

MRS. HOWARD STICKS TO HOLMES

Her Story, She Says, Will Be Favorable to Her Husband.

PHILADELPHIA, July 22.—District Attorney Graham had a two hours' conference to-day with H. H. Holmes, the life insurance conspirator and supposed murderer of the Pietzel children and others.

The interview, Mr. Graham said, was of Holmes's seeking. He made a personal request for a hearing and he was accommodated. He was accompanied by his legal adviser, not so much because he wanted to be, but because Mr. Graham would not talk to him unless his attorney was with him.

"Holmes," said the District Attorney, "knows just as much of what we know as we do; that is to say, he gets all the newspapers and he keeps posted, and all we did this afternoon was to go over his old story again, bringing it down to date. It was the same thing over again, and although we questioned him closely, we did not bring out anything new."

It is strongly intimated that Holmes went more into detail than the Commonwealth's officers deem it advisable to admit. Among other things, it is alleged that he gave information about the Williams sisters, whom he is suspected of having murdered, and that this information, should it prove to be correct, will solve the mystery that at present seems to surround them. Just how, there is no certain way of knowing, but there are strong indications that new machinery was put into motion to-day in an effort to get light on one branch of the mystery at least.

Mrs. Howard, or Mrs. Holmes, was also present at the interview, and she manifested a degree of composure which was surprising. She did not have very much to say, but she corroborated several of the statements made by her husband.

When asked what side she would take in the controversy, it was answered that she would tell a plain story, and that it would be favorable to her husband. They were married in December, 1893. The diary about which there has been so much talk was produced.

Superintendent of Police Linden, who made the fifth member of the party, questioned the accused and his wife. Mrs. Holmes, or Mrs. Howard, as she prefers to be called, will remain in the city until the investigations are concluded.