The Mystery of The Yellow Room

By GASTON LEROUX

BY BRENTANO'S

A CAMP TO SERVICE AND A SERVICE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT

HAPTER VI-(Continued.)

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the came and saw all the marks "Well, Daddy Jacques," he said, ere on the floor as plainly as If | "what are you looking at?". n as a new pin, were there any see better than anybody else?" ad outside the vestibule window, deep sigh. there's no bole, neither in the cellof the yellow room nor in the roof my attic; that's absolutely certain. you see, we know nothing-noth-And nothing will ever be known! a mystery of the devil's own mak-

databille went down upon his again almost in front of a small ery at the back of the vestibule. hat position he remained for about

th, nothing very important. A drop | complete darkness?" he asked. ood." he replied, turning toward

eld newspapers it smoked, so I night." ed both the windows in the labobry and this one to make a current light stand-far from the bed?" Then I shut those in the labofory and left this one open when I out. When I returned to the ready at work in the laboratory." bubt shut ft?"

"No doubt." You did not ask them?"

to the attic Rouletabille-to whom eemed no longer to exist-entered aboratory. I followed birn. I confess, in a state of great exent. Robert Darzac lost none of nents. As for me. eyes were drawn at once to the r of the yellow room. It was closed

tered and out of commission. dy friend, who went about his work dically, silently studied the room hich we were. It was large and lighted. Two big windows-alst bays-were protected by strong the blinds," said Rouletabille. hars and looked out upon a wide

he whole of one side of the laborawas taken up with a large chimrucibles, evens and such impleis as are needed for chemical exsents; tables loaded with vials. under the action of solar lightother scientific implements.

along the wails were cabinets, plain de microscopes, special photophic apparatus and a large quanti-

letabille, who was ferreting in dimney, put his fingers into one crucibles. Suddenly he drew elf up and held up a piece of half ned paper in his hand. He stepp to where we were talking by f the windows.

ep that for us, M. Darzac," he

at over the piece of scorched which M. Darzac took from the y the only words that remained

bytery - lost nothing - charm. the gar-its brightness."

wice since the morning these same agless words had struck me, and e second time I saw that they ed on the Sorbonne professor Jacques. But, occupied as he

its it, sighing, "My God!" of Iron fastened into the brick- the door, found it and then felt for the through which passed three lock."

unping back into the laboratory. either on the lock or on the bolt." 4 to that side we have to search."

ficuletabille next examined the fur- being wounded." as I tell you on the Cay of niture and opened the doors of the "He didn't open it at all," Daddy carefully examined the hole made by

of a man's footmarks. Since | "You don't know Frederic Larsan, have been found near this win- Daddy Jacques, or you wouldn't speak utside, he must have made his of him in that way," said Rouletabille | wall." through the celling of the yellow in a melancholy tone. "If there is any into the attic, then cut his way one who will find the murderer it will wh the roof and dropped to the be he." And Rouletabille heaved a wall. It was a round hole,

CHAPTER VII.

In Which Rouletabille Sets Out on an Expedition Under the Bed.

OULETABILLE, having pushed "Did not the tragedy take place in details, he let fall these words, "That's them."

were washing the laboratory and on her table, and I lit it every evensort of chambermaid, you must un- We watched him in silence. monsieur, it was closed. But derstand, when the evening came. The ie charcoal for monsieur in the much before the morning. Made- dy Jacques ironically. ory furnace, and as I lit it moiselle worked late-far into the

"Where did the table with the night

"Some way from the bed." "Can you light the burner now?" "The lamp is broken and the oil that she did."

on this window had been closed was in it was spilled when the table monsieur and mademoiselle were was upset. All the rest of the things in the room remain just as they were. or Mile. Stangerson had no I have only to open the blinds for you to see."

Rouletabille went back into the laboratory, closed the shutters of the After a close scrutiny of the little two windows and the door of the vesratory and of the staircase leading tibule. When we were in complete darkness he lit a wax vesta and asked Daddy Jacques to move to the middle of the chamber with it to the place where the night light was burning

that night. Daddy Inc stockings-he usually left his sabots in the vestibule-entered the yellow room with his bit of a vesta. We t, as I immediately saw, partially vaguely distinguished objects over. M. Stangerson and the conclerge im- dy Jacques, coughing and embarthrown on the floor, a bed in one corner and in front of us to the left the gleam of a looking glass hanging on the wall near to the bed.

"That will do. You may now open

"Don't come any farther." Daddy Jacques begged. "You may make marks with your boots, and nothing must be deranged. It's an idea of the magistrate's, though he has nothing more to do here."

And he pushed open the shutter. rs, reports, an electrical machine The pale daylight entered from withan apparatus, as M. Darzac informed out, throwing a sinister light on the imployed by Professor Stangerson saffron colored walls. The floor-for onstrate the dissociation of mat- though the laboratory and the vestibule were tiled the yellow room had a flooring of wood-was covered with a

class fronted, through which were single yellow mat which was large enough to cover nearly the whole room, under the bed and under the dressing table, the only piece of furniture that remained upright. The centwo chairs had been overturned. These did not prevent a large stain of blood being visible on the mat, made, as Daddy Jacques informed us, by the blood which had flowed from the wound on Mile. Stangerson's forehead. Besides these stains drops of blood had fallen in all directions, in line with the visible traces of the footof Rouletabille and read dis- steps, large and black, of the murderer. Everything led to the presumption that these drops of blood had fallen from the wound of the man who had for a moment placed his red hand on the wall. There were other traces of

the same hand on the wall, but much less distinct. "See see this blood on the wall!" I ame paralyzing effect. M. Dar- could not help exclaiming. "The man irst anxiety showed itself when who pressed his hand so heavily upon med his eyes in the direction of it in the darkness must certainly have thought that he was pushing at a door. another window, he had seen That's why he pressed on it so hard. Then, tremblingly opening leaving on the yellow paper the terri-Ocketbook, he put the piece of pamany hands in the world of that sort. fing this time Rouletabille had It is big and strong, and the fingers and into the opening of the fire are nearly all one as long as the other. that h to say, he had got upon The thumb is wanting, and we have ficks of a furnace—and was at only the mark of the palm, but if we examining the chimney, follow the trace of the hand," I conarew nerrower toward the top, tinued, "we see that after leaving its after from it being closed with imprint on the wall the touch sought

"No dowbt," interrupted Rouletabille, mable to get out that way," he chuckling, "only there is no blood

even if he had tried to do it, "What does that prove?" I rejoined all have brought all that iron- with a good sense of which I was down to the ground. No, no; it is proud. "He might have opened the lock with his left hand, which would

have been quite natural, his right hand

AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF

d been made with ink on white "That policeman who is always go- been deformed by its baving slipped dear young lady was shut up when five feet eight in height."

"How do you come at that?"

My friend next occupied himself

from above, and consequently not ten! Do you hear it? Hush!"

door had certainly been burst open not hear.

said: Daddy Jacques. Your mistress did well as we would have seen a man." not have her hair in bands that even-

Then, with the suppleness of a ser- genoux"pent, he slipped under the bed. Presently we heard him ask:

"At what time, M. Jacques, did M. laboratory?"

"At 6 o'clock." else where he could have hidden him- Jacques." of you, did you look under the bed?" tatingly.

"There was only one on the bed, and to him gravely. on that mademoiselle was placed, and "Oh, you are very clever," said Dadmediately carried it into the labora- rassed. bedy. Remember, monsieur, that there are wearing now." was locked behind in the pavilion."

I ventured on a hypothesis: possible in the face of such a mystery. been found at all." In their distress of mind M. Stangerhypothesis for what it is worth, but it explains many things and particularly the fact that neither the laboratory nor the vestibule bears any traces of the footmarks found in the room. If tress from the laboratory they rested an opportunity for the man in it to

escape. "And then?" asked Rouletabille, deliberately laughing under the bed. I felt rather vexed and replied: "I don't know, but anything appears

possible." "The examining magistrate had the same idea, monsieur." said Daddy Jacques, "and he carefully examined the mattress. He was obliged to laugh explain bow he did it." at the idea, monsieur, as your friend is doing now, for whoever heard of mattress having a double bottom?" My friend alone seemed able to talk

intelligently. He called out from under the bed: "The mat here has been moved out

of place. Who did it?" 'We did, monsieur," explained Daddy Jacques. "When we could not find for example." the assassin we asked ourselves

"There is not," replied Rouletabille. g woman's head. "Is there a cellar?"

"No, there's no cellar. But that has not stepped our searching and has not prevented the examining magistrate and his registrar from studying the floor plank by plank, as if there had been a cellar under it."

The reporter then reappeared. His eyes were sparkling and his nostrils quivered. He remained on his hands and knees. Thus he made his way to the four corners of the room, so to speak, sniffing and going around everything-everything that we could thing that we could not see, which out of the pavilion: must have been infinite.

The toilet table was a simple table standing on four legs. There was M. Darrae uttered a muttered ex nothing about it by which it could possibly be changed into a temporary hiding place. There was not a closet or cupboard. Mile, Stangerson kept her wardrobe at the chateau.

Jacques.

"les," said the young reporter, dry-"By the height of the marks on the ing his forehead; "the yellow room was as tightly shut as an iron safe."

with the mark of the bullet in the Daddy Jacques-"the Bete du Bon Dieu unusual there. herself, if she had committed the

Daddy Jacques made us a sign to and carefully examined the lock and ward the wall nearest the forest, listhe bolt, satisfying himself that the tened to something which we could

from the outside, and, further, that "It's answering," he said at length. the key had been found in the lock on "I must kill it. It is too wicked, but open the door of the yellow the inside of the chamber. He finally it's the Bete du Bon Dieu, and every room, paused on the threshold. satisfied himself that with the key in night it goes to pray on the tomb of The chamber was dark. Dad- the lock the door could not possibly St. Genevieve, and nobody dares to was already at work in the laboratory. Jacques was about to open the be opened from without with another touch her for fear that Mother An- We worked together till midday. We have? A. None.

"You have spoken the simple truth, "Besides, we should have seen her as | ward had tea.

"Evidently," I said. "Before we had o'clock did you go into your chamber? ing? A. Yes, but it gave a very feeble bille. Ing. I was a donkey to have believed seen this yellow room I had also asked A. No, monsieur. My father went into light. myself whether the cat of Mother An- it, at my request, to bring me my hat.

"You also!" cried Rouletabille.

"Didn't you?" I asked. The voice of Rouletabille continued: tragedy has been enacted here. You certain. In fact, there was nowhere the handkerchief found here, Daddy and you? A. About an hour.

hobnalls. When you entered, all four them," the old man answered hesi- pavilion. But how? Nobody knows.

tory. Under the mattress there was "The handkerchief is a large one, nothing but the metal netting, which blue with red stripes, and the cap is could not conceal anything or any- an old Basque cap, like the one you

to see everything, the chamber is so Jacques, trying to laugh and not quite -while we were away." small and scantily furnished, and all succeeding. "How do you know that "Q. Strange! Do you recoilect, M. the handkerchief is blue with red Stangerson, if during your absence stripes?"

"Perhaps be got away with the mat- "Because if it had not been blue ress-in the mattress! Anything is with red stripes it would not have

Without giving any further attenson and the conclerge may not have tion to Daddy Jacques my friend took noticed they were bearing a double a piece of paper from his pocket and, weight, especially if the conclerge taking out a pair of scissors, bent were an accomplice. I throw out this over the footprints. Placing the paper over one of them, he began to cut. In a short time be had made a perfect pattern, which he handed to me, begging me not to lose it.

He then returned to the window in carrying mademoiselle on the mat- and, pointing to the figure of Frederic Larsan, who had not quitted the ter round table, the night table and for a moment there might have been side of the lake, asked Daddy Jacques whether the detective bad, like himself, been working in the yellow room.

"No," replied Robert Darzac, who since Rouletabille had handed him the piece of scorched paper had not uttered a word. "He pretends that he does not need to examine the yellow made his escape from it in quite a natural way and that he will this evening

As he listened to what M. Darzac had to say Rouletabille turned pale. truth, which I can only guess at?" he going by the chateau to tell the stewmurmured. "He is very clever-very and that we should dine in the lab- the forest keeper knew that the proclever-and I admire him. Yet I have oratory. He left me to execute the fessor and his daughter were going to discovered many things."

'Moral or material?" I asked. 'Several moral, one material. This,

whether there was not some hole in coat pocket a piece of paper in which midnight. he had placed a light colored hair from "Q. Did Daddy Jacques enter the

CHAPTER VIII.

The Examining Magistrate Questions Mile. Stangerson.

WO minutes later, as Rouletabille was bending over the footprints discovered in the park, under the window of the vestiile, a man, evidently a servant at the ber, mademoiselle, you immediately chateau, came toward us rapidly and shut the door and locked and boited from to get into the pavilion." see, which was not much, and everysee, which was not much and everysee, wh

"M. Robert, the magistrate, you

"We must know," said my friend, fear something,

This is what passed in the chamber proved to have been foolish,

tails of the frightful attack of which you have been the victim? Answer, I feel much better, monsieur, and I will

"Q. What did you do on that day? "This ball was fired straight, not crime, could not have escaped. Lis- I want you to be as minute and precise as possible. I wish to know all Rouletabille went back to the door keep quiet and, stretching his arm to- too much of you. A. I rose late, at 10 o'clock, for my father and I had returned home late on the night previously, having been to dinner at the re-Science of Philadelphia. When I left my chamber at half past 10 my father of my night table.

all?" I asked him when he got blinds when Rouletabille stopped him. key. Having made sure of all these genoux should cast an evil spell on then took half an hour's walk in the better." Then, sitting down on the "How big is the Bete du Bon Dieu?" before breakfasting at the chateau. "No, young man; I don't think so, ground, he hastfly took off his boots "Nearly as big as a small retriever- After breakfast we took another walk slood." he replied, turning toward a monster, I tell you. Ah, I have asked for half an hour and then returned to such precautions are very surprising. The first thing he did was to exam- myself more than once whether it was the laboratory. There we found my were washing the laboratory and on her table, the control of the laboratory and on her table, the control of the laboratory and on her table, the laboratory and the laboratory and table the laboratory and the laboratory moiselle by the throat with her claws. room in order. I went into the yelmonsieur, it was closed. But destata, met de seif a great deal of trouble," said Dad- wear hobnailed boots, nor fire revolv- ders, and she directly afterward left have been avoided. ers, nor has she a hand like that!" ex- the pavillon, and I resumed my work Rouletabille raised his head and claimed Daddy Jacques, again point- with my father. At 5 o'clock we again locked, did you go to bed? A. Yes, and, ing out to us the red mark on the wall. went for a walk in the park and after-

"Q. Before leaving the pavilion at 5 "Q. And he found nothing suspicious

there. A. Evidently no, monsieur. "Q. It is, then, almost certain that "Not for a moment. After reading the murderer was not yet concealed and Mile. Stangerson arrive at the the article in the Matin I knew that under the bed. When you went out a cat had nothing to do with the mat- was the door of the room locked? A. ter. But I swear now that a frightful No; there was no reason for locking it. "Q. You were absent from the pavil-"Yes, he's been under here, that's say nothing about the Basque cap or ion some length of time, M. Stangerson

"Q. It was during that hour, no Footmarks have been found in the "At once. We drew it right out of its "I haven't seen either the handker- park leading away from the window found going toward it. Did you notice whether the vestibule window was open when you went out? A. I don't

"M. Stangerson-It was closed

"Q. And when you returned? "Mile, Stangerson-I did not notice. "M. Stangerson-It was still closed. I remember remarking aloud, 'Daddy were four of us, and we couldn't fail "You are a wizard," said Daddy Jacques must surely have opened it

> and before going out he had opened it? able. You returned to the laboratory at 6 o'clock and resumed work?

"Mlle. Stangerson-Yes, monsieur. "Q. And you did not leave the laboratory from that hour up to the moment when you entered your chamber? "M. Stangerson-Neither my daughter nor I, monsieur. We were engaged on work that was pressing, and we

thing else on that account. "Q. Did you dine in the laboratory? A. For that reason.

there.

that you would dine there that even- reproduce almost textually the quesing? "M. Stangerson-Good heavens! I

think not. It was only when we re- ing employed as the secretary of my turned to the pavilion at 6 o'clock that young friend and acted as if he could we decided, my daughter and I, to dine refuse him nothing-nay, more, as if room. He says that the murderer there. At that moment I was spoken under a compulsion to do so. to by my gamekeeper, who detained me a moment to ask me to accompany him on an urgent tour of inspection in istrate. The circumstance of the dina part of the woods which I had de ner in the laboratory also seemed to cided to thin. I put this off until the "Has Frederic Larsan found out the next day and begged him as he was and he had it repeated to him three errand, and I rejoined my daughter, dine in the laboratory and how he had who was already at work.

"Q. At what hour, mademoiselle, did you go to your chamber while your "The examination has not advanced And rapidly be drew from his waist- father continued to work there? A. At the problem much."

> yellow room in the course of the even- Rouletabille thoughtfully. ing? A. To shut the blinds and light the night light. "Q. He saw nothing suspicious? A.

He would have told us if he had seen. Daddy Jacques is an honest man and greatly attached to me. "Q. You affirm, M. Stangerson, that

Daddy Jacques remained with you all the time you were in the laboratory? "M. Stangerson-I am sure of it. I have no doubt of that. "Q. When you entered your cham- trees to the right of us, said:

cautions, knowing that your father of the same sort between the great

M. Darzae uttered a muttered excuse to as and set off running toward the chateau, the man running after by the ble holds. The ble holds are the control of the chateau to the man running after by the ble holds are the control of the control of the chateau to the man running after by the ble holds are the control of the chateau to the c the chateau, the man running after ing to his bed. And, in fact, I did pointing to the path which ran quite

"Let's go to the clusteau." And he drew me with him. But at the cha-

d been made with link en white
Well, neither in the inheratory of those fellows who think they can on the wall. The man dried his hand she was being murdered—when she selle, without too much fatiguing of those fellows who think they can on the wall. He must be a man about cried out for help?" walled Daddy

"Question. Are you also, made his hand she was being murdered—when she selle, without too much fatiguing year I have generally returned to my wall, marks which we will examine I would not quit the pavilion before make one stride to find himself in tell you all I know. When I entered his works on the Dissociation of Matopen by Daddy Jacques. The man "The Bete du Bon Dieu," muttered my chamber I did not notice anything ter for the academy. I did not wish drew himself up by his hands and enthat that important work, which was tered the vestibule." to have been finished in the course of "After all it is very possible." I said. a few days, should be delayed by a "If I did not reason as I do in rechange in our daily habit. You can gard to this gravel," Rouletabille went you did that day if it is not asking well understand that I did not wish to on, "I should have to assume a balspeak of my childish fears to my fa- loon. So don't say a thing is possible ther, nor did I say anything to Daddy when it could not be otherwise. We Jacques, who, I knew, would not have know now how the man entered by been able to hold his tongue. Know- the window, and we also know the ception given by the president of the ing that he had a revolver in his room, moment at which he entered—during I took advantage of his absence and the 5 o'clock walk of the professor borrowed it, placing it in the drawer and his daughter. The fact of the

"Q. You know of no enemies you come to clean up the yellow room, in

"Q. You understand, mademoiselle, park, as we were accustomed to do, that these precautions are calculated walk at half past 1 permits us to afto cause surprise?

"M. Stangerson-Evidently, my child "A. No. because I have told you that

happened. A. I do not know whether I said, "but why did he shut the winhad been long asleep, but suddenly I dow? It was an act which would necawoke and uttered a loud cry.

"M. Stangerson-Yes, a horrible cry, who had left it open." 'Murder.' It still rings in my ears. man was in my chamber. He sprang "But if he did shut the window it was at me and tried to strangle me. I because of the bend in the gravel path was nearly stifled when suddenly I a dozen yards from the pavilion and was able to reach the drawer of my on account of the three oaks that are self. Here, too, are the marks of his "Of course the magistrate has taken doubt, that the murderer got into the night table and grasp the revolver growing at that spot." which I had placed in it. At that moment the man had forced me to the M. Darzac, who had followed us and foot of my bed and brandished over listened with almost breathless attenchief or the cap, yet I can tell you of the vestibule, but none has been my head a sort of mace. But I had tion to all that Rouletabille had said. fired. He immediately struck a terri- "I'll explain all to you later on, m

> tell it, and I know nothing more. to how the assassin could escape from | is justified." your chamber? A. None whatever. I know nothing more. One does not "You will never know if it does not

> when one is unconscious. "Q. Was the man you saw tall or long as it continues to be only a hyshort, little or big? A. I saw only a pothesis. shadow which appeared to me formid-

> "Q. You cannot give us any indication? A. I know nothing more, mon- the murderer is. But don't be afraid, sieur, than that a man threw himself M. Hobert Darzac. I shall know." upon me and that I fired at him. I

> know nothing more." Here the interrogation of Mile. Stan- ed that Rouletabille's confident assergerson concluded.

Routetabille waited patiently for M. lost not a moment, neglecting every- Robert Darzac, who soon appeared. From a room near the chamber of him? My young friend seemed to Mile. Stangerson he had heard the in- have received the same impression, terrogatory and now came to recount, for he said bluntly: "Q. Are you accustomed to dine in It to my friend with great exactitude, the laboratory? A. We rarely dine aided by an excellent memory. His find out who the murderer was?" docility still surprised me. Thanks "Q. Could the murderer have known to hasty pencil notes, he was able to

tions and the answers given. "I believe you," said Rouletabille It looked as if M. Darzac were be-

The fact of the closed window struck interest him in the highest degree,

times. He also wanted to be sure that ome to know it. When M. Darzac had finished I said,

'It has put it back," said M. Darzac.

"It has thrown light upon it," said

CHAPTER IX.

Reporter and Detective.

OULETABILLE, Darzae and I went back toward the pavillon. At some distance from the building the reporter made us stop and, pointing to a small clump of

"That's where the murderer came

Rouletabilite literally passed his nose and hands along the walls, constructed of solid brickwork. When he had finished with the walls and passed his agile fingers over every portion of the agile fingers over every portion of the yellow paper covering them he reached.

"Let's go to the chateau." And he drew me with bim. But at the chateau a gendaruse placed in the vestibule dealed as admission up the stair case of the first floor. We were obliged to wait downstairs.

This is what passed in the chamber of the partial placed in the chamber of solid brickwork. When he had finished with the walls and passed his term a gendaruse placed in the vestibule dealed as admission up the stair that you had done so? A. That is true. I did not wish to alarm anybody, the more because my fears might have proved to have been founded.

This is what passed his nose drew me with bim. But at the chamber of solid brickwork. When he had finished with the walls and passed his term a gendaruse placed in the vestibule dealed as admission up the stair that you had done so? A. That is true. I did not wish to alarm anybody, the more because my fears might have proved to have been founded on the partial placed in the vestibule dealed as admission up the stair anybody. The man didn't have wings to the partial placed in the chamber of the partial placed in the part "Q. What was it you feared? A. I left no impression of his trend. The to the ceiling, which he was able to to the ceiling, which he was able to touch by mounting on a chair placed below.

This is what passed in the was it you reaved. At hardly know how to tell you. For gravel has, in fact, been trodden by several nights I seemed to hear, both several nights I seemed to hear, both any other feet, since the path is the nark. to the ceiling, which he was able to touch by mounting on a chair placed of the victim while we were waiting on the tollet table, and by moving this ingeniously constructed stage from place to place he examined every foot of it. When he had finished his scrutiny of the ceiling, where he had finished his scrutiny of the ceiling, where he had finished his scrutiny of the ceiling, where he had finished his scrutiny of the ceiling, where he had finished his scrutiny of the ceiling, where he had finished his scrutiny of the ceiling, where he had finished his scrutiny of the ceiling, where he had finished his scrutiny of the ceiling, where he had finished his scrutiny of the ceiling. Where he had finished his scrutiny of the ceiling are larger to the ceiling of the victim while we were waiting below.

The family doctor, finding that Mile. Stangerson was much better, but fearing a relapse which would no longer permit of her being questioned, had the cracking of branches. The night flourish in the rough season—laurels the control of the park and out of the park, around the park and out of the park. Stangerson was much better, but fear, but are taken to the park and out of the park and out of the park and out of the park around the Reuletabille next examined the fur
"He didn't open it at all." Daddy

"He didn't open it at all." Daddy

Jacques again exclaimed. "We are not

considered and her father were takened and the bole made by

Jacques again exclaimed. "We are not

down, through which, he declared, no

see I stood for a moment before my

were solid and intact. At last he gave

The didn't open it at all." Daddy

amining magistrate of this, who de
cided to proceed immediately with a

before the attack on me, when I did

a sufficient hiding place until it was

time for him to make his way to the

we burst open the door."

We are not

considered the bole made by

the second bullet, he approached the

window and once more examination. At this examina
tion the registrar, M. Stangerson and

the didn't open it at all." Daddy

and fuchsias—it offered the father on the graph of the second bullet, he approached the

window, and I felt sure I saw shad
to thought it his duty to inform the car

amining magistrate of this, who de
cided to proceed immediately with a

before the attack on me, when I did

amining magistrate of this, who de
cided to proceed immediately with a

before the attack on me, when I did

a sufficient hiding place until it was

time for him to make his way to the

too the registrar, M. Stangerson and

the didn't open it at all."

At last he gave

window, and I felt sure I saw shad
the didn't open it at all."

At last he gave

window, and I felt sure I saw shad
to the didn't open it at all."

At last he gave

window, and I felt sure I saw shad
to the didn't open it at all."

At last he gave

window, and I felt sure I saw shad
to the didn't open it at all."

At last he gave

and fuchsias—it offered the bole made by

and fuchsias—it offered in the form

and fuchsias—it offered in the form

and fuchsias—it offered in the "What a queer hand! Look what a queer hand it is." I said.
"It is a very natural hand," said "Now I am at ease."

Iton bars and blinds, all of which were solid and intact. At last he gave a grunt of satisfaction and declared, "Now I am at ease."

Iton bars and blinds, all of which were solid and intact. At last he gave a grunt of satisfaction and declared, "Now I am at ease."

Window, and I test sure I saw window, and I te became clouded, and I lost sight of up to the windows of the pavillen. The apartment in the chateau for the win- presently and which I have already ter, but this year I said to myself that seen, prove that he only needed to my father had finished the resume of front of the vestibule window, left

presence of the chambermaid, who had the laboratory when M. Stangerson and his daughter returned from their firm that at half past 1 the murderer was not in the chamber under the bed unless he was in collusion with the chambermaid. What do you say, M.

Darzae? "Young fellow, you are giving your- But the Bete du Bon Dieu does not low room to give her some slight or- told me of that. This misfortune would he was sure of the chambermald's fidelity and that she was a thorough-

ly honest and devoted servant. fetch his daughter's hat.'

"There is that also," said Rouleta-"That the man entered by the win-"Q. Then, mademoiselle, tell us what dow at the time you say, I admit." I

essarily draw the attention of those "It may be the window was not shut "Q. You uttered a loud cry? A. A at once," replied the young reporter.

"What do you mean by that?" asked

ble blow at my head. All that, mon- sleur, when I think the moment to be sieur, passed more rapidly than I can ripe for doing so. But I don't think I have anything of more importance "Q. Nothing? Have you no idea as to say on this affair if my hypothesis

"And what is your hypothesis?" know what is passing around one turn out to be the truth. It is of much too grave a nature to speak of it so

> "Have you at least some idea as to who the tourderer is?"

"No, monsieur, I don't know who I could not but observe that M. Darzac was deeply moved, and I suspecttion was not pleasing to him. Why, I asked myself, if he was really afraid that the murderer should be discovered, was he helping the reporter to find

"M. Darzac, don't you want me to "Oh, I should like to kill him with my own hand!" cried Mile. Stangerson's flance, with a vehemence that amazed me.

gravely. "But you have not answered my question.' We were passing by the thicket of which the young reporter had spoken to us a minute before. I entered it the reporter as it had struck the mag- and pointed out evident traces of a man who had been hidden there. Rouletabille once more was right.

> with a thing of flesh and blood, who uses the same means that we do. It'll all come out on those lines." Having said this, he asked me for the paper pattern of the footprint which he had given me to take care of and applied it to a very clear foot-

"Yes, yes," he said, "We have to do

mark behind the thicket. "Aha!" he sald, rising. I thought he was now going to trace back the track of the murderer's footmarks to the vestibule window, but he led us instead far to the left, saying that it was useless ferreting in the mud and that he was sure now of the

road taken by the murderer. "He went along the wall to the hedge and dry ditch, over which he jumped. See, just in front of the little path leading to the lake, that was his nearest way to get out."

"How do you know he went to the lake?"

"Because Frederic Larsan has not quitted the borders of it since this morning. There must be some important marks there."

(Contineud Next week.)