

# SALLIE DEAN'S MURDER.

The Body Exhumed on Sunday  
and an Autopsy Held.

## NO MOTIVE FOUND FOR THE CRIME.

The Man Whom Price Says Was the Principal Was U. G. Corkran, Who, When Brought Face to Face with His Accuser, Denounces Him—Price's Story Told in Detail—What Corkran Says.

The body of Miss Sallie Dean, of Harmony, Caroline county, who was murdered while on her way to school on the morning of March 26, was exhumed yesterday and an autopsy made. The correspondent of THE SUN at Denton, the county seat of Caroline, telegraphed last night that the autopsy was made by Drs. George. Hardcastle, Clark, Hignutt and Dubadway, of Caroline county, and Drs. Dunning and Barton, of Easton. "The examination," he says, "was private, and the result will be given to the jury of investigation probably on Monday, although it is understood that nothing developed to indicate a motive for the murder."

### Ulysses Grant Corkran.

Ulysses Grant Corkran was brought to Baltimore from Harmony on Saturday by Detectives Gault and Selbold and was yesterday committed to the Baltimore jail to await the action of the Caroline county grand jury. He was committed on a similar charge to that on which Marshall E. Price, the young blacksmith of Harmony, is held—the murder of Miss Dean.

Corkran is of medium height, slenderly built and with sandy hair. He is getting bald, is sharp-featured, is twenty-eight years old and is a son of Solomon Corkran, who lives about three hundred yards from the scene of the murder.

For the greater part of his time since he grew to manhood young Corkran has been engaged as a school teacher. He began teaching in Wicomico county in 1886 and afterward went to Caroline, teaching one year each at Williston, Chestnut Grove and Laurel Grove. From Laurel Grove he went over into Delaware, where he spent some time as a teacher.

During the past scholastic year he has been without a school, but he has acted as a substitute teacher on several occasions, and on the day after the murder was a substitute for Miss Gootee, the teacher at Laurel Grove, which is three miles from Harmony.

His manner has always been quiet and in the neighborhood of Harmony he bears an excellent reputation. His neighbors do not believe that he had anything to do with the murder of Miss Dean. They think Price alone is the guilty man and that Price is trying to put the crime on the shoulders of some one else, so that he himself may get off with a light sentence.

### The Corkran Dwelling.

The house where the Corkrans live is the one at which Miss Dean is said to have called on the morning of the murder to get the twelve-year brother of Grant Corkran to go to school with her. Grant Corkran, however, says she did not call at his father's house and was not in the habit of doing so. She always stopped for a few moments at the lane leading from the road to the house, and if his brother was ready to go to school, the boy met her at the junction of the lane and the road and went with her. If his brother was not ready, she went on without waiting.

### Scene of the Murder.

The clump of bushes in which the murder occurred, and in which the girl was found with her throat cut and her body covered with dead brush, is in plain sight of the Corkran house. In fact, it and the house of Frank Friend, a colored farmer, which is about the same distance away in the opposite direction—the clump of bushes lying between the two—are the only houses from which the crime could be seen.

### What Price Told Marshal Frey.

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When Price was brought to Baltimore on Friday morning he had a talk with Marshal Frey and made a statement of his connection with the crime. He had told Detectives Gault and Selbold on the train that he had something on his mind which he wanted to tell, but would wait until he got to Baltimore. He did not tell them, he said, because the train was rattling so he could not talk without straining his voice and he did not care for other passengers to overhear. In his statement to Marshal Frey, which was made in the presence of the detectives, he implicated Corkran. The marshal told him of the responsibility he was taking upon himself in bringing another man into the case if the other man was not guilty. Price said he appreciated that and insisted that Corkran was the man who had done the killing. Price's statement was taken down in writing and was read to him. He said that it was correct and signed it.

Detectives Gault and Selbold returned at once to Caroline county, reaching Denton the same night. Early Saturday morning, they drove to Harmony and told Corkran that Price had said Corkran knew something about the murder, and that Corkran would have to go to Denton with them. This, they say, Corkran willingly agreed to do, although he said he knew nothing about the crime except that which was the common knowledge of the whole neighborhood. He dressed himself and went with the detectives. When the party reached Ridgely Corkran was told that he would have to come to Baltimore and face Price. He was startled, but agreed to come, realizing for the first time the seriousness of the charge against him and the true inwardness of the early morning visit of the detectives.

They arrived in Baltimore Saturday night and went at once to the office of Marshal Frey, who told Corkran the story of the crime as related by Price. Corkran denied every statement that Price had made implicating him in the murder. He said he was willing to face Price and deny the accusations. Marshal Frey then went to the room in which Price had been kept in the central police station and read over to him again the statement Price had made and asked him if he was still willing to charge Corkran with the murder. Price said he was. Then the men were brought face to face.

### Face to Face.

Again Price repeated his charges, Corkran listening attentively.

"You are lying and you know it," he said when Price had finished. "Why do you wish to drag me into this thing. You know I never had any conversation with you about the girl."

Price persisted in saying he was telling the truth.

Corkran turned to Marshal Frey and the detectives and repeated that he was innocent of all knowledge of the crime and that Price was lying. He said he had never been intimate with Sallie Dean and that he had never said anything to Price about her.

### The Blacksmith's Version.

"About three weeks before the murder," Price said, "Grant Corkran met me and said Sallie had spoken to him in a suggestive way and he had not taken advantage of the opportunity, but intended to do so, and invited me to go with him. On the morning of the murder I went down to Fowling creek branch to cut some wood, with which I intended to make a pair of hames. While there I saw Sallie pass along on her way to school. She was alone and was walking along swinging her schoolbooks and her dinner-bucket. Her sunbonnet prevented her seeing me. I went to the roadside as she passed and saw Grant Corkran following her. He said: 'Now is our chance,' and I went along with him, not knowing just what he was going to do. Grant had a stone in his pocket which he took out, and when he was within about ten feet of her he threw the stone at her. It struck her on the left side of her head and made that long bruise which extended from her temple to her ear. It was a sharp three-cornered stone. The blow from the stone knocked her down and made her unconscious. I was surprised when he threw the stone, for he had not spoken to her.

"Together we dragged the girl into the bushes. Presently she came to and recognized him and said, 'Oh, Grant.' He had her down, and her shoulders were resting on a piece of dead timber, with her head thrown back. He had his knife out, with which he had tried to cut her undergarments. When she recognized him he said to me, 'Let me have that razor,' and reaching over he took from my upper vest pocket my razor, which I had put there, having intended to sharpen it, and which he had seen. I even then did not know what he intended to do with it. As soon as he got the razor he made a slash across Sallie's throat with it, and while she was lying there he wanted to take advantage of her, but I would not let him do so. I was unarmed, but I told him that if he did that I would kill him. He went off and I buried the knife he had left on the ground and threw the razor away. I also buried the dinner bucket, the books and the stone and put some dead bushes on the body, so that the buzzards could not get at it, and then I went away also.

"I had the thing constantly on my mind and knew that if it was known I had had anything to do with the murder, it would go hard with me. So when the detectives came along and began to talk to me I couldn't help talking about it, but thought I could direct suspicion away from me. I talked too much."

"Did you ever know or hear that Sallie

Dean was not a good girl?" was asked of Price.

"No," was the response. "not until Corkran told me that she might be bad."

"Had you ever noticed anything in her conduct or manner that would lead you to believe that Corkran's statements about her were true?"

"Nothing at all."

#### The Stone that Was Used.

The stone with which Price said the blow was struck is a piece of granite and weighs about ten ounces. There were no marks of blood upon it, and there would not have been even if it was the instrument with which the bruise was made. It is triangular in shape, with a sharp edge, about five inches long. At the base the stone is about an inch and a half thick.

Price says Corkran threw the stone when ten feet from the girl. It is possible that such a bruise as was on her face could have been made by the stone thrown from such a distance, but the chances for its doing so are not more than one in a hundred. It could not have made such a bruise through the girl's sunbonnet, which covered her face, and which Price said prevented her from seeing them. The side of the sunbonnet would have caused the bruise to have been blurred, whereas it was clearly defined.

Such a bruise might have been made had the stone been held in a man's hand. Price is left-handed. The bruise was on the left side of the girl's face. Had a left-handed man approached the girl from behind and dealt her a blow from such a stone held tightly in his hand it would have made such a bruise as the girl had on her face. It has not yet been learned where the stone came from. It did not belong naturally to that section, for there is not a piece of native granite in the whole county. It very much resembles Port Deposit granite.

#### The Chloroform Bottle.

The presence of a bottle labeled "chloroform," which was found on the ground near the body of the girl, was thrown there by Price. He explained its presence in this way: "I found the bottle in a carriage-house near my shop in Harmony and put it in my pocket, intending to put some turpentine in it to use on my whetstone. I found it in my pocket at the time of the murder, and as it was in my way I threw it on the ground and thought no more about it. The bottle did not have any chloroform in it, and no attempt was made to chloroform the girl."

#### The School Teacher's Whereabouts.

After his interview with Price Corkran said: "I was sitting in my house repairing a horse collar on the day of the murder and saw Sallie Dean pass on her way to school. My brother was not ready and she went on without him. I put the collar on the horse, but it did not fit as I wished it to, and I took it off and worked on it for a while longer. I tried the collar on the horse again, and as it suited me I went to plowing and continued at that work all day.

"I saw Mrs. Dean pass along looking for her daughter and heard the outcry, but did not know what had occurred until I went out there. I never told Price anything about the girl, for to the best of my knowledge and belief the girl was quiet and modest and entirely innocent of any wrong-doing. I had never heard anything reflecting upon her character.

"Price was not an associate or a friend of mine. I know him and had known him for a long time, but did not know him well enough to take him into my confidence about anything. I certainly would never have told him anything like what he says I told him." Corkran as well as Price was a member of the jury of inquest.

#### "Smartness" that Was Suspicious.

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Detective Gault says that when he and Detective Seibold went to Harmony the people there suspected no less than twenty-two persons, and it seemed that everybody in the neighborhood suspected everybody else. They had to work with the greatest caution, for as soon as one of them was seen talking to a person, the rumor immediately spread that the person was under arrest. They finally settled on Price as a man who knew more of the murder than an innocent man would ordinarily know and they had frequent interviews with him. "He thought he was smart," said Detective Gault, "and was giving me all sorts of theories, trying all the while to direct suspicion away from himself. He had lots of nerve. I never saw a man so willing to talk about a thing like that. Whenever I dropped into the shop he would stop work and talk to me about the murder and give me his theories. I let on that I thought he was the very man to assist me in working up the case. I nailed him in one or two lies, but he didn't know it. Then I knew we had him. We had it all fixed up to visit the scene of the murder one night. He told his wife about it, but she wouldn't let him go. He told us that he had talked too much and wasn't going to have anything more to do with the case. It was too late then. He had told us about his dreams, and how he had seen a man kill the girl and bury the knife, and he found the knife for us. It takes a pretty good dreamer to locate things that way. When he saw we had him in Denton he had a fit.

"The people all over the neighborhood speak of Sallie Dean as a quiet, well-behaved girl, and say there was nothing 'fast' about her."

The detectives will return to Harmony this morning to gather evidence against the prisoners to be produced at their trial.