A GHASTLY DISCOVERY.

BOUGHT A TRUNK AT AUCTION AND FOUND A CORPSE IN IT.

Sent From Salt Lake City to Chicago, It Was Sold as Unclaimed Baggage—A Mystery That Baffles the Western Police.

At 8 o'clock in the morning of Feb.7, 1893, a trunk of the ordinary size and of strong make was delivered at the freight station of the Union Pacific Railway in Salt Lake City. With the trunk came a slender man, about thirty-five years old, with dark hair, dark mustache and beard. He wore a soft felt hat. He seemed to be nervous and in a great hurry to get through his business.

He said he wished the trunk shipped by freight to Chicago. He said that his name was G. M. Morgan and that he lived in Chicago at No. 166 Jefferson street and that he wished to have the trunk sent to himself at that address.

THE TRUNK WAS NEVER CLAIMED.

The bill of lading was made out, the trunk was marked household goods and Morgan was told that the charges would be $17.55. He said he would pay them when the trunk was delivered at his house. When the business was completed he hurried away. Later in the day he bought a ticket for Chicago and left on an east-bound express train.

The trunk reached Chicago Feb. 16, 1893, nine days after it was started from Salt Lake City. The Northwestern Railroad into whose freight yards it came, had it put upon a truck and sent to No. 166 Jefferson street. No person named Morgan lived there, and the people at that number had never heard of any such person. So it was taken back to the freight sheds and lay there until July 25, 1893. As no one had claimed it, it was turned over with a lot of other unclaimed boxes and packages to the warehousemen, Wakem & McLaughlin, No. 504 North Water Street, who kept all the unclaimed parcels of the Northwestern road until the legal time has expired, and then sell them at auction.

That was three years ago this coming July. The trunk lay with a lot of boxes piled upon it on the top floor of the warehouse. Early in February last the warehousemen made a last effort to deliver the box. They sent notifications to G. M. Morgan at Salt Lake City, and at No. 166 Jefferson street, Chicago. No answers came. Then they made an effort to deliver the trunk. But they could find no G. M. Morgan.

THE GRUESOME DISCOVERY.

March 22, the warehousemen held auction sale, at which several hundred parcels were sold off to persons who bought on the chance of there being something in them. Charles Haas and Phillip Grief, of Austin, Ill., bought the trunk for $15. They had it sent to their home, but did not open it until March 26. Then they pried off the lock and threw back the lid. The top of a zinc box which fitted into the trunk as if made for it, was revealed. So closely was the top of the box sealed down that they had to call in a blacksmith. He broke the fastenings and through back the lid.

There was a sudden burst of sickening gases that made the men reel back. Then they saw the body of a human being, bent and doubled and jammed into the box. The flesh was almost entirely decomposed. About the only parts preserved were the bones, the teeth, the nails and the hair. They hurried to the police, and soon the box was on its way back to Chicago to be examined by the police and the Coroner there.

It was found that the body was that of a middle-aged man, of medium height, with dark-brown hair. The features were of course gone entirely. The skull had two large holes in it, suggesting that the man had been killed by at least two blows of some blunt instrument and that he hed been struck from behind. A heavy rope had been passed about the body and the legs and arms, drawing them into the smallest possible space. In the bottom of the box was quicklime and some powerful acid had been poured over the face.

Thus the murderer had planned everything with the greatest care. He had got his zinc box, his quicklime and his acid ready in advance. Then he had killed his man in leisurely fashion and had put him into the box with the quicklime. After giving the corpse an acid bath he had hermetically sealed the lid. The trunk was now ready for the freight station. He must have known the system of the railways in Chicago and must have felt perfectly certain that the trunk would lie unopened for many a day.

WHO WAS THE VICTIM.

At least a score of attempts at identification have been made. Only two have any suggestion of truth about them. The Coroner's jury decided that it is the body of Oliver Pike, of Fayette, O. He lived in Stetcombe, Wash., and disappeared in February, 1893. Several of his relatives looked at the body and were certain it was Pike. They based their identification upon the shape of the nails, the teeth, the squareness of the shoulders and the color of the hair. But it must be that the Coroner's jury was mistaken and that the relatives of Pike have erred; for on July 2, 1893, five months after the mysterious trunk was delivered to the Union Pacific Company at Salt Lake City, Pike's half-sister got a letter from him, and Pike was seen in Seattle July 3, 1893.

The other promising identification was made by two Frenchmen. They say it is the body of a rich Parisian, Jean Prosper Chazal. He appeared in Salt Lake City with many diamonds and much money, and a young travelling companion, Mlle. Rolande. They say that in Salt Lake City he was seen with a certain Jules, nick-named the Assassin, because he fled from Paris under the suspicion of having done several murders.

But they say that Chazal had several conspicuous fillings in his teeth, whereas the teeth of the murdered man are perfectly sound.

There are several points about this mystery worth attention. The first is that the murdered man must have been a person of some consequence. The care with which the murder was done and the very elaborate and ingenious plan for preventing discovery mean that the murdered man must have had something which made it well worth the murderer's while to make away with him. A murderer of that ability would not have wasted his time and run the risks for a few dollars. So it is pretty safe to say that the murdered man was a citizen of some note in his quarter or town in the country from which he came.

A SECOND POINT

is that the year 1893 was the World's Fair, in which many foreigners were travelling in the far West. Many of these foreigners came over before the Fair opened and travelled about the country first, instead of doing it afterwards. Third, it would be especially easy for one man, travelling with another, to arrange a matter of this kind. It could be done in a hotel without attracting any especial attention. The fourth point is that the murderer must have been well acquainted with the railway shipping business. It is not likely that he was a foreigner lately landed. Indeed, the probabilities are that he was either an Englishman or an American. The name he gave at the Salt Lake City freight station makes that a fair supposition. A fifth point is that it is not probable that the two men were from the same town or district, or that they set out in their travels together. A sixth point is that inquiry at the various foreign consulates in New York City might lead to the discovery of some clue to the mystery. It must have been known in the native place of this man that he was travelling in America. He must have relatives or friends who would, at least, inquire of the consuls in New York City if they had heard or could learn anything about him.

Of course there is a possibility that the murdered man was a defaulter or embezzler, flying from the law, and that his travelling companion, who murdered him, found this out. That would introduce a further and very grave complication. There is $1,000 reward for the discovery of the murderer.

CAT SUPERSTITIONS.

In the Tyrol girls who are fond of cats marry early.

If it rains on a Dutch girl's wedding day it is because the bride has forgotten to feed her cat.

If it rains when there is a large washing on the line in Germany it is a sure sign that the house mother has ill-treated the cat.

Throwing a cat overboard from a ship will cause a cyclone.

A person who despises cats will be carried to his grave in a howling storm.

If the family cat lies with its back to the fire there will be a squall.

If a cat licks herself against the grain take your mackintosh with you.

If a cat washes herself calmly and smoothly the weather will be fine.

Bad luck will follow if a black cat crosses your path, for the devil prowls about, especially at night, in the guise of a black cat.

To dream of a black cat at Christmas time in Germany is an omen of alarming illness.

The Pennsylvania Dutch believe black cats cure epilepsy.

Three drops of a black cat's blood is said to be a cure for croup.

In Scotland they used to cure erysipelas by cutting off half a cat's ear and letting the blood from the wound drop on the diseased part.

In moving in Scotland the family cat is thrown into the new house before the family enters, in order that it may absorb any disease or curse left by former tenants.

In Ireland the cat must not be taken to the new house by a moving family, especially if water has to be crossed.

A cat born in May will be of a melancholy disposition, given to catching snakes and bringing them into the house.

If the cat sneezes three times the whole family will soon suffer from influenza.

In Thibet any person who kills a cat, accidentally or otherwise, will have the sins of the cat transferred to him.

PRINCELY OFFER.

A Millionaire Offers $100,000 to Whoever Can Save His Failing Eyes.

Charles Broadway Rouss, a millionaire merchant of New York, is doomed to be blind in a very little time. At present he cannot discern objects at a distance of a few feet, and reading is an impossibility. He heard of Nickola Tesla and his wonderful accomplishments in electricity, and thought possibly that genius might be able to restore his sight by the use of electricity in reaching the nerve centre of the eye. He consulted an eye specialist and after the talk with him called on Nickola Tesla. Mr. Tesla at once said that he could do nothing for Mr. Rouss as far as his eyesight was concerned, but would give a shock of electricity, which might be of some benefit. Mr. Rouss said if he could not get good eyes he was willing to take anything, so Mr. Tesla sent 100,000 volts through Mr. Rouss's body without the latter feeling it. Tesla shared the current with Rouss, who declared beforehand that he did not care to die alone in case of an accident. There is a standing offer of $100,000 to any person who may restore to Mr. Rouss his eyesight.

A "NEW WOMAN" TEACHER.

The Maxwell school district in Sodus, N. Y., is stirred up over a row started by the biggest boy in school. George Hardy, 19, undertook to overawe the teacher, a slender young woman, barely five feet in height, named Maynard. Trouble had existed for some time, but on Monday, Miss Maynard ordered Hardy to her desk. When he refused to come and dared her to touch him she overpowered and thrashed him soundly, despite the fact that he weighed nearly 200 pounds.

Hardy seemed cowed, but on the following morning he got two other youths named Dunbar and Pulver to help him lock the teacher out. Summoning a trustee as a witness, Miss Maynard broke in the door and thrashed all three boys in less than five minutes, so Trustee Mason declares. He says their combined weight is 510 pounds and her weight is only 120. She was the crack female athlete at the Fredonia Normal School, where she graduated. The district trustees, who are now very proud of her, believe that her strength, like Samson's, lies in her hair, which is as red as it can be.

THE HOME.

THE "OUT-OF-DATE" COUPLE.

We are "so out of date," they say,
  Ned and I;
We love in an old-fashioned way,
  Long since gone by.
He says I am his helpmate true
  In everything;
And I—well, I will own to you
  He is my king.

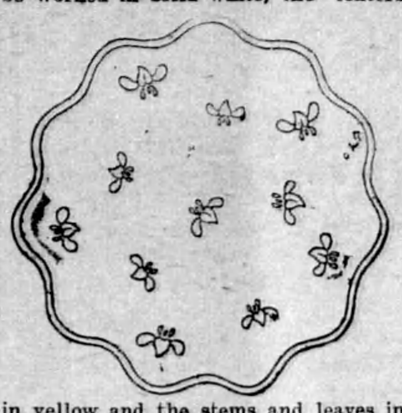
We met in no romantic way
  'Twixt "glow and gloom;"
He wooed me on a winter day,
  And in—a room;
Yet, through life's hours of stress and storm,
  When griefs befell,
Love kept our small home corner warm,
  And all was well.

Ned thinks no woman like his wife—
  But let that pass;
Perhaps we view the duel life
  Through roseate glass;
Even if the prospects be not bright,
  We hold it true
The heaviest burdens may grow light
  When shared by two.

Upon the gilded scroll of fame,
  Emblazoned fair,
I cannot hope to read the name
  I proudly bear;
But, happy in their even flow,
  The years glide by;
We are behind the times we know—
  Ned and I.

TEN LITTLE DAISIES.

In this daisy doily the flower should be worked in solid white, the centers



in yellow and the stems and leaves in green.

HOUSE FURNISHING.

We have seen humble homes so tastefully furnished and so cosy in appearance that they were more pleasant than elegantly furnished apartments where money had been lavishly expended, simply because there was a sense of fitness and harmony about them. It was once the prevalent opinion that the decorations of homes could not be accomplished without great expense, and that only those having ample means could afford to gratify a taste in that direction. But of late, people are beginning to learn that rooms may be made attractive with very little expense if the little things that go so far toward making up tasteful house furnishings are carefully considered. The day when cold, dead white walls, straight-backed chairs, horse-hair coverings for furniture and bare mantels were considered elegant, has gone forever we hope, and in their place we have articles that cost less and are far more comfortable and graceful.

Speaking of old-fashioned furniture reminds us that perhaps some of our readers may have one of the heirlooms which our grandmothers styled "settees." By removing one of the arms and cutting off the legs so as to lower it, you have a frame which will do very well for a sofa. A set of old springs fastened to the seat will make it much more comfortable. Place several thicknesses of old comfort on the springs and cover with cretonne, rep, or any of the pretty furniture coverings now in the market. The back and arms should be padded, the covering securely tacked in place, and the edges covered with furniture gimp. A ruffle or valance may extend from the seat to the floor, or it will be very nice without it.

Another pretty lounge is made of a long, narrow box with castors placed under each corner. The lid is fastened to the box with hinges, and the padding placed upon it. The cover is of blue denim (putting the light side out) and a full ruffle, which reaches the floor, will conceal both ends and the front. A large pillow, also covered with denim, is placed at the head. It makes a very comfortable resting place, and the box can be used to hold the bed clothes that are not in use. A small box covered in the same way may serve the double purpose of footstool and shoe box.

Have any of our readers, in parlor, sitting room or bed room, an unused fireplace? Perhaps a stove has taken the place of the cheerful, open fire that once burned upon the hearth. It may be made an ornament to the room instead of the ugly blank that it is in many houses, by the use of a board screen covered with cloth and decorated with autumn leaves. Have a light wooden frame made and cover it smoothly with unbleached muslin. Over this, any material, such as satin, China silk, silkolene, sateen or even silesia may be used. Of course, a rich material produces the best effect, but cheap goods of a pretty color looks better than one would suppose. Cut the material in long strips half as wide as the screen. Tack the cloth to the edge of the frame, laying a small pleat every two inches all around. Draw the other edge of the material to the center of the screen, lay it in large pleats and sew it firmly to the cloth. A bunch of ferns, autumn leaves and grasses, tied with ribbon, is placed over the joining at the center of the screen. If the screen is covered with heavy material, such as rep or furniture brocade, it is prettier put on plain, and may be ornamented with a border of autumn leaves that have been waxed or varnished, adding a graceful bit of fern or grass here and there. Many other ways of decorating these screens might be described if time and space would permit.

A very handsome Queen Ann table, seen recently at the house of a friend, was a triumph of economy and ingenuity. It had formerly been a washstand with a shelf a foot from the floor and a small drawer just below the top. The back and side pieces were removed from the top, and all that remained of the old walnut stain and varnish was scoured and sandpapered off. Then the entire stand received two coats of common white paint and one coat of white enamel. The knob was removed from the drawer, a brass handle put in its place and lines of gold paint were added here and there about the table legs and drawer. The top was then finished with a scarf of felt in a dull shade of blue, with a border across the ends. It made a piece of furniture that would not have been out of place in the parlor of a city mansion.

Another friend needed a bookcase very much, but the family exchequer was not in a condition to warrant the purchase of a new one. There was an old walnut bureau in the attic, with the mirror broken out and a walnut bedstead that had long since passed its period of usefulness as a bedstead. As the man of the house was handy with tools, a little persuasion induced him to undertake the work of making a bookcase out of this material. The upright pieces to which the mirror had been fastened were sawed off, leaving the top of the bureau plain like a table. Pieces of walnut from the bedstead were fastened to each end of the bureau, and into these three shelves were fitted. The ornamental top of the headboard was removed and used as a cornice for the bookcase. When it was all sandpapered and varnished, and silkoline curtains had been hung in front of the shelves, it was found to be entirely satisfactory.

An old chair that has a worn-out cane seat may be made almost as good as new if the frame is still good. Get a piece of leather in its natural color or red, green or black. Cut it the size and shape you wish the seat to be, and fasten it to the chair with brass-headed tacks, setting these about an inch apart. Or, tack a piece of closely woven, strong canvas to the seat, put on a little padding of some kind, and cover with plush, velours or brocade. Finish the edges with furniture gimp. If the frame has been cleansed and revarnished, or painted with white enamel, and the work neatly done, the effect can scarcely fail to be pleasing.

HELPFUL HINTS.

Knives are often ruined by pressing too hard on the knife-board when cleaning them in the effort to get out stains. This may be done more rapidly and without any fear of spoiling them by simply rubbing them up and down a few times with a damp cork dipped in emery powder. When the stains have gone the knives may be polished on the board; but in can be dispensed with altogether, if preferred. Another excellent plan is to rub the knives with a piece of raw potato dipped in Bath brick-dust. It is perfectly marvelous how quickly all stains disappear under this treatment.

After frying doughnuts or fritters or anything of that kind, shave off a few slices of potatoes when you are done with the grease and drop them into the sizzling fat. Let them cook an instant, and set on the back of the stove to cool very slowly. In the course of half an hour remove to a place to cool more rapidly, and just before the grease gets beyond the pouring stage strain through a cloth into a clean jar. You will find that the lard is nearly as sweet as ever, being only a little darker, which does not prevent it from frying satisfactorily.

Fine carving knives should be treated with the same care as afine razor. They should be kept in a box, tray or drawer, by themselves; and on no account should the edge of a knife be allowed to touch any hard substance. It goes without saying that they should be kept exclusively for the one purpose of carving.

A NEW DESSERT.

A choice new dinner dessert to be used as a substitute for ice cream is made in this way: Whip a pint of cream to a froth, and color with vegetable coloring either a very pale green or rose color. Soak a fourth of a box of gelatine in a quarter of a cup of cold water until soft, then set it in hot water until it dissolves. Stir three ounces of powdered sugar into the whipped cream, so lightly that you do not break the froth. Then strain in the gelatine and mix thoroughly, but very lightly. When the mixture begins to thicken, season gradually with four tablespoonfuls of sherry and one-half to a teaspoonful of vanilla. Add half a cupful of blanched almonds chopped very fine. Pour into small cups or punch-glasses ready for serving and serve very cold. If a more elegant dish is desired, garnish the top of each cup with candied fruits or flowers in very small quantities.

CONFESSION.

For all these things I ask your pardon, dear—
  That I, being fond and true,
Have sometimes in my fondness doubted you,
  With brief distrust, with sudden biting fear;
For all these things I ask your pardon, dear.

Because I love you more than tongue can say,
  I feared lest I might be
Bankrupt of love that flowed so full and free;
  I feared to lose you, dear, some, dismal day—
Because I love you more than tongue can say.

But now I stake my life upon your troth,
  And trust you as my soul.
Of all a heart's fond faith I give the whole
  To your most tender keeping — nothing loth,
Since love and life are one, to give you both.

—Arthur L. Salmon.

The lover, women complain, does not always survive in the husband. But is it not equally true that the sweetheart does not always survive in the wife.

The latest style of tailor-made costumes from Paris are made with very short, full basques, elaborately braided and trimmed in front with frog buttons, and with the skirt also braided.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Some Readable Pharagraphs About Affairs the World Over.

In Australia there are 1,300,000 people of Irish birth.

The hardest precious stone, after the diamond, is the ruby.

Umbreellas to the value of $10,000,000 are annually sold in London.

Edison predicts that in ten years horseless carriages will be the rule.

A glass of warm milk, taken at bedtime, often proves a remedy for sleeplessness.

A chestnut tree on Mount Etna has a circumference of 100 feet, and is over 2,000 years old.

The profits to Sir Arthur Sullivan, from the song of "The Lost Chord," have been over $50,000.

Electric power is so cheap at Great Falls, Montana, that nearly all the machinery there is moved by it.

The bicycles used in the French Army each have an electric light which can be turned on or off at will.

The tiger's strength exceeds that of the lion. Five men can easily hold down a lion; but nine are required to hold a tiger.

Inebriates are not allowed to marry in Waldeck, Germany, unless they can give satisfactory evidence of reformation.

The cars of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad are dusted by means of compressed air, forced through a hose nozzle.

Boston claims to have the longest paved street in the world—Washington street, which is seventeen and a half miles in length.

The natives of Africa gorged themselves with watermelons as early as 2,500 B. C. This fruit grows wild all over that country.

A race between an ostrich and a bicyclist, at Cape Town, Africa, resulted in the victory of the bird, which soon distanced the wheelman.

The largest spider known to entomologists makes its home in the most hilly section of Ceylon. It spins a huge net of yellow silk sometimes ten feet wide.

The little town of Verona, Me., has a population of about 500, and is quite an old settlement; yet it has never had a doctor, a clergyman, or a lawyer, residing within its limits.

The results of advertising were illutrated in Bath County, Ky. A man there advertised for the return of a lost cat. In less than a week 332 of them were brought to his house.

A button-ball tree over 100 years old, and 100 feet in height, in Essex, Conn., has a currant bush growing between two of its branches. In the past ten years the bush has produced fine fruit.

The knife of the guillotine is weighted with 120 pounds of lead, and requires just three-quartes of a second to fall from a height of nine feet. It cuts through flesh and bone as easily as it would cut cheese.

"Which is more necessary to mankind, the horse or the cow?" This question was discussed before a debating society in Rose Township, Mich., and decided in favor of the horse, by an almost unanimous vote.

A lucky find delighted the eyes of a hunter in Bracken County, Ky. He cut down a tree to dislodge a possum, and in the tree found four possums, two coons, five squirrels, and nearly 100 pounds of honey.

Uncle Jake Lawrence, of Uniontown, Ky., is eighty-four years old, and has reason to be delighted. For years he has been without teeth, and now a new set of natural ones are showing themselves in his gums.

Two young women have secured employment as gardeners at the famous Kew Gardens, near London, which are said to be the richest in the world. The girls were accepted on condition that they wear trousers while at work.

A Chinese tramp was arrested in Oakland, Cal., and searched, it being supposed that he had opium secreted about his clothes. No opium was found upon him, however, but he had on seven shirts, three pairs of pantaloons, and two pairs of socks.

A suicide in Lyons, France, arranged a rude guillotine for himself. A sharp hatchet was weighted with a sledge-hammer, just over a block. The inventor placed his head on the block, pulled a string, down came the hatchet, and off came the man's head.

A mouse appeared on the floor of the William Street Baptist Church, New Bedford, during divine service, and so alarmed the ladies that a portion of the exercises was omitted. Then the men present engaged in a mouse-hunt, and the little animal was caught and killed.

The inmates of a female orphan asylum in Naples, when over eighteen years of age, are sent to a neighboring church, to be chosen in marriage. Attired in black they kneel before the altar and the suitors pass before them, each selecting the girl he thinks will make the best wife.

A gentleman of Kokoma, Ind., has a $60,000 stone and brick house there, which he intends to move to Peoria, Ill. It will be carefully taken down, every stone and brick and door and sash marked, and replaced exactly in its original position, on the new site. The cost of the removal will be $15,000.

DOESN'T KNOW YET.

A neat little story is reported from Thuringia. Last autumn a woman from the village of Treben went out into the fields to gather turnips. She was accompanied part of the way by her little son, aged 6, who was going to school. Whilst busy amongst the turnips, the woman was taken ill and quickly returned home, where she gave birth to a little girl. When the boy came back from school he met his father in the lobby, who gave him a large slice of bread and butter and told him that he had got a little sister. Beaming with delight, the little fellow went to his aunt who lives in the village and told her of the joyful event. "How pleased your mother must have been," observed the aunt. "Oh!" said the boy, "she doesn't know yet, she is busy in the field digging up turnips."

A NOVEL CLOCK.

A novelty in a time piece is a silver dog. The clock is set in his side, a red tongue wags in his open mouth, and his tail ticks off the seconds.