

# THE WILLIAMS GIRLS' FATE.

Probably Murdered and Burned by  
Holmes at Chicago.

CONVINCING EVIDENCE DISCOVERED

Detectives Find Charred Human  
Bones in the Houses Formerly  
Occupied by Holmes and  
the Williams Sisters.

CHICAGO, July 20.—New evidence of murder was brought to light this morning in the residence at 701 Sixty-third Street, formerly occupied by H. H. Holmes, the insurance swindler.

Detective Fitzpatrick was looking around the building this morning, when he discovered in an ash heap the charred remains of a woman's high French-heeled buttoned shoe, and also a piece of gros-grain silk, about five inches square. These bits of women's attire are supposed to have belonged to one of the Williams girls, but there was nothing on either by which it might have been identified.

The work of excavation will be continued under the direction of Inspector Fitzpatrick of the Central Detective Detail. When a thorough overhauling of the premises once occupied by Holmes has been made the house at Sixty-sixth and Halsted Streets will be systematically searched. This is the house in which Anna Williams dwelt for a while, and the officers expect to find there some substantial proof that she was murdered in her own residence. Holmes, it is said, divided his time about equally between this house and the one at Wallace and Sixty-third Streets, which is now under investigation.

All last night two detectives from the Central Station were engaged in digging in the basement of the building at 701 Sixty-third Street, in search of the bodies of Minnie Williams and her sister.

During the World's Fair Dr. Holmes occupied the lower floor of the building, and Minnie Williams and her sister lived with him. They were beautiful and possessed of considerable money. Suddenly the sisters disappeared. Nothing was thought of the matter at the time, as it was supposed that they had gone to friends in different parts of the country. The arrest of Holmes for the murder of Pietzel gave rise to the rumor that both the Williams sisters had been murdered by Holmes, and that their bodies had been buried in the cellar of the building occupied by Holmes. Detectives were put to work on the case at the time, and so strong was the suspicion that it was decided to excavate in the cellar for the remains of the missing sisters.

This, however, was objected to by the occupants of the first floor, and was abandoned. Since the finding of the bodies of the Pietzel children in Toronto, the mysterious disappearance of the Williams sisters while they were members of Dr. Holmes's household was recalled by the police, and yesterday Inspector Fitzpatrick determined upon a thorough investigation.

After two hours' digging in the cellar an old stove was discovered, and in the fire-box was found a quantity of charred human bones and a watchchain, formerly owned and worn by Minnie Williams. The jeweler who sold the chain to the missing girl was found and fully identified the chain as a portion of one sold by him to Minnie Williams during the World's Fair, shortly before her disappearance.

Miss Minnie Williams was possessed of \$2,000 in cash and an estate of \$50,000. Her friends and detectives have searched every city in the United States, without finding any trace of her. Her fortune passed into the hands of Holmes, and from him to another man, whose name is supposed to be only another name for Holmes himself. Miss Williams came from Fort Worth, Texas. She was still a minor when she came to Chicago, and, as she could not come into the possession of her property, she became a stenographer. She chose to continue in her work after her fortune had come into her hands. She was employed in a down-town law office, and there met Holmes.

Shortly after their meeting Holmes organized the Campbell-Yates Company, advertised to buy and sell anything, and Miss Williams became stenographer for the firm. Her sister Anna was on a visit to her when both disappeared.