

## Not Like Sherlock Homes.

Work of Detectives in Trapping Criminals is Devoted of All Romance.

Detectives are often blamed for not performing the impossible—that is, for not bringing a criminal to justice against whom no evidence can be obtained, and for not discovering stolen property which the law itself does its utmost to conceal. There is a great and natural hostility on the part of public feeling to the employment of those artificers for the detection of crime which obviously suggest themselves to the extraneous, in fact, of the same ingenuity against criminals which these bring to bear against society. There is a like reluctance to any system of "espionage," Sir Robert Anderson, at one time the head of Great Britain's criminal investigation bureau, says: "Detective stories seem to have a fascination for most people, and the public would greatly like to know the means and methods used by the police in work of this kind. Besides, there is a cogent reason against gratifying that desire, namely, that the public includes a section that is better kept in ignorance. I mean the criminals themselves."

### DETECTIVES AND THE CRIMINALS.

But the professional criminals do not depend upon newspapers, reviews or magazines for their knowledge of police methods. Professional criminals are comparatively few, and they are well known to the police. The police are equally well known to them; and though Scotland Yard may have its portrait gallery, the cosmopolitan rogue is not unfrequently furnished with the carte de visite of the detective. The two classes narrowly and continually watch each other, and they are thoroughly familiar with each other's manners and methods. Besides, the police department is not always modest when it brings off a coup, though it is ever reluctant to talk of its dependence on "copper's marks," or police spies, or enlarge upon trivial little stratagems. Writers of fiction have rather spoiled the public appreciation of real detective work, for the actual criminal investigation of today, specialized and systematized as it is, is devoid of that highly romantic quality which the novelist dwells upon. As Sir Robert Anderson has pointed out, the ways of the police are not hard to understand. This is its method in Sir Robert's words:

### DEVOID OF ROMANCE.

"An oil painting, for example, has been stolen in the night from a public gallery. Sherlock Holmes would sit down with a wet towel round his head and think out the problem of finding the thief. Sherlock Holmes himself was no doubt a genius, but people who follow his methods are apt to fasten suspicion upon several different persons, not one of them probably had anything to do with the crime. Scotland Yard sometimes arrives at the desired result by a process akin to that by which experts of another kind tell us who painted the stolen picture. Of course, if a man leaves his doors and windows unfastened, any other man, though as great a fool as himself, can break in and steal. But the crime we are dealing with was evidently the work of a trained and accomplished burglar. The men limited in number and definitely known. Some of these, however, are in seclusion at present, 'doing time' for similar offences in the past. They will be back at work in a year or two, but for the present we may ignore them. Then, again, A, B and C are known to be out of London in the course of their business, and D, E and F are proved to have been at their registered addresses on the night of the crime. The list thus becomes reduced to working dimensions, and it is not difficult to go on eliminating one name after another till the thief is discovered. If evidence is forthcoming he is arrested and brought to justice."

### PROCURING EVIDENCE.

It is here, in the finding of evidence, that the police are put to the greatest temptation. Sometimes it is necessary

to effect an arrest on suspicion, trusting to good fortune that with the suspect safe under lock and key, a "turn-up" of his lodgings will produce the necessary pieces de conviction. "Were I to unfold the secrets of Scotland Yard about crimes respecting which the police have been disparaged and abused in recent years, the result," says Sir Robert Anderson, "would be a revelation to the public." The police, however, have a pleasant piece of fiction which enables them to "detain" for enquiry, when they dare not arrest. And, frequently, a man may be "under surveillance" so thoroughly—and he is well aware of it—that he is virtually a prisoner in his own house long before a charge is made. Instances of the kind were constantly occurring during the dynamite prosecutions.

### A CELEBRATED CASE.

The evidence given in connection with the alleged plot to blow up the German Embassy in 1883 brought out the fact that detectives were in close contact with men known to be associates of swindlers, and whom they addressed as "My dear friend." Through such men information was obtained by which a great jewel robbery was traced. One of the accused was admitted in the pay of the police as a spy upon foreigners. Indeed, the least said the better about the preliminary investigation that leads up to the familiar "from information received," which is accepted without more ado in the courts; for the detective, if he has not actually taken the part of the "agent provocateur" of the French system, has frequently had to lay traps for the wary, playing upon feminine jealousy sometimes, for there is almost always a woman in the case, or upon revengeful feelings at others, and history even supplies the record of bogus burglaries having been effected under police orders in order to get access to the premises of a notorious receiver.

### ROGUES HELP DETECTIVES.

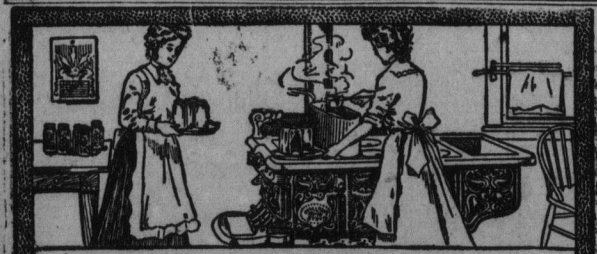
Quite apart from "marks" or informers, there is the help which one rogue will give the police to lay another by the heels, and a good many seemingly clever police discoveries are attributed to this kind of assistance, though sometimes, as in the case of the murderer Crook, detected two years after he shot a police constable, by a name scratched on a chisel, the man who gives the clue does so unwittingly. People may say that it is wormed out of him. Detectives, too, are accustomed to rely very much upon pawnbrokers, to whom descriptions of stolen articles are supplied, with a printed list; though they will often say that they have not got the goods, and then, if the thief is caught, they may actually be found in the shop. Pawnbrokers of this class find that it does not pay them to be summoned as witnesses in criminal prosecutions. In seven cases out of ten, it is said, the person who takes the things in will not identify the thief, and to remedy this state of affairs it is suggested that the magistrate should have power to reward the pawnbroker giving evidence. And some experts go further, and advise that witnesses similarly assisting justice should be remunerated. What is done in this way is frequently included in the detective's out-of-pocket expenses—not necessarily recovered from his employers.

### CHANCE THE DETECTIVE'S BEST FRIEND.

But better friend to the detective than the informer, paid or unpaid, is the element of chance, which almost always plays against the criminal. The clever detective is the man who seizes the opportunity. A well-known traveller tells the story of a detective crossing on an English channel steamer to France, when he ran up against the very person he was intended to watch in Paris. It was to the utmost importance that this person should not realize the detective's mission. Before the steamer reached Calais the detective had persuaded the other to give him a job in Paris, as though he had no idea of going there, a job which enabled him to carry out unsuspected the mission upon which he had been despatched.

### COGNIZED ONE ANOTHER.

"Tom O'Shaughnessy, by thunder!" exclaimed the old man. "Bill Smith, I declare," said the Canadian Pacific magnate, "and I guess I haven't seen or heard of you for thirty years. Let me see—when was it we worked together on the old Manitoba road?" "Guess it's about thirty years," said the other; "but my name is the Hon. William Smyth. I represent my state in congress!" "And I am Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, at your service." Then they both laughed.



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## SPORTING.

### THE AMERICA READY TO RACE.

What New England yacht will sail in the trans-Atlantic race for the Lipton cup? So far the yachtsmen of this section are talking of but one yacht and that is the America.

"The America is staunch and sound today and I have no hesitation in saying that I believe she can sail across the Atlantic next summer, if necessary, without mishap," says Butler Ames. "It is too soon to say anything positively, because the whole thing has been hardly considered yet," says Paul Butler. "But I know of no reason that would make it impossible for the America to enter the race, if it is to be a free for all, as announced."

And the good old cup-winner, now swinging idly at Chelsea bridge, may have a chance to show her heels to some of the great racing machines that are now so famous. After 50 years of glorious idleness, she may startle the world as she did in the Cowes regatta. Her present owners are very modest as to the outlook.

"I am confident as to her ability to make a run across the ocean," said Cong. Ames. "but I do not think she would stand much show of winning the cup—unless there were a good hard blow all the way across."

"In that case she might make a fairly good showing," he said, half to himself.

"Would you be willing to sail her across?"

"No. That would be impossible. There will be a congressional campaign on in my district, just about that time, and I shall have other things than yachting to claim my attention. If Paul Butler were willing to take charge of her, I might—but I might consider the matter. He has as much interest in it as I have surely; and it is rather for him to say."

Mr. Butler said that all the talk about the America's being entered in the race is premature. The Lipton cup has not been offered, officially. The rules have not yet been made, and he has not made up his mind absolutely what he will do.

"The whole proposition has come so suddenly that I will want time," he said, "before announcing my decision. I have not decided to enter the America. There is no obstacle, that I know of, to entering her if we should decide to do so."

"But it is impossible to say offhand, at a moment's notice, and in ignorance of the conditions of the race, what we will do about it. It will take some thinking over."

The opinion of Boston yachtsmen is that the owners of the America should sail her, if possible. Hardly a dissentient could be found last night.

C. H. W. Foster, owner of the Puritan, and that is the opinion of the Constellation, were of the opinion that those yachts would not be entered. Mr. Skinner is out of it "for special and personal reasons."

### RIVAL OF SANDOW.

A Denver boy who has not yet left his teens, has physical strength and development of muscle to outrival Sandow, the strongest man in the world. Charles Schenk weighs, stripped to the buff, 163 pounds and can lift, single-handed and hand-to-hand at arms' length above his head, a man out weighing himself by twenty pounds.

Charles Schenk's eyes first opened in Berlin, Germany, and there he and his brother, Willie, aged twenty-one, his partner in acrobatic feats, were trained by the famous Manningo. Thirteen years ago they began their daily work of muscle-building under Manningo's skilled direction, and today they are peerless acrobats, the finest that Germany ever produced—the best in their line in the world—and receive a salary of hundreds of dollars a week.

Charles is much the stronger of the two brothers, although two years the younger. In the balancing and lifting acts he is the "bearer," while Willie is the "tee-mounter." Willie weighs 141 pounds, yet Charles lifts him and holds him in the palm of one hand above his head as easily as an ordinary man might lift a ten-cent packet of smoking tobacco.

Charles has a wonderful neck—so powerful that Willie can stand on him head to head, with his feet in the air, and spin around like a top. Standing in this position, Charles carries him up fifteen steps to a platform and down on the other side. He also balances him on one hand and thus carries him up and down the steps.

Charles' measurements are: Neck, 17 inches; biceps, 40 centimeters; thigh, 58 centimeters; chest, 42 inches; waist, 35 inches; forearm, 34 centimeters; calf, 30 centimeters.

This extraordinary specimen of physical perfection achieved this development by thirteen years' constant training—not by Sandow's system, but by and lifting his brother. He worked every day two hours. Starting to practice a trick he would repeat it fifteen or twenty times. Now his muscles are like iron.

He is so strong that he fears he will become muscle bound, and so he is daily exercising to lose strength and make his muscles softer.

He eats whatever his stomach likes. He eats three meals a day—one at 10.45 a. m., one at 5 p. m., and one after the show at night. He does not drink any alcoholic beverages by day, but after the show some beer. After the act he takes a cold water rub-down. He sleeps eight and a half or nine hours. He takes the best of care of his health. Every morning he walks one hour before breakfast. He was always strong even as a boy.

### HORSE NOTES.

Lou Dillon weighed 135 lbs. when she made her record of 1.58 1-2 at Memphis. He ate three meals a day—one at 10.45 a. m., one at 5 p. m., and one after the show at night. He does not drink any alcoholic beverages by day, but after the show some beer. After the act he takes a cold water rub-down. He sleeps eight and a half or nine hours. He takes the best of care of his health. Every morning he walks one hour before breakfast. He was always strong even as a boy.

Angle (by Atwell), a 4-year-old trotter, recently worked a mile in 2:07 3-4. This can be considered a first-class performance when compared with Lou Dillon's mile of 2:08 3-4 as a 4-year-old.

It is announced that Lou Dillon (1.58 1-2), will be given a chance next year to see how fast she can trot without a pace maker to give the air in front of her. Horsemen will watch the result with great interest.

Allyx (2:03 3-4) and Ferenzo (2:05 1-2), are the only two mares that have ever won heats in 2:05 1-2 or better in a race. Allyx won the free-for-all at Terre Haute, Ind., Aug. 17, 1894, in straight heats; time, 2:05, 2:04 1-2, 2:05 1-4.

Stanley Dillon, a green trotter by Sidney Dillon, sire of Lou Dillon (1.58 1-2), has shown a mile this season in 2:11 1-2. He is owned by John H. Brown, Detroit, Mich., who intends placing him in the hands of Ed. Geers.

In Montana there is a 3-year-old filly that is credited with pacing a mile in 2:10 1-4, the final quarter in 25 seconds. She is by Bossman (3:17), son of Mambrino King, and is owned by Senator C. W. Hoffman, Bozeman, Mont.

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