RECH MURDER MYSTERY

Strange Side Lights Thrown on the Case.

LOOKS BAD FOR THE HUSBAND.

A Strong Motive For the Crime Found. The Murdered Woman Had Willed Her Property to Their Child. Some Queer Facts Unearthed.

PHILADELPHIA, March 30.—John Rech, the Estellville, N. J., farmer, who was arrested in Bustleton, Pa., suspected of having murdered his wife, Elizabeth, at their home, was brought to police headquarters in this city and is held there pending investigation.

It has been learned that Mrs. Rech was none other than Bessie Weaver, whose troubles with her father and his housekeeper, afterwards her stepmother, gained wide publicity a dozen years ago.

She was the daughter of Dr. Martin Weaver, a wealthy but eccentric resident of Germantown, a suburb of this city. He died, leaving an estate of over $50,000 entirely to his second wife. Soon after his death, Bessie married William Heft of Germantown.

She had previously instituted proceedings to break her father's will, but subsequently compromised on an arrangement by which the income from the estate was divided between Bessie and her stepmother during the remainder of their lives. In 1887 Heft procured a divorce on statutory grounds and she soon afterward married Henry W. Bachman of this city. Bachman also obtained a divorce.

Rech was the third husband. He was then a saloon keeper in Gloucester.

Attorney C. W. Williams of the Philadelphia bar was trustee for the estate. He has thrown some interesting side lights on the tragedy. About two weeks ago, he said, Mrs. Rech came to his office. To his surprise she carried on her arm a boy baby, which she said was her own and that it was 7 months old. Mr. Williams did not question her statement at the time, but it set him thinking. He had seen Mrs. Rech on an average of once a month for the past year, and he failed to see how the baby could be hers. Upon the occasion of her last visit she told Mr. Williams that she had made up her mind to leave her husband because he treated her badly, and he noticed that two of her front teeth were missing.

Rech, it is said, made a confession to the police. The authorities refuse to reveal the details of the confession. It is asserted, however, that Rech says that the child mentioned is not the offspring of Elizabeth, but that it was obtained in this city six weeks ago through a newspaper advertisement. It is also claimed that the couple were not lawfully married, although a ceremony was gone through before a justice of the peace in Jersey City in May, 1895.

Rech is said to have confessed that he has a wife and daughter in Catasauqua, Pa., but whether she ever obtained divorce papers is not known. It is claimed that Rech and Elizabeth Weaver conspired to let him become the beneficiary under the will of her father in case of her death.

Under the terms of Dr. Weaver's will Elizabeth had between $30,000 and $50,000 left her in trust. Should she die without issue the money was to go to charity. The woman made a will leaving her inheritance to Rech in trust for their child. They had yet to obtain a child. When they appeared in Estellville she began to make it appear they had a child in this city. About six weeks ago they are said to have advertised for an infant 10 months old. One was obtained which is said to be the illegitimate offspring of a prominent society woman by a New York business man. With the child they returned to Estellville. Rech, after the death of the woman, came here Thursday night and Friday went to Fox Chase and on Saturday to Somerton, where he stopped at a hotel. He had previously left the child in Philadelphia in a "baby farm." On Saturday night he read of the discovery of the body and began trembling so that the hotel proprietor spoke to him. He admitted he was John Rech. He was then turned over to the police.

OLIVER PIKE'S BODY.

Identity of Chicago's Trunk Corpse Established Beyond a Doubt.

CHICAGO, March 30.—The body of the man found in a zinc box four days ago, and since awaiting identification at the county morgue, has been claimed as the body of Oliver Pike of Seattle, Wash.

Mrs. Theodore O. Moshier of Ravenswood called at the morgue and produced so many evidences that the body was that of Pike, who disappeared from Seattle over three years ago, that the morgue people were almost satisfied of the correctness of the identification. Pike's mother lives in Fayette, O.

Examination of the corpse showed that the teeth were all sound and in good condition, and contained no fillings whatever. This casts a decided doubt on the identification of the body as that of Chaseal, the Frenchman, who disappeared mysteriously from Salt Lake City.

Mrs. Booth-Tucker Ill.

NEW YORK, March 30.—Mrs. Booth-Tucker was too ill to be seen by any of the Salvation Army officers. She was confined to her bed at the residence of Staff Captain Keith, where she went soon after her arrival here. Mrs. Tucker is suffering from nervous prostration, brought on by her long and rough trip across the ocean. She will probably meet her brother, commander Ballington Booth, either at Montclair or at a hotel in this city tomorrow. Rev. T. G. Hallman, for years private secretary to Ballington Booth, will undoubtedly be present at this meeting.

Steamship Paris Again In Commission.

NEW YORK, March 30.—The American line steamship Paris arrived off Sandy Hook and dropped anchor, on account of the dense fog in the bay. She is returning from Newport News, where she had been in the drydock for the last four weeks, receiving her general spring overhauling, cleaning, painting and repairs to her engines. The Paris will leave here for Southampton on Wednesday in command of Captain Passow, formerly of the Red Star line steamship Kensington.

Bennett Entertains the Prince.

MONTE CARLO, March 30.—The Prince of Wales, attended by Hon. Seymour Fortescue, was James Gordon Bennett's guest on Saturday on board the latter's steam yacht Namouna.

(CONTINUED FROM 1st PAGE.)

which the witness testified he gave to Deal or his brother. Eldridge searched his pockets but found nothing more except a little change. He took the prisoner to the house; Deal could not be persuaded to take the prisoner to Auburn so Eldridge hired a man to take him to Cato. On the way to Cato Burgess talked freely. He said he got in the hay mow about 11 o'clock the night of the murder and had just come out of his hiding place. He went from the scene of the tragedy over what is known as Sand Hill to the railroad track and down that to the barn. He had intended to stay in the hay until after dark and then walk to Auburn and give himself up. He had, however, become so hungry that he had to come out and give himself up. When asked why he killed Whitlock, Burgess said, "I don't know."

He told the story of calling Mr. Whitlock and going with him to the bars. One bar was down and Burgess said that he went through first and as Whitlock stooped down to go through, "something told him to strike Whitlock and he basted him one."

Burgess was asked if he knew the consequence and he replied: "Yes, I suppose I will have to sit in the chair, but that won't take but a minute."

Burgess admitted to Coroner Eldridge that he carried the axe, having taken it from the wagon house.

When the clothing and axe were shown Mrs. Whitlock was so overcome that she had to leave the court room and did not return during the day.

On Friday Mrs. Adela A. Westover described the condition of Mrs. Whitlock when she arrived at her house the night of the murder, corroborating her husband's testimony. She said there were scratches on her throat, as if she had been choked, her face was bloody from scratches, her lips were blue and swolen, and it appeared to hurt her to swallow when she took a drink of water.

Mrs. Pelton, Mrs. Earl and others confirmed this testimony.

Peter L. Douglas, a brother-in-law of Mr. Whitlock, Benjamin Mott, a son-in-law, and others testified that they had examined the premises the morning after the murder. The cows were well, and there were no signs of their having been in the corn field.

Wm. H. Westover and Albert Douglas testified to having examined the prisoner's room about 2 o'clock on the night of the murder, and also Mr. and Mrs. Whitlock's room. The prisoner's bed had not been slept in, but in Mr. Whitlock's room the bed was very much disordered, the clothes being pushed back to the foot of the bed. The sheet was spotted with blood, some large, some small. They were situated near the foot of the bed, near the front side. There was also a wet spot about two feet from the foot of the bed and a foot from the front. It was about a foot in length.

Adelbert Deal testified as to the capture of Burgess, who had formerly been in his employ. He gave himself up and asked for something to eat and to be protected from the mob. After taking a drink Burgess gave witness his watch, telling him he might keep it for his own. The murderer also gave over his pocketbook containing a small amount of money and requested that the pocketbook be given to his mother. Burgess then produced the razor, saying at the same time, that he intended to cut his throat if mob violence was attempted.

Deal repeated some violent language which was used by Burgess during the interview on the hay loft. This somewhat astonished the spectators; Burgess for the only time during the day looked up and laughed outright and was joined by those present.

Coroner Eldridge was recalled and corroborated some of Mr. Deal's testimony, after which court adjourned until Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

Yesterday morning court met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order at 10 o'clock. Adelbert Deal was recalled by the District Attorney. He testified that there was 10 or 12 tons of hay in the mow. It was new and had been put in about the 20th of July. The barn was boarded up and down, and the boards had shrunk so that there was cracks about half an inch wide between. Burgess' hiding place was about four feet from the side of the barn.

Floyd Wetherby was next called. In August last was a constable in Cato, saw Burgess on the 8th of August in company with Dr. Eldridge. Burgess was transferred to him with directions to carry him to Auburn and deliver him at the jail. Mr. McCarthy and a stranger came with them. Arrived at the jail about 12 o'clock. Talked with Burgess on general topics and the people he had worked for, and the killing of Whitlock. He said Whitlock had always been good to him, and he didn't know why he killed him. Cross examination elicited nothing new.

Don Mylerean heard of the killing of Whitlock the morning of the 7th of August, lived about two miles from there. Went to Deal's as soon as he heard the news at request of Dr. Chappell taking Constable Hendricks and a Mr. Peckham to search for Burgess. Arrived there about 6 o'clock. Went into the barn, meeting Mr. Deal. They examined the barn, going over the hay and looking into all corners but found no one there. They then went to Ira station and one of the party went to Cato to see if Burgess should take a train. Saw no traces of Burgess.

Westlake Hendricks called. Was a constable of the town of Sterling living at Martville. Was notified of the murder about 5 o'clock, the morning after, and joined in the search. Nothing new developed.

Dr. Chappell recalled. Searched for the young cattle and found them on the west side of the road back of the barn.

Hosea Blanchard lived about half a mile from Whitlock's. Went there about 6 o'clock the morning after the murder. Saw the cattle in the lot west of the house—they were all right.

Homer Blanchard of North Victory lived near Stumm's mill. Testified to the location of all the dwellings near Whitlock's. The nearest inhabited dweeling was Mr. Segar's, about 90 rods away.

Melvin Douglas, was a brother-in-law of Whitlock's, learned of the murder at 5 o'clock the next morning. Went there, arriving about 8 o'clock. Had made measurements to different points, and gave them. Had seen Mr. Whitlock frequently not long before the murder, had been to Whitlock's, but did not remember having seen Burgess at that time.

Leon Adle went to Whitlock's the night of the murder; saw the cattle in a lane north of the barn feeding; they came into the barn yard soon after. Took care of the cows about a week after. They were healthy and in good condition.

Asenath Douglas, wife of Melvin Douglas, went with her husband to the Whitlock house about 7:30 the morning after the murder. About 10 o'clock she made the beds in the house. Described the furniture in the room occupied by the Whitlocks; the bed was badly disarranged, with spots of blood on the sheets, and a spot on a pillow case. Was an intimate friend of Mrs. Whitlock, and cared for her during the day. Her eyes were bloodshot, her lips and her neck swollen so badly that her dress could not be fastened without hurting her; she could not talk plain and strangled when she attempted to swallow.

Anna Strong, a niece of Mrs. Whitlock, went to her home on the 9th of August; found her aunt in care of Miss Kyle. Her aunt was nervous, crying frequently and making meaningless motions; her wrists and neck were bruised black and blue; her shoulder was bruised, a spot about four or five inches being red and sore; could not talk plain.

Iva Kyle resided near the Whitlocks and was an intimate friend for nine years. Mrs. Whitlock had a clear, pleasant voice, and was a good singer. She could hardly be understood that day. The home life of the Whitlocks was a happy one, she never having heard any disagreement between them, and they appeared very fond of each other—Mr. Whitlock almost always taking his wife with him when he went from home. Heard of the murder in Hannibal the morning after and went there in the afternoon. Described Mrs. Whitlock's condition, corroborating the testimony of previous witnesses as to her physical and nervous condition; her arms were badly bruised between the elbow and the shoulder; also a bad bruise on the leg between the knee and hip; her knee was lame and she would groan when she moved it.

Mrs. Pelton, recalled, testified that when she examined the room she found the usual underclothing of a lady on the floor, somewhat scattered.

At 12:25 the court took a recess until 2 P. M.

—George Green, a shiftless farmer near East Homer, had five cows, three calves and three horses at the beginning of winter. He was short of fodder for them and allowed the poor beasts to die of starvation. When the facts in the case became known an officer was dispatched to investigate. Cows too weak to rise lay bellowing for food, living skeletons of horses were gnawing at the mangers and not a mouthful of food on the premises was to be found. Green was promptly arrested and is at present lodged in the county jail.

—The kiln of C. M. Warner's malt house, the largest building in Clyde, was badly damaged by fire last Tuesday morning. The flames started in the cupola, 65 feet from the ground, rendering it almost impossible for the firemen to reach it with the hose. The building contained 100,000 bushels of barley and malt. Insured for $50,000.

—The P. O. department at Washington are on the track of parties in Seneca Falls engaged in the unlawful occupation of cleaning and selling cancelled postage stamps. The work is reported to be skilfully performed and to defy detection, except by an expert.

MARRIED.

DENMAN—HAYES—In this city, March 25, Anna Hayes to William John Denman, both of Aurelius.

SMITH—INGRAM—In this city, March 25, William Henry Smith and Adele D. Ingram both of Union Springs.

DIED.

BREEN—In Port Byron, March 20, Caroline Breen, in her 43d year.

BREEZE—In this city, March 25, Ethel L., only child of LeRoy A. and Margaret Breeze, aged 1 year, 4 months, 8 days.

DAY—In Union Springs, March 21, Horatio Day, aged 82 years, 10 months and 19 days.

GREEN—In this city, March 25, Elizabeth Ann, widow of the late Henry P. Green.

LITTLE—In this city, March 29, William John, infant son of William and Delia Little.

LYONS—In this city, March 27, Mary A., daughter of Catherine and the late Michael Lyons, aged 17 years, 11 months, 6 days.

PICKEN—In Genoa, March 25, Mrs. George Picken, aged nearly 89 years.

SPRAGUE—In Poplar Ridge, March 27, Catherine, widow of the late Captain Wm. Sprague, aged 90 years, 4 months and 8 days.

WALLACE—In Auburn, March 25, James Wallace, aged 58 years.

WOOD—In Brutus, March 22d, Mrs. Juliane Wood, aged 84 years.

WOODHULL—In this city, March 29, James Woodhull, aged 31 years, 7 months &

Much in Little

Is especially true of Hood's Pills, for no medicine ever contained so great curative power in so small space. They are a whole medicine chest, always ready, always efficient, always satisfactory, prevent a cold or fever, cure all liver ills, sick headache, jaundice, constipation, etc. 25c. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hood's Pills

—Two little Ithaca girls were having a make believe wedding one day last week, with tea, cake, etc. As there was a preacher in the house at the time one of the family asked the oldest girls why she did not ask him to perform the ceremony. "Well," she said, "I guess we we will get along. I am afraid if we had him he would eat up all our cake." As the preacher was her brother, she knew pretty well what she was talking about.—*Ithacan.*

HERE IS THE

CRESENT AT $50

We Guarantee Them,

—AT—

EDWARD LEONARD'S,

90 Genesee Street.

FOR SALE,

TO CLOSE THE

Estate of Lyman Soule

House & Lot No 68 Lewis St
do. 74 Perrine,
do. 62 Fulton;
do. 66 Lansing,
do. 10 Mattie;
do. 12 do.
do. 61 S. Division;
Vacant Lot, on Willey Street;
Farm in Montezuma, 78 acres;
Farm in Hannibal, Oswego Co., 119 acres.
Farm in Conquest, 50 acres;
Farm near Aurora, 130 acres;
Farm near City limits, on South Division, 140 acres;
345 acres of Wild Land in Jefferson Co., near Carthage;
The R. J. Myers Hotel at North Fair Haven.

This entire property is offered at a price that should find ready purchasers, as the estate must be closed quickly.

Enquire of

Howard Soule, Ext'r, 828 James St., Syracuse;

Geo. S. Everts, Ext'r, 68 Clark St., Auburn;

Silas A. Wright, Ext'r, Skaneateles, N. Y.,

or E. S. Newton, Auburn, N. Y.

Watches & Jewelry.

SPECTACLES, &c.

Fine Watch Repairing a Specialty

AT

A. H. ROSE'S,

40 State-st., Auburn.

GET THE BEST

When you are about to buy a Sewing Machine do not be deceived by alluring advertisements and be led to think you can get the best made, finest finished and

Most Popular

for a mere song. See to it that you buy from reliable manufacturers that have gained a reputation by honest and square dealing, you will then get a Sewing Machine that is noted the world over for its durability. You want the one that is easiest to manage and is

Light Running

There is none in the world that can equal in mechanical construction, durability of working parts, fineness of finish, beauty in appearance, or has as many improvements as the

NEW HOME

It has Automatic Tension, Double Feed, alike on both sides of needle (*patented*), no other has it; New Stand (*patented*), driving wheel hinged on adjustable centers, thus reducing friction to the minimum.

WRITE FOR CIRCULARS.

THE NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE CO.

ORANGE, MASS. BOSTON, MASS. 30 UNION SQUARE, N. Y. CHICAGO, ILL. ST. LOUIS, MO. DALLAS, TEXAS. SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. ATLANTA, GA.

FOR SALE BY

SCRANTON COAL

1868. 1896

TRY OUR COAL—IT CANNOT BE EXCELLED.

Stove Nut and Egg, per ton in yard		$4 80
Grate	"	4 35
No 2 Nut	"	2 80
Threshing Coal, all lump	"	2 50
Also Blacksmith's Coal	"	3 60

Best grades of Semi-Bituminous Coal for Steam and Blacksmith's use, and Cannel Coal for Parlor Grates.

MANRO & HUGG

Corner State and Water Sts

Auburn.

M. C. WEIR,

39 Water St., Auburn.

STEAM - DYEING

AND

Cleaning Works

All Work promptly attended to in the best manner at Moderate Prices.

WINTER

OVERCOATS

AND

ULSTERS

Sold at an EXTRA DISCOUNT for the balance of the Season.

BARKER, GRISWOLD & Co.,

Clothiers and Furnishers,

87 & 89 Genesee St.,

AUBURN.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SELECT A GOOD

LAMP.

Our Stock is New and Prices are Very Low.

How about Tin Ware?

Large Stock, Low Prices.

GILLESPIE & CO,

131 GENESEE STREET, AUBURN

CHOATE & BRO.

---Before purchasing please call and examine our---

Oil & Gasoline Ranges

They are fully warranted to give satisfaction, and are of the best Goods on the market. We carry a full line of the best make of

REFRIGERATORS & ICE CREAM FREEZERS.

Also a full line of

Shelf Hardware, Nails, Barb Wire, Dynamite, Brooklyn Lead, Boiled Oil, &c., &c.

A Full line of Happy Thought Ranges

FURNITURE,

Carpets, Mattings, Oil Cloths,

Shades, Drapery, etc.

Anything in the House Furnishing Line at Prices to meet all Competition at

W. T. ZINK'S

Flat-Iron Block, Junction Dill and Water-Sts., Auburn

Repairing and Upholstering a Specialty.

LIEBIG COMPANY'S

EXTRACT OF BEEF.

The great chemist, Justus von Liebig, made the first scientific effort to produce Extract of Beef. He succeeded and gave his name and endorsement to Liebig COMPANY'S Extract of Beef. All others have come since and are practically imitations, inferior to the great original.

This is Justus von Liebig's signature

J. Liebig

In blue on every genuine jar.

The first in the field and still unrivalled.

Perfect clearness and purity. No added salts nor adulterations.

'THRIFT IS A GOOD REVENUE" GREAT SAVING RESULTS FROM CLEANLINESS AND

SAPOLIO

PDF compression, OCR, web-optimization with CVISION's PdfCompressor