

DAILY REPORTER.

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The Daily Reporter.

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WEEKLY REPORTER.

Sixteenth Year of Publication.

McMINNVILLE - OREGON

D. C. IRELAND. E. L. E. WHITE.
D. C. IRELAND & Co.,
PUBLISHERS.

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The Detectives Story.

Detective A. B. Singleton, who was sent to Lafayette by Chief Parrish to ferret out the murderer of D. I. Corker has returned to Portland, his work accomplished. Soon after Mr. Singleton's arrival at Lafayette, Marble, the man now under arrest and charged with the crime, came to him with the statement that he was a detective and offering his services. Marple said that he was a member of the Eureka detective association of West Virginia and also a member of the secret service bureau, Walnut street, Cincinnati. Marple, in order to throw the Portland detective off his scent, wanted to fasten suspicion upon Burt Eastman, a 20-year old boy, raised in Lafayette. His hypothesis was based upon the fact that fresh boot or shoe tracks led from the window of Corker's house, where the murderer had made his entrance and exit, to the barn in which Eastman was stopping. Marple's officiousness and anxiety soon aroused Singleton's suspicions and he told him that he would use his own judgment in the matter; he wanted no more suggestions. Upon being snubbed in this summary manner Marple went to the sheriff and said: "That old s—of—a—b— they sent here from Portland has no sense, he's on the wrong track, better send him back." The sheriff communicated this fact to Singleton, who grew more and more suspicious of Marple as he thought over the spontaneous offer of his services, and he suggested to the sheriff that no harm could result from making a search of the house occupied by Marple, his wife and mother, and the suggestion was practically carried out. When the officers entered the house Marple was at home; he gave them permission to search the house and said that he would stop with the women while they made their investigation. Singleton remarked, "No, you better go with the sheriff and I'll stop with the women." In the absence of the two men the detective's eyes were searchingly engaged, and his alertness was rewarded by the finding of a chisel lying on the mantle-piece, which he picked up. Upon the re-entrance to the room of the sheriff and Marple, the latter seeing the chisel in the detective's hand, voluntarily remarked: "I've been using that chisel," to which Mr. Singleton responded: "Yes, I see you have." Subsequent investigation proved that the chisel fitted exactly in the marks in the window sash out of which the glass had been pried to effect an entrance for the murderer. While engaged in further conversation with Marple, the detective observed what he supposed to be a spot of blood on the shoulder of the former's coat. Mr. Singleton ordered him to divest himself of the coat, and upon examination a large quantity of blood was found on the lower

portion of the right sleeve. Obeying further orders he took off his vest, which, together with the shirt, were found to be covered with blood. At a moment's notice he failed to explain away this horrible evidence against him. In the left hand pocket of the coat blood also was found, as if a bloody hand had been placed into it. From one of the pockets of his pants a small bit of newspaper, besmeared with blood, was taken. Further on Marple's foot wear was measured with the imprint on the clean clothing in Corker's room stepped upon by the assassin, and the tracks in the street, and it fitted like a glove. The circumstantial proof against him was convincing and so overwhelming that the officers considered themselves justified in arresting Marple, against whom a charge of murder was booked. The evening of his arrest the sheriff spoke to Marple through a wicket leading into his cell and said: "The old man has picked up something in the room of the murdered man as evidence against you." To which Marple absently retorted: "There wasn't anything unless one or two things—" then suddenly pulling himself together, he found that was committing himself, and ineffectually tried to explain his thoughtless observation away. During the same interview Marple said: "That old man is going to try to scare me; he will make me believe that he is Corker's ghost. If I had a chance I could make him look like Corker in fifteen minutes." Whenever the detective approached Marple after his arrest he would tremble like an aspen leaf. He regarded him with a look and feeling of horror. The report that a quantity of jewelry, supposed to have been the property of Emma Merlotin, murdered in Portland about a year ago, was found in his possession, is untrue. In regard to lynching the culprit, we endorse the Telegram, that it is not likely that such rash measures will prevail in a locality where honest men have ever been found to pass upon the guilt of criminals and competent officers to carry out the decrees of the law. Rashness that would be in a manner excusable in a community where slack administration of justice had long been the rule would be inexcusable in steady old Yamhill.

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