

THE OLD SOLDIER A WOMAN.

Lightning Strikes Otto Schaffer and a Remarkable Discovery is Made —Killed a Dove.

TOPEKA, KAN., June 22.—A story comes from Butler county, which is as romantic as it is strange and peculiar. While a terrific storm was raging, Otto Schaffer, a hermit farmer, who had lived there many years, took shelter in his cabin and was offering up a prayer for protection when a bolt of lightning demolished the house and killed Schaffer.

Neighbors found the dead body on the floor and summoned the coroner. This official prepared the body for burial, and in doing so made the discovery that has been the talk of the county. He says Schaffer was a woman. The deceased was an ex-soldier and participated in many of the battles of the war. Despite this discovery the Grand Army veterans turned out and gave Schaffer a soldier's burial. An incident happened in the burial services which the old comrades believed was a warning sent from God. As one of the comrades fired a last salute over the empty grave into which the coffin had been lowered, it was found that the gun was loaded with ball as well as powder and the shot killed a dove which was flying over. The dove fluttered and fell on the coffin, dead. Schaffer leaves considerable property, but no one in the county knows of relatives of the deceased.
