## MY LAST DETECTIVE CASE

It was late when I get heme; but N.
Heilip was still up, which was not usual with him; so, hearing me enter, he invited mo testep into his room. He explained that having had a long map in the evening, he could nothope to ge to sleep, but was quite glad that it had happened so, as he wished to congratulate me on my success. I was astenished at such a remark, and asked him his reason for saying so.

asterished at such a remark, and asked him his reason for saying so.

"Only that everybody was talking about it in the employs to-day," he replied; "at least three or four persons said the Upper Broughten Street mystery was likely to be cleared up. I felt quite provid to hear the way in which they all spoke of my friend Mr. Nickham."

"I don't went to be rule his Hellin."

resetts to in an emmins, so see it i could stace any resemblance to the face and figure I had conjured up in my mind. Twice—although I am almost schamed to confess it—I positively followed what turned out to be vary respectable people, because they looked a little like this man.

locked a little like this man.

One preved to be a Quaker, in a large way of business at the West End; while the other lived at Richmond, and I actually want all the way there with him, merely to find that he was a gentleman of private fertune, who had dwait there for forty years. I merely tall this to show hew ready I was to be impressed by such a story as Jenkins tald ins.

I merely this this we show new ready a was
to be impressed by such a story as Jenkins
beld me.

I have said that I always made a friend
and a · · · of Mrs. Nickham, and never did
I alight are advice without being sorry for
it. New, on this night whee I get home,
late as it was, there was my supper seady to
the minute. She had a weaderful way of
managing in that respect, and she was sitting by the little fire—for the sweenings had
grown chilly new—working as mural. There
had been a small rain falling as I came
had been a small rain falling as I came
had been a small rain falling as I came
had been a small rain falling as I came
had been a small rain falling as I came
had been a small rain falling as I came
had been a small rain falling as I came
had been a small rain falling as I came
had been a small rain more mostable; so
in dealighted, and my ould whisty-and water
in the lighted, and my ould whisty-and water
in the light of the mention whit stops you
ten to any one, or postally about this
list business?"

Let business?"

I bays, my dear," I amene mongh to know ourselves been, without letting all

er importor Y she wenten.
In in the world ! I said.

ot on with her work wey-of course I do have had something have not told

said "No i" to this as energetically as to the other question.

"You are quite certain he knows nothing about it? May yen not have dropped a few words before him, that"—

"Nothing of the kind, Jame. Mr. Hellip has had a great deal too much to say about this business; and what with his jokes and his compliments, I have scarcely been able to be civil to him."

"Well, Dick," said my wife, changing her tone again, "what are yen going to do about your friend Charloy's appel ntment?"

"Well, Dick," said my wile, changing the teen again, "what are yen going to do about your friend Charloy's appel niment?"

This led to a very interesting discussion; the result of which was that we beth agreed I should arrange with Charloy for my attending the meeting of the next right, unknown to the visitor. I thought she had intended to say semething quite different this; but knewing she alwayshed a reasen for what she did, I teck us notice.

I met my friend Charloy at the Troe Gridirens, as appointed, when I told him what I intended to de, and what assistance I wanted frim him. He could not promise all I saked; so I had to go with him to see the principal. I found this was a vary de cent old gentleman, who, when he heard my buniness, was quite willing to assist all he could, until he found I wanted to arrange the asswers which were to be given to the rich and which did not exist. Why, bother it! I thought it was just by doing this that he and his mates got their living. I had to take very high ground, and point out what an awind orime had been committed, and what a responsibility would rest upon his conneince in he relieved to rester me, before he consented. It was but fitted I wanted done, after all; it was only to lead to firther questions on the part of the visitor; and if there was no harm in his inculries, he could not come to any harm in his inculries, he could not come to any harm in his inculries, he could not come to any harm in his inculries, he could not come to any harm in his inculries, he could not come to any harm in his inculries, he could not ocone to any harm in his inculries, he could not ocone to any harm in his inculries, he could not ocone to any harm in his inculries, he could not ocone to any harm through them, that was plain.

I left home a good while before the time into I had put en an old dressing gewn which the principal less to, and a pair or spectales, I den't believe any Lendan prig would have known me. So long as I didn't speak, I might have passed for anybody but myself wit

while, as the only light in my roam was on hind me, I was comparatively in the shade, and ran but little danger of being discovered.

Puscinally at eight elect there came a knock at the streat-deer.

"Here he is I said Charley; and I went to my soch.

"In Nickham," said the principal hurricity science to decoit. I am not at ease in doing so; and I hepe yen will always remember that it is only for the sake of justice and to clear the innocent, I have done as."

There was no time for him to say any more, or fee me to make any promises, for the roam-doer opened and the stranger entered. He beek off his last, and modded with an easy swages, first the seas, then to the other, as if he had known the people for years. He bitter did not bottom me at first, or thought I had not make my street and gamp wonderful; it was my bedger, Hallip I is was any for ill had been as visible me at come is the; and as the carefully recent him as he was to me, my stare and gamp must have belrayed me. For a few seconds I did not hear what he said, although he was talking rathey being rather being rather. I was not assent that I was he was to me, my stare and gamp must have belrayed me. For a few seconds I did not hear what he said, although he was talking rathey being rather being rather being rather the intermediate.

There was no time for the mice and the next best stap to take. I let myself in which my stream of the next best stap to take. I let myself in which my stream to desirous of nesing him before I had made up my mind. The boot thing which have supporting that he are stream or made up my mind. The boot thing which have was not desirous of nesing him before I had me up my mind. The boot thing which have supporting the my supporting that it was the mifor the next provided with an easy supporting that have reached the up my mind. The boot thing which have supported the provided with an easy supporting that the said as supporting the have supported the mind the principal was not desirous of nesing him before I had my principal that

ished at my blindness at not having recog-nised the decorption of the man whem i sized as my bindines at the man whem I saw every day—a description at exact, that I ought behave identified him, as a new saw, if I had met him casually in the street. New I understeed all his artital inquiries, all his interest, and all his assumed geed temper in speaking of the Urper Broughton fittees mystery. He was the barrower! Aha I I saw the whole transaction dearly enough now. This mysterious sum of mency which this accentant could not know, must have been lent upon a bill accepted by this man. The bill was nearly due; Daryett had refuxed to remew—this was preved by an alusion in his book as to what he intended to do with it—Heilip had kill-od him to get peasession of the hill, and so to save himself.
All this flashed through my mind much

to save himself.

All this flashed through my mind much quicker than it can here be read, and then—the first sheek of surprise being over—I was as cool, and had all my wite about me as completely as when I first entered the house. At the same time, I was quite aware—no and better—that it was one thing to feel perists of any fact in our business feel persons or any protein our business—and I never felt more pertain of anything than I did of this—and quite another to have legal proof of it, or to be justified in ap-probanding a man.

probabling a man.

The seance—as I believe it is called—proceeded, Charley on this occasion only presenteding to go into a trance, and in vertex to the questions put to him by Hellip—of course through the principal, to keep up the dainsion—he returned such answers, as arranged with me, as completely staggered my ledges. He did not say anything about a murder, or of Upper Broughton Street; he only wanted to find out semething about a valuable paper which had been lost; but Charley in all his answers referred vaguely, yet unmistakably, to some dreadful crime onarry is all its allows received vagory, yet unmistakably, to some dreadful orime in oranection with the paper, so that Hallip was evidently troubled and clarmed. He in connection with the paper, so that Hallip was evidently troubled and clarmed. He varied his questions, endeavoling to get away from this onlinent subject to get away from this onlinent subject to get away from this onlinent subject to the document was in any way commented with a murder. Hollip feroed a hold lew laugh, but, as I could see from where I set, was forced to moisten his lips before he could reply. "Murder! He, ha! Not at all," he said at last. "The paper was look, I expect, on a recocurse.—I won't trouble you with any more questions, thank you, I had no idea that your power snahled you so go so far back. I am glad, however, that I came. Goodnight gentlemen." Saying this, he hurried off, isating me quite convinced he was the man I wanted; while my companions, as I afterwards found, ware greatly prejudiced against him.

"I have aided you, say," said the principal, "although not with much good-will. Yet the result has been so unfavorable to the man who has just left us, that I feel I was justified in doing se. By means which you do not unfarstand, and would perhaps only ridicale if explained them, I probed the man's mind while he was here, and read his wishes, he not suspecting me. He is a bed man. Whether he has committed the orine you are investigating, or not, I camed say; but in any case, he have o wicked and

orizos you are investigating, or not, I coumot say; but in any case, he har so wicked and crust a heart that "Lower wish to see him again,"

"Speak low, Dlok," she whispered.
"You can't be too careful, for there is no knowing who may be listening at our very keyhole."
"Ah, Jenny, you are right there !" I returned in the same tone; although what makes you suspect anything or anybody, is more than I can understand. Go on."
"You must sit down and listen for a few minutes, Dlok," she continued. "I have found out a great deal while you were away. I can see by your look that you have something to tell me also; but yen had better hear me out, Dlok. You remember my saking you if you had evor teld any one, and especially Mr. Hellip, of your visits to the spiritualist? I Yoll, when I saked you, I was quite certain, from some words he had dropped, that he did know you had been there. He did not mean me to see this, you may be sure, but I saw it at once. And than it at once flashed upon me that here was the very man who had been described to you—the same broad finely face, the same sixed grin. I haswit; yet I did not like to tell my sampletons, capecially at I had found something which I heped might give me a faller clew."

"Found semething!" I repeated. I was tremendously interested in my wife's narra-

\*\* Found semething !" I repeated. I was tremendously interested in my wile's narra-

"Yes, Dick. It was only half a leaf of crumpled note-paper, which I ploked up on the stairs," said Mrs. Nickham: "on it was an address..." Mr. Lavrence Jacobs, Stob-

"Yes, Diok. It was only half a leaf of orumpied nets-paper, which I plaked up on the stairs," said Mrs. Nickham; "on it was an address—"Mr. Lavrance Jacobs, Stobble Streat, Southwark"—

"Excuse the interruptico, my dear?" I excilained; "but I know eld Jacobs. He calls himself a pawnbroker, as he certainly is; but he is also one of the most noterious receivars of stolen goods in Landou, yet so artful, that we have never been able to make anything of him. I beg your purdom, my dear—go on."

"On the back of this paper," continued my wife, "was zorawied: "Dran Vally—This party is all right; the wife hat better go.—Hourino." Now, I knew Hallip's Christian name was Valentine, so the paper was clearly for him; and I was consident that it was advice rappoining getting rid of some of the stoien integerty by means of his wife. It, ef course, occurred to me that this writing would be missed and looked for, and if not found, some unspicion might be enoised, so I copied the writing, and drapped the leaf as usarly as pessible where I halfeund it can the stairs. I was only just in time; for as I kept my eyes and ears spen, I saw Mrs. Hellip come down presentity, look anxienally about, then plak up the paper, and hurry back to her rosem. Mr. Hellip want out also. There was no ome in the house but Anne, so I told har to put the chain up; and having my bonust and cleak ready, I alipped out after Mrs. Hellip. I casily kept her in sight until I saw her half a Berough cominibus, into which she get. I was looking round for a cab, when whe sheuld come up but Long Joe—the coachman, you recollect, Dick, whem you spoke up for in the had half sovereign care?"

I nedded. I remembered the case well secough, Long Jee would have half a berough. Long Jee would have half a twelve-ment to retain, if I had not happened to have knewn something of him; but I did not interrupt my wife.

"Joe, I mays," she went on, "I want to follow have my continued my wife—while I drew a long breath, as people do who are hearing an a citing story.—"she calected on

"Sid; "but I beg your carden, my dear."
"She won't into the pawnbroker's—
database was the name. I followed her, he continued my wife—while I draw a long breath, as people do who are hearing an er cling story—"she entered one of the boxes; I entered the ment, but kept at the bank, determined the ment of the boxes; I entered the ment of the boxes; A young man came up to her; but I heard her may that she must see hit. Jacoba him sell; and then the master came. No one the young man went to another part of the abop. There was a little muttering, and then I heard her may: "Twenty pennins; it is worth fifty." I stepped to the front, and locking buildly out, as thengh I had just owns in, saw that she was handing him a watch, which I recognised from the de suription as the one stelsm from Upper Broughton Street."