

SURE THAT PITEZEL IS ALIVE

TRACED BY THE INSURANCE COMPANY TO NEW-YORK CITY.

Holmes's Lawyer Says if the Charge of Murder Is Made Pitezel Will Be Produced by the Defense.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 26.—Developments in the Holmes insurance conspiracy were lacking to-day. Holmes issued a statement from the County Prison, declaring that no attempt had been made to keep his wife from seeing him, as has been reported. Soon after this declaration, Mrs. Holmes No. 3 visited the arch conspirator in his cell. It was reported that Holmes's bail had been fixed at \$2,500, but this was denied.

Lawyer W. H. Shoemaker, who, since the retirement of Harry C. Hawkins, is the sole attorney for Holmes, stated this afternoon that he would, on behalf of his client, make a statement soon, covering every detail of the conspiracy case, and which will contain startling revelations. Lawyer Shoemaker further said: "I want it to be understood that Pitezel is a living being, and that we are at the present moment fully aware of his whereabouts and his acts. I don't care what the police and Coroner are doing toward proving that the body found in the Callowhill Street house was that of Pitezel. They are all at sea, and they are perfectly aware that they are.

"Should the case turn into a charge of murder, would you, in order to save your client, have to produce the alleged murdered man?" was asked.

"In the event of such a charge, and I deem this turn of the case more than improbable, I think that Pitezel would be produced—more than this, I know he could be brought forward to refute such a charge. I know that Pitezel is alive, and know at the same time his object in keeping under cover. It may be that I will be removed as counsel for Holmes, but in a few days the public will be enlightened by the publication of a statement which will at least explain away many of the most cloudy portions of the case."

"Is it not a fact that Pitezel has been in this city recently, and that he retains you to defend Holmes?" was asked.

"That might be true, but bear in mind I don't say it is. It might have been Pitezel who called upon me, for the description published tallies with my strange visitor. I do not now believe that the man the police are attempting to prove was murdered has been within a few miles of this city since Oct. 1. You can draw your own conclusions. Holmes has spun his little yarn to the insurance people and the police, and has acknowledged himself guilty of various crimes in various localities, but with all these, except the explicit charge of conspiracy against the Fidelity Mutual Life Association, we have not to deal. The production of Pitezel in this case, as I have stated, is not a factor, and would have no weight with a jury in weighing the evidence. Of this charge Holmes stands self-accused."

The officers of the Fidelity Insurance Company are now as firm in their belief that Pitezel is alive as they were formerly that he was dead. President Fouse said to-day that Pitezel had been traced to New-York City, and that Inspector Gary of the company would go there to-morrow and endeavor to locate him. It is hoped to run Pitezel down by means of the one-hundred-dollar bills that were given him by Holmes as his share of the money obtained from the insurance company. It was thought that Pitezel may have tried to change these bills in New-York City for ones of smaller denomination, and a tour of the money brokers' offices will be made for the purpose of learning if he has been around among them.

President Fouse also says that the missing Pitezel's children are known to have been at Niagara Falls, but his reason for this belief he would not give.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Nov. 26.—Papers have been found here showing that Benjamin F. Pitezel, the noted insurance swindler, is an inventor and a property owner. The papers were taken from him when he was arrested here for trying to dispose of some forged checks to Terre Haute clothiers. One of the papers is a genuine deed for a patent known as Benjamin F. Pitezel's receptacle for granular substances. The patent is numbered 460,181, and is dated Sept. 29, 1891.

The other important paper is a warranty deed for a lot in Harvey's sub-division of Chicago, Cook County, Ill. The deed shows a consideration of \$1,000, and is no doubt genuine. In his hurry to get out of town after being released on bond, Pitezel left, forgetting to call for his papers.

SARATOGA, N. Y., Nov. 26.—The mystery concerning the alleged death of Charles G. Whitney of Chicago in this place Oct. 30 is sought to be explained by two letters received by a Saratoga paper from John Byrne of Wilcox, Neb. In the first letter he wrote as a relative of Whitney inquiring for further particulars of his death than those contained in the death notice printed Nov. 2. In his second letter he writes that there "was no such man as Whitney," and that the notice was printed for "a special family purpose that has failed."

"Mrs. Charles G. Whitney" writes from "1,371 West Jackson Street, Chicago," a letter in which she states that her husband did die in Saratoga at the time mentioned; that he was a commercial traveler, and that he was buried in Oakwood Cemetery, New-York City. She denies any acquaintance with Holmes and Pitezel, the insurance swindlers, but has heard of them. She concludes: "I want it kept out of the papers, and I don't care to make a statement for publication."

The fact that no dead body was sent from Saratoga to New-York, of any name, goes to substantiate the statement of Mr. Byrne that Whitney was a myth, and the arrest of H. H. Holmes has frustrated another scheme to swindle another life insurance company.