be at St. Saviour's, near King's Cross, and we were to have breakfast after-

had seen him get in with his own eyes. That was last Friday, Mr. Holmes, and

I never have seen or heard anything since then to throw any light upon

"It seems to me that you have been

"Oh, no, sir, He was too good and

"But you have no notion as to what

"One more question. How did your

"She was angry, and said that I was

"Yes; and he seemed to think, with me, that something had happened, and that I should hear of Hosmer again.

As he said, what interest could any one

have in bringing me to the doors of the

church, and then leaving me? Now, if

he had borrowed my money, or if he had married me and got my money settled on him, there might be some

reason; but Hosmer was very inde-

pendent about money, and never would

look at a shilling of mine. And yet,

what could have happened? And why could he not write? Oh, it drives me half-mad to think of! and I can't sleep?

a wink at night." She pulled a little handkerchief out of her muff and be-

"Then what has happened to him?"

Thank you. And your address?"

gan to sob heavily into it.

"I fear not."

which you can spare."

place of business?"

be summoned.

what became of him."

"None."



The Return of @

Sherlock Holmes

VII.-A CASE OF IDENTITY

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

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"And yet I am not convinced of it," I answered. "The cases which come to light in the papers are, as a rule, bald enough and vulgar enough. We have in our police reports realism pushed to its extreme fimits, and yet the result is, it must be confessed, neither fascinating nor artistic.'

"A certain selection and discretion must be used in producing a realistic effect," remarked Holmes. "This is wanting in the police report, where more stress is laid, perhaps, upon the platitudes of the magistrate than upon the details, which to an observer contain the vital essence of the whole matter. Depend upon it there is nothing so unnatural as the commonplace."

I smiled and shook my head. "I can quite understand you thinking so," said "Of course, in your position of unofficial adviser and helper to everybody who is absolutely puzzled, throughout three continents, you are brought in contact with all that is strange and bizarre. But here"-I picked up the morning paper from the ground-"let us put it to a practical test. Here is the first heading upon which I come. A husband's cruelty to his wife.' There is half a column of print, but I know without reading it that it is perfectly familiar to me. There is, of course, the other woman, the drink, the push, the blow, the bruise, the sympathetic sister or landlady. The crudest of writers could invent nothing more crude.

"Indeed, your example is an unfortunate one for your argument," said Holmes, taking the paper and glancing his eye down it. "This is the Dundas separation case, and, as it happens, I was engaged in clearing up some small points in connection with it. The husband was a teetotaler, there was other woman, and the conduct complained of was that he had drifted into the habit of winding up every meal by taking out his false teeth and hurling

He held out his snuffbox of old gold. with a great amethyst in the center of the lid. Its splendor was in such con-

"Ah," said he, "I forgot that I had not seen you for some weeks. It is a little souvenir from the King of Bohemia in return for my assistance in the case of the Irene Adler papers."

"It was from the reigning family in "And have you any on hand just culiar to him.

now?" I asked, with interest. present any feature of interest. They ing to do so much typewriting?" are important, you understand, without "I did at first," she answered, "but teing interesting. Indeed, I have found now I know where the letters are with- "does it come out of the business?" that it is usually in unimportant mat-ters that there is a field for the ob-the full purport of his words, she gave servation, and for the quick analysis of a violent start and looked up with fear land. It is in New Zealand stock, pay-and astonishment upon her broad, gooding 4½ per cent. Two thousand five the was a very are apt to be the simpler, for the big- me, Mr. Holmes," she cried, "else how can only touch the interest." ger the crime, the more obvious, as a could you know all that?"
Tule, is the motive. In these cases, save "Never mind," said Holmes laughing for one rather intricate matter which "it is my business to know things. Perhas been referred to me from Mar- haps I have trained myself to see what seilles, there is nothing which presents others overlook. If not, why should you

fellow," said better before very many minutes are of you from Mrs. Etherege, whose hus- got home all safe, and after that we Sheriock Holmes, as we over, for this is one of my clients, or I band you found so easy when the police met him—that is to say, Mr. Holmes, I kind to leave me so. Why, all the morn-Sheriock Holmes, as we say much mistaken."

Sat on either side of the fire in his lodgings the fire in his lodgings at Baker street, "life at Baker street, "life the fire in his lodgings at Baker street, "life the fire in his lodgings at Baker street, "life the fire in his lodgings at Baker street, "life the fire in his lodgings are locally stranger gazing down into the dull, neutral- but still I have a hundred a year in house any more" tinted London street. Looking over his my own right, besides the little that "No?" shoulder, I saw that on the pavement I make by the machine, and I would "Well you know, father didn't like

which are going on. the strange coincidences, the plannings, the cross-purposes, the wonderful chain of events, working through generations, and leading to the most outre results, it would make all fiction with its con-

him, and that he would claim his pledge

ne foresaw happened. t could have been?" "I have seen those symptoms before," and kept on saying that there was no took the letters in the morning, so mother take the matter?" ever to speak of the matter again."
"And your father? Did you tell him?"

shamefully treated," said Holmes. occurred to separate us, I was always to remember that I was pledged to

the mind of man could invent. We would not dare to conceive the things which are really mere commonplaces of existence. If we could fly out of that window hand in hand, hover over this great city, gently remove the which are going on. the strange coincidences, the plannings the coverage of the strange coincidences, the plannings the coverage of the strange coincidences and the pavement of the mind of man could invent. We would not dare to conceive the invent. We would not dare to conceive the conceive the conceive the things which are going on. The strange coincidences, the plannings the conceive the things which are going on the strange coincidences, the plannings the conceive the things which are going on the strange coincidences, the plannings the conceive the conceive the conceive the conceive the conceive the conceive the things which are going on the strange coincidences, the plannings the conceive the conceive the conceive the things which are going on the strange coincidence in a the queer things which are going on the strange coincidences, the plannings the conceive the conceive the conceive the things which are strong to conceive the things which are strong to conceive the things which as become anything of the sort. He wouldn't have anything of the sort, and he would diam his pledged to anything of the sort. He



I CAME TO YOU, SIR, BECAUSE I HEARD OF YOU FROM MRS. ETHERAGE, WHOSE HUSBAND YOU FOUND SO

may discriminate. When a woman has symptom is a broken bell wire. Here older than myself. the lid. Its splendor was in such contrast to his homely ways and simple matter, but that the maiden is not so "And your mother is alive?"

"And your mother is alive?"

"On, yes, mother is alive and well. I

solve our doubts."

"Do you not find," he said, "that "Some ten or twelve, but none which with your short sight it is a little try-

them at his wife, you will allow, is not an action likely to occur to the imagination of the average story-teller. She would like advice, but is not sure "Your father, said Holmes, "your "Oh yes, Mr. Holmes, We were en-Take a pinch of snuff, doctor, and acknowledge that I have scored over you in the first walk that we took.

Take a pinch of snuff, doctor, and acknowledge that I have scored over you in the first walk that we took.

Hosmer—Mr. Angel—was a cashier in

"Yes, my stepfather, I call him fa-ther, though it sounds funny, too, for "What office?" been seriously wronged by a man she ther, though it sounds funny, too, for no longer oscillates, and the usual he is only five years and two months

much angry as perplexed, or grieved. wasn't best pleased, Mr. Holmes, when But here she comes in person to re- she married again so soon after father's death, and a man who was near-street.' As he spoke there was a tap at the ly fifteen years younger than herself. door, and the boy in buttons entered to announce Miss Mary Sutherland, ham Court road, and he left a tidy

had been alive."

I had expected to see Sherlock Holmes impatient under this ramb ing and inconsequential narrative, but, on the consequential narrative, but, on the little of me, Mr. Holmes, and the little more interesting than her little probabilities that he would think of."

Wereaths spinning up trom him, and a look of infinite languor in his face.

"Quite an interesting study, that maiden," he observed. "I found her more interesting than her little probabilities which by the way is rather and interest. "Your own little income," he asked,

as long as I live at home I don't wish tinted glasses against the glare." to be a burden to them, and so they have the use of the money just while I am staying with them. Of course, that is only just for the time. Mr. Windibank draws my interest every quarter and pays it over to mother,

"You have made your position very

school treat. But this time I was set on going, and I would go; for what right had he to prevent? He said the folk were not fit for us to know, when all father's friends were to be there. And I had my purple plush that I had never day. Was it to be in church?" so much as taken out of the drawer.
At last, when nothing else would do,
he went off to France upon the business of the firm, but we went, mother and I, with Mr. Hardy, who used to be

our foreman, and it was there I met Mr. Hosmer Angel." I suppose," said Holmes, "that when Windibank came back from France was very annoyed at your having to the ball "

"Oh, well, he was very good about it. He laughed, I remember, and shrug-ged his shoulders, and said there was no use denying anything to a woman, for she would have her way."

"I see. Then at the gasfitters' ball you met, as I understand, a gentleman

alled Mr. Hosmer Angel." "Yes, sir. I met him that night, and he called next day to ask if we had H. & A. SAUNDERS, King & John Sta., Toro

"Oh yes, Mr. Holmes. We were en do not allow it to affect your life." Hosmer-Mr. Angel-was a cashier in

"That's the worst of it, Mr. Holmes don't know.

'Where did he live?" "He slept on the premises." "And you don't know his address?"

"Where did you address your letters,

"It was most suggestive," "Oh, no, sir. It is quite separate, and ly the most important. Can you remember any other little things about

hundred pounds was the amount, but I He was a very sny man, hundred pounds was the amount, but I Holmes. He would rather walk with me in the evening than in the daylight "You interest me extremely," said for he said that he hated to be con-Holmes, "And since you draw so large spicuous. Very retiring and gentlemana sum as a hundred a year, with what ly he was. Even his voice was gentle, you earn into the bargain, you no doubt He'd had the quinsy and swollen glands any features of interest. It is possible, come to consult me?"

travel a little, and indulge yourself in when he was young, he told me, and it every way. I believe that a single lady had left him with a weak throat, and can get on very nicely upon an income a hesitating, whispering fashion of can get on very nicely upon an income a hesitating, whispering fashion of speech. He was always well dressed, I could do with much less than that, very neat and plain, but his eyes were Mr. Holmes, but you understand that weak, just as mine are, and he wore

"Well, and what happened when Mr.

"Mr. Hosmer Angel came to house again, and proposed that we and I find that I can do pretty well He was in dreadful earnest, and made should marry before father came back. with what I earn at typewriting. It brings me twopence a sheet, and I can ment, that whatever happened I would ment. often do from fifteen to twenty sheets always be true to him. Mother said that it was quite right to make me clear to me," said Holmes. "This is my passion. Mother was all in his favor swear, and that it was a sign of his friend, Dr. Watson, before whom you from the first, and was even fonder of can speak as freely as before myself. him than I was. Then, when they Kindly tell us now all about your conbegan to ask about father; but they A flush stole over Miss Sutherland's both said never to mind about father, face, and she picked nervously at the but just to tell him afterwards, and fringe of her jacket. "I met him first mother said she would make at the gasfitters' hall," she said. "They right with him. I didn't quite like that, used to send father tickets when he Mr. Holmes. It seemed funny that was alive, and then afterwards they should ask his leave, as he was only remembered us, and sent them to a few years older than me; but I didn't mother. Mr. Windibank did not wish want to do anything on the sly, so I us to go. He never did wish us to go wrote to father at Bordeaux, where anywhere. He would get quite mad if I wanted so much as to join the Sunday the letter came back to me on the very morning of the wedding."

"It missed him then?" "Yes, sir; for he had started to England just before it arrived." he said I had nothing fit to wear, when wedding was arranged, then for Fri-"Ha! that was unfortunate. Your "Yes, sir, but very quietly. It was to

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wards at the St. Pancras Hotel, Hosmer came for us in a hansom, but as there was two of us, he put us both into it, and stepped himself into a ASTORIA four-weeler, which happened to be the only other cab in the street. We got to the church first, and when the fourwheeler drove up we waited for hims to step out, but he never did, and when the cabman got down from the box and looked, there was no one there! The cabman said that he could not imagine what had become of him, for he

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"I shall glance into the case for me," I remarked.

"Not invisible, but unnoticed, Watyou," said Holmes, rising, and I have no doubt that we shall reach some definite result. Let the weight of the mat- and so you missed all that was imter rest upon me now, and do not let your mind dwell upon it further. Above all, try to let Mr. Hosmer Angel vanish from your memory as he has done from your life" great issues that may hang from a boot-lace. Now, what did you gather "Then you don't think I'll see him from that woman's appearance? Describe It.'

"Well, she had a slate-colored, broadbrimmed straw hat, with a feather of You will leave that question in my a brickish red. Her jacket was black, hands. I should like an accurate de- with black beads sewn upon it, and a scription of him, and any letters of his fringe of little black jet ornaments. Her dress was brown, rather darker "I advertised for him in last Saturthan coffee-color, with a little purple day's Chronicle," said she. "Here is plush at the neck and sleeves. Her the slip, and here are four letters from gloves were grapish, and were worn through at the right forefinger. Her boots I didn't observe. She had small,

"No. 31 Lyon Place, Camberwell." understand. Where is your father's in a vulgar, comfortable, easy-going Angel?" way. ravels for Westhouse & Mar-Sherlock Holmes clapped his hands light. "Missing," it said, bank, the great claret importers of softly together and chuckled.

"Pon my word, Watson, you are comthe papers here, and remember the you have missed everything of importadvice which I have given you, Let the ance, but you have hit

For all the preposterous hat and the of the trousers. As you observe, this office in Leadenhall street. Anybody vacuous face, there was something woman had plush upon her sleeves.

which is a most useful material for which compelled our respect. She laid showing traces. The double line a lit- the letters," he continued, glancing "No except that it was Leadenhall her little bundle of papers upon the tle above the wrist, where the type over them, "they are very commonchine, of the hand-type, leaves a simi- once. There is one remarkable point, Sherlock Holmes sat silent for a few lar mark, but only on the left arm, and

"And the ring?" I asked, glancing at a remarkable brilliant which sparkled his small black figure like a full-sailed for the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed for the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed for the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed for the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed for the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed for the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed for the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the said that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure like a full-sailed from the sail that his small black figure lik merchant-man behind a tiny pilot-man, but when Mr. Windibank came be chaffed by all the other clerks about having letters from a lady, so I offered ward to the ceiling. Then he took down standard to the business, for he having letters from a lady, so I offered ward to the ceiling. Then he took down standard to the ceiling standard to the ceiling. Holland, though the matter in which I served them was of such delicacy that the easy courtesy for which he was remarkable, and having closed the door and bowed her into an arm-chair, have been good enough to chronicle one or two of my little problems."

Holland, though the reigning family in the have you are the business, for he having letters from a lady, so I offered with the easy courtesy for which he was very superior, being a traveler in to typewrite them, like he did his, but he wouldn't have that, for he said that he wouldn't have them they seemed to suppose the ward to the ceiling. Then he took down was very superior, being a traveler in to typewrite them, like he did his, but he wouldn't have that, for he said that he wouldn't have the near as and interest, which wasn't near as suppose the was very superior, being a traveler in to typewrite them, like he did his, but he wouldn't have that, for he said that he wouldn't have that, for he said that he wouldn't have the reack the old and oily clay dint of a pincenez at either side of her other wasn't near as suppose the wasn't near as and, having lit it, he leaned back in bis chair, with the thick blue cloud-with the t

lem, which, by the way is rather a ing were not unlike each other, they Holmes, "It has long been an axiom of lift you consult my index, in Andover in other a plain one. One was buttoned '77, and there was something of the other a plain one. One was buttoned sort at The Hague last year. Old as is only in the two lower buttons out of the idea, however, there were one or five, and the other at the first, third. two details which were new to me. But and fifth. Now, when you see that the maiden herself was most instruc- young plady, otherwise neatly dressed "You appeared to read a good deal boots, half-buttoned, it is no great de

upon her which was quite invisible to duction to say that she came away "And what else?" I asked, keenly in-Your Worn-Out Stomach terested, as I always was, by my friend's incisive reasoning.

"I noted, in passing, that she had What it needs is the strengthening written a note before leaving but after being fully dressed. You obtain a pright glave was torn at written a note before leaving home, nfluence of Dr. Hamilton's Pills they work marvels where the stomach served that her right glove was torn at and digestion are poor. In one day the appetite increases and the whole system is realized as and the whole system is realized as a seried that held light glove was torn a the forefinger, but you did not apparament the forefinger but you did not apparament the state of the forefinger but you did not apparament the forefine but you did not apparam tem is rapidly strengthened. No stom- were stained with violet ink. She had Windibank, your stepfather, returned ach specialist could write a better pre-to France?" written in a hurry, and dipped her pen scription than Dr. Hamilton's Pills of Mandrake and Butternut. At all deal- ing, or the mark would ers in a yellow box, price 25 cents, or clear upon the finger. All this is amustive boxes for \$1. ling, though rather elementary, but I

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"No. 31 Lyon Place, Camberwell." round, hanging gold earrings, and a Would you mind reading me the ad"Mr. Angel's address you never had, general air of being fairly well-to-do. Vertised description of Mr. Hosmer

ing of the 14th, a gentleman named "Thank you. You have made your ing along wonderfully. You have really height; strongly built, sallow complexstatement very clearly. You will leave done very well indeed. It is true that ion, black hair, a little bald in the upon the mustache; tinted glasses, slight infirmwhole incident be a sealed book, and method, and you have a quick eye for ity of speech. Was dressed when last "You are very kind, Mr. Holmes, but cannot do that. I shall be true to Hosmer. He shall find me ready when ways at a woman's closur. In the did not have a quick eye for seen, in black frock coat faced with silk, black waistcoat, gold Albert chain, and gray Harris tweed trousers, with brown gaiters over elastic-sided chosm Hosmer. He shall find me ready when ways at a woman's sleeve. In a man it known to have been employed in an bringing," etc., etc.

"That will do," said Holmes. "As to table, and went her way, with a promise to come again whenever she might be summoned. The sewing-man length of the heard type leaves a similar to the summoned of the heard type leaves a similar to the summoned of the heard type leaves a similar to the summoned of the heard type leaves a similar type of the heard type of the heard type leaves a similar type of the heard type o

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You cannot be expected to have faith in Shiloh's Consumption Cure, the Lung Tonic, as a cure for Colds, Coughs and all diseases of the air passages, if you have not tried it. We have faith in it, and to convince you that it will cure you we guarantee it. If it doesn't cure you it costs you nothing. If it does it costs you 25c. That's fair. Try it to-day.

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