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A STUDY IN SCARLET.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

PART I.

Being a reprint from the reminiscences of John H. Watson, M. D., late of the army medical department.

CHAPTER I.

In the year 1878 I took my degree of Doctor of Medicine of the University of London and proceeded to Netley to go through the course prescribed for surgeons in the army.

Having completed my studies there, I was duly attached to the Fifth Northumberland Fusiliers as assistant surgeon. The regiment was stationed in India at the time, and before I could join it the second Afghan war had broken out.

On landing at Bombay I learned that my corps had advanced through the passes and was already deep in the enemy's country.

I followed, however, with many other officers who were in the same situation as myself, and succeeded in reaching Candahar in safety, where I found my regiment, and at once entered upon my new duties.

The campaign brought honors and promotion to many, but for me it had nothing but disaster and misfortune. I was removed from my brigade and attached to the Berkshires, with whom I served at the fatal battle of Maland.

There I was struck on the shoulder by a Jezail bullet, which shattered the bone and grazed the subclavian artery. I should have fallen into the hands of the murderous Ghazis had it not been for the courage and devotion shown by Murray, my orderly, who threw me across a pack horse and succeeded in bringing me safely into the British lines.

Worn with pain and weak from the prolonged hardships which I had undergone, I was removed, with a great train of wounded sufferers, to the base hospital at Peshawar.

Here I rallied, and had already improved so far as to be able to walk about the wards, and even to bask a little on the veranda, when I was struck down by enteric fever, that curse of our Indian possessions.

For months my life was despaired of, and when at last I came to myself and became convalescent, I was so weak and emaciated that a medical board determined that not a day should be lost in sending me back to England.

I was dispatched accordingly in the troopship 'Orontes,' and landed a month later on Portsmouth jetty, with my health irretrievably ruined, but with permission from a paternal government to spend the next nine months in attempting to improve it.

I had neither kith nor kin in England, and was therefore as free as air—or as free as an income of eleven shillings and sixpence a day will permit a man to be.

Under such circumstances I naturally gravitated to London, that great cesspool into which all the loungers and idlers of the empire are irresistibly drained.

There I stayed for some time at a private hotel in the Strand, leading a comfortable, meaningless existence and spending such money as I had considerably more freely than I ought.

So alarming did the state of my finances become, that I soon realized that I must either leave the metropolis and rusticate somewhere in the country or that I must make a complete alteration in my style of living.

Choosing the latter alternative, I began by making up my mind to leave the hotel and take up my quarters in some less pretentious and less expensive domicile.

On the very day that I had come to this conclusion, I was standing at the Criterion bar, when some one tapped me on the shoulder, and, turning round, I recognized young Stamford, who had been a dresser under me at Bart's.

The sight of a friend's face in the great wilderness of London is a pleasant thing, indeed, for a lonely man. In old days Stamford had never been a particular crony of mine, but now I hailed him with enthusiasm, and he, in his turn, appeared to be delighted to see me.

In the exuberance of my joy I asked him to lunch with me at the Holborn, and we started off together in a hansom.

"Whatever have you been doing with yourself, Watson?" he asked, in undisguised wonder, as we rattled through the crowded London streets. "You are as thin as a lath and as brown as a nut."

I gave him a short sketch of my adventures, and had hardly concluded it by the time that we reached our destination.

"Poor devil!" he said, commiseratingly, after he had listened to my misfortunes. "What are you up to now?"

"Looking for lodgings," I answered. "Trying to solve the problem as to whether it is possible to get comfortable rooms at a reasonable price."

"That's a strange thing," remarked my companion; "you are the second man today that has used that expression to me."

"And who was the first," I asked. "A fellow who is working at the chemical laboratory up at the hospital. He was bewitched himself this morning because he could not get some one to go halves with him in some nice rooms which he had found and which were too much for his purse."

"By Jove!" I cried, "if he really wants some to share the rooms and the expense, I am the very man for him. I should prefer having a partner to being alone."

Young Stamford looked rather

strangely at me over his wine glass. "You don't know Sherlock Holmes yet," he said; "perhaps you would not care for him as a constant companion."

"Why, what is there against him?" "Oh, I didn't say there was anything against him. He is a little queer in his ideas—an enthusiast in some branches of science. As far as I know, he is a decent fellow enough."

"A medical student, I suppose?" I said. "No; I have no idea what he intends to go in for. I believe he is well up in anatomy, and he is a first class chemist; but, as far as I know, he has never taken out any systematic medical classes. His studies are very desultory and eccentric, but he has amassed a lot of out-of-the-way knowledge which would astonish his professors."

"Did you ever ask him what he was going in for?" I asked. "No; he is not a man that it is easy to draw out, though he can be communicative enough when the fancy seizes him."

"I should like to meet him," I said. "If I am to lodge with any one, I should prefer a man of studious and quiet habits. I am not strong enough yet to stand much noise or excitement. I had enough of both in Afghanistan to last me for the remainder of my natural existence. How could I meet this friend of yours?"

"He is sure to be at the laboratory. He either avoids the place for weeks or else he works there from morning to night. If you like we shall drive round together after luncheon."

"Certainly," I answered; and the conversation drifted away into other channels.

As we made our way into the hospital after leaving the Holborn Stamford found for me a few more particulars about the gentleman whom I proposed to take as a fellow lodger.

"You mustn't blame me if you don't get on with him," he said; "I know nothing more of him than I have learned from meeting him occasionally in the laboratory. You proposed this arrangement, so you must not hold me responsible."

"If we don't get on it will be easy to part company," I answered. "It seems to me, Stamford," I added, looking hard at my companion, "that you have some reasons for wishing your hands of the matter. Is this fellow's temper so formidable, or what is it. Don't be overly-mouthed about it."

"It is not easy to express the inexpressible," he answered, with a laugh. "Holmes is a little too scientific for my tastes—it approaches to cold bloodedness. I could imagine his giving a friend a little pinch of the latest vegetable alkaloid, not out of malevolence, you understand, but simply out of a spirit of inquiry, in order to have an accurate idea of the effects. To do him justice, I think he would take it himself with the same readiness. He appears to have a passion for exact and definite knowledge."

"Very right, too." "Yes, but it may be pushed to excess. When it comes to beating the subjects in the dissecting rooms with a stick, it is certainly taking rather a bizarre shape."

"Beating the subjects?" "Yes, to verify how far bruises may be produced after death. I saw him at it with my own eyes."

"And yet you say he is not a medical student?" "No. Heaven knows what the objects of his studies are! But here we are, and you must form your own impressions about him."

As he spoke we turned down a narrow lane and passed through a small door, which opened into a wing of the great hospital.

It was familiar ground to me, and I needed no guiding as we ascended the bleak stone staircase and made our way down the long corridor, with its vista of whitewashed walls and dun colored doors. Near the farther end a low arched passage branched away from it and led to the chemical laboratory.

This was a lofty chamber, lined and littered with countless bottles. Broad, low tables were scattered about, which bristled with retorts, test tubes and little Bunsen lamps, with their blue, flickering flames.

There was only one student in the room, who was bending over a distant table absorbed in his work. At the sound of our steps he glanced around and sprang to his feet with a cry of pleasure.

"I've found it! I've found it!" he shouted to my companion, running toward us with a test tube in his hand. "I have found a reagent which is precipitated by haemoglobin, and by nothing else."

Had he discovered a gold mine greater delight could not have shone upon his features.

"Doctor Watson—Mr. Sherlock Holmes," said Stamford, introducing us. "How are you?" he said, cordially, gripping my hand with a strength for which I should hardly have given him credit. "You have been in Afghanistan, I perceive."

"How on earth did you know that," I asked in astonishment. "Never mind," said he, chuckling to himself. "The question now is about haemoglobin. No doubt you see the significance of this discovery of mine?"

"It is interesting, chemically, no doubt," I answered; "but practically—"

"Why, man, it is the most practical medico-legal discovery for years."

EVENTS OF THE DAY

FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD.

A Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in a Condensed Form, Which is Most Likely to Prove of Interest to Our Many Readers.

Cholera is raging in Upper Egypt. At least half of the cases are fatal. The widow of Lord Pauncefote will be granted a much larger pension than is ordinarily given.

A steamship sunk on the Elbe river, Germany, and only 30 of the 185 passengers were saved. Chas Stahl, a former Portland carpenter, was carried out to sea and drowned while bathing at Seaside.

The war department has allotted \$450,000 for the establishment of a great military post at Chickamauga. The transport Sheridan has arrived at San Francisco from Manila with parts of the Thirtieth infantry and third cavalry.

The coalminers' convention at Indianapolis voted against a general strike, but adopted the assessment plan for helping those already out.

Leaves along the Mississippi river near Keokuk, Ia., gave way, flooding many acres in Missouri, Iowa and Illinois. The damage will reach at least \$6,000,000.

Three people were killed by lightning in St. Clair county, Illinois. The coronation of King Edward has been definitely fixed for August 9.

The Chicago freighthandlers are dissatisfied and may go on strike again at any time. Immigration for the fiscal year of 1902 shows an increase of 160,825 over 1901.

Fire at Block Island, R. I., destroyed three hotels and several other small buildings. In a head end collision on a Wisconsin road between two freight trains, both engineers and one fireman were killed.

A drought in Arizona is causing a great loss to cattlemen. Grass has almost entirely dried up. Many horses are being shot to save the water for cattle.

Two Denver women have been caught at San Francisco trying to bring dutiable goods in without paying. It will cost them \$6,784 to get their goods, which is three times the actual value.

Cholera is spreading in the Philippines. Riots in Lima, Peru, resulted in the killing of many persons by the troops. Oil in paying quantities has been discovered in the southern part of California.

Thirty-five miners perished in the Utah-West disaster, at Park City, Utah. Major General Lloyd Wheaton has been retired, having reached the age of 54 years.

The Isla de Luzon, one of the captured Spanish gunboats, has been ordered to San Francisco. China has again appealed to the United States to help her in settling the indemnity troubles.

A French doctor inoculated himself with consumptive cow matter in order to disprove Prof. Koch's theory. John D. Rockefeller offered Smith college, Northampton, Mass., \$100,000 on condition that a like sum be subscribed.

Col. H. H. Williams, of Springfield, O., former postoffice inspector in Cuba, predicts that Cuba will soon apply for annexation, as such action is desired by a majority of the people.

White—You don't like to play poker with Brown, do you? Green—No; to tell the truth, I don't. But why did you think that such was the case? White—Because Brown says he likes to play with you.—Chicago News.

Poker Laws. Lady Lecturer—My dear children, I love all animals. I never under any circumstances hurt one. I even have a family of pet tadpoles. I love them so that I catch flies for them. Small Boy—Please, missus, ain't flies animals?

GUNBOATS IN ACTION.

Naval Engagement Takes Place Off Panama Between Government and Rebel Boats.

Panama, Colombia, July 22.—The insurgent gunboats Padilla and Darien appeared last night between Flenonico and Ottique islands. Governor Salazar thereupon ordered the government gunboats Chuechito and Clapet to put to sea and meet them. Heavy cannonading was heard at 10 A. M. and continued until 4 o'clock this afternoon. It was heaviest at 10 this morning. At 2 o'clock the Darien was seen in tow of the Padilla, and it is believed that she had been hit. The government fleet was handicapped by the absence of the gunboat Boyaca, the keel of which is being repaired, and it is thought probable that this fact was known by the insurgent General Herrera, who decided to attack Panama in order to prevent the government from helping General Berrio's troops at Agua Dulce.

The United States steamer Ranger, which arrived here from Chiriqui, came within the line of fire. During a part of the heavy firing she was back of Flenonico island.

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NEWS OF THE STATE

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF OREGON.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of Importance—A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

A street fair will be held at La Grande this fall. Clackamas county hop growers have sold 32,000 pounds of the 1901 crop at 20 cents per pound.

Marion county farmers anticipate much trouble in getting hands to work in the harvest fields this year. The committees are active in the preparations for the street fair to be held in Baker City in September.

Timber lands in Klamath county are going fast. In the neighborhood of 200 filings have been made already this season. The first free rural mail delivery route in Southern Oregon will be established out of Ashland about the first of September.

A violent wind storm did serious damage in Umatilla county last week. Much fruit was knocked off the trees and some grain blown down. Two howitzers, shells and other relics of the historic Fort Sumter, in Charleston bay, have been secured for the soldiers' monument in Portland.

Real estate valuations are rising rapidly around La Grande. A five-acre fruit farm which was purchased three years ago for \$1,100, has been sold for \$3,250. The Eastern Oregon Medical Association held a meeting at Hot Lake last week. There were 48 of the 65 members present. The next session will be held at La Grande in January, 1903.

The Salem cannery has closed down. Operations may be resumed if the pears and apples are of a good canning quality. The pack this year has been 4,000 cases as against 91,000 last year. Warrants have been issued in payment for the services of members of the Oregon City, Woodburn and Salem militia companies while hunting Merrill and Tracy, the total expense for this purpose being \$700.

A large box and basket factory is to be established at Eugene. Salem hop buyers are closing contracts for the 1902 crops at 20 cents per pound. Two Oregon postoffices were discontinued July 15—Ira, Curry county, and Waldron, Wheeler county.

A blaze at Sheep Rock mine, four miles from Sanger, Eastern Oregon, destroyed the stamp mill, hoist and other buildings. Citizens of Crook county are considering numerous plans of ridding the county of rabbits, which are the worst pest in Eastern Oregon.

Mountain climbers have started on their annual pilgrimage to the top of Hood. One party has already made the ascent. They report much snow and ice still on the side of the peak. The county bridge over Hubbard creek, at Millwood, Douglas county, collapsed while a team with a load of lumber was crossing. The driver was fatally injured and both horses killed.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 64 1/2 @ 65c; valley, 66c; bluestem, 66c. Barley—\$17.50 for old, \$16.50 for new crop. Flour—Best grades, \$3.05 @ 3.60 per barrel; Graham, \$2.95 @ 3.20. Middlings, \$2.50; Bran, \$1.50 per ton; chaff, \$16.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.15 @ 1.20; gray, \$1.05 @ 1.10. Hay—Timothy, \$12 @ 15; clover, \$7.50 @ 10; Oregon wild hay, \$5 @ 6 per ton. Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 75 @ 85c per cwt.; ordinary, 50c per cwt. Growers prices; sweets, \$2.25 @ 2.50 per cwt.; new potatoes, 1c.

Butter—Creamery, 20 @ 21c; dairy 16 @ 18c; store, 15 @ 16c. Eggs—20 @ 22 1/2c for Oregon. Cheese—Full cream, twins, 12 1/2 @ 13c; Young America, 13 1/2 @ 14 1/2c; factory prices, 1 @ 1 1/2c less. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50 @ 4.50; hens, \$4.00 @ 5.50 per dozen, 11 @ 11 1/2c per pound; springs, 11 @ 11 1/2c per pound, \$2.50 @ 4.50 per dozen; ducks, \$2.50 @ 3.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 13 @ 14c, dressed, 15 @ 16c per pound; geese, \$4.00 @ 5.00 per dozen. Mutton—Gross, 2 1/2 @ 3c per pound; dressed, 6c per pound. Hogs—Gross, 6 1/2c; dressed, 7 @ 7 1/2c per pound. Beef—7 @ 8c per pound. Veal—Gross, cows, 3 @ 3 1/2c; steers, 3 1/2 @ 4c; dressed, 7 @ 8c per pound. Hops—16 @ 17c; new crop 17 @ 18c. Wool—Valley, 12 1/2 @ 15; Eastern Oregon, 8 @ 14 1/2c; mohair, 25 @ 26c per pound.

The insurance of the lives of children is forbidden in Montreal. William McGovern made the eighth suicide in Meriden, Conn., in two months. A suicide club is believed to exist. The congregation of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, unanimously adopted a pledge to contribute any part of \$2,000,000 that may be necessary to build an immense auditorium at Boston.

Vienna, July 21.—Count Matsuyama, ex-minister of finance of Japan, who recently returned from a month's visit to the United States, said to the correspondent of the Associated Press: "While I was greatly impressed with the tremendous energy of the Americans and their wonderful commercial development, I fear that the too rapid progress of the United States is likely to experience a serious setback in the near future. The commercial energy of the Americans incomparably surpasses anything in Europe. This is undoubtedly one of the principal causes of the economic progress of the United States. I perceive in many directions where European countries are already affected by American expansion and I think it likely that they will be still more affected in the future. But America's progress has been so exceedingly rapid that I fear some sudden disaster, as, in my opinion, too much business has been done on borrowed capital. This, coupled with the magnitude of the commercial operations common in the United States, will probably lead to a panic at the first untoward circumstance, such as a bad harvest or similar misfortune. While there are many strong banks in the United States, there are also many weak ones, whose failure will render a crash inevitable. I fear that some of these banks are lending too much money to aid business enterprises."

Washington, July 21.—The navy department has announced that the two battleships to be built under the authority of the last naval appropriation bill are to be named the Louisiana and the Connecticut and the two cruisers the Tennessee and the Washington. The battleship to be built at the New York navy yard will be the Connecticut. The battleships will cost \$4,412,000 and the cruisers \$4,659,000 each. The two tugs authorized by the act are to be built one at the Mare Island yard and the other at Boston. Admiral Bowles has prepared an elaborate plan for keeping the accounts in connection with the cost of the Connecticut, in order that when she is finished comparisons may be made between the respective cost of building ships in government and private yards.

Guaymas, Sonora, July 21.—The fire which has been raging here for the past two days has been extinguished, after having destroyed 90 blocks on some of the principal streets of the city. The loss on merchandise and buildings is estimated at \$5,000,000. The burned buildings include the custom house and railroad station. The city is without gas, and the only water to be had is that taken from the river.

Chicago, July 22.—Mystery surrounds the reported disappearance of \$22,183 in cash and two certified checks of \$800 belonging to three prominent bookmakers of the Washington park racetrack from the night vaults of the Masonic Temple Safety Deposit Company. Last night after the end of the racing at Washington park, the three bookmakers, in company, deposited their money in the vaults. Today they found the boxes empty. The vault was scratched from the boxes in places as if they had been tampered with. The men all had separate keys, as did the watchman. Other losses have been reported, but the management of the deposit company believes no robbery has taken place. The police are working on the case. Later in the day, heavy losses were reported by other persons which made the deposits that have disappeared aggregate nearly \$35,000.

Typhoon Kills Twenty. Hong Kong, July 22.—A typhoon of unusual severity has caused considerable damage here and in this vicinity. It is estimated there is 20 fatalities. China Accepts Conditions. Peking, July 22.—The Chinese officials have formally notified the ministers of the powers of their acceptance of conditions of the restoration of Tien Tsin to China.

Gift for Mrs. Steyn. Cape Town, July 19.—The women of Cape Town yesterday presented Mrs. Steyn, wife of the ex-president of the former Orange River colony, with a purse of \$1,000 before she sailed for Europe with her husband. Mr. Steyn was in a pitiable condition from enteric fever. His arms and legs were partially paralyzed, and he was unable to open his eyelids. The censorship over telegrams has been abolished, except in the case of press dispatches.

Animosity Among Beers. New York, July 19.—Some uneasiness is felt in official circles with regard to the situation in South Africa, cables the London correspondent of the Tribune. It is evident the day of complete racial reconciliation in the Transvaal is still far distant. The smoldering animosity between the Boers who joined the Natal scouts toward the end of the year and other burghers is reported to be bursting into flame.

PACE IS TOO RAPID.

Count Matsuyama, of Japan, Looks for Crash in This Country.

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