

THE CULPRIT?

By SALLY MENDUM.

Copyright, 1910, by American Press Association.

All Petersburg was ringing with the murder of Tim Slaughter, an old man who lived alone in his cottage on the outskirts of the town. Miller, head of a detective firm in the city twenty miles distant, was called for by the town authorities. He went up, looked the matter over, came to an agreement with the mayor and promised to put some one on the case immediately. He was taking his supper in a private room in a restaurant when the door opened and a man of rather seamy appearance entered.

"Mr. Miller, I believe," said the new comer. "I am What can I do for you?" "I was in the detective business once, and I'm trying to get into it again. I'd like to take hold of this Slaughter case."

The seamy individual pulled a letter from his pocket and handed it to the detective to read. It was a certificate from a detective firm that Joel Zimmerman had worked for it and done good service. Miller's bargain with the mayor had been largely contingent upon tracking and capturing the murderer, a not very profitable way to do business. It occurred to him that if he could get this person cheap he would let him work for awhile—at least long enough to make some development. Besides, the man told him that he suspected a certain person and would look for a clue in that direction. He felt so confident in the matter that he offered to work without pay unless he made a valuable discovery, but stipulated that he should have the field to himself. No other detective should be put on the case. On these terms Mr. Miller engaged him and went back to the city to attend to other matters that promised more certain results.

Joe Avery, a nephew of the murdered man, lived in Petersburg a much respected young man with a very nice wife and two very pretty children. One day while walking on the street he picked up a ten dollar bill. He was in hard luck at the time and very much delighted at his find. The bill was partly spent for meat at a butcher shop. The same afternoon Avery was arrested for the murder of his uncle on information furnished by Zimmerman. The detective produced a list of bills, giving their numbers that he said he had found in an unused chimney in the murdered man's house. The list was supposed to refer to \$7,000 that the old man kept there. The story was that the money had been taken by the murderer, who had unwittingly left the list.

Every body in the town was surprised at Avery's arrest and no one at first believed him guilty. It was not supposed that his uncle had any money and if he had the murderer was the only one who could have known it. There was a strong case of circumstantial evidence against Avery but it was weakened by Zimmerman himself who under cross examination contradicted himself as to how, where and when he had found the list. Experts disagreed whether it was or was not in the handwriting of Slaughter. By throwing doubt upon this evidence the prisoner's attorney saved his client from a verdict of guilty. The jury did agree but in order to avoid the expense of another trial brought in a verdict of not guilty.

Avery had no doubt that he had been made the victim of a plot and as soon as he gained his liberty set about a bit of detective work to discover the author. The first fact he noticed was that with the acquittal the case was dropped. The authorities believed that the murderer had been discovered, but that his acquittal was a case of "not proved" rather than "not guilty." The detective who worked up the case against him had dropped the matter and was now working for the Miller detective agency that had employed him. Indeed, every one seemed satisfied to let the matter rest except the man who had narrowly escaped the gallows and was in consequence living under the ban of being a murderer. These were the reasons that induced Avery to take up the case on his own account.

Every man up his mind that his uncle had been a hoarder. Indeed, he remembered certain incidents to indicate that such was the case. Some one had discovered that the old man had money in his possession and had robbed and murdered him to get possession of it. If his uncle had saved money possibly he might have had something to do with some bank. He sent out a circular letter to all the banks in the state asking if Timothy Slaughter had any deposits there. Seven savings banks replied that bank books to the aggregate amount of \$200,000 had been issued to one Timothy J. Slaughter. Avery did not suppose that his uncle had a middle name, but searched the family records and found that he had. It was John. Avery was astounded. He was also delighted—delighted for two reasons. First, he was his uncle's least heir and would be rich, second, his uncle had undoubtedly had some money in his house and had been robbed as well as murdered. Could he find this robber he would be exonerated and rich. He first took steps to secure his uncle's fortune, then offered \$25,000 reward for the murderer.

What had happened? He had been arrested for the murder of his uncle on information furnished by Zimmerman. The detective produced a list of bills, giving their numbers that he said he had found in an unused chimney in the murdered man's house. The list was supposed to refer to \$7,000 that the old man kept there. The story was that the money had been taken by the murderer, who had unwittingly left the list.

When Curates Were Wanted. When one learns that curates are in creating so much more rapidly than benefices, wonder is excited as to the condition of affairs in the eighteenth century, when enterprising ladies of forced livings to clergy men willing to marry them. An advertisement to this effect appeared in the London Chronicle in March, 1758. The lady was rather particular too. The curate was to be young, have a small fortune, be well recommended as to morals and good temper and be firmly attached to the present happy establishment. The living was not rich below 1000 per annum, but the fair one was young and agreeable. There seems a touch of humility in the direction that an avers, "may be left at the bar of the Union Coffee House Strand directed to Z. Z." Confidence was created by the assurance that the utmost secrecy and honor may be depended upon. London Chronicle.

England's Old Common Field System. A common field is quite distinct from a common. It is a field belonging to numerous owners. The land consists of long narrow strips, perhaps not more than ten yards wide and running parallel with one another. What are the exact rules of cultivation that obtain in Kent today we do not know, but of old it was usual to have a regular rotation, such as wheat one year, barley or oats the second and fallow the third. When the crops were harvested, each member of the community, getting his or her share, all could put in their cattle, which roamed over the whole field, feeding on the stubble, etc. And this was termed the "right of sack." The "common field" system was gradually done away with by statutes in the reigns of George III. and William IV.—London Express.

A Famous Temple. The most magnificent work of architecture in the world is the Taj Mahal, in Agra, Hindustan. It was erected by Shah Jehan to the memory of his favorite queen. It is octagonal in form, of pure white marble, inlaid with jasper, carnelian, turquoise, agate, amethyst and sapphires. The work took 22,000 men twenty years to complete, and, though there were free gifts and the labor was free, the cost is estimated at \$16,000,000.—Exchange.

Real Good Steak. "We can't eat this steak; it's not good!" complained a young man who was spending his honeymoon in a Scottish village. "Ye're surely joking, sir," said the landlord of the inn. "It maun indeed be good. It's a bit of the minister's auld coo?"

Higher. "But our ideals?" "What of them?" "Are they higher than they were a generation ago?" "Sure. Everything is higher now."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

His Blunder. "How did you enjoy the musicale?" "Oh, I applauded at the wrong time, as usual; though the orchestra tuning up was a classical number."—Kansas City Journal.

Easily Timed. Read—Have you ever timed your automobile? Greener—Oh, yes! It stood perfectly still for forty-eight minutes on the road today.

VACANT PEW PROBLEM.

Indiana Man Has Given a Practical Hint of Solution.

Indiana land of novelties, poet philosophers and much else that is good and great is again the highlight. A wealthy farmer there has presented his plan for a vacant pew at \$125 a year because he made his estimate and to the point. Here is a thought for those who are as well as those behind. The presence of this land is equal to a salary. There is no doubt that the Hoosier State has done many things to be proud of. She may be a means of solving the vacant pew problem by taking a leap up to a more satisfactory elevation. Not exactly the way, but rather the longer the road to the goal. Let her people and her farmer at the same time.

A "Mite". The difficulties experienced by the state in trying to raise money very small proportions appear in the case of a mite. The mite is a small insect, but its power of arithmetic is so great that it seems to have a third of a British penny, but because of the word for the widows of the New Testament made it a mite. The mite is a small insect, but its power of arithmetic is so great that it seems to have a third of a British penny, but because of the word for the widows of the New Testament made it a mite.

A Dear Just Misses Revenge. When a man is a member of a club and has a thrilling escape from a den of thieves the other day he was rescued by a mite. The mite is a small insect, but its power of arithmetic is so great that it seems to have a third of a British penny, but because of the word for the widows of the New Testament made it a mite.

Very Steep Railway. A railway line is being built in the state of Indiana. The railway is very steep and is being built in the state of Indiana. The railway is very steep and is being built in the state of Indiana.

Many Were in the Same Boat. A group of people were in the same boat. They were in the same boat and were in the same boat. They were in the same boat and were in the same boat.

In Chicago, of Course. A mother hid her \$1,500 worth of jewels in her little daughter's slipper. She forgot all about it and the next day rew the slipper into the garbage can. Of course, it happened in Chicago, says the New York Herald. Where else would a child's slipper hold all those gems?

Peter Thom's Thistle. Peter Thom, a man with a Scotch thistle in his coat, which was a very tall one, was in a height of indignation when he saw a man who was a member of the same club as he was. He was a member of the same club as he was.

Reduced. "Old Judge worth died at an advanced age, didn't he?" "On the contrary, he died at a greatly reduced age. He was really twenty years older than he said he was."—Chicago News.

The Penalty. Jinks—How much do you think a minister ought to get for marrying a couple? Philips—Well, if wholly unacquainted with them, perhaps he might be let off with six months.

His Way of Putting It. Sillicus—Do you believe there is honor among thieves? Cynicus—No; they are just as bad as other people. Philadelphia Record.

A Queer Ornament.

Some years ago we found in a secret drawer of a pearl embroidered work-box three locks of hair fastened to small enamel heart shaped mounts, with silver ejelets. Two were inscribed "R. Cabot 19th April 1664." "R. C. 1664." The third had no inscription at all. In this box I now keep an engraving of a portrait of Elizabeth queen of Bohemia, which plainly shows the curl of hair in her left ear attached to a pearl earring. The painting by Gerard Houbront, was engraved by G. Vertue.

When I showed these hair earrings to a gentleman of some considerable learning he informed me that an uncle of Anne, wife of King James I. was afflicted by a malady, still prevalent in Poland and some parts of Russia, which consists of a growth of hair and flesh pendulous from the ear on which it is dangerous to operate owing to the profuse hemorrhage which ensues. He added that in consequence of this royal infirmity a fashion arose in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries of wearing locks of hair pendulous from the left ear. I believe there is a portrait of a Stuart lady still at Ham House so adorned—London Notes and Queries.

The Pilot Fish. A little fish about which many interesting facts cluster is the pilot fish. Arizan tells us that pilot fishes were supposed to be kindly disposed toward sailors and therefore liked to approach ships which they continued with and guided until they reached land. They were deemed sacred to Neptune, the god of the ocean who protected them from designed injury consequently a man who had ventured to eat one soon afterward lost his son by drowning. Apollo was said to have changed a fisherman named Pomplius, who had crossed him in his loves, into a pilot fish and condemned him for all eternity to the task of gratuitous piloting. He is also said to be a pilot of sharks and is said to warn the latter away from baited hooks and other dangers and lead them to food. There really does exist a strange bond of friendship between the huge shark and this little member of the mackerel family which are often to be seen traveling together although the pilot fish's supposed care to warn his companion of impending danger and to provide food for it is a fallacy pure and simple.

An English Election Trick. Corruption in elections in England took many curious forms in olden days but there have been few more ingenious plans for securing the election of the desired candidate than that practiced at Seaford in 1790. It was doubtful which way the polling would go unless a reviving officer could be found willing to pass some twenty six persons who still wanted seventeen days to complete the six months' rest deemed required by law. Accordingly it was arranged that the candidate should insist on all the six votes demanded by statute being administered to each voter individually and this together with the time spent in dealing with every frivolous objection raised by counsel made it impossible to poll more than four votes a day so that the twenty six were duly qualified by the time their turn came to vote.

The Tramp's Reason. The old-fashioned rascal of San Jose the famous detective whose best feat was the capture of canon Bernard after a chase from Alaska to Cape Horn used to impute his success to his knowledge of men. "A detective," he would say, "should know the habits of every class. Then no disguise can deceive him. All men even the most unmethodical, have their habits. Even the tramp has his. 'You great big lazy loafer; I said to a tramp one December day, 'you ought to be in jail!'" "Yes, Algie," the tramp replied as he pretended to fix a monocle in his eye. "Yes, I know it's the correct thing for our set at this season, Algie, but, George take it, it's such a mild winter, don't you know."—Kansas City Star.

An Indirect Hit. A patient who was suffering from a scalp wound was recently admitted to a hospital. "How did this happen?" asked the resident surgeon. "The wife hit me on the head with a stone," was the answer. "It's the first time I ever heard of a woman hitting anything she aimed at," the doctor observed jokingly. "Oh, she didn't aim it at me! She was throwing the stone at our neighbor's fowls, and I was standing behind her!"—London Graphic.

What a Change! "He used to kiss me every time we passed through a tunnel before our marriage," said the little woman, with sad reflections. "And does he do so now?" asked the bosom friend. "No; he takes a drink."—Brooklyn Eagle.

Reduced. "Old Judge worth died at an advanced age, didn't he?" "On the contrary, he died at a greatly reduced age. He was really twenty years older than he said he was."—Chicago News.

The Penalty. Jinks—How much do you think a minister ought to get for marrying a couple? Philips—Well, if wholly unacquainted with them, perhaps he might be let off with six months.

His Way of Putting It. Sillicus—Do you believe there is honor among thieves? Cynicus—No; they are just as bad as other people. Philadelphia Record.



Vaughan Glaser

1910 Calendars. Showing all the Catholic Feast and Fast Days of the Year. One of these Calendars should be in Every Catholic Home. beautiful Religious Designs 10c, 15c and 25c. Sent anywhere postpaid. FRANK J STUPP 37 CLINTON AVENUE NORTH.

Special to our Readers: A \$6.00 offer for \$1.98

For a limited time we will supply our readers with a Crayon Portrait, size 16 x 20 valued at \$5.00 and the Catholic Journal for one year for \$1.98 as above stated. We have made arrangements with a large picture firm to do this work for us and the pictures which are hand made by the artists will be a first class reproduction of the original.

Directions for securing this offer. Mail us your Photos securely wrapped with card board each side as picture and the amount by money order. Out of town orders will be charged 50c additional to pay for packing and return charges.

H.B. GRAVES CROCKERY DEPARTMENT A COMPLETE CROCKERY STORE. Dinner Sets, Tea Sets, Toilet Sets, Cake Plates, Chop Trays, Colory Trays, Salads, Hair-Receiver, Omelette, Chocolate Sets, Sugars and Creams, Cups and Saucers, Comb Trays, Bread and Milk Sets, Cracker Jars. Are you posted as to the wide assortment and remarkable values offered in our Crockery Department? French China, English Ware, American and German China, Japanese Ware and the products of the most progressive American factories. 77 Patterns of Glass Sets, \$5.00 to \$200.00. 27 Open Stock Dinner Set Patterns. LOW PLAIN FIGURE PRICES. H.B. GRAVES. PHONES FURNISHED. 75 STATE ST. ROCHESTER, N.Y.

John H. McAnarney (Successor to O'Hara & McAnarney.) Fire, Plate Glass, Boiler and Elevator Insurance. Fidelity Bonds for Agents, Contractors, Executors, Freight, Plumbers and all kinds of Bond and Security Bonds. Offices—101 and 102 E. Water & Ferry Bldg. Entrance 39 State St.

JOHN F. MOLONEY 155 BROWN STREET Dry Goods and Notions. Men's and Boy's Underwear from 50c to \$2 a Suit. Hosiery 10c to 25c cotton, wool and cashmere. Ladies and Children's underwear, 30c to \$2 a Suit. Baby bonnets, boys sweaters, mufflers, tams, gloves, mitts, scarves. Bell Phone 1748-L Main.

ROCHESTER