'll have to die." The appeal was made in the German tongue. I stepped outside and the man staggered up against the fence near by and dropped dead. Other neighbors came out and we got a lamp and looked around, but could see no one. We found a collar lying near the railroad track. Did not call the police because I was afraid to leave the house. Did not notice any place that looked as though it had been the scene of a scuffle. Heard no trains passing during the evening. Heard tramps around but did not see them.

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Is the Title of a Gentleman Who Has Recently Made His Home Among Us.

Dr. L.A. Simons is a physician of large experience and of long and successful practice. He has had valuable experience among all kinds of diseases and among all conditions of life, only to be secured by practice in large cities. The doctor's methods of diagnosis are new and enable him to determine to a certainty the malady. All organs of the body are explored with their own particular nerves. If the organ is diseased its nerves become tender. By pressing upon these nerves which center in the spinal column, the disease is located. This method requires a thorough knowledge of anatomy, and this the doctor possesses. A trial will convince the most skeptical that Dr. Simons is a man of high professional attainments. Particular attention given to female difficulties and nervous troubles. Dr. Simons, 404 North Sixteenth street, up-stairs, Estersbrook block.

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WHAT TO BUY.

The Family Market Basket—Prices and Receipts.

Vegetables and fruits are coming in very rapidly as summer approaches, and the range of the markets in this direction is a wide one. In the matter of meats and fish, however, the selection is not so easy.

Parsley is sold at 5 cents a bunch Parsnips at 25 cents a peck. New hot-house radishes two bunches for a nickel. Lettuce five heads for a quarter. Spinach sells for 30 cents a peck. New green peas and four bunches for a dime. Tansy and mint 5 cents a bunch. Water-cress 5 cents a bunch. Pie-plant 5 cents a pound. New turnips 31 cents a pound. California parsnips and carrots 20 cents a quarter. Potatoes, from 50 to 60 cents a peck. Peas sell at 8 and 4 quarts for a quarter. Home grown asparagus, three bunches for 25 cents. String beans sell for 25 cents a peck. New beets sell for 25 cents a peck. New beets sell for 25 cents a peck. New tomatoes 25 to 30 cents a pound.

WHAT TO BUY.

New California oranges from 25 to 30 cents a dozen. Strawberries 20 cents a dozen. Lemons bring from 25 to 35 cents, the outside price being for very choice ones. Bananas are worth from 25 to 35 cents a dozen. Fresh lobsters sell at 25 cents a pound. Flounders are worth 12 1/2 cents a pound. Striped bass are so scarce as to be unquoted. Sea perch are worth 12 1/2 cents a pound. Salt codfish tongues sell for 12 cents a pound. Fresh lobsters sell at 25 cents per pound. North river shad are now to be purchased; they are arriving in finer condition than this market has ever seen them. They sell at \$1 each for four bunches for a dime. Tansy and mint 5 cents a bunch. Water-cress 5 cents a bunch. Pie-plant 5 cents a pound. New turnips 31 cents a pound. California parsnips and carrots 20 cents a quarter. Potatoes, from 50 to 60 cents a peck. Peas sell at 8 and 4 quarts for a quarter. Home grown asparagus, three bunches for 25 cents. String beans sell for 25 cents a peck. New beets sell for 25 cents a peck. New tomatoes 25 to 30 cents a pound.

WHAT TO BUY.

White fish and trout are selling for 15 cents a pound. Salmon steaks are worth 25 cents a pound. Fresh codfish is to be purchased for 15 cents a pound, while halibut steaks are worth 15 cents a pound. Fresh lobsters sell at 25 cents a pound. Flounders are worth 12 1/2 cents a pound. Striped bass are so scarce as to be unquoted. Sea perch are worth 12 1/2 cents a pound. Salt codfish tongues sell for 12 cents a pound. Fresh lobsters sell at 25 cents per pound. North river shad are now to be purchased; they are arriving in finer condition than this market has ever seen them. They sell at \$1 each for four bunches for a dime. Tansy and mint 5 cents a bunch. Water-cress 5 cents a bunch. Pie-plant 5 cents a pound. New turnips 31 cents a pound. California parsnips and carrots 20 cents a quarter. Potatoes, from 50 to 60 cents a peck. Peas sell at 8 and 4 quarts for a quarter. Home grown asparagus, three bunches for 25 cents. String beans sell for 25 cents a peck. New beets sell for 25 cents a peck. New tomatoes 25 to 30 cents a pound.

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