

23, GUNNER ROAD, WANDSWORTH 303

behave as they are doing ; they may have lawful business inside the house for all I can tell ; but I'm quite sure none of you chaps have, so, if you take my advice, you'll stop where you are."

The four men found Agnes Capparoni crouching on the floor in the front room upstairs. As Cyril Wentworth would have phrased it, she had been "stopped." The professor did with her as he had done with Johnson, he "unstopped" her. In the adjoining room were Max Quannell and Wentworth's whilom partner, Pietro Capparoni. The miracle-worker worked the same miracles with them—he restored them to their manhood. They were strange meetings, that between the father and the son, and that between the father and the daughter. In the continuity of Capparoni's life there was a breach of years ; like Rip Van Winkle, he had been awake from a lengthy sleep. It was some time before he was brought to anything like a clear understanding of how matters really stood.