Flesherton Advance.

"TRUTH BEFORE FAVOR."—"PRINCIPLES NOT MEN.'

VOL 32, NO 24 Flesherton, Ont., Thursday, December 19, 1912 W. H. THURSTON EDITOR and PROPRIETOR

A BRUTAL MURDER

Mrs. Henry Love Done to Death in Her Own Home—The Husband is Charged With the Unnatural Crime.

On Thursday morning last the people of this district were horrified to learn that Mrs. Henry Love had been foully murdered at her home, Ceylon, by some unknown person, and the body hidden in a depression under the house. The Advance lost no time in getting on the scene and found a condition of affairs too horrible to describe minutely. A coroner's jury was empanneled with Mr. John McMillan as foreman and at 10 a.m. viewed the remains, which had been brought up and placed in a front room, were viewed by the jury and an adjournment made until 1 p.m. on Monday. The house was left in charge of Constables John Wright and Malcolm McDonald.

The story which both father and son told was to the effect that on Tuesday morning they left the house as usual, the former to draw coal to Flesherton and the latter to attend high school. Love said he kissed his wife good by at 8.10 a.m. when he went in the house to get his overcoat. The son, Arnel, a boy 14 years of age, said he left the house at 25 minutes to 9. His mother was then knitting. The boy said he met a stranger some distance from home who wore a striped suit under a black overcoat, carried a hand satchel and did not speak as he passed. The father said that on his return journey from Flesherton he met his son at the old drill shed, the son being on his way to school. At 10.45 a. m. Wm. Hindle of Osprey called at the house and found no one at home, while the fire was burned down.

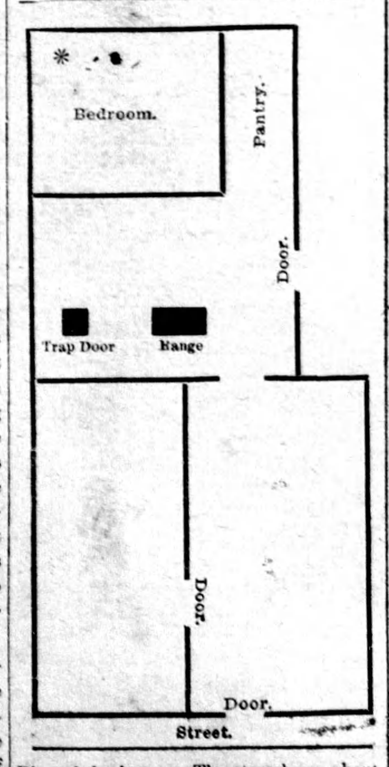
The woman was missing all day Tuesday and had not returned Wednesday morning. Love then instituted a search for her. The son went to school but asked off in the middle of the afternoon and went home. Wednesday evening several neighbors were in Love's house until quite late discussing the mysterious disappearance, and left saying that there would have to be a thorough investigation in the morning. About 12.30 that night Mr. Gibson Collinson, who lives next door, was awakened by Love, who said, "For God's sake, Collinson, come over ; I have found her."

Mr. Collinson got some other neighbors and together they went in. The body was in a depression which was evidently a partially excavated cellar at the rear of the house. Under the front of the house there was a deeper excavation, though but a hole, with a few steps leading down to it from a trap door in the kitchen. This trap door was covered with linoleum and on top of that a rug.

The woman had been injured about the head and neck, the windpipe being severed. The autopsy made by Drs. Ego of Markdale and McWilliams of Dundalk revealed that the neck wound was probably made with a knife and possibly the victim was first stunned with some sharp instrument.

The question that first presented itself was, if the deed was done by a stranger how did he happen to find the trap door? The theory is that the woman was stunned while knitting in her chair in the kitchen, thrown down the trap door, then trailed up over the higher soil around the steps to the rear of the house and the final deed accomplished there.

All day Thursday and Friday night constables were in charge of the premises. At noon on Friday Detective Reaburn put in an appearance and took the son aside and talked with him for two and a half hours. The detective says that the lad made a statement which implicated his father in the terrible crime. The boy said that when he got up Tuesday morning his mother was not there. He asked his father where she was and he replied that she had got up early and gone to Rev. Mr. McLaren's at Flesherton. Before leaving for school he asked the boy not to go to Mr. McLaren's that day, as was his custom to eat lunch. Wednesday night after the body had been found the boy



Plan of the house. The star shows about where body was found under bedroom floor.

says his father instructed him to tell the story about seeing a strange man while on his way to school Tuesday morning.

Immediately after this confession Love was placed under arrest. He strenuously denied his guilt and said the boy was lying. He was taken to the county jail by noon train on Saturday and brought back Monday morning for the inquest.

The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon to Flesherton cemetery. The cortege was one of the largest ever seen in this district, reaching for a distance of nearly 1¼ miles. The remains were taken to the Orange Hall where a short service was held by the woman's pastor, Rev. Mr. McLaren. At the grave the service was taken charge of by members of the Salvation Army. The casket was covered with a beautiful wreath of flowers presented by the Ceylon Sabbath school, in which Mrs. Love was a faithful teacher.

The deceased woman was 46 years of age. She was a daughter of Mr. Robert Wells of Glenelg, and was married to Henry Love in 1890. She leaves one daughter, Mrs. Wm. Hindle, and the son, Arnel, at home. Mrs. Consley of Proton Station is a sister.

On Friday evening The Advance was present at one of the most dramatic scenes it has ever been our misfortune to witness. When County Constable Cook had been instructed to convey the prisoner to Owen Sound that night, and before leaving the house, the women folk held prayer for divine guidance and sustaining strength in this dark hour. Then Love pulled a dollar bill from his pocket gave it to his sister and told her to buy bread. The women then all went to him and kissed him. Finally he said to his son, who was sitting with his head against the wall crying silently, "Arnel, come here." The boy did not move. Again came the command, "Arnel, boy, come here." The boy then came forforward and kissed his father on the lips—the father whom his evidence would go far toward sending to the gallows. The scene was intensely dramatic and its memory ineffacable. It is almost inconceivable that a man could bear up and act as this man did and be guilty of so heinous a crime as he is charged with. Later the constable received permission to keep Love in charge at home until the noon train Saturday.

The Inquest

The coroner's inquest in the Love murder case opened in the town hall, Flesherton, on Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Mr. I. B. Lucas appeared for the crown. The prisoner was not represented.

Mr. Gibson Collinson was the first witness called. He went over the circumstances leading up to the finding of the body substantially as given above.

Dr. Ego described the wounds in detail. Both he and Dr. McWilliams, who performed the postmortem, agreed that the knife wounds in the neck had caused death. The carotid arteries and wind pipe had been severed. There was a gaping wound behind and above the left ear that might have been caused by the sharp edge of a stick of wood. The skull was not fractured. The stomach was almost empty, showing that she had died two or three hours after eating.

Henry Love asked to make a statement and repeated in detail his story as already given. He declared that the story given to the detective by Arnel was false. He charged the detective with "putting words into the boy's mouth and hypnotizing him." Mr. Lucas cross questioned Love at great length but he stuck to the outline of his story and several times strenuously denied that he was the slayer of his wife.

Arnel Love, the son, was sworn and said he was 14 years old on the 13th of June. He had passed his entrance last year and was attending the high school. Was at school on Monday. Was in the habit of going to bed at 8 or 9 o'clock. On Tuesday morning his father called him as usual. Had his breakfast alone. His father said his mother had got up early and went to Rev, McLaren's. His mother had spoken of making a visit to the parsonage. When he got home from school Tuesday his mother was still away. The father had asked him to say nothing about his mother's absence. He had a cold breakfast Wednesday and went to school Asked off after arithmetic term and went home, getting there about ten minutes to three. His father came in twenty minutes later and did not ask if he had heard anything of the missing woman. That night after neighbors left his father started for the bedroom and then said he heard a noise which seemed to come up through the floor. He then lighted a lantern and said he would look all over under the house. He went down the steps, placed the lantern on one of them and looking back behind them said, "Is that her?" Arnel

Mrs Henry Love, the viet

says he went down and looked and said he thought it was. His father went over within two or three feet of the body and said, "My God, it is her." He then came upstairs and went over for Mr. Collinson. The father then came back and asked Arnel if he had met anybody on his way to school, and when answered in the negative told him if anyone asked tell them he saw a tall strong looking fellow around the new road. The floor was swept on Tuesday and everything in good order. Was suspicious before Wednesday evening that his mother was dead. He had heard statement given Detective Reaburn read and swore to its correctness. According to the boy's statement he had not seen his mother at all Tuesday morning although the father put the question point blank to him.

Mr. S. Hemphill submitted a plan of the house. Constable John Wright submitted underclothing and two knives as exhibits. Constable Cook produced a buckle which he had sifted from the stove ashes, and which might have belonged to some part of the woman's clothing.

After listening to the evidence for about four hours the jury deliberated and brought in the following verdict :

"We, the Coroner's jury, have examined the body of Hannah Lucille Love, and are satisfied that she was foully murdered by being struck with some blunt instrument and also by a sharp intrument used by stabbing her in the neck, causing her death. And according to the evidence that there is a tendency showing said crime was committed by Henry Love."

Love was returned to the county jail after the inquest.

Ceylon

One of the saddest events that has ever occurred in this vicinity was made known to the public Thnrsday morning when word was passed around that Mrs. H. Love was found in the cellar of her home brutally murdered. She was last seen by neighbors on Monday evening as she returned from the school house. The alarm that she was missing was not made until Wednesday evening, when search was made and the body found by her husband shortly after midnight. She will be much missed in the Sabbath school, where she was a willing and earnest worker, having a large class of little tots. In her talk to them a week ago Sabbath she told them she was not afraid to die but was ready when the Master should call, and earnestly pleaded with the little ones to give their hearts to their heavenly father when He should call. Little did she think before another Sabbath she would answer the summons. The funeral, which was a very large one, took place on Sunday afternoon to Flesherton cemetery. On the casket was placed by friends of the Sabbath school a beautiful wreath, "Gate Ajar." The Rev. Mr. McLaren, her pastor here, assisted the Army captain in the service. She leaves to mourn her loss one daughter, Mrs. W. Hindle of Maxwell and one son, Arnel, at home. The relatives attending the funeral from a distance were : Mr. and Mrs. A. Mills, Galt ; Mr. Garfield Smith, Meaford ; Mr. J. Wells, Durham ; Mrs. Eddie, Mrs. Wilson and Miss Sadie Love, Toronto ; Mrs. Consley and daughter, Proton Station.

Mr. Frank Collinson, who has been in Saskatoon since spring, arrived home Saturday.

Miss Ella Whittaker is home from the city after spending a month with friends there.

Mr. J. Collinson, who has been visiting his brother here, left for his home on Tuesday.

Mrs. C. Embury, Port Perry, and Mrs. Curtin of Newmarket were visitors at R. Cook's last week.

Miss Ella Warling, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. J. McClocklin, returned to her home at Vandeleur.

Miss Ida Thompson, Vandeleur, spent a few days of the past week with Mrs. A Rutledge.

We understand Mr. R Bates and bride of Dundalk intend moving into Mr. J. Cairns' residence this week.

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