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A MYSTERY

Continued from first page

and directed them to watch every one who had been in any way connected with the murdered man. These persons were continually reporting clues which turned out not to be clues and which they invented for the purpose of remaining in my pay. If Parker had ever had any difficulty with any one he had kept it to himself. That he feared some one was evident from his having called upon me to remain one night at his house and that he had told me there was a story connected with his having done so.

Meanwhile I lived a life of horror. A few of my nearest friends stood by me, but I knew that there were times when some of them shrank from being seen in my company. I could see that I was being pointed out as Thompson, the murderer. What means I possessed were gradually shrinking away under the expense attending my search and the fact that I had given up every other occupation. I became despondent as to ever clearing myself and was thinking of hiding my identity in a foreign land when fate did for me what I could not do for myself. A clew was revealed to me.

One morning the newspapers announced that Judge Morehouse had killed a burglar in self defense in his own house. The evening papers stated that the man killed was not a burglar, but one who had sought the life of the judge through revenge. Years before, Morehouse giving a jury instructions on which they were obliged to convict a criminal accused of defalcation, had sentenced him to a term of ten years

in the penitentiary. The term had expired a few months before, and the criminal had been since looking for an opportunity to carry out a threat he had made to kill the judge whom he considered in part the cause of his conviction.

The next development edged closely upon my case. It was that the criminal had been financial manager of the firm in which Parker was a partner. At this point I saw vindication for me. Plunging into an investigation, I unearthed the fact that Parker had discovered the defalcation. I did not learn that he had taken any especial part in securing the conviction of the defaulter, but I surmised that there might have been something galling in Parker having run him down and exposed him.

A natural theory was that the convict, having been discharged from prison, had first killed Parker, then waited for the murder to blow over before attempting to kill the judge. An important point with me was to compare the date of the convict's discharge with that of Parker's murder. Securing the former record, I found that the murder had occurred the second night after the convict's discharge.

Unfortunately the criminal had been shot dead by the judge, so I could get no confirmation of my theory from him. But my circumstantial evidence was so strong that it was believed by all. Every mail brought me letters of congratulation, and I was restored to favor with all my friends and acquaintances.

In time I carried my theory further to account for Parker having called for me to sleep in his home the night he was killed. Doubtless the convict had threatened him at the time of his defalcation; but Parker had not spoken

of it, or if he had the fact had passed into oblivion. But Parker doubtless remembered the threat and knew the date that the convict would be liberated. This I surmised was the reason he called upon me for companionship, if not for protection.

Antiquity of Fishing.

Probably no branch of industry can lay claim to greater antiquity than that of fishing. Its origin would seem to be coeval with the earliest efforts of human ingenuity, for the oldest monuments of antiquity show the fisherman in full possession of the implements of his calling, and even those tribes of savages which have learned neither to keep flocks nor to till the fields are skilled in the fabrication of the hook, the fish spear and the net. The earliest civilization of the eastern Mediterranean was begun with fishing. Sidon, which means "fishery," was originally a fishing village, and its enterprising inhabitants devoted their attention mainly to the collection of a certain kind of mollusks, from which they prepared the famous tyrian purple, prized more highly for the richness and variety of its hues than any other dye known to the ancients.

Women Author's Pen Names.

Among the noted women authors who wrote under pen names are the following: Mrs. Mary Ann Evans Cross as George Elliot, Baroness Dudevant as George Sand, Klara Mundt as Louise Muhlbach, Mrs. Craik as Miss Mulock, Charlotte Bronte as Currer Bell, Emily Bronte as Alice Bell, Mrs. Sarah Parton as Fanny Fern, Abigail Hamilton Dodge as Gail Hamilton, Mrs. Lippincott as Grace Greenwood, Mrs. Ter-

hune as Marion Harland, Louise de la Ramee as Ouida, Sarah Smith as Hesba Stretton, Susan Warner as Elizabeth Wetherell, Miss Murfree as Charles Egbert Craddock, Alice French as Octave Thanet, Mrs. Elizabeth Akers Allen as Florence Percy, Laura C. Reddon as Howard Glyndon, Miss Woolsey as Susan Coolidge.

As to Insults.

The quotation "No gentleman would insult me; none other can," is credited to John Quincy Adams, who is said to have made the reply when he was told that a man had spoken to him so rudely that he ought to send a challenge to a duel, and it is said also to have been used by Senator W. H. Seward in a debate growing out of the assault upon Senator Sumner by Preston Brooks in 1856, but it is pointed out that the quotation

A moral, sensible, well bred man Will not affront me, and no other can is to be found in William Cowper's "Conversation."—Boston Globe.

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