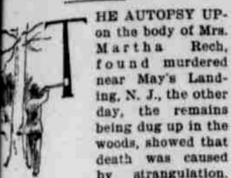


STRANGLED TO DEATH

HORRIBLE FATE OF A CONFIDING YOUNG WIFE.

Handkerchief to Kill the Woman Who Made a Will in His Favor—The Body and Then Felled a Tree Over the Grave.



HE AUTOPSY UPON the body of Mrs. Martha Rech, found murdered near May's Landing, N. J., the other day, the remains being dug up in the woods, showed that death was caused by strangulation. An examination revealed the fact that two handkerchiefs were used in accomplishing the deed. The first was so tightly drawn around the throat and knotted as to compress the throat into one-half its normal size. The other handkerchief was then tightly drawn over the first one. No other marks of violence were discovered. Prosecutor Perry is making every effort to arrest the husband, John Rech, who is accused of the murder, and the police of all nearby cities have been notified. The prosecutor believes that the motive for the deed is fully established and fastened onto the husband. The fact of Mrs. Rech having made a will in which she left all of her possessions to her child, making her husband trustee and also giving to the latter a full power of attorney to enable him to control the estate. Mrs. Rech was the daughter of Prof.

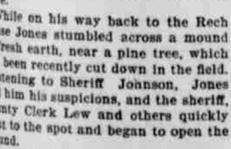


JOHN RECH.

Heaver, a wealthy physician, of Philadelphia. When Bertha was in her teens her mother died, and when her father married the girl left home. Soon after this Bertha met Rech and became enamored with him. Prof. Weaver objected to the girl's associations with Rech and used every means to stop the marriage. She married Rech, however. Her father died leaving an estate of a half million dollars and cut off Bertha from his will. The daughter employed counsel and proceedings were started to contest the will, but a compromise was effected and a sum, in trust, was set upon the girl. This was done, it is said, to prevent her husband from getting control of the money. It is reported that \$50,000 of Mrs. Rech's portion of her father's estate would in a few months revert to her unconditionally. The murder has aroused the entire community.

The last seen of Mrs. Rech was when she purchased groceries in May's Landing. The next day some neighbors inquired of Rech where his wife was and he replied that she had gone out for a walk. Her disappearance was not generally known until a week later when Rech loaded a crate of poultry onto his wagon, and with his child came to the scene, since which time he has not been seen.

When Rech drove away without his wife, who usually accompanied him, and who had not been seen for a week, Samuel Jones, a neighbor of Rech's in Millville, became suspicious and seized upon the opportunity to investigate. Jones then recalled the fact that a short time ago Mrs. Rech was shot by her husband, the husband claiming that it was accidental. He was gunning for 'possum in the chicken coop,' he had said, and when he fired the shots struck the woman. Foul play was suspected, but nothing was ever done.



HANNAH NEIL WILLIAMS.

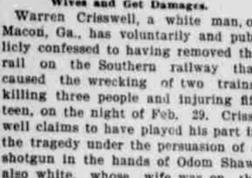
While on his way back to the Rech house Jones stumbled across a mound of fresh earth, near a pine tree, which had been recently cut down in the field. Hastening to Sheriff Johnson, Jones told him his suspicions, and the sheriff, County Clerk Lew and others quickly went to the spot and began to open the mound.

Two feet below the surface the body of Mrs. Rech was found. It was taken to the house to await the arrival of the coroner and the prosecutor. When the coroner arrived he examined the body. A course sack was over the head and neck to the waist, being tied to prevent its slipping down and revealing the features. Another sack was drawn over the feet and met the other garment at the feet. The woman was murdered without a struggle. Her hair was neatly done up, and when her body was found the hair was undisturbed, showing there was no struggle. The handkerchief with which she was strangled was one similar to those seen to be in the possession of her husband. An examination of the chips from the felled tree show the tree was cut down with an ax that had a dent in the blade, and when her body was found the branches in the chips. The tree was felled after the grave was filled in. It was evidently intended that the branches should hide the grave. The man who cut down the tree miscalculated, and

BASEBALL GOSSIP.

SOME DOINGS ON AND OFF THE DIAMOND.

James J. Collins of the Boston Club One of the Cleverest of the Finds of Recent Years—The Board of Arbitration Dilemma.



WARREN CRISWELL, a white man, of Macon, Ga., has voluntarily and publicly confessed to having removed the rail on the Southern railway that caused the wrecking of two trains, killing three people and injuring fifteen, on the night of Feb. 29. Criswell claims to have played his part in the tragedy under the persuasion of a shotgun in the hands of Odum Shaw, also white, whose wife was on the train, and whom Shaw wanted to get rid of, and at the same time get damages from the railroad for killing her. The confession was made at a preliminary hearing for train-wrecking. Shaw was present as a witness, but was arrested after Criswell's confession. Shaw's father was also arrested, charged with being an accomplice. Criswell says he and Shaw were two miles from the railroad when they heard the train crash through the trees, and Shaw exclaimed: "Damn her, she has gone to hell and she deserves it for trying to swear my life away."

Shaw had reference to his wife, who had sworn against him some time ago, when he was on trial for whittapping. As Criswell's wife was also on the train that part of the confession which Shaw forced him at the point of a gun to remove the rail is not believed, and the prosecution claims to have evidence that will show that both men entered into a plot to kill their wives and get pay for them. Both men were arrested two weeks ago, but as sufficient evidence could not be procured against them they were discharged. A few days ago Shaw compromised with the railroad for injuries to his wife for \$500. The wives of both men were seriously injured in the wreck, and since their release at the first trial both have been anxious to effect a speedy compromise with the railroad.

HOBART'S BRIDE.

A San Francisco Belle Who Is to Wed a Spoiled Darling.

Miss Hannah Neil Williams is the young lady who is soon to wed young Walter Hobart, the spoiled darling of San Francisco's swell set. Mr. Hobart is a splendid fellow, indeed popular with all sorts of people in the metropolis of the coast. He is a great coach, a fine sportsman and a notable figure in San Francisco. The match is said to be a case of love at first sight. Mr. Hobart was presented to Miss Williams by an army officer. Since then he has pressed his suit with a determination that not only drove all his rivals away, but won that young lady herself. Mr. Hobart is worth several millions. Miss Williams is the younger of two sisters who made their debut in the winter of last year. She is quite tall, queenly and graceful, with good style and a faultless carriage. She has light brown hair, blue eyes and a complexion that is without a blemish. Early in her career Miss Williams showed a marked individuality in the matter of dress. She has a decided preference for marked gowns, and almost invariably wears them. Her shining hair is parted in the middle and brushed back smoothly. She wears a ribbon in it, usually white, like the snoods of Scottish maidens. She likes the American beauty rose. She and her sister Juliet live with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Neil, in San Rafael, a pretty suburb of San Francisco, across the bay. Brigadier General Forsythe is their father. The family is an old colonial one. Miss Williams' father is a physician.



HANNAH NEIL WILLIAMS.

Left Church to Rob a Hen Roost.

For weeks Rev. S. J. Winegar, of Emmanuel Baptist church of Iowa City, Iowa, has been losing fancy chickens, of which he is quite an extensive raiser, of which he and his son Fred were George Trask and his son Fred were under suspicion, but when Mr. Winegar saw the former in his congregation at prayer meetings the other night his doubts were somewhat dispelled. They doubtless were redoubled when he returned with redoubled force when, in the middle of the service, Trask crept prayerfully out of the church. The clergyman knew what this meant, and at the close of the meeting hastened after, only to find the greater part of his choicest fowls already missing. The Trasks were arrested and bound over to await the action of the grand jury on a charge of larceny.

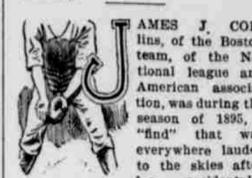
For Desecrating a Church.

Two young women were arrested at Dayton, Ohio, for spending the night after, only to find the greater part of his choicest fowls already missing. The Trasks were arrested and bound over to await the action of the grand jury on a charge of larceny. Jacket waists are novelties this season.

BASEBALL GOSSIP.

SOME DOINGS ON AND OFF THE DIAMOND.

James J. Collins of the Boston Club One of the Cleverest of the Finds of Recent Years—The Board of Arbitration Dilemma.



ON THE AFTERNOON of Sept. 3, at Washington, in the Louisville-Cincinnati game, Aug. 3, at Louisville, he made four safe hits, including a triple bagger. He took part last season in one hundred and four championship contests, seventy-five of which were played at third base, and he ranked second in the latter position according to the official averages of the major league. Shrewd observers of the game contend that Collins is a natural born ball player, and that he will fill the place of ex-Captain Nash at third base on the Boston team during the coming season in a satisfactory manner. Some of the minor league officials have objected to the National Board of Arbitration being made up of persons connected with clubs of the National league and American association. They argue that the members of the board should be selected from persons who are not in any way connected with the national game financially, while at the same time they should be thoroughly conversant with its affairs. There are a number of prominent gentlemen, whom one could mention, whose names are too well known through their attention to the national game to need any lengthy explanation about them, and against whom no possible objection could be made by either the major or minor leagues if the National Board of Arbitration was selected from among them.

The N. Y. Mercury, of March 25, in speaking about the recent game at Rockford, Ill., says: "During the season of 1895 the Forest Citys, among other clubs, vanquished the famous Cincinnati Red Stockings, who were in the latter he did fairly well, even better than was expected of him. He remained with the Bisons throughout the season of 1894, taking part that



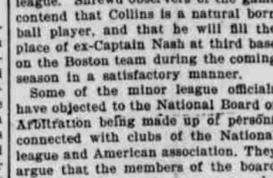
JAMES J. COLLINS.

year in one hundred and twenty-five championship games, all of which were played in the outfield, standing high both as a fielder and batsman, ranking eighteenth in the latter position in a field of one hundred and twenty-four men. During that fall his release was purchased by the Boston club, of the major league. When the championship season of 1895 began Collins was played in right field on the Boston team, and Jimmie Bannan was sent to the bench. Collins, however, did not come up to the standard as a batsman, and before the season was far advanced he was replaced by Bannan. Shortly afterwards the Louisville club, whose team was badly crippled, began negotiations for Collins' release. This was granted with a proviso, which was that the amount paid by the Louisville club was to be returned at a certain time by Boston if it wanted Collins. It was not long before the Boston officials realized what a blunder they had made when they allowed him to slip through their fingers without giving him a fair trial. After joining the Louisville Collins played in the outfield until May 31, at Baltimore, when Preston, who was covering third base and made four errors, was sent to center field and Collins was sent to third base. But on the following day Collins took up his position in the outfield and remained there until June 13, at Philadelphia, when he was placed at third base for the three games of that series. On June 15, at Brooklyn, Collins began the game in right field and Kemmer at third base, but at the beginning of the fourth inning Kemmer was sent to the bench, Collins was shifted to third base, and McCree took Kemmer's place, going to right field. Thereafter, with possibly several exceptions, notably two games at Washington on Sept. 3, when he played second base, Collins was retained at third base until he was obliged to leave the team on Sept. 12, at Louisville. On that day he made his last game with the Louisville a memorable one by making several sensational plays off apparently safe hits, having, all told, six assists and one put out at third base. Among some of his noteworthy fielding performances during last season might be mentioned the accepting of all of sixteen chances at second base in the two games played

KEELER, THE BANDIT.

DEATH OF HIS BROTHER RECALLS HIS DARING DEEDS.

He Had Money to Burn But Gave Wealth No Thought—Kind to Women—Finally, Like All Outlaws, He Died with Boots On.



IN THE SUMMER of 1873 Jack and Bill Keeler, two honest and brave young men, removed from Sag Harbor, L. I., to south Arizona. They became cowboys and worked together. They had not been in Arizona long before a quarrel ensued and the boys separated, Jack going to Yuma and Bill remaining near Tucson. The former made the acquaintance of two noted highwaymen, who, by their thrilling stories, converted Jack into a robber. Bill heard of the change of life his brother had assumed, and was much grieved. He was hurt so much by the stories in circulation that he offered to give Jack all the cattle and farm if he would give up his new life and return home. But Jack loved the life of a bandit and would not listen to his brother's pleadings. However strange it may seem, Bill, at the age of 30 years, also became a highwayman and achieved world renown as "the lone bandit." All of this is recalled by the



BILL KEELER.

recent death of Jack Keeler in the Harqua Hala mountains, in Wyoming. It was in the days of the opening of the Tombstone mines that Jack began his career as a desperado. He assisted two highwaymen to escape from the jail at Yuma, and within the next 10 days a series of stage robberies were reported. The "hold-ups" were so many times a week apart, but in each of them there were always two or three masked men who did the business. There was strong suspicion that Keeler and his associates were the robbers. They got together in a year something like \$15,000 from men on the way to the mines, and committed several murders in connection with the robberies. Three years later Jack Keeler and an associate were shot while holding up the Wells-Fargo stage one night near Maricopa. While the associate was left dying, Jack and two others managed to get away to the mountains and secrete themselves from their pursuers. Jack lay in a hovel in a mountain canon between life and death for weeks and when the United States marshal and his deputies came that way he gladly surrendered. When he had so far recovered from his wounds in his neck and shoulder as to stand trial, he was sent to prison for 30 years. He told where several thousand dollars of the stolen money had been hidden, and made as full retribution as possible. Jack Keeler served about 17 years in prison, and was the model prisoner. When he was pardoned he went immediately out to the mountains, resolved to live a secluded life. He was found stiff and cold in bed by a party of hunters, and had evidently been dead for several days.

Bill Keeler, a handsome specimen of manhood, an excellent horseman and a dead shot, wascheated out of his cattle and property, which was the cause for the change in his life. He was the most famous bandit ever known in Arizona. People in the southern part of Arizona will never get through talking about Bill Keeler's manner of stage robbing. Indeed, it may be said that he reflected credit upon his profession. His robberies were perpetrated in the most approved manner, and with little or no danger to his victims, beyond the loss of their valuables. He was the first man in Arizona who ever robbed a stage coach alone, and in this particular he surpassed even the daring of two men who "held up" the train on the Southern Pacific a few weeks ago. Keeler never had an assistant in any of his robberies, and, so far as known, never made a confidant of but one man, and this man finally betrayed him to the posse of law officers by whom he was killed.

About 1880 Keeler robbed a train containing seven passengers, all of whom were prepared for him. They knew of him, and had started out from Tucson thoroughly armed. Keeler, no doubt, heard of it through his confidant, who was one of the hands at the stable where he himself had worked in former days, and he determined to give these men an opportunity to defend themselves. He posted himself out on the road about 20 miles from Tucson, and about 11 o'clock he saw the coach coming. He was just over the brow of the hill, and could not be seen by the driver or passengers. He sat on his horse, leveled his rifle, and as they came over the hill they saw both rider and gun, and they knew at once who it was and what it meant. He commanded them not to move a hand, and they obeyed. Their revolvers hung un-

Cincinnati Red Stockings did not lose a game that year. During that season they defeated the Forest Citys, of Rockford, four times, first by 32 to 13, July 10, at Rockford, Ill.; second game by 15 to 14, July 24, at Cincinnati, O.; third game by 53 to 32, July 31, at Chicago, Ill.; and the fourth game by 28 to 7, Aug. 2, at Rockford, Ill. Corcoran, of the Brooklyn club, has refused to sign for the coming season, because, as it is stated, he was fined last year, and he wants that fine remitted. President Byrne takes a philosophical view of the matter, and says: "If Corcoran desires a year's vacation he is at liberty to take it, but the Brooklyn will not stop playing on his account." T. E. C.

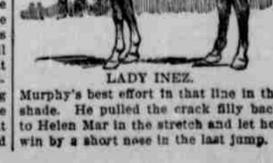
Baseball Notes.

Buffalo's leading organization is named after the city. It is noted for its congeniality and camaraderie. Saturday night all of the men meet there for a light supper and a jolly time can always be counted on.

The Detroit club is one of the most popular ones in that city. It has a taste for high class paintings and every year a loan exhibition is given. Then the most admired painting is either bought by the members or given to the club by some wealthy and generous member.

Perkins and Lady Inez.

"Soup" Perkins did a piece of fine drawing on Lady Inez in the Tennessee Oaks recently that put the late Isaac



LADY INEZ.

KEELER, THE BANDIT.

DEATH OF HIS BROTHER RECALLS HIS DARING DEEDS.

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used at their sides, and their rifles lay idle in the bottom of the coach. They knew it was death to somebody the moment a move was made, and they sat transfixed with fear. He commanded them to get out one by one, lay down their arms and divest themselves of all their money and valuables. This they did, piling about \$12,000 worth of treasure up in a heap before them. They were then told to go back in the coach and drive on. Bill Keeler taking possession of everything that had been left behind. This story sounds incredible, but some of those who were in the coach at the time still live in this country, and they verify it to the letter. Bill Keeler never cared for money, although he had "barrels" of it. The people in the territory at that time were making money "hand over fist," and little attention was given the robberies. Finally they became too numerous and a reward of \$5,000 was offered for the capture of "the Lone Bandit" dead or alive. Keeler was located at a Mexican sheep herder's abode. The owned was taken out and hanged to a tree until he told where Keeler was hiding. Under the Mexican's guidance the sheriff and his posse were piloted nine miles into a heavy chapparal in a canyon. Vejar said he had always gone to a certain tree there, when he had food or news for Keeler, and had waited there until the bandit came riding up, pistol or rifle in hand, so as to be prepared for any pursuers. The sheriff and his men concealed themselves behind brush and trees for several hours, when Keeler came riding up with a revolver flashing in his hand and a Winchester across the pommel of his saddle. "As Keeler came through the trees that morning," said the sheriff long after, "he was the finest looking man I have ever seen a-horseback. He seemed for all the world like one of the ancient gods on a horse." But the sheriff did not let the picture that Keeler made get the best of him. In a second he called "Fire!" and seven rifles sent lead through the highwayman's chest. The latter never spoke, but threw up his hands and pistol and dropped back on his horse dead.



BILL KEELER.

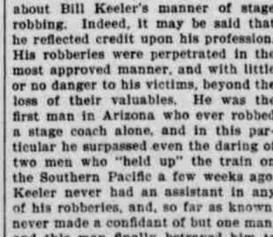
The body of Keeler was taken to Benson, and was braced up against a mud house, while a photograph was taken of the corpse. The pictures were in great demand all over the territory for a year or so. They are still to be seen in many a miner's cabin or ranchman's home.

A GIRL WITH NERVE.

Looked Calmly on While the Surgeons Cut Off Her Arm.

Physicians at Bellevue hospital, New York, were the other day treated to an exhibition of female courage such as they do not often witness. Mary Ann Farrell, employed in a laundry, got her left arm caught in some machinery. The arm was terribly crushed, but the girl maintained her presence of mind and told the other employes to call an ambulance. This was done and she was taken to the hospital named, being still conscious, though weak from loss of blood. On being told that amputation was necessary she said: "Do it as quick as you can, and then give me something to put me to sleep. The pain is awful."

The doctors wanted to give her an anesthetic, but she refused, saying she was not afraid of the operation. After a great deal of coaxing and persuasion on the part of the physicians the woman all wed them to give her a small quantity of the anesthetic, but not enough to make her unconscious. When the flesh of the arm above the elbow was cut the patient submitted without a murmur. When the saw was used on the bone the patient gave a slight scream, but other than that she made no sign of pain. The arm was



MARY ANN FARRELL.

amputated several inches above the elbow and the wound on the scalp was sewed up, the patient all the time being conscious of what was being done. A few minutes after the operation she was placed on a cot, where she fell asleep. The girl is doing well and will soon be able to move about, although the shock consequent upon the accident and the operation has shaken her terribly.

Horse Dies from Chewing Tobacco.

On order of the city officials Dr. C. Lake, city veterinary surgeon of Portsmouth, Ohio, examined the body of a fire department horse, which died of a mysterious disease. He found that the horse departed this life from chewing too much tobacco. The animal consumed three or four large cakes of the weed daily. Its liver was shrunken to the size of a baseball. Other horses in the department eat tobacco, and an order was promptly issued forbidding any one to give it to them.

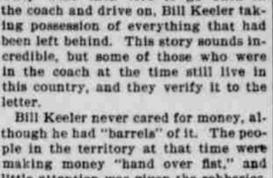
Swallowed a Pin 40 Years Ago.

James Morris, a convict in the Columbus, Ohio, penitentiary, is seriously ill from the effects of a pin swallowed some forty years ago. The pin recently came out of his breast, but no improvement followed. Hungry is about to celebrate its thousandth birthday by six months of festivity.

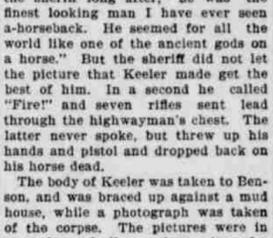
A TRAMP'S HARDLUCK.

FOUND \$50,000 IN GOLD COIN BY THE RAILROAD TRACK.

But the Detectives in Tracing a Train Robbery Soon Located Him and Now He Is in Jail—Money Was Spent Very Rapidly.



HE tramp Harms, or Carl Herrmann, which appears to be his real name, who found \$50,000 in gold coin beside the railroad track near Sacramento, Cal., fifteen months ago, and spent \$40,000 of it in San Francisco in about a year, has been held in \$3,000 bail to stand trial in the Superior court at Sacramento for grand larceny. Although Harms spent his money in a most lavish manner, giving large amounts to friends and setting up several men in business, none of his beneficiaries came to his assistance to rescue him, and Harms is now confined in a cell in the state prison. He took his desertion by his fair-weather friends philosophically, merely remarking that it was the way of the world. Harms, it may be remembered, was tramping over the railroad line toward Sacramento in November, 1894, and camped over night in a piece of woods a few miles outside of Sacramento. That night a train was robbed, and \$50,000 in gold coin was taken from the Wells-Fargo express car. The robbers buried \$50,000 of their plunder near the



JOHN HARMS.

track and the next morning Harms found it. He reburied part of it and carried the rest to Sacramento. Then he went to San Francisco and lived high. When, after fifteen months, detectives discovered him at the finder of the train robbers' plunder, all but \$9,000 of the money was gone. Harms was brought up in court at Sacramento charged under the law which makes it a felony to appropriate money known or believed to be stolen without making any attempt to find the owner. A notable feature of his examination was the bringing from state prison of one of the bandits who robbed the train, the only one remaining alive. This was the well-known train robber, Jack Brady, who is now serving a sentence of imprisonment for life. Brady told how he and his accomplices robbed the train and then buried the treasure, and how they returned later, but found it not, and he described their feeling thereat. He told of finding a tramps' camp near the place, which went to connect Harms with the finding of the money. But Harms admits frankly that he found the money, and when the Wells-Fargo detectives arrested him he promptly turned over all that remained of it; at least he said that the \$9,000 he turned over was all that he had left. This the detectives doubt and it is in an effort to recover more of the money that Harms is being prosecuted. They think he has stored away a goodly sum somewhere. Harms declares he turned over every cent he hadn't spent. Harms' lawyer is confident that any jury will acquit him after taking into consideration human weakness, and the tremendous temptation which confronted Harms when he found the money. Harms denies that he knew of the train robbery, or that he had any reason to think that the money he found was other than one of the very many buried treasures alleged to be thickly sown all over the Pacific coast. His counsel says the fact that because of its many extraordinary features the case is exciting great interest. It isn't every day, even in the Golden State, that a poor man finds \$50,000.

Fat Woman Breaks Up a Home.

A fat woman museum freak was the co-respondent in a divorce suit heard in Pittsburg the other day. She is Miss Della Beck and has been on exhibition in local curio halls. Mrs. Rebecca S. Rogers was the plaintiff and Nathaniel Rogers the defendant. Mrs. Rogers claimed her husband brought the fat woman home. There was no chair in the house large enough to accommodate her, so she sat on the bed. The latter broke down. Mrs. Rogers viewed the wrecked furniture and ordered the fat woman from the house. Then she says her husband knocked her down. The divorce suit resulted.

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