A DETECTIVE'S LOVE STORY. the value of what is gone.

From New York Weekly. Fanfarelle.

I stared at her in perfect fright, officer." and she was shaking fearfully.

her eyes, almost as if she was only mislaid these things." afraid that I would see them.

able dislike and objection to your you sent for me." account.

do such a thing.

she gave me such a look behind her not submit to it." hand as she turned away! That was She was in a pefect frenzy of rage, "I will remember, madam," I listening at the door, and she heard ment calmed me. ry kheath. I was only joking, as a lady, "madam" I said, "if you people begin to grow warm. of course. I hate her husband al- have been robbed in my house, you I went straight from Mrs. Fancould. Poor creature!" Rose add- for what ever you have lost." husband as to be jealous of a poor laughter. girl like me."

that she really wanted to be kind Panset." to Rose, her giving her such a cost- And then from laughing she took him to her. ly present. But Rose looked went to crying. Violent hysteries She was in despest tears,

tried to be sweet, and she laughed time. I have a soft heart, sir, and missed things. I thought she a great deal, and treated me as if I when she began to erv, I gave in would find out who had them; but, were an equal; but she hates me I saw there was more in it than I instead of that, she sent for you. I tae day all the same. I caught her watch- had at first imagined. not make me think differently. I one you loved?" won't have her bracelets," and she "Yes," she answered, "I have. "I think I had better question any words. I thought I might be not buy." mistaken, and I knew you wanted Well, I thought she meant that ing on." every thing pleasant, so I took whatever was gone, was so valua- "They must suspect something," them and thanked her. But I'll ble to her because of the giver-her I said, as I went out of the room. never wear them. Do what you husband, probably-that money Mr. Blackheath was in my room, like with them, but don't you ask would not replace it. near that woman again."

course of the following week. I So I know she was crying. thought Mrs. Fanfarelle was very "Mrs. Fanfarelle," I said, don't could find." kind, but Rose never went near her cry, don't take on so. I am sure "What do you think about it?"

Fanfarelle gave my cousin the it first? If any one in my house he answered. "I am a pretty good bracelets, she sent for me She has got it you shall have it back reader of character, and I don't was smiling and pleasant as usual, again." but a little pale I fancied, in spite She let her lace handkerchief Mrs. Fanfarelle's rooms that I so of her rogue, and she did not look down from her eyes just far enough should suspect, if, indeed, anything at me, but at a bunch of roses she to say:-

in an officer."

"A thief in my house?"

. . . .

I give you my word, sir, I thought picture is brought back." anew them so well. My cook had "Do you imagine it could have "Don't I know that?" Rose said and took to cooking to please me asked, faintly.

farelle?" I asked, as gently as I Mr. Blackheath was beyond sus- 'You are wise," said Mr. Black-

Well, as I opened the door very endeavor to discover the thief if suspect my own maid than any one quickly, I nearly knocked over Mrs. there is one in my house, and I else. Of course it is some one who

same bunch of roses in her hand, flinging the rest of her roses on the to Corinne." fire, "I beg of you not to be hasty. Corinne was her maid. She put her other hand up before I may be mistaken. I may have

"I was coming," she said, "to your pardon, but you could have gerly. "But then I have confidence apologize to you for my unwarrant- had no doubt on that point when in every one. That is my nature.

cousin. Pray do not send her away She glanced up at me quickly, time. I don't think it could be on my account. I am so full of then down again at the remains of Corinne." whims, and I have been so indulged a rose she was crushing and rolling "My servants have been with me by both my husbands, that I think between her slim, white hands, as a long time, too," I said. "I have other people must humor my fancies it had been a live thing. She implicit confidence in them. I the same. I beg of you not to send seemed to reflect a moment, then, would as soon doubt myself. But away your beautiful cousin on my suddenly rising to her feet, looked what is that? There is a thief in the at me with blazing eyes.

"I had no idea of doing so," I an- "I believe you are a respectable to suspect, neither do you. Clearswered her, quickly. It angered woman," she said, her voice rising ly there is nothing for it but to me that she should think I would every moment, till it was almost a send for a police officer to examine scream, "but some one in your house into things." "She didn't think it," Rose said, is a thief. I have been robbed in "Very well," she said angr'ly, when I went back to her. "Didn't your house, Mrs. Panset, and I will "send for a police officer if you like. you see how white she was? And not submit to it. I tell you I will But be good enough to remember I

not what she came for. She was and, oddly enough, her very excite- said calmly.

ed. softily. "I pity her to be so in She threw herself into her chair prise, the Inspector came himself. love with such a mushroom as her again with a burst of hysterical and Mr. Blackheath with him;

That very evening, while her hus- you for an instant imagine it is the together. band was away, Mrs. Fanfarelle value of things I care for? Oh, no. "There is a mystery about this sent for Rose, and was very kind to It is the idea of having some one business." I heard the Inspector sav her, and she gave her the most ele- about me whom I cannot trust. It to Mr. Blackheath. "This isn't the gant pair of bracelets-blue enamel, would kill me to think I had any first time we have heard that trouwith small gold coins strung thickly one near me who would steal from ble was brewing in this house." along the edge. They were levely, me, or lie to me, or cheat me in any Well, I braced myself, and met I had seen Mrs. Fanfarelle wearing way. It is a terrible thing to be de- the Inspector coolly. them often, and I took it as token ceived by those you love, Mrs. He didn't question me much

I called it.

"She don't like me, Maria. She I was quite sorry for her by this "I only told Mrs. Panset that I had

ing me sidewise more than once, "Mrs. Fanferelle,' I said, "have house." not with a kindly look either. I you lost something you particular- "I-dol" said I. "If there is a tell you, Maria, she don't like me, ly eared for because it was a presthief in my house, man or woman, and fifty pairs of bracelets would ent from some one else-from some I want to root him or her out-and

me to wear them. Pretty as they I went close to her then, and "I don't believe she has lost anyare, I would sooner have snakes on patted the slim, soft, whith hand thing," Rose was saying, in her dismy arms, and I don't want to go that hung, glittering with diamonds, dainful way. "If she has, it is that over the arm of her chair, the other sly-faced maid who has taken it. Well, I southed her all I could, held a lace handkerchief to her eyes, I saw her coming out of my room and coaxed her to promise me she that never cost less than twenty the other day, and she pretended would go if Mrs. Fanfareile sent for guineas, and it was drenched, posi- she had made a mistake. But of her, as she did several times in the tively drenched, sir, with her tears, course she hadn't. She was just

we shall find it. What is it you I asked Mr. Blackheath. Well, about a week ofter Mrs. have lost, and when did you miss "I think as Miss Massy doe",

"Mrs. Panset," she said, "you some time, Mrs. Panset, more with Miss Massy!" have got some one in your house in the past week, but I said noth- Rose curled her lips. who is dishonest. I don't want to ing till this last, cruclest of all. I "She gave me a pair of bracelets. make any trouble; you and I will won't tell you what it is, you dear, Maria has them." look for the theif and you will dis- good woman. Yes, I will, too. It "Nothing else?" Mr. Blackheath charge him, and there will be an is my husband's picture, a lovely asked-"no rings, no pins, no ornaend. I don't want to disgrace you minature in a frame set thick with ment for your hair? and your beautiful house by calling rubies. The rubies were what the "Nothing," Rose said, with a thief wanted, of course. The thief glance at me. "She offered them is welcome to them, provided the to me, but I would not have them.

see I knew every one of my ser- ure like that, set in rubies? Why, I hate her." vants. Part of them had been with it must be worth thousands of dol- "And she hates you," said Mr. my father in his rich days, and I lars! Who could have taken it? Blackheath, impressively.

been my nurse when I was a baby, been any of the other lodgers," I "All her offers of presents could

As for the rest, I could have heath and an old lady-a sweet old them to please my cousin. I would vouched for every one, I thought. thing, with soft white curls around wear snakes on my arms soon r "What have you lost, Mrs. Fan- herface and the loveliest expression. than Mrs. Fanfarelle's bracelets."

could, but I felt like a whirlwind. picion, of course, and so was my heath, with a strange look of relief. "Oh, only trifles," she said, laugh- sweet old lady. But so was every- "I am glad you have taken nothing ing lightly, "some rings that I did body in the house, for that matter, from her." tol care much for, some money, and "How can I tell?" Mrs. Fanfar-

so on; you know I am very care- elle sobbed, with her handkerehief IF YOU WISH A GOOD REVOLVER less, Mrs. Panset. It is only that I to her eyes. "You know I am so think you ought to know there is a careless, Mrs. Panset. I like to be the like to be the less of the less thief in the house, not because of where I can be careless. I don't suspect any one, upon my word. "Mrs. Fanfrrelle," I said, "I will If I did, I'd have more reason to shall not hesitate to send for an has access to my rooms. But then, every one has, for that matter. I she was so pale, and she had the "My good Mrs. Panset," she said, never lock them, I leave everything

> "Have you perfect confidence in Corinne?" I asked.

"Madam," I answered, "I beg "Oh, implicit," she answered ea-Corinne has been with me a long

house, madam. I don't know who

never suggested it."

I could not see why she should me-say I would run away with Mr. "Madam," I said, thankful at be angry; but, as I say, it is my Fart telle if you urged me to mar- that moment that I had been reared nature to grow cool as soon as other

most more than I do the other, shall not suffer for it. The thief farelle to the kitchen. The serv-But that was what made her so shall be found, and shall disgorge ants were having supper there, and white, and she'd murder me if she his gains, or else I will myself pay I sent one of them instantly to the police-station near. To my surthough, as it chanced, it was mere "My good woman," said she, "do accident, their coming into the door

He ask d for Mrs. Fanfarelle, and I

"I never sent for you," the said; don't want to hart any one in this

I will!" threw them on the bed. "I just I hate to be deceived, Mrs Panset, the lady alone. Mrs. Panset," said brought them away with me to save I have lost something money could the Inspector to me. "and don't tell any of the servants what is go

talking with Rose. spying around to see what she

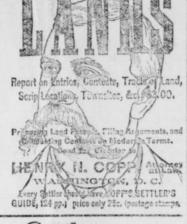
know any one in the house outside AYE is really gone. She has made you was pulling to pieces in her lap. T've been missing things for some presents lately, has she not,

Why should I take presents from I should go through the floor You I stared at her aghast A pict- her? Why should she offer them?

not deceive me. I never too's o e I had but two others, Mr. Black- but the bracelets, and I only took







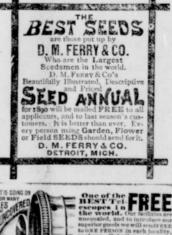


Allen,—and she makes all her wook you said you he has what I haven't."

Mn. Luc. "Woult is that?"

Mns Luc. "Woult is that?"

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