

A STUDY IN SCARLET.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

CHAPTER V.

Our Advertisement Brings a Visitor.

Our morning's exertions had been too much for my weak health, and I was tired out in the afternoon.

After Holmes' departure for the concert, I lay down upon the sofa and endeavored to get a couple of hours' sleep. It was a useless attempt.

My mind had been so much excited by all that had occurred and the strange fancies and surmises crowd-

Every time that I closed my eyes I saw before me the distorted, baboon-like countenance of the murdered man.

So sinister was the impression which that face produced upon me that I found it difficult to find anything but gratitude for him who had removed its owner from the world.

If ever human features bespoke vice of the most malignant type they were certainly those of Enoch J. Drebber, of Cleveland.

Still, I recognized that justice must be done, and that the depravity of the victim was no condemnation in the eyes of the law.

The more I thought of it the more extraordinary did my companion's hypothesis, that the man had been poisoned, appear.

I remembered how he had sniffed his lips and had no doubt that he had detected something which had given rise to the idea.

Then, again, if not poison, what had caused the death, since there was neither wound nor mark of strangulation?

But, on the other hand, whose blood was that which lay so thickly upon the floor? There were no marks of a struggle, nor had the victim any weapon which he might have wounded an antagonist.

As long as all these questions were untraced I felt that I was upon a very easy matter, either for Holmes or myself.

His quiet, self-confident manner convinced me that he had already formed a theory which explained all the facts, though what it was I could not for an instant conjecture.

He was very late in returning—so late that I knew that the concert could not have detained him all the time. A dinner was on the table before he appeared.

"It was magnificent," he said, as he took his seat. "Do you remember what Darwin says about the power of producing and appreciating it existed among the human race long before the power of speech was arrived at. Perhaps that is why we are so subtly influenced by it. There are vague memories in our souls of those misty centuries when the world was in its childhood."

"That's rather a broad idea," I remarked.

"One's ideas must be as broad as Nature if they are to interpret Nature," he answered. "What's the matter? You're not looking quite yourself. This Briton road affair has upset you."

"To tell the truth, it has," I said. "I ought to be more case-hardened after my Afghan experiences. I saw my own comrades hacked to pieces at Malwand without losing a nerve."

"I can understand. There is a mystery about this which stimulates the imagination; where there is no imagination there is no horror. Have you seen the evening paper?"

"No."

"It gives a fairly good account of the affair. It does not mention the fact that when the man was raised up a woman's wedding ring fell upon the floor. It is just as well it does not."

"Why?"

"Look at this advertisement," he answered. "I had one sent to every paper this morning immediately after burial."

He threw the paper across to me, and I glanced at the place indicated. It was the first advertisement in the "Forum" column.

"In Briton road," it ran, "a plain gold wedding ring, found in the roadway between the White Hart Tavern and Hollard Grove. Apply Dr. Watson, 2113 Baker street, between 8 and 9 this evening."

"Excuse my using your name," he said. "If I used my own some of these dunderheads would recognize it, and would be meddling in the square's toes."

"That is all right," I answered. "But supposing any one applies, I have no ring."

"Oh, yes, you have," said he, handing me one. "This will do very well. It is almost a fac-simile."

"And who do you expect will answer this advertisement?"

"Why, the man in the brown coat—the forid friend with the square's toes. He does not consider himself he will send an accomplice."

"Would he not consider it as too dangerous?"

"Not at all. If my view of the case is correct, and if I have every reason to believe that it is, this man would rather risk anything than lose the ring. According to my notion he dropped it while stopping over at Drebber's body, and did not miss it at the time. After leaving the house he discovered his loss and hurried back, but found the police already in possession, owing to his own folly in leaving the candle burning. He had to pretend to be drunk in order to allay the suspicions which might have been aroused by his appearance at the gate. Now put yourself in that man's place. On thinking the matter over, it must have occurred to him that it was possible that he had lost the ring in the road after leaving the house. What would be do then? He would eagerly look out for the evening papers, in the hope of seeing it among the articles found. His eye, of course, would light upon this. He would be overjoyed. Why should he fear a trap? There would be no reason in his eyes, why the finding of the ring should be connected with the murder. He would come. He will come. You shall see him within an hour."

"And then?" I asked.

"Oh, you can leave me to deal with

him then. Have you any arms?"

"I have my old service revolver and a few cartridges."

"You had better clean it and load it. He will be a desperate man, and though I shall take him unawares it is as well to be ready for anything."

I went to my bedroom and followed his advice. When I returned with the pistol the table had been cleared, and Holmes was engaged in his favorite occupation of arranging upon his violin.

"The plot thickens," he said, as I entered. "I have just had an answer to my American telegram. My view of the case is the correct one."

"And that is?" I asked, eagerly.

"My fiddle would be the better for new strings," he remarked. "Put your pistol in your pocket. When the fellow comes, speak to him in an ordinary way. Leave the rest to me. Don't frighten him by looking at him too hard."

"It is 8 o'clock now," I said, glancing at my watch.

"Yes; he will probably be here in a few minutes. Open the door slightly. That will do. Now put the key on the inside. Thank you! This is a queer old book I picked up at a stall yesterday—'De Jure Inter Gentes'—published in Latin at Leige in the Lowlands in 1642. Charles' head was still firm on his shoulders when this little brown-backed volume was struck off."

"Who is the printer?"

"Phillippe de Croy, whoever he may have been. On the fly-leaf, in very faded ink, is written 'Ex Hbris Gulloni Whyte.' I wonder who William Whyte was? Some pragmatical seventeenth century lawyer, I presume. His writing has a legal twist about it. Here comes our man, I think."

As he spoke there was a sharp ring at the bell. Sherlock Holmes rose softly and moved his chair in the direction of the door.

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EVENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.

Practically all the coronation visitors have left London.

Insurgents are reported to be still making progress in Colombia.

The American Pan company will be a permanent in Portland.

Professor Jenks, the special commissioner, says our trade standing in the Orient is excellent.

The rumor that Archbishop Ireland will be made a cardinal in the near future has been revived.

Five gubernatorial candidates are striving for favor of the Republican state convention of California.

The sultan has issued an imperial order commanding that the demands made by the United States be conceded.

In the naval maneuvers of the Massachusetts coast the attacking squadron was "destroyed" by the defending fleet.

Charles L. Fay has been arrested at Portland and taken to Wisconsin, charged with obtaining money under false pretenses.

Chicago messenger boys are on a strike.

A thousand more Boer prisoners have just sailed from St. Helena to South Africa.

E. H. Harriman, president of the Southern Pacific road, is to be elected president of the Wells Fargo Express company.

Reports from Simla, British India, state that the plague mortality in that country is increasing at the rate of 1,000 weekly.

The Stakberg Zeitung says General Von Goeler, Prussian minister of war, has resigned his post. He was appointed in 1896.

Nine men were killed at Wilmington, Del., by a pulp mill explosion.

The anthracite coal mine operators declare they will not give in or make any concessions.

Five non-union workmen were shot from ambush at Scranton, Pa. No one was fatally hurt.

Secretary of the Treasury Shaw, in a speech at Morrisville, Vt., alleged that he was not opposed to tariff revision in moderation.

Judge Jackson of Parkersburg, W. Va., has released John I. Gehr of Colorado, the last of the miners serving sentences for contempt of court.

Japan will not claim the Midway islands, but will turn them over to the United States. She disclaims any interest further than the protection of Japanese inhabitants.

Vancouver, B. C., is having a sugar war, the beet sugar people of Germany having put sugar on the market in competition with the local refinery, and cut the price nearly half a cent.

Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria has just celebrated his 72d birthday.

Patrick Sharp, a striking miner, was shot and killed at Nesquehoning, Pa.

R. Remington, a prominent society man, suicided at Newport, taking the pistol route.

Gholera continues to spread in Manchuria, China, and isolated cases have been reported in Siberia.

Large numbers of Chinese are arriving in Mexico, and the majority will probably find their way into this country.

The New York Ship Building company has placed an order abroad for 80,000 tons of manufactured iron and steel.

Reports from Victoria, B. C., show that the total salmon catch of the northern canneries for the season was only 145,300 cases.

Two hundred earnest, including carpenters, painters, etc., employes at the Union Pacific shops at Omaha, have gone out on a strike.

W. H. Dillard, wanted by United States officials at San Francisco for issuing 43 fraudulent Chinese certificates, has been caught in Seattle and will be sent below.

An examination is being made into the affairs of the defunct Griffin Lignid Air company of New York, in an effort to locate several hundred thousand dollars worth of stock.

T. S. Sharratts, the treasury expert commissioned to negotiate a tariff treaty with China, reports the same signed.

The run of fall salmon has begun and is very good. The fish caught in Baker Bay are mostly silver-sided of exceptionally fine quality.

Colonel Hemphill, founder of the Atlanta Constitution, is dead.

Arrangements are being made for establishing banks in the Philippines to loan money to farmers, the government to guarantee 3 per cent interest.

Grand Master Fitzpatrick of the Brotherhood of Trainmen has completed his tour of the anthracite coal regions and has addressed the brotherhood on their duties should the roads attempt to haul non-union coal.

TRUST QUESTION UP.

Hot-Tempered Debate in Trans-Mississippi Congress at St. Paul.

St. Paul, Aug. 25.—The trust question was openly precipitated in the Trans-Mississippi congress at the morning session, when William Henry Enslin, of Minneapolis, moved that the address of F. B. Thurber be expunged from the records. Enslin charged that Thurber with coming here as an agent of the trust, and that his address was an effort to get the trust's side of the case before the public at the expense of the congress.

Enslin's motion was warmly supported by the audience. The question was hotly debated for an hour. Thurber was sharply criticized both for his present action and for his connection with the senate trust scandal. Finally the whole matter of trusts was left to the resolutions committee.

Enslin gets the best meeting of the congress.

Practically all the coronation visitors have left London.

Insurgents are reported to be still making progress in Colombia.

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NEWS OF OREGON

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF THE STATE.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of the Past Week—Brief Review of the Growth and Development of Various Industries Throughout Our Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

Hillsboro is to have a public fruit drying plant.

A \$25,000 hotel and bathhouse are to be erected at once at Hot Lake.

Fire at Pendleton, which started in Williams Hickey's paint shop, did damage to the amount of \$2,500.

Officers made a raid on an opium joint at Salem and captured two men and the proprietor. All were fined.

Fred Reese, an 18 year old boy, has been arrested at Salem. He is charged with stealing some clothing in Umatilla county.

The Willamette Valley Land Co. has shipped a large box of grasses, grains and fruits to be exhibited at the Nebraska state fair.

The federal authorities promise to lend all assistance possible to break up the practice of "crimping," which has become such an evil all along the coast.

Rural free delivery service has been ordered established, to begin Oct. 1, at Harrisburg, Linn county. There will be two routes, which will serve a population of 910.

Charles Barclay of Oregon City, who went out last year as fourth officer of the transport Le Baron, has been assigned to the command of the transport Trenton, running between Philippine ports.

A decision of considerable interest has been received at the United States land office at Oregon City in the case of George L. Derrick against Arthur T. Mersin, involving a tract in section 3, township 9 south, range 8 west. The decision knocks out both parties on the ground that the entry conflicts with the Corvallis & Yaquina Bay wagon road grant.

The Rev. J. J. Walter, formerly Methodist bishop of Alaska and recently in the service of the leading Methodist church at Spokane, has been appointed colonization agent of the Great Central railroad, projected between Coos Bay and Salt Lake City. He will at once enter upon his duties, which are to arrange the settlement of colonies along the projected line.

Dallas is considering the question of waterworks.

The Salem fruit cannery has closed for the season.

Albany and Linn county will spend \$1,000 in Eastern advertising.

The Third Presbyterian church of Portland was dedicated Sunday.

Grasshoppers in the vicinity of Woodburn have attacked the hop vines.

La Grande is constructing \$25,000 to \$30,000 worth of business buildings.

Miss Maybelle Douglas has been chosen queen of the Portland Elks' carnival.

Clay Gordon of Milton was arrested at Huntington for drawing a check on himself at his home bank and having it cashed at Pendleton.

The Loewenberg-Going company, of Portland, has paid into the state treasury \$1,239.60 for convict labor for May.

Rev. Philo Fuller Phelps of Salsina, Cal., has accepted a call to the First Presbyterian church of Ashland, and will enter upon his pastorate about Oct. 1.

The remains of Harvey A. Hogue, the well known Oregon pioneer and business man who died at Winthrop Beach, Mass., Friday, will be brought to Portland for burial.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 60¢@61¢; blue-stem, 62¢@63¢; valley, 63¢@64¢.

Barley—Feed, \$1.00 per ton.

Flour—Best grades, \$3.05@3.60 per barrel; graham, \$2.95@3.20.

Millet—Soft, \$2.15@2.17 per ton; middlings, \$21.50; shorts, \$18; chop, \$17.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.00@1.05; gray, 95¢@1.00.

Hay—Timothy, \$11@12; clover, \$7.50@10; Oregon wild hay, \$6@8 per ton.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60¢@70¢ per cental; ordinary, 50¢@75¢ per cental; growers prices; sweets, \$2.00 per cental; new potatoes, 50¢@60¢ for