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(Continued.)

The little dried-up man was moving slowly up the aisle. As he neared McCarren, he made a slight gesture of recognition.

"How'do, Doctor Stell? Pretty slim show, ain't it?" the reporter cheerfully flung out at him.

And Mr. J. B. Hewson, with a nod of amicable assent, passed on.

Granice sat dumbfounded. He knew he had not been mistaken—the man who had just passed was the same man whom Allonby had sent to see him;

a physician disguised as a detective.

Allonby, then, had thought him insane, like the others—had regarded his confession as the mauling of a maniac. The discovery froze Granice with horror—he seemed to see the mad-house gaping for him.

"Isn't there a man a good deal like him—a detective named J. B. Hewson?"

But he knew in advance what McCarren's answer would be.

"Hewson! J. B. Hewson? Never heard of him. But that was J. B. Stell fast enough—I guess he can be trusted to know himself, and you saw he answered to his name."

VI.

Some days passed before Granice could obtain a word with the District Attorney; he began to think that Allonby avoided him.

But when they were face to face Allonby's jovial countenance showed no sign of embarrassment. He waved his visitor to a chair, and leaned across his desk with the encouraging smile of a consulting physician.

Granice broke out at once:

"The detective you sent me the other day—"

Allonby raised a deprecating hand.

"—I know; it was Stell the alienist. Why did you do that, Allonby?"

The other's face did not lose its composure.

"Because I looked up your story first—and there's nothing in it."

"Nothing in it?" Granice furiously interposed.

"Absolutely nothing. If there is, why the deuce don't you bring me the proofs? I know you've been talking to Peter Ascham, and to Denver and to that little ferret McCarren of The Explorer. Have any of them been able to make out a case for you? No. Well, what am I to do?"

Granice's lips began to tremble.

"Why did you play me that trick?"

"About Stell? I had to, my dear fellow; it's part of my business. Stell is a detective, if you come to that—every doctor is."

The trembling of Granice's lips increased, communicating itself in a long quiver to his facial muscles. He forced a laugh through his dry throat.

"Well—and what did he detect?"

"In you? Oh, he thinks it's overwork—overwork and too much smoking. If you look in on him some day at his office he'll show you the record of hundreds of cases like yours and advise you what treatment to follow. It's one of the commonest

forms of hallucination. Have a cigar, all the same?"

"But, Allonby, I killed that man."

The District Attorney's large hand, outstretched on his desk, had an almost imperceptible gesture, and a moment later, as if in answer to the call of an electric bell, a clerk looked in from the outer office.

"Sorry, my dear fellow—lots of people waiting. Drop in on Stell some morning," Allonby said, shaking hands.

McCarren had to own himself beaten; there was absolutely no flaw in the alibi. And since his duty to his journal obviously forbade him wasting time on insoluble mysteries, he ceased to frequent Granice, who dropped back into a deeper isolation. For a day or two after his visit to Allonby, he continued to live in dread of Dr. Stell. Why might not Allonby have deceived him as to the alienist's diagnosis? What if he was really being shadowed, not by a police-agent, but by a mad-doctor? To agent, but by a mad-doctor? To terminated to call on Dr. Stell.

The physician received him kindly, and reverted without embarrassment to the conditions of their previous meeting.

"We have to do that occasionally, Mr. Granice; it's one of our methods. And you had given Allonby a fright."

Granice was silent. He would have liked to reaffirm his guilt, to produce the fresh arguments which had occurred to him since his last talk with the physician; but he feared his eagerness might be taken for a symptom of derangement, and he affected to smile away Dr. Stell's allusion.

"You think, then, it's a case of brain-fag—nothing more?"

"Nothing more. And I should advise you to knock off tobacco. You smoke a good deal, don't you?"

He developed his treatment, recommended massage, gymnastics, travel, or any form of diversion that did not—that in short—

Granice interrupted him impatiently.

"Oh, I loathe all that—and I am sick of travelling."

"H'm. Then some larger interest—politics, reform, philanthropy? Something to take you out of yourself."

"Yes, I understand," said Granice wearily.

"Above all, don't lose heart. I see hundreds of cases like yours," the doctor added cheerfully from the threshold.

On the doorstep Granice stood still and laughed. Hundreds of cases like his—the case of a man who had committed a murder, who confessed his guilt, and whom no one would believe! Why, there had never been a case like it in the world. What a good figure Stell would have made in a play; the great alienist who couldn't read a man's mind any better than that!

Granice saw huge comic opportunities in the type.

(To Be Continued.)

INTERESTING ITEMS

Mrs. Helen M. McLean Kimball, a clerk in the office of the comptroller of the currency, said to be the oldest clerk employed by the United States government has just celebrated her 90th birthday. She is the widow of one of the famous New York Zouaves.

Every wise mother should endeavor to win the fullest confidence of her children and to be their friend in the best meaning of the word. She must enter into their amusements, and thoroughly understand the heart of a child, and later she must keep pace with her children's aims and pursuits, says a writer.

Mrs. De Voe, president of the Washington State Suffrage Association, says that the cookbook which has been issued by the suffragists to get money for the cause is a good one, although some of the politicians seem to dispute the fact. She says the suffragists made the book themselves from recipes of the best cooks in the state she points proudly to a chapter on scientific cookery and one on the cooking of infants' food.

A prominent physician said some time ago that he could not begin to fill the demands for women to engage in the occupation of teaching the deaf and dumb the new method of "lip reading." He is a specialist interested in deafness and so knows what he is talking about when he says that women are needed for just such work. Lip reading can be learned in institutions where the deaf are staying and can be pretty well practiced before it is attempted outside, by the women who are to use it professionally. After the necessary term at the deaf institution has passed, the fully equipped teacher can afford to pay her well for her services. It must be understood that talking with the fingers is no longer the progressive way of making one's self understood, and that the motions of the mouth in speaking the words have replaced this old-fashioned method. A consultation with a doctor who is an ear specialist would be of practical value

MR. RUSSELL'S WORK.

Campbellton Graphic.—The relief committee of the Town of Campbellton gratefully acknowledges the splendid work done by David Russell, formerly of St. John, N. B., but now of Montreal. He not only subscribed personally the large sum of \$1,000 for the benefit of Campbellton fire sufferers, but in addition to this amount he obtained the further amount of \$7,000 among his many friends throughout Canada. The work was undertaken by Mr. Russell voluntarily as far as our committee is aware, and the splendid results of his appeal has greatly strengthened our committee's hands in the granting of aid to our unfortunate and needy citizens.

New York, Oct. 18.—A wireless message to the New York Times from Captain Dowd of the Royal Mail Str. Trent says that the Trent picked up Wellman and the crew of the America at five o'clock this morning the airship had been abandoned. The rescue was made in latitude 35-43' longitude 68-18.

to the women about to engage in this work.

A model village, within the 5-cent fare limit, built by women and conducted by them, where the poor may for the same price they now pay for a miserable, unsanitary court dwelling, obtain a concrete home, sunny clean, sanitary, with a bit of garden where they may grow their vegetables and flowers—that is what is to be accomplished by Los Angeles women. The plan, as outlined by the club women and which will be discussed at the coming meeting, when means of financing will be taken up, includes building the houses with space for gardens. It is believed a sufficient sum could be obtained not only to pay for the actual maintenance, but to cover the expenses of a district nurse, whose business it would be to teach the inmates to adopt American methods and live in cleanly, hygienic manner.

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