

CASE OF DR. HUGER.



ANY years ago I was detailed on a case which, after many strange and unexpected developments, resulted, as I have always believed, in cutting short the career of a man who had combined murder and mystery into a fine art. Fortunately he had practiced this art only a short time, but evidence was discovered which showed that whenever he had set about accomplishing a purpose no human life was allowed to stand in his way.

"Arthur Hodgson was a retired merchant, well along in years, with a good-sized fortune and a young and charming wife, whom he suspected of trying to get rid of him. He was in poor health. His attending physician was Dr. Louis Huger. The latter had been in the city less than a year, but was reputed a very learned man in his profession and had already established a large practice. Hodgson had met him first while traveling in Europe. The doctor had known Mrs. Hodgson before her marriage, and she had unbounded faith in his skill.

"Hodgson would not make a direct charge against his wife or the doctor, in fact, he did not want anyone arrested and above all desired to avoid any publicity. He asked that his wife and the doctor be shadowed for a time by a discreet detective. The chief promised that he would have them watched, and the old man went away looking much relieved.

"No revelations came to the surface and finally the case was dropped. "One night a servant brought to the central office a note for the chief. It was not delivered until next morning, and then the chief turned it over to me. It was from Arthur Hodgson and contained only these words, roughly scrawled with pencil:

"Send a man at once; danger!" "I went to the house and found Hodgson dead and his widow prostrate with grief. An inquest by prominent physicians revealed nothing. "Mrs. Hodgson got most of the fortune left by her husband and took a long trip abroad. Dr. Louis Huger remained in New York and attended closely to his largely increasing practice, but the affair was not altogether forgotten. The widow came home in a year and the old friendship with the doctor was renewed. It was soon reported that they were to be married.

"About the time that I first heard the report that they were to be married soon I was sent to investigate what was at first supposed to be a case of suicide or accidental death. A woman and two children living in a flat on the west side were found dead in their rooms one morning with the gas turned on. There was no gas in their lungs. They were dead before it was turned on. But the autopsy helped us no further. It did not disclose the cause of death. Many physicians came and examined the bodies. All agreed that no natural cause of death was apparent, and they could not discover the artificial cause. Here were three persons dead, and while medical science could tell that they had not died natural deaths, it could not discover the means used by the person responsible.

"I finally decided to pay a visit to Dr. Huger. The doctor was out when I called, but I told his servant that I would wait, and was shown into the library. That the doctor was a man well read in his profession was evident from the great number and variety of medical works with which his library was stocked. While waiting for his return, I began to glance at the titles of the books. One of the first that attracted my attention was a work in French, entitled, 'How to Reach the Brain.' It was by Paulsen, an eminent authority on brain surgery. I picked up the volume and

"DROPPED IT, I COMMANDED." glancing through it, found many passages marked. I could read a little French, and one of the marked passages I found to be a description of experiments made in Paris by which animals were killed by forcing air into the brain. This was done by clearing the mouth and forcing the air into the eyes or the nostrils by means of a small pump or syringe, made for the purpose. "I learned that there are small passages leading to the brain from the eye sockets, and from the nostrils, and that air forced into the brain cavity through these passages would drive out the blood and cause death. The work also stated that an autopsy would in most cases fail to reveal the cause of death. "I had just begun a hasty examination of another French work, Perrot's 'On the Venereal Poisons,' when I was interrupted by the return of the doctor. I closed the books, placed them where I had found them, and was looking out of a window when he entered.

"I told him that I was investigating

the death of an old miser, in which there was a suspicion that he had been poisoned by one of his relatives, although the autopsy had failed to reveal any trace of drugs. I wanted him to tell me if there were not several ways of taking human life that would leave no trace of the cause of death.

"Dr. Huger cast a quick, sharp glance at me as if he would read the secrets of my soul. For a full minute he searched my face with his wonderful black eyes, and then apparently reassured he answered my question. He told me that there were several ways of taking life, recently discovered, that would baffle the best skill of the student of anatomy to detect the means used.

"Whatever the man might be at heart, for the time being he was simply the doctor and scholar. His eyes shone with unusual brightness, and his face glowed as he talked of the wonderful discoveries of eminent French and German surgeons, and quoted many of the passages I had read in his books only a few minutes before.

"In spite of my efforts to control my feelings, my face must have expressed some of the interest I felt in the doctor's revelations. As he paused in his talk, he glanced at me, and the same searching, suspicious look came into his eyes again and he stopped.

"Have I told you all you wish to know?" he asked curtly. "Not quite," I answered, as quietly as I could. "While he had been talking I had noticed lying on the table a peculiar looking instrument on which was the stamp of a French maker. I did not know what it was, but suspected that it was one of the pumps for forcing air into the brain.

"What else do you wish me to tell you?" the doctor asked, in a tone of impatience. "Taking the little air pump in my hand, I asked: "Doctor, suppose a man had a wife and children who stood in the way of his winning a fortune, and he wanted to get rid of them in a way to escape detection, would this instrument serve his purpose?"

"What the devil do you mean?" he cried, springing to his feet and glaring at me like a tiger at bay. "Perhaps you know what I mean," I answered. "The face of the doctor was as white as a sheet by this time, but his big, black eyes were dancing with fury. A number of vials partly filled with strange-looking liquids stood on a table three feet away. With a half-uttered oath on his lips, Dr. Huger reached out and grasped one of the vials.

"Drop it," I commanded, drawing my pistol and leveling it at his head. "I have no wish to die with you," he answered, with a sneer. "If I dropped the vial it might break, and the fumes of the liquid it contains would kill us both before we could escape from the room."

"The doctor put the vial down on the table, but I saw with his eyes he was searching for some other means of getting me out of his way for good. "Realizing that I had a desperate and dangerous man to deal with, I decided to take no chances, and, catching the doctor off his guard, I sprang upon him and slipped the handcuffs on his wrists. When he found that he was helpless he went along quietly to the station house. There I charged him with murder. He smiled as I named the charge, but refused to say a word.

"The doctor was locked in a cell while I went to headquarters, to make a report of what I had done. Before I had finished my report to the chief a message was telegraphed to headquarters that Dr. Huger was dead in his cell. The clothing of the dead man was carefully searched, but nothing was found that furnished any clue to the cause of his death. There was a careful autopsy, but it revealed nothing. The doctors' terrible secret had died with him. That he had killed himself there could be no doubt, but how he had done it was a question that the men of his own profession could not answer.

THE DEMURE GIRL. She is scarce in America but should Always Have a Chaperon. Readers of Ouida's novels may be interested in knowing that on a recent occasion the famous writer uttered the following remarks when discussing chaperons: "The question of chaperons for girls must depend upon the girl herself in each individual case. Some girls always require a chaperon. And such girls are not necessarily the loud, romping ones, either. In the majority of cases it is your quiet, demure miss who needs the most watching. In every camp, every court, every club, every family or social circle there is always some individual who acts the part of a comedienne for the others. There is always such a one in every coterie of girls; but no matter how much her exuberance of spirit may make her at once the life, the mischief and the romp of the bedroom, she may be as innocent as a lamb, with no thought of anything but harmless fun, while the thoughts of young Miss Prim, who affects to be so much shocked by her schoolfellow's merry antics, are running in a much deeper, more dangerous channel. Girls who feel that they are trusted will generally resolve to be worthy of the trust reposed in them. This is exemplified in America, where chaperonage was comparatively unknown till comparatively a few years ago, yet social life there is certainly as pure, if not purer, than in any country in Europe, where chaperons have been an institution for centuries."

CURED BY THE KNIFE.

Dr. Rouff Takes a Reef in a Murderous Elk's Disposition. From the Post-Dispatch: The vicarious old elk in Forest park that gored to death Keeper Nelson last week, will have a kinder disposition in future. That is what Dr. Anatole Rouff, the veterinarian, says. After the unfortunate accident it was decided first to kill the old fellow and sell his carcass to some restaurateur, but Dr. Rouff suggested that he could take a reef in the elk's temperament by performing a surgical operation. So it was finally agreed to give the forest monarch a longer lease of life, and the operation was successfully accomplished. Since then the elk has been doing nicely and giving no trouble. Dr. Rouff, Park Commissioner Ridgely and eight assistants, armed with clubs, pitchforks and rope enough to hang anyone, started for the inclosure wherein dwelt the murderous elk. After some tedious maneuvering the old fellow was lassoed. Then he was securely fastened on each side and his head pulled down to the ground. But this didn't put him in readiness for the operation; only half of the work was accomplished. He fought desperately with his fore and hind legs and no one would venture within their reach. One by one the legs were encircled by the rope and then all four were securely fastened together. Then the operation was easy. This is the first operation of the kind ever performed on an elk, deer or any similar animal, either in Europe or America, says Dr. Rouff. In speaking of the affair the doctor said: "Of course this elk was a bad fellow, and had killed one man before, in Chicago, but what made him so extremely vicious was his constant jealousy and his quarrels with the other bucks. He will now be kept by himself and can have no chance for a fight in future." The doctor performed laparotomy on one of the bull buffaloes last week. Two of the bulls quarreled and one was badly gored in the right side. Through the incision made by the horns, part of the entrails protruded. When the doctor went to replace them he noticed one was badly lacerated. This was quickly stitched up and the entrails replaced. After that the wound in the side was sewed and dressed and the buffalo is now well.

IN A HOT BOX.

Another Time the Engineer Would Draw the Water. San Francisco Post: "I got into a hot place once," remarked ex-Sheriff Healey of Marin county. "In fact, it was the hottest place I ever got into in my life. When I was running an engine on the Narrow Gauge road I noticed a leak at the soft plug in the crown of my engine. It kept getting worse, so I decided to plug it. That night I raked the fire, and when the fire box cooled off a little crawled in and examined the leak. I measured the hole carefully, and after trying the calipers on a rat-tail file, I had concluded that it was just the thing. I would drive it in and break it off. I put the end of the file in the hole, hit it a crack with the hammer, and instead of sticking it went clear through. The next minute boiling hot water was pouring down on me from the boiler. The fire box was only about four feet square and the soft plug was right in the center over my head, so I couldn't get close enough into any of the corners without getting my legs scalded. I am pretty large, and the door of the fire box was small, but I had to get out or get scalded. I turned my back to the hot water, and by the time I wiggled out the door I was the hottest man on the coast. When I pulled off my clothes I took about eight square inches of skin with them. Since then I draw the water before I do any plugging."

A Lawyer's Breach of Confidence.

A queer case is reported from Sydney, Australia. A man was convicted by a jury of having tried to poison his wife with arsenic. His lawyers obtained a reconsideration of the sentence by a commission appointed by the legislature, consisting of two doctors and a lawyer, which pronounced him innocent, the doctors voting down the lawyer, who thought him guilty. The man was set free in consequence. Subsequently one of his lawyers, moved by conscience, told another member of the bar that the man had confessed his guilt to him at the time of the trial and the matter was brought before the legislature. Lawyers and clients have been arrested and are to be prosecuted for conspiracy to defeat the ends of justice. Communications between lawyer and client are apparently not privileged in Australia.

Setting on the Races.

The big trotting-horse people in Buffalo and western New York, including C. J. Hamlin, are said to be preparing to make a determined movement this year to secure a moderation, or, possibly, the abolition, of the present anti-betting laws of the state. The unsuccessful grand circuit meeting of last summer will be used as an argument that it will be impossible to conduct pooling meetings profitably without protection of some sort. These interests are powerful ones, and if banded together would make a strong fight.

DeWitt's Sarsaparilla is prepared for cleansing the blood. It builds up and strengthens constitutions impaired by disease. For sale by Morris and Co. Druggists.

Sure throat. Any ordinary case may be cured in one night by applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm as directed with each bottle. This medicine is also famous for its cures of rheumatism, lame back and deep-seated and muscular pains. For sale by P. C. Corrigan.

A CAMPAIGN TRICK.

Getting the Best of an Abusive Adversary in Kentucky. The following story is told by Edward McDermott in an article entitled "Fun on the Stump," in the Century: A few years ago a plain country doctor and a Mr. May, who was fond of jewelry, and wore a valuable diamond stud in his shirt-bosom, were running for the legislature in one of our counties. The race was close and hot. At one speaking the doctor made the following fierce and dangerous thrust at his opponent: "Fellow-citizens, don't you want an honest man in the legislature? Of course you do. Now what sort of man is my opponent? Why, gentlemen, look at that magnificent diamond he wears! It is almost as big and bright as the head-light on a locomotive. Your eyes can hardly stand its glare. It is worth hundreds—may be thousands—of dollars. At what valuation do you suppose he has put it for taxation in his return to the state assessor? Why, at the pitiful sum of \$20!" The crowd yelled for the doctor. Three days later the two met again in joint debate. Again the doctor took up his telling theme, and held forth eloquently and passionately in denunciation of dishonesty and diamonds and false assessments; and then he again told of May's false return to the assessor. "Look at that gorgeous pin, gentlemen! My eyes can hardly endure its dazzling rays. Solomon in all his glory—" "Hold on there doctor!" said May. "Do you mean to say this pin is worth more than \$20?" "Yes, I do—twenty times or fifty times \$20!" "Would you give \$20 for it, doctor?" "Of course I would." "Well, you can have it for that." "All right!" said the doctor, and he hurriedly counted out the money, and took the pin. Then May rose to speak, and the crowd cheered him. He was undoubtedly "game" and honest. He was willing to take what he said the pin was worth. He was elected. A week after the election he called on the doctor and said: "Doctor, I don't want to rob you of your money. Here's your \$20. That pin you bought was fast. I got it in Louisville after your first speech. Here is my real diamond. If I can ever serve you, let me know."

ROMANCE OF A WEDDING RING.

Lost for Many Years and Restored on the Golden Wedding. The fourth year of my residence at the palace was marked by a family event—the "golden wedding," or fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of the Comte and Comtesse de Tascher de la Pagerie, which was celebrated at Baden-Baden in the presence of all their children and grandchildren. A curious circumstance occurred on this occasion which is worthy of mention. The (Princesse) Comtesse de Tascher had lost, many years before, her wedding ring, to her great distress, and it had never been found. Shortly before the festivities of the golden wedding, the Duchess of Hamilton, on looking over the jewels left by her mother, the Grand Duchess of Baden, whose death had occurred during the preceding winter, found a small packet labeled, "The wedding ring of Amelie von der Leyen, sold by a Jew peddler as having belonged to the Empress Josephine. To be returned." It was evident that the grand duchess, who was the most forgetful of women, had put this away carefully and entirely forgotten it. The Duchess of Hamilton, seeing the inscription engraved inside, "Louis de Tascher de la Pagerie—Amelie von der Leyen," with the date of their marriage, sent it to the count with the above explanation. He kept the matter secret till the "golden wedding," when the ring which had been lost for so long was again placed on the finger of the Princess Amelie von der Leyen on the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage which had taken place under the sad circumstances already related.—"Life in the Tuilleries Under the Second Empire," by Anna L. Bicknell, in the Century.

The Permanence of Religion.

It is not uncommon to hear speculation on the permanence of religion. It would be just as reasonable to talk to the permanence of the intellect or the conscience, the permanence of the imagination or any other constituent element of human nature. The vocabulary of religion, its forms and ceremonies, its symbols and organized institutions, have all their perishable elements; but the source of religion is inseparable from the nature of man. We do not mean that religion is the utterance alone of a single faculty. Intellect, imagination, conscience, emotion, may all enter into it; but this only shows from what varied sources our nature is derived. As long as there is anything in the universe to worship, man will be a worshiper. So long as God speaks, so long will man answer. It is strange, then, that religious authority should have been made so often to depend upon some perishable external incident of religion rather than upon the spiritual consciousness of mankind.

The Figures Correct.

Railroad Official—I must say you put rather a high value on that trunk. What's in it? Passenger—I don't know. My wife packed it. Official—Hum! Perhaps your estimate is correct. If a woman did the packing, everything in the house is in it.

New Bear in Town.

A good-sized bear was killed in the city limits of Montezano, Wash., last week. The animal strayed in from the near-by forest and got within four blocks of the courthouse before anyone appeared with a gun. Then a 14-year-old boy killed it.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

In the District Court of Holt County, Neb. Mary Smith, Plaintiff, vs. John Smith, Defendant. NOTICE. To John Smith, non-resident defendant. You are hereby notified that on the 31st day of October, 1886, Mary Smith filed a petition against you, in the district court of Holt county, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which are to obtain a decree in said action separating her from your bed and board on the grounds that you have been guilty of cruel and inhuman treatment toward her and her minor children. In this, that on the 23rd day of August, 1886, that you prohibited any cause or provocation, struck the plaintiff in the face with your fist, and that on the 29th day of October, 1886, you with-elding of any of the personal property of the plaintiff at this time, that you have frequently abused the plaintiff and her minor children, by calling them vile, indecent and abusive names, and have withheld from their lives. Plaintiff prays in said petition for the custody and control of the minor children, and that you be restrained from removing or disposing of any of the personal property of her personal liberty or that of her minor children during the pendency of this cause, and that you be restrained from removing or disposing of any of the personal property or household effects, situated on the property or quarter of section thirty-five (35), township thirty (30), range fifteen (15), in Holt county, Nebraska, which you have in your possession and control, and that you be restrained from interfering with her possession of the above described land during the pendency of this action.

Plaintiff alleges in said petition that you are the owner of personal property of the value of \$600 and real estate of the value of \$1000 all in Holt county, Neb., all of which is unencumbered, and that you owe not to exceed \$175. Plaintiff prays that you be decreed to pay John J. Roche, trustee, the said amount in and of herself and her children and for their education, and for such other relief as equity may require. You are required to answer said petition on or before Monday, the 6th day of January, 1887, at O'Neill, Neb., November 25, 1885. MARY SMITH, Plaintiff. By R. L. Dickson, her attorney.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder. World's Fair Highest Medal and Diploma. NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. LAND OFFICE AT O'NEILL, NEB., November 26, 1885. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Register and Receiver at O'Neill, Neb., on January 4, 1886, viz: P. E. Chase, guardian of the minor heirs of Jacob H. Harper, deceased, H. E. No. 1434, for the SE SW 1/4 Sec. 10, Twp. 33n, Range 9w. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Robert M. Gray, George E. Hunter, Doran Hunt, Alaska Lines, all of Page, Neb. JOHN A. HARMON, Register.

NOTICE. Henry Potts and Misses Potts, non-resident defendants, filed their petition in the district court of Holt county, Nebraska, against said defendants, Henry Potts, et al., on the 11th day of October, 1885, the object of which is to foreclose a certain mortgage executed by the defendants, Henry Potts, et al., to John J. Roche, as trustee, upon the following described real estate situated in Holt county, Nebraska, to-wit: The southwest quarter of section 31, township 33 north and range 12 west, given to secure the payment of one certain promissory note dated February 22, 1885, for the sum of \$500.00 payable March 1, 1888. There is now due on said note from the defendants on said note and mortgage the sum of \$573.28 with ten per cent interest from September 1, 1885. And plaintiff prays for a decree that said premises may be sold to satisfy the amount found due. You are required to answer said petition on or before the 11th day of November, 1885. Dated at O'Neill, Nebraska, this 2nd day of October, 1885. N. D. JACKSON, Plaintiff's Attorney.

Order For Hearing of Final Account. In the matter of the estate of J. H. Duffy, deceased, Now on the 27th day of October, 1885, came D. A. Doyle, executor of said estate, and prays for a hearing of his account as such executor. It is therefore ordered that the 13th day of November, 1885, at 2 o'clock p. m., at my office in O'Neill, be and the same day for examining and allowing such account and the heirs of said deceased and all persons interested in said estate are notified to all persons interested in said estate by causing a copy of this order to be published in THE O'NEILL FRONTIER, a daily newspaper published in Holt county, Nebraska, for three weeks prior to the day set for said hearing. Dated October 27, 1885. G. A. MCCUTCHAN, County Judge.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. LAND OFFICE AT O'NEILL, NEB., November 26, 1885. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim to the SW 1/4 of Section 4, Township 31 N, Range 9 W, viz: JOHN A. HARMON, H. E. No. 1441, for the SW 1/4 section 4, township 31 N, range 9 W. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: J. B. Freedland, V. V. Resenkranz, Dan Binkerd and Newton County, all of DeWey, Neb. JOHN A. HARMON, Register.

NOTICE. In the District Court of Holt County, Neb. William H. Male, Benjamin Graham, William Halls, Jr., and Harris H. Hayden, plaintiffs, vs. Henry C. Meyers and wife, Martha J. Meyers, Thomas Davis and wife, Elizabeth Davis, Frederick Davis, John J. Roche, Joseph B. Davis, first and full name unknown, Sinker Davis & Co., Sturdevant Brothers & Co., partners in the firm of Joseph B. Sturdevant, Brantley E. Sturdevant, Sara J. Sturdevant and Ella F. Sturdevant, Alexander C. Ayers trustee for Sinker Davis & Co., Thomas De Witt, et al., defendants. Iron, first and full name unknown, C. P. Richmond, first and full name unknown, H. H. Beebe, first and full name unknown, and wife, Mrs. W. H. Beebe, first and full name unknown, defendants.

To the above named defendants and each of you: You are notified that the above named plaintiffs filed their petition in the district court of Holt county, Nebraska, against you and each of you. The object of said petition being to foreclose a certain trust deed or mortgage executed and delivered by the defendants, Henry C. Meyers, et al., to Martha J. Meyers, et al., on the 21st day of May, 1891, and plaintiffs allege in said petition that they are the owners of said note or bond and extension notes, and that said mortgage and trust deed securing the same, and that there is due thereon at this time the sum of \$1800, together with the amount of \$50 taxes paid on said real estate by the plaintiffs to protect their security. Plaintiffs allege that they are the owners of said note or bond and extension notes, and that the trust deed or mortgage given to secure the same, and pray for a decree that the defendants be required to pay the amount found due thereon, and that the lien or interest of all said defendants be decreed to be subject to the lien of the plaintiffs, trust deed and for other equitable relief. You are required to answer said petition on or before the 30th day of September, 1885. Dated this 19th day of August, 1885. H. R. DICKSON, Attorney for Plaintiffs.

NOTICE OF SALE OF LIVE STOCK. For payment of lien herding and care therefore. To all whom it may concern: Notice is hereby given that the various quantities of live stock of the consolidated statutes of the state of Nebraska for the year 1884, as set to provide the liens upon the said stock, as required by an affidavit as required by the said statutes, having been on the 4th day of September, 1885, filed in the office of the county clerk of Holt county, Nebraska, and that the undersigned is authorized to satisfy the lien accrued by such section and perfected by such affidavit as filed, will, on the 7th day of October, 1885, at 10 o'clock A. M. on his farm to-wit: the southwest quarter section one, township thirty-two, range eleven west, in Paddock township, Holt county, Nebraska, offer for sale and sell to the highest bidder, to-wit: the following described property, to-wit: two to eight years. Nineteen horses as follows: Seven bays, five sorrel, three black, one grey, one cream and one brown, ages from two to nine years; one spring studd colt, two mules, one horse and one cow. The above stock being known as the Kinney herd and being in possession of the undersigned. The amount now due of the undersigned is the sum of \$100 together with the necessary and actual expenses for publishing this notice, filing the affidavits as required by the statutes, and the expense of said sale, and persons interested in said stock are hereby notified to be present at that time to protect their interests. Dated this 6th day of September, 1885. H. R. DICKSON, Attorney for Plaintiffs.

NOTICE TO NON-RESIDENT DEFENDANTS.

In the district court of Holt county, Nebraska. J. C. Franklin, plaintiff, vs. William L. Lay et al., defendants. The defendants, William L. Lay, Elizabeth Lay, his wife, William A. Boggs, administrator of the estate of the deceased, deceased, Elizabeth Corbit Boggs, William A. Boggs, her husband, Anna Corbit Perkins, Frank Perkins, her husband, Emma Corbit Loveloy, Mr. Loveloy, her husband, Mrs. J. C. Corbit, Mrs. William C. Corbit, his wife, E. P. Corbit, Mrs. E. P. Corbit, his wife, P. M. Corbit, Mrs. P. M. Corbit, his wife, Mrs. J. C. Corbit, deceased, and Elizabeth Corbit, deceased, will take notice, that on the 27th day of August, 1885, the above named plaintiff filed in the office of the clerk of the district court of Holt county, Nebraska, his petition against you and each of you, the object and prayer of which is to foreclose a certain real estate mortgage, executed and delivered to J. G. Snyder by the defendants William L. Lay and Elizabeth Lay on the 20th day of May, 1885, covering the southeast quarter of the following tract of land, to-wit: the northeast quarter and the south half of the northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter, township number eighteen, in township number twenty-five, north of range number thirteen, west 6th P. M. of the purchase of section 31, township number two and the south half of the northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter, township number eighteen, in township number twenty-five, north of range number thirteen, west 6th P. M. of the purchase of section 31, township number two and the south half of the northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter, township number eighteen, in township number twenty-five, north of range number thirteen, west 6th P. 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