

THE MURDER *of* WILLIAM K. DEAN



A **Dean Murder** exhibit by the Jaffrey Historical Society
August 10 - September 7, 2018 • Jaffrey Civic Center



INTRODUCTION



THERE never has been a more remarkable homicide in New England. It has all the dramatic elements of a play or novel. Occurring in the most critical period of World War I, with a background of rugged New England scenery and characters, the picturesque hills flashing signals day and night, the whole countryside alarmed, armed posses of indignant citizens beating the bush in vain, several near-captures, and women of wealth and culture of the fashionable mountain colony taking active part in the spy hunt, so active that they were shadowed and actually feared for their lives; squads of secret service men and soldiers from Camp Devens joining in the chase, and reports of disloyal soldiers in American uniforms conferring with German spy suspects in mountain retreats and at Camp Devens...supplied types, situations, color and plot sufficient to delight the most ardent author or playwright.

—Bert Ford, *The Dean Murder Mystery*

THOSE are just a few of the elements associated with Jaffrey's Dean Murder Mystery. Add a few more such as Masonic conspiracies, Catholic vs. Protestant, Yankee vs. French Canadian, Rich vs. Poor, bizarre & weird characters, et al.

This exhibit touches upon some of this but leaves much unexplored and left for another time.

MUCH of what appears here has its source in a paper written by Mark Bean, on Bert Ford's *The Dean Murder Mystery*, on Margaret Bean's *Hearing by the Grand Jury on the Death of William K. Dean* and the chapter by Alice Lehtinen devoted to the Dean Murder in Vol. III of the Jaffrey Town History. All these and much more may be found at www.deanmurder.org

imals" on Aug. 30.

You do not have to post a photo on the MHS Summer Pet Tribute Wall to participate in the drawing, but you will need to provide the artist with an image by July 15. Artist contact information will be available for direct follow up.

The following artists currently displaying their work in the exhibit will be offering a custom portrait to the person whose name is drawn (one per artist): Carol Laughner; Robert Seaman; and Kate O'Dell.

The drawings will be completed by Aug. 28, and will be

to be announced.

The First Friday "Art for Animals" reception includes appetizers and drinks, and live entertainment.

Artists participating in the exhibit are donating a portion of proceeds from the sale to the care of the animals of.

Many of the artists will be at the reception to meet and greet our guests.

The exhibit takes place in the Gallery in the Offices at Depot Square in Peterborough from Friday through Aug. 30. Hours are Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Through discussion and video examples of today's best participants basic element son narrative

The works participants not develop their own personal stories, but also lay the groundwork for essays and other creative endeavors. In addition, these storytelling fundamentals can be applied in a business context.



DUBLIN

Samuel Moore art re

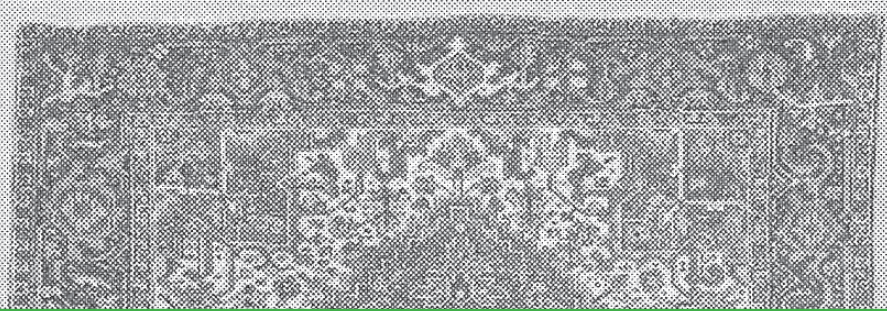
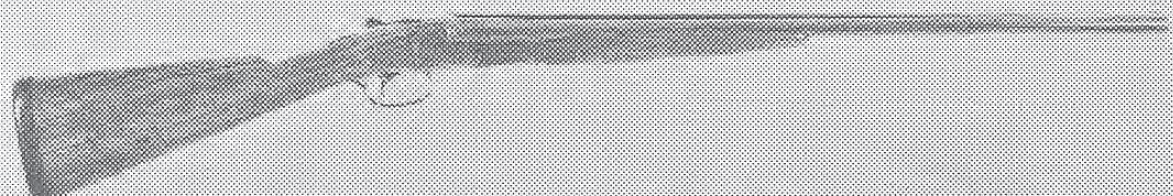
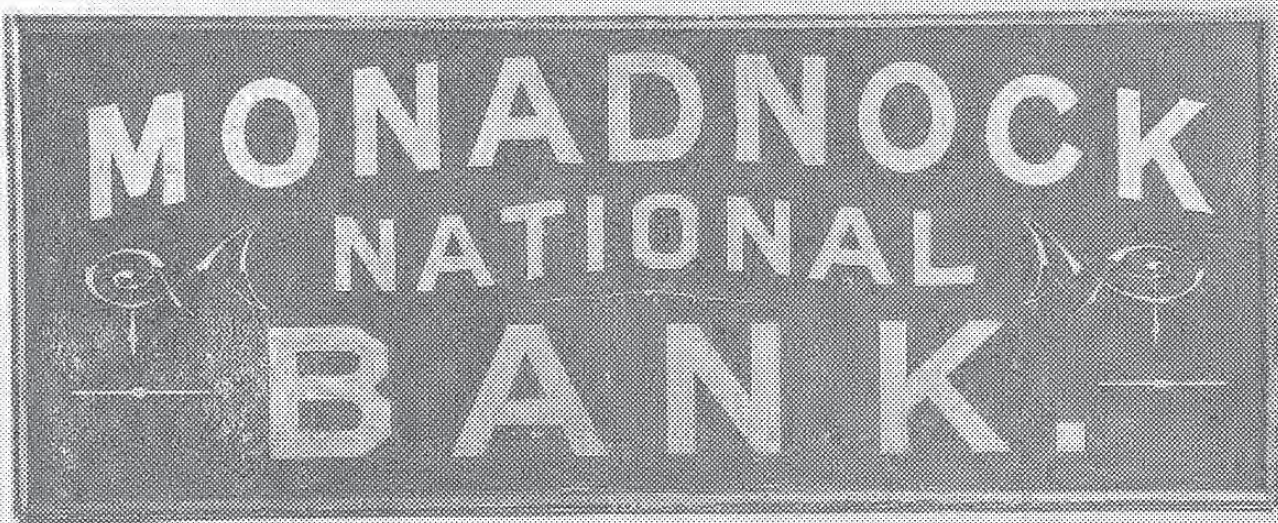
Student artist Samuel Moore at the Dublin Community Cent

The opening reception is on p.m.

Samuel has studied fine art and Massachusetts College of Samuel is working to move to painting. Inspired by modern p Freud and Andrew Wyeth, Sam bachelors degree as a painting DubHub is open on Mondays a to 4 p.m.

A Semester at Keene is a vis year spent as a Keene State Co centers specifically on the cour the year as a Studio Arts major ments gives an inside look at th as connecting the viewer to wh and as an artist. The year facili life. This show is his way of lett experience it with him.

The basis for this exhibit is the 'teaser' advertisements that appeared in the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript from April 12th through July 31st. These were designed to spark interest in the centenary of the murder: August 13, 1918 - August 13, 2018. They are presented and elaborated upon here.



Question: Who was his childhood royal playmate?



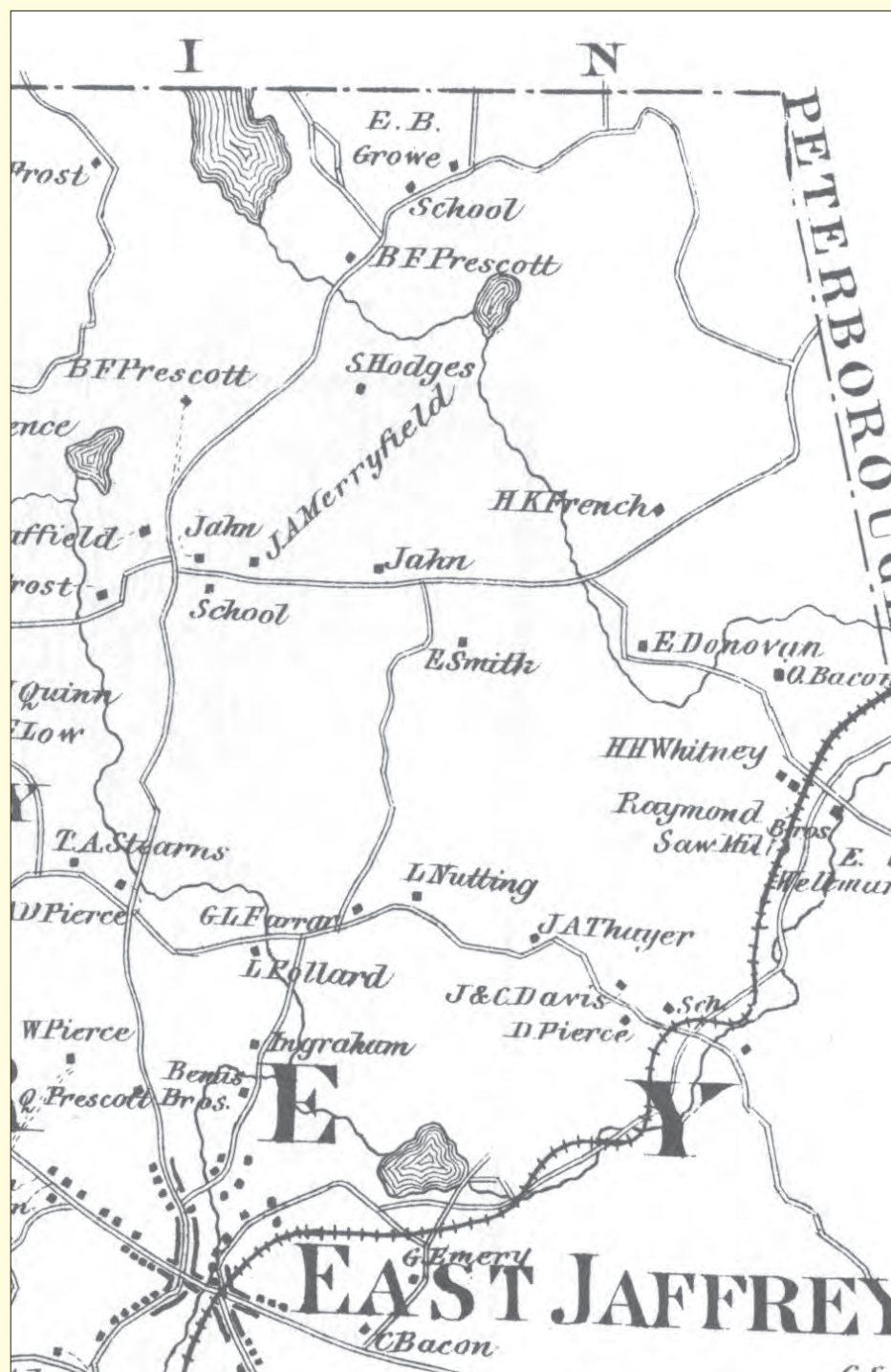
Answer: The Prince of Siam

WILLIAM DEAN was born on February 12, 1855, in Wilmington, Delaware. His father, "...the **Rev. William Dean**, was one of the first American missionaries to China. In 1860 he moved to Siam with his family and there became closely associated with the king of Siam. His son, William, then a lad of five years, became a playmate of the Prince of Siam. Returning to the United States, he was educated by his uncle, **Dr. Henry Dean** of Rochester, New York, and while still a medical student he was placed in charge of the Rochester Hospital. This is the boyhood and youth story in brief of the man who later met such a tragic fate in Jaffrey."

"In 1889 he bought the former **Elijah Smith** farm. His wife was his cousin, **Mary Dean**...In Jaffrey he was highly respected as a man of culture and refinement and a good neighbor, virtues which his wife shared with him." 🍷



Dr. Dean at age 30.



Atlas of Cheshire County, 1877.



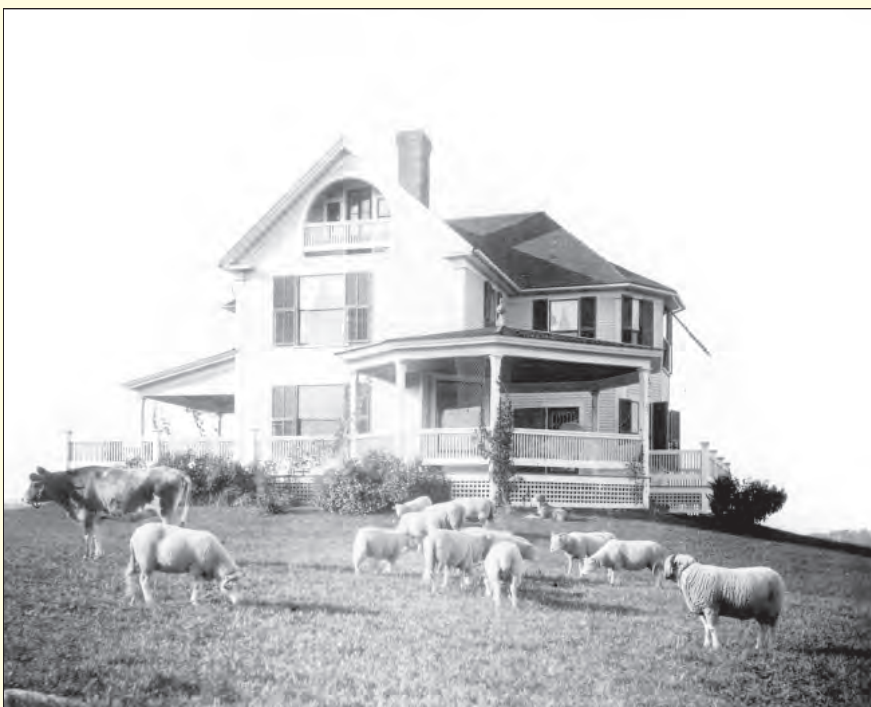
Question: Who moved into the big house?

Answer: Laurence Colfelt, Jr. & family

SOME TIME after purchasing the Smith Farm, the Deans built the ‘bungalow.’ And in 1892—at the top of the hill, about 300 yards away—they built the ‘big house,’ the broad veranda of which offered a wonderful panorama of the near and far surroundings. Both houses still stand. “The Dean Farm became one of the showplaces of the section. The wealthy summer residents brought their friends there. Dr. and Mrs. Dean kept a register. In one season more than 600 guests were entertained and shown the wonderful books and bric-a-brac and furnishings.”

Around 1910, as a matter of finances, the Deans moved back to the bungalow and began renting the ‘big house’ to summer visitors.

Laurence Colfelt, Jr., and his wife, **Margaret**, and stepdaughter, **Natalye**, came to Jaffrey from Harrison, New York, late in 1916. They first rented the Baldwin Farm, about a mile away from the Dean Farm, then in the following year they rented the ‘big house’ from the Deans. The wealthy Colfelt was somewhat mysterious and a man of few words. He was suspected of being a German sympathizer. The surname ‘Colfelt’ somehow suggested Germanic origins but this proved not to be the case. “His father was a minister. The family originally came from Philadelphia. Colfelt’s grandfather was wealthy and politically prominent.” The coming of the Colfelts was not regarded as an unusual event until it was learned that they were to remain in their farm home the year round. This surprised the townspeople. Village gossip speculated as to the reason for such ‘tony people’ occupying such ‘a cold house’ in the winter. Something transpired between Dean and Colfelt. In part, Dean was upset that Colfelt wasn’t doing “useful work at this time [of war].” The Colfelts were asked to leave the ‘big house’ and moved to Greenville two months before the murder. 🍷



The Big House.



The Bungalow.



Question: What did some see on the top of the mountain?

Answer: Lights

STRANGE THINGS were happening in Jaffrey about the time of the arrival of the Colfelts, including reports of lights flashing on **Mt. Monadnock** over a period of about two years. It was known that Dr. Dean, whose barn chores were midnight duties, had watched these lights, gathering as much information along with them as he could. Later it became known that holes had been bored in the window casing of the 'big house' overlooking the eastern mountains, Pack Monadnock and Temple. Through them signal lights were said to have been flashed to the mountains from where they were relayed to Mt. Monadnock. It was believed by intelligence that these lights were associated with the movement of troop ships from the coast to the theatre of operation of World War I in Europe...Spy reports continued to float around the countryside, alarming its citizens.

—Adapted from Jaffrey Town History, Vol. III

Some of the lights used in the New Hampshire mountains that range around the Dean Farm were so powerful and vivid that the country folks first mistook them for heat lightning, but later discovered what they really were. Such lights as those flashed from mountain peak to mountain peak, and when occasion demanded, relayed to points along Cape Cod on the south and Maine to the north, were easily visible to the German submarines lurking off shore shielded by the mantle of night.

The signals in the vicinity of East Jaffrey and Dublin, N. H., where many persons of German blood and pro-German sympathies reside, were complained of so persistently that squads of soldiers and plain clothes men hunted for them night after night without making a capture. 🍷

—Bert Ford, *The Dean Murder Mystery*

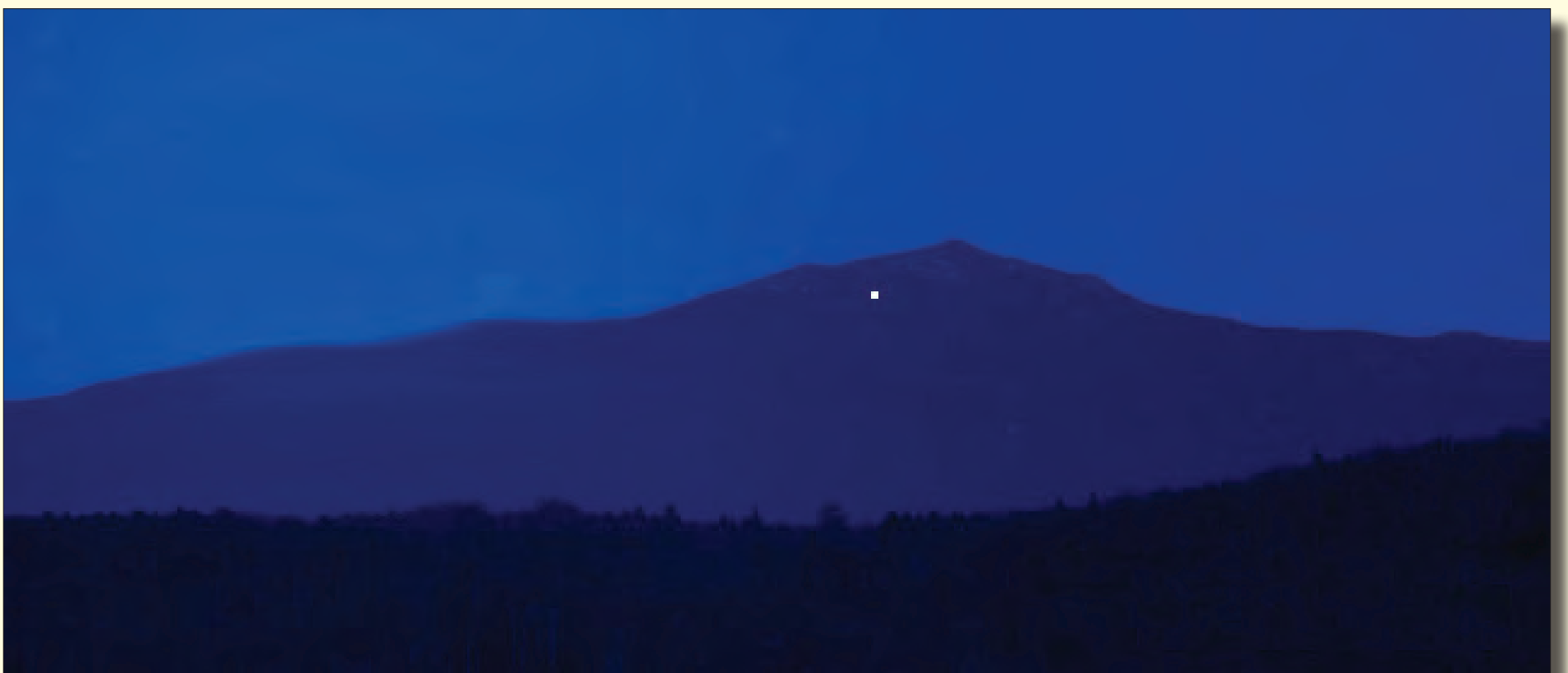


Photo by Jeff Newcomer with manipulation.



Question: Who was going to Boston and promised to pass on a message?

Answer: Mrs. Morison

MRS. HORACE MORISON—who lived in the Morison homestead which still stands on Old Jaffrey Road in Peterborough—was a friend of the Deans. She like Dr. Dean was very aware of and concerned about the mysterious lights on the mountain, dark cars driving the back roads late at night and other occurrences that seemed hardly normal.

As it happened she was out on Tuesday, August 13, with two other ladies making the rounds of their acquaintances collecting donations for the new hospital. “Mrs. Morison explained their mission, and Dr. Dean, cordial and generous as ever, received them with open arms. He donated a handsome bronze piece, some of the best books from his library and a basket of sweet peas.” At some point Dr. Dean asked Mrs. Morison when she would next be in Boston. “Tomorrow,” she replied. He then asked her whether she would visit the Federal authorities there and ask them to send “their best man” to Jaffrey. She agreed to do so but first inquired as to why. His response: “Mrs. Morison, you are a woman. What I know would be too dangerous for a woman to know.” Dr. Dean was found dead the next day.

It’s interesting to note that each of the neighboring towns—Peterborough, Jaffrey and Rindge—had as leading residents strong, talented and wealthy women, all of whom knew one another, all with connections to Boston or Cambridge, and all of whom had knowledge and interest in the murder of Dr. Dean: Mrs. Morison, Mrs. Robinson and Miss Ware. 🍷



Mrs Horace Morison of Peterborough and Boston.



The Morison house today on Old Jaffrey Road, Peterborough.

Question: What night were the village stores open?



Answer: Tuesday

THE STORES in the village were open until 9 P.M. on **Tuesdays**. Dr. Dean generally chose this time to do his weekly shopping. He “drove down in his light-colored, rubber-tired rig” and was seen by several witnesses. But there were discrepancies about the time. One said 6:45, another 8:30. Two witnesses said they saw Dean and Charles Rich “standing together near the bandstand.” He did his shopping at **Goodnows** and was seen carrying “bundles to his carriage.” While in the village Dean met **Georgiana Hodgkins**, sister-in-law of Charles Rich. She frequently visited Jaffrey from Great Neck, New York. They knew each other well. Ironically, she said later that they discussed immortality among other subjects.

“Dr. Dean asked for a dry cell battery in the drug store and at another store. It is thought that he wished to equip his flash light preparatory to keeping the midnight tryst to watch for signal lights, as agreed with Mrs. Morison. Police Officer **Perley Enos** saw Dean and Miss Hodgkins together outside the store. Miss **Margaret Costello** saw them between 8 :55 and 9 o'clock. **Yvonne Chouinard** saw them near the drug store at 9. He is known to have visited the laundry, where he left a bundle, and he bought currant buns at Vaughan's bakery.”

Dean drove Miss Hodgkins back to the Rich house which was later corroborated by Mr. Rich. The Riches claimed Dr. Dean remained in their house “...until almost 11 o'clock.” 🍷



Goodnows behind the Bank on School (now Goodnow) Street.



Question: Who was in the barn and when and what was he doing there?

Answer: Dr. Dean milking his cow

DR. DEAN “went to bed late and arose late, and the animals on his farm had to be educated to city hours also.” On the night of August 13, 1918, he went out to the barn to milk his Jersey cow. He took with him a milk bucket. It was never seen again. Nor was he, alive that is.

“He was struck hard twice in the head with a blunt instrument...a heavier, club-like object...Those blows probably weren’t enough to kill him but they had enough force to crack his skull and knock him unconscious.

“With the victim thus demobilized, the murder was continued in an extraordinarily deliberate, determined and yet leisurely fashion. Dean would have been bleeding heavily at this point so the horse blanket was quickly wrapped around his head to soak up the blood from the wound. As a result, only a few small droplets and smudges of blood were left as evidence.

“While Dean was lying unconscious on the doorstep of the barn, a harness rope was wrapped twice around his neck and pulled until he was strangled. The rope was pulled so tightly that it stopped his breathing and cut the flow of blood to his brain. In fact, the rope was pulled with such force that it actually broke his neck.

“His hands were then tied together behind his back, and his legs were also tied at the knees...The ropes were securely tied and knotted. A large burlap gunny sack...was pulled over his head and as far down his body as it would go. The ropes his legs were tied with were used to loop around the bottom of the sack and back through to the belt loops in his trousers so that it was secured around him. Finally, a heavy stone, probably taken from the stone wall near the barn, was placed inside the sack.

“He was then carried, not dragged, the one hundred and fifty feet uphill...to the rain cistern. The cover was removed, he was dropped into the water, and the cover was replaced.” 🐣





Question: Who was in “deep water?”

Answer: Dr. Dean

WILLIAM DEAN and his wife Mary, after their marriage, lived in Boston’s South End, then Roxbury and later Dover. Finally after four years, they moved to Jaffrey, possibly for health reasons, and bought a tract of land north of East Jaffrey, the old Elijah Smith farm. They remodeled the farm buildings and at a short distance above constructed quite a large summer house. At the time of his death Dean was sixty-three and a half years of age, a man rather small of stature and a man of scholarly attainments, who liked books...

Late on the evening of the 13th of August 1918 Dr. Dean left his wife and walked to the barn to milk his Jersey cow. He never returned.

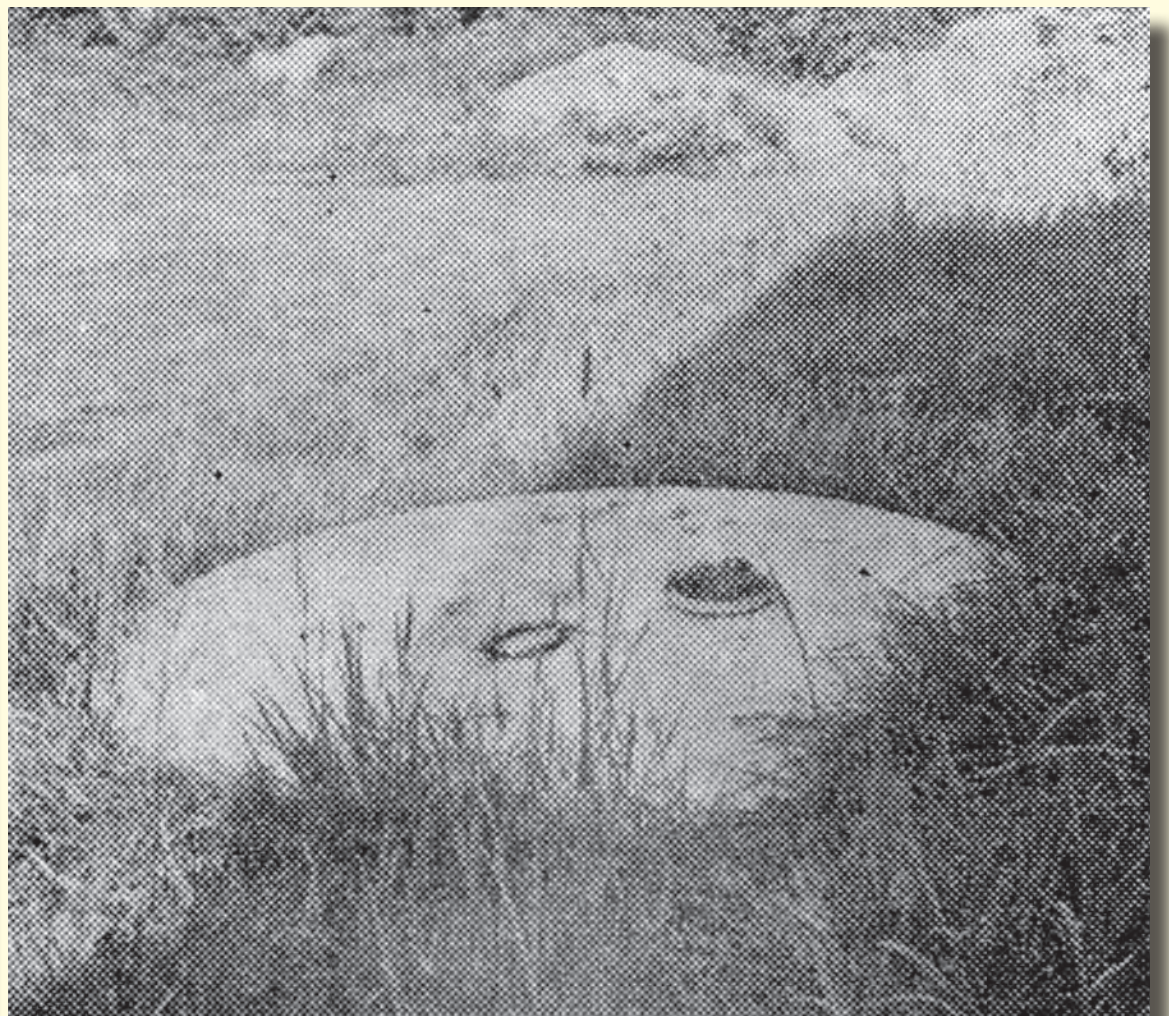
The first person to arrive on the scene the next morning was **Arthur Smith**, a twenty-one year-old laborer hired to mow hay on the Dean farm. He arrived about 7:30 A.M. ...Smith was greeted by a frantic Mrs. Dean whose first words to him were “I’m sure Mr. Dean is dead in the barn.” Next to arrive was **Martin Garfield**, a farmer who was a close neighbor...

After some searching without success Garfield contacted others for assistance and by 10 A.M. **William Coolidge** and **Peter Hogan**, Jaffrey Selectmen, and **Perley Enos**, Acting Chief of Police, had arrived. After more searching Dr. Dean was discovered in the cistern beside the big house—bludgeoned, bloody, bound, covered in a burlap bag with a 27-1/2-pound rock and underwater.

During this travail Mrs. Dean was quoted as having said that her husband was dead, and adding, “He is in deep water.” 🍷



William K. Dean at 53 (about 1908).



The Cistern where the body was found.



Question: Who suffered from ‘softening of the brain.’

Answer: Mrs. Dean (Mary)

MARY DEAN, Dr. Dean’s frail and senile wife, who told the authorities on the day after the murder that “Billy” was dead; that “his head hurt” and that he “undoubtedly fell over in the deep water.” All this before she had been told that her husband’s dead body had been discovered at the bottom of the well.

William K. Dean was married at the age of twenty-five to his first cousin, **Mary Dean**, daughter of his uncle, **Dr. Henry W. Dean**. She was three years his senior and the belle of Rochester, New York.

“Their devotion to each other was unusual. Mrs. Dean in the quiet days before her death said that she loved her husband as much the last day she saw him as on their wedding day, and his love for her was equally profound.”

“Mrs. Mary Dean gave the alarm that her husband was missing at 8 o’clock the following morning, August 14, when she telephoned the home of **Martin P. Garfield**, one of the nearest neighbors. She had waited in torment all night, now dozing and again feverishly alert, and, at intervals, seized by lapses of memory due to a softening of the brain that had been slowly sapping her strength and her reason for two years.

At the peep of day she had ventured as far as the barn, where she wanted to go during the night, but didn’t dare. She found the lantern extinguished in the barn and shook it and found that there was no oil in it. She looked all over the place pathetically calling ‘Billy!’ ‘Billy!’ No answer came.”

The first and last person suspected by



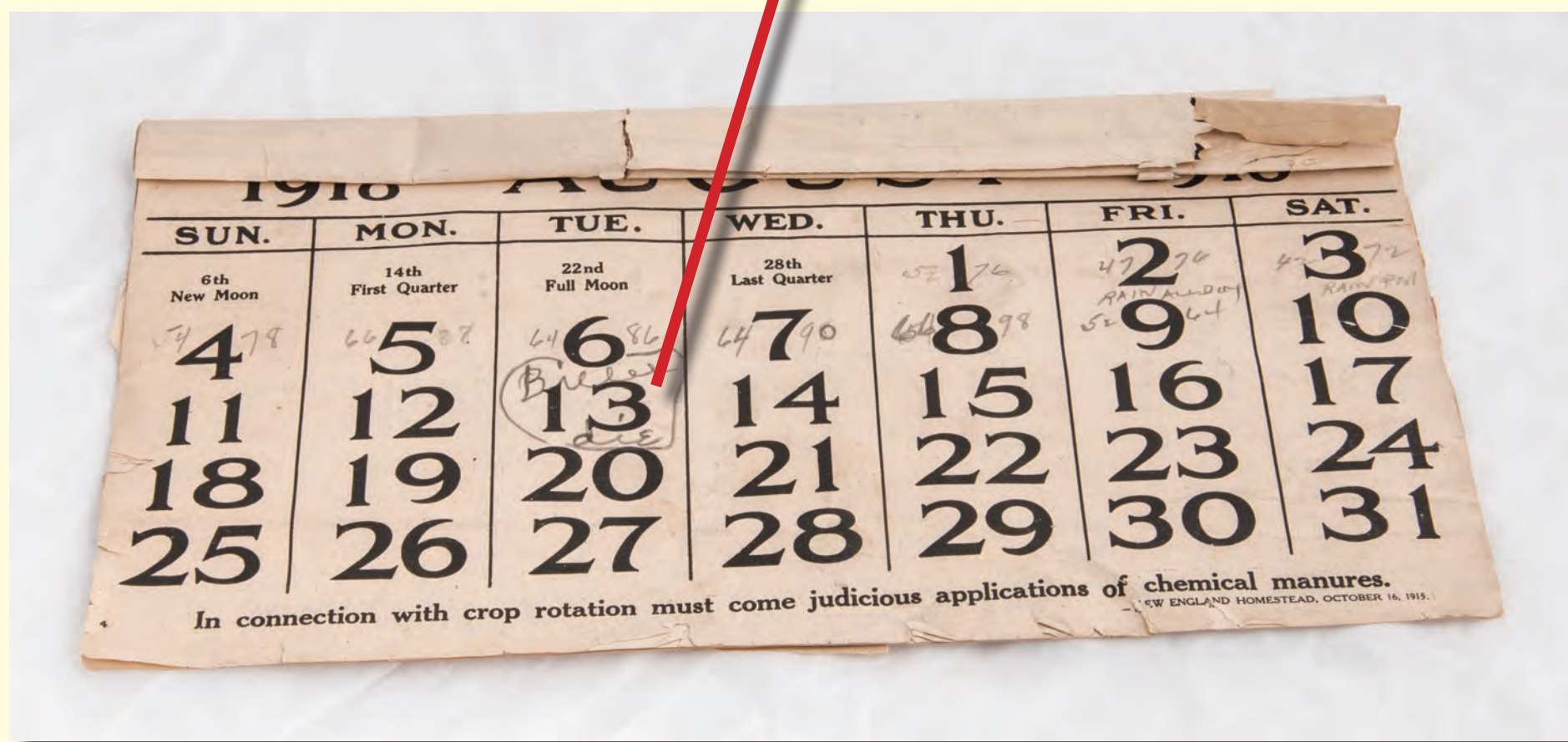
the county and State authorities of the murder of Dr. Dean, was his widow. As she was the only person lawfully on the premises on the night of August 13, 1918, and as she was known to be of unsound mind, suspicion automatically turned her way. And certain officials stubbornly refused to eliminate her even in the face of evidence that pointed elsewhere more convincingly. 🍷



Question: What was written on the calendar for August 13?

Answer: “Billie die”

AMONG THOSE items presented as evidence to the Grand Jury in Keene was a wall calendar from the Dean house. The 13th is circled and within is written, presumably by Mary Dean, ‘Billie die.’ Did she mean this to be a statement or a prediction? The date could just as easily have been the 14th. It was close to midnight, either before or after, when the deed was done. Contemporary newspaper accounts gave the date of the murder as the 13th. But the inscription on Dr. Dean’s gravestone at the Mt. Hope Cemetery in Rochester, New York, reads “Died Aug. 14, 1918.” 🍷





Question: What caused his black eye?

Answer: A kick from his horse

CHARLES RICH, Cashier of the Monadnock Bank, Municipal Judge, Jaffrey's Town Moderator and Dr. Dean's best friend appeared on the street the morning after the murder with a black eye and a lacerated cheek. There have been various stories as to how Mr. Rich acquired that black eye. He claimed that his horse kicked him the night before. Neighbors claimed that he gave different versions of the accident. And there have been various conflicting stories as to where Mr. Rich was and what he was doing that night."

"Although a leading citizen and prominent man in the town, Rich was apparently not particularly well liked. There was something a bit strange about him. He could be extremely friendly and generous one moment and then suddenly turn angry and cold the next."

"Mr. Rich's life went on in Jaffrey, seemingly a normal life, but in reality a quiet tragedy of its own kind, for he was never able to exonerate himself. He won a suit against the Boston *American* newspaper for libel...but it changed no one's mind. He continued his banking and business career until 1930, when a stroke left him an invalid. He died in 1933 at the age of eighty, leaving his wife and a sister. There were no children." 🍷



Charles Rich.



Mr. Rich (right) on the steps of the bank.



Question: How many times was he dug up?

Answer: Twice (possibly)

AMONG the many mysteries surrounding the Dean Murder is what happened to Dr. Dean following his death and why. He was prepared for burial by the local undertaker, **William Leighton** (whose place of business survives on Ellison Street). On **August 17th** his funeral was held at the Baptist Church which was located where the Post Office stands today and he was buried at Conant Cemetery though no record of burial or the purchase of a lot can be found. Thirteen days later, the investigator **William De Kerlor** requested that the body be exhumed so that the wounds could be examined. **C. T. Johnson** was retained to photograph the procedure for a cost of \$38.85. Dr. Dean was then re-buried in Conant or possibly placed in the receiving tomb that still exists there. Some months later—on **January 6, 1919**—the body was exhumed again so that **Dr George McGrath**, a prominent Boston pathologist, could conduct an autopsy which was carried out in the receiving tomb. The three Selectmen were witnesses. On **September 5, 1919**, Dr. Dean went west and was interred in the family plot at **Mt. Hope Cemetery** in Rochester, New York. (One wonders why the body wasn't sent there in the first place?) Mary died ten days later and rests beside her husband in Rochester. 🍷



Dr. Dean at the first exhumation. *Photo: Historical Society of Cheshire County.*

Question: Who was the 'criminal psychologist' brought on board? And by whom?



Answer: William Wendt De Kerlor, first by Dr. Dean's brother and then by the Jaffrey Selectmen

WHEN the victim's brother, Frederick Dean of New York City, hurried to East Jaffrey he brought with him **William de Kerlor**, a psychologist, who eagerly 'volunteered' to work on the mystery for the Selectmen for which, in the end, he received \$2,473.01. De Kerlor was known as 'Doctor' among the townspeople...He introduced all the melodramatic elements of up-to-date detective research, methods which riled the opposition and which startled those out late on occasions, because there was no nook or cranny that the psychologist detective feared to invade at any hour of the night...And De Kerlor had ambition as well as good looks. He was indefatigable as an investigator. He remained out in the underbrush all night to get evidence on the signaling. He 'shadowed' persons and houses and collected more evidence and accomplished more than any other three men on the case.

His most daring exploit occurred on the day that he measured the cuts on the head of Dean's exhumed body, traced them on a paper and clapped the paper against the bruised cheek of Charles Rich. This dramatic scene in the cemetery is still the talk of the town...At one point De Kerlor claimed he could detect the faces of the murderers in a photograph of a spot of Dr. Dean's blood taken at the scene of the crime. He based the claim on a new field of forensic science in which he was expert. 🍷



William Wendt de Kerlor in 1914.

Question: Who boarded while in town and where?



Answer: De Kerlor and also Robert Valkenburgh & Ferri Weiss at the St. Patrick Rectory

IT SEEMS odd that during his time in Jaffrey the somewhat eccentric ‘criminal psychologist’ would stay at the Catholic rectory. Just as odd is that the two Boston-based FBI agents investigating the murder were guests there, too. The parish priest at the time—**Father Herbert Hennon**—resided in the rectory, of course, and one has to wonder whether they might have traded notes over breakfast.

Father Hennon “...became a driving factor in the investigation, and...was very focused on Mr. Rich as the prime suspect...It seems pretty certain that Father Hennon... was orchestrating the negative propaganda campaign directed against Rich.”

The priest’s housekeeper had a son, one **Harold Griffin**, who associated with a local group of “young toughs.” One of the theories surrounding the murder—the Hoodlum Theory—held that these ‘juvenile delinquents’ “...and their girl friends were in the habit of cavorting in empty houses...The big house tenant, because of suspected German sympathies, had but lately, at Dean’s insistence, moved to Greenville. A circuitous road passed near the big house. This showed tire marks the day after the murder. It is believed that two or more persons, one perhaps a woman, were in the big house when they saw Dean’s lantern. The theory is that they investigated, were recognized by Dean, then struck him down with the weeder, the first weapon that came to hand. Panicking when he dropped with the blow, they tied him up, weighted the bundle so it would stay down, and dumped him in the handiest spot, the well.” 🍷



The Rectory next to St. Patrick Church on Main Street.



Father Hennon.



Question: What lasted eight days?

Answer: Dean Murder Grand Jury hearing

FINALLY, a Grand Jury inquest was convened on **April 11, 1919**, nine months after the crime. “In that time some of the witnesses had rehearsed to themselves and others what they had witnessed to the point that it became conviction. It was for the jury to sort out conflicting testimony. Here is a drama of ordinary people, caught up in a violent and mysterious happening that became an outlet for their prejudices, and compounded the already complex tragedy of the Dean Murder Case.”

The hearing was conducted by New Hampshire Attorney General **Oscar L. Young** and by Cheshire County Solicitor **Roy M. Pickard**. But the findings were inconclusive and no one was indicted. It lasted for eight days. Fifty-four witnesses were called or re-called. ♡



The Courthouse in Keene.



Roy Pickard.



Question: What was the format of the transcription?

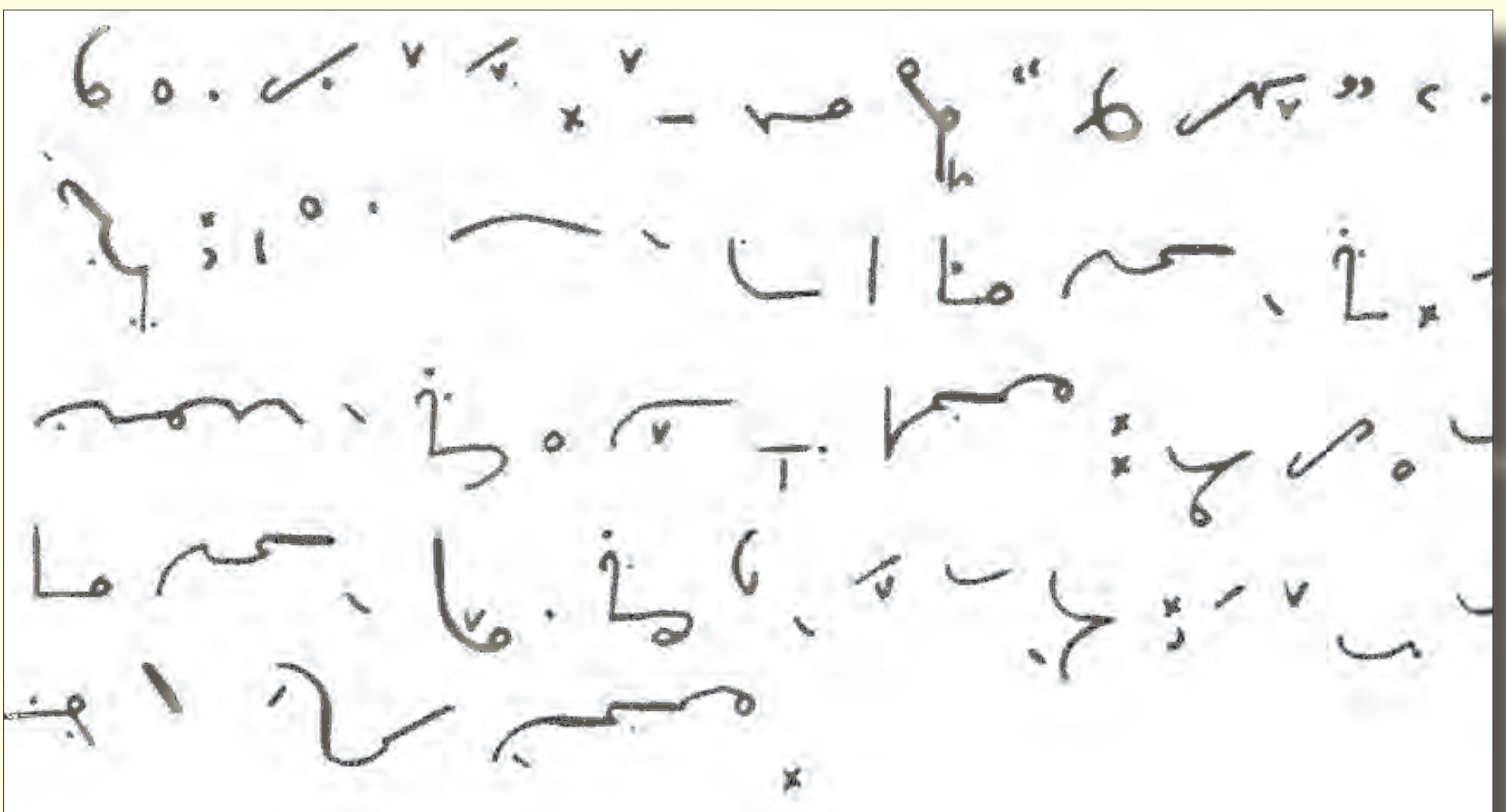
Answer: Pitman Shorthand

Pitman shorthand is a system of shorthand for the English language developed by Englishman Sir Isaac Pitman (1813–1897), who first presented it in 1837. Like most systems of shorthand, it is a phonetic system; the symbols do not represent letters, but rather sounds, and words are, for the most part, written as they are spoken. As of 1996, Pitman shorthand was the most popular shorthand system used in the United Kingdom and the second most popular in the United States.

—Wikipedia

THE GRAND JURY hearing was documented in twenty notebooks by **Lena Marsh**, the Court Recorder, using Pitman shorthand. These would have been transcribed if any indictments or trials had resulted but none did. When the courthouse in Keene was undergoing renovations, the notebooks were discovered which became known to **Margaret Bean** who was skilled at Pitman and wanted an ambitious project to undertake. She was provided with two note books at a time and literally labored for years until the project was completed. In 1989 she published the results. Margaret later remarked that “it was...awesome to remember that no one had heard these words since they were first uttered in April 1919...”

Without her 351-page transcription much less would be known about the Dean Murder. (Copies of the *Hearing by the Grand Jury on the Death of William K. Dean* are still available from the Jaffrey Historical Society and online at www.deanmurder.org/jury.pdf)



An example of Pitman Shorthand.

Question: What was the verdict?



Answer: Murder by Person or Persons Unknown

ATTORNEY GENERAL **Oscar L. Young** opened the hearing on April 11, 1919, with these words: “Mr. Foreman and gentlemen of the Grand Jury, I will briefly state to you some of the circumstances concerning the death of the late William K. Dean. The purpose of this investigation is if we can deduce such facts as will satisfy you gentlemen that the matter ought to be inquired of further ... with respect to any particular person.”

Stephen A . Bullock was foreman of the Grand Jury and **Oscar E. Bourne** was clerk, The Grand Jury declined to make any finding other than to issue this statement, the only report made public, signed by the foreman and clerk:

“The grand jurors announce that upon full consideration of all the evidence presented before them, they find that William K. Dean of East Jaffrey came to his death at midnight, August 13, 1918, at the hand of a person or persons unknown to them.”

It cost more than \$1,500 and took nearly three weeks to come to this conclusion that Dr. Dean was murdered. Such a finding could have been made at a post-mortem inquest within a day or two after the crime, and that is what is done in most cases.

“Every man, woman and child in East Jaffrey knew on the first day that it would have been physically impossible for Dr. Dean to hit himself upon the head, choke himself with a halter, wrap a horse blanket around his head, place a 27-1/2 pound rock on that, pull a bran sack down over his head, fasten the sack with twine to his belt loops, tie his hands, knees, and ankles, jump into a cistern and then pull the cover on after him.” 🐣



THE PRIME SUSPECTS



Charles Rich

A FRIEND of Dr. Dean who visited him on the night of the murder. Cashier of the Monadnock Bank, Municipal Judge, Town Moderator, 'Boss of the Town.' Sported a black eye the day after the murder. He may have had some dodgy financial dealings and his accounts of the circumstances surrounding the murder were not always consistent.

Mary Dean

SHE WAS a few years older than her husband, and had become slightly childish in her later years. Her husband enjoyed the company of women in a harmless way. Did Mrs. Dean, in an irrational and jealous frenzy, kill her husband?

Laurence Colfelt, Jr.

THE MYSTERIOUS and well-to-do stranger, was actually a German spy. Why else would he spend the winter in New Hampshire? He rented Mr. Dean's large house on the hill, and when Mr. Dean found out too much, Mr. Colfelt arranged for his murder.

German Spies

DR. DEAN was in the process of presenting information to the authorities about German spying (*cf.* request for Mrs. Morison to deliver a message to the FBI). Their conversations may have been overheard and there was no alternative but to silence him.

Hoodlums

THERE WAS a local group of "young toughs" (including the son of the parish priest's housekeeper) who with their girlfriends were in the habit of cavorting in empty houses. On the night of August 13th they picked the Dean barn. Dean came upon them, they panicked and Dean was struck and killed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



THIS EXHIBIT was produced by the JAFFREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY with support from the Bean Family Foundation. It was curated by Robert Stephenson with assistance from Mark Bean, Bruce Hill, Bill Driscoll and Ken Sheldon. This exhibit may also be found at www.deanmurder.org/exhibit.htm



William K, Dean (1855-1918). R.I.P.