

# IS FOUND IN THE LAKE.

## BODY OF HERMAN SCHAFFNER, THE MISSING BANKER, RECOVERED.

**Two Fishermen in a Boat Off the End of Graceland Avenue, Lake View, Discover a Floating Form and Identify It—Remains Taken to the Morgue, No. 14 East Madison Street—Inquest to Be Held This Morning—Funeral Is Announced for Tomorrow.**

The body of Herman Schaffner, the banker whose mysterious disappearance has been the talk of financial circles since June 3, was found floating in the lake off Graceland avenue yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The body was discovered by M. Sebastian, No. 250 Ward street, and Charles Friedrich, No. 857 Melrose street, two fishermen who were fishing off Graceland avenue. The police were notified and the body taken to the undertaking establishment at No. 14 Madison street. This discovery disposes of the suspicions of some persons who have been inclined to think the suicide theory of Mr. Schaffner's disappearance somewhat of a hoax. The funeral was announced last night to take place tomorrow.

When Sebastian and Friedrich started to examine their nets in the lake early yesterday afternoon they noticed a dark object floating in the water about half a mile from the shore. This place is two miles north of the point where Mr. Schaffner hired a boat June 3. But little attention was paid to the object as it rose and fell on the waves, and for some time it was forgotten. At 3 o'clock Sebastian noticed the dark object about 300 yards east of his boat, it having been driven there by the strong east wind. Calling the attention of Friedrich to what looked a little strange, it was decided to observe the object closer. It proved to be the body of Herman Schaffner, floating face upward.

The two men were unable to handle the body alone, so they called upon Charles Richter, who was in a boat near by, for assistance. They then succeeded in loading the body into the boat and rowing it to shore. There Sebastian notified the Town Hall Police Station and the patrol wagon carried the body to that place. From there it was taken to the undertaker.

### Identification Cards Are Discovered.

The black suit, the white shirt with initials H. S., the business and identification cards, the blank books, gold spectacles with name, gold watch with F. C. G. on case, all pointed at once to the belief that the body was that of the missing banker. This belief was strengthened into certainty when relatives looked at the remains.

The watch did not belong to Mr. Schaffner, but was one which had been loaned to him while his watch was in the repairer's hands. The identification card was one from the International Identification company, issued Sept. 9, 1892, and numbered 1,234. The card was bound in morocco and set forth the identity of the bearer in full, stating where he lived and what his business was. It also called attention to a picture of Mr. Schaffner on another page of the little book.

The police have been working industriously on this suicide theory ever since June 3, but it remained for an accidental discovery to prove what the family and friends of Mr. Schaffner have feared all along. Upon the body was no sign of violence.

The relatives and associates of Mr. Schaffner felt somewhat relieved over the discovery, which does away with the terrible uncertainty and the suspicions of the days before.

The inquest will be held at 10 o'clock this morning, and the funeral will probably take place from the Schaffner residence tomorrow.

M. Sebastian, who was instrumental in making the discovery and who may receive the \$500 reward offered for Mr. Schaffner's body, said:

"I had been fishing for about an hour in the early afternoon when I happened to look east out over the lake. I saw a dark object rolling and tossing on the waves. It seemed to be half a mile away. It looked like a saw log. At first I did not pay any attention to it but went on fishing. Charles Friedrich, who was in the boat, looked at the object too. He said he couldn't tell for the life of him what it was unless a saw log. Then we went on fishing. At a quarter to 3 o'clock I happened to look up again. The object was floating 300 yards from our boat. Then I detected that it was a human body.

### Find the Body of the Banker.

"We moved out to it and found it was the body of a man floating face upward. We couldn't pick it out of the water alone, so we called Charles Richter, who was fishing near the shore. Then Friedrich, Richter, and I lifted the body into the boat and carried it to land. Then I notified the North Halsted Street Police Station and the officers took the body away in the patrol wagon."

The younger son of Mr. Schaffner, who adopted the Diversey avenue drowning theory when it was first broached and who clung to it with tenacity, said that the reason he did so was because of the finding of the hat, the identification of his father by three witnesses, and his conviction of the probable unbalanced condition of his father's mind, which might have come to him from the vast amount of work which he had done within the last few weeks. Mr. Rosenthal said that on the day of his disappearance Mr. Schaffner had spoken to John R. Walsh of the Chicago National Bank and had at that time exhibited no signs of insanity. He also said that the day he went away he was not in immediate need of funds, and that if he were, as Mr. Walsh and Mr. Gage of the First National had said, all the banks of Chicago would have been compelled to come to his assistance. He thought it was the constant worry that had unbalanced the banker's mind.