

HABITS OF CRIMINALS.

THE EASE WITH WHICH CRIMINALS ARE OFTEN DETECTED.

A Criminal Captured on the Race Track—Tracked by a Grease Spot and Burn on His Coat—Remarkable Cases of Murderers Who Revisited the Scenes of Their Crimes Only to be Apprehended.

The world is now hardly large enough to hold a criminal for whom a sufficient reward is offered to attract the best class of detective talent, for even if the hunted one is possessed of more than his share of shrewdness, he may be betrayed at any moment by an accident, a trifle, to which he nor others would ordinarily attach the smallest importance. There is a notable case in English detective annals of a murderer being tracked half round the world by a grease spot and burn on the skirt of his coat. It was made by accidental contact with the candle on the night the murder was done. He had never noticed it, but a boy whom he met on his way to the nearest railroad station saw and remembered it, and with this and other matters of apparently no greater consequence as clues the detectives went to work. The spot proved valuable, for, by some strange coincidence, everywhere he went some one saw the burn and grease spot, and thus the detectives followed it from place to place, until finally they caught up with the spotted coat and its wearer, apprehended both, took the twain back to England, where the man was finally convicted, principally on the evidence furnished by the coat, and finally hanged for the crime. Some one says, "There are no trifles," and in view of such an occurrence as this the statement seems absolutely true, for no human foresight however keen, no shrewdness, however calculating, could have anticipated so momentous a result from a cause apparently so trivial.

FOLLOWING A TRAIL.

But in detective history results quite as important every day come from just such apparently insignificant tokens, and even the means adopted by the hunted criminal to insure his safety and evade recognition often prove those which lead to his apprehension. The barber who shaves off his mustache remembers that fact, and fully identifies him after the change in his appearance; he shaves himself, burns the beard, but leaves his hairs scattered about his dressing case to indicate what he has been doing. The druggist from whom he buys his poison weeks or months before the crime recalls the fact, and identifies the customer by a mole on his neck; the arms dealer from whom he purchased his revolver retains its number and remembers the buyer and what he said when he bought the pistol; the customer who sold him a wig; the bootblack who cleaned his shoes and noticed his agitation; the servant who heard his voice without seeing him; the street-car conductor to whom he talked; the railway porter, the baggageman, the driver of the omnibus, the hundred and one semi-public characters who deal constantly with travelers, each and all, with ready eyes, seem to observe anything out of the ordinary in his dress, appearance and demeanor, store it up in their minds until the hour when it is needed, and then produce it for the purpose of avenging the blood of the innocent.

CHANGE OF HABITS.

One unfamiliar with the peculiarities of criminal life might suppose that the criminal who is endeavoring to evade pursuit would make such a change in his habits as would throw his pursuers off the track; that the frequenter of saloons and low resorts would change his mode of life and keep away from such places; that the habitue of gambling houses and race tracks would find other forms of amusement. Of course, it occasionally happens that a fugitive criminal is able to change his habits and form new associations, but such cases are very rare, indeed, quite exceptional. So well understood is the inability of the average man to fall into new grooves, that the descriptions of criminals telegraphed from the scenes of their crimes to points to which they may have fled, generally contained particulars of their habits, on the supposition that they are less likely to alter these than to change their personal appearance. Not many months have elapsed since a criminal fled from an Eastern city and disappeared. For a long time his place of concealment remained unknown, but he had been a frequenter of race tracks, and all over the United States keen eyes watched the loungers who hang about such places. The patience of the watchers was finally rewarded; habit proved too strong, and after the lapse of some months the fugitive, overcome by the old passion for "playing the races," ventured on a race track and was promptly apprehended, in San Francisco, over 3,000 miles from the scene of his crime.

HOMESICK CRIMINALS.

To a professional criminal it would seem as though all places should be alike, for, from the nature of the case, he could not long abide in any one, being frequently compelled to change his residence, and that, too, on very short notice. Homesickness, to a criminal, would, therefore, be a most unpleasant ailment, and not unpleasant only, but exceedingly dangerous, since it might impel him to revisit places where there was a strong probability of his detection and apprehension. Of course, there are among criminals, as among others many individuals whose bump of locality is very slightly developed, and who are as much at home in one house or city as in another; but, at the same time, there are great numbers of others to whom the breaking of old ties and the severance of their relations with the people and places to which they had become accustomed is a cause of the keenest suffering. In general such cases are those of men who, up to a certain time, had lived reputable lives, but by sudden temptation were led to deeds of lust, robbery or blood. Compelled to flee

from a neighborhood where for many years they had been respected, obliged to lodge in quarters far inferior to those they formerly inhabited, to associate with persons below themselves in education and social position they acutely feel the change, and often, in sheer desperation, return and give themselves up in hope that after all something may intervene to shield them from punishment.

EASE OF MIND.

Another powerful motive often impels the criminal to return to the scene of his crime and surrender himself to the legal authorities to suffer the penalty. According to the testimony of hundreds of men who have gone through the experience, nothing is more terrible than the feeling of being continually hunted. The fugitive criminal never knows a moment's peace of mind. The shadow of his crime continually falls across and darkens his path. All men are his enemies, because in every man he recognizes a possible pursuer. He suspects everybody. He really trusts nobody, and though, in moments of thoughtlessness or when under the influence of drink, he confides in some, he never fails to regret the confidence he bestowed, and often hates and sometimes kills the one in whom he has confided. He is ever on the alert, for he does not know at what moment the hand of the detective may be laid on his shoulder. In comparison with such a life, that of a prison is infinitely preferable, and scores of captured criminals have admitted that the first night of peaceful sleep they had enjoyed in months, perhaps in years, was taken within the walls of the jail, after the long agony of flight and pursuit was over and the worst, at least for the present, was known.

GOING BACK HOME.

But, entirely aside from all these considerations, there is very singular tendency among criminals, particularly among escaped murderers, to return to the place where the crime has been committed. Why they should do so is one of the mysteries of human nature and action. It would seem as though, after having effected a successful escape from the neighborhood of their crimes, they would have every possible incentive to keep away. A great crime is sure to fix itself on the minds of all in any way connected with it as one of the most prominent events of their lives, and every incident connected with it is indelibly fastened on their memories. The face of the murdered, particularly, when once seen, is remembered as vividly as that of the murderer, and neither is ever forgotten. One of the most remarkable things about the human memory is its power of calling up old associations by the aid of a single clue, like the sight of a face or the sound of a voice, yet, in spite of the fact that they cannot help knowing that the danger of recognition and consequent detection is imminent, almost amounting to a moral certainty, murderers can not keep away, but return to the scenes of their crimes, as though impelled by a morbid desire to see again places that for them had a significance so terrible. The same curious phenomenon was noticed even in ancient times, and the Greeks, in attempting an explanation of it, said that murderers were driven by the furies back to the scene of the crime, there to meet the deserved punishment.

AN AUSTRIAN CASE.

There was something more than sentiment in that Roman law which condemned a murderer to suffer death as near as possible to the place where the murder was committed; such a punishment was an object lesson in retributive justice that could not be forgotten by those who beheld it. The same usage has obtained in more than one modern country, and thereby hangs many a tale of fearful import. One of the most striking illustrations of retributive justice overtaking a criminal from his morbid desire to revisit the scene of his crime took place a number of years ago in the Austrian Tyrol. In the year 1848, there occurred, in a small village almost on the line between Tyrol and Steyermark, an atrocious murder of an entire family comprising the father, mother three children, and one other person. The object of the crime was undoubtedly robbery, as the head of the family a day or two before was known to have in his house a considerable sum of money, which could not be found by the police after the crime had been committed. Suspicion was fastened on a young fellow of the neighborhood who disappeared about the time of the murder, but as nothing was certainly known against him, and the whole country was in a state of confusion from the revolutions in progress, his disappearance did not attract the attention that, at another time, it might have done, and in the excitement of political agitation and armed rebellion, the murder made a comparatively small sensation.

A PROSPEROUS MURDERER.

Twenty-six years later, or in 1874, there appeared in the village an American tourist party, consisting of an apparently wealthy gentleman, his wife and family. The gentleman was middle-aged and evidently of German birth, for he spoke the language of the country with fluency and displayed a marked familiarity with its local geography, history, manners and customs. The party stayed at the local inn and inspected the neighborhood with manifest curiosity. A day or two after their arrival, the gentleman, who gave the name of Stein, was seen close to the cottage where the murder was committed, explaining something to his wife and family that evidently interested them very much. One of the guides, who understood a little English, gathered from the conversation that Stein was telling them about the terrible murders that had been committed there years before, and ventured a correction of Stein's statement. "There were only five killed," said the guide. "Oh, no," rejoined Stein, "there were six, the other body was that of the hired woman, who slept in the garret. Her body was found there, wrapped up in the bed clothes." Not wishing to seem impolite to his employers, the guide did not persist, but, piqued at the contradiction, he narrated the incident and repeated the conversation that night in a wine room.

THE DISCOVERY.

It happened that in the party there was a son of the magistrate who, twenty-six years before, had made the investigation of the case, and on returning home, this man spoke of the matter to his father. Interest was thus roused in the old man, and apparently without suspicion, he called round at the inn the next morning, impelled

only by curiosity to see the American gentleman who knew so much about the murder a generation before. He seated himself in the wine room, and a few moments later the American gentleman passed through. In an instant the magistrate recognized in him the youth who had disappeared in 1848, at the time of the murder. Like an inspiration the truth flashed upon him, and, stepping out into the street, he beckoned to the village officer and followed the stranger. The latter was walking unobtrusively along, when the magistrate, coming up behind, suddenly called out, "Baermann!" The once familiar name caught the stranger's ear, he turned and in an instant became pale as death. He was given into custody, and a little investigation brought out the facts. The wealthy Stein was none other than the idle Baermann, who had committed the murders, stolen the money and fled to America. He entered into business, prospered, became wealthy, and twenty-six years after the crime could not resist the temptation to return to the place where it had been committed, there to betray himself by too intimate a familiarity with its details. He was convicted and hanged, making a full confession before his execution.

IN FICTION.

Many striking uses have been made in fiction of this peculiarity of crime, but in no imaginative narrative is it so forcibly brought out as in the story of Bill Sykes in "Oliver Twist." The tale of the murder in all its brutal details is given with horrible particularity; no incident that could enhance the thrill is omitted; not one but what is used to the fullest advantage. The flight of Sykes and the dog is a study in psychology, for in its course are brought out all the workings of the criminal's mind, and, in particular, the slowness of time dragging by, so that a day seemed like an age, and at the end of forty-eight hours the criminal had almost persuaded himself that so much time had elapsed that the crime must surely be almost forgotten. Of the long wanderings not a turn is lost, and when the unhappy wretch finally determines to return to the scene of his dreadful deed the reader is prepared for the terrible denouement that follows. If Dickens had never written anything but this thrilling description it might have made him a name; if he had written a hundred volumes on crime and criminology he could never have exceeded this one picture. It is a masterpiece that shows how careful had been the studies made by the novelist of the habits of criminals; it is true to life in that it depicts a passage in the life of one criminal that has been repeated a hundred times in the lives of others who have fled from the scenes of their crimes only to return and fall into the hands of justice.

ORIGIN OF MOURNING CUSTOMS.

Nearly Every Matter of Dress Has a History Attached to It.

"Why does the judge in a criminal court assume the black cap when pronouncing sentence of death?" is a question frequently asked. This is because covering the head has from the earliest times been regarded as a sign of mourning. Numerous examples of this occur in the Scriptures, in the classics and in modern literature.

"The ancient English," says Dudley Fosbrooke, in his monumental work on a chaeology, "drew their hoods over their heads at funerals." We read also in Peck's "Dissertation Curiosa" of "the congregation, a very great one, sitting in the choir to hear the funeral sermon, all covered," at the burial of Bishop Cox in Ely Cathedral in the year 1581. Not only do the Jews keep their hats on their heads at funerals, but in some countries they still wear black caps at weddings, in token of mourning for the destruction of the temple.

Another reason is that the black cap forms a part of the full dress of the judge, which is worn on extraordinary occasions. The black flag, hoisted upon prison walls as a signal that the last sentence of the law has been carried out, was first employed by Tamerlane, Khan of the Tartars, in the fourteenth century. Whenever a beleaguered city refused to surrender after a certain period, he displayed a black flag, to proclaim that "the time for mercy is now past, and the city is given up to destruction."

The mourning colors of different nations are not devoid of meaning. Black is the accepted color throughout Europe. It expresses the solemn midnight gloom, the total deprivation of light and joy on account of the loss sustained. In Shakespeare's time the stage was draped with black during the performances of a tragedy. This accounts for the opening line in Henry VI.: "Hung be the heavens with black;" the heavens answering to our borders and flies.

White is the emblem of hope, the Chinese color of mourning. The ladies of Rome and Sparta dressed in white during the period of mourning. Prior to the year 1498, when Anne, Queen of Charles VIII. of France, surrounded her coat-of-arms with black drapery and dressed herself in black on the death of her husband, in opposition to the prevailing custom, widows in England, France and Spain generally adopted white mourning.

Widows' caps are accounted for in this way: The Egyptians and Greeks shaved off their beards and cut off their hair in times of mourning. The Romans did not cultivate beards, but cutting off the hair as a sign of mourning was common to both sexes.

Knew What He Wanted.

I shay, could you kin'ly 'blige me with a prigran?

Certainly, sir; but the piece is nearly over.

Oh, that's all ri'; it's simply to show my wife I've been here.

A One-Sided Question.

What is old Close fist growing about now?

Photographer—He's objecting to paying full price for his pictures.

Why?

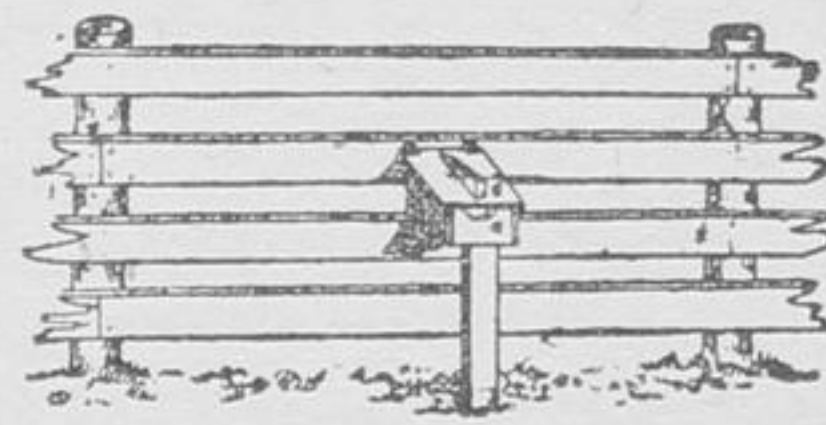
Photographer—Because they are taken side view.

The coronor in Dayton, O., has held Col. F. B. Mead and his wife responsible for the death of their 12-year-old daughter, who was treated by the faith cure while she was suffering from tubercular meningitis.

AGRICULTURAL.

Salt Box for the Open Field.

Live stock should either have a quantity of salt mingled in their food, or it should be fed to them direct. If you trust to feeding them salt at stated intervals the chances are they will often be neglected for some period beyond the stated time; consequently, when it is fed them, they will



PROTECTED SALT BOX.

indulge too freely and the well-known lessening effect of the salt is observed. The better way is to place a quantity of salt where it will be accessible to them at all times, and this is done in no more satisfactory way than by the use of a covered salt box similar to the one shown in the sketch. The box is 14 inches long, 9 inches wide, 8 inches high at the back and 6 inches in front. The box is firmly nailed to the fence board, or to a post or side of a building, as most convenient. The cover is hinged, and has a bevel-shaped piece, e, nailed at the top to prevent splitting; also to cause the cover to fall back in position. The front end of the box, a, is cut away, exposing the salt, and in trying to get it the cover is raised. Cattle readily learn to raise the cover when they are salt hungry. The stake placed under the box in front holds it firmly in position, and the whole makes a cheap and convenient arrangement, as from a week's to several weeks' supply of salt can be placed in the box at once.

How to Care for Lambs.

In our last we told when was the best time of year to have lambs come, and now we propose to outline a plan of caring for them to make most gain for food consumed and to put the lambs in finest order in soonest time, and, of course, have it bring most money.

In the first place, it must be remembered that a large part of the lamb's food goes simply to support the animal, and that this is first taken from the food eaten, and is approximately in proportion to the weight and has no reference to any gain. So, when the lamb is allowed to stop growing, a loss is made. That when kept for a single week without gain not only is the food eaten lost, but the lamb can never thereafter make as good gain, and can, under no conditions, ever make up the loss of that period. Not only this, but when the carcass ceases to grow, an uneven spot is made in the wool, thus injuring the fiber and lowering the value of fleece.

It is plain then, that the lamb should be so fed and cared for as to make a steady and constant gain from the day of its birth till ready for the block. And it follows that the more rapid this gain consistent with the food eaten, the sooner will it be ready for the market, and the better the mutton the more money will it bring.

When the lambs are from three to four months old, they may be weaned. To do this put them into the best and freshest pasture on the farm; put with them two or three, or more old ewes, the tamest in the flock—of course, those not mothers of any of the lambs—and remove the mothers away beyond hearing of the lambs. If they have been accustomed to the daily food they should be increased, and the lambs will hardly miss their mothers at all.

In case a satisfactory price can not be obtained for the lambs in August and September, they should be daily well fed on some grain ration, and have good pasture until time to put into winter quarters.

Of course, all the ram lambs should be emasculated, and this had best be done when no more than two days old, and a week later all the lambs should have their tails cut off. It is not only an inhuman plan to let ram lambs go until two or three months old before castration, but the lamb will not grow as well or make as good mutton as though the operation had been performed at two days old, and it twice as much work to operate on the older lambs.

Whenever the lambs come the wees should be so well fed, and on right kind of foods, as to give plenty of milk to keep the lambs growing, and if for any cause any ewe should fail to do so, the lamb should have a little milk from an ewe that has more than her lamb can use, or in absence of this, a little fresh milk from a cow as recently fresh as possible.

As soon as the lambs will eat extra food, say when about three, or perhaps at two weeks old, a separate yard or pen should be provided, into which they can go by themselves, and be there fed daily a small grain ration. For this purpose, wheat bran and oil meal, half and half; oats, barley, and peas, are all good, but do not give any corn. It is not fat that is wanted on the lamb, and corn only makes fat.

Unless it is desired to crowd the lambs forward for an early market, it will not be best to feed all they will eat, but enough should be fed to keep them steadily growing, and as the pastures fail so the ewes give less milk, the grain for lambs should be increased. See to it that they make some gain every day.

It is a very common, but a very erroneous belief that sheep do not require water. Nothing can be more fatal to a profitable growth. No animal requires it more, and none so particular to have it fresh and pure, and the lambs will not, with the best of pasture and abundance of grain, make a profitable growth without an abundant supply of clean water, and especially is this true of the lambs after being weaned and deprived of the moisture which they will get in their mother's milk.

If, when the clover is first frozen so that when walked upon it will be killed, so as to show the tracks all over the field, these

lambs are not sold, they may be put into warm quarters and properly fed and cared for, and be put in market in March or April weighing from 110 to 150 pounds, according to breed, and sold for from 5 to 6 cents per pound, and make the owner who grew and fed them plenty of profit.

But, all the way through, the owner should bear in mind that what he wants to do is to grow flesh, not fat, and should make choice of foods with that end in view, not forgetting that to do this he must select the nitrogenous foods.

And he should remember what is better still, that while the raising and selling of lambs, as usually done with sheep subsisting entirely upon the pasture, adds nothing to the fertility of his farm, but really leaves it poorer, by reason of what is taken in growth of sheep and wool, by the feeding of these supplemental foods, rich in plant food, as indicated, will leave his fields richer and better able to produce paying crops, and that he will thus reap a double reward for the growing of the lambs.

Spring Care of Live Stock.

"Between hay and grass" is proverbially a hard time for farm live stock. As the warm weather approaches the animals often have a great longing for green food. Their appetites, like those of human beings, are often fitful at this season. On the other hand, it sometimes happens that the supply of food runs short, and attempts are made to economize by giving less, or working off fat of inferior quality. The statement of he case is all that is needed to show that hat this is mistaken policy if it can possibly be avoided. Especially when the winter feed is scarce there is a strong temptation to turn the stock on the pastures too early or their own good or that of the pastures. It is every way better to keep the stock off grass until the pastures have made a good growth.

The change from dry feed to grass should be made gradually. There is danger, especially with horses or colts, of injury by allowing the animals to fill themselves with grass after having been confined to dry food for a long time. The young grass is not as nutritious as after it has made more growth, and stock often crave, and are nearly always the better for some dry food for a time after being turned on the pastures.

If the stock has been stabled all winter, it may be better to give them shelter at nights, or during storms, until they become accustomed to the change. If it is thought best to keep the stock stabled, care should be taken that they do not suffer from heat or poor ventilation when warm weather comes on. With the temperature about the same outside and inside the stable, change of air is much less rapid.

THE BARLEY TRADE.

Canadian Barley is the Only Kind That Will Sell in Oswego.

This seeding the farmers of Canada will be likely to sow more barley than they have put in the ground in any spring since 1890. For the first time since then they can put in their crop with reasonable confidence that they will be able to sell its surplus produce on the other side of the line. By the United States Tariff Act passed towards the end of last August the duty on barley was changed from a specific and prohibitive rate of 30c. a bushel to an ad valorem rate of 30 per cent. Roughly speaking, this change is, at present prices, equivalent to a reduction of the duty by one-half. Since it was made we have resumed our export trade to the United States. Our barley has met its old warm reception there. To-day, with warm weather at hand and malt-houses closing down, it is wanted in Oswego at 62c. a bushel, while choice Western barley is offering there without buyers at 58 to 62c. Advice from that market say that the Canadian barley is the only kind that will sell there. This decided preference for our grain is an acknowledgment of its superior quality. A premium of 2 to 4c. a bushel is no small tribute to its merit, brought out in competition with Western barley, of which last year's crop was the largest and finest ever produced in the barley States. Canadian barley is worth so much more than Western barley at its best. In Oswego there is a demand for a class of barley which can be supplied only by Canada. Even if the Western States should still further increase their production their barley would not compete with ours in the first class. Our farmers can have the business of supplying nearly all that is wanted of that class if they think the price will pay them. At the present quotation No. 1 barley would be worth within a quarter of a cent of half a dollar a bushel in bond at Oswego. If that price were constant it should net the farmer a fair return on the cost of production. At all events, this spring Canadian farmers seem to be warranted in extending the acreage they have lately been in the habit of giving to barley.

To Manufacture Glass Pipe.

A new method of manufacturing glass pipe has been discovered, which promises to revolutionize that industry. It has hitherto been found impossible to mold large glass tubes of any great length because the glass would cool while running into the mold, and the structure of the tube was not homogeneous. The new method consists of using a mold with a movable piston. The piston is just enough smaller than the outer shell of the mold to allow for the thickness of the tube to be made. The piston is placed at the bottom of the mold and as the molten glass is poured in the piston is forced upward by hydraulic pressure. Pipes are made by this process in sections six feet long and are used for sewers and water pipes.

The banks of the United States during the year 1894 lost over \$25,000,000 by theft.

"I don't think your arguments against Wagner are sound." "Well if they are not, that's where they differ from Wagner's music."