ESTELLE ALBIN DEAD WITH THROAT CUT.

Body of Young Kent County Woman Found in Attic of Alfred Powell, Who Has Several Brothers Living in Kent County, Maryland.

On Tuesday of last week Estelle Albin, who had been living with the family of Alfred Powell on the Warren farm, near Bowers, Delaware, was found in the garret of the main building with her throat cut from ear to ear. Between 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning, as stated by Mr. Powell, he hooked his team up and went to Dover; at the time of his leaving she was apparently in good spirits, going around singing, and finally commenced to do their weekly wash out in the wash house. Nothing further could be learned of her until the family got dinner ready at noon and she was sent for to come in, for dinner, when it was discovered that she had disappeared and left her work in about the same condition as when she begun. Search was made, but the body was not found until about four o'clock, when it was discovered up in the garret.

The coroner was notified and a jury of inquisition rendered a verdict of suicide. After the rendering of the verdict the jury suspected foul play. Sheriff Melvin was notified and he at once communicated with Attorney-General Ward, who detailed Detectives Ratledge and Francis to go to the scene and make an investigation, which finally proved that the young woman was cut and hacked in a horrible manner, pieces of flesh even cut from her body. Her throat was cut from right to left, both arms had from 25 to 35 cuts and stabs, undoubtly received in defending herself. There were three horrible cuts on the top of her head and the face was bruised and mashed until she was unrecognizable. The left knee is badly bruised, as though she had fallen or been throw heavily.

The attic in house where the young woman was found is blood-spattered in every part. Every indication is that the girl struggled fiercely for her life.

A. W. Powell told the officers that when he left home Tuesday the girl was at the tub washing. He returned from Wyoming late in the afternoon, and as Estelle was not seen he asked for her whereabouts. Mrs. Powell said she had not seen her since morning and did not know where she was. After quite a search he found the lifeless body in the attic of his home.

The victim was the daughter of the late Theodore Albin, who died suddenly while making a prayer in a Sussex county church a few years ago.

Powell, who maintains his assertion that he was away from home on Tuesday, declares his willingness to help the authorities in every way to clear the mystery.

Mrs. Powell was seen, but appeared indifferent to the strange proceedings which were being enacted in her little home. She sat quietly before the fire, holding in her lap her little son, who was all eagerness to know the cause of the visitors of so many strange people to the home.

The murder is one of the most brutal ever committed in that section. State officials admit this. The theory of suicide is disapproved by the number and nature of the wounds. There were evidences of a rope about the neck, and the jugular vein and windpipe had been severed. Three bad wounds in the head were made with some knife with a ragged edge, any one of which, it is believed, would have caused death. In the room was a heavy wooden axe handle, which Powell could give no explanation of. There were also several blood-soaked aprons. There were stains of blood on the stair casing, leading to the attic, while on one side of the casing there is the imprint of a bloody hand. Blood marks cover the attic floor and spattered the rafters. In the center of the floor is the pool of blood where the body was found.

No disposition of the case has been reached yet. No arrest has been made.

Mrs. Powell Accused.

Mrs. Mary Anna Powell, wife of Alfred L. Powell, was arrested Sunday night by State Detectives Ratlidge and Francis, charged with the murder of Estelle Allaband, her 20 year-old adopted daughter, whose terribly mutilated body was found last Tuesday in the attic of the Powell farmhouse, near Magnolia, ten miles from there.

The accused woman was placed in the Dover jail and will be given a hearing on Tuesday, February, 23. The arrest of Mrs. Powell is the result of an investigation carried on by the State authorities, who were not satisfied with the verdict of suicide rendered by a coroner's jury.

Mrs. Powell was taken into custody after the funeral of the girl, which she attended this afternnon. She took her arrest coolly and did not seem surprised. As she left the house she said to one of the farm hands:

"Good-by, Peter! I am going. I may come back and I may not."

The detectives say they have secured a statement from Edgar Cooper, the 5-year-old adopted son of the Powells, who was alone in the house with Mrs. Powell on the day the girl is alleged to have been killed. According to the detectives, the boy said that Estella had been struck by "Aunt Molly" (Mrs. Powell) with a piece of wood while she was washing in the outshed, and that Estelle ran into the kitchen, where she was again attacked.

The Powell house, in which are Mr. Powell and three farm hands, is still under surveillance.

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Steamer	leaves	Fredericktown at	12.00 noon.
"	"	Shallcross	12.15 p. m.
"	"	Cassidy's	12.30 "
"	"	Betterton	1.00 "
"	"	Gale's	2.00 "
"	"	Buck Neck tides perm'g	2.30 "
"	"	Tolchester	3.30 "

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Will leave Baltimore Thursdays at 7.00 a m for Betterton and Sassafras River landings, stopping at Gale's and Tolchester on the return trip; also at Buck Neck when tides will permit.
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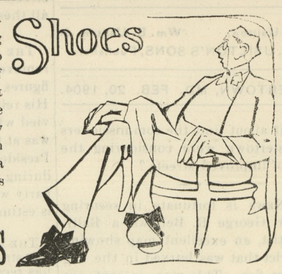

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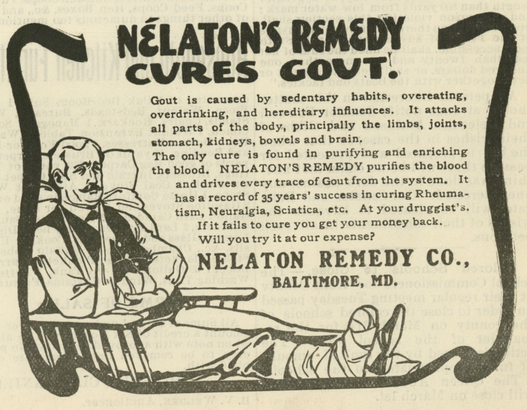

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