

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1905.

MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

THE ADVENTURE OF THE SPECKLED BAND

On glancing over my notes of the seventy-odd cases in which I have during the last eight years studied the methods of my friend Sherlock Holmes, I find many tragic, some comic, a large number of merely strange, but none commonplace; for, working as he did, rather for the love of his art than for the acquirement of wealth, he refused to associate himself with any investigation which did not tend toward the unusual and the fantastic. Of all these varied cases, however, I cannot recall any which presented more singular features than that which was associated with the well-known Surrey family of the Roylotts of Stoke Moran. The events in question occurred in the early days of my association with Holmes, when we were abiding rooms as bachelors in Baker street. It is possible that I might have placed them upon record before, but a promise of secrecy was made at the time, from which I have only been freed during the last month by the untimely death of the lady to whom the pledge was given. It is, perhaps, as well that I have reasons to know that there are widespread rumors as to the death of Dr. Watson which tend to make the matter even more terrible than the truth.

My dear fellow, I would not miss it for anything. I had no lesser pleasure than in following Holmes in his professional investigations, and in admiring the rapid deductions, as swift as intuitions, and yet always founded on a logical basis, with which he unraveled the problems which were submitted to him. I rapidly threw on my clothes and was ready in a few minutes to accompany my friend down to the sitting room. A lady dressed in black and heavily veiled, who had been sitting in the window, rose as we entered. "Good-morning, madam," said Holmes, cheerily. "My name is Sherlock Holmes. This is my intimate friend and associate, Dr. Watson, before whom you can speak as freely as before myself. Has I am glad to meet Mrs. Hudson, who has the good sense to light the fire. Pray draw up to it, and I shall order you a cup of hot coffee, for I observe that you are shivering."

we were occasionally allowed to pay short visits at this lady's house. Julia went there at Christmas, two years ago and met there a half-pay major of marines, to whom she became engaged. My stepfather learned of the engagement when my sister returned and offered no objection to the marriage; but within a fortnight of the day which had been fixed for the wedding the terrible event occurred which has deprived me of my only companion."

THE CZAR'S LAST WORD

Russia Will Not Make Further Concessions of Questions in Dispute. St. Petersburg, Aug. 22.—1.40 a. m.—The Russian government's final communication to M. Witte, outlining the course that he shall pursue at the re-opening of the peace conference at Portsmouth, are being put into cipher prior to being forwarded to America. With the receipt of St. Petersburg's last message, the brief breathing spell will have ended. St. Petersburg leaves the final word with her representative at Portsmouth. The Associated Press is in a position to state that it will be seen that in a sincere desire to effect a satisfactory settlement the government has gone as far as its extremely vital state interests will permit; that for this reason the government is firmly convinced that in case of failure of the negotiations the responsibility will not rest with Russia. It can be declared that the requirements of the state make concessions on the questions of indemnity and Sakhalin, as those questions were originally presented by the Japanese, impossible. It is certain that in the matter of concessions the four points now in dispute have been considered and studied here in the light of concessions Russia already has granted upon the other eight articles. The foregoing is a brief but accurate outline of the platform upon which Mr. Witte will meet the Japanese plenipotentiaries today. It is believed that the questions of the surrender of the interned ships and the limitation of Russia's naval power in the Far East, will be satisfactorily settled. There remains then, the questions of indemnity and the cession of Sakhalin. The first may be overcome by Russia following Japan's lead in availing the use of the word "indemnity," but consenting to make certain payments to Japan on other scores, the chief being Japan's bill for keeping 100,000 prisoners, which is expected to be very heavy. The sums mentioned as the possible payment on account of these prisoners range from \$50,000,000 to \$150,000,000. Little or nothing is obtainable here regarding the possible disposition of the question of Sakhalin.

KIDNEY TROUBLES

Increasing Among Women, But Sufferers Need Not Despair THE BEST ADVICE IS FREE Of all the diseases known, with which the female organism is afflicted, kidney disease is the most fatal, and statistics show that this disease is on the increase among women. Unless early and correct treatment is applied the patient seldom survives when once the disease is fastened upon her. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is the most efficient treatment for kidney troubles of women, and is the only medicine especially prepared for this purpose. When a woman is troubled with pain or weight in loins, backache, frequent, painful or scalding urination, swelling of limbs or feet, swelling under the eyes, an uneasy, tired feeling in the region of the kidneys or notices a brick-dust sediment in the urine, she should lose no time in commencing treatment with Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, as it may be the means of saving her life. For proof, read what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound did for Mrs. Sawyer. "I cannot express the terrible suffering I had to endure. A derangement of the female organs developed nervous prostration and a serious kidney trouble. The doctor attended me for a year, but I kept getting worse, until I was unable to do anything, and I made up my mind I could not live. I finally decided upon Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound as a last resort, and I am to-day a well and every suffering woman about my case." Mrs. Emma Sawyer, Conway, Ga. Mrs. Pinkham gives free advice to women; address in confidence, Lynn, Mass.



Mrs. Emma Sawyer.

England a moose and disappointed man. "When Dr. Roylott was in India he married my mother, Mrs. Stoner, the young widow of Major-General Stoner, of the Bengal Artillery. My sister Julia and I were twins, and we were only two years old at the time of my mother's remarriage. She had a considerable sum of money—more than £10,000 a year—and this she bequeathed to Dr. Roylott entirely while we resided with him, with a provision that a certain annual sum should be allowed to each of us in the event of our marriage. Shortly after our return to England my mother died—who was killed eight years ago in a railway accident near Crewe. Dr. Roylott then abandoned his attempt to establish himself in practice in London and took us to live with him in the old ancestral home at Stoke Moran. The money which my mother had left was enough for all our wants, and there seemed to be no obstacle to our happiness. "But a terrible change came over my stepfather about this time. Instead of making friends and exchanging visits with our neighbors, who had at first been overjoyed to see a Roylott of Stoke Moran back in the old family seat, he shut himself up in his house and seldom came out, save to indulge in ferocious quarrels with whoever might cross his path. Violence of temper approaching to mania has been hereditary in the men of the family, and in my stepfather's case it had, I believe, been intensified by his long residence in the tropics. A series of disagreeable events took place, two of which ended in the police court, until at last he became the terror of the village, and the folks would fly at his approach, for he is a man of immense strength and absolutely uncontrollable in his anger. "Last week he hunted the local blacksmith over a parapet into a stream, and it was only by paying over all the money which I could gather together that I was able to avert another public exposure. He had no friends at all save the wandering gypsies, and he would give these vagabonds leave to encamp upon the few acres of bramble-covered land which represent the family estate, and would accept in return the hospitality of their tents, wandering away with them sometimes for weeks on end. He has a passion also for Indian animals, which are sent over to him by a correspondent, and he has at this moment a cheetah and a baboon, which wander freely over his grounds and are feared by the villagers almost as much as his master. "You can imagine from what I say that my poor sister Julia and I had no great pleasure in our lives. No servant would stay with us, and for a long time we did all the work of the house. She was but thirty at the time of her death, and yet her hair had already begun to whiten, even as mine has."

(To be continued.)

SMITH'S "Completely Cured Me" BUCHU LITHIA PILLS. SICK KIDNEYS. The bladder, rheumatism, sciatica, and the blood—these are the three great enemies of the human system. They are cured by Smith's Buchu Lithia Pills. Only one box is needed to cure you. W.F. SMITH CO., 125 St. James St., Montreal. To cure Constipation, Stomach Troubles and Biliousness one single box of Smith's Buchu Lithia Pills. Only one box is needed.

THEY ASK TOO MUCH

Tenders for St. John Harbor Dredging Are Thought to Be Excessive—New Ones Asked For. Ottawa, Aug. 21.—(Special)—The tenders received for dredging St. John harbor were regarded as excessive in price. New offers have been invited to be in by September 5. The information contained in the above despatch from Ottawa is thought largely untrue. The new wharf will be available before the winter port season of 1905; that with the new tenders closing on September 5 it will hardly be possible for the contractor, whoever he may be, to commence operations before October 1.

—a bare six weeks before the coming season will open. The business of deciding on the specifications has not yet been completed by the council. The special committee appointed for the purpose of making a recommendation failed to agree on several important details, and decided that the responsibility should be transferred to the general committee. Owing, however, to pressure of water extension business, this committee has never been called together.

AN INFERNAL MACHINE New York, Aug. 21.—Gunsight enough to kill a man, arranged in an infernal machine and disguised as a gift cigar box, was received today by Police Captain Miles O'Reilly. This is the third sent through New York mails in the last four days, the other two being received Friday by Jacob H. Schiff, the banker of H. M. Guggenheims Sons. Master—"I'm sorry I did not see you at church yesterday, Tommas, Tommas—Wed, ye see, it was stook a wet day but I sent the wife, sir."

Piles Dr. Chase's Ointment. To prove to you that Dr. Chase's Ointment is an efficient remedy for hemorrhoids, you need only use it. It is the only one that will cure you. You can use it and you will see that it is the only one that will cure you. Dr. Chase's Ointment.

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