

UNDER SLEEP'S STRANGE SPELL

Remarkable Cases Which Tend to Show That in Our Slumbers We Employ Senses and Faculties of Which We Know Nothing When Awake

HIDDEN MYSTERIES OF SOMNAMBULISM.

By Prof. Pierre Janes of the Paris Sorbonne.

Popularly speaking, a somnambulist is an individual who thinks and acts while he is asleep. That definition is not very clear, for we do not really know what sleep is. There is a first very important period at the moment when somnambulism begins—the change from the normal to the somnambulant state. All the phenomena in connection with the dream seem extremely intensified. The somnambulist has not out of memory of things, but he sees the objects he dreams and speaks of. He actually hears, feels and touches them exactly as if they were real. When the somnambulist speaks he has a fluency of language and an eloquence superior to his normal powers. When he acts he has a precision and quickness that are wonderful.

MAGINE for a moment the horror of being suddenly roused from a deep but troubled sleep to see a pistol pointed at your head. The dead man person you loved better than all else on earth.

Then imagine the rapid return to unconsciousness to find yourself in conditions more hideous even than your dreams. Clutched in your hand is a revolver, the barrel aimed and smoking. On the door, dead or dying, is the body of your wife. Half frantic, friends summoned by the revolver shot, what possessed you to kill her. Imagine all of that, and you may feel somewhat as Hugh Hollis did at three o'clock on a Washington street at his home in Washington.

Hollis has since been exonerated by the coroner's jury, which brought in a verdict that he was unconscious and therefore not responsible when he fired at and killed his young wife. Hollis was accordingly released to be taken care of in the hospital, where he remained for days "a state of complete nervous collapse, at times showing evidence of hysteria that the physicians fear will lead to suicide if ever an opportunity is afforded."

Distressing and unusual as the Hollis tragedy may seem it is not without parallel in medical records. Hollis was private secretary to a division chief in the treasury department, lived with his wife, Evelyn Forsythe Hollis, and her mother, Mrs. Emma Forsythe, at No. 1115 Newton street, N. W.

Hollis was a somnambulist, given to doing queer things in his sleep. He was an expert shot with a revolver, and shortly before the tragedy had joined a target shooting club. He frequently slept with a revolver under his pillow, because as he has since explained, he was afraid to be present in the hall when he dreamed he was burglar. As a matter of fact that



part of Washington has been overrun by petty thieves for some time past.

Story of the Tragedy. Hollis and his wife and mother-in-law discussed recent burglaries in the neighborhood, the target shooting club, the revolver under Hollis' pillow and the ability of Hollis to aim the very last thing before retiring. Mr. and Mrs. Hollis slept in one bedroom and their 11-month-old baby and Mrs.

GRANDEST WORK MAN CAN DO. Not the Curing, but the Prevention of Disease is the Great Object to Be Attained.

All honor is due him who introduced quinine as a specific in the treatment of malaria, ten thousand honors are due Laveran and Ross, who have demonstrated that it is entirely unnecessary to have malaria. The plague and typhus are now of historic interest only. Typhoid fever, tuberculosis and typhoid fever will soon be matters of history. A large number of earnest, skilled observers saw working day and night to solve the mystery of that awful scourge, cancer. Today we join in thanks to Fletcher, who has given us a serum which has a curative effect upon meningitis, but there is even greater gratification in store for him who shall show how to solve the mystery of cancer. We confidently believe that day is not so far distant when disease will have been compelled to yield her secrets to man, and the physician will

certed that he had been dreaming that he was attacked by a burglar and fired his revolver in seeming self-defense. Manley, who was only about 22 years old, was a somnambulist and an inveterate cigarette smoker. His mind had been poisoned by reading dime novels and other literature dealing with crimes, reckless adventures and burglaries.

"I dreamt that burglars had entered the room and that they were approaching me," said Manley in court. "I saw a dagger uplifted above me in the hands of a big, burly negro. The man stood on my wife's side of the bed, and he seemed to be reaching over to get at me. I remembered my dream having grabbed the revolver from underneath my pillow, raising myself up and resting on one elbow, and then shooting."

"I do not know how many shots I fired. The police say there were four, but I know nothing about them. I simply know that I remember the room from a terrible nightmare. When I awoke I was dazed. I then realized

including descending into the music room and playing the piano, tuning a violin and fitting new strings to it and crocheting.

Her most remarkable facts, however, were reading and writing in the dark. If there was even a faint artificial light in the room she would write it and go to the darkest corner where she would read various books, study the theory of harmony and write letters. One of her letters was addressed to her music teacher. It contained a short essay on "The Sonata Form," which was accurate in sense and construction. Another letter she wrote was in German.



SAVING THE FARMHOUSE FROM THE BURGLARS.

Wrote Sermons During Sleep. The evangelist of Bordeaux, France, the case of a young priest who was in

SAVING THE FARMHOUSE FROM THE BURGLARS.

THE HUSBAND AND HIS WIFE, BOTH BURGLARS.

HOW WILLIAM'S FURLOWS WAS KILLED WHILE WALKING IN HIS SLEEP.

that I had done and that the man who attacked me was only a dream. I shot my wife, and called out: 'loie! Oh, my God! what have I done?'"

Many other cases of a somewhat similar nature may be cited, all equally distressing and all attributed to dreams, hallucinations and to somnambulism. One of the saddest is that of Simon Frazer, who was tried in Scotland in 1835 for the murder of his own child. It was proved that Frazer told a jury that he had killed and buried his brains out against the wall. The defense was that the deed was done while Frazer was in a state of somnambulism. It was proved that he had seen a wild beast jump in his bed and he seized the supposed animal and killed it. The court instructed the jury that he had killed his child while unconscious of his actions, by reason of his condition as a somnambulist and that he was not responsible for his actions. He was consequently he was acquitted.

Sam Apply, a Baltimore editor, went with the crew of the Baltimore Atlantic in his Saratoga in 1886. He slept with Prof. Doyle, athletic instructor of the club. As they went to bed Doyle said: "Say Sam, what would you do if your mother's head should come through that window?"

"Crawl under the bed and let her come over on top of me," Doyle replied. Prof. Doyle laughed and both dropped off to sleep.

Suddenly there was a commotion. Doyle leaped from his bed, took his knees on Apple's chest, got a vise-like grip on both arms and with his extraordinary strength, was out of the verge of breaking the newspaper man's arm.

Thought Bear Had Broken In. "John, John, wake up!" screamed Doyle. Doyle leaped from the bed to take a firmer grip. Apple said: "The mission of the church is engaged one arm and struck Doyle. This awakened the latter. He said he had gone to sleep with the idea of being caught with the open window. He fancied he had remained awake to catch the bear if it came suddenly he saw a long piggy bank as he was awakened and attacked it.

The particulars of an extraordinary case of somnambulism on his case are reported in the British Medical Journal by Dr. James Russell, assistant physician at the Birmingham hospital. It refers to a young woman of 21 years who is a teacher of the typewriter and a student of music. She entered the hospital to be cured of a nervous ailment. Her only observation there she habitually left her bed three or four hours' sleep and busied herself in various ways.

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