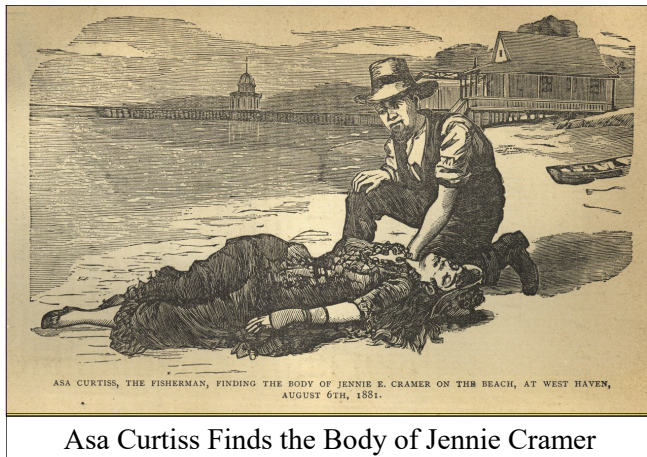


Brothers Asahel and Ira Curtiss of New Haven, CT

“**Asa Curtiss Dead**” was the headline of an article in the October 30, 1888 edition of *The New York Times*.

“New Haven, Conn., Oct.29. - Asa Curtis[s] died suddenly in this city last night from heart disease. For many years of his life he dug clams on the West Haven shore as an occupation, and at one time was noted locally for his skill at preparing clambakes. Aug 5, 1881, he achieved almost national notoriety by being the first one to discover the dead body of Jennie Cramer in the water off Savin Rock. He was the second witness called upon to testify in the famous case when the Malley boys were tried on the charge of murdering the girl. As he had previously taken from the water the bodies of nearly 30 persons who had been drowned, he testified as an expert, and was very sure from the appearance of Jennie’s body that she was dead before being placed in the water.”



“**Clammer Finds Treasure**” was the lead to an article in the June 29, 1874 edition of *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* newspaper. “While Ira Curtiss, of New Haven, Conn., was digging for clams in a sand bank on Tuesday, he brought up a pocketbook containing several gold and silver coins and a roll of bills amounting to about one thousand dollars. The pocketbook looked as if it had been underwater for several years, and the bills would have to be separated very carefully; but, after all, there are worse places than a sand bank to keep money in, for it never breaks; however, it has one objectionable feature, and

that is, that your cash can be drawn out without check by the first fellow who happens along with a shovel.”

(Brothers Asa (Asahel) (c.1830-1888) and Ira Curtiss (c.1836– aft.1894) were most likely eighth generation descendants of John Curtiss and Widow Elizabeth Hutchins of Stratford, CT 1638; thus, Asahel⁷, Jacob⁶, Nathaniel⁵, Nathaniel⁴, Thomas³, John², John¹ & Widow Elizabeth)

Sources:

- Genealogy of the Curtiss-Curtis Family of Stratford CT, 1953 Supplement, pgs 53-54
- U.S. Federal Census of 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880
- New Haven City Directories, 1849 through 1920
- The New York Times
- The Brooklyn Daily Eagle
- Murder by Gaslight, Found Drifting with the Tide, March 19, 2011