

The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton.

(Continued.)

"But, has she empowered you to do my terms?"

"What are your terms?"

"Seven thousand pounds."

"And the alternative?"

"My dear sir, it is painful for me to discuss it, but if the money is not paid



Copyright by Collier's Weekly.

There was something of Mr. Pickwick's benevolence in his appearance.

on the 14th there certainly will be no marriage on the 18th." His insufferable smile was more complacent than ever.

Holmes thought for a little.

"You appear to me," he said at last, "to be taking matters too much for granted. I am, of course, familiar with the contents of these letters. My client will certainly do what I may advise. I shall counsel her to tell her future husband the whole story and to trust to his generosity."

Milverton chuckled.

"You evidently do not know the earl," said he.

From the baffled look upon Holmes' face I could see clearly that he did.

"What harm is there in the letters?" he asked.

"They are sprightly—very sprightly," Milverton answered. "The lady was a charming correspondent. But I can assure you that the Earl of Dovercourt would fail to appreciate them. However, since you think otherwise, we will let it rest at that. It is purely a matter of business. If you think that it is in the best interests of your client that these letters should be placed in the hands of the earl, then you would indeed be foolish to pay so large a sum of money to regain them." He rose and seized his astrakhan coat.

Holmes was gray with anger and mortification.

"Wait a little," he said. "You go too fast. We should certainly make every effort to avoid scandal in no delicate matter."

Milverton relapsed into his chair.

"I was sure that you would see it in that light," he purred.

"At the same time," Holmes continued, "Lady Eva is not a wealthy woman. I assure you that £2,000 would be a drain upon her resources and that the sum you name is utterly beyond her power. I beg, therefore, that you will moderate your demands and that you will return the letters at the price I indicate, which is, I assure you, the highest that you can get."

Milverton's smile broadened and his eyes twinkled humorously.

"I am aware that what you say is true about the lady's resources," said he. "At the same time you must admit that the occasion of a lady's marriage is a very suitable time for her friends and relatives to make some little effort upon her behalf. They may hesitate as to an acceptable wedding present. Let me assure them that this little bundle of letters would give more joy than all the candelabra and butter dishes in London."

"It is impossible," said Holmes.

"Dear me, dear me, how unfortunate!" cried Milverton, taking out a bulky pocketbook. "I cannot help thinking that ladies are ill advised in not making an effort. Look at this!" He held up a little note with a coat of arms upon the envelope. "That belongs to—well, perhaps it is hardly fair to tell the name until tomorrow morning. But at that time it will be in the hands of the lady's husband. And all because she will not find a beggarly sum which she could get by turning her diamonds into paste. It is such a

pity! Now, you remember the sudden end of the engagement between the Honorable Miss Miles and Colonel Dorking? Only two days before the wedding there was a paragraph in the Morning Post to say that it was all off. And why? It is almost incredible, but the absurd sum of £1,200 would have settled the whole question. Is it not pitiful? And here I find you, a man of sense, boggling about terms when your client's future and honor are at stake. You surprise me, Mr. Holmes."

"What I say is true," Holmes answered. "The money cannot be found. Surely it is better for you to take the substantial sum which I offer than to ruin this woman's career, which can profit you in no way."

"There you make a mistake, Mr. Holmes. An exposure would profit me indirectly to a considerable extent. I have eight or ten similar cases maturing. If it was circulated among them that I had made a severe example of the lady Eva, I should find all of them much more open to reason. You see my point?"

Holmes sprang from his chair.

"Get behind him, Watson! Don't let him out! Now, sir, see the contents of that notebook!"

Milverton had glided as quick as a rat to the side of the room and stood with his back against the wall.

"Mr. Holmes, Mr. Holmes," he said, turning the front of his coat and exhibiting the butt of a large revolver, which projected from the inside pocket. "I have been expecting you to do something original. This has been done so often, and what good has ever come from it? I assure you that I am armed to the teeth, and I am perfectly prepared to use my weapons, knowing that the law will support me. Besides, your supposition that I would bring the letters here in a notebook is entirely mistaken. I would do nothing so foolish. And now, gentlemen, I have one or two little interviews this evening, and it is a long drive to Hampstead." He stepped forward, took up his coat, laid his hand on his revolver and turned to the door. I picked up a chair, but Holmes shook his head, and I laid it down again. With a bow, a smile and a twinkle Milverton was out of the room, and a few moments after we heard the slam of the carriage door and the rattle of the wheels as he drove away.

Holmes sat motionless by the fire, his hands buried deep in his trousers pockets, his chin sunk upon his breast, his eyes fixed upon the glowing embers. For half an hour he was silent and still. Then, with the gesture of a man who has taken his decision, he sprang to his feet and passed into his bedroom. A little later a rakish young workman, with a goatee beard and a swagger, lit his clay pipe at the lamp before descending into the street. "I'll be back some time, Watson," said he, and vanished into the night. I understood that he had opened his campaign against Charles Augustus Milverton, but I little dreamed the strange shape which that campaign was destined to take.

For some days Holmes came and went at all hours in this attire, but beyond a remark that his time was spent at Hampstead and that it was not wasted I knew nothing of what he was doing. At last, however, on a wild, tempestuous evening, when the wind screamed and rattled against the windows, he returned from his last expedition, and, having removed his disguise, he sat before the fire and laughed heartily in his silent inward fashion.

"You would not call me a marrying man, Watson?"

"No, indeed!"

"You'll be interested to hear that I'm engaged."

"My dear fellow! I congratulate you!"—

"To Milverton's housemaid!"

"Good heavens, Holmes!"

"I wanted information, Watson."

"Surely you have gone too far."

"It was a most necessary step. I am a plumber, with a rising business, Escoffier by name. I have walked out with her each evening, and I have talked with her. Good heavens, those talks! However, I have got all I wanted. I know Milverton's house as I know the palm of my hand."

"But the girl, Holmes?"

He shrugged his shoulders.

"You can't help it, my dear Watson. You must play your cards as best you can when such a stake is on the table. However, I rejoice to say that I have a hated rival, who will certainly cut me out the instant that my back is turned. What a splendid night it is!"

"You like this weather?"

"It suits my purpose, Watson. I mean to burgle Milverton's house to-night."

I had a catching of the breath and my skin went cold at the words, which were slowly uttered in a tone of concentrated resolution. As a flash of lightning in the night shows up in an instant every detail of a wild landscape, so at one glance I seemed to see every possible result of such an action—the detection, the capture, the honorable career ending in irreparable failure and disgrace, my friend himself lying at the mercy of the odious Milverton.

"For heaven's sake, Holmes, think what you are doing!" I cried.

"My dear fellow, I have given it every consideration. I am never precipi-

(Continued on last page.)

CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

What is CASTORIA

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS

Bears the Signature of

Charles H. Fletcher

The Kind You Have Always Bought In Use For Over 30 Years.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.



THE MOST DELIGHTFUL WAY TO CROSS THE CONTINENT

Through Salt Lake City, Glenwood Springs, Leadville, Pueblo, Colorado Springs and Denver.

A Daylight Ride Through Nature's Art Gallery

Passing Castle Gate, Canyon of The Grande, Tennessee Pass, Marshall Pass and the Royal Gorge

3 TRAINS DAILY BETWEEN OGDEN AND DENVER 3

EQUIPMENT AND SERVICE SECOND TO NONE
SEEK NO FURTHER FOR BETTER CAN'T BE FOUND

For Detailed Information Address
W. C. McBRIDE, General Agent
124 Third Street PORTLAND, OREGON

Look at the descriptions of the land listed with The Examiner this week for sale, and select your piece before it has been sold to some one else. tf

WESTERN STAGE LINE

Office at the Mercantile Company's Store—Lakeview, Oregon.

Good Stock - - - Easy Coaches
Daily from Lakeview to Bly, connecting with Daily Stage to the railroad.

Office at the Bly Hotel, Bly, Oregon.

E. CASEBEER, - - Proprietor
Bly, Oregon.

Administrator's Notice

In the matter of the Estate of JOHN HOLLAND, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed in the County Court of Lake County, Oregon, the final account of his administration of said estate, and that Monday, the second day of October 1905, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M., at the County Judge's office in Lakeview, Oregon, has been appointed by the Court as the time and place for hearing objections to said report and to the settlement of said estate thereon.
F. M. CHRISMAN, Administrator.
Dated August 17th, 1905.

Mining blanks at the Examiner office.

BUY THE
NEW HOME
SEWING MACHINE

Before You Purchase Any Other Write
THE NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE COMPANY
ORANGE, MASS.

Many Sewing Machines are made to sell regardless of quality, but the "New Home" is made to wear. Our guarantee never runs out. We make Sewing Machines to suit all conditions of the trade. The "New Home" stands at the head of all High-grade family sewing machines Sold by authorized dealers only.

FOR SALE BY
The New Home Sewing Machine Co.

Lakeview Cigar Factory . .

A. STORKMAN, Prop.
Maker of.....
Havana and Domestic Cigars
COUNTRY ORDERS SOLICITED
Give us a trial. Store in the brick building next door to Post & King saloon, Lakeview, Oregon.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of *Charles H. Fletcher*
The Kind You Have Always Bought

PATENTS

PROSECUTED AND DEFENDED. Send model, drawing or photo. For expert search and free report. Free advice, how to obtain patents, trade marks, copyrights, etc., IN ALL COUNTRIES. Business direct with Washington saves time, money and often the patent.
Patent and Infringement Practice Exclusively.
Write or come to us at
823 Ninth Street, opp. United States Patent Office, WASHINGTON, D. C.

CASNOW & Co.

Land Notice.

JOHN MULLAN,
Attorney and Counselor at Law.
1310 Connecticut Avenue
Washington, D. C.

All persons who have heretofore made FINAL PROOF in any kind of Land, Mineral or Timber Entries, which has been accepted by the Register or Receiver of any U. S. Land Office, can have the issuance of their U. S. Patent for said Lands promptly attended to by sending me their Duplicate Receipts, or Certificates of Entry, and an agreement to pay me \$10 whenever said Patents shall issue.

JOHN MULLAN,
Oregon, California and Nevada State Agent

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

PATENTS

TRADE MARKS
DESIGNS
COPYRIGHTS & C.

Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Handbook on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the
Scientific American.
A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year; four months, \$1. Sold by all newsdealers.
MUNN & Co. 361 Broadway, New York
Branch Office, 65 F St., Washington, D. C.

\$1,250 Reward.

The Harney County Live Stock Association, of which I am a member, pays \$750 reward for evidence leading to the conviction of parties stealing stock belonging to its members. In addition I offer \$500 reward. Horse brand horse-shoe bar on either or both jaws. Recorded in 3 counties. Range, Harney, Lake and Crook Counties. Horses vented when sold. Horses sold to pass through this section will be reported in this paper. If not so reported, please write or telephone The Times Herald, Main 824, Burns, Oregon. W. W. Brown, Fife, Ore.

FOR SALE.

Five Sheep Ranch in Modoc County
The Examiner has for sale one of the sheep ranches in Modoc county, which controls the best range in California. It consists of 500 acres all under fence. It lies along Pitt river for 2 1/2 miles. Besides other buildings there are two houses 1 1/2 miles apart. It is an ideal sheep ranch. If taken quick it will be sold for \$8000.

SHEEP BRAND.
James Barry Brands with Swallow Fork in right ear for ewes; reverse for wethers. Some ewes Square Crop and Blit in right ear. Tar Brand 111. Range, Crane Lake. Postoffice address, Lakeview, Oregon.
Zac Whitworth Brands with Crop off left ear. Half Undercrop off right for ewes; reverse for wethers. Tar Brand W. Range, Fish Creek. Postoffice address Lakeview, Oregon.

Northern Stage Line.

LAKEVIEW—PAISLEY.
A. W. BRYAN, Proprietor.
Leaves Lakeview at 6 a. m. every day but Sunday. Returning, leaves Paisley at 6:30 a. m. every day but Sunday.
Passengers' are \$3. Round trip \$2.
OFFICE—Reynolds & Wingfield's, Lakeview

