from the absolute stillness, down the room, humming a er my breath to keep up nd feeling that I was thorrning my fifty-guinea fee. ly, without any preliminary

he midst of the utter stillloor of my room swung slow-The woman was standing in re, the darkness of the hall I could see at a glance that of broken English at me,

go,' said she, trying hard, to me, to speak calmly; dam,' said I, 'I have not

suddenly threw aside her m somewhat headstrong by

the more ready to engage heart. erhead, and the sound of had been my escape. otsteps were heard upon the he listened for an instant, her hands with a despairing

sly as she had come. -comers were Col. Lysander beard growing out of the his double chin, who was in- jected. me as Mr. Ferguson.

This is only where we ing brightly.

machine and let us know what is jump it.' with it.'
went upstairs together, the view at the further end of the pasfirst, with the lamp, the fat sage, and I saw the lean figure of Col.
r and I behind him. It was Lysander Stark rushing forward with

n set it to rights.'

at once by the swishing among the rosebushes. consisted of a large iron when I came to examine the a crust of metallic de- "Half-dazed I want into the station."

ry at having been tricked

## 'I was admiring your

ast or west I had no idea. For used.'
atter, Reading, and possibly "The instant that I uttered the arge towns, were within that words I regretted the rashness of my

so the place might not be so speech. His face set hard and a bale-after all. Vet it was quite ful light sprang up in his gray eyes. from the absolute stillness, "'Very well, said he, you shall know were in the country. I paced all about the machine, He took a step backward, slammed the little door and turned the key in the lock. I rushed towards it and pulled at the handle, but it was quite secure and did not give in the least to my kicks and 'Hello!' I yelled, 'Hello, Colonel! Let me out.

"And then suddenly I heard in the silence a sound which sent my heart the yellow light from my in my mouth. It was the clank of the levers and the swish of the leaking cyclinder. He had set the engine to ck with fear, and the sight work. The lamp still stood upon the to my own heart. She held floor where I had placed it when exaking finger to warn me to amining the trough. By its light I saw that she shot a few whisp-tof broken English at me, down upon me, slowly, jerkily, but, as dancing back, like those of none knew better than myself with a d horse, into the gloom begrind me to a shapeless pulp. myself screaming, against the door and unconscious?" dragged with my nails at the lock. 1 "They must I should go. I should not implored the Colonel to let me out, but confused memory, too, of having been there is no good for you the remorseless clanking of the levers lifted and conveyed somewhere." drowned my cries. The ceiling was only a foot or two above my head, and with what I came for. I cannot my hand upraised I could feel its hard, leave until I have seen the rough surface. Then it flashed through my mind that the pain of my death would depend very much upon the powent on. 'You can pass sition in which I met it. If I lay on door; no one hinders.' And my face the weight would come upon g that I smiled and shook my spine, and I shuddered to think of that dreadful snap. Easier the other and made a step forward, way, perhaps, and yet, had I the nerve she whispered, shadow wavering down upon from here before it is too Already I was unable to stand erect, when my eye caught something which

brought a gush of hope back to my "I have said that though the floor way. I thought of my fifty and ceiling were of iron, the walls of my wearisome journey, were of wood. As I gave a last hurunpleasant night which ried glance around I saw a thin line before me. Was it all of yellow light between two of the othing? Why should I slink boards, which broadened and broadened out having carried out my as a small panel was pushed backward. and without the payment | For an instant I could hardly believe my due? This woman might that here was indeed a door which ring, therefore, though her I threw myself through, and lay half-shaken me more than I fainting upon the other side. The nfess, I still shook my head panel had closed again behind me, but red my intention of remain-I was. She was about to ments afterwards the clang of the two entreaties when a door slabs of metal, told me how narrow "I was recalled to myself by a frantic

plucking at my wrist, and I found myself lying upon the stone floor of nd vanished as suddenly and narrow corridor, while a woman bent over me and tugged at me with her left nand, while she held a candle in short, thick man with a ner right. It was the same good friend whose warning I had so foolishly re-

"'Come! Come!' she cried, breathmy secretary and man-lessly. They will be here in a moment. the colonel. 'By the way I They will see that you are not there, the impression that I left Ch, do not waste the so-precious hut just now. I fear that time, but come!"

"This time, at least, I did not score."

contrary,' said I, 'I opened her advice, I staggered to my feet and yself because I felt the ran with her along the corridor and a little close.'

down a winding stair. The latter led one of his suspicious looks to another broad passage, and, just as erha's we had better pro- we reached it, we heard the sound of siness, then, said he. Mr. running feet and the shouting of two and I will take you up to see voices, one answering the other, from the floor on which we were and from better put in my hat, I sup- the one beneath. My guide stopped and looked about her like one who is at her wits' end. Then she threw open a door in which led into a bedroom, through the window of which the moon was shin-

ess it. But never mind that. "'It is your only chance,' said she wish you to do is to examine 'It is high, but it may be that you can

inth of an old house, with cor- a lantern in one hand and a weapon passages, narrow winding like a butcher's cleaver in the other and little low doors, the I rushed across the bedroom, flung of which were hollowed out open the window and looked out. How enerations which had crossed quiet and sweet and wholesome the here were no carpets and no garden looked in the moonlight, and it any furniture above the could not be more than thirty feet or, while the plaster was down. I clambered out upon the sill, the walls and the damp but I hesitated to jump until I should ing through in green, un-have heard what passed between my otches. I tried to put on saviour and the ruffian who pursued me rned an air as possible, but If she were ill-used, then at any risk forgotten the warnings of I was determined to go back to her as-even though I disregarded sistance. The thought had hardly I kept a keen eye upon my flashed through my mind before he tnions. Ferguson appeared was at the door, pushing his way past norosed silent man, but I her, but she threw her arms round him

from the little he said that and tried to hold him back.

least a fellow-countryman. "'Fritz! Fritz!' she cried in English sander Stark stopped at last 'remember your promise after the last w door, which he unlocked, time. You said it should not be again a small, square room, in He will be silent! Oh, he will be sil-

hree of us could hardly get ent!'

Ferguson remained out- "'You are mad, Elise!' he shouted Colonel ushered me in. struggling to break away from her. now,' said he, 'actually 'You will be the ruin of us. He hydraulic press, and it seen too much. Let me pass, I say!' He particularly unpleasant dashed her to one side, and, rushing if anyone were to turn it to the window, cut at me with his ling of this chamber is heavy weapon. I had let myself go, end of the descending pis- and was hanging by the hands to the which receive the force sill, when his blow fell. I was conens upon this metal floor, scious of a dull pain, my grip loosensmall lateral columns of ed and I fell into the garden below. de which receive ahe force "I was shaken but not hurt by the transmit and multiply it in fall; so I picked myself up and rushed

which is familiar to you. off among the bushes as hard as I goes readily enough, but could run, for I understood that I was stiffness in the working far from being out of danger yet. Sudit has lost a little of its denly, however, as I ran a deadly dizhave the ziness and sickness came over me. 1 look it over and to show us glanced down at my hand, which was throbbing painfully, and then, for the he lamp from him and I first time saw that my thumb had been machine very thoroughly, cut off and that the blood was pour d a gigantic one and cap- ing from my wound. I endeavored to recising enormous pressure. tie my handkerchief round it, but there seed outside, however, and came a sudden buzzing in my ears, and n the levers which control next moment I fell in a dead faint

here was a slight leakage | "How long I remained unconscious I a regurgitation of water cannot tell. It must have been a very of the side cyclinders. An long time, for the moon had sunk, showed that one of the and a bright morning was breaking bands which was round when I came to myself. My clothes a driving-rod had shrunk were all sodden with dew, and my ite to fill the socket along coat sleeve was drenched with blood rked. This was clearly from my wounded thumb. The smart-the loss of power, and I ing of it recalled in an instant all the it to my companions, who particulars of my night's adventure remarks very carefully and I sprang to my feet with the feeleveral practical questions ing that I might hardly yet be safe hey should proceed to set from my pursuers. But, to my aston en I had made it clear to ishment, when I came to look round ned to the main chamber me, neither house nor garden were to nine and took a good look be seen. I had been lying in an angle isfy my own curiosity. It of the hedge close by the high road, at a glance that the story and just a little lower down was a long 's earth was the merest building, which proved, upon my apfor it would be so absurd proaching it, to be the very station at at so powerful an engine which I had arrived upon the previou designed for so inadequate night. Were it not for the ugly wound The walls were of wood upon my hand, all that had passed

"Half-dazed, I went into the static had stopped and was and asked about the morning train. his to see exactly what it There would be one to Reading in less heard a muttered excia- than an hour. The same porter was German and saw the cadon duty, I found, as had been there of the Colonel looking when I arrived, so I went first to have my wound dressed, and then the doctor was kind enough to bring me along here. I put the case into your hands

ry at having been tricked and shall do exactly what you ad-We both sat in silence for some little time after listening to this extraor-dinary narrative. Then Sherlock Doctor Bill Large dinary narrative. Holmes pulled down from the shelf one of the ponderous commonplace o keep it small is not to books in which he placed his cuttings. or, but use Nerviline in- "Here is an advertisement which will inor ailments, like colds, interest you," said he. "It appeared in cramps, headache and all the papers about a year ago. Lis watch Chain marked H. & A. S. is guaranteed to his: the fame of Nerviline and wide. Good for every
the papers about a year ago. List the papers ago. Li

And where was the place? I should be better able to advise you as the colonel was a cool and desperate the large, but whether north, least or west large that exact purpose was for which it was man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was a cool and desperate man, who was absolutely determined to the colonel was a cool and desperate man, who was a cool and desperate man and the colonel was a cool and desperate man and the colonel was a cool and desperate man and the colonel was a cool and desperate man and the colonel was a cool and desperate man and the colonel was a cool and desperate man and the colonel was a cool and desperate man and the colonel was a cool and desperate man and the colonel was a cool and that nothing should stand in the of his little game, like those out-and-out pirates who will leave no survivor from a captured ship. Well, every mo-ment now is precious, so h you feel equal to it, we shall go down to Scot-land Yard at once as a preliminary to starting for Eyford."

Some three hours or so afterward We were all in the train together, bound from Reading to the little Berkshire village. There were Sherlock Holmes the hydraulic engineer, Inspector Brad. street, of Scotland Yard, a clothes man and myself. Bradstreet had spread an ordinance map of the county out upon the seat and was busy with his compasses drawing a circle with Eyford for its center.

"There you are," said circle is drawn at a radius of ten miles from the village. The place we want must be somewhere near that line. You said ten miles, I think, sir "It was an hour's good drive."
"And you think that they brought

you back all that way when you were "They must have done so. I have a

"What I cannot understand," said I is why they should have spared you when they found you lying fainting in the garden. Perhaps the villain was softened by the woman's entreaties." "I hardly think that likely. I never saw a more inexorable face in my life. "Oh, we shall soon clear up all that," said Bradstreet. "Well, I have drawn my circle, and I only wish I knew at what point upon it the folk that we are in search of are to be found." "I think I could lay my finger on

it," said Holmes, quietly.
"Really, now!" cried cried the inspector you have formed your opinion! ow, we shall see who agrees with you. I say it is south, for the country is more deserted there."

"And I say east," said my patient.
"I am for west," remarked the plain-clothes man. "There are several quiet ittle villages up there.'

"And I am for the north." said I "be ause there are no hills there, and our friend says that he did not notice the carriage go up any."
"Come," cried the inspector, laughing; it's a very pretty diversity of opin-

ion. We have boxed the compass among us. Who do you give your casting vote to?" "You are all wrong. "But we can't all be."

he placed his finger in the center of the circle. "This is where we shall find "But the twelve-mile drive?" gasped Hatherley.

"Oh, yes, you can. This is my point:

"Six out and six back. simpler. You say yourself that the horse was fresh and glossy when you got in. How could it be that if it had one twelve miles over heavy roads? "Indeed, it is a likely ruse enough," observed Bradstreet, thoughtfully. "Of course there can be no doubt as to the nature of this gang."
"None at all," said Holmes. "They

are coiners on a large scale, and have sed the machine to form the amalgam which has taken the place of silver. "We have known for some time that clever gang was at work," said the nspector. "They have been turning out half-crowns by the thousand. We even traced them as far as Reading, but could get no further, for they had covered their traces in a way that showed they were very old hands. But now, thanks to this lucky chance, I think that we have got them all right enough."

But the inspector was mistaken, for those criminals were not destined to fall into the hands of justice. As we rolled into Eyford station we saw gigantic column of smoke which streamed up from behind a small lump of trees in the neighborhood, and like an immense ostrich feather

ever the landscape.
"A house on fire?" asked Bradstreet. as the train steamed off again on its 'Yes, sir!" said the station master.

"When did it break out?"
"I hear that it was during the night, sir, but it has got worse, and he whole place is in a blaze." "Whose house is it?" "Dr. Becher's,"

"Tell me," broke in the engineer, "i Or. Becher a German, very thin, with long, sharp nose?"

The station master laughed heartily, No, sir, Dr. Becher is an Englishman and there isn't a man in the parish who has a better lined waistcoat. But he has a gentleman staying with him, a patient, as I understand, who is a foreigner, and he looks as if a little good Berkshire beef would do him no harm." The station master had not finished his speech before we were all hastening direction of the fire. The road topped a low hill, and there was a great widespread whitewashed building n front of us, spouting fire at every think and window, while in the garde n front three fire engines were vainly striving to keep the flames under.

"That's it!" cried Hatherley, in in ense excitement. "There is the graveilrive, and there are the rose bushes where I lay. That second window is the one that I jumped from."
"Well, at least," said Holmes, "you have had your revenge upon them.

There is no question that it was your oil lamp which, when it was crushed in the press, set fire to the wooden walls, though no doubt they were too excited in the chase after you to observe it at the time. Now, keep your yes open in the crowd for your friends of last night, though I very much fear hat they are a good hundred miles off

And Holmes' fears came to be realzed for from that day to this no word has ever been heard either of the beautiful woman, the sinister German or the morose Englishman. Early that morning a peasant had met a cart conaining several people and some very bulky boxes driving rapidly in the diection of Reading, but there all traces of the fugitives disappeared, and even Holmes' ingenuity failed ever to disover the least clue as to their where-

The firemen had been much perturbd at the strange arrangements which hey had found within, and still more so by discovering a newly severed human thumb upon a window-sill of the second floor. About sunset, howsever, their efforts were at last successful, and they subdued the flames, but not before the roof had fallen in, and he whole place been reduced to such ibsolute ruin that, save some twisted ibsolute ruin that, save some twisted solute ruin that, save some twisted in solution of the machinery which had ost our unfortunate acquaintance so fearly. Large masses of nickel and of in were discovered stored in an outever, their efforts were at last successwhich may have explained the presence f those bulky boxes which have been

lready referred to. How our hydraulic engineer had been conveyed from the garden to the spot where he recovered his senses might

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it not for the soft mold, which told

us a very plain tale. He had evidently

been carried down by two persons, one

the silent Englishman, being less bold

"Well." said our engineer, ruefully.

The London Death Rate.

of their city.-American Medicine.

God moves in a mysterious way

Deep in unfathomable mines

His wonders to perform; He plants his footsteps in the sea, And rides upon the storm.

Of never-failing skill, He treasures up his bright designs

With blessings on your head

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take,

The clouds ye so much dread are big with mercy, and will break

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, But trust him for his grace; Belfind a frowning providence He hides a smiling face.

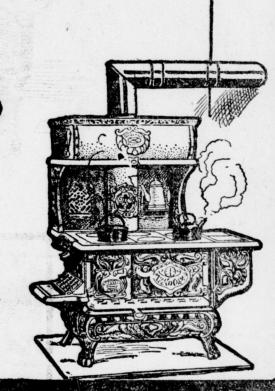
His purposes will ripen fast, Unfolding every hour; The bud may have a bitter taste, But sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err, And scan his work in vain;

Providence.

your existence.'

# M<sup>c</sup>Clary's Pandora Winnipeg



AMASA'S ASSENT of whom had remarkably small feet and the other unusually large ones. On By Leon Morris. 

or less murderous than his companion, had assisted the woman to bear the uned Ned Douglas, despairingly. conscious man out of the way of dan-Amasa Brewer's eyes glistened. That ne had not interfered in Ned's courtship was no sign that he had approved as we took our seats to return once of the match. He had lain awake at business for me! I have lost my thumb night thinking of the pleasure he would experience in saying "No" to and I have lost a fifty-guinea fee, and what have lost a lifty-guinea fee, and what have I gained?"
"Experience," said Holmes, laughing.
"Indirectly it may be of value, you know; you have only to put it into the son of his old enemy.

"Is there no hope, Mr. Brewer?" ask-

An old boundary fence dispute that had been in the courts for years had estranged the two men, and Amasa gave vent to his nearest approach to Brewer had chuckled when he over- profanity. words to gain the reputation of being heard the village gossips wondering excellent company for the remainder of that he should welcome the suit of Joel Douglas' son. It would make his negative the more effective if Ned's ambi- staggering about upon it's hind legs. tions were made patent to the village. "I think there is one chance," he drawled, enjoying the hope that sprang Notwithstanding its size and numerous

congested districts, London must be re- into Ned's eyes. garded as one of the healthiest cities in walks round the pasture on his hind the world. A brief note by Dr. George legs you come and take Jessie." the world. A brief note by Dr. George legs you come and take Jessie." ise that I would not speak to him not not be annual report for 1904. He stepped back into the house and even go where he was," she reminded shows a very satisfactory state of health from the parlor window he watched him "But," he persisted, "where on earth for such a large city. The death rate for the year was 16.6; this, with the exception of 1903, is the lowest on record. The chief his revenge, even though he had vis-

decrease in deaths during the past few decades has been in those from smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria and typhoid fever. There has also been a decrease in mortality from measles and whooping was the comment that followed the sent over to N minded. "Yes," was to the father.

More grateful to his ears than praise the roan colt."

don may well be proud of the standing

tues in one skin.' ject to prolonged periods of melancholy, where Douglas lived. which at times bordered on insanity. It is said that he was possessed of the delusion that he would die by drowning in

Is said that he was possessed of the de-lusion that he would die by drowning in the River Ouse, and that during one of his seasons of clouded intellect and of great depression of spirits, he ordered a cab and directed that he be taken to the

"I know Ned," repeated Simmons,

There was something prophetic in Jack's voice, and when, a few weeks get down from Albany?"

later business called him to the city, "My name is not Brown. I don't he made Jessie solemnly swear that know you," replied Presland.
she would neither speak to Ned nor They got acquainted, however, and even go where he was. Then, with a finally went with a third man into feeling of confidence, he took his de-billiard room and played pool.

home. Jessie met him at the station. Outside another stranger at "Guess you ain't married to Ned and, showing a shield, said "Guess you ain't married to Ned yet," he observed, as he climbed over the wheel and bestowed what he was "No," she said shortly. "I haven't. Get up." And in obedience to the last remark the team started forward. Nothing else was said on the trip home, until, as they drove around a bend in the road the Brewer farm with shortly and showing a shield, said he was a detective, and would have to arrest Fits, Epilepsy, St. Vitus' Dance, or Falling Sickness, write for a trial bottle and valuable detective said he could fix it for \$30, which Presland gave him.

When he realized that he had been buncoed Presland complained to the police and the arrests followed. — New LEIBIG'S FITCURE

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"Ned's been breaking the colt, I guess," was Jessie's cool retort. "Why did you let him?" he demand-"When that roan colt ed, "Why didn't you tell him to stop; e pasture on his hind "You forget that you made me pron

"Do you remember that tramp yo

"Yes," was the puzzled answer: "but I don't see what that's got to do with

mortality from measles and whooping cough, but practically none from epidemic dysentery. Little or no improvement has coccurred in such general diseases as tuberculosis (excepting pulmonary), malignant diseases, nervous diseases and those of the heart and circulatory apparatus. These, with pneumonia and bronchitis, contribute most largely to the mortality. The report also shows that during 1904 the birth rate was 27.9, the lowest on record. It has steadily declined since 1867, the greatest diminution being in those districts which socially are highest in the scale. The marriage rate for the year, 17, was lower, with three exceptions, than it had been since 1855. On the whole, the health officers of London may well be proud of the standing of the sixth to mortality. The report also shows that for the year, 17, was lower, with three exceptions, than it had been since 1855. On the whole, the health officers of London may well be proud of the standing of the sixth to the comment that followed the abrupt stoppage of Ned's visits to the abrupt stoppage of Ned's visits to the Brewer farm, and Ned's rejection was town talk for weeks.

That Jessie went about her work redaction and silent worried Amasa not at all. He was too intensely selfish to care for her grief; he thought only of the sweetnss of his revenge.

Only once did she attempt to argue with a circus, she explained, "training the horses. One of them stepped on his foot, and the circus, she explained, "training the horses. One of them stepped on his foot, and the circus left him behind. He was walking back to the city because he did not want to stay in the horse trainer he hired him to stay on for a while."

"And he taught Ned?"

"No," she laughed, "he taught the horse and then showed Ned the signal he must make when he wanted but here of the city because he did not want to stay on for a while."

"And he taught Ned?"

"And he taught he horse for want has a horse trainer he hired horse, and then showed Ned the horse forward until they were

"This is no hospital," shouted Amasa the horses forward until they we boisterously. "You go over to Ned abreast of the meadow. "Ned," he Douglas. "Tell him Jessie sent you. called, as he reined in. "Jump in here From what she says, he's all the vir- Your pa beat me on that line fence and if you're goin' to do circus tricks, William Cowper (Berkhampstead, Hertfordshire, England, Nov. 26, 1731—East he even went to the gate with the bat- Ned climbed into the wagon, Amasa Dereham, Norfolk, April 25, 1800) was sub-tered traveler to point out the house murmured: "And t' think I sent him that feller myself!"

### An Easy Mark.

nell in Yorkville court the other day,

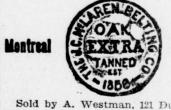
so easily.' Presland told the court that he was conscious of the impression his warning had made upon the little circle, Forty-second street, when a neatily and the speech lingered in Brewer's dressed man grabbed his hand and ex-

claimed: "Why, hello, Brown, when did For a starter the stakes were put

It was ten days before he could get 25 cents a game, and soon raised to \$15. his business transacted, and return When Presland had lost \$120 he left. Outside another stranger approache

# profanity. "Gosh hang!" he gasped. "What's that?" He raised a trembling hand to the meadow, where the roan colt was staggering about upon it's hind legs. "Ned's been breaking the colt."

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