

THE MYSTERY DEEPER

No Clue to Camden's Horrible Cemetery Tragedy.

EFFORTS TO FIND MRS. WALTERS

The Belief Prevails That Ghouls Have Been at Work in Johnson Graveyard — A Coroner's Jury Views the Remains.

The finding of the corpse in the Johnson Cemetery, near Camden, on Friday last, with the rope around its neck, is as much of a mystery as when the first discovery was made. That the dead man will never be identified is a settled fact. If the man was murdered, as is the general impression, it is safe to say that nothing short of a confession will reveal the murderer.

Although yesterday was a day of rest, the officials did not cease their search, and all worked with the idea of throwing some light on the mystery. Shortly after 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon a large coach containing the following jurors left Coroner Jefferis' office: James Godfrey, John H. Carmany, F. H. Drake, William Bedsworth, William T. Haines, S. A. Barto, John Kennedy, Philip Barr, Ernest Lickfield, William Campbell, Samuel Stiles and Samuel J. Walters. They were accompanied by Coroner Jefferis, his assistant and deputy, Richard W. Kerswell, and Constable George Beckett and County Detective P. M. Gallagher. The first stop was made at the Camden county Morgue.

VIEWING THE REMAINS.

Here they were ushered into the dead house by Morgue-Keeper Powell and shown the remains of the ghastly find. In a pine box was all that remained of the colored man. It consisted of bones and a small amount of flesh; in fact, it was nothing but a skeleton. The body and face were covered with salt hay exactly the same as the day when the body was disinterred. Morgue-Keeper Powell brushed away the salt hay, and, with the aid of a pitchfork, lifted the unfortunate man's skull out of the box and showed it to the jury.

"There is no doubt but what he is a colored man," said one of the jurors, as he partly pushed the close curly hair from the head of the skeleton. The rope which was found around the man's neck was then produced. It is exactly the same as published in Saturday's INQUIRER. It was currently rumored in Camden that the rope had been adjusted around the man's neck after he had been taken from the grave. This report caused many of the jurors to closely examine the rope. They were all unanimous in declaring that the appearance of the rope showed conclusively that it had evidently been buried with the corpse. It was musty and bore an odor similar to that of a dead person who has lain beneath the ground for quite a length of time.

A GRAVEYARD VIOLATION.

The jurors then re-embarked in the coach and drove to the Johnson Cemetery. At this place they made an examination which will make the trustees of the estate which owns the cemetery answer for violation of the law in burying bodies in a depth less than four feet from the surface of the ground. Johnson Cemetery resembles a blackberry patch more than a graveyard. "Strangers row," where the body of the colored man was found, looked like a newly plowed corn field. The earth on at least forty of the graves was fresh. This was due to the fact that the grave digger had dug up at least that many graves while searching for Mrs. Mary J. Walters, the missing woman, whom he was looking for when he ran across the supposed murdered man.

It now looks as if there was something mysterious connected with the burial of Mrs. Walters. After searching at least forty separate graves the grave-digger has failed to locate her. It is said her death was due to a cancer, something out of the ordinary, and at the time of her illness her case attracted a vast amount of attention. Since it has been impossible to locate her coffin it is believed by many that ghouls have stolen into the graveyard by night, robbed the grave of its dead and disposed of it to some medical college.

LOOKING FOR MRS. WALTERS.

Mrs. Walters' daughters, who are said to possess considerable wealth, have announced that they will not spare any expense to find out what has become of their mother's remains. Since it has been rumored that ghouls have stolen Mrs. Walters' body, the colored people of Camden have arisen in arms and demanded of the officials that they fully investigate the matter. Some of the colored people in the vicinity of the graveyard are in a terrible state of excitement. The very mention of ghouls being at work almost terrorizes them.

While the Coroner and his jury were at the cemetery yesterday they decided to endeavor to discover if any bodies were buried contrary to law, that is to say, less than four feet from the surface of the earth. Three graves which showed by their tomb stones that the bodies had been buried since 1824, which year the law went into effect, were selected. One of the jurors took a long rod and sounded the top of the coffin's outside casket. Coroner Jefferis did the measuring, while Deputy Kerswell took the measurement. In each case it was discovered that the law had been violated.

The depth of the first grave was 2 feet 6 inches, the second 2 feet 7 inches, and the last 2 feet 2 inches. It will be remembered that the body of the supposed murdered man was found buried only thirteen inches below the ground.

The inquest will be held to-day at half-past 2 o'clock. It is more than likely that the jury will call the grand jury's attention to the open violation of the law in regard to the burial of the dead in the Johnson Cemetery.