

# GIRL MURDER VICTIM

## Body Found in Lake and Man, Companion Missing.

### SHE LEFT WITH SWEETHEART

Mystery of Big Moose Lake, in the Adirondacks—Miss Grace Brown Believed to Have Been Killed and Body Left in Lake—Man Seen in Wilderness Answers Description of Girl's Companion.

Special to The Washington Post.

Utica, N. Y., July 13.—All circumstances lead to the conclusion that foul play was committed at Big Moose Lake Wednesday night or early yesterday morning, when Miss Grace Brown met death. Miss Brown's body was brought to this city today -by Dr. Coffin, of Ilion, coroner of Herkimer County. It is thought she met her death at the hands of a young man who had been her companion in the boat that was found bottom side up near her body.

The girl was accompanied to Big Moose by a young man who registered at the hotel in that place as Carl Graham, of Albany, and who may have been Chester Gillette, of Cortland, an employe of the Gillette skirt factory in that place, where Miss Brown was also employed, and in whose company she left Cortland, N. Y. The identity of her companion on the fatal rowing trip has not been established.

It cannot be stated to-night with absolute positiveness that the man's body is not in Big Moose Lake, but circumstances indicate that he did not share the fate met by the young woman. Word from the scene of the tragedy is to the effect that although the lake has been thoroughly dragged, no trace of the second body has been discovered.

#### Murder, the Coroner Says.

Coroner Coffin believes that the case is one of foul play, and nothing will change his mind beyond the finding of the body of the young man in the waters of the pretty little lake. The lake was not rough and the little bay when the body was found was as smooth as a mill pond. The man in starting out, handled the boat like an experienced oarsman.

There was a deep cut on the girl's right temple, a wound, which it is asserted, could not have been made after drowning. It might have been inflicted by a blow from an oar.

The postmortem examination of the girl's body may disclose some reason for the murder, if one has been committed. A straw hat, worn by Miss Brown's companion, has been found in the lake. The linings were torn out, as if in an endeavor had been made to throw as much mystery upon the man's identity as possible.

#### Wandering in the Wilderness.

About 8 o'clock last night three guides saw a man who answered the description of the missing man hurrying through the woods on the Eagle Bay road. He was at least five miles from the Eagle Bay station. He was wearing a slouch hat. He was in the heart of the Adirondack wilderness, and it would be impossible for a stranger to follow the trails through the forest. Unless he is an expert woodsman, he will starve to death in the wilderness.

It is learned from Portland to-night that Miss Brown had been keeping company with Chester Gillette, aged twenty-three. Miss Brown's father, who reached here to-night from South Otselic, stated that she returned to Cortland from her vacation last Monday. She met Gillette, who was just starting for the Adirondacks on his vacation, and she accompanied him.

District Attorney Ward, of Herkimer County; Sheriff Klock, and several deputies left to-night for the scene of the tragedy. An autopsy on Miss Brown's body will be performed in the morning.