

# The Dean Murder Mystery

By Bert Ford

War Correspondent and author of "The Fighting Yankees Overseas."

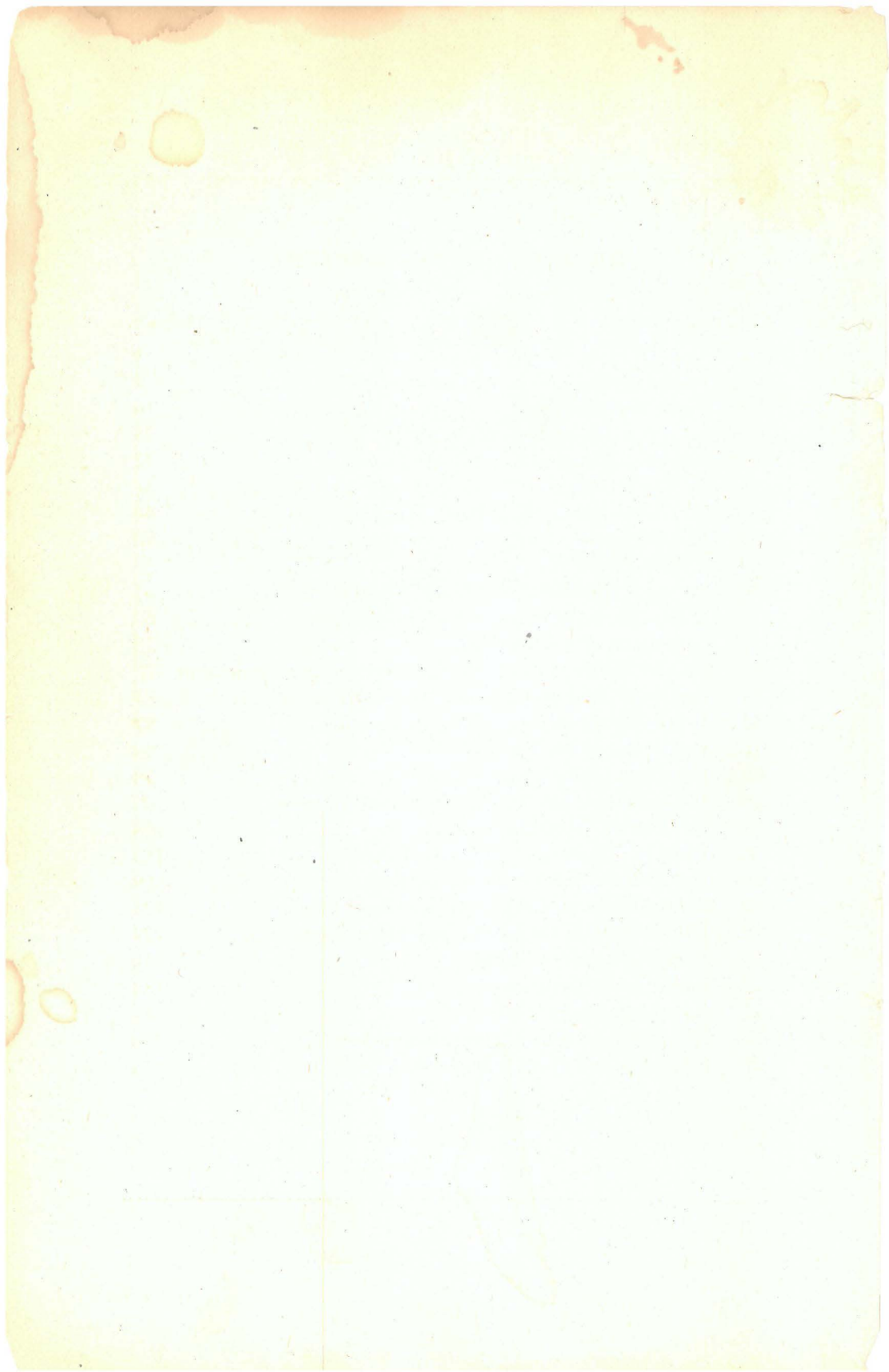
With an Introduction by William Dean Goddard.

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## THE DEAN MURDER MYSTERY.

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#### INTRODUCTION.

This is not a work of fiction that Mr. Ford has written. Full as it is of all the complications that go to make up the most wildly imaginative detective story, it is nothing but an unvarnished tale of fact: a detective story with the solution yet unwritten: a solution that must be written in court; a solution that you the reader must insist shall be written. For, to be frank, this story is not written to entertain: it is an appeal for justice, and it makes a demand on the reader which will not leave him where he was before.

When you have once grasped the significance of the facts related in this book you will realize that you are no longer free to go about your personal affairs "Housed in a dream, at distance from the Kind!" You will realize that our beloved country can no longer claim to be "isolated" from world affairs: where she fancies herself "isolated" she is only being manipulated—by Germany and by private interests.

The particular question which this book has set itself to answer in the negative is this: Shall Germany rule New Hampshire? Shall stupidity, cupidity, or duplicity in New Hampshire's sworn officials of the law enable Germany's tools to go scot free when patriotic Americans are murdered for attempting to serve their country?

There was indeed a time when it seemed this might be true. William Kendrick Dean, my uncle, my mother's brother, declared to a neighbor about noon of August 13, 1918, that he had very important and very dangerous information to impart to the Federal Secret Service, and asked that they should send their best man to him at once. By midnight of that same day he had been brutally slain in his own barn at East Jaffrey, and his lifeless body, weighted with a heavy stone, had been sunk beneath the waters of a cistern, where it was found about noon of the next day. The County Solicitor of Cheshire County, whose duty it was to prosecute the crime, deliberately ignored the most hopeful bits of evidence, refused to offer a reward for the discovery of the criminal, and assiduously devoted himself to the theory that my aunt Mrs. Dean, the physically and mentally weakened wife of the murdered man, was the sole and adequate

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"solution" of this "most baffling case". The fact that his medical experts and alienists were a unit against County Solicitor Pickard's theory, only made him the more bland and ingenuous in his adherence to it. And, making his theory even more absurd, he tried to inject jealousy as a motive, though every reputable witness among the Deans' relatives and friends flatly contradicted his so-called facts. When those whose duty it is to act, deliberately refuse to act at all, it is indeed impossible for outsiders to step in and do their work for them. Thus the case dragged on for fully a year, though the Selectmen of the Town and friends of the Deans engaged counsel and a detective and gathered evidence of considerable weight.

"Contrary to his best judgment", as he claims, Mr. Pickard summoned a grand jury in April 1919 in response to the pressure of public opinion; but, according to report, he was very careful not to marshal the evidence in any consecutive order, and certainly succeeded in avoiding any result except a verdict that it was "murder by a person or persons unknown"—which everybody knew already. It is doubtful whether Mr. Pickard will ever allow a grand jury under his guidance to come to any conclusion that is "contrary to his best judgment."

Nevertheless the Selectmen kept on with their work, and in the fall of 1919 received very valuable reinforcement in Mr. Bert Ford of the BOSTON AMERICAN. It is impossible to estimate how much the case owes to these new champions. Mr. Ford had just returned from eighteen months with the Fighting Yankees overseas, whose exploits he had written, and was indignant to find here in our own land that an unofficial defender of his country like Dr. Dean, was being buried with dishonor and obloquy by the sworn guardians of law and justice in New Hampshire. Throwing himself heart and soul into the cause, with the full support of his paper behind him, he worked indefatigably, securing new and valuable evidence, inspiring confidence in those who had hitherto hesitated to give testimony lest it should be mishandled and they should only get into trouble themselves for their pains, and in the course of two months attained a degree of publicity which brought the case to the attention of the Governor of New Hampshire, and seemed to promise a re-hearing. Publicity had been sorely needed, and the light shed by Bert Ford's articles in the BOSTON AMERICAN from October 22d to November 24 1919 seemed like the dawning of a new day that should take hold of the corners of the earth and shake the wicked out of it. Thus it seemed to the Select-

men, at least, the Relatives, and the Federal Investigators in Boston. The only party which did not smile at this dawning of publicity was that of the very law officers who had most constantly reiterated their desire for truth but had always managed to stifle whatever testimony was given them and declare themselves baffled. These twenty-eight articles, revised and slightly amended, constitute the chapters of the present book, and will give the reader the main facts of the story.

The course of events since November 24th may be outlined in a few paragraphs.

On Thanksgiving Day the writer of this introduction felt moved to send a telegram of thanks to the Governor for giving a hearing to the case of his uncle which had been so badly mishandled. Mr. Pickard read the telegram as reported in the BOSTON HERALD and set himself in his serious judicial way to investigate the writer of it as he had already spent thirteen months "investigating" Mrs. Dean until her death in September 1919. But the writer had no wish to become an accomplice in the investigation of relatives when it was a plain duty to pursue the murderer.

The next issue of importance from Mr. Pickard's office was an article in the KEENE EVENING SENTINEL of December 13, 1919 which appeared on the face of it to be an authorized interview from Mr. Pickard, renewing the aspersions as to Mrs. Dean's so-called guilty knowledge of her husband's whereabouts before the finding of his body. Inasmuch as the grand jury in April, with full power to indict any suspect, had not only not inculpated Mrs. Dean but (we have reason to believe) had actually exonerated her, it seemed manifestly bad taste for Mr. Pickard to be throwing out aspersions against her character while shielding himself behind the argument that the hearings before the grand jury were sealed and that therefore he could not divulge the truth. To this article the present writer sent a sharp reply on Christmas day, warning the Editor of the SENTINEL against publishing dubious aspersions emanating from a man who tries to protect himself beforehand by saying he is not free to divulge the truth. The SENTINEL editor, Mr. Wm. H. Prentiss, declined to publish this reply as he "had not opened his columns to correspondence on the Dean case", but in a personal letter to the writer attempted to relieve Mr. Pickard of all responsibility, and represented himself as the author of the article. Sellers of illicit liquors like to ply their trade on both sides of a

town line, but there seems to be no reason why purveyors of truth should adopt the Pickard-Prentiss tactics. The reply which the SENTINEL declined to publish appeared later in the BOSTON AMERICAN of Dec. 29, 1919.

The Governor formally received the Selectmen of Jaffrey and the Relatives of Dr. Dean on January 15th in the State House at Concord. The Selectmen presented a petition for a new grand jury hearing of the Dean case, which had been signed by over 500 residents of Jaffrey and the neighborhood; but in the ensuing conversation the Governor took umbrage at the use of the phrase "honest hearing" by one of the Selectmen, and said he would go no further until they should file formal charges of a dishonest hearing on the previous occasion, with opportunity for the Attorney General and the County Solicitor to be present and hear the charges against them. He also advised the Selectmen that they should come represented by counsel. The sequel appeared four weeks later on February 12th.

In the afternoon of the same day (January 15th) the Governor accorded a second and very affable interview to Attorney Henry M. Dean and the present writer, who represented the relatives on that occasion: They offered to present a petition, signed by seventeen relatives, similar in purport to the petition presented by the Selectmen in the morning; but as the Governor considered that such a petition should be addressed to the Court rather than to himself, they only read its terms to him and did not formally file it in his office. The petition with its signatures was as follows:—

**PETITION TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE  
GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

in re

**WILLIAM KENDRICK DEAN.**

We whose names are signed below, relatives of the late William Kendrick Dean of East Jaffrey and of his wife Mary (Dean) Dean, respectfully petition Your Excellency, Governor John H. Bartlett, for a second and more incisive GRAND JURY INQUIRY into the murder of said W. K. DEAN at his own barn in the outskirts of East Jaffrey, N. H., on the night of AUGUST 13, 1918.

We respectfully represent that new evidence has been discovered of sufficient importance to warrant a re-opening of the case. We recommend that this new evidence be



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added to the old evidence with a view to hastening the arrest and prosecution of those agents of GERMANY who took the life of a loyal and patriotic American citizen, because he was attempting to do his duty to country and flag.

We have been distressed and humiliated at the long delay of justice in the case, and we believe that prompt and decisive action is necessary to maintain American vigilance against the insidious machinations of a foreign foe.

(Signed)

Wm. Dean Goddard,	Pawtucket, R. I.
Mary G. Goddard,	Pawtucket, R. I.
Nellie Goddard Steinhilper	Roselle, N. J.
Anthony Steinhilper,	Roselle, N. J.
Helen M. Dean,	Readville, Mass.
Henry M. Dean,	Readville, Mass.
Bertha G. Dean,	Readville, Mass.
Hubert T. Dean,	Oak Bluffs, Mass.
Florence A. Dean,	Oak Bluffs, Mass.
F. M. Hadlock,	Eaton, N. Y.
Maria L. (Dean) Hadlock,	Eaton, N. Y.
Florence H. Dean Amadon,	No. Adams, Mass.
Moses L. Amadon,	No. Adams, Mass.
Henrietta G. Dean,	Lowville, N. Y.
Gertrude M. Dean,	Lowville, N. Y.
Harry W. Dean,	Rochester, N. Y.
Addie T. Dean,	Rochester, N. Y.

To these names there would have been added but for the great distance that separated them, those of Dr. Dean's nephew Dr. F. W. Goddard, a medical missionary in Shaohsing, China, and his niece Kate Goddard Jones, whose husband, Dr. John Jones, a medical missionary, was formerly located in Shantung, China, but has now been transferred inland to the city of Sianfu in "hidden Shensi."

The Selectmen now received their greatest reinforcement since the advent of Bert Ford and the BOSTON AMERICAN. Attorney Harry N. Guterman of Boston, who had been serving as Special Assistant Attorney General for the State of Massachusetts, had spent a few days at Shattuck's Inn in Jaffrey, and had become so greatly interested in the Dean affair that he came forward and offered his services to the Selectmen for the special prosecution of this case. Thus reinforced the whole party went to Washington two weeks after seeing the Governor, and inter-

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viewed the Senators and Congressmen from New Hampshire, who arranged for them a special interview in the Department of Justice on Friday, January 30th.

It appeared that among the changes of personnel due to the exigencies of the post-war period, the present chief of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice had been transferred from another division not longer ago than September 1919, and, while he knew of a Dean case as being in his files, had not yet made an examination of it. In consequence of our visit he gave it his immediate attention, telephoning that very afternoon to the Chief of the Bureau of Investigation in Boston, and otherwise setting the machinery in motion.

In another two weeks, on Thursday, February 12th, the Selectmen appeared again before the Governor, accompanied by counsel as he had advised them at the previous meeting. In their letter seeking the appointment they had also asked—following his suggestion of January 15—that Attorney General Young and County Solicitor Pickard might be present. The Governor's secretary notified the present writer also as to this meeting appointed for the Selectmen, and the same two persons as before were present to represent the relatives. Further, the same two representatives of the BOSTON AMERICAN who had attended the conference of January 15th were also present on February 12th. Eight men, therefore, the same eight who had gone to Washington January 30th, constituted the whole of the Selectmen's party. It was noticeable, however, that long before the arrival of the Attorney General and the County Solicitor the corner of the Governor's room assigned to them was occupied by five men of Jaffrey who had set themselves to hush up the Dean inquiry; and later, when the Governor actually convened his Council, this opposition party was augmented by the arrival of several other persons including the wife of the County Solicitor and an official stenographer.

The Governor, on his arrival from Portsmouth, deferred the appointed hearing from 11 A. M. to 2 P. M., and went to visit the prison instead. Meanwhile the morning issue of the MANCHESTER UNION had announced that the hearing would not be such a "hearing" as the Selectmen expected, for the Governor was not going to listen to any "charges" against the Attorney General or the County Solicitor. And when the Governor opened the meeting he affected, for reasons which we must leave the reader to surmise, to have understood that he was to have a private conference with "Two citizens of New Hampshire"—two Select-

men only having signed the letter requesting the appointment—and claimed to feel he had been “tricked” by the bringing in of a third Selectman, various newspaper correspondents, politicians, and what-not. He did not explain why he neglected to recognize the Selectmen as official representatives of the Town of Jaffrey and chose to regard them as merely “two citizens of New Hampshire”; he did not explain why he ignored that part of the Selectmen’s letter in which they asked that the Attorney General and the County Solicitor should be present; but after letting the Attorney General make a set speech against being summoned to hear any charges, a speech which was duly applauded by the coterie of supporting business men, ladies, and politicians, the Governor insisted that the two Selectmen who had signed the letter should sit beside him at the far end of the table and converse in a low tone which neither the Relatives nor the Attorney General’s group, seated at opposite corners of the room, had any chance to hear.

In the same spirit the Governor, having heard the Selectmen’s opponents, declined to listen to the Selectmen’s Attorney, Harry N. Guterma, doubted outright his statement that he represented the Selectmen only and was not retained by the BOSTON AMERICAN, and finally forced him to “withdraw” in lieu of being arrested for contempt of this august “Court” because he insisted on speaking for the clients who had retained him. The natural effect of these histrionics was that all the leading New Hampshire papers that evening and for a day or two following gave considerable publicity to the Dean case, albeit the incident was in itself unfortunate and unnecessary.

The Governor did take occasion to say, however, that he believed the federal authorities should first establish the motive of the crime as probably connected with German spy activities, and that afterward the State could prosecute for murder. How fortunate that there is a dual system of government in America!

Since that date Attorney Guterma has been to Washington again, and has also returned to Concord and been received by the Governor. At the present writing the Governor’s attitude is indicated by the fact that he has directed Attorney General Young and County Solicitor Pickard to examine the evidence collected by the federal Department of Justice and offered by them for inspection by the State authorities; but there has been no intimation on the part of either Mr. Young or Mr. Pickard that they mean to follow any other clues than the fictitious ones

which, they claim, point to Mrs. Dean. Of these clues, and of the State officials who put them forward, the reader must judge.

At this point this introduction may properly close, for in today's papers, (BOSTON AMERICAN, BOSTON TRAVELER, and BOSTON EVENING RECORD) appears the announcement of the first arrest by Federal Authorities of a person possessing "stolen papers" that have a bearing on the Dean case.\*

Wm. Dean Goddard

May 11, 1920.

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\*Since these pages have gone to press it has been reported to the Selectmen of Jaffrey that some time ago children had found on the hill beyond Cheshire pond a handsome leather suit case concealed with brush, the finding of which led to the discovery of a complete dug-out of cubical shape, 6x8 feet, in the side of the hill. This dug-out was constructed in military style, lined with boards and strengthened with a ridge pole. The entrance to it was carefully concealed, and consisted of a two-foot well sunk three feet perpendicularly into the ground, followed by a six-foot horizontal passage only high enough to crawl through on one's belly. The excavated earth was spread thinly over the ground and concealed as much as possible. It is surmised that this was used as a hiding place for signaleers, especially as an electric wire was found near by which apparently was used for warning the secret workers.





W. K. Dean at 53 (about 1908)

## The Dean Murder Mystery

By Bert Ford

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War Correspondent and author of "The Fighting Yankees Overseas."

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"Mrs. Morison, you are a woman. What I know would be too dangerous for a woman to know. Go to the United States authorities in Boston and tell them to send up one of their best men as soon as possible. I wanted to be sure. I am ready now."

The fifty words in the five sentences quoted furnish the key to the Dean murder mystery which has baffled the New Hampshire officials for the past fourteen months.\*

Within twelve hours of these utterances made to a neighbor, Dr. William Kendrick Dean, physician, scholar and gentleman farmer, son of one of the first American missionaries to China, and schoolboy chum of the Crown Prince of Siam, was dead.

He was clubbed, gagged and strangléd at his mountain home on the outskirts of East Jaffrey, before midnight on August 13, 1918, and his body, in a ghastly shroud of burlap and horse blanket, bound with rope and weighted with a stone, was dropped into a cistern where it lay in six feet of water until hauled out with ice tongs at noon next day.

Since that hour the whole countryside has been clamoring for vengeance, AND NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE OFFICIALLY.

The case stands today precisely as it did when the body was discovered so far as the likelihood of arrests or prosecutions are concerned. And it is in grave danger of being pigeon-holed with unsolved crimes to pass into oblivion without further action, unless drastic measures are adopted.

There is a tendency on the part of a little clique in East Jaffrey, who think themselves Americans, "to bury the case with

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\*This story began in the BOSTON AMERICAN of October 22, 1919.

Dean and his widow," who died a few weeks ago.\* These men resent further inquiry in view of the fact that a Grand Jury, tardily called, failed to indict anyone and simply reported a finding of murder, which every man, woman and child knew it to be when the crumpled form was pulled out of the cistern that day.

### "MEDDLESOME INTERLOPERS."

The members of the clique almost go into spasms whenever a strange investigator comes to town to help solve the case and to help their community in the interest of law and order. They look upon investigators, Federal and others at this time, as meddling interlopers. They argue that the case has brought too much odium upon the town and that the sooner it is forgotten the better.

Fortunately the Selectmen and the majority of the people of East Jaffrey and surrounding towns, including members of the fashionable mountain colony, do not feel that way about it. They exhibit finer spirit. They are in fighting mood. They want the case probed and kept alive until it has been cleared up to the satisfaction of all. They say that the attitude of the pathetically isolated minority proves their contention that "there is a nigger in the woodpile."

They insist that the assassins of Dr. Dean, who with his wife was loved by everybody, be brought to justice and punished and that guilt be fastened no matter upon whom it falls. Some of the influential Summer residents have spent no little time and money to see that the case is pushed to the limit.

To drop the Dean case in its present status would be a calamity—a public disgrace and a blot on the State of New Hampshire and on the United States government. It would mean absolute disregard for the rights and the memory of Dr. Dean and for the safety of the public.

### "SOFT PEDAL SQUAD."

Dr. William Kendrick Dean's murder should be avenged, if ever a murder was. He was murdered because he was an up-standing, red-blooded, fearless American citizen, a fact that the soft pedal squad seem to overlook.

**He was murdered because he knew too much about German spy activities in that mountain region—in the very heart of New England.**

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\*Mrs Dean passed away very quietly while taking a nap on her couch about 5:30 on Monday afternoon, September 15, 1919.



He was slain because he had the courage to attempt to carry out his duty as a loyal citizen, to report to the proper authorities pernicious and sinister enemy operations, which included military signals, systematically and defiantly used for months, during the most critical period of the world war; so brazenly used, in fact, that they were the talk and dread of rural communities for miles around and eventually became the subject of exhaustive inquiry and reports by the United States Department of Justice and the intelligence branch of the army at Camp Devens.

It is stated on the highest authority that the murder of Dr. Dean in an obscure village among the New Hampshire mountains caused such a commotion in officialdom that it figured in voluminous reports compiled by the army intelligence bureaus of Great Britain, France and even Germany, which was obviously most concerned.

It is further stated that the signals from Monadnock, Pack Monadnock and Temple mountains, and other points in New England, especially along Cape Cod, became subjects of important correspondence between the United States government and Great Britain and France. The archives in Washington hold written proof of months of investigation made by Federal officials coincident with the murder of Dr. Dean.

County Solicitor Roy M. Pickard received several letters from J. J. Bosdan, of No. 15 School street, Boston, concerning the Dean case. In one of these letters, dated September 13, 1919, Mr. Bosdan wrote:

#### **STRANGE DOCUMENT.**

"Some time ago I received a strange document from a relative of the late Karl Liebknecht himself, by a high-ranking German secret service man in charge of the Espionage Bureau in Berlin. This document had strange and sensational revelations bearing on the Dean murder case.

"I at once communicated with persons in Britain and France, who I thought, would be interested in the contents of this revelation. To my surprise I was informed that certain persons in England and France had already interested themselves to the extent of procuring reports of 150,000 words. These were put in my hands on the Dean murder case and other matters, showing complicity of a certain prominent man at——and others."

#### **INTERNATIONAL MURDER.**

There you have further proof that the murder of Dr. Dean was

an international murder and that the killing of this inoffensive, law-abiding American citizen was fraught with ramifications.

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 the war, 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, Ayer, supplied types, situations, color and plot sufficient to delight the most ardent author or playwright.

Because of the military and international angles and the local political and personal entanglements, the murder of Dr. Dean has been made to appear to be more of a mystery than it really is. It isn't near the mystery that certain persons have tried to make it out to be, and they know it.

#### **EVIDENCE WITHHELD.**

To be sure it is involved and deep-rooted, but it isn't so involved that it cannot be cleared up if all the officials work shoulder-to-shoulder and CONTINUE TO WORK; if petty jealousies and personalities and politics are swept aside, and, if all the witnesses available tell all they know. Some of them have not begun to tell all they know up to the present time, and some who knew things of collateral importance say they were not called before the Cheshire County Grand Jury.

County Solicitor Roy M. Pickard, of Keene, and Attorney-General Oscar L. Young of Concord claim they have done everything in their official power to fasten guilt and to apprehend and punish the murderer or the murderers of Dr. Dean.

They say the evidence at hand was insufficient to warrant an arrest or to procure a conviction. They say further that they have conscientiously done everything in their power to safeguard the rights of all concerned and to weld a chain that would implicate the guilty persons. They say they are as eager as anybody to avenge Dean's death and to bring the murderers

to justice, but that they cannot do it on mere rumor and country gossip which has pointed the finger of suspicion at certain men.

### **GOOD RECORDS.**

Mr. Pickard and Attorney-General Young have good records as public officials. They are conservative and have proceeded with caution in this case, but they should not let the Dean case die and they say they don't intend to. They invite anybody who may have any evidence of import to confer with them at once. They say they will reopen the case as soon as they procure anything important enough to make it worth while.

The Selectmen of East Jaffrey are more vigorous in their claims. With Selectman Edward C. Boynton as chief-spokesman, they assert that the county and State prosecutors "have ample evidence if they used all that is available to the best advantage."

"Why grope and flounder around for more evidence when there is enough to arrest and prosecute certain persons?" asks Mr. Boynton, who has been the people's champion in this fight. "Why weren't all the witnesses called before the Grand Jury and why weren't those called permitted to tell all they knew?"

Selectmen Boynton, Coolidge and Hogan have stood their ground courageously in the face of much pressure, visible and invisible. The whole region is aroused and indignant. There has been friction from the start between the town officials and the county and State authorities and between the Federal agents and the county and State officials. The Federal officials have worked hand-in-glove with the Selectmen of East Jaffrey and those who are now appealing for action.

### **FEDERAL MEN LISTENED.**

Affairs were so strained that Department of Justice men listened in an adjoining room at the Winchendon Hotel, in Winchendon, where a group of prominent East Jaffrey citizens conferred with the county attorney, who was indignant when he heard of it. Even passive residents of the region say "where there is so much smoke there must be some fire."

At any rate this friction, which developed a feud, delayed and befogged the case and is interpreted as indicating conditions of an unusual nature, to say the least.

Feeling in East Jaffrey and surrounding towns is as keen to-

day as it was the day that the tragedy was discovered. The East Jaffrey Board of Trade, after two years of inactivity, due to the war, held a meeting which developed into a mass meeting of protest concerning the Dean case.

Among the issues debated at that meeting were the following:

That the county and State authorities declined to engage Dr. George Burgess Magrath of Boston, medical examiner for Suffolk County, to perform an autopsy, although requested by the Department of Justice agents, and that when Dr. Magrath was eventually engaged months later to perform an autopsy on the twice-exhumed body, he found that the medical referee had never made a complete autopsy.

That no inquest was ever held.

That the town was advised against offering a reward on the ground that the county would offer one and that the county failed to live up to its agreement and the town eventually had to offer a reward of \$300 which still stands.

#### **CHARGE CLUES DESTROYED.**

That the county authorities failed adequately to safeguard the premises where the murder was committed and that said alleged negligence resulted in the destruction of important clues.

That Postmaster Henchman swept and otherwise cleaned up the Dean barn on the day the body was found, claiming that he acted under orders of officers higher up, who are reported to have assumed the responsibility.

That the town and Federal authorities claimed the cleaning of the barn was a gross error which resulted in the loss of valuable evidence.

That the detective hired by the county and State was not sufficiently competent and trained to investigate such an important case.

That the town was obliged to engage a detective of its own whose report was discredited by the county and State authorities.

That the county and State officials were tardy in calling a special Grand Jury. (It was not convened until April, after a lapse of eight months.)

That there was serious lack of co-operation on the part of the town, county, State and Federal authorities.

## RUFFLED SENTIMENT.

As may be observed, it doesn't require more than a casual reading of these complaints to get an idea of the involved nature of this tragedy and the ruffled sentiment of the community thereabout, and it hasn't changed an iota. The town of East Jaffrey is divided with nine persons in every ten, and probably a greater majority, demanding that action be taken against certain suspects.

The county and State authorities worked for months on the theory that Mrs. Dean may have committed the crime because she had opportunity. They tenaciously clung to this hypothesis in spite of the fact that every mental alienist and physician engaged by them reported that the widow was too frail mentally and physically to carry out such a crime.

Relatives and friends of the widow were incensed. They claimed that it was sacrilegious to attempt to connect Mrs. Dean with the tragedy in view of her feeble condition and her wonderful love for her husband, and particularly in view of the strong fabric of clues and circumstances that seemed to implicate others more strongly.

In justice to the memory of Mrs. Dean it can be here stated in the most positive terms that she had no more to do with the death of her husband than a child unborn. In stumbling along that trail the county and State authorities allowed more promising trails to grow faint and cold. They barked too long up the wrong tree.

## ASSASSINS COVERED TRACKS.

Meanwhile, the real assassins were busy covering their tracks, and Mrs. Dean, as sweet and trusting and innocent as a child, was entirely ignorant of the suspicion until within a few days of her recent death.

There are interesting things to be told about Mrs. Dean in a later installment.

There has been much talk about absence of motive in the Dean murder case, when as a matter of fact motive has been smeared all over the landscape.

Motive was to be found in the sun flashes by day and in the hot-air balloons and rockets and vivid flashes, which resembled heat lightning at night, and in the dot and dash lights which blinked from captive balloons along the rugged mountain slopes and peaks, and above all, in those words spoken by Dr. Dean

to Mrs. Morison the very day of his death—words which return now like an accusing voice from the grave—words which boom louder than anything else in this absorbing case, and which will aid in smoking out the real slayers of a law-abiding American citizen whose tongue was silenced before he could “squeal.”

There is evidence tending to show that the conversation between Dr. Dean and Mrs. Morison in the field that day was overheard by someone concealed in a clump of bushes nearby. There is stronger evidence that Dr. Dean had ample opportunity to tell others of what he had planned with Mrs. Morison when he went to the village that evening to do his weekly shopping, a few hours before his death.

**Who feared the threatened disclosures?**

**Who knew that Dr. Dean knew?**

## CHAPTER II.

Dr. Dean lived with his wife in the very centre of a hotbed of German spy activities at East Jaffrey, N. H.

The Dean home is two miles from the village and situated on one of the highest habitable hills in that section. The "Dean house," mentioned now with awe by the townspeople, can be seen for miles. It is one of the landmarks of the region.

The mysterious signals, flashed day and night from the framework of mountains, were not the product of rural imagination or war hysteria, as some have endeavored to argue. Federal records refute such a claim.

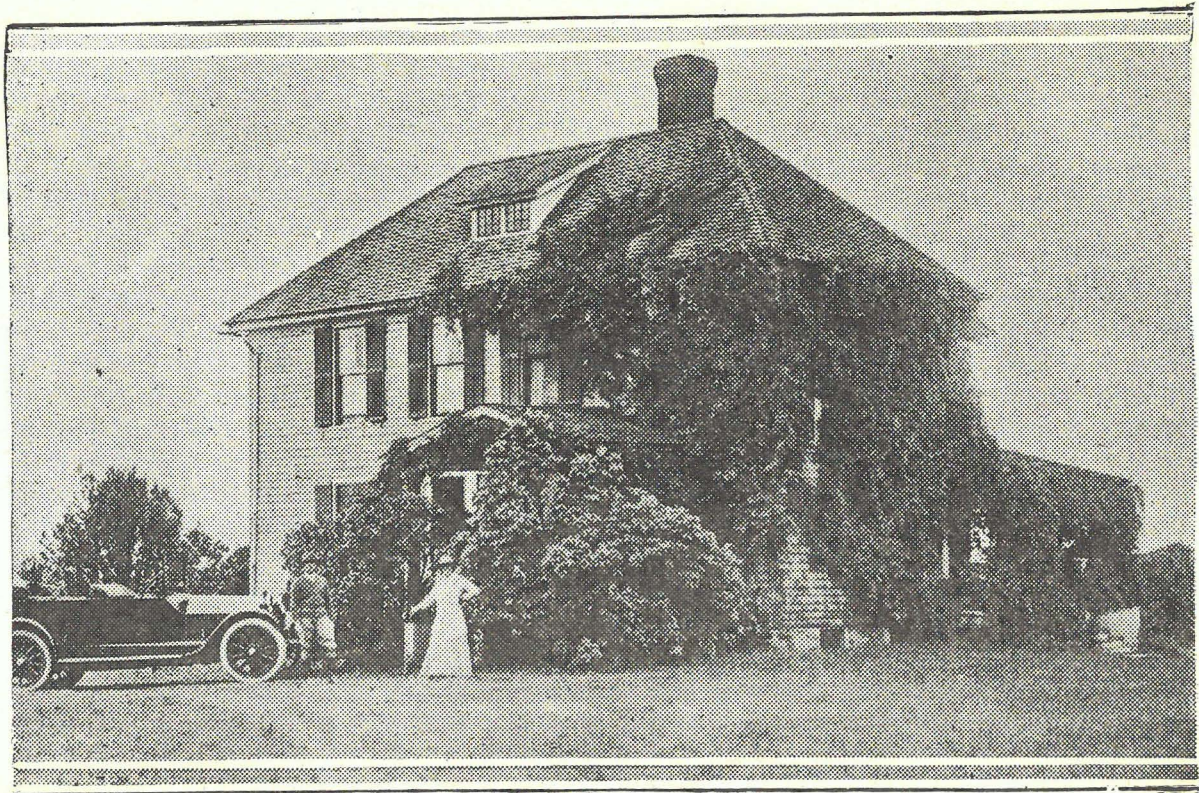
The signals were real. They were military signals. They were as much a part of the German war system as were the Kaiser's armies overseas. That fact cannot be disputed. They were seen too many times and for too long a period by persons of influence, calm judgment and intelligence, some of whom engaged private detectives and conducted personal investigations, actuated by patriotism.

The lights and balloons and rockets made their first appearance in the hills and mountains of New Hampshire as early as the Fall of 1916, when relations between Germany and the United States were at the breaking point. They were displayed continuously and with greater frequency and boldness after Uncle Sam entered the fray in April, 1917, and continued in operation up to the armistice.

There were signals and other anti-American activities and all the evidence shows that nobody, with the exception of those concerned in the traitorous operations, knew more about what was going on than did Dr. Dean.

### DISCUSSES LIGHTS.

There is evidence that he discussed the lights as far back as Thanksgiving, 1917, and frequently later, and that in the summer, when he was struck down and shoved into a well, within a few months of the defeat and surrender of the German armies, Dr. Dean was so alarmed over what he discovered that he appealed to a wealthy woman neighbor, Mrs. Horace Morison of Boston, Washington and Peterboro, to hasten to the Department of



The Dean House (Built in 1893)



Justice agents in Boston and to ask them to send up their best man.

But Dr Dean's tongue was silenced by a gang of assassins before an agent could go to New Hampshire to hear the story that went to his grave with him. Fortunately Dr. Dean was not the only one who knew about the spy activities, although if he had told Mrs. Morison more his slayers might now be behind bars instead of enjoying their freedom and laughing up their sleeves at the attempts to direct suspicion elsewhere.

Affairs were becoming desperate for the Germans, and the situation was so critical that agents in New England were forced to be ruthless. In fairness, however, it should be stated that they apparently acted more through personal fear of exposure than on any national impulse in the killing of Dean.

On the morning of what proved to be Dr. Dean's last day of life Mrs. Morison, who occupies a beautiful mountain estate not more than two miles distant down the old Jaffrey-Peterboro wood road, called on him with two other women.

#### VISITED DEANS.

Mrs. Morison and Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. Lynch were collecting contributions for a local hospital in which they were interested. They sought articles and cash for a hospital fair. They had been to Peterboro and while motoring toward Jaffrey they decided to drop in at the Deans.

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.

Mrs. Morison's story of her last interview with Dr. Dean forms a part of the Grand Jury, State and Federal records. Here is the stenographic transcript of her testimony:

"On Tuesday, August 13, I went to see Dr. Dean at his farm around noontime to collect funds or other donations for the hospital in which I am interested. I met Dr. Dean near his barn and we both walked across the field from Colfelt's house. Dr. Dean said: 'Miss Ware spoke of seeing lights. Did you see any lights?'

"Dr. Dean said, 'Could you show where you saw them?' I said 'Yes, I can show you.' We walked to a large stone and stood there for a time. Dr. Dean turned and said, 'What do you know of the Colfelts? Have you met them?'

"I said, 'Yes, at the Golf Club last July, but, I think, Dr. Dean, you know more about them than I do. Why did he leave to go to Greenville?' Dr. Dean said, 'I gave him twenty-four hours to get out. I am too good an American to have a man of that kind on my place.'

"I said, 'What do you mean by that, Dr. Dean?' Dr. Dean said, 'Well, in the first place (hesitating), a man like Colfelt, young and strong, who will not do useful work at this time is not the man I want on my place. I offered him my land to use for agricultural purposes. The rent I need. When are you going to Boston, Mrs. Morison?' He asked this after we had walked a few steps.

"I said, 'Tomorrow, Dr. Dean. Tomorrow morning.'

"He said, 'Will you go in and ask them to send up one of the best men they have as soon as possible?'

"I said, 'I will, Dr. Dean.'

#### ASKED FOR WHOLE STORY.

"Dr. Dean then said, 'I will come out to this stone at 12 tonight and if I see anything I will ring you up.' It was agreed to use a code message about turkeys. I said to Dr. Dean, 'Can't you tell me now, as it will save time.'

"Dr. Dean turned quietly and said, 'Mrs. Morison, you are a woman. What I know would be too dangerous for a woman to know.'

"I said, 'Why did you not take it to the authorities if you knew this?' He said, 'Well, in the first place, I can't leave my wife, and, in the second place, I want to make sure that I am right and I am ready now.'

"We parted then, Dr. Dean having given me some books and a bronze statuette and a basket for my sale to raise funds for the hospital. I left the next day for Boston where I placed the request before Mr. Gifford at the headquarters of the Department of Justice at No. 45 Milk street. The next day I read of the murder of Dr. Dean in a Boston newspaper and communicated the fact to Mr. Gifford. Dr. Dean had complained that his turkeys had been stolen by 'two-legged foxes,' although locked in the barn."

#### WATCHED THE LIGHTS.

Under their agreement, Mrs. Morison watched the lights that night and wondered why she did not receive the promised tele-

phone call in code from Dr. Dean, but he was dead in six feet of water in the cistern before the appointed hour of midnight, and ignorant of the tragedy, she took an auto for Boston early next morning.

Mrs. Morison is one of the star witnesses. She is the wife of an army officer. Her father, the late John Whitcomb Cotton, amassed a fortune as head of the American Tube works in Boston.

Three days later Mrs. Morison went to the spot where she stood that day with Dr. Dean. She was accompanied by a Mr. Anderson. While they conversed on the incident, standing close to a stone wall, Mrs. Morison heard a suspicious noise in the bushes. She remarked to Mr. Anderson, "There is somebody in that hedge." Instantly a man arose, and fled through the undergrowth into the woods. He apparently feared capture. They saw little more than his back.

Strange activities on a supposedly peaceful New England farm! The man in ambush incident developed the theory that Dr. Dean's conversation with Mrs. Morison had been overheard and carried to superiors. That was possible, under the circumstances, but it should not be overlooked that Dr. Dean went to the village that evening for a few hours and conversed with quite a few persons, one or two of whom were likely to have been told of his plan to inform the United States authorities.

#### **DID NOT TELL HIS WIFE.**

Dr. Dean was extremely non-communicative. He took few if any into his confidence and he seldom discussed his private affairs. He did not burden with his fears his wife, whose mind and health were rapidly failing, but that he had silently entertained fears was indicated in divers ways prior to his murder.

The tragedy occurred on Tuesday night. On the Sunday evening previous he visited the mountain home of Professor Benjamin L. Robinson of Cambridge. Professor Robinson is instructor in botany at Harvard. The Robinsons were among the Deans' most cherished friends of the East Jaffrey summer colony. Dr. Dean, in the course of his conversation that Sunday evening, started to tell something about signals and kindred activities when he suddenly stopped and remarked: "But I must not burden you with my troubles." He would not discuss the subject further.

On Tuesday night during his visit to the village he met Miss Georgiana Hodgkins, sister-in-law of Charles L. Rich, judge of the local police court and cashier of the local bank. Miss Hodgkins is a teacher at a high school in Great Neck, L. I. She had frequently visited the Riches and knew Dr. Dean very well. She says he discussed the subject of immortality with her that night and among other phases suggested that he thought soldiers killed in battle, no matter how sinful their lives might have been, would be absolved of everything. Miss Hodgkins was so impressed with this point that she told the Rev. Mr. Enslin, pastor of the Baptist Church, who officiated at Dr. Dean's funeral. Miss Hodgkins thought it might be used as a theme for a funeral sermon.

Dr. Dean was a courageous, cool man who would not entertain groundless fears, nor would he make empty charges or wrong a person. That was why he proceeded with such caution in this affair. Had he been a little more demonstrative he might have defeated those who plotted against him.

In June, Dr. Dean received a threatening letter in his rural free delivery box. It was unsigned and bore no postage. He told Miss Mary Lee Ware, a wealthy summer resident of West Rindge, about it, but did not go into details. Miss Ware lives at No. 41 Brimmer street, Boston. She has testified that she had a vague impression that the letter threatened Dr. Dean's life. There again he became dumb just before furnishing the vital details. The case would be infinitely easier to solve if he had been more explicit.

Another bit of evidence which showed that Dr. Dean felt that danger menaced him is contained in testimony offered by Police Officer Walter A. Lindsay of East Jaffrey, who made the only statement prior to the Grand Jury investigation, which was sworn to.

#### **POLICEMAN'S STATEMENT.**

Officer Lindsay made a deposition before Justice of the Peace Walter Emerson. His statement follows:

"About July 13, I met Dr. Dean in front of the postoffice. He noticed my police badge and asked if I was still on the force, and I told him 'yes.' Then he said, 'I have lived on the farm for twenty-eight years and I have never been molested in any way, shape or manner, but if I should want police protection where would I telephone to?' And I said, 'Either to the police station, Duncan's (drug store) or Fred Stratton's livery stable.'"

Mark well that the first threat came by anonymous, unposted letter, in June, dropped in the road box by some one of the underbrush conspirators; that he made tentative plans to get in touch with the police in the event of an anticipated emergency and that less than twelve hours after he talked with Mrs. Morison he had met the fate he feared.

Bear in mind also that all these major links in the chain of evidence welded by fact and circumstances are found away from the Dean fireside and every one of them eliminates Mrs. Dean and points to those interested in the mysterious signals on the hills.

### CHAPTER III.

A highly significant feature of the Dean murder case was the fact that a man who was particularly active in that region, and who with others was out a great deal at all hours of the night, had been under surveillance by Department of Justice agents five months prior to the tragedy.

Another collateral feature of importance was the German submarine activities off the New England coast. Critics who doubted the purpose of the signal lights and who attributed them to fancy are forgetting that German U-boats sank vessels off Nantucket, off the New Jersey coast, and one boldly invaded Massachusetts waters and bombarded a tug and three empty coal barges off the town of Orleans on Cape Cod.

Jack Ainsleigh, a ten-year-old boy, son of the skipper of one of the barges, ran into the cabin and procured an American flag which he defiantly waved at the German U-boat while the bombardment was at its height.

All these facts are in Federal archives at Washington along with countless others which prove the brazen activities and astounding organization of the Germans in this country during the war. The blowing up of ammunition factories and other buildings were all part of the German military operations in this country. When Werner Horne attempted to blow up the international bridge at Vanceboro, Me., by tying a dress-suit case full of dynamite to the trestle, many skeptics considered him nothing but a crank or a fanatic.

Those who talked with Horne and others associated with the case realized from the outset, from his manner and soldierly bearing that he was a German officer. Before a court in Moncton, N. B., recently, Horne stood up and admitted that he was a captain in the German army and had been assigned to destroy that bridge over which the Canadians and British were transporting troops and war supplies and munitions.

If it hadn't been 25 below zero, so cold that Horne's face and hands were frozen, he might have accomplished his purpose. As it was, scant damage was done and he was too cold to escape on foot as he had planned.

If the German military lords overseas included the international bridge at Vanceboro in their war plotting, it is reasonable to deduce that a system of military lights from mountains in New England, visible to U-boats that could prowls at will in the darkness with little fear of detection, was also part of their military machinations in this country.

Monadnock Mountain is famous among mariners approaching the New England coast because it is said to be one of the first points of land visible under the glass. Monadnock is also within easy vision to the naked eye of Wachusett Mountain in Massachusetts, from which flares and dot and dash lights attached to captive balloons could be handily relayed. Some of the lights used in the New Hampshire mountains that range around the Dean home 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 Federal records show that suspicious lights were sighted at various points along Cape Cod and the New Hampshire and Maine coasts. 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.

But those who took part in these nocturnal hunts were satisfied beyond any doubt that the signals were operated for the benefit of the enemy. Another significant fact is that Department of Justice agents were sent to that region on the strength of very plausible complaints lodged many months before Dean was killed.

Miss Mary Lee Ware of the Back Bay of Boston, with a summer home at West Rindge, was so concerned about these lights that she and a group of neighbors engaged counsel and spent much time and money investigating them with the aid of private detectives. Their lawyer, Attorney Reginald H. Smith of 60 State Street, Boston, wrote a lengthy report concerning them. Mrs. Morison, another wealthy woman of Boston, also devoted much time to ferreting out German activities in that section, prompted like Miss Ware and Dr. Dean and all other

loyal Americans solely by a spirit of patriotism to protect the lives of our troops in transports.

Mrs. Benjamin L. Robinson of Cambridge, wife of a Harvard professor, was another of the Summer colony who early discovered the anti-American activities. Some of these women were shadowed every place they went for a long time and they were really concerned. One is known to have engaged a man on her premises who was virtually a bodyguard.

### HUNTED FOR SIGNALERS.

These are all cultured women and there are many other men and women equally intelligent in that section who saw the lights week in and week out and who were satisfied as to their purpose. Persons of this standing are not apt to bother their heads about creatures of fancy. It took something real and sinister to arouse them to the pitch in which they found themselves while our troops overseas were fighting the decisive battles of the world war.

As this series of articles continues witnesses will be quoted who hunted signal lights many nights on foot or on horseback and in automobiles. Some of the more indignant and courageous Americans in that region lay out all night in the bushes in spots where active signals had been seen on previous nights, but the conspirators apparently had trained sentries in ambush and they were known to have dogs posted who gave the alarm.

On one occasion agents of the Army Intelligence from Camp Devens saw three men with a portable light of high power, but before they could surround them they escaped in a fast automobile.

Those who took part in the signal stalking report that automobiles were seen in lonely sections of the mountains equipped with two rear lights as powerful as headlights. These lights were used as signals by covering them with colored disks of red, blue and green. It is suspected, but has not been established by direct evidence, that dynamos and wireless apparatus were conveyed from point to point in automobiles.

This would account for the difficulty in detecting any of the crew that operated the lights. It is a fact borne out by records that many of the sailors from the interned German steamships in Boston and other New England ports obtained positions in the vicinity of East Jaffrey, Dublin and Peterboro as farm hands, butlers and chauffeurs. All of these sailors from the German in-



tered ships were members of the German naval reserve and highly-trained men.

They would form a working nucleus for operating military signals and they would have sufficient skill and daring. A lumber camp in the section is known to have among its crew the editor-in-chief and the sub-editor of an inflammatory newspaper in Fitchburg, Mass., which was suppressed by the United States authorities.

Professional men and women and town officials in East Jaffrey, Peterboro, Dublin and adjoining communities not only saw lights, but heard automobiles of high power and with engines that made very little noise, pass at certain hours nightly. An automobile painted battleship gray was seen a great many times.

#### WOVEN INTO TRAGEDY.

So there is no difficulty in shaping a fabric into which the suspicious signal lights of the hills are woven automatically with the Dean tragedy.

Returning to the submarine activities off the coast, there is a federal record of the capture of a little coaster laden with stone which left Rockport, Mass., and which was pounced upon by a German U-boat just outside the hook at Provincetown. The captain and his wife were taken into the submarine while the schooner was made fast, and were subjected to a third degree by a German officer who spoke good English. The captain and his wife expressed surprise when they noticed a New York newspaper of recent date in the submarine.

"I mentioned it to the skipper of the submarine," said the captain of the Rockport coaster later when interviewed by army intelligence agents.

"He answered that if I was surprised at their having a recent New York paper, I would probably be more surprised to learn that he had attended a performance at a New York theatre a few nights previous and he proved his statement by showing me the seat checks." They didn't think it worth while to sink our little craft.

The name of the captain and his wife are among the government records, If U-boats were lurking that close to New York, convenient enough to permit their officers to mingle with persons on shore and pick up information, and if they came close enough virtually to bombard the Massachusetts coast, why should anybody doubt the authenticity and the usefulness of military signal lights from the New Hampshire hills?

Lights from Monadnock would be of great importance to report activities at our naval base at Portsmouth. Answering lights were seen by those who went out nights in the undergrowth to watch them. They were flashed from Pack Monadnock, from Temple Mountain, and from Wachusett Mountain. Information gathered by spies in the New England district, which could not be trusted to the mail, telephone or telegraph, might be carried by automobile without the least fear of suspicion or detection and flashed by secret code from the heights in the vicinity of the Dean home.

There is evidence that mail was tampered with in that section and that code messages were received over the telephone and telegraph. There is evidence also to show that persons of German descent or German sympathies visited Camp Devens at Ayer frequently, and that soldiers in American uniforms made visits to East Jaffrey at night by auto.

The records of the Department of Justice are known to contain reference to great activity on the part of certain persons who traveled unused mountain roads at all hours of the night in the saddle, and those records show, as government agents claimed, that some of the horses wore rubber shoes. Picture postcards which are now thought to have illustrated a code also figure in the case.

A woman whose husband was shadowed by government agents, cultivated the acquaintance of a telephone operator, made lavish gifts and pleaded to be taught how to operate the country switchboard. It was thought, in the light of later developments, that she sought an opportunity to send messages without the knowledge of the operator.

Such telephone calls as "Cook has left," "Cook very ill," a "Cook ailing," by persons who employed no cook, were also regarded by officials as code messages on long distance calls to New York and other points.

### **MYSTERIOUS SUPPLIES.**

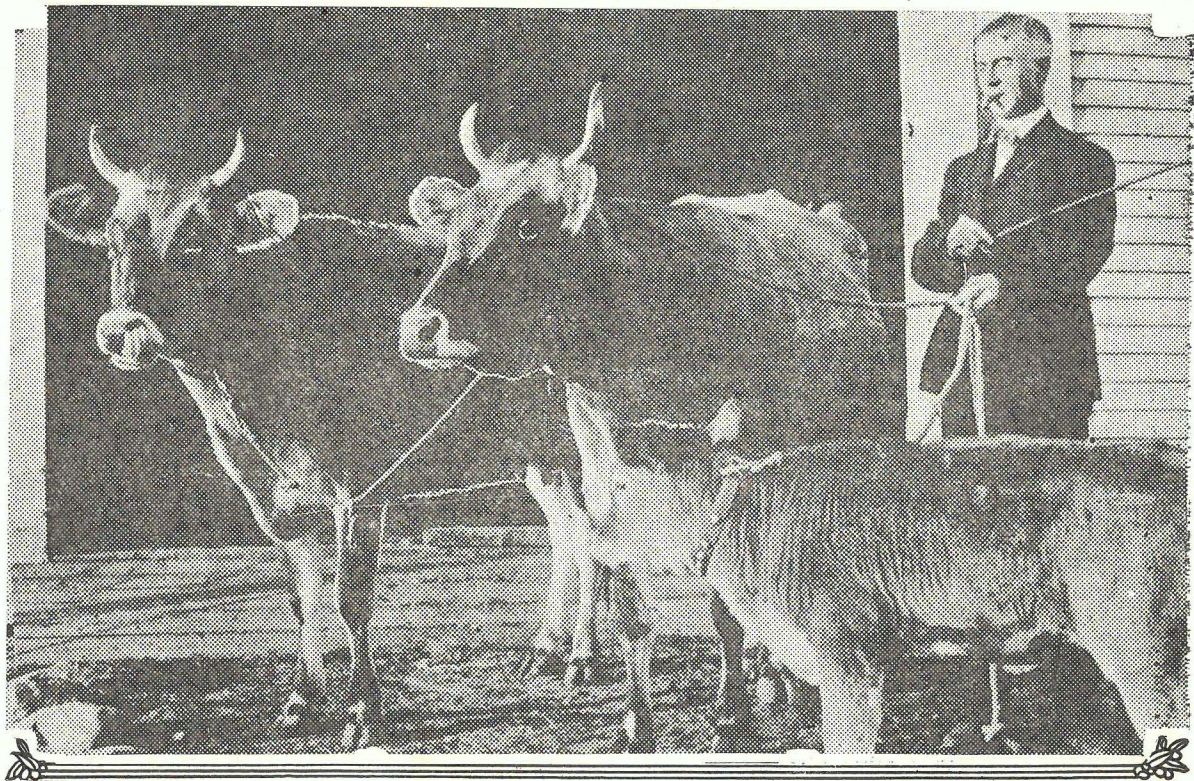
A man who was under suspicion as a pro-German bought such large quantities of provisions and groceries at a country store that the suspicion developed that he must be feeding persons concealed in lonely mountain retreats.

A local photographer was asked to develop films for post cards which contained groupings of a Teddy-bear, a doll and a dog. There were many different assortments, and the fact that adults

were interested in such cards, aroused his suspicion long before the Dean murder.

On some of the exposures the dog would be in the centre and a Teddy-bear on the left and a doll on the right, and on a pre-exposure of these films was the negative of an alarm clock scarcely discernible in the upper corner.

The hands on this clock pointed to different hours according to the shift in the groupings of the Teddy-bear, doll and dog. These cards are thought to have served as code messages. They created much comment and became more conspicuous during the developments that followed the murder of Dr. Dean.



W. K. Dean and his Ox Team.

#### CHAPTER IV.

Before plunging further into the activities that preceded and followed the murder, something should be said of the life of Dr. Dean and of his wife, who died September 15, 1919.

They were fine characters and were loved by everybody. They had a name for every turkey and rooster and hen and for every cow and for their horse and dogs. Birds and squirrels came to their porch for feeding.

Because of their kindness to animals the members of the fashionable Summer colony for miles around used to give them old horses and dogs which were family pets and which the owners wanted to be sure would have good treatment in their last days. At times they had as many as six or seven dogs.

Dr. and Mrs. Dean regarded these animal gifts as tokens of esteem, and year in and year out their mountain farm was an asylum for the aged animals of wealthy Summer residents.

This kindness to dumb animals was reflected in their dealing with everyone. They did not have an enemy until Uncle Sam entered the World War, when a certain group of pro-Germans became concerned over what Dr. Dean had discovered relative to anti-American operations in that region.

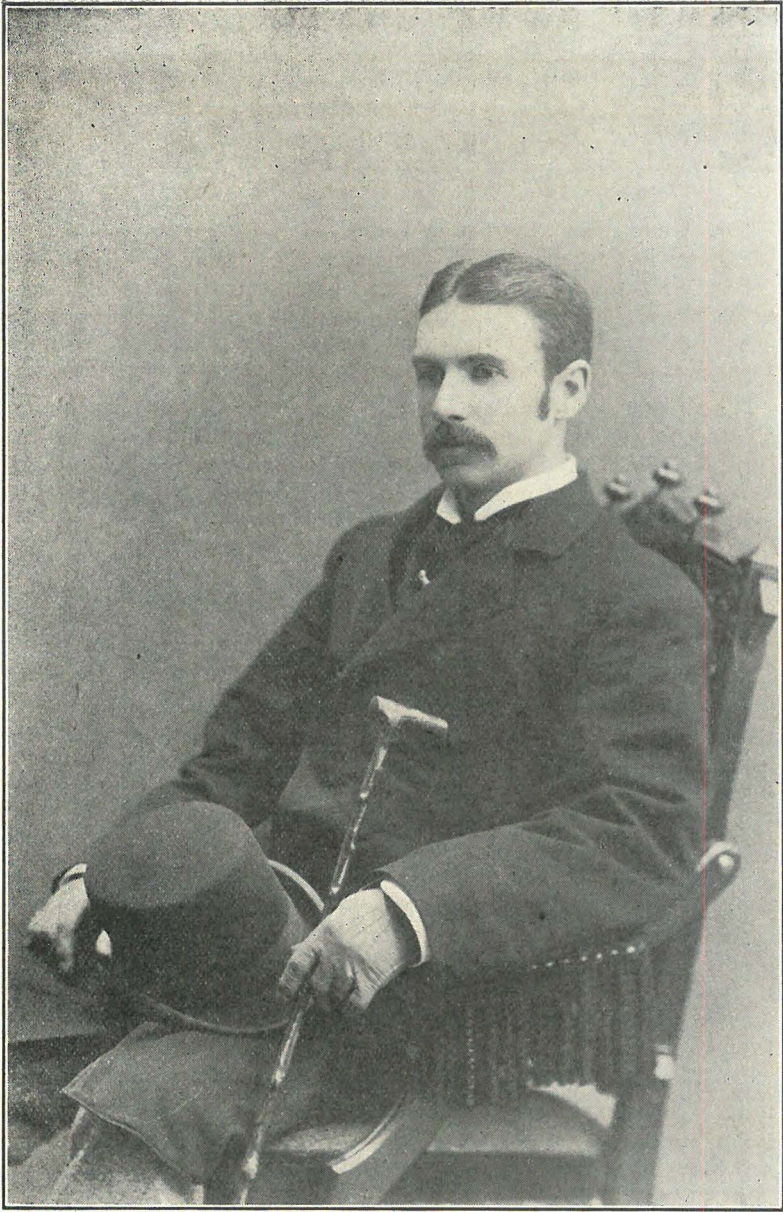
#### MARRIED BELLE.

Dr. Dean was sixty-three years, six months and one day old when killed. He was born February 12, 1855, in Wilmington, Del. Previous reports stated that he was born in Siam. This was an error. He was married at the age of twenty-five, on his birthday, February 12, 1880, 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, N. Y. The wedding took place at South Hadley, Mass., in the home of the bride's uncle, Byron Smith.

Mrs. Dean's beauty brought numerous proposals, but she rejected them all for her cousin, whom she had known from childhood and who had been brought up in her father's home from the time he was fifteen years of age. Men of great wealth and prominence had sought the hand of Mrs. Dean. Her father, a physician, was very wealthy.



Mrs. Dean in 1880.



Dr. W. K. Dean in 1880.

Dr. Dean was the son of the Rev. William Dean, a native of New York State, who was one of the first English-speaking missionaries sent to China. The Rev. Mr. Dean later went to Siam and his wife and two sons accompanied him. The other son, Frederic Dean, was a year and a half younger than his brother. During the war he was a lecturer for the Y. M. C. A., and lives at No. 126 West 104 street, New York City.

Dr. Dean was about five years of age when he and his brother went to Siam with their parents. They were playmates of the Crown Prince of Siam for years, and their father was on very friendly terms with the King of Siam. A collection of valuable autographed letters found among Dr. Dean's effects contains letters from the King of Siam and the Crown Prince.

The Dean boys had tutors in Siam. Upon their return to the United States their uncle in Rochester agreed to help William in the study of medicine. The uncle had a large medical practice. While a student at medical school William Dean made his home with his uncle and fell in love with Mary, the daughter, whom he called Polly and she called him "Billie" and "my baby" until his death.

#### HAD NO CHILDREN.

They always regretted that they had no children. Both were passionately fond of children and never missed an opportunity to entertain the offspring of neighbors. In later years young folk were among their most welcome guests at their mountain farm. Mrs. Dean enjoyed a comfortable income from her father's estate during most of the thirty-eight years of their married life.

Dr. Dean also had personal investments which gave him a small income, but about five years before his murder the family income dwindled to such a degree that it preyed on Mrs. Dean's mind. She mentioned to many neighbors that their finances were low, after her mind became impaired, but prior to that she was just as careful as her husband always was not to discuss their domestic affairs with even their most intimate friends.

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. Dr. Dean was an unusual man in personality and intellect. He was a born gentleman and extremely refined in appearance and manner.



He was sensitive and careful of the feelings of everyone with whom he came in contact. He was never seen to lose his temper and never said anything harsh about his friends or neighbors, nor would he countenance gossip.

### **NEVER PRACTICED MEDICINE.**

After graduation from Rochester University with the degree of A. B. in 1876, he attended lectures at Buffalo Medical College for a year, registered at the College of Physicians and Surgeons (Columbia) in New York, for the degree of M. D. in 1878 and would have graduated in 1880 but for a change of plans connected with his marriage. He was appointed "physician in charge" of the Rochester Hospital in 1877-8 a unique honor for one who was still a student; and gained renown as a practitioner, as well as skill as a diagnostician under Drs. Ely, Moore, and Henry W. Dean his uncle, in whose office he carried on his studies.

He abandoned the profession of medicine, however, and never practised afterward, because his cousin insisted that a doctor's life would ruin his health as it had her father's, and she would not marry him under any such condition. Her father's premature death that very winter only confirmed her judgment, though admittedly the nephew sacrificed a large practice and a brilliant career when he married and went into the office of Estes & Lauriat in Boston.

Since Dr. Dean's murder there has been talk among those who tried to cast suspicion on Mrs. Dean to the effect that she was so jealous of him that she did not want him to practice medicine and have too many women patients. This is emphatically denied by relatives and lifelong friends of Dr. and Mrs. Dean.

After their marriage in South Hadley, Dr. and Mrs. Dean lived in the South End of Boston and in Roxbury for a while. While in this city Dr. Dean suffered from a sensitive throat, and fearing that it might develop tubercular infection, they decided to move to Dover, Mass., where they bought a farm in 1885. Four years later they moved to East Jaffrey.

### **SELECTED PLATEAU.**

Dr. Dean selected a plateau two miles from East Jaffrey which gave them one of the finest views in that section. He had a comfortable house with all modern conveniences erected at the edge of a clearing on the brink of a promontory overlooking Monadnock, Pack Monadnock and Wachusett mountains.

From a broad veranda a wonderful panorama is unfolded. The Dean farm became one of the show places of that 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, but nobody ever remained all night and few remained for meals.

Mrs. Dean, because of her gentility and sweet disposition, was compared to Martha Washington by the country folks. If anybody was ill or in trouble she was the first to visit them. She brought them flowers and sweets and cheered them with words and by her benevolent spirit.

Dr. Dean also had a pleasant word for every child and passer-by. He was of the old school of country gentlemen. In dress he appeared more like an English squire than an American gentleman farmer. He wore bright ties, homespun coats and riding breeches with golf stockings and stout shoes. From the start he did all of the farm chores and quickly recovered from his throat affection in the healing mountain air.

#### **LIKED OUTDOOR LIFE.**

He tilled the soil and pitched hay and watered and fed the livestock, traded with other farmers and went to the village, usually twice a week, to do his shopping. He rode horseback and was a good marksman. He revelled in outdoor life. While a man of medium height and build, he was always lithe and muscular. From boyhood he used dumbbells of more than ordinary weight, which gave him a good chest and arm development.

He was fond of boxing, and villagers who had pugilistic tendencies and engaged in friendly bouts with him occasionally in the barn, testify to Dr. Dean's speed and skill. He was a very young-appearing man for his years.

He never became old in his ideas. He was a profound reader and enjoyed correspondence with friends. He had a fine philosophy of life. He was a lover of nature and an optimist. If he had worries or troubles he kept them to himself. When his wife's mind and health began to fail, two or three years before his murder, it affected Dr. Dean noticeably.

He waited upon her with the attention of a trained nurse. In addition to his chores he did the greater part of the housework and prepared the meals. Mrs. Dean was unable to do any work whatever in the last two years.

She became almost childish, owing to softening of the brain, which she always dreaded and which she realized she had. She said her mother died of the same ailment. Both were fond of flowers and music. They had a quaint melodeon in the parlor.

### **BUILT BUNGALOW.**

Their bungalow was built in 1792. After living there several years they built a modern house on the summit of the hill, and about 1910 they remodelled the bungalow, returning there to live; and started letting the large house to summer residents. Their property is reached from East Jaffrey by an old country road which runs to Peterboro. On the hill, after passing the last house at the fork of two roads, you drive a mile and then swing sharply to the right into the Dean farm, which is extremely secluded and restful.

The bungalow is reached first, while the new large house is on the summit of the hill 300 yards beyond. The stable is in a hollow on the left, about 500 feet from the bungalow and 150 feet from the main house. The bungalow is a two-story wooden building with a large living room on the ground floor.

The pillars of this room are made of natural white birch, with the bark, giving with the furniture and open fireplace an extremely rustic and cozy atmosphere. The bedrooms are upstairs.

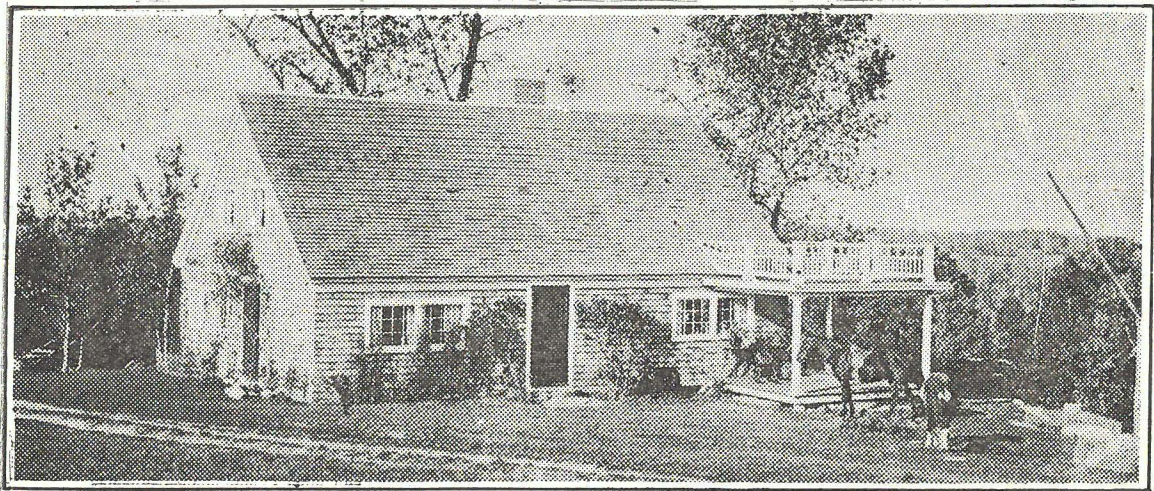
Dr. Dean kept a family horse and two pedigreed Jersey cows and a registered bull, and of late years raised fancy white turkeys which he sold to members of the fashionable mountain colony at good profit. In the Winter he was very fond of taking long hikes and of sleighing. He had an old Russian cutter which was quite picturesque.

### **HAD HORSEHIDE COAT.**

He had a fur coat made from the skins of horses which he and his wife had cared for.

He had a billiard table and invited men friends from neighboring estates and the village to play. He was an expert with the cue. Anything he did, he did well. He was exacting. This was shown in his appearance. He was a man of strong character and will.

Dr. Dean never lost his city ways in nearly thirty years of rural life. He went to bed late and arose late, and the animals on his farm had to be educated to city hours also. He never



The Bungalow as remodeled in 1910.

reached the barn until 10 o'clock in the morning, and he invariably did his milking at midnight.

He would remain up reading or writing until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning; habits, by the way, which with his late trips between the barn and the bungalow, afforded him excellent opportunity to study the suspicious signal lights in that region.

This trait of late hours figures in his murder. The persons who killed him knew about that late milking hour, and were as familiar with every foot of the premises as they were with his habits. Every detail of the murder proclaimed that.

## CHAPTER V.

Now that we have told about Dr. and Mrs. Dean, it is fitting that we describe the stage of Dr. Dean's murder and the hotbed of German spy activities. In order to understand the tragedy, it is essential to know something of the history of the town and the topography of that region and the types of people that figure in the strange case.

East Jaffrey, N. H., on the outskirts of which the Deans lived, is seventy-eight miles from Boston by rail, forty-five miles from Concord, the State capital, and seventeen miles from the city of Keene, which is the Cheshire County seat.

East Jaffrey is situated in the southeastern part of the Granite State. It is one of the most easterly settlements in Cheshire County and is within one town (Rindge) of the Massachusetts line, the nearest town to which, on the other side is Winchendon, better known as "Toy Town" where Santa's wares for the little folks are made in abundance.

A more suitable section could not have been selected for relaying military signals to the sea. East Jaffrey is also within convenient distance of Camp Devens, the most northerly of Uncle Sam's cantonments, where the 76th and the 12th National Army divisions were trained. Much information could be gleaned in and around Camp Devens and Ayer, and carried by automobile to the mountain retreats of the Kaiser's agents, who were working there.

### 1,032 FEET ABOVE THE SEA.

East Jaffrey is 1,032 feet above the sea level and Jaffrey Centre is 1,057 feet above.

Grand Monadnock Mountain, the first point of land visible to mariners approaching the Massachusetts coast, is situated in the northwest part of the town and extends into the southern part of Dublin, that popular mountain resort, where two former German ambassadors were frequent visitors. Grand Monadnock Mountain is 3,186 feet above sea level and 2,029 feet above the centre of the town.

The town of Jaffrey embraces 22,000 acres and about 1,000 acres are covered by water or are uninhabitable mountain

Scale approximately  
1 mile = 3 inches

H.M.D.  
Feb. 12, 1920



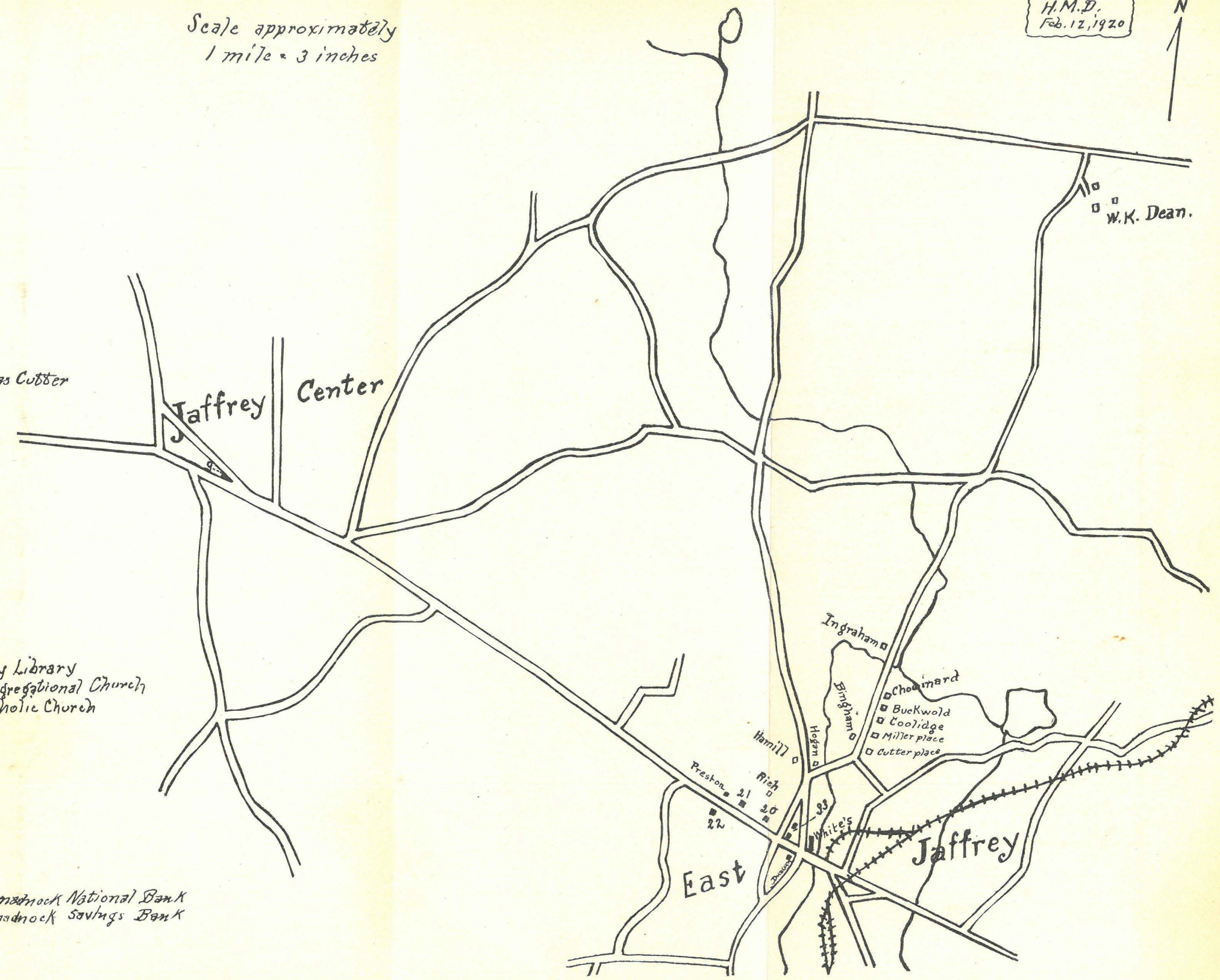
9. Jonas Cutter

Jaffrey Center

W.K. Dean.

20. Clay Library  
21. Congregational Church  
22. Catholic Church

33 Monadnock National Bank  
33 Monadnock Savings Bank



Map of Jaffrey.

reaches. There are upward of 3,200 acres in the settled portion of the town.

The late Daniel B. Cutter of Peterboro in his history of the town wrote:

"The surrounding country has the appearance of an extended plane whose surface is dotted with ponds and villages. In the north and west may be seen the dim outline of the White and Green Mountains and a distinct view of the Kearsarge and Ascutney; in the south, the Watatic and Wachusett Mountains in Massachusetts; in the east is Pack Monadnock, in Temple, and Crotched, in Francestown."

This describes the country which the German agents selected for their military signaling. Jaffrey was founded under a "Masonian" charter in 1749. It was granted by the so-called "Masonian Proprietors" under the title "Middle Monadnock No. 2," on November 30, 1749 to Jonathan Hubbard and thirty-nine others, residents of Hollis, Lunenburg and Dunstable.

#### **RESIDENTS OF PORTSMOUTH.**

The Masonian Proprietors were residents of Portsmouth and vicinity, twelve in number, sort of pioneer apostles, who purchased of John Tuffon Mason, great grandson of Captain John Mason, by the counsel of Plymouth, in 1629.

There is White's Cotton Mill, a group of red brick and wooden buildings, close to the little railroad station, just across the stream, which figures in this case. There are grist and saw mills and a nail and tack factory which did a big war business on government contracts.

While the military signals were at their height, many feared that this factory might be blown up. The population of Jaffrey is 2,500. It is popular as a health and vacation resort. Some of the most fashionable families in the country own or lease mountain estates or visit the inns which are numerous on the outskirts.

It is a locality familiar to people all over the United States.

The Selectmen and other officials of the town are wide-awake and patriotic, as they have showed themselves to be in fighting to have the murder of Dr. Dean avenged.

#### **ENGRAVED TABLET.**

There is a large boulder with a bronze tablet engraved with



the names of the young men of Jaffrey who were enrolled for the World War. It stands in the lawn of the main square of the village under a white wooden arch.

There are 104 names on the tablet, of which eighty reached France. Four of the local soldiers are dead and one East Jaffrey boy died in action, John Humiston, a courier for the 103rd Machine Gun Battalion. The others who died in the service were Roy Ellison, George Stratton, a freshman at Brown, and Herman Chanlonne.

On the day of the "welcome home" exercises, one of the East Jaffrey women in the crowd remarked:

"They have omitted one name—that of William K. Dean, who died for his country just the same as any boy who fell in the trenches."

That remark sums up public sentiment in East Jaffrey, and the whole countryside. Dr. Dean is looked upon as a martyr patriot because of his spirit and fearlessness in attempting to disclose what he had learned after long and careful investigation. Although suspicious for months of the German spy activities, he had refrained from making any report until he was positive in his own mind, as he told his neighbor, Mrs. Morison.

### DEMAND JUSTICE.

This public spirit is now demanding that Dr. Dean's death be avenged and his murderers brought to justice. Even the most casual visitor is convinced that East Jaffrey will never rest easy until the Dean case has been cleared up.

There is a hotel fronting on the public square which is built of red brick and looks more like a schoolhouse. The square has a broad lawn which resembles a college campus. The village hotel was forced to close its doors some time ago because the guests complained that it was too near the drone of the cotton mill and the mill siren, sounded early every morning, disturbed them. So the hotel had to be refitted to house the telephone exchange and other business enterprises.

Adjoining it is Stratton's livery stable, and next to that is a snug brick building in which is located the town bank. The usual village stores are strung along on the opposite side of Main street and Goodnow has a splendid store around the corner on School street.

All these places figure in the case as most of them were visited or passed by Dr. Dean on the evening a few hours before he was murdered.

Down near the pond, reached first from the railroad crossing, with its lift gates, is a quaint hall over a fruit store and a plumber's shop where "movies" are given each week, on Tuesdays and Fridays, afternoon and evening, to a film-greedy public. Capacity audiences are the rule.

School children attend, laden with chewing gum, candy and peanuts, and some of the older boys bring along bottles of tonic. The youngsters follow stirring situations on the screen with bulging eyes and busy tongues. They coach the heroes and hiss the villains and have the time of their lives, and the proprietor, Luigi Mei, a stocky, good-natured Italian, always in his shirt-sleeves during the performance, and who acts as usher, stage-hand and general director, never gets mad.

Those sure are "family films" and "thrillers." The "Orchestra" is a player-piano, pedaled by a woman. Village dances are held occasionally, and church festivals and suppers with sewing and husking bees. A farmhouse on a convenient hill is being fitted up as a commercial hotel and is sorely needed. It will soon be open for business.

There is a modern high school and up-to-date school buildings for the lower grades and quaint white meeting houses which remind one of pioneer days. There is a fine new Catholic church, built of stone, and a rectory. The Rev. Father Hennon, who was a star football and baseball player at college and who hails from Connecticut, is the shepherd of the Catholic flock. There is quite a French colony, most of the adults of which work in the cotton mill.

There are comfortable homes with all the modern improvements and up-to-date stables and garages and attractive lawns and good roads, all of which reflect the comfort and the enterprise and the prosperity of East Jaffrey. Barns are bulging with hay and grain and piles of squash and pumpkins on back porches this time of year and heaps of apples in the orchards tell of generous harvests.

### EARLY SETTLERS.

Few cases have stirred so much discontent and so much dissatisfaction. That is why the authorities should get busy and clear up the crime.

Many of the early settlers of Jaffrey were from Massachusetts. The original name of "Middletown" or "Middle Monadnock No. 2" was changed shortly after 1773 to Jaffrey in honor of George Jaffrey who became a member of the Governor's Council.

Melville Academy was founded there in 1832. Early settlers lived to ripe ages. A longevity chapter in Dr. Cutter's history shows that scores of men and women in Jaffrey died at the ages of 70 to 80, and many reached the age of 90 and over. The Rev. Laban Ainsworth, first minister and a vigorous type, died at the age of 100 years 7 months and 28 days. He was born in Woodstock, Ct. Rufus Houghton, who was appointed to rid the town of paupers, made this report on September 6, 1799:

"Received of the selectmen six dollars and ninety cents in full for warning thirty persons out of the town the present year." This was at the rate of twenty-three cents a head.

East Jaffrey is a delightful place to live in. It was one of the most contented communities in New England until the murder of Dr. Dean, which brought a cloud over the town.

The Dean case in its present neglected state, is like a plague. It has affected young and old. It has formed factions. It has shattered the peace of households. It will be talked of for generations and the shadow will hover and grow blacker until Dr. Dean's death has been thoroughly probed and avenged.

## CHAPTER VI.

After his talk with Mrs. Morison, at noon on the day he was murdered, in which he asked her to go to Boston and tell the Department of Justice officials to send up one of their best men at once as he wished to give them information which he considered too dangerous to impart to a woman, Dr. Dean attended to his customary afternoon chores, and early that evening went to the village to do his weekly shopping.

The stores remain open on Tuesday evening until 9 p. m. Dr. Dean drove down in his light-colored, rubber-tired rig drawn by the family horse, which was not any too brisk as a roadster. Dr. Dean never forced his horse. He was too considerate of the feelings of animals. He did not own an automobile.

The State and Federal records in the case say that he reached the village of East Jaffrey about 8:30, but the writer found a witness, Mrs. Alice D. Burgoyne, who positively places Dr. Dean in the village as early as 6:45, and she saw him driving toward Jaffrey Centre, where the East Jaffrey brass band gave a concert that night, which was a local event of importance.

### WITNESSES CORROBORATED.

This variance in time is important in that it corroborates two witnesses who claimed that they saw Dr. Dean and Charles L. Rich, cashier of the local bank and judge of the police court, standing together talking near the band stand. The county and State authorities doubted the testimony of the witnesses, who said they saw Dr. Dean at the concert, thinking that they must have made a mistake, but the witnesses claimed they knew Dr. Dean too well to be mistaken.

But the New Hampshire authorities cannot ignore the testimony of a woman of the stamp of Mrs. Burgoyne, a disinterested and an unusually careful witness, who not only knew Dr. Dean well, but was favored by daylight when she saw him pass.

Mrs. Burgoyne lives about four minutes' walk from Main street. Her daughter is employed at Goodnow's store. She was not called before the Grand Jury. Two of her sons served overseas, and a third, who was too young to enter the army, died of

the influenza during the epidemic, which, by the way, carried off quite a few of the witnesses in the Dean tragedy.

"On the evening of August 13, 1918, the date on which Dr. Dean was murdered" said Mrs. Burgoyne, "our committee, which was arranging for an entertainment to be given by the Auxiliary of the Sons of Veterans, held a meeting. I left home about 6:05 and went to Goodnow's store, where my daughter is employed. Later, I started to walk to the home of Mrs. Frieda Preston, which is on Main street, opposite the Catholic Church, on the way to Jaffrey Centre.

"Just before I reached Mrs. Preston's I saw Dr. Dean drive past in his rig. He was going toward Jaffrey Centre, which was not more than a mile beyond, and it was then not later than 6:45. I know I was in Mrs. Preston's house before 7 o'clock. Later, I walked back to Goodnow's store. I saw Mr. Dean return about 8:40 or 8:45 and hitch his horse in the shed. He went into the store and carried bundles to his carriage. Then he walked to Main street.

#### SAW DR. DEAN AT CONCERT.

"I saw him return about 9 o'clock, or shortly after, unhitch his horse and drive past the store in the direction of his home. There was no one in the carriage with him. He was alone. I didn't see where he went after he passed. He might have gone to the Rich home. It was possible for him to have turned off, or to have gone straight home.

"My daughter and I waited until 9:20 for my son. He was to escort us home, and he was late, because it was a very hot night, and he went out for a swim in the pond. I saw suspicious lights. One night, we saw them and mistook the flashes for heat lightning. We saw them another night and thought it queer when the stars were up, and when the weather was clear, and after that many others talked of seeing signals."

Mrs. Mary Riley, employed as maid at the home of Mrs. Silas E. Buck, thought she saw Dean and Rich at the band concert that night. She was not positive, but the impression was strong.

Thomas Shields of Jaffrey Centre, aged fourteen, a pupil in the high school, is positive that he saw Dean and Rich at the band concert that evening.

That Dr. Dean was at least in Jaffrey Centre early that night is certain. Mrs. Burgoyne is extremely conservative.

The next known of Dr. Dean's movements that night was

when he was seen to drive up to the horse shed near Goodnow's store about 8:30, a time when those on the street thought that perhaps he had just arrived from his farm. Most of the witnesses who saw him shopping say that he was in a hurry as he scarcely had enough time for his purchases in several stores before closing time. Now Dr. Dean was a methodical man. If he had come direct from home he would have reached the store earlier. Something detained him. It was the concert at Jaffrey Centre, and perhaps those whom he met and talked with there.

### **MET HIM IN STORE.**

Charles A. Bean, whose identity and activities will figure prominently in later instalments, saw Dr. Dean drive to the shed and noticed that he hitched his horse to the second ring. He fixes the time as about 8:30. He recalls having looked at his watch. Dr. Dean was served by Charles Bables in Goodnow's store. He bought three dozen eggs, which came to \$1.63; two pounds of raisins, 25 cents; one package Pearline, 12 cents; one dozen lemons, 50 cents; oatmeal, 30 cents, and six tins of tobacco, 90 cents. The bill came to \$3.75 and he paid the cashier, Mrs. Florence Foyle, with a \$5 bill.

He carried the parcels to his carriage. It was then 8:45, according to Mrs. Foyle's testimony. Bean saw him place his purchases in the back of his buggy and walk to Main street between the bank and Stratton's livery stable, towards Duncan's drug store.

Dr. Dean was seen to meet Miss Georgiana Hodgkins, sister-in-law of Cashier Rich of the bank, the school teacher from Long Island, N. Y., in the drug store.

Dr. Dean and Miss Hodgkins chatted for five or ten minutes. Bert Eaves, the drug clerk, says they left a few minutes before 9 o'clock. 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.

Miss Georgia Lynch, a local school teacher, made this statement, which is among the State records:

"On the evening of Tuesday, August 13, I first saw Dr. Dean at Goodnow's store. My sister Priscilla and I were at Goodnow's making some purchases. I do not know that Dr. Dean made any purchases. He was talking with Mr. Fay. When we went out of the store it was about 8:35 p. m. We then went over to Duncan's drug store, where we purchased sodas. Then Dr. Dean came in there.

### **PRESCRIBED FOR HIM.**

"Miss Hodgkins was in there at the time. Miss Hodgkins went up and spoke to Mr. Dean and asked him how he was feeling. He said 'I am feeling fine.' and she said, "That is good enough for anyone.' or 'As anyone could feel.' Then Mr. Dean asked her if she was going right up home and he said, 'I will drive you up.' And he said, 'If you have anything else to do, don't let me hurry you.' This was about 8:40 or 8:50 p. m. They then went out. Miss Hodgkins purchased writing material. I did not see her purchase ice cream. Mr. Dean was dressed in short khaki pants and bright pink tie. He wore a coat."

Miss Hodgkins testified before the county and Federal authorities that Dr. Dean drove her to the Rich house that night, which is only a few minutes' walk from Goodnow's store, but nobody who saw Dr. Dean later saw him with Miss Hodgkins or anybody. Mrs. Burgoyne saw him unhitch his horse and drive in the direction of his home soon after 9 and he was alone.

Cashier Rich and his wife corroborate Miss Hodgkins' story that Dr. Dean drove her home. The Richs claim Dr. Dean remained in their house until almost 11 o'clock.

Cashier Rich claims his horse kicked him in the eye that night, causing bruises and discoloration and that Dr. Dean prescribed alcohol and jocosely remarked that internal application might not go bad.

Other witnesses conflict with the time fixed by the members of the Rich household as to Dr. Dean's departure for home. Rich and his wife say the moon had gone down and that it was so dark they loaned Dr. Dean a lantern, but no such lantern was found on the Dean premises.

Mrs. Chouinard, who lives a quarter of a mile outside the village on the road to the Dean farm, says she heard somebody warn her children out of the road, and looking out, she saw that it was Dr. Dean. She thinks it was between 9:30 and 10 p. m. when he passed home-bound, because she retired at 10.



Bert Ford.



The children, Germaine and Emma Chouinard, were playing with the Bryant boys.

There are many in the village who doubt that Dean ever visited the Rich home that night.

Mrs. Howard claims she saw Dean drive "straight up the road." The contents of his stomach and the progress of digestion indicate that he was killed in the vicinity of 11:30.

Johnny Bryant, who with his brother was playing in the road with the Chouinard children, saw Dean pass and so did Mr. Bingham, who thought he looked in deep thought. Mr. Bingham says Dr. Dean did not greet him in his usual cheerful manner that night.

Mrs. Dean claimed at the time, and did not change the hour in her statements for a year thereafter, that her husband returned about 9:30, his customary time when he went to the village. This time would dovetail with Mrs. Burgoyne's statements that she saw him unhitch his horse and pass Goodnow's store and drive up the road alone shortly after 9 o'clock. At an ordinary jog it would take a half hour to reach the Dean farm.

Mrs. Dean said Dr. Dean brought in the bundle, put the horse up at the barn, returned to the bungalow and left his best coat and vest with his watch and a small amount of money, in the bedroom upstairs, put on an old working coat, ate some of the currant buns, and drank some milk, and took the lantern and strainer pail to the barn to milk the cow. He asked her to have a hot supper when he returned at midnight. Obviously he had that appointment about watching for the lights, as agreed with Mrs. Morison, in mind.

Mrs. Dean had a hot supper ready and waited. Finally she became alarmed. She wondered why he did not return. She told the searchers next day that she feared he had wandered into the marsh in the dark, a dread that she had entertained for a long time, she said.

While she waited she dozed. She was afraid to go out to investigate in the dark. It would require courage in a man to do so, as the barn was quite a distance from the bungalow, and their estate was isolated in rough mountain country with the nearest house a mile away. Hour after hour she waited, but her husband never returned.

That vigil kept by Mrs. Dean, an invalid in mind and body, and for months so helpless that she had to be served like a child, alone in a lonely mountain home, the clock ticking solemnly, the supper growing cold on the table and at such an uncanny hour

and under such wierd circumstances, with murder going on close by, murder of one she loved better than her life, stands out as one of the most dramatic features of the tragedy.

For, while Mrs. Dean waited with increasing anxiety, the men who had slain her husband were leisurely swathing and binding his body with horse blanket, burlap and rope and weighting it to drop in a cistern 150 feet away from the barn and directly under the kitchen windows of the empty house on the summit of the hill, the house that the Deans rented out.

The assassins did not fear interruption and detection by Mrs. Dean, the frail widow who sat and wondered beside the shaded lamp in the bungalow in the hollow. They knew she did not have to be reckoned with and that she was the only one on the premises.

But with all their knowledge and confidence they did not dare to carry the body to the larger well near the bungalow windows, because Mrs. Dean might hear them there. Instead they bore the body uphill to the cistern of the other house, a cistern the location of which they knew in the dark and which a stranger would have difficulty in finding in daylight.

The murderers of Dr. Dean were no strangers to him or his premises. Every detail of the murder proclaims that. And this is a feature which should be borne in mind by the New Hampshire officials, because it narrows the scope of inquiry and gives strength to much of the evidence in the case.

## CHAPTER VII.

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. It was 5 o'clock when she made her first search.

Then with increased alarm she frantically sought aid of the telephone. She appears to have called up several friends, but the first officially recorded is the Garfield call.

M. P. Garfield, a farmer, said:

"I have lived in Jaffrey 42 years and have been a neighbor of Dr. Dean about 26 years. The first I heard of Dr. Dean's predicament was on August 14, about 8 a. m. Mrs. Dean called my wife by telephone. Mrs. Dean said 'Mr. Dean went to the barn about 11 p. m. and has not come back and I think he died out at the barn.'

"My boy then hitched up our horse and he and I went up. On arriving there Mrs. Dean was outside the door, about ten feet from her house. She came right over where we were and said, 'Oh, Mr. Garfield! It's terrible! It's terrible! I do not know but that this will kill me. I think he is dead at the barn. I cannot find him anywhere. He went out to the barn last night at 11 and has not come back. I got some supper for him, but he did not come back to eat it. He got home about 10:30 p. m. and went to the barn about 11 p. m. to milk, and he usually came back about 12, and I waited up all night for him.'

### EVIDENCE OF CRIME.

"She said she found his light, but the oil was all burned out

and dark. I then went out and looked around and I was coming past the door when she asked me to step in. I went into the sitting room and she said, 'Dr. Dean is dead and I want to give you these turkeys.' Then she told me of how she and Dr. Dean were cousins and lived together more than twenty-five years and always loved one another.

"She said she was twenty-eight and he was twenty-five when they were married. She said that he was a dear boy. She said 'I want to sell this place' and that she would like to have sold it before because Dr. Dean was not able to do all the chores. When I looked at the cow I judged that she had been milked and I also felt of her teats and there was not much milk in her bag. The cow was lying down and had been fed.

"We continued hunting around and went up to the barn again and we happened to sit down on the barn steps and the first thing my boy saw was a piece of Timothy hay covered with blood. We then noticed blood on the step and door knob. About this time the selectmen came, Hogan and Coolidge, and Perley Enos. Then we started off to hunt again, and finally Mr. Coolidge said, 'We have got to get a lot more men and have this place searched thoroughly.' And it was agreed to look into the cistern and wells. This was about noon.

"I went down by the wall and got a pole, and we went up and took the cover off the cistern and I put the pole down in this and soon felt a bag with a stone in it. I heard the whistle blow 12, noon, when I got the pole. After discovering the object in the well to be a body, we put it back and covered over the cistern, and the selectmen went for the authorities, and I hitched up my horse and came home at 12:30 p. m.

#### **LIKED BY EVERYBODY.**

"I have never known the Deans to have any enemies. I have known them many years; have never seen any suspicious people around here. They have always kept to themselves. They were liked by everybody, and no person knew their business, as Dr. Dean did very little talking."

Garfield's son, Roger, subscribed to his father's statement.

The first to reach the Dean farm the morning after the murder was William Arthur Smith, aged twenty-one, and a boy. Smith was employed as farm hand by Mr. Ingraham, and he was cutting hay on the Dean place. He was in a field when the Garfields arrived. Smith said:

"At 7 a. m., I hitched up and drove to the Dean place, accompanied by Carl Ingraham, a small boy. Paul de Rosher had been there haying a few days before. I saw nothing unusual on arriving. I drove past the house occupied by the Deans and turned into the field in front of the house. I drove to the farther corner. Mrs. Dean came out and said, 'Dr. Dean is gone. He went to the barn at 11 last night and did not come back.'

"She said that she had gone to the barn at 5 a. m., and looked and called 'Billy'! but got no answer, and she felt sure he was dead in the barn. She said she searched and asked me to help, and I went to the barn, and little Carl and Mrs. Dean followed. I found the side door closed. The big door was open two feet. Mrs. Dean said she had opened it when she went in, at 5 a. m., to hunt for her husband. We went through the big door and we saw nothing unusual.

"The cow and bull were lying down. There was nothing on the barn floor and the wagon was in place. Everything seemed to be in order. I searched the barn and hayloft. Dr. Dean always brought the cow out of the box stall and milked her on the floor hitching her to a rope.

"After milking he would tie the bull calf out in the yard to an iron bar near the big house. He usually carried the milk up with him and set it down, tied the bull and went home with the milk. Dr. Dean used to drive the turkeys around every afternoon. Mrs. Dean said he had been complaining of his head and heart."

### **BODY IN CISTERN.**

Selectman William F. Coolidge, at present chairman of the board, said:

"I am a selectman and special police officer. The first I knew of the affair was when M. P. Garfield telephoned me at 9 a. m., on August 14, that 'Dr. Dean is gone.' He asked me to do something about it. I told him I would be right up with some men. I got Selectman P. E. Hogan and Perley Enos, acting chief of police. Arriving at the farm, we met Mrs. Dean. I asked her about Mr. Garfield and she wanted to know who Mr. Garfield was. She seemed out of her mind.

"She then spoke of Dr. Dean saying, 'Mr. Dean is gone. He went to the barn with his milk pail and the lantern and he has not come back and he is dead.'

"We then proceeded to search for Dr. Dean. We met Mr.

Garfield and his son and a boy named Smith, and they said they had been all over the farm and barn and houses, but had not been in the cellar of the bungalow where Dean lived. We continued about the barn and then went to the cellar but found nothing.

"We also looked in the well at the house, and then I asked about the cistern, which we could see, and Garfield said that he had also looked into that, but nothing was standing up there. We continued our search, and about 11 a. m. Selectman Hogan went up towards the house and it was decided to investigate the cistern, and we got a pole and poked around in there. Mr. Garfield got the pole and I pointed it down and lifted it up and down, and I thought that Dean was there.

"Then some one got a hook from the barn, and a boy named George Stratton volunteered to go down in the cistern to a point where he could stand and fish about, so that he could see what it was, and we found out that it was a body tied up. This was about 11:30 a. m.

"As a result we let him right back in and covered the cistern up and got Mr. Pickard and Dr. Densmore by telephone (Mr. Pickard is county solicitor, and Dr. Densmore is medical referee for Cheshire County.) We waited until they came about 2 p. m. and I was present when the body was taken out and saw the hands were tied behind the back with a rope about the size of window cord, and the knots were several square knots.

"About his knees a rope was bound several times. This was soft rope and tied with a square knot. There was a bag, a short sack bag of burlap, pulled down over his head and tied to the loops of his pants and one loop was broken. When the bag was pulled off a rock came out, weighing about twenty pounds and a light horse blanket was wrapped about his head and a halter rope was about the blanket. He wore low shoes and over-shoes."

Selectman Edward C. Boynton, at that time chairman of the board and the most fearless agitator in the movement to have Dr. Dean's murder avenged, said:

"I arrived at the Dean farm about 2 p. m. at the invitation of Selectman W. F. Coolidge, who informed me of finding Dr. Dean murdered and in a cistern on the land. When I arrived I went to the cistern. I could see only water. I then went down to the barn and looked the barn over. I saw that the cattle had not been cleaned out. I saw that the horse was in the barn and knew that the horse was in the village the night before. I saw the wagon drawn up on the main barn floor. The shafts were put up to take the least amount of room.

"In the wagon I saw a hitch rope. I did not see things upset in the barn, as if there had been a struggle. I did not see any blood at any place, until George Wellington called my attention to blood on the grass and a drop or two on the barn porch at the small door. There was more blood in the grass than on the porch steps.

### SQUARE KNOTS IN ROPES.

"I was present when the body of Dr. Dean was removed from the cistern about 3:30 p. m. The men who pulled the body from the cistern were William T. Leighton, the undertaker, and Walter Emerson and others. Mr. Pickard took notes on the condition of the body. **The knots on the ropes were noted and I said, 'Cut the ropes and save the knots for evidence,' which was done.** Then the bag was taken off and the wounds on the head exposed. Then I observed that his hands were tied behind his back. Ropes were around his knees; also a hitch rope around his neck, but not tied.

"The rope was wound around his neck twice, but did not seem to be tight. His face was blue-black. I noticed that his collar and necktie were on apparently straight and a necktie pin to his tie. I did not see that his clothing was torn. The sleeves of his shirt were rolled up. His shirt was not torn. He had on khaki knee pants, and I observed that he had on overshoes and that one was torn in the back.

"I saw a large rock, which came from the bag which was over Dr. Dean's head. I also saw the blanket which was wound around his head, and at the time, I noticed this particularly, as I thought the stone might have caused the cuts, but with the blanket wound around his head, that would protect his head. I saw considerable blood on the blanket, and felt that the blanket must have been put on at the time the wounds were made. I then looked all over the grass to see if I could find any place where the body could have been dragged to the cistern, but could find no indications whatever."

A trained investigator could not have exercised a more observing or practical eye than did Chairman Boynton that day. Little escaped his notice. Said he, continuing:

"The shower, one of the worst in years, came on at 5 p. m., and after that I remained at the big house where Dr. Dean's body lay. Selectman Hogan and William T. Leighton, the undertaker, were also present. After I had seen the body pulled out of the cistern I concluded that it was a case of murder.

"The idea came to my mind that Dr. Dean probably knew too much about German workings and that he was killed by some one connected with German propaganda and that the finding of Dr. Dean's body was to serve as a warning to others connected with the same German signal light propaganda, that if they meddled, they would meet the same fate.

"I have known Dr. Dean some twenty-five years. I never heard him say that he was afraid of anybody. I never saw him under the influence of liquor. I worked for Dr. Dean years ago, when he built the new house, and I always found him a very honest and sincere man.

"About 5 p. m. I saw Mrs. Dean go out to the barn. This was during the shower, and she must have become soaking wet. I did not notice her carrying anything. I did not notice anything about Mrs. Dean that looked suspicious. I was not intimate with the Dean family. I did not know his mode of living.

"It was thought at the time that — was connected with the murder, as various people expressed their views about his being — and making frequent trips to — and usually going to another station to take his train for —. Also when he came to the village one of them, either he or his wife, would always stay with the car, and it was thought this car might contain a wireless apparatus which they could go out and operate and would want to protect."



Ed Brown

## CHAPTER VIII.

Dr. Dean was the victim of a gang murder.

The condition of his body and the way it was handled indicated that there were at least two men involved, and there is evidence pointing to the probability that three men went to the scene of the crime that night.

The finding of a bone hairpin near the cistern into which Dr. Dean's body was thrown hints that a woman may have been a witness to the tragedy.

It required two men to kill in the manner that Dr. Dean was slain and two men to gag, swathe him and bind him as he was found in six feet of water, in a cistern that widened at the bottom much like an inkwell.

One must have held the body in a sitting position while another man pulled the bran bag of burlap over his head and down to his waist. The bag was so small that it must have been difficult to draw it over Dr. Dean's shoulders. It was a tight fit.

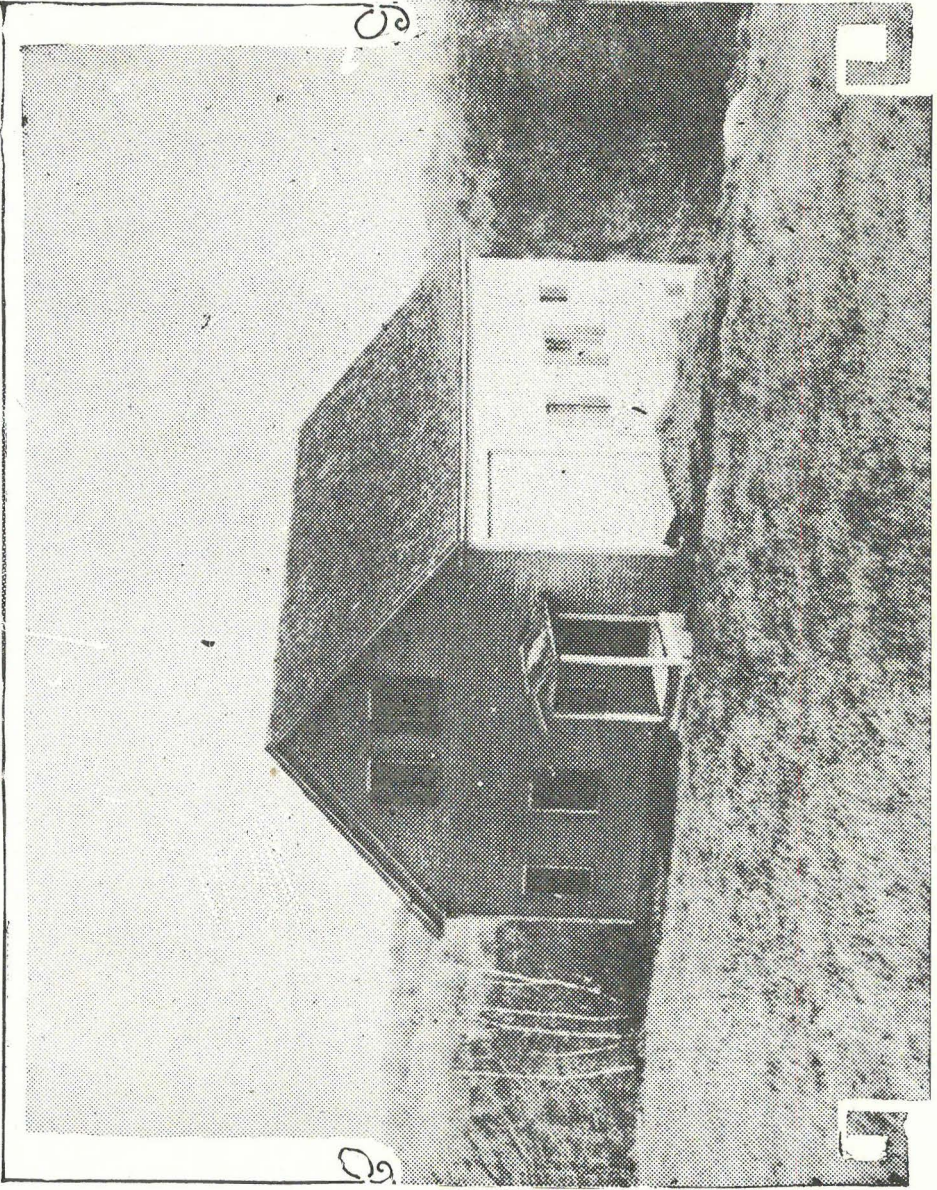
### DEAN KILLED IN BARN.

There isn't any doubt that Dr. Dean was killed in the barn and his body carried uphill to the cistern, a distance of 150 feet. The cistern is within five feet of the rear of the main house which the Deans rented to the Colfelts.

Unless a person knew the premises well they could hardly locate that cistern at night, even with a lantern, because of the gradual rise of the land from the barn, and the surface of the cistern, close to the house, was not visible until almost reached because it is sunken in a flat strip of ground skirting the building.

**That fact and the fact that they knew Dr. Dean's habit of going to the barn to milk so late, with other details, prove that the assassins were no strangers to the victim.**

If Dr. Dean had lived until midnight he would have returned to his bungalow to telephone to Mrs. Morison as planned. He went to the barn at 11 o'clock, according to Mrs. Dean's statements to all who arrived on the premises on the morning after the tragedy, and these statements by the widow, in the excitement of that day, for one of impaired mind are convincingly consistent.



The Barn.

### **KILLED AT ABOUT 11:15 P. M.**

They did not vary in any essential point. The authorities who tried to implicate her, ought to bear this feature in mind. The post mortem examination showed that the milk which Dr. Dean had drunk when he lunched on currant buns on his return from the village that night had been pretty well digested, but the currants had not.

It is difficult to fix the time by the condition of stomach contents, but it would appear that Dr. Dean was killed about 11:15, and that he returned earlier than Mr. and Mrs. Rich claimed he left their home, possibly in the vicinity of 10 o'clock or soon after, as Mrs. Dean claimed. She always insisted, that he came home about 9:30.

**At any rate, an automobile which was unquestionably the death car was seen returning to the village at midnight with one headlight turned off. It carried three men.**

That would be allowing the murderers fifteen minutes to dispose of the body and thirty minutes to reach the village which they could have reached in less time. Dr. Dean's lunch would have been in process of digestion more than an hour.

### **WORKED AT LEISURE.**

There are phases which indicate that the murderers had time enough to work at their leisure, which would tend to support the theory that Dr. Dean returned from the village earlier than generally supposed.

Examination of the Jersey cow showed, in the opinion of farmers, that she had been milked late the night before, but Dr. Dean's strainer milk pail which Mrs. Dean saw him take with the lantern to the barn that night was never found. At the outset certain local officials spent more time hunting the missing milk pail than they did the murderers.

Dr. Dean used the side or porch barn door that night and everything indicates that he was attacked just inside that entrance. It was an oppressively hot night and the moon had been bright until about 11.\* The murderers knew that Mrs. Dean was the only person to consider on the premises, and the lights in the bungalow, where she awaited the return of her husband, shone a safe distance of 500 feet away.

While they obviously did not dread interference from Mrs. Dean they were cautious enough not to drop the body in the large well next to the bungalow. Carried further, that degree

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\*Moon set, according to the almanac, at 9:41. By daylight saving this would be an hour later.

of caution would have induced them to bundle up the victim under the light of his own lantern in the barn. A light in the field might be seen by Mrs. Dean.

### **MARKS ON BARN FLOOR.**

Hence it is fair to deduce that the killing took place just inside the door where blood marks were found. Nimble use of the horse blankets and burlap bag prevented much of a blood trail. But there were marks and spatters on the barn floor and door and blood daubs on the door knob which were almost obliterated before finger prints were taken. This was a serious oversight.

It was also wrong of the authorities to permit R. B. Henchman, now town postmaster, to clean up the barn that day. Henchman is the brother of Miss Susan Henchman, assistant cashier of the local bank of which Charles L. Rich is cashier.

The cleaning of the barn incensed the selectmen and the majority of the citizens of East Jaffrey. Robert Hamill who has a garage and blacksmith shop near the railroad station, says the Federal authorities found a footprint of blood on the barn floor which they sawed out as an exhibit later on. Government agents used Hamill's automobiles a great deal.

There were small bloodstains on the porch and larger stains in the grass, indicating that the shrouded body may have been placed on the grass for a brief time, the murderers probably feeling that dripping would be absorbed by the soil and be less likely to show. But there was not a great amount of blood anywhere.

### **STRUCK ON TEMPLE.**

Dr. Dean was struck on the left temple by an implement which left three marks, triangular in shape. It is thought that before that blow was struck he may have had time to attempt to defend himself, because he had sufficient spirit and agility. It is thought that he struck one of his assailants with his fist.

The blow from the weapon used, however, while not sufficiently powerful to cause instant death, was powerful enough to render the victim insensible. The murderers next looped a convenient halter rope around his neck twice and some one from behind drew the loose end so tightly that Dr. Dean strangled to death. The rope was drawn so powerfully that it cut into the flesh of the neck and snapped the vertebrae.

The man who did the garroting did not find it necessary to

tie the ends of the halter which was left around the neck. A light-weight horse blanket was bound around the bleeding head and fastened by lighter rope which resembled window cord. A rock which was later found to weigh 27 1-2 pounds was placed over the blanket and then the bran sack was drawn over the rock and turbaned head.

All this took time and strength and many fingers.

### **IT WAS A GANG MURDER.**

Dr. Dean's hands were clenched when he died. They were tied behind his back.

Rope was bound around his knees and ankles.

He resembled a shapeless mummy when they dumped him into the twelve-foot cistern which was half filled with water.

### **BOUND WITH ROPE.**

You recall that Chairman Boynton of the Board of Selectmen had been keen enough to look to see if the body had been dragged uphill from the barn, but he found no such trail.

It took at least two men to carry the body. The shrouding and weighting might have been done beside the cistern, but it isn't logical to think so with the light of a lantern and the seclusion of the barn handy and plenty of strong hands to do the carrying.

Dr. Dean, although always muscular did not weigh more than 136 or 140 pounds. He was 5 feet 6 inches in height. With the 27 1-2 pound rock his weight would total upward of 164 pounds, allowing six pounds for the blanket and his light summer clothing.

Mrs. Dean, who had been failing steadily mentally and physically for two years or more, would have had great difficulty dragging the body unweighted that long distance, upgrade to the cistern.

But the bricks forming the brink of the cistern, which had become loosened by age and the elements, were in place. This showed that the body, with its anchorage, had been carefully lifted and dropped in. Had a frail woman of the advanced age of Mrs. Dean (she was 67) attempted to throw the body in, the dislodged masonry would have tumbled in with it.

## CHAPTER IX.

The woman's hairpin in the Dean murder mystery is a peculiar factor. There are certain phases of the case which indicate that the hairpin was "planted."

The manner in which the body was handled and disposed of shows that there was more method on the part of the murderers than appeared at the outset. Unless they had a design, they never would have gone to the trouble they did. Dr. Dean might have been beaten or choked and left where he fell.

Throwing him into the cistern was an amateur thought. A well or cistern would be the very first place that even a child would look into when the search began.

If they had cared to conceal the body, it would have been an easy matter to have carried it away with them in the automobile and have disposed of it in any of the numerous mountain pockets in that region, where it would have laid a long time without fear of discovery.

Even placing it under the barn would have been a better hiding place than in the cistern.

### EXPECTED EARLY DISCOVERY.

The murderers of Dr. Dean expected that his body would be found very early and apparently planned it that way. Selectman Boynton and other town officials have felt from the day of the tragedy that the murderers disposed of the body in a manner to serve as a warning to others who knew about spy activities.

If Dr. Dean had been shot by someone in the barn, Mrs. Dean scarcely could have heard the report where she waited in the bungalow if the barn door had been closed. The manner in which Dr. Dean was garroted with a halter rope bears a strong resemblance to a manner of killing common on the European continent.

It was in the elaborate binding and shrouding of the body that the murderers made a departure, and evidently for a purpose.

Apparently that purpose was to throw suspicion on Mrs. Dean

and to make it appear that an insane person had committed the murder. This hypothesis, which is strengthened by many features of the case, furnishes further proof that the slayers of Dr. Dean were intimately acquainted with him and his wife and his home life and his premises.

It would be a very convenient loophole for them to wriggle through if the crime were fastened upon the insane widow who could not be held responsible. This would also be a swift way of disposing of the case.

It nearly worked. For months the officials proceeded on the theory that Mrs. Dean was the guilty person. This played into the murderers' hands. It must have made them chuckle.

### **SCOFF AT REAL EVIDENCE.**

Even today, fourteen months after the crime, there is a suspicious eagerness in certain quarters to pounce upon and actually magnify any little detail which might point to Mrs. Dean and to scoff at or brush aside real clues and evidence which point elsewhere.

This tendency is one of the strange and unfortunate features of the Dean case, and it accounts for the lack of progress made.

It also accounts for the fact that nobody has been arrested or punished up to date for killing a patriotic American citizen who attempted to do his duty by offering to tell the Federal authorities what he knew of German spy activities in that region.

Why were certain persons eager to place the blame on Mrs. Dean?

Why did they ignore stronger evidence against other persons, some of whom were not entitled to any sympathy from loyal Americans!

The selectmen and the majority of the citizens of East Jaffrey answer these questions with emphasis. They say that it was to protect a certain man of prominence.

Whatever the cause or the motive the hinge of the scandal in the case is based on that feature, and the greater part of the people in that section refer to the case as a "scandal."

In binding and shrouding the body of Dr. Dean, the murderers went to such extremes as to fasten a burlap bag, which was drawn over the victim's head, with twine to the belt loops of his riding breeches. This was a feature which certain local investigators at once concluded would have been done only by an in-

sane person, and apparently the slayers had done the work with that thought in mind.

#### **INDICATES WOMAN NEAR.**

If they hadn't had some such plan they certainly were wasting time and effort. This nice detail of fastening the bran sack to the belt loops brings us back to the woman's hairpin found on the ground close to the cistern early on the morning following the tragedy.

The hairpin would indicate the presence of a woman on the scene. If the slayer staged the crime to have it react on the innocent widow, and if the hairpin was purposely dropped with that idea in mind, they blundered.

The hairpin is yellow bone, imitation amber, while the hairpins worn by Mrs. Dean were silver gray bone to blend with her white hair.

A hairpin similar to that found near the cistern was later discovered in the house which the Deans rented. It is possible that a woman was a witness to the tragedy and that she dropped the hairpin accidentally, in which event it would be a very important clue.

But if this theory is correct, it would indicate that a woman was an active participant and may have helped in disposing of the body.

The writer, after careful investigation, is of the opinion that the hairpin was placed there as a blind and that there was no woman at the crime that night.

#### **AT LEAST THREE MEN.**

But there were at least three men. The impression of a man was found in the hay in the loft of the Dean barn on the day the body was found, indicating that one of the assassins had remained there in ambush until Dr. Dean returned from the village.

Dr. Dean was followed very closely by an automobile, the tracks of which were found next day in a siding in the old wood road which leads to Peterboro and which is not a popular highway for automobiles. Tracks of a car were plainly visible the following day, in spite of a violent thunder storm the day previous, when the body was found.

The heavy rain undoubtedly obliterated many clues, but enough remained to show that a party of men left an automobile



in the old wood road on the night of the killing, cut across lots and came up behind the Dean barn. They left their foot tracks.

George P. Wellington, a game warden, trained in woodcraft, found footprints and freshly broken twigs leading across the field to the Dean estate from the tracks left by the automobile in the wood road. Wellington also found stones loosened from a wall. These all made up a very convincing trail.

What were men doing in the back lot that night?

Why didn't they come by way of the road into the Dean estate if there for an honest purpose?

Who hid in the hayloft?

What was he there for?

Surely the men did not come to aid Mrs. Dean to kill her husband.

#### **ACTED LIKE SLAYERS.**

They travelled and acted like murderers. They came to their victim through the underbrush by a back route, like burglars. They came by stealth with murder in their hearts.

And the tracks left by the automobile in the siding off the old wood road that night are not the only evidence that an automobile figured in the tragedy.

The death car was heard by several witnesses living on the road, and it was actually seen by two persons in the village at midnight on the night of the crime.

So by every trail and clue and circumstance and by every process of induction, Mrs. Dean is eliminated from the case and the persons interested in the signals are more deeply implicated.

What better motive could be desired than that furnished by the words of the victim himself to Mrs. Morison that day, twelve hours before his murder?

In the conversation with Mrs. Morison, Dr. Dean absolved his wife and fastened guilt on others.

#### **BANISHED ALL DOUBT.**

Furthermore, he banished all doubt as to the reason for his dread. It was not because of any fear of his wife or any domestic friction that he wished to appeal to the United States Department of Justice. Dr. Dean was too cultured for that.

**It was not because he had a row with his wife that he wanted**

**to start a Federal inquiry.**

In fact, in that conversation with Mrs. Morison he explicitly used the word "lights." He said Miss Ware had seen lights and he asked Mrs. Morison if she had. She answered him in the affirmative and she and Dr. Dean agreed to watch for lights that night and he was to telephone her at midnight and use the code word "turkeys" if he saw any from a location indicated by Mrs. Morison when she pointed from a certain stone on the Dean estate that day to fix the range for Dr. Dean.

Before he could keep the trust, Dr. Dean was dead, and, in ignorance of the tragedy, Mrs. Morison went to Boston early as agreed, told the Department of Justice that Dr. Dean had something of importance to tell them and that he wanted one of their best men sent to East Jaffrey to see him.

Mrs. Morison was startled to read of Dr. Dean's murder in a Boston newspaper the next day and she reported the fact to the Department of Justice.

**What better link could be welded than that? What better motive?**

**Why waste time groping elsewhere?**

It is a pity that Dr. Dean did not tell Mrs. Morison more while he was on the subject, but he was too gallant a man to jeopardize a woman neighbor. When she asked him for the information, saying that it would save time if she carried it to the Federal authorities in Boston, he replied:

"Mrs. Morison, you are a woman. What I know is too dangerous for a woman to know."

**Does that look as if he feared his invalid wife?**

### **LONG SUSPICIOUS.**

Dr. Dean had been in a position to see much of the anti-American activities that had been going on in that region for months. Apparently he had long been suspicious of certain things and persons, but with the deliberation that was one of his marked traits, he proceeded with caution and fairness.

Before the United States entered the war, Dr. Dean, like others, was very suspicious of signals that he had seen flashed from the mountains, but after our troops got into the fray and transports were crossing the Atlantic like shuttles, he naturally became more alert and alarmed.

This with patriotic fervor he admitted by his own words to Mrs. Morison, when he said:

"I wanted to be sure, and I am ready now."

Dr. Dean was one of the most patriotic citizens in that section. He told many of his neighbors that he regretted that he was not young enough to shoulder a gun in the war and that he did not have a son to send to France.

He followed all the war developments in the newspapers studiously and discussed the various battles with neighbors..

#### **COULD SPEAK GERMAN.**

This very spirit would make him more solicitous than the ordinary person concerning any enemy activities, and that fact that he could speak German is thought to have helped him to detect certain matters which might have been overlooked by a person ignorant of that language.

Hence when his conversation with Mrs. Morison is analyzed it sheds much light on the mystery and directs suspicion where it fits.

Although he was reluctant to disclose too much to the woman whom he selected as a messenger to the Federal authorities he gave enough to shape the course of any real investigators.

As a matter of fact it is seldom that murder victim leaves so likely a clue to serve as a working basis for the solution of a crime.

Dr. Dean left the key.. It is now up to the county and State authorities to use that key effectively.

## CHAPTER X.

After it was removed from the cistern in the presence of the proper officials in mid-afternoon on August 14, 1918, the body of Dr. Dean was carried into the main house and two nurses were sent for, to take care of Mrs. Dean at the bungalow.

William T. Leighton, the local undertaker, said that the medical referee and two other doctors held partial autopsy on the body and he was a witness. He said that one of the doctors made notes in ink and that they agreed in writing that death was due to strangulation.

**These notes do not appear among the county records. No inquest hearing was ever held.** There isn't any doubt that Dr. Dean was dead before his body was thrown into the cistern, because there was no water in the lungs, which were discolored in a manner that proved that he had been choked to death by the halter rope which was wound around his throat twice and drawn so tightly that it broke his neck and cut deeply into the flesh.

Dr. Dean was buried at 2 p. m., August 17, in the little cemetery at East Jaffrey, and on August 30 the body was exhumed at the request of his brother Frederic Dean of New York city. It was placed in a receiving tomb.\*

### PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN.

Photographs of the encoffined body were taken as exhibits, to show the triangular bruises on the head. Attorney-General Young gave orders to have the stomach removed and analyzed after the body had been exhumed.

The Department of Justice agents requested that Medical Examiner George Burgess Magrath of Boston be called into the case. Dr. Magrath was not engaged until January, after a lapse of nearly five months.

He performed a complete autopsy under difficulties at 2 o'clock of the afternoon of January 6, 1919, in the receiving tomb. The day was bitter cold.

"We got a little oil stove," said Selectman Boynton, "and Dr. Magrath was very grateful for it. He heated water with it, and it helped keep his hands warm."

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\*It was not until a year later that the body was removed to its final resting place in Rochester, N. Y., about two weeks before the death of Mrs. Dean who now rests beside her husband.

"Yes, and it was my oil-stove," said Mrs. F. R. Enslin, wife of the Baptist clergyman with whom Mrs. Dean lived until her death. "I never look at that oil-stove now without thinking of the gruesome scene in which it figured with Dr. Magrath in the tomb."

The autopsy by Dr. Magrath was made at the request and by the authority of the Board of Selectmen of East Jaffrey. The three selectmen were witnesses—Edward C. Boynton, William F. Coolidge and Peter E. Hogan. Feri F. Weiss, special agent for the Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice in Boston, was also a witness. Rebecca W. Sullivan served as stenographer.

The body was so badly decomposed that Dr. Magrath was handicapped, but he did such a good piece of work that his praises are still being sung by all the officials in the case, town, county, State and federal, and by the people at large.

At the post-mortem examination, held by the local doctors on the day the body was found, examination was made of the wounds found in the scalp, which they agreed were made by a weapon, a blow from which rendered the victim unconscious, but did not kill.

Dr. Magrath, five months later, discovered that the blow had fractured Dr. Dean's skull near the left temple. He said the skull bone was very thin and that the blow might not necessarily prove fatal. Dr. Magrath also said that it rendered Dr. Dean unconscious, but that death was due to strangulation.

In Dr. Magrath's report, which is included in the county records of the case, appear these entries:

"Post-mortem incision of scalp."

"Incisions, post-mortem, of the body ventral side."

"Absence of stomach."

"Incision, post mortem, of the heart."

"Blood-staining (hemorrhage) of the subcutaneous tissues of the neck, front sternocleidonastoid muscle, right."

"Fracture of the hyoid bone."

"Fracture of the spine, fourth cervical vertebra."

"Ecchymosis, internal, of the scalp, frontal parietal regions, vortex."

"Fracture of the skull, frontal bone, left side, spheroid bone (greater wing, left)."

Until the filing of Dr. Magrath's report there was nothing in

writing describing the condition of Dr. Dean's body among the county records.

#### **"REMARKABLE CASE."**

In discussing the case with the writer in Boston recently, Dr. Magrath, who has had as wide an experience in pathological cases as any man in the country and who is looked upon as one of the leading experts in this line said:

"There are many strange features to the Dean case. It is one of the most remarkable murder cases that I ever had called to my attention. Any effort to solve it and to run down the guilty person or persons should be commended.

"Mrs. Dean could not have committed the murder. It required more strength than she possessed. She was too frail, mentally and physically. They have to look elsewhere."

Deputy Sheriff Walter E. Emerson and his men pumped out the cistern two days after the body was found and a shiny article was discovered at the bottom. It proved to be a cigarette case of old German silver, very much worn. Some cigarettes were found in it and they were soaked through. The tobacco bulged through the rolling in many places.

This cigarette case was regarded as an important clue at the time, as it was thought that it had fallen from the pocket of one of Dr. Dean's murderers.

#### **ROLLED HIS OWN.**

Dr. Dean had a case similar to it and he invariably kept it in the pocket of his negligee shirt. He rolled his own cigarettes. He bought tins of tobacco and books of cigarette papers and usually made a day's supply of cigarettes in advance.

The selectmen of East Jaffrey and Federal agents who worked on the murder claimed that the cigarette case, now among the exhibits, is not the cigarette case which was found at the bottom of the cistern. They say that the cigarette case was very carelessly handled and passed from person to person for days before it finally reached the county archives.

They charge that the cigarette case found in the cistern belonged to one of the assailants of Dr. Dean.

#### **DENY SHUFFLING.**

County Solicitor Roy M. Pickard and other county officials

deny that there was any shuffling of the cigarette case. They say that the cigarette case now among the exhibits is the one that was found in the well.

While the milk pail would not help in any great way, if found, its disappearance proved a puzzling feature in the case for the local authorities. A State detective worked hard to find it. Some think that the murderers used the milk pail to wash their hands in, but there was no sign of the milk. Postmaster Henchman, who swept out the barn on the day following the murder, also admitted his orders included the running off of the water in pipes of the Dean house on the hill.

**Two bundles of blood-stained articles were later found in that vicinity, although some distance from the Dean farm, and they are thought to have some connection with the tragedy.**

On September 15, Oscar Howard found a bundle in a field containing blood-soaked towels wrapped in a newspaper dated August 15, 1918. The blood-stained articles are among the exhibits.

#### **SEARCH FOR LETTER.**

Search was immediately made for the threatening letter which Dr. Dean had received in June. No trace of it could be found. It was thought that it might be in his safety deposit box in the local bank, but it was not found there.

The safety deposit box at the bank was searched Friday August 16, in the presence of Attorney-General Young. With him at the time were Cashier Charles L. Rich and Agent Reeves of the United States Department of Justice. In the box was a plush box, containing jewels and pearls.

There were two wills executed by Dr. Dean, one dated September 14, 1887, and another dated February 7, 1893. In both Mrs. Dean was named sole beneficiary and executrix. There was also a will by Mrs. Dean, dated November 16, 1883.

There was a deed from Mr. Dean to his wife dated April 23, 1894. There were memorandum notes of sermons by Dr. Dean's father and records of his work while a missionary in China and Siam.

There was a printed genealogy of the Dean family. There was a certificate of deposit of a land company of doubtful value, but originally appraised at \$1,000. There was a package of letters, including a valuable collection of autographs. Those of the King and Crown Prince of Siam were among them.

### HAD LIBERTY BONDS.

There were Liberty bonds amounting to \$2,250. Dr. Dean purchased \$1,200 worth of the first issue, \$600 of the second and \$450 of the third issue. He owned \$3,000 worth of American Clamp Company bonds, and \$2,500 worth of Rochester Telephone Company bonds. The day after he was murdered a letter came from the American Clamp Company, declaring a dividend and giving a statement of \$500 to his credit which had never been collected by Dr. Dean.

He valued his farm at \$6,000, but because of the bungalow and other improvements always figured that he could get \$10,000 for it if he placed it on the market.

Alfred Sawyer, president of the Monadnock Savings Bank, the local bank, said;

"I have known Dr. Dean twenty-five or thirty years, and I wrote the deed for him when he purchased the place at East Jaffrey. Some time later he had a mortgage of \$2,000 put on the property, and when he sold timber he paid \$1,000 back. So far as I know there is yet \$1,000 mortgage on his place. Dr. Dean's business, so far as I know, was satisfactory at the bank.

"Cashier Rich was a great friend of Dr. Dean's and his personal financial advisor. I know nothing regarding Dr. Dean's personal affairs or the events leading up to the murder. Dr. Dean was not known as a man of any great means. I do not think the Dean estate will total more than five or seven thousand dollars."

### ACCOUNT OVERDRAWN.

When Dr. Dean was murdered, his account at the bank had been overdrawn \$21.50. Cashier Rich explained that this often happened, but that his investments made returns at certain periods. Also there was an account against the insurance company for damage done by lightning to Dean's barn which had never been paid.

Dr. Dean had been an executor for several estates for years and had derived an income from this source in addition to his investments. While not wealthy, Dr. and Mrs. Dean never wanted for anything. They lived in comfort and their home with its furnishings and fine library was so attractive that neighbors were fond of visiting it.

Dr. Dean was a brilliant conversationalist and Mrs. Dean was a musician of more than ordinary talent.



Lewis W. Davis, a director in the local bank, was appointed guardian of Mrs. Dean and administrator of the estate. He held an auction at the farm, which was attended by all the neighbors for miles around. The bric-a-brac and furnishings and the books from Dr. Dean's splendid library were sold under the hammer, with the exception of certain classics which were purchased by a book auctioneer in Boston.

The horse, the cow, the bull calf, the white turkeys, the poultry, the rubber-tired carriage in which Dr. Dean made his last trip to the village, the harness and all the contents of the barn and household utensils were sold at bargain prices. The contents of the Dean household are now scattered throughout the community, reminders of a tragedy that hastened the death of Mrs. Dean, shattered a perfect household and cast gloom over the entire countryside.

## CHAPTER XI.

The wounds on the head of Dr. Dean, victim of the East Jaffrey murder mystery, were unusual.

There were three deep cuts in the scalp, forming a triangular grouping and resembling the imprint of a giant bird's claw.

Similar marks were found on one of the boards of the barn porch, and there were scratches on a stone near the cistern into which the shrouded body was dropped, which appeared to have been made by the implement with which Dr. Dean was dealt the blow that rendered him unconscious, but which did not kill, although it fractured his skull near the left temple.

These marks conveyed a weird suggestion of the brand of a society of assassins, but in the case of Dean it was merely a coincidence, because his murder was committed by hands that were strong, but not particularly skilled in the work of killing.

Some days after the tragedy Charles A. Bean, who made a systematic search of the Dean farm, found a hand cultivator or weeder tucked under a stone wall on the second terrace. He turned it over to the Selectmen of Jaffrey, who with the Federal agents, concluded that it was the weapon used.

Those who saw it after Bean brought it in say that the three prongs appeared to bear bloodstains and strands of gray hair. The weeder has a handle about a foot in length. It is not heavy. The County and State officials ignored this find. They say they don't think the weeder figured in the case.

**BUT—**

**It should have been subjected to chemical analysis by an expert. This was not done. The town authorities still retain the weeder.**

The prongs are said to have fitted precisely the wounds in Dr. Dean's head when a test was made the day the body was exhumed by order of the dead man's brother.

Dr. George Burgess Magrath of Boston told the writer that while he was not prepared to say positively that the weeder was the weapon used in the first attack on Dr. Dean, that he thought the wounds he found in the head could have been made by such a weapon, and Dr. Magrath was the biggest expert in the case.

### **CULTIVATOR DROPPED.**

It is thought by the town and Federal officials that after the murderers struck Dr. Dean with the hand cultivator they dropped it in order to finish the job by strangling Dean with the halter rope and preparing the body for the cistern, and that one of them stepped on the prongs and left the imprint in the barn porch. How similar scratches were made on the stone near the cistern cannot be accounted for unless one of the slayers carried the weapon that far, thinking that it might be needed for a final blow.

Another nice detail which should not be overlooked was the fact that the murderers were careful to place the wooden cover back on the cistern after dropping their victim into it.

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 town officials.

De Kerlor was known as "Doctor" among the townspeople, and he worked hard. 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.

### **DE KERLOR ZEALOUS WORKER.**

If all the officials connected with the case had manifested the zeal and pep that De Kerlor did the mystery would have been solved months ago. But De Kerlor appears to have antagonized certain persons and to have ruffled their sensibilities. Their hostility did not deter the young man, who is natty in his dress and highly educated.

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 signalling. 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 the exhumed body, traced them on a paper and clapped the paper against the bruised cheek of a man whose name figured prominently in the case. This dramatic scene in the cemetery is still the talk of the town.

The town officials had implicit confidence in De Kerlor, but

the county and State officials ignored him and his 30,000-word report on the case, in which he rehearsed his deductions and summed up evidence. De Kerlor, wrote as he talked. He did not mince words. He had his theories in the Dean mystery and he was not afraid to talk about them.

### FORCEFUL FIGURE.

He became a forceful figure in East Jaffrey. He lived there for months and he hunted clues night and day. De Kerlor's report is included among the county records, but it did not figure prominently before Cheshire County Grand Jury.

De Kerlor is a linguist as well as a psychologist. He is said to have been born in Southern France of Polish parents. He studied in England, Germany, France and the United States. He wrote the horoscopes of many of the royal personages of Europe. He is at present conducting a studio in New York city.

He was vice-president of the International Congress for Experimental Psychology held in Paris in 1910 and 1913. He is the translator of a volume entitled "Psychology of the Future."

The only feature of De Kerlor's research on the Dean case that was doubted by his supporters, and he still has a host of them in East Jaffrey and vicinity, was his allusion to human faces appearing in blood stains. That was difficult for hard-headed practical New Englanders to swallow. It was new to their curriculum. They faltered on that issue, even though they praised him for everything else he did.

De Kerlor took many photographs. He is expert with the camera. He photographed blood spots. Explaining the phenomenon De Kerlor said:

"I was about to toss the negative into a waste-paper basket when my eye was attracted by a small, whitish formation on the plate. I looked closely and was amazed to behold a human face. There was no mistaking it. I had seen that face before. As I studied the plate three other faces appeared, one of them a woman's.

"I had prior to this time made up my mind that a woman had been present at the scene of the murder. You will remember that a hairpin was found near the cistern in which the body was thrown."

Asked how he accounted for the appearance of human faces on the negative of blood stains, De Kerlor replied:

"It is the state of consciousness. The old man was struck. He whirled about and struggled with his assailants for a moment. Then it was the faces peering at him with blood-lust in their eyes.

"He died, but that agonized consciousness remained. It was still strong enough to impress itself on the negative.

"In Paris we tried the experiment of holding a photographic plate, wrapped in some material, against the forehead of a subject who was then ordered to think strongly of a bottle. When the plate was developed the outlines of a bottle were plain.

"Thought is power. Psychology as a means of detecting crime will be the most potent agency of the trained police of the future.

"I may not be able to convince everybody of the reality of psychic pictures, but when the evidence is presented and the case settled, the world will know. And then the world will be one step nearer to a partial realization of the great psychic forces of the consciousness and the super-consciousness."

The East Jaffrey Board of Trade invited County Attorney Roy M. Pickard of Keene to address a public meeting and tell about the Dean case. Mr. Pickard replied that he could not possibly appear as a county attorney at any meeting where there might be danger of personal discussion. He said he would be only too happy to come and tell the inhabitants of East Jaffrey what had been done to clear up the mystery.

Under the agreement he attended an overflow meeting. County Attorney Pickard talked more than two hours. William De Kerlor, the New York psychologist and town detective, next took the floor. De Kerlor talked right out in the meeting. The session became heated. De Kerlor drew fire from Frank Hutchinson, who bellowed:

"Yes, that fellow (pointing a trembling fist at De Kerlor) came to my home and interviewed my family at midnight. If he ever comes to interview any of us again I'll fix him."

And Hutchinson's ire only feebly expressed the feelings of the opposition. The investigation of the Dean mystery has been punctuated by clashes and friction and disagreements.

When De Kerlor started to help the Selectmen of East Jaffrey, they claim he consented to work on the case for expenses only. Later he submitted a bill for services as well as expenses, according to the claim of the local officials, and they reneged in spite of their friendship for him. He entered suit for \$4,000,

which is still pending, and there was something said about litigation based on slander.\*

De Kerlor wrote a lengthy report for the United States Department of Justice. The Federal agents had great confidence in his work.

Down at Duncan's drug store one day a farmer drawled:

That feller De Kerlor was some sleuth. I'd like to try that Paris experiment now that the dry law is on. Even the outline of a bottle in a feller's brain might help take the edge off a feller's thirst."

"Doc" De Kerlor's efforts and personality injected atmosphere and color in a case that is a rainbow when it comes to odd features.

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\*De Kerlor in his writ alleged that this amount was due for expenses, but in his deposition before the Town's attorney he stated that what the Town had already paid, was for expenses, not for services. Consequently, as the writ and the deposition contradicted each other, De Kerlor's own attorney took a voluntary non-suit at the December term 1919, and the case was withdrawn.

## CHAPTER XII

If William De Kerlor, the New York psychologist, had been content with the assortment of cold facts which he collected in the Dean mystery and had not shuffled them with matters psychic, he would have made a ten-strike among the practical, unemotional inhabitants of East Jaffrey, and, as it was, his work was thought more of at that time than that of any other individual in the case.

As De Kerlor predicts, the day may not be far distant when "psychology as a means of detecting crime will be the most potent agency of the trained police of the future." but residents of a rural New England community have not attained those realms yet. They are much like the people of Missouri in New Hampshire: they have to be shown.

Modern detective methods have progressed in leaps and bounds and some of the stunts performed by detectives of fiction, as exploited in current magazines, are employed in real life to a degree that might astonish the layman.

The Bertillon system of measurements has almost become old fashioned in its success, and the finger prints are an unerring means of detection. Chemicals and the camera and the dictagraph are now as necessary as badges.

Flesh and blood Sherlocks have also been aided tremendously by recording the pulse and mental reflexes of suspects, but up around East Jaffrey way, with all their respect for De Kerlor and for what he accomplished, they could not quite grasp that "agonized consciousness" stuff, that made the faces of the murderers of Dr. Dean appear on the negative of blood spots.

### WRITE TO OFFICIALS.

Nor was De Kerlor the only one who injected elements psychological, or attempted to. A celebrated medium has written reams about alleged chats with Dr. Dean, and mediums and clairvoyants and just everyday "palmists" and "fortune tellers" have written to officials connected with the case and offered "solutions" which would save time and money.

That happens in every murder. The writer has worked on cases when relatives and officials started out with more trust

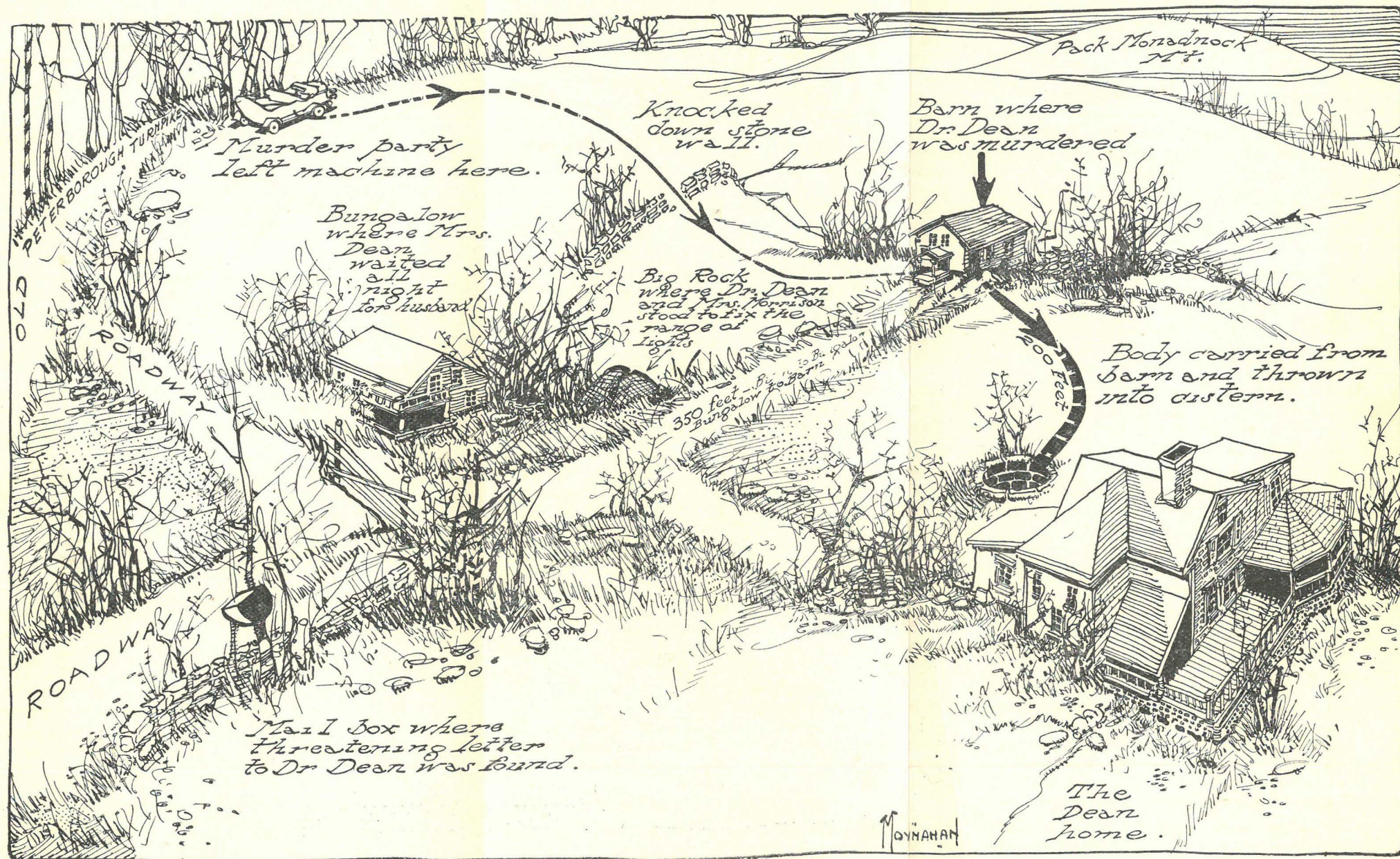


Diagram of the Farm and Surroundings.



in mediums than in county sheriffs. The first thing that relatives of Mildred Sullivan, the seventeen-year old school girl of Houlton, Me., did when she disappeared was to consult clairvoyants in Bangor, and it was hard to shake their faith in the stories told amid crimson draperies with walls decorated by gigantic palms and mysterious charts.

Mediums said she was in nearby towns and even some of the officials "fell" for those theories and were hunting in lodging houses while her body lay in a hastily dug grave on the outskirts of Presque Isle, where it had been placed by Dr. Dudley and two women friends following illegal surgery, before it had grown quite cold.

Among the medium letters in the Dean case is one from a woman who asks that her name be kept secret as she feared the same fate by scores of others, among them important witnesses who feared that if they told what they knew they might be singled out for vengeance.

#### **WOMEN OFFER EVIDENCE.**

Even some of the cultured women who have submitted important testimony in the Dean case with the sole hope that they might aid in solving the mystery and bring his slayers to justice, recoiled when strange interviewers approached them, and they admitted that they were living in constant dread. Such a state of affairs should not be allowed to exist in a peaceful New England community.

The letter from the local clairvoyant was dated East Jaffrey, April 9, 1919. It was sent to County Solicitor Roy M. Pickard and read:

"Dear sir:

"About six weeks ago I saw W. K. Dean; also the man whom he said was his slayer. Can describe them both. And he also told me for what reason he was killed. I never saw Dr. Dean until I saw his case in a Boston newspaper. I was born with the gift of a second sight and can bring those to me in whom I am interested.

"I gave a test once for which I was paid \$50, when a young girl. Have also a case in East Jaffrey which proved every word true. I do not wish to have my name in the papers or in any way public, as I am living alone in the woods and am afraid to be killed like Dr. Dean. If any testimony is of any use in the case, call me."

## INVESTIGATORS ARMED.

Investigators in the Dean case were all armed and many of them admit that they slept with revolvers under their pillows, when the anti-American activities were brisk on the mountains. Few communities have received such a thorough fright as did East Jaffrey when it learned with horror of the murder.

The pity is that all the authorities could not have agreed to work together. If there hadn't been a tendency to shield certain suspects, there would have been more harmony, say the Selectmen of Jaffrey. Unfortunately there appears to be much truth in the claim, as viewed by any person with an open mind and without reason or desire to take sides.

There has been a marked reluctance, in certain quarters, to push the Dean case. This reluctance ought to be adjusted officially and without delay. The fair name of the State of New Hampshire demands prompt and honest action.

An attempt was made at the last town election in Jaffrey to defeat Selectmen Boynton, Coolidge and Hogan because of their patriotism in trying to clear up the Dean mystery. The murder was made a political issue and it promises to become a State issue before it is disposed of. Feeling is strong back of the scenes.

The soft pedal crew put rival candidates in the field and they were snowed under. It was one of the bitterest campaigns in the history of the town. Mrs. Benjamin L. Robinson, wife of a Harvard professor, who has summered in Jaffrey for many years and who is president of the local improvement association, wrote a spirited letter which figured in the campaign.

## EFFECTIVE LETTER.

That letter was adroit and effective. Mrs. Robinson told the voters to stand back of the selectmen who had shown such fine spirit in investigating the Dean murder. The women took hold. There were few if any stay-at-homes on election day.

Selectman Peter E. Hogan was unanimously re-elected by a vote of 260. Selectman Edward C. Boynton, chairman of the board, was re-elected by a vote of 203 and Selectman William F. Coolidge who succeeded Mr. Boynton as chairman, was returned to office by a vote of 193.

The outcome of the polls was a flattering indorsement. It registered public sentiment. It showed what the people of Jaffrey wanted done in the Dean murder case. The citizens of the town spoke and in no uncertain tones—through the ballot box. And

public sentiment in East Jaffrey is the same today, relative to the Dean tragedy.\*

In spite of underground methods to influence the Selectmen, they firmly and fearlessly maintain their original stand. They want justice, no matter who may be guilty. An attempt to circulate petitions, aimed to quash further agitation of the Dean case, failed.

#### REPORT OF EXPENDITURE.

The last report of the town of Jaffrey shows that \$1,999.56 had been spent up to that time and there have been expenditures since which brings the total to \$2,500 or more. The items in the town treasurer's report follow:

Mrs. E. M. Bryant, nursing Mrs. Dean .....	\$ 27.00
Miss Hiller, district nurse, caring for Mrs. Dean .....	18.00
C. T. Johnson, taking pictures .....	38.55
C. E. Sweet, repairs .....	3.97
F. R. Enslin, board for De Kerlor .....	60.00
C. A. Hamilton, notary .....	2.00
Robert Hamill, auto hire .....	15.00
W. F. Coolidge, auto hire .....	35.00
F. A. Stratton, Auto hire .....	283.25
Toy Town Tavern, board for De Kerlor .....	13.48
William De Kerlor, expenses .....	1,473.01
Mercer Bros., auto hire .....	11.00
Dr. C. H. Cutler .....	15.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,999.56</b>

The Jaffrey officials felt proud of the fact that on the face of the last printed reports their town had expended more than the county of Cheshire for probing the Dean mystery. The last annual report of the county showed that \$888.84 had been expended on the Dean case, as follows:

Pinkerton Detective Agency, service Dean murder case ..	\$222.71
W. E. Emerson, services as deputy sheriff .....	211.10
Gardner State Colony, care and observation of Mrs. Dean	25.00
Pollard Auto Company .....	25.00
Roy M. Pickard, county solicitor .....	15.72
Roy M. Pickard .....	30.00
G. H. Childs, M. D. (autopsy, Dean case).....	20.00
Dr. H. K. Faulkner, examination .....	5.00
Pinkerton Detective Agency (investigations in New York State) .....	325.71

\*In the next election, March 1920, the three Selectmen were again sustained by an overwhelming public sentiment.

G. D. Howard, examination Dean murder case ..... 15.00

**Total** ..... \$388.24

The county expenses increased when the Cheshire County Grand Jury convened on the Dean case eight months after the murder. The itemized expenses of the Grand Jury session have not been made public yet, but they have been roughly estimated at \$1,500, which would bring the sum expended by the county on the Dean case to \$2,388.24.

The selectmen of Jaffrey say they are willing to spend every dollar in the town treasury to prosecute the slayers of Dr. Dean.

### CHAPTER XIII.

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 refuse to eliminate her even in the face of evidence that points elsewhere more convincingly.

White-haired and bent, feeble in mind and body, Mrs. Dean at the age of sixty-seven years, while burdened with her grief, was put through capers, and fortunately she lacked sufficient reasoning power to realize what it was all about.

They compelled her to cover the course which the assassins took from the barn uphill to the cistern, when they carried the body. They had her tie many knots with rope of various size, and, in her innocence, she tied a "granny" knot every time, and every knot that fastened the shroud and bindings on the body of her murdered husband was what is known as a "square" knot.

#### EXONERATED BY KNOTS.

Mrs. Dean, who could not have been held legally culpable even if it happened that she had committed the crime, had cleared herself in her honest ignorance of what they wanted. Those "granny" knots were the finest kind of exoneration.

The only knot she knew how to make was a "granny," experiment as they may, and she had not been permitted near enough to the body, drawn dripping from the cistern, to see what nature of knots secured the burlap bag and the horse blanket and bound her poor husband's hands, knees and ankles.

The county and State officials had a perfect right to do what they did. It was their duty to examine every suspect and to exhaust every suspicion.

What the majority of the people of East Jaffrey objected to was the apparent tendency of certain officials to cling to the Mrs. Dean hypothesis after having been provided with stronger clues against other suspects.

The selectmen and other prominent citizens of Jaffrey and residents of surrounding towns, call attention to the fact that after

the alienists engaged by the county and State had testified that Mrs. Dean was physically and mentally incapable of committing such a crime, they refused to clear her and continued to grope for any excuse that made it appear that she might have done the killing.

### **PUZZLING FEATURE.**

This they contend, is the most unhealthy and puzzling feature of the case.

None of the doctors or nurses who had any dealings with Mrs. Dean suspected her. They all scouted the theory. So did all those longest acquainted with Dr. and Mrs. Dean, but sentiment is no scale on which to weigh evidence in a murder case. Facts are the only goal—stern, cold facts.

It is agreed by both factions that Mrs. Dean was of unsound mind. Then it is scarcely conceivable that a woman suffering from her form of mental impairment could have been shrewd enough to cover so well, if she had any hand in the crime. Witness after witness who arrived at the Dean farm on the morning the tragedy was discovered learned nothing from Mrs. Dean that would warrant the slightest suspicion against her.

There was much talk at the outset about a telephone conversation which Mrs. Dean was alleged to have had with Charles L. Rich, cashier of the local bank, on the morning that her husband was reported missing.

Mrs. Dean was quoted as having said that her husband was dead, and adding, "He is in deep water."

### **RICH DENIES PHONE TALK.**

Cashier Rich was credited with having said that Mrs. Dean told him this over the wire that morning, but he denied it when examined by the Department of Justice agents in Boston. He said he did not talk with Mrs. Dean over the telephone that morning at all, and that he learned of the murder from somebody who telephoned from the Henchman home.

Yet for some unaccountable reason certain officials could not seem to rid their mind of that "deep water" rumor and they thought it over so much that it actually operated against Mrs. Dean, although there was no foundation for it.

Cashier Rich has gone on record that the report was untrue. He told the agents of the United States Department of Justice so.

But there is conflict on the point. Two versions appear among the records of Cheshire County.

In a statement signed by Mrs. Dean which appears among the county records in the case, she said, "I then called up Mr. Rich by the telephone, but he said he did not know where he was. I told him my husband was lost last night, but that I felt that he had died."

#### **MRS. DEAN'S STATEMENT.**

Mrs. Dean's full statement at that time follows:

"On Tuesday, August 13, my husband went down to Jaffrey and ordered his provisions. He usually goes to Goodnow's. He brought home my medicine. He gets that from Goodnow's. My medicine is lemons. He also brought home bread and butter and crackers. He said he was going to see Mrs. Rich's sister that night. He told me when he came home that he had seen the Riches at their home.

"He came home getting there at 9:30 p. m. (she stuck to that time), took his stuff from the wagon and put it in the kitchen. He gave the bouquet of flowers to me, which I put in water, then he drove over to the barn and put up the horse, and then came back and took off his good black clothes and put his old clothes on and came down and had something to eat, bread and butter and milk, and then he smoked a cigarette and then got his pails, the strainer pail for milking, and the brown pail, full of feed for the boy cow. (Mrs. Dean always referred thus to the bull calf.)

#### **SAW HIM GO AWAY.**

"I saw him go away with the lantern, toward the barn. When he went to the barn he had on a pair of knee-length khaki pants, a white shirt, collar and tie, but no cap on. He said he had been feeling bad that day. He had pains in his body and in his feet. He went to the barn at 11 p. m. (the same hour she told everybody that called the first morning before the body was found) and said that he would be back at twelve, and said 'Now you be ready with some food.' So I fixed some soup for him and had it all nice and ready for him, and I lay down and waited for him to come.

"I looked to see him coming, but he did not come. I kept awake all night and he did not come, but at 5 a. m. I went out to the barn, and I went in and found the lantern. It was standing nicely, but plenty of oil in it, as I shook it to see, and it was half full. I also found the feed pail which he took over with milk for the boy cow, also another blue and white (agateware) pail which he had taken out to the barn during the day, but could not find the strainer pail anywhere.

"I brought the lantern and blue pail back to the house. I went around the house, which was occupied by Mr. Colfelt, and called 'Billy! Billy!' I thought he might have gone in there and fallen asleep. I looked in all the walls and holes about the yard. I then came to the house and looked all around to see if he was upstairs. Then, I had my breakfast. I had crackers and milk. I mix it with egg and sugar and water, and a lot of men came in to cut the hay.

#### CALLED MR. RICH.

"I told them about Billy being gone and they said they would go and look for him. I then called up Mr. Rich by the telephone, but he said he did not know where he was. I told him my husband was lost last night, but that I felt he had died. I then called up Mrs. Garfield and told her that Dr. Dean was gone 'and I am afraid he has died.' I thought he might have gone there. Billy had some money with him. He received \$40 per month from Mr. Colfelt and Mr. Colfelt did not pay him for the last month. The Colfelts were very nice people. They lived here ten months and left six weeks ago. Billy did not have any trouble with them.

"They had an auto which they kept in the barn, one cow and three horses. Mrs. Colfelt came to see me frequently. She was also up to see me on Thursday. She thought Billy was dead, because I told her I had seen him have some bad spells. I think Billy is dead, because he would not be mean to me. He was always nice and he knows if he stayed away that he would worry me.

"I never expect to see him again. I think he died, but I cannot see where he is. He never went away before. This is the first time."

This was Mrs. Dean's pathetic story.

In their thirty-eight years of married life, Dr. Dean was away from his wife only four nights. Few couples have been more devoted.



## CHAPTER XIV.

It is seldom that experts engaged by the State in a capital case, or any other case, give testimony hostile to the prosecution.

It is more unusual to have this occur before a case reaches the court stage.

It is still more extraordinary to have the government experts unanimously opposed to the State theory.

That is what happened in the Dean mystery.

There was a reason.

The county and State prosecutors had constructed an hypothesis implicating Mrs. Dean as the murderer of her husband, but their own alienists disagreed with them, and, in written statements which appear among the county records, pointed out that such a theory was untenable.

Had Mrs. Dean been indicted, and County Solicitor Pickard said she surely would have been if she had been in her normal mind, the State of New Hampshire would have been compelled to depend upon the experts on mental diseases whom they employed to examine and observe Mrs. Dean and who, in their wisdom and honesty, absolved her before she could be brought to trial.

### THEORY DESTROYED.

The theory of the county and State prosecutors was built upon quicksand and the physicians retained by the State realized it and were not afraid to give their deductions, which stopped action in that direction.

By so doing the doctors performed an act of charity. To have subjected the aged and invalid widow to such an ordeal would have been an indignity, in view of the utter absence of evidence against her and the presence of real evidence against other suspects.

By direction of the county and State authorities, Mrs. Dean was first examined by Dr. Charles E. Thompson, superintendent of the Gardner State Colony, East Gardner, Mass. The examination was made four days after Dr. Dean's murder, August 17, 1918. Dr. Thompson's typewritten report, sent to County Solicitor Roy M. Pickard at Keene, N. H., follows:

"The morning previous to the request of Attorney-General Young and Attorney Roy M. Pickard, county solicitor, that I

examine Mrs. Dean, I had already examined her at the request of Mr. Frederic Dean of No. 126 West 104th street, New York City, who is a brother of William K. Dean, deceased. This examination was requested by Mr. Dean in order to determine the present mental condition and to decide what action should be taken looking for her future care.

"At this examination I found her to be suffering from a progressive failure of mind, which condition is most frequently spoken of as 'senile insanity' or 'senile dementia.' It was reported to me by those who had been caring for Mrs. Dean during the previous week that she had been known to be queer and had been failing mentally for several years, to such an extent that her husband, William Dean, seldom left her alone and could not himself leave the farm for any length of time. (Corroboration that he could not visit the Department of Justice agents in Boston himself to tell his story about German spy activities and was thus compelled to ask Mrs. Horace Morison to go for him.)

"Mrs. Dean, herself, as soon as I was introduced, informed me that it was too bad that she had lost her mind, and that her mother before her had somewhat the same thing the matter with her when she was about her own age. This statement had previously been made to me by those who had known the family. Such, apparently was the fact.

"Although Mrs. Dean had not been informed that her husband's body had been found and that he had been murdered and the body placed in a well, and, although she had not been notified that the funeral had been held the day previous to my examination, she seemed to take it for granted that he had died, although where or under what circumstances, she seemed to have no idea. She continually mentioned him in a manner to show that she thought frequently enough of him, but without comprehension of what had become of him or what it meant to her future.

#### **"WHY DOESN'T HE COME."**

"She kept repeating, 'Why doesn't he come? Why don't they find him? He must have fallen in the water way out there. Hark! You don't suppose that is him coming now, do you? Oh! why doesn't he come? I've looked all around and all the men looked all over and they can't find him. Where can he be? Isn't it too bad?'

"When questioned at length relative to the possible death of her husband, the only reaction that could be obtained was the

passive remark as before: 'I don't see where he is. Oh! why can't they find him? I don't believe he will ever come back,' etc., all said with far less feeling than appears from reading the exclamations.

"There were a number of strangers in and about the house but she seemed to think nothing of this although she previously must have led a very quiet, secluded life. She was pleased to see them and talk to them.

"She had not seen her husband's brother for a number of years and I was told that when he visited them she immediately left the house and remained away throughout the time that he was there visiting. For some reason she heartily disliked him and would have nothing whatever, at that time, to do with him.

"On this occasion, however, when he came in and was introduced she showed only a simple, childish semi-pleasure which represented neither real pleasure nor displeasure. She did not seem to mind especially when he came or went, and while she spoke of him afterwards, his visit seemed to make no lasting impression upon her.

#### **FELT SHE WOULD BE CARED FOR.**

"She frequently alluded to her mother's mental condition, and seemed to have a slight insight into her own present condition. When questioned she said she had no money herself and none so far as she knew that she could draw upon, but this seemed to make no impression upon her. She seemed to feel that she would be cared for. She apparently placed little value upon her household effects, as she several times urged those who came to "Take something when you go," although evidently the household effects, trinkets, etc., had meant considerable to her and her husband, as many of them were antique and gathered together either because of their age or special design.

"No delusions or hallucinations could be elicited. There was a rather marked flight of ideas, but all ideas seemed to return rather quickly to mention of the failure of the men to find her husband and failure of her husband to return.

"Relative to the possibility of her being the one who murdered her husband and later replaced his body in the well where found, the question to be determined was whether she was insane and of a type leading possibly to murder; further, whether she was physically able to commit such physical acts as the murderer did apparently commit.

### WALKED ABOUT WITH HER.

"In company with Attorney-General Young and an assistant, I took Mrs Dean over the grounds and through and about the buildings, endeavoring to see what reactions she would show under such circumstances. We visited the barn where Dr. Dean was supposed to have been struck down and the well in which his body was found.

"She in a simple, child-like way, showed us all about, called our attention to various little things which were of no moment.

"**She had no hesitation whatever in visiting the barn, the well, or any part of the grounds, and these were visited to see if on the second visit any reactions could be determined.**

"At the well she helped raise the cover to show the well to us, as we led her to that vicinity, and by her every behavior showed quite conclusively that she had not placed the body there.

"Several tests were made to determine her physical strength and it was clearly shown that her strength was that of a feeble woman and not such as to allow me to assume even for the sake of argument, that she could have exerted the force necessary to do it, and, with the body, what had apparently been done.

"The morning examination lasted more than **ONE HOUR**, and the afternoon examination for the Attorney-General lasted nearly **THREE HOURS**, and from these examinations I am of the opinion that Mrs. Dean is suffering from progressive deteriorating mental disease which already has lasted for several years and which will undoubtedly continue.

"While it is conceivably possible for one in the stage of the disease in which we found her to commit a crime, I am of the opinion that in this case, Mrs. Dean showed no sign whatever to lead me to think that she had any part in or knowledge of the crime, and further that she does not possess the physical strength necessary to commit a crime as this one was apparently committed. Her commitment to a suitable hospital was recommended.

"Respectfully submitted  
DR CHARLES E. THOMPSON,  
"Superintendent."

### TOLD OF CRIME.

County Solicitor Pickard, under date of August 23, 1918, wrote an outline of the tragedy to Dr. Walter C. Haviland, superintendent of the Herbert Hall Hospital, Inc., in Worcester, where

Mrs. Dean was sent for treatment and observation soon after Dr. Thompson of the Gardner State Colony had examined her at the Dean farm.

Dr. Haviland read the history of the crime, as sketched by Mr. Pickard, to Mrs. Dean next day, and that was the first time, eleven days after the murder, that Mrs. Dean was told of the fate of her husband and the circumstances attending the discovery of his body.

Apparently it was part of the State plan to keep her in ignorance while they were putting her through their tests. And meanwhile she was calling for her husband with the pathetic appeal of a child calling for its mother, as Dr. Thompson described in his statement.

Dr. H. L. Chase, resident physician at the Herbert Hall Hospital, on August 29, 1918, sent the following letter to County Solicitor Pickard:

"Replying further to your letter of 23d inst., re the Dean case, would say that Dr. Haviland has read to Mrs. Dean your outline of the facts in the case, the finding of the body, etc., but she neither said or did anything **THAT INDICATED ANY EARLIER KNOWLEDGE OF THE MURDER.**

"She exclaimed, 'Wasn't that dreadful. That's why Billy didn't come back. I was sure he must have fallen into the water somewhere and got drowned. Why should anyone want to kill Billie? Now I must go right home and attend to things. Won't you help me to go home?'"

#### **DID NOT WEEP.**

"She didn't cry. In view of all the circumstances, the local situation, the woman's poor physical and demented condition, her conduct and talk since she called up her neighbors, all seem to us to indicate that it is highly improbable that she could have committed the crime.

"We continue, however, closely to observe her and we will keep you informed."

On October 14, 1918, Drs. Haviland and Chase sent the following letter to County Solicitor Pickard:

"It is now nearly eight weeks since Mrs. Dean of East Jaffrey was admitted here for care, treatment and observation of her mental condition, and especially for evidence of epilepsy or other conditions that might throw light on the question of her having been the murderer of her husband.

"After carefully observing her we find her mental condition to be characterized by the usual signs and symptoms of senile dementia, a condition that had been coming on for over two years. This disease, as you probably are aware, seldom, if ever, occasions acts of violence in the patient. We have carefully looked for evidences of epilepsy and have made inquiries on this point of many persons who have known her for some time and who have visited her since her arrival here, and there seems to be no evidence whatever that she had epilepsy.

"We have tested her ability to tie knots and find that she almost invariably makes either a bow knot or a 'granny,' almost never a square knot. We have also since her arrival, had her walk up hill and we observed her evident difficulty in so doing. It is hard to imagine her walking from her barn to her house carrying any weight but her own. Most epileptics are muscular and violent tempered, but she is neither.

"In view of all the circumstances, we are fully convinced that it is impossible that she had any part in the murder of her husband.

"Although a very pleasant inmate of our household it seems to us wholly unnecessary now for her to be longer here, either for recuperation or for the protection of the community, and we believe it is only fair to her to inform you of our opinion, so that you and her guardian may make suitable arrangements for her return to her home in East Jaffrey, which she is exceedingly anxious for.

"We have written to the above effect to Mrs. Dean's guardian, Mr. Davis of East Jaffrey.

"Awaiting any suggestions from you, we remain,

Yours respectfully,

"WALTER C. HAVILAND,

"Superintendent.

"H. L. CHASE,

"Resident Physician."

## CHAPTER XV.

In spite of the fact that the State's mental experts and the Federal agents on the case had unanimously eliminated Mrs. Dean as a suspect in connection with the murder of her husband, Dr. Dean, the county and State authorities clung to the Mrs. Dean theory and lost valuable time.

Subtle rumors of Mrs. Dean's alleged jealousy of her husband bothered them and so did a certain stick of wood.

On August 28, 1918, fifteen days after the murder, County Solicitor Roy M. Pickard, of Keene, wrote to Attorney-General Oscar L. Young, at Concord, concerning a piece of wood that the State detective mentioned in one of his reports.

"A fact which seems to me important," wrote Mr. Pickard, "came to me a few days ago. It is to the effect that on the day succeeding the murder, Mrs. Dean was very anxious to burn up a certain stick of wood in the kitchen, which stick of wood was longer than any stick and which she could not get into the stove.

### SEEMED SIGNIFICANT.

"She made several efforts to do so and the nurse who was there and one other told her to leave it and it would be cut in two in due time and that she would burn it. She came back to it time after time and finally, to quiet her, the stick of wood was sawed in two and burned. This seems to me a significant fact, for one of the things we have been unable to discover is the weapon with which Dr. Dean was struck down. I am getting a description of this occurrence in full."

Attorney-General Young, under date of Sept. 14, 1918, replied:

"It is exceedingly unfortunate that the stick of wood was destroyed. I shall be interested to know what further details of this transaction you are able to get."

Joseph Lemere was a witness of the stick episode. He said:

"I went to the Dean farm on the evening of August 14, at 8 o'clock, at the request of the Selectmen of East Jaffrey. I stayed in the big house all night, but saw nothing. I split the wood that Mrs. Dean carried into the woodbox. One stick was found to be too long for the stove.

"Mrs Dean simply remarked that the stove was too short for

such a stick. The stick was two or three inches too long. After Mrs. Dean tried to put it into the stove the stick was put back into the woodbox and, later, when filling the stove again, Mrs. Dean took hold of the same stick and mentioned its length and Perley Enos sawed it in two pieces for her.

"It came from the pile of wood that I split. I don't remember whether it was cornered or round. If pieces were small I would not split them. I thought her remark was natural."

That punctured another Mrs. Dean bubble. The club clue went up in smoke like the stick itself.

#### OVERLOOKED WEEDER.

The county and State officials were acting properly in sifting every detail to that stick and every other development in the case. What the Selectmen of East Jaffrey objected to was the indifference exhibited by the same officials toward a hand-cultivator or weeder which was found under a stone wall on the Dean estate after the murder and which the county ignored for months.

The County and State officials frowned on that weeder and they do to-day, in spite of the fact that at the eleventh hour it was turned over to Dr. George Burgess Magrath, Medical Examiner from Boston, who subjected it to a chemical analysis, sealed it and placed it before the Cheshire County Grand Jury, called eight months after the murder.

Dr. Magrath could not disclose his findings concerning the stains and hair strands on the weeder, because all the evidence submitted to the Grand Jury has been sealed and kept strictly secret, but the fact that he made it an exhibit after careful scrutiny, showed inferentially that he must have found something sufficiently convincing to make the weeder part of the case.

There was such conflict concerning the pedigree of the weeder that it really loomed bigger than certain officials were willing to admit, after Dr. Magrath came into the case. While prevented from discussing his conclusions relative to the hand cultivator, Dr. Magrath did venture the opinion that such a weapon was consistent with the wounds found on Dr. Dean's head.

#### CLAW-SHAPED CUTS.

The claw-shaped grouping of the cuts could not have been made by an ordinary piece of wood. Yet despite the suspicious stains and the hair on the weeder, it was not called for by the County and State authorities for months. The Selectmen of Jaffrey say that this indifference primarily was due to the fact



that it had been turned over to them when found by Bean and that it was another instance of jealous friction.

County Attorney Pickard said he never considered the weeder an element in the case because it was so light, but Dr. Magrath sealed it as an exhibit. That was significant.

Furthermore, when called in five months later to perform the first real autopsy in the case, Dr. Magrath had a long chat with Mrs. Dean at Mrs. Enslin's home, and came away satisfied that she had no hand in the murder. He considered such a theory absurd.

In the face of the overwhelming testimony by experts in Mrs. Dean's favor a suspicious incident occurred in East Jaffrey a full year after the murder. Mrs. Dean who had been lodging with the Rev. and Mrs. F. R. Enslin, and who seldom went out, visited Cournoyer's grocery store and asked for poison, and, finding that she could not get it there, went to Duncan's drug store. Let Dick Eaves, the clerk, go on with the story:

"I knew Mrs. Dean well. She seemed feeble. She asked for poison that would kill a dog or man and she said she wanted a piece about so long, holding her hands about eight inches apart. I thought the incident awful queer. I asked her what she wanted the poison for, and she said that a man had asked her to buy it. I asked her who the man was, and she said she didn't know, but that he told her he would be waiting outside for her to give it to him.

#### MAN HAD VANISHED.

"I hurried to the door, thinking I might catch a glimpse of him, but he had dusted. Mrs. Dean asked for the poison several times, and said the man wanted to kill a dog, and that her husband never poisoned dogs, but would let them die natural. Then she went out."

Selectman Edward C. Boynton adds a chapter to that poison episode and his utterances are supported by the other two members of the Board, Selectmen William F. Coolidge and Peter E. Hogan. Said Mr. Boynton:

"Those of us who have sought to have the real murderers of Dr. Dean brought to justice, no matter what their pull or prominence, felt mighty suspicious about the poison matter.

"We concluded that it was nothing but another bit of theatrical stuff on the part of the local clique to shield the real suspects. We concluded that the opposition were still eager to saddle guilt on Mrs. Dean and that they figured if Mrs. Dean succeeded in

getting the poison and turned it over to the stool who put her up to it, they would have something to crow over.

"They could then have an exhibit which they could use for the purpose of charging that she had homicidal thoughts, that a desire to kill herself or someone else was working in her muddled brain and that capital could be made out of this to draw tighter the cloak of security about the ones who ought now to be behind the bars or strung up for this murder of a loyal American citizen.

"But we put a puncture in that wrinkle along with others. We selected Frank Humiston to ask Mrs. Dean to buy poison for him and some of us watched the outcome. She went in, and under a pre-arranged plan, the druggist sold her magnesia. We wanted to see what she would do with it. Sure enough, just as we expected, she came out and handed the little package of harmless powder to Frank Humiston and went on her way innocent of it all.

#### **SEEK FAIR PLAY.**

"We hated to subject her to this, but we felt that it was necessary to clear up the first affair, which was as underhanded as some other things that have happened in this case. Before we got through with that poison matter we satisfied ourselves who the man was who put her up to it the first time.

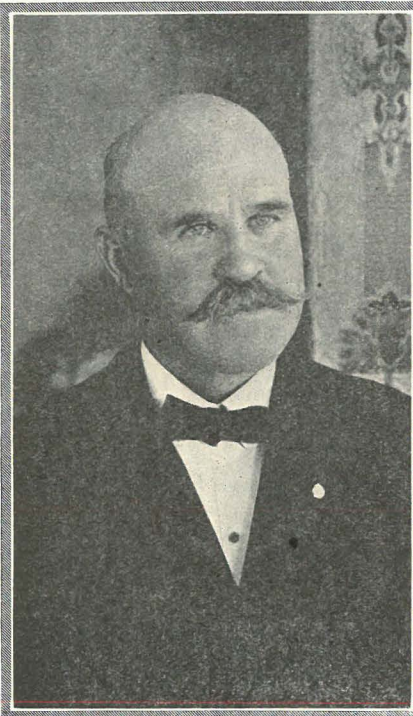
"It may be that the plot was hatched solely by a certain clique in town; but whoever were back of it were not actuated by honest impulses. They were trying to cover up, and they know why. So do we who seek only fair play and justice in this case."

Jealousy was the motive that had been ascribed to Mrs. Dean. It was pointed out that her husband was three years her junior, that he appeared much younger, and that he was such a natty dresser and such an entertaining conversationalist and so popular with men and women that Mrs. Dean felt jealous of certain women neighbors.

The stories of alleged jealousy and the first suspicion against Mrs. Dean are reported to have come from members of the households of Charles L. Rich, cashier of the local bank, and Laurence Maens Colfelt, Jr., the latter with his wife and foster daughter having been tenants for months of the main house on the Dean mountain estate on the outskirts of East Jaffrey.

#### **HOTLY DENY STORIES.**

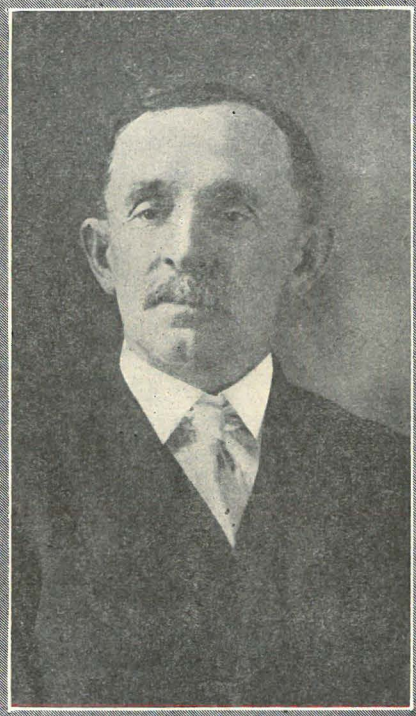
Neighbors who had known and respected Dr. and Mrs. Dean



MR. HOGAN



MR. COOLIDGE



MR. BOYNTON

THE SELECTMEN OF JAFFREY

for years, many of them for more than a quarter century, and members of the fashionable Summer colony, all hotly denied these stories of jealousy and domestic discords, and there doesn't seem to be anything in the thirty-eight years of their married life to support the rumors. Dr. and Mrs. Dean were exceptionally contented and devoted.

Women neighbors were so incensed over the attempt to implicate Mrs. Dean that they sent out a lengthy public letter to the newspapers. The letter was drawn up by Mrs. Benjamin L. Robinson, wife of a Harvard professor. Mrs. Robinson is president of the Jaffrey Village Improvement Society. She has been summering in that section for many years.

Mrs. Robinson's letter was published in full in a local newspaper known as "The Breeze." A Boston Sunday newspaper (not the Advertiser-American), which carried a long special on the Dean case and which hinted so strongly at Mrs. Dean that the women neighbors took exceptions, was requested to publish Mrs. Robinson's letter entire but printed only a fragment of it.

The letter was indorsed by Miss Mary Lee Ware whose summer estate is in West Rindge, by the Rev. Joseph Whitehead, Mrs. Griffiths, Miss Cleaves and many others.

It read in part as follows:

"Some of us who have been Summer residents of East Jaffrey and adjoining New Hampshire country and so have known intimately William K. Dean, who was brutally murdered there, and his faithful wife, do not feel that accounts of the case which have lately gone into print do justice to the facts.

### THE REAL STORY.

"Instead of Mrs. Dean having torn her husband away from his city practice because of jealousy of women patients, the fact is that she, a handsome, charming woman, in the prime of life, left her friends and her comforts and pleasures of city life to bring her husband, who had contracted a serious throat trouble which threatened tuberculosis, to a New Hampshire hilltop to nurse him back to health.

"Although he had studied medicine he had never practiced it, having gone into the publishing business instead, so he never had any patients, either men or women.

"Instead of being cut off from all human intercourse as has been suggested, their beautiful hilltop, their charming house,

with its books, music and wonderful plants, became the most popular place in the neighborhood.

"Almost every interesting person who came into the Monadnock region was taken to call on the Deans, and their friends in Peterboro, Dublin, Rindge, Jaffrey and Fitzwilliam were frequent visitors and always cordially welcomed.

"One Summer, Mrs. Dean amused herself by keeping count of the people who called upon them, and the number was more than 600. In the long Winter evenings the young people of the region were most welcome guests and were entertained with music and dancing.

#### **DEANS LOVED ANIMALS.**

"The Deans were great lovers of animals and their many dogs, their horses, cows, white turkeys, as well as the squirrels and the birds which they fed and tamed, were looked after as tenderly as children.

"Mrs. Dean's care for her husband during the years he was in ill health was repaid with interest during their last years when her failing powers, due to hemorrhage of the brain, made it impossible for her longer to do her household tasks.

"He assumed them all, in addition to his outdoor work, besides giving her the care which an invalid needs, doing it all with a cheerfulness which in a man in his sixties and in failing health, was almost heroic."

A graphic tribute that, and one straight from the heart.

## CHAPTER XVI.

The passing of the Deans was a direct result of the war. The wrath of Mars made itself felt in a remote New England community when Dr. Dean was murdered at his mountain home on the outskirts of East Jaffrey, N. H., and the death of his widow was hastened by the tragedy.

Mrs. Dean died Sept. 15, 1919, thirteen months and two days after the murder of her husband, on Aug. 13, 1918. Two weeks prior to her death, the body of Dr. Dean, which had been exhumed and placed in the receiving tomb in the East Jaffrey cemetery, where an autopsy was performed six months after the tragedy, was sent to Rochester, N. Y., and buried in the family lot of Mrs. Dean's parents.

Her body was sent there also after simple funeral services and both now lie together in their last resting place.

The Rev. F. R. Enslin, of East Jaffrey, officiated at both funerals. He is pastor of the Baptist church. Mrs. Dean lived at the home of Pastor Enslin for more than a year after she had been released from a sanitarium in Worcester, Mass.

### LAST DAYS PATHETIC.

Mrs. Dean's last days were pathetic. Her life at the Enslin home was described by Mrs. Enslin, who said:

"Mrs. Dean was one of the sweetest and most lovable persons I ever met. She was as trusting as a child and almost as helpless, owing to her mental trouble. But her type of insanity did not make her sly or violent. On the contrary it seemed to soften a disposition and personality which had been above the average all her life, according to the reports of those who knew her for many years.

"She had this room here on the ground floor and she was as  
"It was cruel to suspect her of the murder of her husband. It was more cruel, in view of the fact that evidence pointed more strongly in another direction. The only charitable feature of it was that while they were putting her through the tests and while suspicion hung heavily over her in the minds of certain officials, but not to the majority of the townspeople, Mrs. Dean was entirely ignorant of it.

neat as a pin. She had photographs of her husband on the mantle and she would talk to them and call them her "Billy." She used to find great enjoyment in the graphophone. She would put on tunes that she said 'Billie' liked best and which reminded her of their early married life.

#### **"BILLIE WILL COME."**

"She would say ' "Billie" will come and hear them.' Some of the tunes were old Southern melodies and any that were favorites of her dead husband she referred to with reverence and played the records over and over.

"She complained a great deal of pains in her head but she was all ready to smile and say a kind word. It was a long while before she realized what had become of her husband and the manner of his death. She told me she thought he had been shot, and she mentioned many times her surprise that anybody should want to injure her 'Billie'.

"In my opinion it would have been impossible for a woman of unsound mind to have lived here a year and not to have dropped some hint if she had committed the crime. It doesn't seem reasonable to suppose that an insane person could have remained on her guard for such a long time and exercise enough cuteness and judgment to have covered her guilt

"This fact alone should have cleared her of all suspicion, but the mental experts who were better able, cleared her long before.

"I have always felt grateful to think that she did not realize the weight of suspicion in the early months. She always maintained that her husband arrived home from the village at 9:30 on the night of the murder and she never changed her story about what she did that night and the next day.

#### **MEMORY FAILED HER.**

"Her memory failed her steadily. That was one of the effects of her mental disease. She could not remember the names of persons or objects. She'd call lemons 'those little yellow things' and had a similar way of describing everything else. She did not know the names of any article of food.

"We all enjoyed having her here and did what we could to make her comfortable. She died very peacefully and suddenly. She went into her room and said she would lie down and she passed away as if falling asleep.

"The poison episode was very unjust. Somebody tried to

have her buy poison in order to renew the old suspicion and to keep alive the theory that she had homicidal tendencies, but her whole life with us was a contradiction of anything of the sort."

Pastor Enslin said:

"We all regretted Mrs. Dean's death. Her case was very pathetic. There doesn't seem to be any doubt that her husband's murder hastened her end. She was a sweet old lady and highly cultured like her husband.

### PECULIAR PHASES.

"There are very peculiar phases to this case. We are all anxious to have it cleared up satisfactorily. There didn't seem to be the slightest foundation for suspecting Mrs. Dean. It would benefit the community to have this mystery solved and to have everybody work together to that end."

Mrs. George Hart, wife of the railroad telegrapher and daughter of Mrs. Bartlett, said:

"We knew Dr. Dean very intimately. A short time before Mrs. Dean's death I called at the Enslins' to see her. I had to tell her who I was and then she recalled me. She seemed delighted over my visit. She said that she felt well during the day but that at night her head bothered her.

"She kept repeating: 'My naughty head! My naughty head! Only for that I would be all right'. Then to my surprise, in a hushed voice, she said: 'Just think, they thought I killed Billie. What a terrible thing for them to think that.'

"She had failed a great deal from the time I had last seen her. She spoke very tenderly of Mr. and Mrs. Enslin and said that they had done everything in their power to make her comfortable and happy and that she was very contented there."

### SHOWED HER GRIEF.

Mrs. Enslin had never heard Mrs. Dean mention that she knew that she was suspected. Mrs. Enslin supposed that Mrs. Dean had died without that knowledge. Mrs. Hart said that Mrs. Dean keenly showed her grief over the fact that the authorities had tried to connect her with the case.\*

The Dean estate is now in the hands of Lewis W. Davis, a director of the Monadnock Savings Bank, who was appointed administrator of Dr. Dean's estate and guardian of Mrs. Dean following the murder, and who auctioned off the household effects and personal property.

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\*In view of this conflict of testimony the relatives are inclined to believe that Mrs. Dean never became really aware of the false accusations against her.



Mrs. Dean had given away all of her diamonds before her death. The next of kin of Dr. Dean is his brother, Frederic Dean of New York City.

William Dean Goddard, librarian in the Public Library at Pawtucket, R. I., is a nephew of Dr. Dean's. Mr. Goddard has taken a keen interest in the case and was one of the first to resent the suspicion directed at Mrs. Dean. He said:

"They were an unusually happy couple and very devoted. Reports that Mrs. Dean was jealous of her husband were untrue. I visited their farm some years ago, when Dr. Dean was younger and he was very athletic. He used dumbbells and kept himself in good condition and could use the gloves."

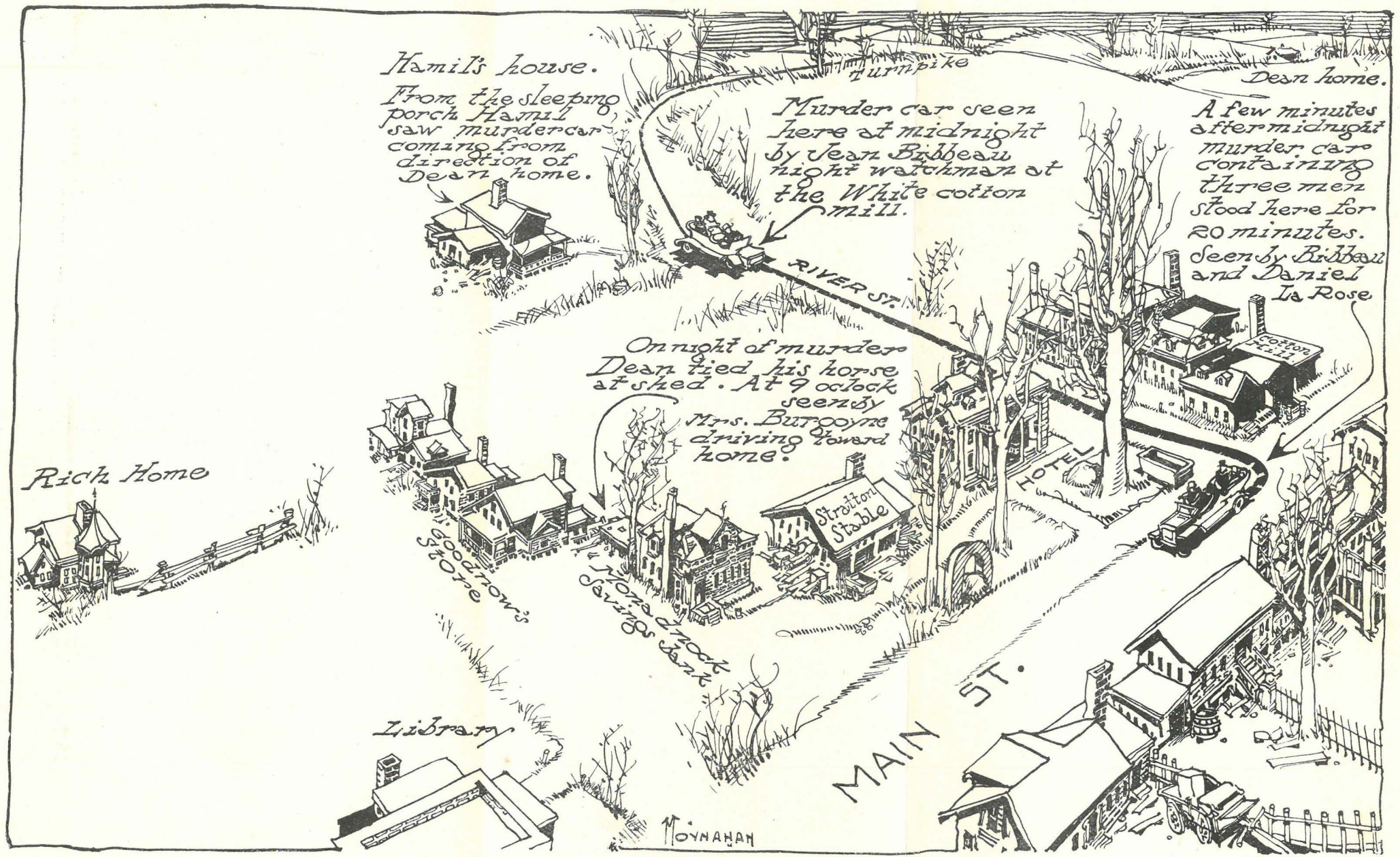


Diagram of the Village and Stores.

## CHAPTER XVII.

With the elimination of Mrs Dean by alienists and others, followed by her death, it now becomes the duty of the county and State authorities to run down and punish the murderers of Dr. Dean. With the curtain drawn on the Dean household, evidence implicating others has increased in magnitude and should be acted upon.

The County and State authorities say that the Dean case is open and that they will welcome any new evidence. They say that the evidence at hand is not sufficient to warrant the arrest or to hope for a conviction. But they are not now spending a single dollar or making the slightest effort to track the assassins or to unearth new evidence themselves.

So far as the County and State officials are concerned, the Dean case is pigeon-holed. The state of New Hampshire ought to exert itself a little more toward the solution of a murder that is international in its ramifications.

Murderers seldom give themselves up, nor is it the duty or function of civilians to go to the trouble or expense to produce evidence. That is an official responsibility, but absolutely nothing is being done along that line at the present time in the Dean mystery.

In connection with the evidence which tends to implicate two suspects, the County and State officials appear to take the stand that unless they have first hand or direct evidence, it is futile for them to proceed.

### ERRONEOUS THEORY.

This is an error and contrary to general practice. Every lawyer knows that the majority of homicides are proven by circumstantial evidence. People do not commit murder in the daylight or in the presence of witnesses, as a general rule.

There have been killings in crowded places in the heat of passion, but most murders are committed in seclusion, or in the dark, as was that of Dr. Dean, and it is only by circumstances that the chain of evidence can be welded sufficiently to enmesh the suspects.

If all the clues and circumstances and shadings involving

German activities in that region, the signal lights, the use of enemy funds, the operations of certain persons, the conflicting statements made and the very clear trail that appears following the murder are properly co-ordinated and presented to a grand jury and a court, convictions could be secured, in the opinion of Federal agents and others who have worked on the case.

The selectmen and the majority of the inhabitants of East Jaffrey declare that the grand jury hearing at Keene which they say was reluctantly called in April, eight months after the murder, was a "whitewash."

They say that a great many witnesses who had valuable evidence were not called and that witnesses with important testimony were not permitted to tell their full stories.

They demand that another and more sweeping grand jury inquiry be conducted and that a change of venue be granted so that the proceedings may be held in another county.

They say that the selectmen and the Federal agents requested that an attorney representing the United States Department of Justice be allowed to attend the grand jury session. This request was denied by Judge Kivel on the grounds that if indictments were returned it would give the counsel for the defendants opportunity to upset the proceedings by claiming that they were illegal.

The charges made by the selectmen and others are very grave, but they claim that they can prove them. They say evidence was suppressed.

County Solicitor Pickard denies these allegations and is not a bit disturbed by them. He said:

#### **CALLS CHARGES "SILLY."**

"Stories that the Grand Jury of Cheshire County was influenced, are in line with other silly charges in this case. It is absurd to claim that anybody could exercise so great a power over so many citizens. The Grand Jury proceedings in the Dean case were judicially and carefully conducted along regular lines.

"The rights of every person were safe-guarded and only facts which could be interpreted as legal evidence were considered. We naturally could not deal with rumors or country gossip.

"Everything connected with this case has been conscientiously weighed and acted upon. The county officials have no apologies to make. The case is not dead by any means. Both Attorney-General Young and myself are eager to solve it and to act upon any evidence offered.

"We have nothing in our possession now which would warrant action against any suspect."

The citizens of East Jaffrey clamored for a Grand Jury hearing for months before a special session was finally called in April. In February, six months after the murder, a petition was circulated which read as follows:

**"We, the undersigned citizens of Jaffrey, hereby respectfully request the proper Federal and State authorities to conduct a searching and complete judicial investigation into the crime which resulted in the death of William K. Dean, at Jaffrey, August 13, 1918 to the end that if possible, the guilty parties may be found and any unjust suspicion be allayed."**

This petition was signed by several hundred citizens in short order. It caused a local sensation and was followed by a stormy session of the Board of Trade, at which many charges were debated. It was one of the most turbulent sessions in the history of the town. A sample of the dialogue during the most heated moments is shown in the following fragment:

"If this is one of the big guns, let him shoot," thundered a voice when several were trying to get the floor.

"I ain't a big gun, I'm only a pistol, but I'm going to fire!" exclaimed the speaker, "and I don't care who is hit."

George H. Duncan, president of the Jaffrey Board of Trade, wrote lengthy letters to County Solicitor Pickard, summarizing the charges made in open meeting, and it was as a result of this correspondence that Pickard consented to appear before a later meeting, where De Kerlor, the psychologist-detective from New York, was also a speaker.\*

At that time County Solicitor Pickard suggested to President Duncan that a coroner's inquest would be more advisable than a Grand Jury hearing. Mr. Pickard stated that he did not think that "there was the slightest excuse for a Grand Jury investigation at this time. It would not do what is expected of it, and the function of a Grand Jury, is, I think, misunderstood. That, at least is my idea, substantiated by some study of Grand Jury practice in New Hampshire."

Finally there was a change of the official mind as to Grand Jury proceedings and after a lapse of eight months, a special session of the Cheshire County Grand Jury was called. The deliberations of that body began in Keene, the county seat, on April 11, and dragged along until April 29.

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\*The Duncan-Pickard correspondence of February 19 to March 1, 1919 was published in the BOSTON AMERICAN of January 20-24, 1920.

**GRAND JURY STATEMENT.**

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 turbaned 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.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

The death car is the first real link of evidence in the Dean mystery. It will be recalled that Game Warden George E. Wellington found freshly broken twigs and footprints in the fields and a stone in a wall dislodged and that this trail led from automobile tracks discovered in a siding off the Peterboro wood road and across the lots to the barn where Dr. Dean was murdered.

Charles A. Bean, employed at a tack factory in East Jaffrey, said:

"I saw Dr. Dean at the village on the evening of August 13, 1918, when he was doing his shopping. Later that night, while sitting on my front stoop I saw an automobile down the street. I heard it toot twice. I saw a light turned on in front of ——'s barn and I heard a carriage drive out and pass down the road.

"It was about 10:30 p. m. It was followed by the automobile. I am positive that it was not Dr. Dean's carriage because his hitch had rubber tires and this one had steel tires. I knew the gait of the horse well.

"It was smarter than Dr. Dean's horse. I knew whose rig it was, but I am not positive who was in it.

"After I made my statement to the Federal agents, Deputy Sheriff Emerson came to me and asked me to sign a paper which I did, and I discovered later that it was different in the wording than my first statement. I did not read the paper. I signed it after he had put questions to me which I had answered before."

Bean's story concerning a carriage and an automobile was corroborated by Everett Bingham, who lives near the fork of the old Peterboro road. The records in the case credit Bingham with stating that he was resting on a porch hammock at 10:30 on the night of the murder, and that at 10:45 he heard a wagon pass, followed by an automobile.

He said he dozed, and when he awoke he went into the house and noticed that it was 11:30. He said that the engine of the automobile which he heard was heavier than that of a Ford.

The mysterious car seen by Watchman Bibeau of the Cotton mill and Dan LaRose at midnight in the village was of medium size and resembled an Overland.

Robert Hamill owner of a garage and blacksmith shop near the East Jaffrey railroad station, said:

"On the night that Dr. Dean was killed I decided to sleep in a porch hammock where I often slept, as it was a very hot night. I soon fell asleep. I don't know how long I slept, but it must have been in the neighborhood of midnight that I was awakened by the sound of an automobile coming down the old Peterboro road toward the village.

#### **WENT INDOORS.**

"My house is on an elevation close to the junction of River street and the Peterboro turnpike and a few minutes walk from Main street. The automobile had its dimmers on. I noticed that in particular. It was headed in the direction of Main street, but I don't know whether it went that far. After seeing the car I decided to sleep indoors and went to my bedroom."

Jean Bibeau, night watchman at White's Cotton Mill, at the junction of Main and River streets, and overlooking the village square, also saw a mysterious automobile that night. Singularly, he sighted it on River street a few minutes after midnight and within a few yards of the place where Hamill lost sight of it from his porch. Bibeau is a Frenchman. He has a good reputation and is conservative. He said:

"I was at work in the boiler room when I heard the town clock strike twelve, just as it is sounding now. You can hear it very plain here. I make my rounds through the mill every hour and start when I hear the clock. On the night Dr. Dean was murdered, the clock struck twelve and I took my lantern and walked from the boiler room here to the corner of River street and up River street to the wooden building which I go to first.

"As soon as I faced up the road, I noticed an automobile with only one headlight. It was then about two minutes after twelve. The automobile was on the hill just before it reached the hollow in the road. They slowed up when they saw my light. I got that impression strong, but I didn't think much about the automobile at the time because I didn't know about the murder.

#### **ONE HEADLIGHT.**

"I thought it was funny to have them stop and to have only one headlight. That's why I remember it so well. I went into the wooden building, and, when I came out to go into the brick building, the car had passed and was stopped at the corner right



near the watering trough with the front facing up Main street toward the bank.

"I did not notice any rear light. I went into the main part of the mill, and that automobile must have stood there fifteen minutes. It takes me about fifteen or twenty minutes to make my rounds. As I came along each floor, starting from the top, I could see through the windows that it was still there.

"When I came out of the mill to return to the boiler room, I saw that the car was still there and that there were three men in it. I could hear them talking.

Asked if he recognized any of the voices, Bibeau smiled knowingly, and then said:

"I could not be sure. I was not near enough to see their faces. After I heard of the murder, it all came back to me, and I wished I had walked nearer to the car in returning to the boiler room.

Daniel LaRose was in the square late that night. LaRose went to the Post Office to mail a letter and noticed the automobile, which Jean Bibeau saw, drawn up near the watering trough.

#### RECOGNIZED ONE MAN.

LaRose told the Selectmen and the Federal agents that he saw three men in the car and that he recognized one of them. LaRose was out of town when the writer was in East Jaffrey.

LaRose told many of his friends what he saw that night and it dovetailed with Jean Bibeau's testimony and with Hamill's statement.

An automobile could reach Dean's home from the village in fifteen or twenty minutes at night. The crime could have been committed, the body bound and dropped in the cistern and the murderers be back in the village within an hour, but they had more time than that.

The tracks found on the old Peterboro wood road by Game Warden Wellington, after the murder, showed that an automobile had been driven into a siding off the highway and the location fitted with footprints and broken twigs in the fields.

It is obvious that the men who rode in that automobile did not wish to be too conspicuous on the old Peterboro road, but that once they reached Main street, they could be less cautious as the car might be thought by pedestrians to have come from any direction there.

Automobile parties from Keene to East Jaffrey, late at night, are common. The manner in which the occupants of the death

car used the dimmers, and the fact that they had only one headlight on and slowed down when they saw Jean Bibeau's lantern, indicated that the persons in that automobile had reasons to be wary that night.

#### **NO REASON FOR DIMMERS.**

Otherwise they would have driven at ordinary speed, and with all lights on, as required by law. There was no reason for dimmers at midnight on a deserted road with nothing moving ahead.

**That automobile carried the murderers of Dr. Dean and it was stealing into town. All the facts prove that.**

Charles L. Rich, cashier of the Monadnock National Bank at East Jaffrey, one of Dr. Dean's most intimate friends for nearly thirty years and his financial adviser, who told the authorities that he did not leave his house after nine o'clock on the night of August 13, 1918, was apparently in error, as he was seen on the street at 9:45 p. m. that night by Margaret and Annie Costello close neighbors, who gave out the information thinking that it would be of service to him, not knowing that he had gone on record by mentioning an earlier hour.

One of the Costello girls was sitting on her porch, which is close to the street, and her sister was watering the lawn with the hose at 9:45 p. m. and was standing within a few feet of Mr. Rich when he passed her, headed toward Main street, and returned ten or fifteen minutes later.

Mr. Rich also visited the store of William T. Leighton, the local undertaker, at eight o'clock the next morning, several hours before the body of Dr. Dean was found. Mr. Leighton said:

"There has been enough talk already, but I do think something ought to be done about it. There are features that puzzle me.

"Mr. Rich came into my store at eight o'clock on the morning of August 14. He asked me if I was going up to Dean's. I asked him what for. He told me that Dean was dead and I'd better go up to get the job. I told him I had heard nothing about it and that I would not go until sent for. I said it was not my custom to hunt up jobs.

"Mr. Rich asked me if I was going up in my automobile, and said he would like to go with me. I said that if he made up a general party I would be glad to take them up as I have a large car. I said I could not go right away but would meet them about 11 o'clock and that I would have a lunch at home before we went.

"When I came with my car he and his wife and sister-in-law were there to go and we went to the Dean place. I helped haul out the body from the cistern. The medical referee and two other doctors made post-mortem examinations of the body and Dr. Baker made notes with a fountain pen.

"They agreed in those notes that death was due to strangulation. I was there when the body was exhumed later at the request of the brother. There are certain things that I cannot get out of my mind in connection with this case. The sooner it is cleared up the better."

Mr. Rich told Attorney-General Young that Mrs. Dean had telephoned him that Dr. Dean was dead. The statement made to Attorney-General Young was written down by the latter and is among the county records of the case.

In this statement, Mr. Rich said:

"In the morning I heard that Dean was dead. I called Mrs. Dean, and said: 'I want to speak with Billie'. She said, 'You can't, Billie is dead.' Whereupon I said, 'Dead, where?' And she replied 'Over by the deep water.'"

When examined at the headquarters of the United States Department of Justice in Boston later, Mr. Rich made another statement to the effect that he first learned of the Dean tragedy at 11 o'clock the following morning from a neighbor.

In his statement to Attorney-General Young he did not explain who had told him of Dr. Dean's death, which information prompted him to call up Mrs. Dean, nor did he state the time he learned of his friend's death.

An agent of the Department of Justice questioned Mr. Rich on this point and the Federal record reads thus:

Q.—What time did Mrs. Dean tell you Mr. Dean was lost?  
A.—She didn't tell me. It was around 11 o'clock. I just can't tell what time it was, as I have no way of fixing it, except this time was around 11 o'clock that a neighbor telephoned in and wanted to know if we knew that Mr. Dean was dead. I began to get busy and went right down to the undertaker's and happened to see W. T. Leighton. I thought Mr. Dean was dead and that he would know it as quick as anybody.

Q.—Who was the neighbor who telephoned? A.—I think Miss Henchman. She is assistant cashier at the bank. Her niece talked with Mrs. Dean and said something should be done, so she telephoned to us, as I understand it.

**TALKED WITH MISS HENCHMAN.**

Q.—What was the telephone Miss Henschman sent? A.—“Do you know what Mrs. Dean is saying?”

Q.—And that is what Miss Henschman telephoned? A.—Yes.

Q.—Where was Miss Henschman at that time? A.—At the farm.

Q.—What farm? A.—The Henschman farm.

Q.—That is near Dean’s? A.—No, but it is one of the back roads. It is a half-mile nearer the main road.

Q.—And what did she say? Who telephoned to her? A.—Well, Mrs. Dean, I suppose. She stated, “Do you know what Mrs. Dean is saying?” and I think I heard her say, “I want Mr. Henschman to come up and look after the stock. They had a horse or two and some turkeys and some chickens.”

Q.—That is what Mrs. Dean wanted Mr. Henschman for and that only by her say? A.—That is all I heard. That is why she telephoned to Henschman.

Q.—She didn’t telephone to you at all? A.—No, she didn’t, but as Mr. Leighton didn’t know anything about it, I thought I would speak to Mrs. Dean by telephone, and she said that Mr. Dean was dead.

According to this testimony, Mr. Rich claimed he did not see Undertaker Leighton until 11 o’clock, and that even at that time he wasn’t sure whether Dr. Dean was dead. This does not dovetail with Undertaker Leighton’s statement that Mr. Rich came into his place at eight that morning and told him that Dr. Dean was dead.

Mr. Rich appeared on the street next morning with a black eye and lacerated cheek. He claimed that his horse kicked him the night before. Neighbors claimed that he gave different versions of the accident.

## CHAPTER XIX.

Laurence Maens Colfelt, Jr., and his wife and stepdaughter, settled in East Jaffrey late in 1916. They rented the Baldwin farm, about a mile away from the Dean estate, the main house of which stands out like a beacon high above every other house in that section.

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.

From the start, the Colfelts were conspicuous in that rural community. They were what is known as "good spenders", entertained freely and enjoyed life. They brought spirited horses and livestock from their former home in Harrison, N. Y.

They had two automobiles when they first came, and later Colfelt traded them and paid cash in the bargain for a high powered Marmon, which was painted battleship gray. Mr. and Mrs. Colfelt used this car a great deal.

### FOND OF RIDING.

They were also fond of horseback riding. The daughter, Natalie, wore short skirts and her hair in a braid when the Colfelts arrived in the town in 1916. Later she went to Vassar College and Radcliffe. She is now twenty-one years of age.

She is the daughter by Mrs. Colfelt's first husband, F. L. Robert of New York city. Mrs. Colfelt is reported to have divorced Mr. Robert. Colfelt is forty years of age and powerfully built. He has a military bearing.

His father was a minister. The family originally came from Philadelphia. Colfelt's grandfather was wealthy and politically prominent, according to reports in New Hampshire. His father married twice and left a fortune. His mother, Mrs. Rebecca Colfelt of Washington and New York, died recently.

### HAD LARGE INCOME.

Colfelt had an income of \$2,500 monthly, most of which, he claimed, came from a trust fund which his mother had charge of.

Colfelt kept in close touch with his mother by letter, telephone and telegraph while she was in New York, Philadelphia and Washington and at a fashionable North Shore resort in Massachusetts.

Colfelt and Charles L. Rich, cashier of the Monadnock National Bank, became fast friends. He banked his money at the local savings bank in East Jaffrey and Rich handled his financial transactions. Mr. Rich, who is a former Senator, judge of the police court and for years known as "boss of the town," is said to have introduced Colfelt to Dr. William Kendrick Dean, victim in the international murder mystery.

Later, all three were very friendly and much together. Dr. Dean frequently invited the Colfelts to his home and the Colfelts returned this hospitality. Dr. Dean was fond of billiards. He had a table at his home and Judge Rich and Colfelt frequently played matches there with him.

#### **RENTED DEAN HOUSE.**

In the Fall of 1917 Colfelt rented the main house on the Dean estate, which stands out on one of the highest tablelands in that mountain region.

The Colfelts paid Dr. Dean \$40 a month rent. When they remained there in the winter of 1917 the townspeople again thought it strange for "city folks" to pass the cold season there, because winters are severe in the mountains.

Mr. Colfelt and his wife made frequent trips to New York, Colfelt invariably went by automobile to Winchendon, over the Massachusetts line, and took the train there. Mrs. Colfelt went frequently to Ayer, Mass., to see a relative who was in the army at Camp Devens.

She was seen there on various occasions talking with an officer in an American uniform.

The fact that Colfelt received mail at different towns in the vicinity was one of the first things that started comment. Residents of East Jaffrey claim that Colfelt took great pains to explain that he was an American and that Mrs. Colfelt came from fine old Irish ancestors.

#### **WONDERED AT ATTITUDE.**

There are witnesses in East Jaffrey who claim that Colfelt told different stories about his nationality to the effect that he was of Scotch descent and English descent or Simon-pure Amer-

ican. They began to wonder why he should take this defensive attitude.

Friends of his claim that so many talked about him being German that it nettled him and called for explanation. Just why the suspicion that he was German started does not appear very clear in the maze of gossip, rumor and speculation, but there are specific instances where he hotly denied to certain persons in East Jaffrey that he was German and **on two occasions at least, is reported to have blamed Dr. Dean for starting these stories.**

Frank Humiston, an alert young American, who later served overseas in the 309th Machine Gun Company and whose brother John, a courier in the 103rd Machine Gun Battalion, was killed in action said:

"Mr. Colfelt sent for me to break two horses to the saddle before I went to France. One colt was very bad when I took him in hand. Colfelt wanted me to break the colt, so that Mrs. Colfelt or the daughter could ride it.

"I frequently rode with Colfelt or with his wife. While I was working there Mrs. Colfelt made a trip to New York.

#### "THOUGHT HE WAS A GERMAN"

"From the start I got the impression that Colfelt was a German, although he claimed to be English. One day while we were in one of the upper rooms of the house, he asked me to show him how we did the manual of arms.

"I illustrated with a broomstick, and he showed me a different way to shoulder a gun, saying that was the way he had trained. I always thought the way he sat on his horse and the erect way he stood that he had served in some army and I figured it was the German army, after he talked of the manual of arms that day.

"After that, Colfelt seemed to be more on his guard with me. I think the suspicion was mutual. There were many little things in addition to his attitude which gave me that impression.

"Before I went to France there had been much talk of signals on the mountains, and I had gone out with other citizens, armed, to try to find the fellows who were operating the lights, It wasn't imagination. They were military signals, all right.

"I saw enough on the other side later, to know. Often I went out at night on my pony, Prince, a mustang, which I had broken to many tricks, and I always carried my revolver. I would go out early and remain in the bush all night.

### DOT AND DASH LIGHTS.

"I did this many times. I never could get near the lights, though. They had flares and dot and dash lights.

"One night I had selected a place in a clump of bushes, and my pony was standing beside me. I had seen lights in that locality the night before, and I thought they might come back again. This night an automobile without lights turned off the road and drove into the clearing and almost collided with my pony.

"That was when my horse's training came in good. I had him trained so that he would not neigh, whinney or stir. We stood like a couple of statues. There appeared to be two women and two or three men in the car. One voice said: 'This is the place,' and a man started to get out and just then one of the women must have noticed my pony, because she exclaimed: 'What's that! Something is here!'

"The man got into the machine and they backed out into the road. I wouldn't have thought much about that if it had not been for their later actions. After they went down the road a bit, they stopped, just as I thought they would, and I vaulted into the saddle and trailed them.

"They still had no lights in the car. They were apparently listening. Finding that the best thing for me to do was to pass them, as they knew somebody was in the vicinity, I drove abreast of the machine and giving my pony the rein, shouted: 'Why don't you turn on your lights?'

"One of the men said: 'Who are you? What is it of your business.' I answered, 'Turn on those lights or you'll see. You might have broken a fellow's neck, running dark, like that.'

"There were some more words and they turned on the lights. I trotted down the road and they loafed behind. Automobiles had been seen to flash signals with their headlights in lonely sections of the mountains and everything about that incident that night, indicated to me that they had selected that spot, which was high, to do a little signal work if I hadn't been there.

### SUSPENDED LIGHTS.

"Others had seen automobiles stop and flash headlights and receive answers from suspended lights on neighboring hills.

"I worked hard to try to corner some of those guys, because I was convinced that they were flashing military information.



If I had the power to make arrests, the night I saw that automobile, there might have been a good clue obtained.

“When anybody doubts that signals were flashed, they don’t know what they’re talking about. Miss Mary Lee Ware of Boston, who has a Summer place at West Rindge, spent time and money trying to run down enemy activities and her lawyer made out a report.

“Too many intelligent persons in this district saw the lights and hunted them to be bothered by the skepticism of people who live in other New England States. Those lights were real, and it’s a pity that those who operated them weren’t rounded up and shot in their tracks. That would have been a good way to deal with them.

“Dr. Dean was killed because he knew too much about the work of German agents in these parts.”

## CHAPTER XX.

It is no secret in East Jaffrey, and the federal records bear it out, that Laurence Maens Colfelt, Jr., was watched by agents of the Department of Justice for some months prior to the murder of Dr. Dean. Federal agents are known to have worked on the theory that Colfelt had German antecedents and was reported to have had pro-German sympathies, although he and his wife and his friends denied these insinuations.

A young man who formerly worked for Colfelt, Frank Romano, a Lithuanian, last reported in Port Chester, N. Y., always spelled Colfelt's name "Colfeldt." Federal investigators claimed that the name was probably a modification of the old German name "Kohlfeldt."

But in spite of all their shadowing and rumored suspicion, the Federal authorities never interfered with Colfelt or his wife or daughter, a fact which has been seized upon by the county and State authorities who claim that if Colfelt were really a German or German agent, it was strange that the Intelligence Department of the army and the Department of Justice, after months of inquiry, did not discover enough to intern him.

**The fact is in Colfelt's favor.**

Colfelt was formerly employed by the firm of Spada & Co., bankers and brokers, with offices on lower Broadway, New York city.

### **ELKUS LETTER.**

After the murder, when Colfelt and his wife were being questioned by various officials, the Colfelts received a letter which was produced by Mrs. Colfelt, declaring that they were bona fide American. This letter was sent by Abram I. Elkus, former United States Ambassador to Turkey and member of the law firm of Elkus, Vogel, Gealson & Proskauer, with offices at No. 111 Broadway, New York city.

Mr. Elkus stated that Mr. and Mrs. Colfelt had been known to him for twenty years and that they were Americans. He said that Mr. Colfelt's father, the Rev. L. M. Colfelt, a Presbyterian minister in Philadelphia, was born in this county; that Colfelt's grandfather was John McManus of Philadelphia, who left an estate from which Colfelt derived an income through a trust fund:

that Mrs. Colfelt's maiden name was Reid; that her grandfather fought in the Civil War with one of the New York regiments; that the Colfelts had lived eight years in Harrison, N. Y., before going to New Hampshire.

Mr. Elkus further stated that he had been United States ambassador to Turkey and would furnish further evidence in connection with the nationality and loyalty of the Colfelts if desired.

The New Hampshire authorities appeared to be satisfied with that indorsement.

### **LARGE GROCERY ORDERS.**

The Colfelts were reported to have received telegrams partly in English and partly in numerals, which country operators commented upon. The size of the daily orders for provisions and groceries which the Colfelts bought at Goodnow's store in the village was also a matter of rural comment, owing to the few members in the Colfelt household.

There is a record to the effect that Colfelt had left orders not to have his mail delivered by the rural free delivery mail carrier. He always called for his own mail. He received mail at the Winchendon (Mass.) postoffice, at the Dublin postoffice, the Peterboro postoffice and the postoffice at East Jaffrey. That fact also caused tongues to wag.

Colfelt told Frank Humiston that he had been in Europe and he didn't have any love for the French poilu. He told Humiston that his folks were English. Humiston said that after he returned from war, certain prominent men and women in East Jaffrey, who had been very friendly with him before he went to France, openly snubbed him on the street because he shared the popular theory concerning the cause for the murder of Dr. Dean.

Mrs. George Hart, wife of the railroad telegrapher, said:

"My sister Catherine, who died a year ago, during the influenza epidemic, was employed as a telephone operator at the East Jaffrey exchange. She told us that Mrs. Colfelt visited her frequently and asked her many times to teach her how to operate the switchboard.

### **GIFTS FOR CHILDREN.**

"Mrs. Colfelt called upon us and was forever giving Catherine gifts for my children. She gave them money, books and other things. Money appeared to be no object with the Colfelts. My other sister, Florence, now Mrs. Foyle, did not like the Colfelts from the start.

"At the time she told my sister Catherine not to allow anybody to use the switchboard while we were at war.

Detective Scott, who was engaged by the county to investigate the Dean murder, filed the following statement in connection with his daily reports:

"I went to Greenville telephone exchange and learned that the Colfelts received telegrams from New York, partly in English and partly in code or numbers. They came to the telephone office to do considerable of their telephoning, although they have a telephone in their house. They even came there to telephone to Jaffrey and for long-distance calls to New York."

Miss Grace Leighton, telephone operator at East Jaffrey in March, 1918, claimed that during the German drive she heard Colfelt telephone to Rebecca Colfelt (his mother) in Washington and ask if she had read "the glorious news."

Miss Leighton said that during that same telephone conversation Colfelt told his mother that he could no longer serve his country where he was and that he was going to move. At that time the Colfelts were living on Dr. Dean's estate.

Frank Romano, a former employe of the Colfelts, told Henry Ash, caretaker of the Greenville estate, where the Colfelts moved to from the Dean place, that Colfelt was a German.

Colfelt told Frank Humiston that he had military training which taught a different manual of arms from that which Humiston had learned in the American army.

#### **HAD MILITARY TRAINING.**

C. T. Johnson, the town photographer, said:

"Miss Natalye Colfelt came to me with a number of negatives which she asked to have developed and duplicate prints made. These negatives showed two teddy bears and a dog. One teddy bear was black and the other white.

They were photographed standing on the front stoop of the Colfelt house by Miss Colfelt or some member of the family, I presume. There were different groupings on each negative. On one negative the dog would be at one side of the grouping, and on another it would be in the centre, and the different colored teddy bears were changed in location.

"Miss Colfelt had me print more than a half hundred of these on post-cards. At the time I thought it very queer to think that a household where they were all adults should have teddy bears and be interested in teddy bear photographs.

"I was paid well for this work. Later on, some of the officials expressed the opinion that these teddy-bear postcards may have been used as a code, and they asked me if I had any prints. I happened to have just one left and turned it over to the town authorities.

"I made many photographs for the Colfelts and for Dr. Dean and both were liberal in their pay. I photographed Dr. Dean's house and livestock and took other views for him. He always knew what he wanted and expressed great pleasure with the photographs. He was quite artistic."

#### FACE OF CLOCK FOUND.

Selectman Edward C. Boynton and other town officials who have been forcing the investigation of the Dean murder claim that careful scrutiny of the teddy bear postcard which Photographer Johnson turned over to them revealed a clock faintly discernible in the upper right hand corner. They said the face of the clock appeared to have been made on a pre-exposure.

Investigators found two magazines in the Colfelt house marked with Greek characters. On the cover of one was a sketch of a balloon. There was also a letter addressed to Natalye signed "Socius Sceleris Tuus," a literal translation of which is "thy companion in crime."

While this data might have no bearing on the case, it was woven into the fabric by the town and federal officials in line with the accumulated suspicions.

Lester Ellsworth, a former constable in Temple and at present a resident of East Jaffrey, said:

"I used to haul wood to Colfelt's when he was living at the Dean place, before the United States got into the war. The first load or two he allowed me to carry into the cellar, but he always remained in the cellar while I was there.

"I noticed a number of very long and odd-shaped boxes in the cellar. One day Colfelt and I got talking about the war. He began to say something abusive about President Wilson. He said that our President wasn't much good or something along that line and I got sore and called him a German.

"I could see him start and straighten up. He asked me who told me he was a German. He said: 'Did Dean tell you I was a German?' I said I did not know Dean and had never seen him to my knowledge. He seemed pretty excited after that. He tried to defend Germany and I told him what I thought of the German soldiers and German atrocities.

"I didn't intend to have a fellow like him put over anything on me or my country. He said it was all right for the German authorities to do after they had spent so much money and so many years training them.

### STUNTS ON HORSES.

"He remarked, 'If you had trained a prize fighter or a dog or rooster to fight, you'd like to know what they could do, wouldn't you?' I told him, yes, they had shown what they could do to the women and children of Belgium.

"After that, Colfelt was distant with me and he wouldn't let me go into his cellar. He told me to drop the wood outside and that he would take it in himself. He must have decided to move from the Dean's pretty suddenly when he did go, because there was a load of cut wood ordered and he cancelled the order within a day or two.

"One thing that I noticed was the number of men he had up there at times practising all kinds of stunts on horses. They used to gather in a field and practise jumping and other things

"I often saw Colfelt riding his horse alone on the road. One night around the time Dr. Dean was murdered my wife and I were down fishing in the pond in Temple for hornpout. While there we heard horse's hoofs and looking we saw a man pass on horseback. My wife exclaimed, 'See! There is Mr. Colfelt!'

"We decided to catch a few more fish and started for home at 11 o'clock, which was only a few minutes after the horseman passed. I didn't know whether it was the night of the murder or not, but it was right around that time. It was not unusual to see Colfelt out on horseback late at night.

### WATCHED SIGNALS.

"In July and August, 1918, I was employed by Theodore Harding at Miss Pearson's cottage on the mountainside in Peterboro. I was caring for Mr. Harding who was ill. My wife was living there with me. Nearly every day I saw sun-flash signals from the summit of Pack Monadnock Mountain.

"Dr. Harrington, who treated Mr. Harding, often watched these signals with me, and so did my wife and other members of the household. They had aroused our suspicions to such an extent that I reported them to two fellows who were stopping at the Peterboro Tavern, who claimed that they were secret service men.

"I watched a party of men operate those signals for days. I used a glass on them. They came in a large automobile which, from the distance in the sunlight, looked white or gray. I used to see them take out an object oblong in shape from the automobile.

"They would then start motions which looked as though they were unwinding wire from a reel. They always left the car down near the house, which is some distance below flagpole on the peak. Then after they had apparently arranged everything the sun discs would begin signalling.

"And they would get answering flashes from other parts of the mountain range. The strangest part of it was that I never saw that car go up the mountain to the point where they stopped, although time and time again I kept the glasses trained on the road from early morning, because I was curious to learn where they came from.

"The car always appeared around the bushes near the house and as the road was the only way they could reach that height, I came to the conclusion that they must have always gone there before daylight and that perhaps they then laid the wires for the night lights and would return to town after their daylight signalling, with the sun discs.

"Sometimes they would skip a day or two and they never showed up in bad weather. It had all of us stirred up for a time. We figured it was war signal stuff by pro-Germans. I always regretted that I could not spare the time to investigate it myself, but I was unable to leave my patient.

"Those of us who have lived in this region are convinced that Dr. Dean's murder was the result of the activities of German spies. It is too bad that they were permitted to get away with it."

And Lester Ellsworth is another witness who never went before the Cheshire County Grand Jury.

## CHAPTER XXI.

After they had lived on the Dean place about a year, Laurence Maens Colfelt, Jr., and his family were ordered to vacate by Dr. Dean, two months and a half before his murder.

Just what developed between the two households which resulted in the sudden moving of the Colfelts to an estate in Greenville, eight miles away, is somewhat veiled.

Colfelt told the authorities that he and Dr. Dean were on the best of terms and that he left the Dean house on the hill of his own volition. He did admit that he seemed "to rub Dean the wrong way."

Colfelt further stated to Attorney-General Young:

"Dean was hit on the subject of war. I think he felt that I was a slacker and ought to be doing something to help in connection with the war."

When Dr. Dean requested Mrs. Morison to go to Boston and notify the United States Department of Justice to send up one of their best men as he was prepared to make disclosures, he asked Mrs. Morison if she knew the Colfelts.

"Yes, I met them at the golf club last July," she said, "but I think you know more about them than I do. Why did he leave to go to Greenville?"

## GAVE HIM SHORT NOTICE.

"I gave him twenty-four hours to get out," answered Dr. Dean. "I am too good an American to have a man of that kind on my place."

"What do you mean by that, Mr. Dean?" asked Mrs. Morison.

"Well in the first place," replied Dr. Dean, hesitating, "a man like Colfelt, young and strong, who will not do useful work at this time, is not the man I want on my place. I offered him my land for use for agricultural purposes."

And then Dr. Dean told Mrs. Morison to notify the Federal authorities, and, when she asked him if it wouldn't be better to confide in her, so that she might carry the substance of his story to the Department of Justice and save time, he replied:

"Mrs. Morison, you are a woman. What I know would be too



dangerous for a woman to know. I wanted to make sure that I am right, and I am ready now."

On the face of that conversation at noon on August 13, 1918, less than twelve hours before he was gagged, bound and strangled and his body thrown into a well, it is easy to see that something very important troubled Dr. Dean.

### **SCOFFED AT WILSON.**

He made it clear that relations between himself and Colfelt were sufficiently strained to have him order the Colfelts off his place with a notice far shorter than that ordinarily given.

There is the testimony of Lester Ellsworth, former constable at Temple, who claimed that Colfelt spoke insultingly of President Wilson and that Colfelt cancelled an order for kindlings which had been given a day or two before, indicating to Ellsworth that Colfelt had made an abrupt change of plans.

On Colfelt's own statement to Attorney-General Young, he admits that he appeared to rub Dr. Dean the wrong way and mentioned Dr. Dean's intense interest in the war.

Lester Ellsworth said that when he called Colfelt a German, Colfelt appeared startled and wanted to know if Dean had told Ellsworth that he was a German. Ellsworth replied that he had never spoken to Dr. Dean.

### **WAS SOME TROUBLE.**

Frank Romano, a former employe of Colfelt, who worked for him on the Dean estate and later on the Sterling estate in Greenville, in the course of a lengthy statement which appears among the records in the case, said:

**"It seems that Dean did not want Colfelt on his place any longer and there was some trouble between them.**

"I don't know what it was, but Dean, who seemed to be a nice man, told me that Colfelt wanted too many things free, and Mr. Colfelt said he wanted to get away from the Dean place as quickly as possible.

"One of the things Mr. Colfelt told me was the cause of his trouble with Dr. Dean was that the latter promised to let him have all the hay he needed for his three horses and cow at \$6 per ton, and then sent him a bill for \$19 a ton.

"When the Colfelts moved from the Dean place (Romano spelled their name Solfeldt) to the Sterling place at Greenville, Colfelt took with him a rug for the floor of a runabout, which he

thought belonged to him, but afterwards learned it did not, and was ready to send it back when Dr. Dean asked for it.

#### NEVER HEARD QUARRELS.

"Mr. Colfelt had told me to take it back before that. I never heard of Dr. and Mrs. Dean quarreling among themselves. Mr. Colfelt said Mrs. Dean was crazy and that Dean ought to have her sent away, and that he was wasting all of her money and not having anything done about the place.

"Mr. Colfelt liked the Dean place and wanted to buy it, but Dean would not let him have it. Mrs. Colfelt said that some day her husband would buy it from the bank, which it seemed, had a mortgage on the property.

"The Colfelts were always nice when they met Dr. Dean, but behind his back they said all kinds of things about him. Mrs. Colfelt, who has quite a temper, used to make such remarks as: 'He was rotten crazy,' and so forth, about him.

"The Colfelts must have had trouble with Dean during the Winter, before I went to work for them this last time. Mr. Colfelt made the same kind of remarks as his wife about Dr. Dean."

Judge Charles L. Rich, cashier of the local bank, said that he had heard that Colfelt had some words with Dr. Dean over arrangements in the barn and objected to the hens roosting on his automobile.

When Judge Rich was examined by agents of the United States Department of Justice, he mentioned the name of a man who he claimed was the first he thought of in connection with the murder. He was asked if Dr. Dean had talked with him about Colfelt when Dr. Dean visited the Rich home early on the night of the tragedy, and Rich replied in the negative.

#### JUDGE IS QUESTIONED.

Q.—Didn't he tell you that he had reported Colfelt to the Boston office?

A.—No. He never said anything to me.

Q.—He was suspicious of him?

A.—He never said that to me. To make it plain, I ought to tell quite a story. I think it was in the year 1916 that Colfelt got a house directly next to Mr. Dean, three quarters of a mile distant—not a neighbor—and he got his deposit in the bank, and I never knew him except as I would any depositor, but he called on Mr. Dean, and Mr. Dean, the first I knew of it, wanted to

have him duck me and Mrs. Colfelt and Mrs. Rich. I can't tell the day, but some time in 1916, Colfelt wanted to rent some place in Peterboro, through some realty agent in Peterboro.

Q.—The big house?

A.—He rented through that agency. I can't think of it. (It was Mrs. White's agency.) Colfelt was talking about buying the place, but he didn't want to pay too much for it. I knew Mr. Dean wanted to sell and ought to sell, and I told him anything I could do, I would be glad to do it. I had an automobile for two years—1915-1916—so I asked them that Sunday to take them to look at the place in Peterboro. It was a good ride, and, at Mr. Dean's request, he felt that he would like to have Mr. Colfelt look at his place. He felt sure that he had the best place of the lot. That is the time I met Colfelt.

#### **MET HIM IN 1916.**

Q.—How long have you known Colfelt?

A.—I think it was in 1916. I could tell by looking at the dates in the book, but I am sure this time.

Q.—Weren't you the cause of the Dean house being rented to Colfelt?

A.—I tried to be good in the primary close—he had been down to have me help entertain Colfelt. Mr. Dean wanted me to go up that night and play billiards. He had a good table and so I would go and take Mr. and Mrs. Colfelt and Mrs. Rich. (In the course of Judge Rich's testimony he frequently failed to complete the sentences and ran one sentence into the other.)

Q.—Didn't you introduce Colfelt to Mr. Dean?

A.—No he called on Mr. Colfelt before.

Q.—You are quite sure that you didn't introduce him?

#### **"PRETTY NICE FAMILY."**

A.—I am quite sure. He said: "How do you like Mr. Colfelt. He called on me. I think they are a pretty nice family to have here." And from that time he wanted me to introduce Colfelt. Well, everybody in town was his friend and acquaintance. Mr. Dean was quite literary and so were the Robinsons.

Dean said to me: 'If you invite Colfelt, I will invite the Robinsons. He wanted to have Mrs. Robinson play on Mrs. Rich's piano, because he liked it, so I told him I would be up. I went to get Mr. Dean, then went to get Mr. and Mrs. Robinson. When we got back, Colfelt was there, and his wife played awhile.

There you have Judge Rich's own explanation of how Dr. Dean met Colfelt in 1916.

On a calendar found in the Dean bungalow, were three entries made with a lead pencil, in the handwriting of Dr. Dean. They read as follows.

"March 22—Mrs. C. went.

"June 5—Colfelt left.

"June 25—Information".

## CHAPTER XXII.

Those lead pencil entries in the handwriting of Dr. Dean, on his calendar in the bungalow are thought to have an important bearing in this case.

The entry, "information", has puzzled the authorities. They are at a loss to know if that referred to the threatening letter, which Dr. Dean received in June, and which he mentioned to Miss Mary Lee Ware, of Boston, who has a mountain estate in West Rindge, several miles distant from East Jaffrey.

Some are of the opinion that by "information", Dr. Dean was making a record of certain discoveries relative to the mysterious signal lights in that region, which he threatened on the day of his death to disclose to the Federal authorities, through the medium of Mrs. Morison.

### CALENDAR ENTRIES.

The calendar entries should not be lost sight of.

Dr. Dean received a threatening letter in June. Someone dropped it in the Rural Free Delivery box, nailed to a tree outside the old-fashioned swing gate of the driveway to the estate.

This letter was anonymous and had not been posted.

Miss Ware was visiting the Dean farm late in June, and Dr. Dean told her about the threatening letter. She was not quite clear in her memory, concerning the details, but she testified:

"Dr. Dean had a look in his eyes as though he realized he was up against something new, something he did not know how to gauge".

It is unfortunate that this letter could not be found, after the murder of Dr. Dean. Search was made for it by the town authorities. It would have thrown light on the case, and, if written by hand, would have been a likely clue.

**The Colfelts left on June 5.**

Later that same month, Dr. Dean found the letter in his mail box.

In July, Dr. Dean met Officer Walter A. Lindsay in the village and asked him the best means to procure police protection if he needed it.

It is important to repeat here what Policeman Lindsay took oath to, in the only sworn statement that appeared in the records of the Dean mystery. In this affidavit, made before Justice of the Peace Walter E. Emerson, Officer Lindsay testified:

"About July 13, (1918), I met Mr. Dean in front of the post-office. He noticed my police badge and asked if I was still on the force, and I told him 'yes'. Then he said: 'I have lived on the farm for twenty-eight years, and I have never been molested in any way, shape, or manner, but if I should want police protection, where would I telephone to?' And I said, 'Either the police station, Duncan's (drug store) or Fred Stratton's livery stable'"

On August 4, 1918, Dr. Dean sent a telegram from East Jaffrey to Mr. Colfelt, in Greenville, which read:

"Please send back my things, and send check for hay.  
(Signed) "DEAN".

#### LETTER TO DR. DEAN.

On August 8, 1918, Mrs. Colfelt sent a letter to Dr. Dean which bore the postmark on the envelope, "Peterboro, August 10, 1918, (7:00 p. m.)" The envelope was addressed, "Mr. W. K. Dean, East Jaffrey, N. H.". The handwriting was large and irregular. The letter read:

"Dear Mr. Dean:

"Your telegram received. Laurence being away at present, I can only say to you, he waited for your bills for the hay. He said the milk had been four quarts a day for three months, and he said he would charge the same as you had charged us for it. So if you will be so good as to send him your bill, deducting those charges, I will send it immediately to him to get a check for you. Why did you not send a bill before this time, as Laurence requested?

"My brother-in-law has gone lumbering and would like the cross-cut saw. I can sell it to him cheaper than he can buy it, and I can make some money. Won't you please return it as soon as you can?

"We have missed the beautiful view. I hope Mrs. Dean is better. I think of her very often. I hope you are feeling well. Laurence said you had something, spurs or something like that. I hope you are all well now.

"Sincerely yours,  
"DAISY COLFELT".

"P. S.—I am sending carpet, etc., by parcel post".

On the back of the envelope was written:

"MRS. L. M. COLFELT,  
"Greenville, N. H."

The County records mention a letter which Dr. Dean sent to Mrs. Colfelt, on August 12, the day before the tragedy. She received it on that day, at Greenville, according to the report, but unlike the other letter which Mrs. Colfelt sent to Dr. Dean, the original or a copy was not included in the records.

#### **PART OF SECRET RECORDS.**

County Solicitor Pickard explained that this letter had gone before the Grand Jury, and was a part of the secret records. In it, Dr. Dean was quoted as having stated that he thought Colfelt was wrong about the amount of hay used, and that it was only five tons, instead of six tons, as Colfelt thought. He figured five tons at the rate of \$18 a ton, to amount to \$90, and credited Colfelt with 360 quarts of milk, totaling, \$21.60; one gallon of oil, 12 cents, and another item of 40 cents, making a sum total of \$24.52.

Dr. Dean figured that with this deduction made, Colfelt owed him \$65.48. Dr. Dean was quoted further in this letter as writing, "Polly is comfortable just now. I cannot say she is any better. I'm well enough, except that it is rather difficult to walk, as now both feet are affected. I hope you and Natalye are having a delightful summer. Mrs. Robinson told me that she was over to see you not long ago".

The letter ended with the words. "Sincerely yours, Wm. D."

#### **DENIED FRICTION.**

Mr. Colfelt insisted that he had no serious trouble with Dr. Dean, although, there might have been "little differences at times". He said he had often chatted with Dr. Dean on the telephone after moving.

He said he had twitted him about the "spurs" on his feet. Dr. Sweeney in the village, said that he had treated Dr. Dean for "spurs", which he explained, was a sort of acid growth on the bone, which caused points to form on the soles of the feet, which pained a patient when he walked.

Mr. Colfelt is a registered citizen of the United States. Federal agents claim that he has spent time in Europe, and that his appearance and mannerisms were decidedly European and military.

Charles A. Bean, who works in the tack factory in East Jaffrey and formerly a trained nurse in Massachusetts, claimed that he visited the Colfelt home while working for Colfelt, in March, 1918. He said:

"I went there to cut a puppy's tail. In the living room I saw a wooden box with something in it that looked like a keyboard, or a wireless outfit".

#### • DISCUSS LARGE BOX.

When the Colfelts moved from the Dean farm to the Sterling estate, in Greenville, a large box in which Mr. Colfelt is reported to have shown great concern, became a subject of lively discussion in East Jaffrey and Greenville.

This box was moved by Robert Hamill owner of the East Jaffrey Garage, and Ralph Davis, an employe of his, early in June. Hamill said:

"The box or case, was as wide as it was high. It was more than four feet square. It weighed in the vicinity of 500 pounds. It was so heavy that we had to load it on to our automobile truck by sliding on metal piping.

"It was as heavy and difficult to handle as any piano. Mr. Colfelt explained that he wanted us to keep it with the top up, and to be careful not to change that position. He said it was a very expensive graphophone.

"It may have been, but I never saw a graphophone yet that weighed as much as a piano, or that I couldn't handle with ease myself. We commented on it at the time. The box stood as high as my chest. When we got started Mr. Colfelt followed the truck in his automobile and I rode with him in his car.

#### KEPT BOX IN VIEW.

"Mr. Colfelt drove and kept the box in view all the time, between the Dean place and the Sterling place, in Greenville. I remember that when we put the case on the veranda of the Sterling house, it was so heavy, it left gouges in the flooring.

"We did not see that case packed. It was all nailed up when we got it. Mr. Colfelt saw that it was properly placed on the veranda, and remained in the house without a light for twenty minutes or more.

"It had become dark while we were unloading the case. I concluded that something must have detained him, and left his automobile where I'd been waiting in it, and had started toward the house when he came out.



"He said he had locked the doors and windows so that nothing could be disturbed. I happen to know that after the Colfelts left the Sterling house, federal agents found charts of the mountain region here, in an attic closet. Apparently they had been overlooked.

"I cut out from the floor of the Dean barn, a section of a board with the imprint of a foot in blood, some days after the body was found, and turned it over to the federal officers".

### SUSPICIOUS OF BOX.

Ralph Davis corroborated what Hamill said concerning the large case, moved to Greenville, from the Dean farm. He said:

"That box was so heavy, that when I went home that night, I asked several persons how much they thought a graphophone ought to weigh, and when I told them the one owned by Colfelt must have weighed about 500 pounds, everybody thought there must have been something else in it.

"We were so suspicious, that Mr. Hamill reported the matter to the Board of Selectmen, but the box was never opened by anybody, because the next day Colfelt had it shipped by freight from Greenville. It was all we could do to put it on the truck with the aid of the metal piping. Mr. Colfelt wanted it placed just so. He was very particular about it".

In Greenville, it was learned that the box which had caused all the excitement, was shipped by freight the following day. The destination was reported to have been some point in New York.

The selectmen of East Jaffrey regretted that the mysterious box had not been opened.



Map of the Monadnock region centered on the Dean place.

### CHAPTER XXIII.

Laurence Maens Colfelt, Jr., and his wife had scarcely become settled in their mountain home on the Sterling estate, on the outskirts of Greenville, N. H., eight miles distant from the estate of Dr. Dean in East Jaffrey, where they had lived nearly a year, when townspeople in Greenville began to suspect them of being Germans or pro-Germans in their sympathies.

This trail of suspicion is one of the curious features of the case. No matter where the Colfelts turned in that mountain region, people suspected them of being Germans. They were constantly defending themselves against this insinuation.

If the testimony of certain witnesses is accurate, Colfelt had himself to blame, in the opinion of local authorities. Frank Humiston said that Colfelt told him he was English and Lester Ellsworth said Colfelt told him he was Scotch descent, and others claim he told them he was an American.

#### SEEMED SUSPICIOUS.

There doesn't appear to be any excuse for this conflict in nationalities, but that element is in the case. Nobody appeared to doubt that Mrs. Colfelt had American and Irish antecedents, but they seemed more suspicious of Colfelt's nationality because of his European mannerisms and military bearing.

Yet the family records of Colfelt in Philadelphia, show him to be an American citizen. There is doubt concerning certain of his antecedents, and Federal agents who shadowed him for months admit it.

According to the testimony of East Jaffrey residents, Colfelt was pro-German in his sympathies before the United States entered the war. His criticism of President Wilson to Lester Ellsworth, showed that, and so did other conversations attributed to him.

Mrs. Colfelt told Frank Humiston, that life at the Dean place bored her; that she found it lonely there. But when they settled there, they are reported to have claimed that they remained the year around, because of their love of rural life. Residents of East Jaffrey and Greenville, call attention to the fact, that they lost no time returning to New York, after "things popped in this case".

The Colfelts settled in Greenville in June, 1918, two months before the murder of Dr. Dean. The Sterlings owned two beautiful summer houses on a high hill, overlooking the mountain ranges.

The Colfelts rented the lower of the two houses, although they would have preferred the picturesque house crowning the hill. Mrs. Colfelt told Dr. Dean, after they moved, that their view was not so striking as that afforded from his main house, but even in their new home they were on an exceptional elevation.

Henry Ash, caretaker on the Sterling estate, whose home is in Greenville, said:

"The help began to talk about the Colfelts as soon as they moved on the place. I hadn't heard any stories when I began to get suspicious myself, because Mr. and Mrs. Colfelt were out nights, so much, until all hours.

#### **GONE ALL NIGHT.**

"They' would go out in their car, and on horseback, on long trips. One morning the two girls whom they hired, after coming to the Sterling place were very much excited. They said that Mr. and Mrs. Colfelt had gone out and remained away all night, and left the doors unlocked, and that as they were alone in the house, they weren't going to stay if such conditions continued.

"Another morning they told me that an officer in American uniform, visted the Colfelts the night before and remained closeted with Mr. Colfelt behind closed doors for a long time. The girls told me that while the American soldier was talking with her husband, Mrs. Colfelt walked up and down the hallway in front of the room, the door of which was closed.

"I slept at my home in the village. Colfelt always treated me all right. He and his wife were very liberal with money. They gave me \$2 for almost anything I did. One day, while I was up at the other Sterling house at the top of the hill, I received a telephone call from Mrs. Colfelt, who asked me to hurry right down to the other house. When I reached there I was astonished to find Mrs. Colfelt with a revolver in her hand in the living room.

"I didn't know what to make of it. She seemed excited. I didn't know but that she might have heard something, and might try to take it out on me. I thought perhaps she might have heard the talk from the servants.

"It was such an odd situation that I was going to be on the safe side, if she tried to pull anything. I made sure that the door was open and looked to see what I could defend myself with, and before she could say anything to me, there was a knock at the door.

"She put the revolver away, and the owner of the property and his wife came in. That ended the affair. She never said anything to me afterward, and I never learned why she had a revolver in her hand that day.

### HOUSE WAS WATCHED.

"I learned later that soldiers from Camp Devens, and Secret Service men used to watch the house from the bushes, back in the fields. The thing that struck me most of all was that the Colfelts never seemed to be settled in their home.

"They did not live like other people who occupy such places. They kept strange hours and their household effects looked as if they were ready to move, on short notice.

"The fellow who worked for Colfelt, and who came with him from the Dean place, Frank Romano, from New York State, told me that Colfelt was a German. Romano said he guessed he'd get out before things got too hot".

Henry Ash is a methodical, conservative American, who weighs everything carefully before he talks. **Ash is one more witness who did not go before the Cheshire County Grand Jury.**

The foreman of a large dyehouse in Greenville, who asked that his name be kept out of print, but who was willing to tell the authorities all he knew, said:

"I have a camp in the mountain, not far from the house which the Colfelts rented on the Sterling estate. I used to see Colfelt riding in the saddle a great deal, and I was impressed by the soldierly manner in which he sat on his horse.

"My wife and I passed the Colfelt automobile, which was a battleship gray, on the road at night late, many times. We often remarked that no matter where we went, we saw it.

"One night, while driving my automobile, I was suddenly halted on a lonely road and was surprised to see two soldiers with rifles, standing in the glare of the headlights. They stepped up and looked at me closely, inspected the machine and then let me pass.

"The next day I saw one of the soldiers in the village and I asked him why they held me up the night before. He said that

they had come from Camp Devens, and had been watching for another car, and mistook mine for it.

Later I learned that they were shadowing the Colfelt house. I came upon a couple of them one night, and asked them if they were shadowing the Colfelt place. One of the sentries told me that they were, and I told them, they were watching the wrong house; that Colfelt lived a half mile away.

"I became acquainted with Colfelt as the summer wore on and hearing talk in the village, tried to cultivate his acquaintance, and resolved to see what I might find out myself. He tried to get a job in our dyehouse and came to me about it.

#### **"WORK OR FIGHT".**

"He said he had to get work somewhere, under the 'work or fight' law. On account of the village talk, we decided not to employ him".

Deputy Sheriff Walter E. Emerson went to the Colfelt house in Greenville a few days after the murder and when he knocked at the door, he said Mrs. Colfelt opened it and that she had a revolver in her hand and appeared nervous. Emerson said that he called at the Colfelt house, under the pretext of getting water for his automobile and interviewed Mrs. Colfelt.

The girls who worked for the Colfelts, on the Sterling place in Greenville, were Miss Mary Gallagher and Miss Sarah Gaughan, of No. 4, Columbia terrace, Dorchester.

At the local postoffice and telephone exchange, it was learned that the Colfelts frequently communicated with New York and Philadelphia by telephone.

#### **WORKED AS LABORER.**

Colfelt obtained a position as a laborer in the yards of the Atlantic Shipbuilding Company, at Portsmouth, N. H., and worked in the blast room for 45 cents an hour, although he had an income of \$2,500 a month. He secured that position a week before the murder of Dr. Dean, and began work on Monday, August 12, 1918, the day before the tragedy.

He drove his automobile from Greenville to Nashua on Sunday, August 11. He went to Pollard's garage in that city. He invited two of the mechanics to ride with him to Portsmouth, so that they might return the car to Pollard's garage, as he had ordered them to give it an overhauling, and to fix a knock in the engine.

Colfelt told the authorities that he went to bed at 9 o'clock on Tuesday, the night of the tragedy, and left a call for 5:30 Wednesday morning, and that the first he knew of the murder was when he read it in the Union, a local newspaper, on Wednesday or Thursday morning.

After he had been employed at the shipyards a very short time Colfelt was made timekeeper.

Mr. Dean was murdered between 11:15 p. m. and midnight on Tuesday, August 13, 1918. The distance from East Jaffrey to Portsmouth is indicated by the fact that it took a high-powered automobile, about two hours and a half to make the run each way. Federal agents made the test.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

Attorney-General Oscar L. Young, of Concord, N. H., interrogated Laurence Maens Colfelt, Jr., in his apartment at the Rockingham Hotel in Portsmouth, on Sunday, August 18, 1918. The following is a transcript of the examination, which is included in the records of Cheshire County relative to the murder of Dr. Dean, at East Jaffrey, on the night of August 13, 1918:

"I occupied the bungalow, so called, on the Dean property last winter and up to June 5", said Colfelt. (This was an error because the Deans occupied the bungalow, and the Colfelts the main house on the summit of the hill.)

"I was never there after June 25. Dean was hit on the subject of war. I think he felt that I was a slacker and ought to be doing something to help in connection with the war.

"Dean called up Mrs. White, (this is the real estate agent at Peterboro), and said he thought relations would be more happy if I moved out, and wanted her to get me something else. We never had any trouble while I was there.

## REFUSED TO CHANGE PLANS.

"He said that the water might freeze up and he would not like to have it freeze. I said I was sorry, but could change my plans, and get a place elsewhere.

"He was always talking about women; very refined, nothing vulgar, but always referring to pictures of good looking women.

"I seemed to rub him the wrong way. He gave me the impression that he did not want to have a man around the place. I had two there at different times.

"One, Frank Romano, about 45 years of age, now at 44 South Main street, Port Chester, N. Y., a Lithuanian, who worked at the Port Chester Boat Works; also a Charles Linek, of Margaretville, N. Y., a man about thirty-five or thirty-six, whose present address I do not know. At one time we had in the house, Mary O'Mara, housegirl, about twenty-five or twenty-six years of age. I do not know her present residence.

"Dean used to talk over the phone with women. We were on the same line, and it would occasionally happen, that we would interrupt each other in the use of the telephone. I think he used to talk with Mrs.—, who lives in Jaffrey.



**CLAIMS PERFECT ALIBI.**

"My wife is now in Greenville. She is very much disturbed because of what she saw in a Boston paper. We never were mixed up in anything like this before, and I'm very anxious to tell everything that I can and want everybody to know that I have a perfect alibi.

"Very few people came on the place. I cannot imagine anybody having any trouble with Dean, and do not know of anybody having any grouch or with whom he ever had any words. Dean did not have many hens and, therefore, I took no stock in the suggestion that someone may have been robbing his hen-roost.

"At one time he had two Rhode Island Reds, and later some turkeys. (Dr. Dean did not complain that his hens were stolen, but, on the contrary, told Mrs. Morison that 'two-legged foxes' had been stealing his white turkeys, although he was careful to lock the barn.)

"One time he had the fence up, between his lot and where they were cutting wood, and I understand he asked whoever was cutting the wood to put up the fence. They said they had. He had his cow out to pasture and she got out and he seemed very frustrated about it.

**QUESTION OF RIGHT OF WAY.**

"There was some question about the right of way to get the wood out. I do not know the man's name, but he cut the wood there, and now has a garage and is driving a car for Mr. Shattuck.

"I have been working at the Atlantic Shipyards since Monday. I left home in Greenville about 10 o'clock (a. m.) Sunday, and went to Pollard's Garage at Nashua. I asked two fellows who were working there, one with one finger gone, whose name is Bob, and the other whose name is Fred, both mechanics, if they did not want to take a ride to Portsmouth, to bring my car back.

"They decided to do so and they, with their wives, and I and my wife, drove to Portsmouth, arriving there about six. We had dinner at the Rockingham restaurant. I told them they could take the car, and ride wherever they saw fit, before they went back.

"They said they were going to see Mr. Pollard at Rye Beach. I said: 'Have a good time, take the car back, clean out the carbon from the cylinders, and there is a knock in the engine which I wish you would take out, and I will be over for the car next Sunday.'

"That would have been true, but I purposely refrained from going after the car today. I wanted an alibi right straight through.

"Monday morning I left a call at 5:30 and every morning until this morning I have had a call at 5:30. I got breakfast on Main street the first morning, and since then at the Parish restaurant. I go to work at 7 o'clock, work ten hours and get paid for eleven. I get my lunch at the restaurant in the shipyards. I do not come out of the yard until six.

#### READ STORY IN PAPERS.

"I think every night I have got my supper in Ham's restaurant. Tuesday night I went to bed very early, probably a little before nine, and was called Wednesday morning at 5:30. The first thing I knew about this matter was what I saw in the Union Wednesday morning or Thursday morning, am not sure which, but think it was Thursday morning.

"I do not think that Dean treated his wife just the way he should; that is, she would sit up to the table and eat off an oil-cloth, while it seemed to me that he would have better dishes and a better table and a little better food.

"He had a Smith & Wesson revolver, a very good gun, which he used to leave around without any cartridges in it. It was a pearl-handled gun, I think. I've heard him say that Mrs. Dean would ask 'What is that little thing? Won't you bring it? Won't you kill me?'

"The milk pail that he had was one that he put cheese cloth over the strainer-part. His pail held ten quarts. Mine held fourteen. I know, because I used to joke him about the pail. He had a registered Jersey cow and I had an ordinary red cow.

"I frequently got the most milk and we would compare milkings and I would tell him, that the Jersey cow was all right to take to fairs, but an old-fashioned red cow was all right for milk.

"One night when they had a celebration over in Peterboro, the ringing of bells, etc., and celebration of some victory that took place over in France, I called Dean over the telephone and talked with him about the car, and told him what the noise was about.

#### THOUGHT IT WAS FIRE.

"He thought it was a fire. I asked him how he was and he said he had something on his feet, that he called spurs, which bothered him about walking. I asked him if he crowed.

"I did not discharge the men who worked for me; both left me. Dean kept the barn in such condition that I could not keep any one. Dean used to bring out pictures of women. He had an old album of photographs.

"His wife used to say she would die and he would marry some other woman. He was always writing letters. I think he was absolutely selfish. He would sit up and play pool until 2 o'clock.

"I have heard hollering in the night down to his house. Once I called him up and he said, perhaps it was a screech-owl. Frank Humiston, who used to work for me and is in the service, said Dean used to drink.

"Dean used candles a great deal at night. We used to see the lights flittering back and forth at ten and eleven o'clock.

"I never saw Mrs. Dean at the barn, and don't think she ever went off the place, at least, not recently. Dean never took her riding with him. Once last Fall, I took her out motor riding and she seemed much pleased".

#### **WIFE AND MOTHER DIFFERED.**

At another time, Colfelt told officials that he went to work in the shipyard at Portsmouth, although he had a comfortable income from his grandmother's estate, because his wife and mother were not on friendly terms.

He said his mother wanted him to go to Plattsburg, and he asked her if she would guarantee his wife \$10,000 a year to live on. He said if she agreed to that figure, he would go to Plattsburg, and she replied that she would not agree to anything definitely; and so, as his income was in trust, and as his mother could cut it off if he left his wife, his first thought was of her.

He claimed he had always been anxious to do "his bit" and felt that he might be judged to have a yellow streak if he did not do something for his country. He said he applied for work at several places, and finally secured the position at the plant of the Atlantic Shipbuilding Company, on August 8, and was soon made timekeeper.

He said that he and his wife wished to have it thoroughly understood that they were both loyal Americans.

## CHAPTER XXV.

Laurence Maens Colfelt, Jr., and his wife and Judge Charles L. Rich, cashier of the Monadnock Savings Bank, were witnesses before the Cheshire County Grand Jury in April, 1919. Prior to that Judge Rich was examined by Attorney-General Oscar L. Young in connection with the murder of Dr. Dean, and was later examined by agents of the United States Department of Justice in Boston.

Attorney-General Young had a typewritten report made of his interview with Judge Rich and filed it with County Solicitor Roy M. Pickard. It was very brief.

The report quotes Judge Rich as follows:

"Mr. Dean was at my house Tuesday night, (August 13, 1918, the night of the murder), where he called until half past ten or eleven. Mrs. Dean was jealous of Mrs. Rich and Mrs. Rich's sister, not because Dean paid any particular attention to them, but because she was jealous of anyone with whom he spent any time.

"When Dean left for home, Mrs. Rich sent a bouquet of flowers, including sweet peas; also some canned fruit.

"In the morning I heard that Dean was dead. Called Mrs. Dean and said: 'I want to speak to Billie'. She says, 'You can't; Billie is dead'. Whereupon I said, 'Dead: where?'. And she replied, 'Over by the deep water'".

"Mr. Colfelt was in the bank Saturday afternoon, August 10, probably between twelve and one. He cashed a check and drew \$150 in money. He had an income, or regularly received a check each month for some \$374, which he usually cashed at this bank".

Later, when Judge Rich was interrogated by agents of the Department of Justice in Boston, at No. 45 Milk street, he was accompanied by his counsel, Attorney Edward L. Ruby, of No. 85 Devonshire street, Boston.

## RECORD OF EXAMINATION.

The record of this examination shows, that he gave his age as sixty-five. He said he was born in Calais, Vt., March 9, 1854, and that his father was born in Montpelier, Vt. He said his father's

name was Charles A. Rich and that his mother's maiden name was Sabina A. Marsh.

Judge Rich said he went to Peterboro in 1881, and taught school and settled in East Jaffrey in 1883. He went to work in the bank as temporary clerk, and in 1885 became cashier, and has held that position since.

He said he had known Dean, since the Deans had settled in Jaffrey in 1889, and he procured the deed when Dr. Dean bought the farm.

Judge Rich gave a history of Dean's finances as shown by his dealings through the Monadnock Savings Bank.

Q.—On the evening of August 13, do you remember what time it was, when your horse kicked you. A.—It was very near 9 o'clock, before or after.

Q.—What time did Dr. Dean arrive at your home that night? A.—It was pretty soon afterwards, because I was heating some water to bathe my face.\* I wanted to get some hot water on it. I just started the electric heater in the kitchen, when I saw him driving up the road. I remember it was 9 o'clock, because I was weary and wanted to get up early the next morning.

#### WENT AFTER PIPE.

Q.—From the time the horse kicked you that evening, did you leave the house that night? A.—Not to go away. I went to the barn.

Q.—Did you leave your property? A.—I think I went to the barn to get a pipe I lost.

Q.—Did you leave your property? Yes or no? A.—Oh, no.

Q.—You didn't go to the bank? A.—No, I am sure I didn't—no, I didn't.

Q.—What time was it when you came from the bank that night, August 13? A.—I cannot tell positively, but I think I came directly. That question has been asked so many times, but I cannot tell, whether or not—(Judge Rich had a habit of failing to complete his sentences.)

Q.—After you got home from the bank, you didn't leave your home on August 13? A.—No.

Q.—Did Dr. Dean come into your house that night? A.—Yes.

Q.—About what time, to the best of your knowledge? A.—I should say near 9:30. I can tell, if you care, how I fixed it. It was just after nine that I got hurt and I was fixing up so I wouldn't

\*As Mr. Rich told the story to the writer of this note, he was not in the house but in the barn when he saw Dr. Dean driving up to the house.—W. D. G.

have a black eye and he drove up before I got the water hot. So there wouldn't be much time to get the water hot.

### WHAT HAPPENED IN BARN.

Q.—Tell us in your own way, what happened when you went into the barn that night. A.—When I went into the house, my wife said, 'You ought to take those peas to the horse'. I took them in a box and carried them on my arm. I was smoking a pipe. I didn't turn on the light, as there was a moon shining to make it bright enough. I came in the door and she had cleared to the end of the barn. I passed through the door and she is very methodical. She comes out and sleeps in the sawdust. I say this because she didn't know I was coming. I reached in the door and went to the stall and then she kicked me.

Q.—Was she doing anything at the time? A.—Yes, she was eating hay. The hay was in the corner. She was hitched this way. The blow struck me in the right eye. The only one I cared about, but it didn't hurt my face and it didn't mark the skin any, but went off and struck me there, with the toe of her shoe. That is, on the right side.

Q.—Did it go through the clothes? A.—No, it didn't mark any, but sent her feed out the door and into the sawdust, but the hurt came from having the box hit my face. It was a glancing blow, something that didn't hurt, but I could see it was going to leave a little blue mark there, but I saw I could take care of it.

### LEFT A BLACK EYE.

Q.—It left a little discolorment on your face? A.—It left a black eye and a good one—there is no question about that, but it didn't mar my hands or face, that is, it didn't bleed any.

Q.—All that happened about what time? A.—Nine or a little later. I know I wanted to go to bed at that time and I should say ten or fifteen minutes after nine that happened.

Q.—Did you ever tell any different story as to what happened that night? A.—No.

Q.—You are quite sure? A.—No, there were no others.

Q.—To the best of your knowledge, what time did you retire on August 13? A.—it was after 11 o'clock, it was before 12 o'clock. I didn't look at the clock, although it was right in front of me.

Q.—What time did your wife retire that night? A.—She went sooner, just when I cannot say.

Q.—Did she retire before you? A.—Yes. I think. Because she said I wasn't giving enough attention, and then her sister, who came on from New York said, 'He is not wringing out those clothes hot enough', and she wrung them out hotter and faster. So she was up with me until 11 o'clock.

#### **BATHED FACE.**

Q.—Everybody was in bed in your house at 12 o'clock? A.—Sure, they must be.

Q.—What did you bathe your face with? A.—Hot water. I remember, because Mr. Dean was educated to be a physician and surgeon. I learned that he was said to be one of the best surgeons in New York and on that account, Mrs. Rich wanted to know what would be good for to use on it, witch hazel and extract and something else.

Q.—Oil? A.—No, something for poison. I don't know what it was. She thought Dr. Dean would know, and he was always ripping into me and said: If you have anything like extract or a little alcohol would do him good.

Q.—If anybody had been up in your house, you would have known it? A.—I think I would. You cannot prove anything by me after I get to sleep. I couldn't be sure. I probably would not know.

Q.—In that case you wouldn't know if Miss Hodgkins were up all night? A.—I wouldn't be sure.

Q.—I received evidence that the shadows of two women were seen passing the window up until nearly 4 o'clock on the morning of August 14. A.—I didn't know it.

Q.—Do you keep the lights burning in your house? A.—No.

#### **LEFT IN MORNING.**

Q.—What time did you leave your home on August 14? A.—In the morning. I had to put up a package of money. It left on the 6:30. I think it was just before 6 o'clock I got up, and went to the bank.

Q.—What time did Mrs. Dean tell you Mr. Dean was lost? A.—She didn't tell me. It was around 11 o'clock. I just can't tell what time it was, except that this time was around 11 o'clock, that a neighbor telephoned in and wanted to know if we knew that Mr. Dean was dead. I began to get busy and went right

down to the undertaker's and happened to see W. T. Leighton, I thought Mr. Dean was dead and that he would know it as quick as anybody.

Q.—Who was the neighbor who telephoned? A.—I think Miss Henchman. She is the assistant cashier and her niece talked with Mrs. Dean and said something should be done, so she telephoned to us, as I understand it.

Q.—What was the telephone Miss Henchman sent? A.—‘Do you know what Mrs. Dean is saying’?

Q.—Where was Miss Henchman at that time? A.—At the Henchman farm.

Q.—What did she say? Who telephoned to her? A.—Well, Mrs. Dean. I suppose she stated “Do you know what Mrs. Dean is saying”? and I think I heard her say “I want Mr. Henchman to come up and look after the stock”. They had a horse or two and some turkeys and chickens.

#### DESCRIBES VISIT.

Q.—That is what Mrs. Dean wanted Miss Henchman for and that you only know by hearsay? A.—That is all I heard. That is why she telephoned to Henchman.

Q.—She didn't telephone to you at all? A.—No, she didn't, but as Mrs. Leighton didn't know anything about it, I thought I would speak to Mrs. Dean by telephone and she said that Mr. Dean was dead. I didn't say much. I asked her if she had somebody to help her and she started right in to get help. I remember, it was the time the men wanted to go to lunch.

Judge Rich then at length described his visit to the Dean farm with his wife and Miss Georgiana Hodgkins, his sister-in-law, on the day the body was discovered. They went in Undertaker Leighton's automobile.

Rich denied to the Federal agents that he told Undertaker Leighton, Dean was dead and to go up and “get the job”.

Q.—Why did you want it known that Mrs. Dean did it? A.—Well, I wasn't anxious to have it known.

Q.—As a matter of fact, didn't you make the statement? A.—I think so. I have, but it didn't originate with me. I didn't originate that idea, because I didn't think it possible. None of us thought it possible.

Q.—Who had you thought did it? A.—I haven't the least idea. I thought of — because he and Dr. Dean had trouble.



I put a man on his trail in ——. Mr. — was — and I thought he would find out where — was on the day of the murder and the day after.

Q.—As a matter of fact, didn't you tell the agent that — was innocent? A.—No, I didn't, because I looked after him the first thing.

Q.—Did Dean talk about — that night at your home? A.—No, not that night.

Q.—Didn't he tell you that he had reported — to the Boston office? A.—No, never said anything to me.

Q.—He was suspicious of him? A.—He never said that to me.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

There is evidence in the murder mystery that Dr. Dean, the victim, discussed enemy signal lights in the vicinity of East Jaffrey, with Laurence Maens Colfelt, Jr., and Judge Charles L. Rich, cashier of the local savings bank, as early as Thanksgiving, 1917.

When the writer asked Judge Rich if Dr. Dean had ever discussed the lights with him, he replied:

"No, he didn't. I am one of those who didn't think much about the signal light gossip".

## CHANGES HIS MIND.

When reminded that there was a record to the effect that Dr. Dean had discussed the lights with him and Colfelt, Judge Rich replied:

"Come to think of it, there was some mention made about signal lights, but I did not pay much attention to it. I don't recall who brought up the subject. I would like to know what the Federal officials have on this case".

The pitifully small group, including certain local officials, who dispute the presence of enemy signal lights in the vicinity of East Jaffrey for the sole purpose of shielding the suspects in the Dean murder, are here reminded that the best evidence of lights, was furnished by Dr. Dean himself, the man most concerned, who died because of his knowledge of German activities.

Dr. Dean discussed the enemy lights with Mrs. Morison, the day he told her to go to the United States Department of Justice in Boston and ask them to send up one of their best men. What better evidence could the State of New Hampshire have than that, and why do certain officials feebly and futilely try to belittle the lights? They know and so do the people of Cheshire County.

The following is an excerpt from Judge Rich's examination by agents of the United States Department of Justice in Boston, part of which stenographic record has already been published in these instalments.

"I can't say whether it was my house or Mr. Colfelt's", said Mr. Rich, "We got to talking about the Colfelt family. Dean

wanted to know my opinion at the time. He wanted to know what he thought of the signals. He said there were signals seen from Jaffrey that would even light up the mountains. I didn't see first how they would do what he said".

Q.—What did Colfelt say about the signal lights seen? A.—I don't know.. He asked me what I thought about the lights up in Jaffrey. I said that I didn't see how they could get lights strong enough to light the mountains, and I didn't see any place in Jaffrey for information, and then we had quite a discussion. We talked over if anyone knew anything of that kind over in Jaffrey, and that was the first I knew.

Q.—What did Dean say about that? A.—I don't remember if he expressed an opinion.

#### ODD DISCUSSION.

Q.—Did the discussion strike you at that time as odd? A.—Just a little. Miss Ware offered to arrange to report that to Jaffrey, and I don't know but that it ought to be looked into. He, (Dean) wanted to know what I thought of it—that's all.

Q.—But his presentation of it—the way he presented the subject? A.—Yes, it struck me at the time, while I could not get any information if he had seen it.

Q.—Did you go after that to see if there were any lights? A.—Well, I went out every night. Just a little to the east and north; there the hill is right against the horizon.

Q.—From the back of your home you could see the hill of the Colfelt house? A.—Yes.

Q.—Did you ever see any lights from there? A.—No. I never did.

#### DID NOT SEE LIGHTS.

Q.—Coming back to March, 1918, did you see any lights there? A.—No.

Q.—Who spoke to you about it? A.—The only one I can remember is Mrs. Dr. Sweeney, who said she had seen them.

Q.—Is that your family physician? A.—Yes. I expressed the opinion that I didn't think they could get such powerful lights. We didn't have any argument.

Q.—Will you please report what Dr. Sweeney said about those lights. A.—She wanted to know if I had seen them and I said no, and I expressed a doubt. She said they were quite strong lights. She said that she had seen them. Well, you know how you can do in an argument with a woman.

Q.—What did she say she saw? A.—Flashes of light.

Q.—Did she say it was coming down from the house? A.—I don't know as she did, but I understood it that way.

Q.—Did she say in what direction the flashes went? A.—No, only it might be all around.

Q.—Could these flashes be electric flashes in the Winter time—heat flashes. A.—The time we were talking about there hadn't been any Winter.

### WAS NOT JOKING.

Q.—In March, 1918? A.—I don't know when they saw it, that is, about the time. Mrs. Sweeney told me, but I don't know when she saw it.

Q.—You didn't think she was joking? A.—No.

Q.—About the lights now, go on. A.—There is nothing more about it that attracts my attention except this, that Dean through the Summer of 1916 and 1917, and the Winter, probably every week, would telephone down to come up, but we were pretty busy at the bank, taking care of Liberty Bonds and we didn't go so much. He made me a present up there—two or three of them. I say they were nice. They were figured wood, and he made a box to keep tobacco in. He had a long pipe which I made use of, and he presented one to Colfelt and me, and the Colfelts gave him valuable presents.

I remember one of them—an old helmet, and this strikes me peculiar—all through last Winter, they were exchanging presents and visiting, and wanted me to get in when I could, and all of a sudden it changed.

“I know Colfelt came to me and wanted to know what ailed Mr. Dean, and Mrs. Dean when talking to me, would say things disparaging about Colfelt—that he did not like him. Colfelt had his automobile in Dean's barn, taking up most of the room, and I think from what Mr. Dean told me, may have caused most of the unpleasantness.

“In the spring, Colfelt came to me and said, ‘This work or fight law, I'd like to buy Dean's farm. I got money and I'll hire help and produce something.’ Colfelt brought all the bonds he could. He was not unreasonable. He had a brother-in-law in England, who was killed in France, and that didn't help the least bit.

### GAVE DEAN HELMET.

Q.—That helmet that Colfelt gave Dean—was it a Prussian? A.—No, I think it was an old English, an old knight's helmet.

I don't think it was original. I thought it was made in imitation.

Q.—No eagles on the front of it? A.—I am sure there were not.

Q.—Weren't there two eagles back-to-back on it? A.—I don't think so.

Q.—Did it strike you as being the modern type or medieval? A.—Medieval. Mrs. Rich and I looked it up.

Judge Rich here gave further testimony about the relations between Colfelt and Dr. Dean, adding:

One day in the office we had a talk and I said: 'Mr. Colfelt will lease or buy your place, any way you want to', and he said, 'I wouldn't sell him any way, and further, wouldn't have him any longer. He must go by June 1 or before'. I said: 'If you know anything that is wrong, will you tell me,' because Mr. Colfelt had carried money at the bank. He left collateral, of course, and wanted to buy an automobile—a Marmon.

I told him we ought to know and he (Dean) said: 'You can't tell anything about him or what he is going to do, by what he says'. I wanted him to tell me if there was any trouble with Colfelt".

Q.—Was it unusual for him not to give any explanation? A.—No. I never knew anything about his affairs, except that what Mrs. Dean told Mrs. Rich and she told me.

#### DOUBTED DESIRE TO BUY FARM.

Q.—Did you ever know him to be unfair or unjust in any instance? A.—No, you would be inclined to expect that he had a good basis for what he said. Well, I thought at the time that it was like one or two other parties that came to town. They talked and they had money and wanted to buy a farm, and they didn't know what they wanted to do. I thought Colfelt was talking through his hat, and did not want to buy any farm.

Q.—What did he say about his getting out? A.—Well, he said he couldn't do anything with Mr. Dean. He would state the price and I think Mrs. Colfelt said he said: 'Do you think I would sell a farm to the likes of you'. She wanted to know what I thought of it.

Q.—Did you think it was quite a change? A.—As much as could be.

Q.—A change from intimate friends to virtual enemies? A.—He changed from a friend, to a man he had no use for.

Q.—Did Colfelt ever say anything to you about his position

in the draft as you remember? A.—I don't know as he ever did, but he did say that he wanted to do all he could to lick those Germans. He got a job and Mrs. Colfelt, who went to look him up, said it was a man's job all right.

Q.—Did he ever speak of any military experience he had?  
A.—He had a coat, and I said: 'That coat looks like my coat'.

Q.—Was it a Prussian coat? A.—Well, I can't say exactly

#### WORE COAT TO DEVENS.

Q.—What was the color of the coat? A.—It was a drab, but it was not exactly the United States drab. I suppose it was one of those new off-shades. It was a new coat. I remember going to Camp Devens and he wore the coat. I knew he would probably get in with that coat.

Q.—When was that? Was it purely a social trip? A.—Yes, Mr. Dean wanted to go to Fitchburg. Some wealthy man who had two sons in the army, and Mr. Colfelt said Mr. Dean was going and incidentally Mr. Dean would like to see the camp, and the boys, so we went along. Colfelt gave us a dinner in the hotel and I thought I ought to pay for it.

Q.—Did you ever see Colfelt on horseback? A.—Yes, he and his wife rode all over the country.

Q.—Did the horses make a noise going over the pavement?  
A.—I don't know about that.

Q.—Were they shod with steel shoes or rubber? A.—I can't say how.

Q.—For instance, if you were riding on a horse you could hear him. Could you hear Colfelt's? A.—All I know is that they passed the bank, but I never heard them.

Q.—Anybody ever mention anything to you in the village, or did anybody ever speak to you about Colfelt having his horses shod with rubber heels? A.—No.

Q.—Would it sound peculiar to you, if it were so? A.—Yes.

Q.—Well, that is just what happened. Did they ever tell you that they wanted to go up on Mount Monadnock on the Dublin road? A.—No, they knew every road.

Q.—Would they know all the back roads? A.—Yes, better than I did—.

#### HEARD OF LETTER.

Q.—Did Mr. Dean ever say anything to you about an anonymous letter that he got? A.—I never saw the letter. I heard it mentioned by Miss Ware.

Q.—And Mr. Dean never spoke to you about it? A.—No, I'm sorry to say he didn't. I understood him to say he had an important job, but if anyone would send a secret service man he would tell. He said he had a man's job, but would not tell where.

Q.—Mr. Rich, why did Bean go to Concord in your behalf?  
A.—I didn't know he did.

Q.—Didn't he tell you that he went to Concord? A.—No.

Q.—Did he say he would go to Washington after he came back from Concord, and that he would have better luck? A.—No, I don't think that he did.

Q.—You know Mr. Bean? A.—Oh yes. It could not have been Mr. Bean. He was at the hospital in Melrose, unless it was lately. I remember he wasn't in town—he was in the hospital. It must have been Mr. Symonds, because he took a very active part.

Q.—Said he was getting him too late? A.—It was in the evening that Bean talked with me. He had been to a Republican meeting of some kind.

Q.—Well, one of the firm went to Concord in your behalf; didn't get much satisfaction and then went to Washington? A.—He could have.

Q.—Do you know who was back of the movement to put the blame on Mrs. Dean and bring it out that she was of unsound mind; that she was crazy and that the matter would be dropped?  
A.—None that I know.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

The admissions made by Judge Charles L. Rich, former State senator and cashier of the Monadnock National Bank at East Jaffrey, N. H., to agents of the United States Department of Justice, which are part of the records in the Dean murder mystery, prove that Dr. Dean had knowledge of enemy lights in that region as early as 1917 and that they troubled him.

Further proof was not necessary, but it happens that the archives of the Department of Justice and the Intelligence Department of the United States army, contain records of complaints made by prominent citizens and of searches made by secret service men, soldiers and others trained in woodcraft.

The fact that they never made a capture in that region, in no way affects the reality of German spy activities there. Armed posses of citizens, headed by the patriotic Selectmen of East Jaffrey, went out night after night in an effort to round up those who operated the signals. Powerful flares and search-lights and captive balloons with varied colored lights attached were used.

### WOMAN CAUSED INQUIRY.

The names of scores of reliable Americans could be published, who vouched for the presence of the enemy lights in the hills, signals obviously relayed to points along the New England coast and picked up by German U-boats at sea. Columns could be printed concerning the lights and kindred enemy operations in New Hampshire and other points in New England.

Miss Mary Lee Ware of Brimmer street, Boston, with a Summer estate in West Rindge, N. H., a woman of wealth and culture, would hardly be expected to concern herself to the extent of spending private funds and much time, through patriotic impulse, in an effort to stop the signalling if they were nothing but heat lightning or fireflies. . .

Miss Ware was so alarmed that she reported the matter to her counsel, Attorney Reginald H. Smith, No. 60 State street who wrote a lengthy report concerning the enemy activities before the Dean murder. Miss Ware also employed private investigators. She spared no effort or expense.



Mrs. Horace Morison of Boston and Washington, wife of an officer of the United States army now in France, who has a mountain home on the outskirts of Peterboro, notified her counsel, Attorney Walter B. Grant, Old South Building, Boston, of the lights before Dr. Dean was murdered.

She discussed them with neighbors, and Dr. Dean delegated her to go to the Department of Justice in Boston, and ask them to send up one of their best men, as he wished to make disclosures, but he was murdered before she reached the city.

### JUDGE RUGG SAW LIGHTS.

Chief Justice Arthur E. Rugg, of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, and members of his household saw the lights on Wachusett mountain, from Sterling, Mass.

Selectmen Edward C. Boynton, William F. Coolidge and Peter E. Hogan, and nine-tenths of the population of East Jaffrey, vouch for the signal lights. Space does not permit even to sketch the mass of evidence which the writer harvested in connection with German signals and activities in that section.

An agent of the Department of Justice who worked on the Dean case and the signals for months, said:

"We were out on the mountains night after night and saw lights which were unmistakably enemy signals. One night I had an instrument strapped on my chest with electric bulbs attached and I flashed the Morse code and received answers. Suddenly we were astounded to see a white flare as vivid as if powder had been burned. It enveloped us, and, at our rear at the base of Monadnock we sighted two lights which seemed like calcium lamps.

The big flare came from Temple Mountain. We could distinctly see the outline of three men in front of the two lights on Monadnock. A score of soldiers who were with us and had been detailed from Camp Devens for the purpose, charged through the bushes, but the trio escaped before any of us could hope to reach them. We had to stumble over rocks and circle ravines while they followed a known trail. We found it next day, but no equipment. There were many new trails in that region. Mysterious wagons and automobiles containing large baskets were also seen by witnesses. The government knows that German agents operated military signals in the vicinity of East Jaffrey and the man who financed the system has an estate right in Peterboro."

G. Prescott Duncan, a student at Cushing Academy in Ashburnham, son of George Duncan, proprietor of the village drug store and president of the East Jaffrey Board of Trade, said:

### SEES STRANGE "STAR."

"About a month prior to the death of Dr. William Kendrick Dean, I was coming from the drug store, up Main street, about 7:30 in the evening. Just below the Congregational Church we crossed the street, and there in the sky was what appeared to be a very bright 'star' We were in doubt as to its nature, but we lined it up with a tree, and, in a few minutes, it had changed its position.

"You would say that any star moves. That is true, but did you ever hear of a star which moved in a direction opposite to that of all the other stars?"

"I was sure this was a signal light and was curious to see what it would look like through a telescope. I secured one and tried it out on a real star. This of course, was stationary and of a yellow color. However, when I aimed the glass at the impudent star I found that it was red and yellow and that it jumped around like a monkey on an elastic string.

"It appeared to me to be a colored lantern, suspended from a kite or more probably a balloon. It did not flash. It was jumping around very fast, and through the glass looked like a joss-stick, lighted and twirled in the fingers.

"We watched it for three hours, and in that time it had moved from a point near the corner of the Congregational Church sheds to a point in a line over the top of the house of Mr. ———. Of course it was impossible to say how far it had actually moved, but I should estimate it to be at least two miles.

### LIGHTS FROM MOUNTAIN.

"From its first position one could easily believe that it was sent up, from a point near the Dean place. It had moved with the wind. It is my opinion that Dean's discovery of the sources of these lights and other signals led directly to his death.

"On that same night there were lights visible on Tem-

ple Mountain and on Monadnock. I watched the one on Monadnock until it dropped down behind the top. Now from any one of the three points the other two points would be visible and inter-signalling would be easy.

"Mount Monadnock is reported to be the first point of land visible on entering Boston Harbor. How easy it was for German agents to watch those lights and to carry the news to the Imperial German government.

"East Jaffrey is only about two hours' ride from Boston, where much information might be gathered. Then again East Jaffrey, a manufacturing town, was turning out hundreds of tons of shoe-nails and thousands of yards of cloth for the United States government for war use.

"Poor little Jaffrey, too busy with its war work to heed the suspicious activities, was harboring in its midst one of the most important nests of German spies in the East."

It should be borne in mind that the majority of the witnesses are persons far above the ordinary intelligence, who are not given to idle gossip or hysteria.

#### HIGH-POWERED CARS.

Residents in that section also report hearing high-powered cars at fixed times every night on roads seldom frequented by automobiles and that these activities increased prior to the armistice and then suddenly ended entirely.

Dr. Dean was murdered three months before the armistice when things were getting hot along the western front for the Germans.

We have already explained how German submarines came close enough actually to bombard the Massachusetts coast and to sink vessels off Nantucket.

The Federal records show that Dr. Rudolph Hutz, a Boston chemist, was arrested August 21, eight days after the murder of Dr. Dean, on the charge of violating the espionage act, and was interned.

He was manager of the Bayer Chemical Company of Boston and was accused of displaying signal lights from the upper windows of his summer home on Pine Island, in Lake Winnepesaukee, N. H. Federal agents surrounded his island home and

took him to Concord under the charge of transmitting information to the Imperial German government.

#### **INSTANCE OF ACTION.**

They accused him of having been connected with the German "slush fund." Hutz was not a citizen of the United States.

That was an instance of Federal action in connection with signal lights in the Granite State and in a point far more remote than the peak of Monadnock Mountain, which is the first point of land visible to mariners at sea under the glass.

The clay lights could be used effectively from Lake Winnepesaukee, why not from the mountain ranges?

All those who have investigated the Dean case impartially appear to have reached the conclusion that the signal lights were employed to relay information picked up at Camp Devens or other points, concerning troop movements of transports, information which German agents could not risk to the telegraph, telephone or United States mail.

Private Presley H. Stringfellow, aged twenty-six, born at Culpeper, Va., an expert telegrapher and a German with two prison records, was arrested at Camp Devens in August, 1918, charged with tapping a confidential telegraph wire between the town of Ayer and division headquarters, was tried at general court-martial and sentenced to a ten-year term and the sentence was later modified.

#### **CAUGHT IN A TREE.**

He was alleged to have been caught in a tree outside the cantonment with a receiver clamped to his ears. He had worked as a telegrapher in Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Chicago and New Orleans. He came to Camp Devens from Camp Meade in August, 1918.

All these activities, as may be observed, occurred in the same month, August, 1918, and this was the same month the submarine appeared off Orleans, Mass., and bombarded a tug and three empty coal barges.

Stringfellow served a year at Atlanta for tampering with the mail and two years for counterfeiting before he was drafted in the army. He was a member of B company, 212th Field Signal Battalion. Suspicion first turned to him because he talked in his sleep about the possible sailing date of the 212th Signal Battalion.

It would have been a simple matter for German agents, whose loyalty had never been questioned, to confer with such men at the camp or in the village of Ayer and to carry their information by automobile to the mountain retreats in the vicinity of East Jaffrey, and there relay them by signals.

#### **BOY-ED-BERNSTOFF FEUD.**

Special cable dispatches from Berlin as recently as October 28 last, told of the feud between Captain Karl Boy-ed, former German naval attaché to the German embassy at Washington and Count von Bernstorff, former German ambassador to the United States, relative to war conspiracies engineered in America and responsibility for said conspiracies. It appeared that Boy-ed and Bernstorff were "passing the buck" at the war guilt hearing in Berlin.

It was no secret that a German "slush fund" of \$30,000,000 was available to trip and hinder Uncle Sam as much as possible on his own soil.

Study of the Dean murder mystery shows that certain persons who called themselves Americans, became involved in German intrigue before the United States entered the war, and then found it difficult, perhaps impossible, to extricate themselves. It is alleged that certain officials were corrupted by enemy funds and the scandalous aspects of the Dean case tend to corroborate the charge.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

Count Johann Heinrich von Bernstorff, former German ambassador to the United States, paid two visits to Dublin, N. H., which is not more than eight miles from East Jaffrey, in the Fall of 1916, prior to the entry of the United States into the World War.

Bernstorff and other prominent Germans held many mysterious conferences in the hotels and inns in that region, and, immediately after Bernstorff's visits, the enemy signal lights made their appearance on the peaks of Monadnock, Pack Monadnock and Temple Mountains.

Judging from the testimony of reliable witnesses, many of them members of the fashionable mountain colonies, Jaffrey, Peterboro, Dublin, Greenville and Keene were hotbeds of German activities. Many sailors from the interned German liners in Boston Harbor and other ports secured positions in the homes of wealthy families as farmhands, butlers and chauffeurs.

Men of this type, every one of whom was a member of the German Naval Reserve, would be invaluable in the operation of night signals, relayed to enemy U-boats lurking off the New England Coast.

### MUNSTERBERG THERE.

It is a matter of record that the late Professor Munsterberg of Harvard was a frequent visitor to that section, prior to his death, and at "The Ark," a popular mountain inn on the outskirts of Jaffrey, he met other Germans of prominence from Boston and other parts of New England.

The proprietor of "The Ark" is a loyal American. Prior to the declaration of war by the United States, he was reported to have been ignorant of the motives of his German guests. Other hotels also became retreats for Germans and pro-Germans.

A Boston lawyer, who lives in a suburb, came to the office of the Boston American after he had read the first two instalments of the exposé of the Dean mystery and volunteered the following information:

"I am willing to testify before any court or tribunal, but ask that my name be kept out of print at this time. I was attached

to the Intelligence Department of the United States Navy with the rank of lieutenant and stationed in Washington.

### **MANY GERMANS THERE.**

"In 1917, my health failed and the department ordered me to recuperate at East Jaffrey. I stopped at "The Ark". I found many Germans there. The behavior of a certain man and woman, who held long conferences in a room and who appeared to have much consultation over maps and papers, early attracted my attention.

"The woman is prominent in Boston society. I learned later that she is a married woman, and that the man also has a family. They occupied separate rooms, but used the same conference room.

"They were out on the mountains a great deal together. My suspicions were not confirmed until I discovered that my mail, bearing the official seal from Washington, had been deliberately tampered with. That opened my eyes to certain activities which were highly suspicious.

"I felt that something was being hatched there, and, as soon as my mail began to arrive from the Navy Department, the party of German guests began to dwindle, until finally they all left.

### **ASKED ABOUT REVOLVER.**

"I think they imagined that I was a secret service man for the army. One day I was shooting at a target with a revolver. One of the young Germans of the clique in question stepped over and asked me if that wasn't an American army revolver. I said it was. He had a peculiar expression when I replied. He left the inn the next day. A number of the American guests discussed the activities of the Germans with me."

It was no secret that mails were tampered with in the vicinity. Letters were opened and others never reached their destination. The brother of Dr. William Kendrick Dean, Frederick Dean of New York City, wrote to County Solicitor Roy M. Pickard, suggesting that letters be registered, as he felt liberties had been taken with his mail sent from that section.

It will be recalled that Dr. Dean, the murdered man, had such little faith in the privacy of the telephone that he and Mrs. Morrison in arranging to telephone about the signal lights, agreed to use the code word "turkeys."



Harry N. Guterman.



### GERMANS GET PICTURES.

Charles A. Bean, a former nurse, and at present head shipper at the tack and nail factory in East Jaffrey, said:

"I am an artist and photographer and practice both, as side lines. In the Fall of 1916, two Germans called on me. They were stopping at Shattuck's Inn. They told me that they had heard I was a photographer, and asked if I would do some work for them. I consented.

"They came for me the next day in an automobile, and we went up on Monadnock Mountain, as far as the car would carry us, and then climbed to the summit. The older of the two Germans became fagged before we reached the top. He was about fifty, and was puffing pretty hard. The other was younger and athletic and had a marked military bearing.

"They asked me to take photographs of the mountain ranges. All they seemed interested in was the outline and the tops of the hills. They asked me to take a picture of Mount Wachusett, in the distance, over the line in Massachusetts.

### MARKED THE TRAIL.

"On the way down I took them out on the shelf rock, a sort of grotto which is sheltered and affords a wonderful view of the country side. The older one of the two was delighted with the place. He said he liked the view better than on the summit, because it was less windy and exposed.

"He took out his handkerchief, tore it into little shreds and tied them to bushes as we went down the hill, and, when his handkerchief was used up, he asked the younger man for his and used that in the same manner, leaving a trail just like boys play hare and hounds.

"At the time I thought that they were simply marking the trail, so that they could find the place alone to take friends there. The next day they called for me again and this time we were met on the mountain by a third man, whom I heard one of the men call Bernstorff just once during the trip.

"Later, I saw Bernstorff's picture in the paper and recognized it as the man I had out that day, and I felt quite proud to have been in such distinguished company.

"They wanted more topographical views that day, and we took them from the vicinity of Dublin, where we met the third man. They paid me well for both days, and on the first day asked me if I had any maps of the region.

"I told them I had some small charts or folders which sold at a local store for 10 cents, showing the outline of the mountains and hills and giving the altitude. They asked me if I could get them some, and I got them six. "They paid me a quarter apiece for them. The first thing which they asked me was whether I understood German and when I told them I didn't they talked German entirely among themselves.

"After we got into the war, I kicked myself when I put two and two together and awoke to the fact that I had helped Germans with photographs and maps of the region. They had made an innocent tool out of me at a time when anybody would be off his guard. I would have shot them before I would have lifted a finger to help them, if I had known.

"Within two weeks the lights began to appear on the very shelving I had guided the Germans to and I hunted them with the Selectmen and others, and often went out alone with my collie dog "Laddie" and a rifle. That dog of mine is some dog. I nursed it when it was a puppy and on the verge of death and fed it with fully 100 quarts of milk and it would do anything for me today.

"It would go hard with anybody who tried to lay a hand on me with Laddie around.

### **MYSTERIOUS AUTO LIGHTS.**

"Dr. Dean was murdered as a result of those German lights, and everybody in town knows it. Two nights after the murder, I went up with my dog and rifle to the Dean estate to see what I could learn. I stayed out until three in the morning.

"While concealed near the bungalow at midnight, an automobile with top up and side curtains down was run into the place. It carried two or more men. They drove to a point facing Monadnock in the Dean clearing and flashed signals with a searchlight rigged to the side of the car. One fellow took out fan-shaped screens of different colors and covered the white light and they got answers from the mountain. I saw that with my own eyes.

"In fact, I saw so much in this case, that I found a note tacked on my barn door one morning. It was typewritten and said that if I would leave town there would be \$100 pinned up on the same door to pay my expenses. What do you suppose they wanted to get rid of me for?

"I had bought a ticket for Detroit and I returned it to the

ticket agent and got my money back and decided not to take the trip after finding that note. Somebody knew I was going West on a trip and thought that offer might be an incentive to insure my absence, but smelling a rat and fearing they might try to lay blame on me as they tried on Mrs. Dean, I decided to stay and help clear up the case."

#### USED ANOTHER NAME.

The German Ambassador whom Count von Bernstorff succeeded, summered at Dublin. He rented the Frothingham place from Mr. Gleason, who runs the country store at Dublin. There was a report that Bernstorff rented an estate there, near the lake, in 1916, but the writer found, on investigation, that Bernstorff simply visited friends there.

Charles Thomas, a telephone operator at the Dublin exchange, who later joined the Second Division (regulars), and became a sergeant and served through all the battles with that division and who had no knowledge of Charles A. Bean or his story, confirmed Bean's report that Bernstorff was in Dublin in the Fall of 1916.

Charlie Thomas said:

"I got a tip that Ambassador von Bernstorff was in town from the chauffeur who drove him. The funny part of it was that messages came for him by telephone and telegraph from New York and Washington, under a different name. I wondered why he should be here incog.

"About that time, townspeople began to suspect certain German and pro-German families. A book which defended Germany and which was written by an American summer resident here before we got into the war was removed from the town library and burned in public. That's how hot the people were getting."

#### MET IN VACANT HOUSE.

Mrs. George Nute, wife of the late chief of police of East Jaffrey said:

"If my husband had lived, I think he would have unearthed something in connection with the German activities hereabouts. Reports began to reach him early in the Spring of 1918 that American soldiers were conferring with Germans in this neighborhood.

"There was also a vacant house in the mountains where a num-

ber of horsemen gathered daily. Things became so suspicious that my husband finally went to Concord and complained to the agents of the Department of Justice, and he also went to Boston and told them there. As a result of his reports, two Department of Justice men were sent here as early as April, 1918, five months before the murder of Dr. Dean.

"They worked for weeks. They stopped at the Peterboro Tavern. I never knew what they discovered, but I do know that my husband was terribly disappointed over the fact that he was taken sick just when he could do some real work for his country. When Dr. Dean was killed my husband connected it with the German activities right away."

### NO END OF FACTS.

It would be an easy matter to go on almost indefinitely quoting reputable witnesses concerning the German spy operations in the vicinity of East Jaffrey, Dublin, Peterboro and Greenville, but time and space do not permit.

The Boston American feels that it has already given to its readers a sufficient outline of the Dean mystery to show that the murder has been aggravated by scandal and that the crime has international scope and significance.

The Selectmen of the town of East Jaffrey and 99 per cent. of the inhabitants are dissatisfied with the way the case has been handled to date.

They say Dr. Dean's cigarette case was found in his hip pocket after he was drawn from the cistern and that the old German silver cigarette case, later baled out of the well, belonged to one of the murder suspects and that it was deliberately spirited away and a new case of entirely different design substituted.

When Federal Agents called attention to the variance and newness of this case they say certain officials admitted it had been erroneously labelled and should have been listed as the one "found in the bungalow" instead of "taken from the cistern." But the Federal agents were the first to discover this serious discrepancy, which compares with other irregularities in this case.

### RESUME OF EVIDENCE.

The Selectmen say the door-knob of the barn where Dr. Dean was murdered, bearing finger prints, was also spirited away. They say that it was gross negligence to permit Postmaster

Henchman to clean the barn and run off the water in the main house before inspected for clues.

They charge that evidence was suppressed and juggled.

They say the Grand Jury inquiry, conducted reluctantly eight months after the tragedy, was a "farce."

**They call attention to the fact that suspects were permitted to testify before the Grand Jury, contrary to practice and precedent.**

There is no disputing the fact that Dr. Dean, an inoffensive, law abiding, loyal, patriotic American citizen, was murdered because he attempted to perform his duty to country and flag by offering important information to the Federal authorities, and that certain prominent men feared those disclosures and were compelled to do away with him before he could tell his story.

**The Selectmen and townspeople of East Jaffrey make the further sensational charge that they know who the murderers are and that the New Hampshire officials know who the murderers are.**

They say the men who killed Dr. Dean are enjoying their freedom because of "their social and political pull."

They say such a deplorable state of affairs is a blot on the State of New Hampshire and puts a premium on murder.

#### **SOMEONE MUST ANSWER.**

This is a startling situation in a New England community.

**Treason is coupled with murder in the Dean case.**

What are you going to do about it, Mr. Governor?

What are you going to do about it, members of the New Hampshire Legislature?

What are you going to do about it, Mr. United States District Attorney?

What are you going to do about it, Mr. Attorney General?

What are you going to do about it Mr. County Solicitor?

What are you going to do about it, Mr. Citizen of New Hampshire and New England at large?

What are you going to do about it, Mr. World War Veteran in whose interest and welfare Dr. Dean died?

**Should the murder of Dr. William Kendrick Dean go un-avenged and his assassins be permitted to snap their fingers at law and order?**

**The End.**

