



## CHAPTER I.

"An anonymous letter!" I repeated, with a deprecatory smile. "Anonymous letters should be burned and forgotten. Surely you're not bothering about the writer?"

"I wish I could put before you an exact reproduction of Cagney's face as I then saw it; those rugged outlines, the heritage of Scottish ancestry, softened and refined by a brilliant intellectuality; the sturdy chin and square jaw; this heavy underlip meeting the upper in scarcely perceptible curve; the broad, homely nose; the small, but alert gray eyes shining through

When I had finished the reading of them aloud, Cameron, leaning far back in his chair, sat silently thoughtful, his eyes narrowed behind his glasses— but, fixed apparently upon the light behind me. And so, reluctant to interrupt his reverie, I started to read them through again slowly, this time to myself, fixing each sentence indelibly in mind as I proceeded. But he

"More than carefully," he answered. "But you shall see them, if you like. I found no trace of any identifying mark."

Thus far he had made no further mention of the "puzzling happening" which followed the receipt of the first letter, and in the interest provoked by the letters themselves I had foreborne to question him; but now as the words "seventh day honest" fell again under my eye, standing out, as it were, from the rest of the script which lay un-

The man of the party looked at the enthusiast with some suspicion. "Farmer", he said "your dialect strongly reminds me of the stage variety."

The agriculturist grinned. "It's all right, ain't it it?" he asked. "I gawe an actor feller month's board free to teach it to me."

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