

Herman Webster Mudgett
“Dr. H.H Holmes or Beast of Chicago”



Information researched and summarized by
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| Date | Age | Life Event |
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| 1852 | | Sister, Ellen M. Mudgett, is born (U.S. Census lists Ellen as being 7 in 1860 and 18 in 1870). |
| 1857 | | Brother, Arthur P. Mudgett, is born (U.S. Census lists Arthur as being 3 in 1860 and 13 in 1870) |
| 05/16/1861 | 0 | Born as Herman Webster Mudgett in Gilmanton, New Hampshire to Theodate Page Price and Levi Horton Mudgett. Some sources list his year of birth as 1860 but the <i>New Hampshire, Birth and Christenings Index, 1714-1904</i> , lists it as 1861 as does Mudgett in his confession. |
| 10/15/1864 | 3 | Brother, Henry Levi Mudgett, is born (U.S. Census lists Henry as being 5 in 1870 and 16 in 1880). |
| 1867 | 6 | Bullied and tortured by schoolmates. A dead body was thrown on him. |
| 1870 | 9 | According to the 1870 U.S. Census, Herman is living with his family in Gilmanton, New Hampshire (Belknap County) |
| 1871 | 10 | Sister, Mary A. Mudgett, is born (1880 U.S. Census lists Mary as being 9 in 1880). |
| 1877 | 16 | Graduated high school with honors from Gilmanton Academy |
| 07/04/1878 | 17 | Married Clara A. Lovering (18) in Alton, New Hampshire (Source: New Hampshire, Marriage Records Index, 1637-1947) |
| 1878 | 17 | Completed one year at Dartmouth University before transferring to the University of Vermont at Burlington. |
| 02/03/1880 | 18 | Mudgett and wife, Clara, have their first child, Robert Lovering Mudgett, in Loudon, New Hampshire. This information is also supported by the 1880 U.S. Census listing Loudon as Mudgett's city of residence and Robert as being 4 months old at the time of the Census. Herman, Clara, and Robert are living with Clara's parents at this time. Herman's occupation is listed as "Farm at Home" |
| 1882 | 21 | Mudgett enrolls in the University of Vermont Medical School before transferring to the University of Michigan after less than a year (Source: University of Vermont Registrar's Office, personal communication, 11-21-2012) |
| 1883 | | Started medical school at the University of Michigan. Mudgett was briefly expelled from medical school for stealing corpses but was soon readmitted. |
| 06/1884 | 23 | Graduated from the University of Michigan medical school and moved to Minneapolis where he began work as a pharmacist at a drug store. Mudgett was now using the name of |

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| | | Harry Howard Holmes. |
| | | Holmes moved from Minneapolis to Philadelphia, PA to work at a drug store |
| 05/1886 | 24 | Moved to the Chicago suburb of Englewood, Illinois and began working at a drug store owned by Mrs. E. S. Holton. Holmes convinced Mrs. Holton to give him the drug store in exchange for a promise of marriage. Mrs. Holton and her daughter quickly disappeared and Holmes is suspected of killing them. |
| 1886 | 25 | First victim, Dr. Robert Leacock, was a former friend from medical school. Killed in Chicago by a dose of Laudanum in order to secure \$40,000 in insurance money. |
| 01/28/1887 | 25 | Married Myrta B. Belknap (23) under the name of Harry Howard Holmes in Minneapolis, Minnesota. |
| 02/14/1887 | 25 | Filed to divorce Clara in Superior Court of Cook County, Illinois. |
| Late 1887 | 26 | Killed Dr. Russell in Chicago, Illinois during an argument about rent for the "The Castle". Holmes sold Russell's body for money. |
| Early 1888 | 26 | Bought land for "The Castle", his hotel. |
| 1888 | 27 | Fifth victim, Rodgers, killed in Morgantown, West Virginia during a fishing trip. |
| 1888 | 27 | Sixth victim, Charles Cole, killed by blow to head with gas pipe. Holmes sold Cole's body for money. |
| 1888 | 27 | Seventh victim, Lizzie, worked at "The Castle" as a waitress and was suffocated in the vault. Was also first person to be killed in "The Castle". |
| 1888 | 27 | Eighth victim was Mrs. Sarah Cook and her unborn child was the ninth victim. |
| 1888 | 27 | Tenth victim was Miss Mary Haracamp. Killed because she witnessed the disposal of victims eight and nine. |
| 12/22/1888 | 27 | Mudgett's brother, Henry Levi Mudgett, marries Minnie B. Shields in Randolph, Massachusetts |
| 07/04/1889 | 28 | Mudgett and Myrta give birth to a daughter, Lucy Theodate Holmes in Englewood, IL. |
| 06/1890 | 29 | "The Castle" construction was complete. |
| 07/1890 | 29 | Mudgett sold his drug store across the street from "The Castle". |
| 11/1890 | 29 | Ned Conner is hired by Holmes to manage The Castle. Ned, his wife Julia (nee Smythe), and their daughter Pearl move into an apartment in The Castle. |
| 03/1891 | | Julia and Holmes are having an affair. Julia refuses to stop the affair and Ned moves out and takes a job with another company. |
| 12/25/1891 | 30 | Julia L. Conner and her daughter Pearl Conner were killed by Holmes. Julia was Holmes' employee (a cashier) with whom he was having an affair. |
| 05/1892 | 31 | Emeline Cigrand is recruited by Holmes to work for him at The Castle. They begin an affair and plan on a December wedding. |
| 12/06/1892 | 31 | Holmes kills Emeline by locking her into his giant safe and letting her suffocate. Holmes eventually sold her skeleton to the LaSalle (or University of Chicago) Medical School. |
| 1891 | 29 | Holmes kills Emeline Cigrand, Rosinie Van Jassand, Robert, Lattimer, Gertie Smythe (21, Julia Conner's sister), Kate Gorky, Wes Warner, a local banker, and an unknown person |
| 02/08/1892 | 30 | Poisoned Virginia Anna Betts (WF, 24) in Chicago, IL |
| 03/1893 | 31 | Meets Miss Georgiana Yoke in Chicago. Later in 1893 they become engaged. |
| 1893 | 31 | Female victim #19 killed by use of chloroform. |
| 07/11/1893 | | Holmes poisons Anna (Nannie) and Minnie Williams to death in Chicago, IL |
| 01/17/1894 | 32 | Married Georgiana Yoke in Denver, CO. |
| 07/19/1894 | 33 | Holmes was arrested in St. Louis and ultimately is sentenced to prison for fraud and selling mortgaged property. |
| 07/28/1894 | 33 | Holmes was released on bail. |
| 07/29/1894 | 33 | Holmes was re-arrested and again sent to prison. |
| 07/31/1894 | 33 | Holmes was again released on bail furnished by Mrs. Yoke. |
| 1894 | 33 | Victims 20-23 killed. |
| 09/01/1894 | 33 | Benjamin F. Pitezal, Holmes' boarding house manager, is buried alive in Philadelphia, PA, so that Holmes could collect on Pitezal's \$10,000 insurance policy. |
| 10/10/1894 | 33 | Victim #25, Howard Pitezal, poisoned, chopped, and burned for financial gain. |
| 10/25/1894 | 33 | Victim #26, Alice Pitezal, burned in stove by gas then buried. |

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| 10/25/1894 | 33 | Victim #27, Nellie Pitezel, burned in stove by gas, the buried. |
| 11/1894 | 33 | Holmes, using the name "Judson", moves into an apartment on North Winooski Avenue in Burlington, VT (Blow, 2003) |
| 11/17/1894 | 33 | Holmes is arrested in Boston. |
| 06/03/1895 | 34 | Holmes is tried for conspiracy to cheat and defraud the insurance company. Holmes pleads guilty on the second day of the trial. |
| 09/12/1895 | 33 | Holmes is indicted in Philadelphia for the murder of Benjamin Pitezel. |
| 09/23/1895 | 33 | Holmes pleads not guilty. The court schedules the trial for October 28, 1895. |
| 10/28/1895 | 33 | Holmes' trial begins for the murder of Benjamin Pitezel. |
| 11/03/1895 | 33 | Jury finds Holmes guilty of murder in the first degree |
| 11/18/1895 | 33 | Holmes submits a motion for a new trial. |
| 11/30/1895 | 33 | Motion for new trial overruled and Holmes is sentenced to be hanged. |
| 05/07/1896 | 34 | Holmes is executed by hanging at the Moyamensing Prison in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. |

General Information

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|---------------------------------|---|
| Sex | Male |
| Race | White |
| Number of victims | 100+ suspected, 1 convicted, 27 confessed |
| Country where killing occurred | United States |
| States where killing occurred | New York, Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Indiana |
| Cities where killing occurred | Chicago, Omaha |
| Counties where killing occurred | Allegheny, Cook, Douglas, |
| Type of killer | Financial gain, enjoyment (torture) |
| Height | Unknown |

Childhood Information

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Date of birth | 05/16/1861 |
| Location | Gilmanton, New Hampshire |
| Birth order | 3 rd |
| Number of siblings | 4 |
| XYY? | No |
| Raised by | Both parents |
| Birth category | Middle child |
| Parent's marital status | Married |
| Did serial killer spend time in an orphanage? | No |
| Did serial killer spend time in a foster home? | No |
| Was serial killer ever raised by a relative? | No |
| Did serial killer ever live with adopted family? | No |
| Did serial killer ever live with a step-parent? | No |
| Family event | No |
| Age of family event | N/A |
| Problems in school? | Bullied |
| Teased while in school? | Yes |
| Physically attractive? | Yes |
| Physical defect? | No |
| Speech defect? | No |
| Head injury? | No |
| Physically abused? | Yes |
| Psychologically abused? | No |
| Sexually abused? | No |
| Father's occupation | Farmer |
| Mother's occupation | Teacher |
| Father abused drugs/alcohol | Yes, alcohol |
| Mother abused drugs/alcohol | No |

| Cognitive Ability | |
|--|--|
| Highest grade in school | 21 |
| Highest degree | M.D. |
| Grades in school | A's and B's |
| IQ | |
| Source of IQ information | |
| Work History | |
| Served in the military? | No |
| Branch | |
| Type of discharge | |
| Saw combat duty | |
| Killed enemy during service? | |
| Applied for job as a cop? | No |
| Worked in law enforcement? | No |
| Fired from jobs? | No |
| Types of jobs worked | Hotel owner plus multiple small businesses |
| Employment status during series | Small business owner |
| Relationships | |
| Sexual preference | Heterosexual |
| Marital status | Married |
| Number of children | 2 |
| Lives with his children | No |
| Living with | Spouse |
| Triad | |
| Animal torture | Yes |
| Fire setting | Yes |
| Bed wetting | No |
| Killer Psychological Information | |
| Abused drugs? | No |
| Abused alcohol? | No |
| Been to a psychologist (prior to killing)? | No |
| Time in forensic hospital (prior to killing)? | No |
| Diagnosis | No |
| Killer Criminal History (Prior to the series) | |
| Committed previous crimes? | Yes, Insurance fraud |
| Spent time in jail? | Yes (1894) |
| Spent time in prison? | No |
| Killed prior to series? Age? | No |
| Serial Killing | |
| Number of victims (suspected of) | 27-100+ |
| Number of victims (confessed to) | 27 |
| Number of victims (convicted of) | 1 |
| Victim type | Neighbors, young women |
| Killer age at start of series | 25 |
| Killer age at end of series | 33 |
| Date of first kill in series | 1886 |
| Date of final kill in series | 1894 |
| Gender of victims | 11 males, 16 females |
| Race of victims | White |
| Age of victims | Infants to adults |

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| Type of victim | Neighbors, young women |
| Method of killing | Torture, burning, affixation |
| Weapon | Brought with him |
| Was gun used? | Only once |
| Type | Unknown |
| Did killer have a partner? | No |
| Name of partner | |
| Sex of partner | |
| Relationship of partner | |
| How close did killer live? | Walking distance |
| Location of first contact | Hotel |
| Location of killing | Hotel ("The Murder Castle") |
| Killing occurred in home of victim? | No |
| Killing occurred in home of killer? | Yes |
| Victim abducted or killed at contact? | No |
| Behavior During Crimes | |
| Rape? | No |
| Tortured victims? | Yes |
| Intentionally went out that day to kill? | Yes |
| Overkill? | No |
| Quick & efficient? | Yes |
| Used blindfold? | Yes |
| Bound the victims? | Yes |
| After Death Behavior | |
| Sex with the body? | No |
| Mutilated body? | Yes |
| Ate part of the body? | No |
| Drank victim's blood? | No |
| Posed the body? | No |
| Took totem – body part | No |
| Took totem – personal item | No |
| Robbed victim or location | No |
| Disposal of Body | |
| Left at scene, no attempt to hide | No |
| Left at scene, hidden | No |
| Left at scene, buried | No |
| Moved, no attempt to hide | Yes |
| Moved, hidden | No |
| Moved, buried | Yes |
| Cut-up and disposed of | No |
| Burned body | Yes |
| Dumped body in lake, river, etc. | No |
| Moved, took home | Yes |
| Sentencing | |
| Date killer arrested | 08/17/1894 |
| Date convicted | 11/04/1895 |
| Sentence | Death by hanging |
| Killer executed? | Yes |
| Did killer plead NGRI? | No |
| Was the NGRI plea successful? | N/A |
| Did serial killer confess? | Yes |
| Name and state of prison | Moyamensing Prison, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania |
| Killer committed suicide? | No |

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| Killer killed in prison? | No |
| Date of death | 05/07/1896 |
| Cause of death | executed |
| Victim 1 | |
| Name | Dr. Robert Leacock, of Baltimore, Michigan |
| Date killed | 1886 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | Middle aged |
| How killed | Poison - Killed by a dose of laudanum |
| State killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County killed | Cook |
| Type of target | Large sum of insurance money |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 2 | |
| Name | Dr. Russell |
| Date killed | |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | Middle aged |
| How killed | Blow to the head with a heavy chair in a small office |
| State killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County killed | Cook |
| Type of target | Sold his body for money |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 3 | |
| Name | Mrs. Julia L. Conner |
| Date killed | |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | Middle aged |
| How killed | Poison |
| State killed | IL |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County killed | Cook |
| Type of target | |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 4 | |
| Name | Pearl Conner |
| Date killed | |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | Fetus |
| How killed | Poison |

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| State killed | IL |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County killed | Cook |
| Type of target | |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 5 | |
| Name | Rodgers |
| Date Killed | 1888 |
| Date Body was found | |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | Middle aged |
| How killed | Blow upon the head with an oar |
| State killed | West Virginia |
| City killed | Morgantown |
| County killed | Monongalia |
| Type of target | Sold body for money |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 6 | |
| Name | Charles Cole |
| Date killed | |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | Middle aged |
| How killed | Blow to the head with a gas pipe |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | Sold body for money |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 7 | |
| Name | Lizzie |
| Date killed | |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Suffocated (first to be killed in vault) |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| Country Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | Employee |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 8 | |
| Name | Mrs. Sarah Cook |
| Date killed | 1888 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |

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| Race | White |
| Age | Middle aged |
| How killed | Killed by surprise |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 9 | |
| Name | Mrs. Cook's unborn child |
| Date killed | 1888 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Unknown |
| Race | White |
| Age | Fetus |
| How killed | Killed by surprise |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 10 | |
| Name | Miss Mary Haracamp |
| Date killed | 1888 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | She was a witness to disposure of Mrs. Sarah Cook's body |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 11 | |
| Name | Miss Emmeline Cigrand |
| Date killed | 1891 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Killed in vault (slow and lingering death) |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| Country Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | Mistress of Holmes |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 12 | |
| Name | Rasine Van Jassand |

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| Date killed | 1891 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Women |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Poisoned with Ferro-cyanide of potassium |
| State Killed | IL |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 13 | |
| Name | Robert Latimer |
| Date killed | 1891 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Starved slowly and was stored in wall |
| State Killed | IL |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | Bribed Holmes to give him money or he would expose his guilty secrets |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 14 | |
| Name | Anna Betts |
| Date killed | 1891 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Substitution of a poisonous ingredient in a prescription she had filled at his drug store |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 15 | |
| Name | Miss Gertrude Connor |
| Date killed | 1891 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Poisoned |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | |

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| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 16 | |
| Name | Miss Kate Gorky |
| Date killed | 1891 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Lured into the vault and never came out |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | Turn real estate into cash |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 17 | |
| Name | Mr. Wade Warner |
| Date killed | 1891 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | Middle aged |
| How killed | Burned |
| State Killed | IL |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 18 | |
| Name | A local banker |
| Date killed | 1891 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Starved and killed with chloroform |
| State Killed | |
| City killed | |
| County Killed | |
| Type of target | Financial gain |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 19 | |
| Name | Unknown |
| Date killed | 1893 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Killed with chloroform |
| State Killed | |

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| City killed | |
| County Killed | |
| Type of target | |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 20 | |
| Name | Nannie Williams |
| Date killed | July, 1893 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Murdered in vault |
| State Killed | IL |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | Financial gain |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 21 | |
| Name | Minnie Williams |
| Date killed | 07-11-1893 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Poisoned |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Memence |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | Financial gain |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 22 | |
| Name | Unknown |
| Date killed | 1894 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Killed and buried body in basement |
| State Killed | Illinois |
| City killed | Chicago |
| County Killed | Cook |
| Type of target | |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 23 | |
| Name | Baldwin Williams |
| Date killed | 1894 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |

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| Age | |
| How killed | Shot and buried in basement of a nearby house |
| State Killed | Colorado |
| City killed | Leadville |
| County Killed | Lake |
| Type of target | |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 24 | |
| Name | Benjamin F. Pitezel |
| Date killed | September 1, 1894 |
| Date body was found | September 4, 1894 |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Buried alive |
| State Killed | Pennsylvania |
| City killed | Philadelphia |
| County Killed | Philadelphia |
| Type of target | Financial gain – insurance policy |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | Yes |
| Victim 25 | |
| Name | Howard Pitezel |
| Date killed | October 10, 1894 |
| Date body was found | |
| Gender | Male |
| Race | White |
| Age | |
| How killed | Poisoned, chopped, and burned |
| State Killed | Indiana |
| City killed | Irvington |
| County Killed | Marion |
| Type of target | Financial gain |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 26 | |
| Name | Alice Pitezel |
| Date killed | October 25, 1894 |
| Date body was found | July 15, 1895 |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | 13 |
| How killed | Burned in stove by gas, then buried |
| Country killed | Canada |
| State Killed | Ontario |
| City killed | Toronto |
| County Killed | |
| Type of target | Acquaintance |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |
| Victim 27 | |
| Name | Nellie Pitezel |

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| Date killed | October 25, 1894 |
| Date body was found | July 15, 1895 |
| Gender | Female |
| Race | White |
| Age | 14 |
| How killed | Burned in stove by gas, then buried |
| Country Killed | Canada |
| State Killed | Ontario |
| City killed | Toronto |
| County Killed | |
| Type of target | Acquaintance |
| Did killer confess to this murder? | Yes |
| Was killer convicted of this murder? | No |

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