DUAL PERSONALITY AND WEIRD TALE OF TRAGEDY IS UNKNOWN

There formerly lived a school teacher in this county who made frequent visits to Ardmore. He had a weakness for purchasing women's clothing and owned a number of shirt waists, he bought corsets for his own wear and upon one occasion he had an Ardmore milliner to order him a wig suitable for wear of women. The wig was an expensive article of head dress but he never complained at the price when he was purchasing woman's apparel. On one occasion he visited with an acquaintance here and played on the piano. He was an accomplished musician and could sing with the voice of a woman or with the voice of a man. He stationed this acquaintance in another room to ascertain if he could detect whether he was a man or a woman from the tone of his voice.

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Mrs. Niblack, county superintendent of schools, says he was highly educated and was one of the best teachers she ever knew. He possessed the talent of imparting information to others that placed him in the highest ranks of his profession but he could never obtain to the highest places for the reason that his weakness for woman's apparel gave rise to distrust on the part of the people and he was often thrown out of employment.

Where he is now is not known. His wife was given a teachers' certificate here by Mrs. Niblack and she said she had a position in Jefferson county.

The Pointer, a publication in Oklahoma City, has published the following story concerning this strange teacher:

Man, woman or—what?

Pieced together, bit by bit, the known life of A. J. Baker, who has been in Oklahoma City for the last three weeks, departing yesterday evening, ostensibly for El Reno, is a story of mystery strange and almost unfathomable, full of weird details and brings to light a case of dual personality apparently well worth the attention of the greatest experts in the study of mind and body.

If Baker is a man, he has been masquerading as a woman, undetected; if Baker is a woman she has avoided suspicion when walking in the streets garbed as a man.

Equipped with an education liberal and proficient, an excellent teacher, endowed by nature with qualifications to impart ideas to the youthful mind that are found only in the ideal instructor; a musical genius, able to sing male and female parts with equal facility and performing on many instruments with wonderful technique; possessed of magnetic power akin to hypnotism; handsome, cultured, polished, graceful, Baker has been driven out of one Oklahoma community after another because of suspicions concerning his sex, aroused by his own statements, as well as his appearance and actions.

Baker first came into the limelight at Harrah, this county, in the early part of 1907. He was living with a woman, whom he said was his wife, and with them they had a little girl, about three years old, whom they said was their child. Both were teachers, and at first both were popular. Mr. and Mrs. Baker were pointed out as two of the best instructors in Oklahoma county.

Tongue of Gossip Wags.

But soon there came gossip about Prof. Baker—a little here and a little there, one thing after another. Prof. Baker's hands and feet were small. He had the voice of a woman. His gestures and walk, his features, tastes and habits were effeminate. The word was spread that he had a womanly figure. A clerk in a general store said that Prof. Baker wore a corset.

Finally it was whispered that Prof. Baker had confided to some that he was a woman and strength was added to the theory that he was of female sex when neighbors reported that he would sit at his home and for hours at a stretch would amuse himself with crochet and fancy work.

Licenses Revoked.

The attention of Mrs. Laura Whisler, then county superintendent of instruction, was attracted by gossip and complaints from a number of school patrons. She conducted a quiet investigation, and in July, 1907, revoked the license to teach of both Prof. Baker and Mrs. Baker.

The description given of Mrs. Baker was that she was a small, slight refined, pretty woman of generally attractive appearance, but of a quiet, retiring disposition, and very reticent when it came to discussing the affairs of herself and Prof. Baker.

After the Bakers left Harrah, nothing more has been heard of Mrs. Baker. But several times Oklahoma City teachers have heard of Prof. Baker.

First he was said to be in Canadian county, near El Reno; next in Greer county, near Mangum; and finally in Carter county, at Lone Grove, near Ardmore.

Claimed to Be Woman.

Everywhere, according to rumors, the story has been the same. Baker has been suspected to be a woman, and has been forced to give up the various positions as teacher which he has secured.

So far as is known Baker has not been arrested, nor has there been any scandal attached to his name, so far as his relations with others are concerned; no court has investigated his sex. According to statements made by persons somewhat familiar with his history, Baker has said, several times that he was a woman.

While in Oklahoma City, Baker stayed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Phillips, who live in a flat at 507 1-2 West Fifth street. The Phillips' have three small children. Phillips is a piano salesman and has a studio for enlarging pictures. Baker acted as salesman and collector in the picture business.

According to Phillips he first met Baker at the office of Dr. J. B. Milam, in Chickasha. He says that at that time Baker stated he wanted to come to Oklahoma City "to have his beard removed." According to his own story, Phillips offered to take Baker into his home here while this operation was being performed, and Baker accepted the offer.

Physician Will Not Say.

Phillips says that at that time he supposed Baker to be a man, but that Mrs. Phillips later discovered Baker to be a woman.

Asked as to whether she knew Baker to be a woman Mrs. Phillips said:

"I think I know it as well as any one could."

While in Oklahoma City Baker took treatment of Dr. W. A. Fowler, who has an office in the Lee building. Following a statement by Baker in which he said he was prepared to demonstrate that he was a woman, and that he contemplated throwing off his male attire and adopting permanently the garb of a woman, Dr. Fowler was questioned concerning his knowledge of Baker. The physician said that he was not removing Baker's beard. When asked as to Baker's sex, Dr. Fowler said:

"It would be contrary to the ethics of my profession to make any statement. I am sure that Prof. Baker is possessed of normal mental faculties."

Phillips stated that Baker had a razor and shaved frequently.

A "Perfect Gentleman."

Dr. Milam, a well-known physician of Chickasha, in a telephone conversation, said:

"I took Prof. Baker into my home a few weeks ago and treated him for his eyes, one of which was what is commonly known as 'crossed.' I afterward performed an operation on the eye which was successful.

"I found Prof. Baker to be a perfect gentleman. He did nothing to arouse my suspicions, and I believed him to be a man. It is true that he had some eccentric ways. I believe that he is a natural mind reader and has the power of hypnotism, although he has never, to my knowledge used this peculiar gift for financial profit.

According to Dr. Milan and Phillips, Baker made the statement that he had a wife and two children in Oklahoma, near the Texas line, but that Mrs. Baker had refused to live with him any longer.

Mysterious Personality.

Baker appeared, while here, to be "made up." To the close observer, it appeared that his whole physiognamy had been artificially transformed. There were tiny wrinkles at the top of his nose, and his nose did not appear to have a natural shape, his eyebrows had a peculiar appearance. His upper lip seemed strangely molded. His forehead had an odd appearance.

His whole personality is a mystery. One of the questions that naturally arises is: Where is Mrs. Baker, the woman who was with him at Harrah? What part does she play in the life history of Baker?

While in Oklahoma City Baker said that Phillips had gotten into his effects and found a clipping that concerned Baker's past life, and had a copy of it. He said he had later discovered the copy and feared Phillips was about to turn it over to the newspapers—so he wanted to break the news first.

Figure in a Tragedy.

The manuscript, which Baker said was taken from a newspaper published in Quebec, Canada, dated January 5, 1902, told a remarkable story of an Englishwoman of noble blood being exiled from Canada, after the murder of her lover of which crime she was suspected.

According to the manuscript, the heroine of the romantic and strange tale had been teaching school in the United States after she left Canada, disguised as a man, and known as Prof. A. J. Baker. The name of the heroine was given as Lady Irene Pardee, and Baker stated that in reality he is Lady Pardee.

Phillips acknowledged that, curious to know something of the real history of Baker, he had gone through some of Baker's belongings, and had seen the clipping, but denied that he had made any copy of it.

Publicity Sought; Avoided.

Before leaving Oklahoma City, Baker kept out of the way of reporters, and apparently desired to avoid publicity.

Following is the story, which, Baker said, told his—or her—real history, and which, according to Baker, is a copy of the clipping from the Canadian newspaper:

Lady Pardee Not Guilty.

The tragic fate of Sir George Curtis, the sudden disappearance of Sir Henry Weise and the skillfully planned escape of Lady Pardee the day before her trial for the murder of Sir George Curtis, will well be remembered by the whole reading mass of the Dominion.

"Society has not received so severe a shock for many years as when it was noised abroad that Baron E. Pardee's daughter was apprehended for the murder of her lover.

"In 1885 Baron Pardee came to the New World as a representative of India to the Canadian government. Being a man of marvelous ingenuity and intelligence, his services were considered invaluable, so his allegiance and cooperation in civil affairs were secured.

From Land of Occult.

"After his promotion to the position of commander in chief of the military forces, Baron Pardee brought his wife and family from the land of the occult to this country, where they might imbibe the principles of modern civilization and procure instruction in the arts in the sciences.

"He purchased the old Hesse mansion which is so famous for its imposing gothic architecture and magnificent commons walled with its massive masonry of solid stone and its historic portcullis barring the intruder and the inquisitive, or spanning the diabolical grin of the moat with its dark waters creeping in deathlike silence around the old grey walls. Here was the place the Baron had chosen to make his habitation, to raise his children and to expend his great wealth. With lavish hand he bestowed rich gifts upon friend and foe, rich and poor.

"He became beloved by all, for his genial spirit and rare benevolence shone forth in all he did or said or thought.

"He rose to prominence and his son, Carl, followed in the footsteps of his paternal ancestor, being given, at his eighteenth birthday, the military command of the posts of The St. Lawrence.

"One other child blessed the home of Baron Pardee—Lady Irene Pardee. A perfect queen in bearing, manners and intellectuality. Startlingly fearless in expression, fresh as the dew and as pure as the snow wafted from heaven; tall, graceful, captivated, entranced, mystified. But sorrow was soon to overshadow the life of this dark-eyed child of India. Child? Yes, for at the age of sixteen the dark clouds closed around her and the storm broke in its fury on her unsuspecting head.

Tragedy at a Ball.

"A ball had been given in honor of her 'coming out' on New Year's eve.

"All the gentry were there; Prince Edward of Wales, Don Nizza, and Lady Characteris of Mantlesburry as well as others of the royal family which was a crowning attraction of the evening.

"Lady Pardee was greatly agitated during the whole evening, left the floor in the middle of a quadrille, going out into the night alone and unprotected, where she was finally discovered by Sir Henry Weise, (one of her suitors) standing over the lifeless body of her betrothed, Sir George Curtis. She held a pistol in her hand, the bullet from which was lodged in the brain of the man before her. Her dress was bedrabbled with his life's blood and when confronted with the charge of the crime she endeavored to make her escape but was preventd from leaving the premises by her father.

"Her father being held in such high esteem by the officials of the king's bench, was permitted to take charge of his daughter after giving bond for her appearance at court for the trial of the case in question.

"Circumstantial evidence was so great that every one thought her guilty; even her parents. She protested her innocence, but endeavored to persuade her father to help her to escape but he was loyal to his duties. She then tried to induce her brother to assist her in her flight, but was met with a severe rebuke for further efforts to 'disgrace the family name.' Next, her fertile brain evolved a cunning plan to escape.

Escapes Across Border.

"She was thought to be dangerously ill and was permitted to summons her own medical aid. Her physician was her accomplice and after giving orders that no one save the doctor be permitted to enter the room for twenty four hours, proceeded to put the whole inhabitants of the place under the influence of some sleeping potion, while Lady Pardee donned her brother's official garb and boldly rode her brother's horse to the nearest port and was in the United States before the fourth bell of St. Mary's cathedral.

"For seven years detectives have shadowed her in the states and for the past seven years she has eluded them. Twice Detective Grove of Scotland Yards has been thwarted in his attempt to seize her. Now, however, news comes that forever frees her from all suspicion and fully exonerates her in the eyes of the whole world.

Confession Clears Mystery

"The dying deposition of Sir Henry Weise, who so mysteriously disappeared on the eve of the tragic death of his rival for the fair hand of Lady Pardee, brings indisputable evidence (including a note written by Sir George Curtis himself, in which he threatens to kill himself if Lady Pardee refuses to promise to marry him), of Lady Pardee's innocence.

"Lady Pardee will undobutedly return now to her former life among her friends and will begin life anew. She has the deep sympathy of all. An exile from home, shadowed for a crime of revolting nature, of which she was not guilty, forced to masquerade in man's attire to avoid capture, her suffering must have been terrible.

"She taught school in the states under name of Prof. A. J. Baker in the capacity of which, it is said, the most excellent services were rendered. Fear of detection, however, drove her from place to place to practice her profession.

"It is doubtful if she will return to her place in the social world, as Detective Grove says she has cultivated quite a beard, has had plastic surgery transformations and that he should have failed to recognize her had it not been for two upper bicuspids that were missing and a slight scar on her forehead."

Are You Coming?

WHERE? Broadway Baptist Church.
WHEN? Sunday, Jan. 30, 7:30 P. M.
WHAT? Special Revival Meetings.
WHO? Leslie Lee Sanders, Preacher.

Services every night in the week, 7:30 P. M.
Music in charge of Miss Hanna.

WE WANT YOU TO COME!

INDIAN NEWSPAPER TO BE LAUNCHED

PUBLICATION TO BE BACKED BY CHIEFS OF FIVE TRIBES AND INFLUENTIAL INDIANS.

Muskogee, Okla., Jan. 29.—Backed by the five chiefs of the five civilized tribes and supported by influential Indians in all of these tribes, a new newspaper to represent the Indians and keep them informed upon current events, particularly those relating to affairs covering Inudians and state and congressional legislation affecting them, will be established at Muskogee next month. It will be printed in the Indian languages, being divided up into Cherokee, Creek and Choctaw departments. The Creek and Seminole language is the same, which is also true of the Choctaws and Chickasaws. A plant for the publication of this paper has already been purchased and the first issue is expected to appear not later than Feb. 15. It will be a weekly publication. Augustus E. Ivey of Stilwell will be the editor of the paper. He is a newspaper man of experience, a versatile and pointed writer, and is thoroughly familiar with the affairs of the Indians, being himself a Cherokee.

The title page of this unique publication will read "Degwanns Ahcheeta," which is Cherokee for Farm and Fireside. That portion of the paper which is for Cherokees will be printed in the Cherokee language and the famous Cherokee characters will be used. This is the only Indian language in the world that has been developed to the point where its own characters could be used. The Cherokee alphabet is the invention of Sequoyah, whose English name was George Guess, a half-breed whose bones lie in an unknown grave somewhere in New Mexico. The Creek and Choctaw will be printed in those languages, but English letters will be used. Special writers will be assigned to edit the departments of each nation.

For nearly fifty years the Cherokees maintained at Fort Gibson and Tahlequah the Cherokee Advocate, a newspaper printed in the Cherokee language at the expense of the nation. This was strictly an Indian paper and was particularly valuable to the full-blood Indians in keeping them informed as to current events during the time of the formation of treaties and other policies adopted jointly by their nation and the United States government. Shortly before Oklahoma was admitted as a state this paper was discontinued and the type and press stored in the old capitol building at Tahlequah. This type is very valuable now. The only fonts in existence are at Tahlequah and the molds from which it was made by a Chicago type foundry were destroyed. The consent of the Cherokee nation has been secured to use this type in the new publication. It requires a Cherokee Indian who knows the language well and is able to set type to make this useful. There are only four Cherokees who are able to set this type.

The average full-blood Indian is woefully ignorant of those matters vitally affecting his very home and fireside, and the recent acts of congress and the state legislature that affect his rights and his land. He cannot read English. He seldom goes to a postoffice. Rules and regulations are issued by congress and laws passed affecting his land and his right to sell or lease it, the state legislature may pass laws that affect his schools and taxes his land or restrict his liberty, and it may be months and possibly years before he knows it, and then only by word of mouth and in a very vague or distorted manner.

The Indian chiefs and the more intelligent and educated classes of Indians are fully aware of this. This knowledge is responsible for the present movement. Prominent and wealthy Indians have agreed to subscribe sums of money to support the publication. Agents will be sent among the full-bloods to induce them to take and read the paper. A very large circulation is anticipated, because there are 104,000 persons classed as Indians and perhaps 40,000 of these are full-bloods. There will be no politics in the paper and it will confine itself strictly to imparting to the Indians that information which is of the most vital and personal interest to them. An effort will be made to educate them to the duties and burdens of a citizenship in a state and remove from their minds a stubborn prejudice against the white man and his laws and customs.

Saved at Death's Door.

The door of death seemed ready to open for Murray W. Ayers, of Transit Bridge, N. Y., when his life was wonderfully saved. "I was in a dreadful condition," he writes, "my skin was almost yellow; eyes sunken; tongue coated; emaciated from losing 40 pounds, growing weaker daily. Virulent liver trouble pulling me down to death in spite of doctors. Then that matchless medicine—Electric Bitters—cured me. I regained the 40 pounds lost and now am well and strong." For all stomach, liver and kidney troubles they're supreme. 50c at Ardmore Pharmacy.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that can not be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the past fifteen years and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by his firm.

Walding, Kinnan & Marvin,
Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation. d&w

It is quite possible for a negative reply to be given in a positive manner.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

A talkative woman is always popular with the men, because there isn't any other kind.

For Sore Throat, Sudden Cold and Coughs no remedy has been discovered so powerful to cure as Perry Davis' Painkiller. As a Liniment it has no equal in curing Rheumatism or Neuralgia, burns and bruises, and wounds of every description. It is the cheapest and best remedy offered to the public. Only 35c. for a big bottle. There are other sizes also, 25c. and 50c.

Falling in love is the easiest thing in the world, but it requires considerable ingenuity to engineer a falling out.

Pneumonia Follows a Cold

but never follows the use of Foley's Honey and Tar, which stops the cough, heals the lungs, and expels the cold from your system. Take at first sign of a cold and avoid a dangerous illness. Sold by all druggists.

Duty is a saddle that wears sores on one's back.

It is a dangerous thing to take a cough medicine containing opiates that merely stifle your cough instead of curing it. Foley's Honey and Tar loosens and cures the cough and expels the poisonous germs, thus preventing pneumonia and consumption. Refuse substitutes and take only the genuine Foley's Honey and Tar in the yellow package. Sold by all druggists.

A man thinks he can control others when he can't control himself.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a very valuable medicine for throat and lung troubles, quickly relieves and cures painful breathing and a dangerously sounding cough which indicates congested lungs. Sold by all dealers.

The less a man understands girls the more they make him think he does.

Rev. I. W. Williams Testifies.

Rev. I. W. Williams, Huntington, W. Va., writes us as follows: "This is to certify that I used Foley's Kidney Remedy for nervous exhaustion and kidney trouble and am free to say that Foley's Kidney Remedy will do all that you claim for it." Sold by all druggists.

It's better to have a foolish belief that comforts you than a wise one that pains you.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy never disappoints those who use it for obstinate coughs, colds and irritations of the throat and lungs. It stands unrivalled as a remedy for all throat and lung diseases. Sold by all dealers.

When papa wants to get an extra half hour's sleep in the morning some of the children are sure to give a voluntary imitation of an alarm clock.

COMPARE OUR SERVICE WITH OTHERS.
Postal Telegraph Cable Co.
N. Washington St. Tel. No. 31.

United States Depository
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City Depository

ARDMORE NATIONAL BANK

ARDMORE, OKLAHOMA

Capital, Surplus and Additional Liabilities

$250,000

If this bank is a safe place for the city, state and nation to deposit their funds it is a safe place for the farmer and business man to keep his funds. TRY IT.

G. W. Stuart, President
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And try our famous brand of BIG HAND FLOUR because it assures to every family using it the sweetest and most wholesome and nourishing bread, biscuit and pastry. You will be surprised at the difference in results between ordinary flours and this one.

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I have a good building leased in which I store all kinds of household goods at reasonable rental. Phone 72 and I will do the rest. Goods hauled anywhere or packed and stored. Promp and careful attention to every order.

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