

MARY STANNARD'S MURDER

ARREST OF REV. H. H. HAYDEN ON SUSPICION.

HISTORY OF THE RELATIONS OF THE GIRL WITH THE PRISONER AND HIS FAMILY— HIS VISIT TO THE STANNARDS ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

HARTFORD, Sept. 6.—The Stannard tragedy has been the absorbing topic in Connecticut to-day. There has not been an event of greater importance in the criminal annals of the State. The facts, according to the latest disclosures, show that a horrible murder was committed in the Town of Madison, as reported yesterday. The details of the crime show that Mary Stannard was murdered under circumstances that point to some powerful motive to take her life. She had been a companion of the wife of Rev. Mr. Hayden, a Methodist clergyman, and it is believed that an intimacy grew up between him and the young woman. He was arrested to-day, and the matter is to be investigated on Monday of next week.

The removal of the accused from his family occasioned a painful scene. His wife, just out of her confinement, was greatly agitated, and was not in a condition during the day to see any one.

Rev. Mr. Hayden is an appointee of the Bishop of this district. Under the rules of the Methodist Church he is not a conference representative, but has been chosen to fill responsible positions in parishes not included in the regular appointments. He served for some time as Pastor of a church in East Rocky Hill, and of late has been assigned to a church in North Madison. Formerly he was Pastor in the Parish known as Rockland, in the town of Madison, and severed his connection there because of unpleasant relations and was settled in the parish in the south part of the town of Madison. Mr. Hayden owns the place he has occupied in Rockland, and has there, to all appearance, led a pleasant life with his family which now consists of a wife and three children. His wife before her last confinement taught school, and in her absence the girl Mary Stannard, who lived not more than a quarter of a mile away, was introduced into the family to take charge of the children. So far as is known there was no improper intimacy between the Pastor and Miss Stannard until last Spring. Some time in March or April an oyster supper was given at the Methodist parsonage occupied by Mr. Gibbs, and Mrs. Hayden secured the services of Mary Stannard to stay at the house while she was away. Mr. Hayden had that day been to South Madison, and on his return told his wife, so the story goes, that he was too fatigued to attend the oyster party, and would remain at home. His wife went to the parsonage, and he stayed at home. Within a day or two after Mary told her sister that the minister had made improper proposals to her on that evening, and that his advances were successful. Her sister was led to believe that it was the first time that criminal relations had existed. Mary had been for two weeks in the family of E. D. Studley, of Guilford, as a domestic, and went home last Sunday. On Monday she made a confidant of her sister, to whom she seems to have imparted other secrets, and said that she had given up her situation because she was in a delicate condition through her intimacy with the parson, and she intimated a purpose to destroy her own life rather than suffer the mortification of giving birth to another child. On Tuesday the alleged seducer went to Middletown, and upon his return stopped at the Stannard House and got a glass of water. Mary was there and went immediately afterward to the spring about half-way between her house and the clergyman's for a fresh pail of water. He followed her and met her at the spring. On her return she told her sister of the interview; that he had obtained medicine by which she could be rapidly rid of the troubles she was laboring under; that he was to meet her later in the day. Early in the afternoon she left the house, taking a small pail with her, and her excuse to her father for going was that she was to go in search of berries in the woods. As her absence was prolonged, and as storm was brewing the father, encouraged by the efforts of her sister, who was in possession of the secrets of Mary, and feared trouble of some sort, went after her, and traversing the woods came suddenly across her dead body in a path, and at once went back home and raised an alarm. The girl had been evidently stunned by a blow with a blunt instrument upon the head, and as a considerable bruise appeared upon the outside of one hand, it is supposed that after the first blow she raised her hand and received a second blow upon it. Her throat was cut, but no weapon could be found near the body. The murderer took her sun-bonnet and folding it placed it under her head, and then crossed her hands upon her breast and left her. Among the persons who rallied to attend the inquest was Mr. Hayden, and he assisted in taking the body from the woods to the house and seemed to share the surprise and sympathy which was generally expressed, and there was nothing apparent in his conduct at the time which gave any indication of guilt. On Thursday the funeral was attended from the humble home of Mr. Stannard, which is situated in a secluded spot. Mr. Hayden was present at the ceremonies, which were conducted by the regular Pastor of the parish, and walked a-ound with the line of mourners to take a final look at the remains. As he came up to the coffin his eyes were fastened upon the face of the dead girl, and then were suddenly turned away, and some of the spectators thought he betrayed unusual motion. Later in the day he consoled with the family, and spoke to Mr. Stannard, saying to him that he had always endeavored to be kindly disposed. Mr. Stannard replied that his offices had indeed been kind, and nothing had happened to shake his confidence in him until the present sad affair. The minister rejoined by saying that he was a firm friend of the family. The circumstances of the murder were so overwhelmingly against the clergyman that surprise was manifested that he was not before placed in custody. A theory advanced that the girl had been assaulted by tramps was dispelled by an examination of the clothing and body, from which it appeared that there had been no attempt at outrage beyond the fatal attack made.