

MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

Copyrighted by Harper Bros., McClure, Phillips & Co., and published exclusively in this paper by special arrangement with the Canada Newspaper Syndicate.

THE ADVENTURE OF THE BERYL CORONET

"Holmes," said I, as I stood one morning in our low-window, looking down the street, "there is a madman coming along. It seems rather sad that his relatives should allow him to come out alone."

My friend rose lazily from his armchair and stood with his hands in the pockets of his dressing-gown, looking over my shoulder. It was a bright, crisp February morning, and the snow of the day before still lay deep upon the ground, shimmering brightly in the wintry sun. Down the centre of Baker street it had been ploughed into a brown, crumbly band by the traffic, but at either side and on the heaped-up edges of the footpaths it still lay as white as when it fell. The gray pavement had been cleaned and scraped, but was still dangerously slippery, so that there were fewer passengers than usual. Indeed, from the direction of the Metropolitan Station no one was coming save the single gentleman whose eccentric conduct had drawn my attention.

He was a man of about 50, tall, portly and imposing, with a massive, strongly marked face and a commanding figure. He was dressed in a sombre yet rich style in black frock coat, shining hat, neat brown gaiters and well-cut pearl-gray trousers. Yet his actions were in absurd contrast to the dignity of his dress and features, for he was running hard, with occasional little springs such as a weary man gives who is little accustomed to set any tax upon his legs. As he ran he jerked his hands up and down, wagged his head and writhed his face into the most extraordinary contortions.

"What on earth can be the matter with him?" I asked. "He is looking up at the numbers of the houses as if he were counting them."

"I believe that he is coming here," said Holmes, rubbing his hands.

"Here?"

"Yes; I rather think he is coming to consult me professionally. I think that I recognize the symptoms. Ha! Did I not tell you?" As he spoke the man, puffing and blowing, rushed at our door and pulled at our bell until the whole house resounded with the clanging.

A few moments later he was in our room, still puffing, still gasping, but with so fixed a look of grief and despair in his eyes that our smiles were turned in an instant to horror and pity. For a while he could not get his words out, but swayed his body and plucked at his hair like one who has been driven to the extreme limits of his reason. Then, suddenly springing to his feet, he beat his head against the wall with such force that we both rushed upon him and tore him away to the centre of the room. Sherlock Holmes pushed him down into an easy chair, and, sitting beside him, rattled his hand and chatted with him in the easy, soothing tones which he knew so well how to employ.

"You have come to me to tell your story, have you not?" said he. "You are fatigued with your haste. Pray wait until you have recovered yourself and then I shall be most happy to look into any little problem which you may submit to me."

The man sat for a minute or more with a heaving chest, fighting against his emotion. Then he passed his handkerchief over his brow, set his lips tight and turned his face towards us.

"No doubt you think me mad?" said he.

"I see that you have had some great trouble responded Holmes.

"God knows I have!—a trouble which is enough to unseat my reason, so sudden

and so terrible is it. Public disgrace I might have faced, although I am a man whose character is never yet borne a stain. Private affliction also is the lot of every man; but the two coming together and in so frightful a form have been enough to shake my very soul. Besides, it is not I alone. The very noblest in the land may suffer unless some way be found out of this horrible affair."

"Pray compose yourself, sir," said Holmes, "and let me have a clear account of who you are and what it is that has befallen you."

"My name," answered our visitor, "is probably familiar to your ears. I am Alexander Holder, of the banking firm of Holder & Stevenson, of Threadneedle street."

The name was indeed well known to us as belonging to the senior partner in the second largest private banking concern in the city of London. What could have happened to bring one of the foremost citizens of London to this most pitiable pass? We waited, all curiosity, until with another effort, he braced himself to tell his story.

"I feel that time is of value," said he; "that is why I hastened here when the police inspector suggested that I should secure your co-operation. I came to Baker street by the Underground, and hurried from there on foot, for the cabs go slowly through the snow. That is why I was so out of breath, for I am a man who takes very little exercise. I feel better now, and I will put the facts before you as shortly and yet as clearly as I can."

"It is, of course, well known to you that in a successful banking business as much depends upon our being able to find remunerative investments for our funds as upon our increasing our connection and the number of our depositors. One of our most lucrative means of laying out money is in the shape of loans where the security is unimpeachable. We have done a good deal in this direction during the last few years, and there are many noble families to whom we have advanced large sums upon the security of their pictures, libraries or plate."

"Yesterday morning I was seated in my office at the bank when a card was brought to me by one of the clerks. It started when I saw the name, for it was none other than—well, perhaps even to you I had better say no more than that it was a name which is a household word all over the earth—one of the highest, noblest, most exalted names in England. I was overwhelmed by the honor, and attempted, when he entered, to say so, but he plunged at once into business with the air of a man who wishes to hurry quickly through a disagreeable task."

"Mr. Holder," said he, "I have been informed that you are in the habit of advancing money."

"I do so when the security is good," I answered.

"It is absolutely essential to me," said he, "that I should have £50,000 at once. I could, of course, borrow as trifling a sum ten times over from my friends, but I much prefer to make it a matter of business and to carry out that business myself. In my position you can readily understand that it is unwise to place one's self under obligations."

"For how long, may I ask, do you want this sum?" I asked.

"Next Monday I have a large sum due me, and I shall then most certainly reply what you advance, with whatever interest you think it right to charge. But it is very essential to me that the money should be paid at once."

CIRCUIT COURT

Opened Yesterday Afternoon --- The Docket and Jury Lists.

The St. John Circuit Court for September opened its monthly session at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Judge Landry presiding. The following is the docket:

Criminal Cases.

The King vs. Edward and Percy Moore.

Jury Cases—Remanets.

Clarke vs. Cheene, Bustla & Porter.

Ingram vs. Brown, H. A. McKeown.

Jury Cases—New Docket.

Connolly vs. City of St. John, G. V. McInerney.

Non-Jury Cases—New Docket.

Gilbreath vs. City of St. John, G. V. McInerney.

Nelson vs. the Portland Rolling Mills, Morfill & Gerow.

Farloe vs. Troop, Currey & Vincent.

In the case of Connolly vs. the City of St. John Recorder Skinner for the city moved for postponement on the ground of the absence of necessary witnesses. The case was made a remanet and will come up at the next session.

In the criminal case the charge against

A SHORT SESSION

City Council Meeting Yesterday Lasted but Forty Minutes.

The monthly meeting of the common council was held yesterday afternoon. The reports of the various boards were received and adopted practically without discussion or amendment. On a complaint from Ald. Christie the engineer was ordered to inspect a sewer on Main street. A new one will be laid if found necessary. A tender was opened from J. Kline, of Halifax, for granite blocks, and referred to the board of works. The communications were sent to their respective boards. The council adjourned after being in session less than forty minutes.

The mayor occupied the chair and Ald. Hamm, Lewis, McGoldrick, Christie, Tilley, Baxter, Frink, Pickett, Sproul and MacRae were present with the common clerk, Marshall Coughlan, was in attendance. Ald. Holder and Vanwart were prevented from being present by their duties on the grand jury.

Ald. Christie said great inconvenience was being caused to residents off Main street from the overflow from a sewer. The pipe was in places laid on rock, and being of wood had got out of repair. The recent rains had caused the water to stand in places two feet deep and there were threats of legal proceedings if the matter was not at once attended to. He thought the matter was urgent and that a new pipe should be laid. The cost would probably be in the vicinity of \$1,000. He moved that the city engineer be instructed to make an examination, and if satisfied that the work was necessary that it be proceeded with at once.

Ald. Baxter seconded the motion which was carried.

The accounts and report of the treasury board were received and adopted.

The report of the water and sewerage board was adopted. The report of the board of public works was adopted. The final section referred to only one tender having been received for the granite pavement on Water street; it was left for the council to say whether the tender should be opened or returned. On motion the tender was opened. John Kline, of Halifax offered to supply the blocks at \$2.16 per yard or \$65 per 1,000.

Ald. McGoldrick drew attention to the vitrified brick pavement of a firm in Cape Breton, and suggested that the matter should be looked into, as the brick was

cheaper and would be guaranteed by the makers for five years.

Ald. Frink said the Halifax tender was within the director's estimate, and urged that the work should be done this fall.

On motion of Ald. Baxter the matter was referred back to the board of works for further consideration.

The report of the safety board was adopted.

The report of the auditors on the books of the school trustees was received. Communications were referred to their respective departments.

When Grimes dined off calf's head and pluck, he remarked with emotion that the repast did equal honor to the head and heart of the deceased.

"I should be happy to advance it without further parley from my own purse," said I, "were it not that the strain would be rather more than it could bear."

"On the other hand, I am to do it in the name of the firm, then, in justice to my partner, I must insist that, even in your case, every business-like precaution should be taken."

"I should much prefer to have it so," said he, raising up a square black morocco case which he had laid beside his chair. "You have doubtless heard of the Beryl Coronet?"

"One of the most precious public possessions of the crown," said I.

"Precisely." He opened the case, and there, imbedded in soft, flesh-colored velvet, lay the magnificent piece of jewelry which he had named. There are thirty-nine enormous beryls, said he, and the price of the gold chasing is incalculable. The lowest estimate would put the worth of the coronet at double the sum which I have asked. I am prepared to leave it with you as security."

"I took the precious case into my hands and looked in some perplexity from it to my illustrious client."

"You doubt its value?" he asked.

"Not at all. I only doubt—"

"The propriety of my leaving it. You may set your mind at rest about that. I should not dream of doing so were it not absolutely certain that I should be able in four days to reclaim it. It is a pure matter of form. Is the security sufficient?"

"Ample."

"You understand, Mr. Holder, that I am giving you a strong proof of the confidence which I have in you, founded upon all that I have heard of you. I rely upon you not only to be discreet and to refrain from all gossip upon the matter, but, above all, to preserve this coronet with every possible precaution, because I need not say that a great public scandal would be caused if any harm were to befall it. Any injury to it would be almost as serious as its complete loss, for there are no beryls in the world to match these, and it would be impossible to replace them. I leave it with you, however, with every confidence, and I shall call for it in person on Monday morning."

"Seeing that my client was anxious to leave, I said no more; but, calling for my coat, I ordered him to pay over fifty £1,000 notes. When I was alone once more, however, with the precious case lying upon the table in front of me, I could not but think with some misgivings of the immense responsibility which it entailed upon me. There could be no doubt that, as it was a national possession, a horrible scandal would ensue if any misfortune should occur to it. I already regretted having ever consented to take charge of it. However, it was too late to alter the matter now, so I locked it up in my private safe and turned once more to my work."

"The evening came I felt that it would be an impudence to leave so precious a thing in the office behind me. Bankers' safes had been forced before, and why should not mine be? If I now retire would I be in the position which I should find myself in? I determined, therefore, that for the next few days I would always carry the case backward and forward with me, so that it might never be really out of my reach. With this intention I called a cab and drove out to my house at Streatham, carrying the jewel with me. I did not breathe freely until I had taken it upstairs and locked it in the bureau of my dressing room."

"And now a word as to my household. Mr. Holmes, for I wish you to thoroughly understand the situation—My groom and

my page sleep out of the house, and may be set aside altogether. I have three maid servants who have been with me a number of years, and whose absolute reliability is quite above suspicion. Another, Lucy Parr, the second waiting maid, has only been in my service a few months. She came with an excellent character, however, and has always given me satisfaction. She is a very pretty girl, and has attracted admirers who have occasionally hung about the place. That is the only drawback which we have found to her, but we believe her to be a thoroughly good girl in every way."

"So much for the servants. My family itself is so small that it will not take me long to describe it. I am a widower, and have an only son, Arthur. He has been a disappointment. I have no doubt that I am myself to blame. People tell me that I have spoiled him. Very likely I have. When my dear wife died I felt that he was all I had to love. I could not bear to see the smile fade even for a moment from his face. I have never denied him a wish. Perhaps it would have been better for both of us if he had been sterner, but I meant it for the best."

"It was naturally my intention that he should succeed me in my business, but he was not of a business turn. He was wild, wayward, and, to speak the truth, I could not trust him in the handling of large sums of money. When he was young he became a member of an aristocratic club, and there, having charming manners, he was soon the intimate of a number of men with long purses and expensive habits. He learned to play heavily at cards and to squander money on the turf, until he had again and again come to me and implored me to give him an advance upon his allowance, that he might settle his debts of honor. He tried not to say that he was away from the dangerous company which he was keeping, but each time the influence of his friend, Sir George Burwell, was enough to draw him back again."

"And, indeed, I could not wonder that such a man as Sir George Burwell should gain an influence over him, for he has frequently brought him to my house, and I have found myself that I could hardly resist the fascination of his manner. He is older than Arthur, a man of the world to his finger-tips, one who has been everywhere, seen everything, a brilliant talker, and a man of great personal beauty. Yet when I think of him in cold blood, far away from the glamor of his presence, I am convinced from cynical speech, and the look which I have caught in his eyes, that he is one who should be deeply distrusted. So I think, and so, too, thinks my little Mary, who has a woman's quick insight into character."

"And now there is only she to be described. She is my niece; but when my brother died five years ago and left her alone in the world I adopted her, and have looked upon her ever since as my daughter. She is a sunbeam in my house—sweet, loving, beautiful, a wonderful manager and housekeeper, yet as tender and as quiet and gentle as a woman could be. She is my right hand. I do not know what I would do without her. In only one matter has she ever gone against my wishes. Twice my boy has asked her to marry him, for he loves her devotedly, but each time she has refused him. I think that if any one could have drawn him into the right path it would have been she, and that his marriage might have changed his whole life; but now, it is too late—for ever too late!"

(To be Continued.)

my page sleep out of the house, and may be set aside altogether. I have three maid servants who have been with me a number of years, and whose absolute reliability is quite above suspicion. Another, Lucy Parr, the second waiting maid, has only been in my service a few months. She came with an excellent character, however, and has always given me satisfaction. She is a very pretty girl, and has attracted admirers who have occasionally hung about the place. That is the only drawback which we have found to her, but we believe her to be a thoroughly good girl in every way."

"So much for the servants. My family itself is so small that it will not take me long to describe it. I am a widower, and have an only son, Arthur. He has been a disappointment. I have no doubt that I am myself to blame. People tell me that I have spoiled him. Very likely I have. When my dear wife died I felt that he was all I had to love. I could not bear to see the smile fade even for a moment from his face. I have never denied him a wish. Perhaps it would have been better for both of us if he had been sterner, but I meant it for the best."

"It was naturally my intention that he should succeed me in my business, but he was not of a business turn. He was wild, wayward, and, to speak the truth, I could not trust him in the handling of large sums of money. When he was young he became a member of an aristocratic club, and there, having charming manners, he was soon the intimate of a number of men with long purses and expensive habits. He learned to play heavily at cards and to squander money on the turf, until he had again and again come to me and implored me to give him an advance upon his allowance, that he might settle his debts of honor. He tried not to say that he was away from the dangerous company which he was keeping, but each time the influence of his friend, Sir George Burwell, was enough to draw him back again."

"And, indeed, I could not wonder that such a man as Sir George Burwell should gain an influence over him, for he has frequently brought him to my house, and I have found myself that I could hardly resist the fascination of his manner. He is older than Arthur, a man of the world to his finger-tips, one who has been everywhere, seen everything, a brilliant talker, and a man of great personal beauty. Yet when I think of him in cold blood, far away from the glamor of his presence, I am convinced from cynical speech, and the look which I have caught in his eyes, that he is one who should be deeply distrusted. So I think, and so, too, thinks my little Mary, who has a woman's quick insight into character."

"And now there is only she to be described. She is my niece; but when my brother died five years ago and left her alone in the world I adopted her, and have looked upon her ever since as my daughter. She is a sunbeam in my house—sweet, loving, beautiful, a wonderful manager and housekeeper, yet as tender and as quiet and gentle as a woman could be. She is my right hand. I do not know what I would do without her. In only one matter has she ever gone against my wishes. Twice my boy has asked her to marry him, for he loves her devotedly, but each time she has refused him. I think that if any one could have drawn him into the right path it would have been she, and that his marriage might have changed his whole life; but now, it is too late—for ever too late!"

(To be Continued.)



Suppression of the Monasteries. A.D. 1536.

About this time Henry VIII. fell out with the Pope. The first disagreement arose from Henry taking the matter of the divorce of Catherine into his own hands. From that time matters became complicated, until, acting under the advice of Thomas Cromwell, he denied the supremacy of the Pope, and made himself head of the English Church. He then cast his eye on the numerous rich monasteries; within three years they were all suppressed, and the King was enriched by their yearly income of £161,000.

ABBHEY'S

Recommended by the FACULTY

Used by the masses, who, unsolicited, certify to its worth.

Tones the Stomach and Stirs the Liver to healthy action.

Effervescent

Is Nature's Remedy for Tired Fagged-out and Run-down Men

If taken regularly contributes to the Perfect Health, Makes Life Worth Living.

ALL DRUGGISTS.

SALT.

NESTLÉ'S FOOD.



Nestlé's Food protects baby against colic, cholera infantum and the ill-effects of the "second summer." Physicians say that Nestlé's Food Babies are so nourished that Hot Weather can't affect them. Baby's health depends on baby's food. Nestlé's Food means healthy babies. Sample (enough for 8 meals) sent free on request. THE LEECHING, MILES CO., Limited, Montreal.

Advertisers

Get Best Results

—IN—

THE EVENING TIMES



"King Baby Beluga" BABY'S OWN SOAP Pure, Fragrant, Cleansing A Safe Soap for a TENDER Skin A Good Soap for ANY Skin Albert Toilet Soap Co., Mfrs. MONTREAL. There is no other just as good.

THE BANK OF YARMOUTH

Yarmouth, N. S., Sept. 5.—The affairs of the Bank of Yarmouth are being conducted behind closed doors, neither directors, stockholders nor lawyers being willing to say a word. Hector McInnes, barrister, asked the directors to name their attorney and they named Mr. Armstrong. Several transfers of property, owned by stockholders, have recently taken place. It is also rumored the directors are doing the same, but this is not verified.

SCOTT IS PREMIER

Regina, Sept. 5.—(Special)—Lieut.-Governor Forget today dismissed Premier Haultain by calling Walter Scott, M. P., to government house and entrusting him with the premiership of Saskatchewan.