

## The Adventure of the Empty House

No. 1 of the Series

(Cappright, 1903, by A. Conan Dople and Collier's (Caarelaht, 1905, by McClure, Phillips & Co.)

But suddenly I was aware of that which his keener senses had already distinguished. A low, stealthy sound came to my ears not from the direction of Baker street, but from the back of the very house in which we lay concealed. A door opened and shut. An instant later steps crept abut. down the passage-steps which were meant to be silent, but which reverberated harshly through the empty house. Holmes crouched back against the wall, and I did the same, my hand closing upon the handle of my revolver. Peering through the gloom, I saw the er than the blackness of the open door. He stood for an instant, and then he crept forward, crouching, menacing, into the room. He was within three yards of us, this sinister figure, and I had braced myself to meet his spring before I realized that he had no idea of our presence. He passed close beside us, stole over to the window and very softly and noiselessly raised it for half a foot. As he sank to the level of this opening the light of the street, no longer dimmed by the dusty glass, fell full upon his face.

The man seemed to be beside himself with excitement. His two eyes shone like stars, and his features were working convulsively. He was an elderly man, with a thin, projecting nose, a bald forehead and a huge grizzled mustache. An opera hat was pushed to the back of his head, and an evening dress shirt front gleamed out | fall." through his open overcoat. His face The was gaunt and swarthy, scored with deep, savage lines. In his hand he carried what appeared to be a stick, but say, as he laid it down upon the floor it gave "I a metallic clang. Then from the pocket of his overcoat he drew a bulky object, and he busied himself in some task which ended with a loud, sharp click, as if a spring or bolt had fallen into its place. Still kneeling upon the floor, he bent forward and threw all his weight and strength upon some lever, with the result that there came a long. whirling, grinding noise, ending once more in a powerful click. He straight ened himself then, and I saw that what he held in his hand was a sort of a gun with a curiously misshapen butt. He opened it at the breech, put something in and snapped the breechblock. Then, crouching down, he rested the

BY F. D. STEELE with one plain clothes detective, rushed through the front entrance and into the "That you, Lestrade?" said Holmes. "Yes, Mr. Holmes. I took the job myself. It's good to see you back in London, sir." "I think you want a little unofficial

help. Three undetected murders in one year won't do, Lestrade. But you handled the Molesey mystery with than your usual-that's to say, you handled it fairly well." We had all risen to our feet, our prisoner breathing hard, with a stalwart constable on each side of him. Already a few loiterers had begun to collect in the street. Holmes stepped up to the window, closed it and dropped the blinds. Lestrade had produced two candles, and the policemen had un-covered their lanterns. I was able

at last to have a good look at our pris-It was a tremendously virile and yet sinister face which was turned toward vague outline of a man, a shade black- | us. With the brow of a philosopher above and the jaw of a sensualist low, the man must have started with great capacities for good or for evil. But one could not look upon his cruel blue eyes, with their drooping, cynical lids, or upon the flerce, aggressive nose and the threatening, deep lined brow without reading nature's plainest danger signals. He took no heed of any of us, but his eyes were fixed upon Holmes' face with an expression in which hatred and amazement were equally blended. "You fiend," he kept ou muttering-"you clever, clever fiend."

"Ab, colonel." said Holmes, arranging his rumpled collar, " 'journeys end in lovers' meetings,' as the old play says. I don't think I have had the pleasure of seeing you since you fa-vored me with those attentions as I lay on the ledge above the Reichenbach

The colonel still stared at my friend like a man in a trance. "You cunning cunning fiend!" was all that he could "I have not introduced you yet." said

Holmes. "This, gentlemen, is Colonel Sebastian Moran, once of her majesty's Indian army and the best heavy game shot that our eastern empire has ever roduced. I believe I am correct, colonel, in saying that your bag of tigers still remains unrivaled?"

The fierce old man said nothing, but still glared at my companion. With his savage eyes and bristling mustache e was wonderfully like a tiger himseif.

"I wonder that my very simple stratgem could deceive so old a shikari,' atid Holmes. "It must be very familiar o you. Have you not tethered a young id under a tree, lain above it with our rifle and waited for the bait to end of the barrel upon the ledge of the open window, and I saw his long musbring up your tiger? This empty house is my tree, and you are my tiger. tache droop over the stock and his eyes gleam as it peered along the sights. I heard a little sigh of satison have possibly had other guns in eserve in case there should be several zers or in the unlikely supposition of our own aim failing you. These"-he pinted around-"are my other guns. "he parallel is exact." Colonel Moran sprang forward with a snarl of rage, but the constables dragged him back. The fury upon his face was terrible to look at. "I confess that you had one small tinkle of broken glass. At that instant Holmes sprang like a tiger on to the marksman's back and hurled him flat make use of this empty house and the convenient front window. I had imag-ined you as operating from the street, ined you as operating exception all has gone as I expected." Colonel Moran turned to the official detective. You may or may not have just cause for arresting me," said he, "but at least there can be no reason why I hould submit to the gibes of this per-If I am in the hands of the law let things be done in a legal way." "Well, that's reasonable enough," snid Lestrade. "Nothing further you have to say, Mr. Holmes, before we Holmes had picked up the powerful air gun from the floor and was examining its mechanism 'An admirable and unique weapon,' he said, "noiseless and of tremendous power. I knew Von Herder, the blind German mechanic, who constructed it to the order of the late Professor Moriarty. For years I have been aware existence, though I have before had the opportunity of handling I commend it very specially

### THE UNION ADVOCATE, WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1905 een seeking in vain-Colonel Sebas "It is surely rather fanciful." tian Moran, who shot the Hon. Ronald

"Well, I don't insist upon it. What Adair with an expanding bullet from ever the cause, Colonel Moran began an air gun through the open window of the second floor front of 427 Park lane to go wrong. Without any open scan-dal he still made India too hot to hold upon the 80th of last month. That's the charge, Lestrade. And now, Wathim. He retired, came to London and again acquired an evil name. It was on, if you can endure the draft from at this time that he was sought out by a broken window I think that half an Professor Moriarty, to whom for a time he was chief of the staff. Moriar ir in my study over a cigar may afford you some profitable amusement." Our old chambers had been left unty supplied him liberally with money and used him only in one or two very changed through the supervision of Mycroft Holmes and the immediate high class jobs which no ordinary crim care of Mrs. Hudson. As I entered I inal could have undertaken. You may have some recollection of the death of Mrs. Stewart of Lauder in 1987. Not? aw, it is true, an unwonted tidiness, but the old landmarks were all in their Well, I am sure Moran was at the bot-tom of it, but nothing could be proved. place. There was the chemical corne and the acid stained, deal topped table. There upon a shelf was the row of So cleverly was the colonel concealed that even when the Moriarty gang was to wor formidable scrapbooks and books of reference which many of our fellow citbroken up we could not incriminat him. You remember at that date, when sens would have been so glad to burn. I called upon you in your rooms, how I put up the shutters for fear of air The diagrams, the violin case and the pipe rack—even the Persian alipper which contained the tobacco-all met my eyes as I gtanced round me. There guns? No doubt you thought me fanci-ful. I knew exactly what I was doing, for I knew of the existence of this two occupants of the room-one remarkable gun, and I knew also that one of the best shots in the world Mrs. Hudson, who beamed upon u both as we entered; the other the strange dummy which had played so would be behind it. When we were in Switzerland he followed us with Moriimportant a part in the evening's ad-ventures. It was a wax colored model of my friend so admirably done that arty, and it was undoubtedly he who gave me that evil five minutes on the Reichenbach ledge. "You may think that I read the pa pers with some attention during my so-journ in France, on the lookout for any

it was a perfect facsimile. It stood on a small pedestal table with an old dressing gown of Holmes' so draped round it that the illusion from the street was absolutely perfect. "I hope you preserved all precautions, Mrs. Hudson?" said Holmes. "I went to it on my knees, sir, just

as you told me." "Excellent. You carried the thing

out well. Did you observe where the bullet went?" "Yes, sir. I'm afraid it has spoilt your

beautiful bust, for it passed right through the head and flattened itself on the wall. I picked it up from the carpet. Here it is!" Holmes held it out to me. "A soft

revolver bullet, as you perceive, Wat-son. There's genius in that, for who come at last. Knowing what I did, was it not certain that Colonel Moran had done it? He had played cards with would expect to find such a thing fired from an air gun. All right, Mrs. Hudson: I am much obliged for your asthe lad; he had followed him home from the club; he had shot him through sistance. And now, Watson, let me see you in your old seat once more, for there are several points which I should the open window. There was not a doubt of it. The bullets alone are like to discuss with you."

enough to put his head in a neose. He had thrown off the seedy frock coat, and now he was the Holmes of "I came over at once. I was seen by the sentinel, who would, I knew, direct the colonel's attention to my presence. He could not fail to connect my sudden old in the mouse colored dressing gown which he took from his effigy.

"The old shikari's nerves have not lost their steadiness nor his eyes their keenness," said he, with a laugh, as he inspected the shattered forehead of his bust.

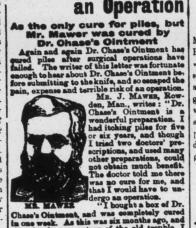
"Plumb in the middle of the back of the head and smack through the brain. He was the best shot in India, and 1 expect that there are few better is London. Have you heard the name?" "No, I have not." "Well, well, such is fame! But, then

if I remember right, yeu had not heard the name of Professor James Moriarty, who had one of the great brains of the century. Just give me down my index of biographies from the shelf." me to explain?"

He turned over the pages lazily, lean-ing back in his chair and blowing great clouds from his cigar.

"My collection of M's is a fine one," Adair?" said he. "Moriarty himself is enough to make any letter illustrious, and here is Morgan, the poisoner, and Merridew abominable memory, and Mathews, Each may form his own hypothesis up on the present evidence, and yours is who knocked out my left canine in the

waiting room at Charing Cross, and as likely to be correct as mine. "You have formed one, then?" finally here is our friend of tonight." hear tit think that it is not difficult **Doctors** Urged an Operation



**MR. MAWES** "I bought a box of Dr. Chase's Ointment, and was completely cured in one weak. As this was six months ago, and there has been no return of the old trouble, I believe that the cure is a permanent one. Dr. Ohase's Kidney-Liver Pills are the best medicine Unase's Aldney-Liver Fills are the cest medicine we have ever used for constipation, stomach troubles and kidney disease." As a cure for every form of piles, Dr. Chase's Ointment has no rival. 60 cts., at all dealers, er Edmanon, Bates & Co., Toronto. JUST BREATHE.

When Worn Out Don't Take a Stimulant; Just Breathe.

Don't take a stimulant; just breathe This is the advice of a doctor whe does not believe in the old medical chance of laying him by the heels. So long as he was free in London my life would really not have been worth liv policy of mystery, but who undertakes ing. Night and day the shadow would philosophically to explain to any patient why such and such a remedy should be beneficial, says the Philahave been over me and sooner or later his chance must have come. What could I do? I could not shoot him at delphia Telegraph.

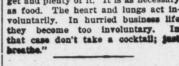
When you are 'let down,' " continsight or I should myself be in the dock. ued this physician, "don't take a cock-tall; just breathe. Put your finger on your pulse and get its rhythm. Dur-There was no use appealing to a magis-trate. They cannot interfere on the strength of what would appear to them strength of what would appear to them to be a wild suspicion. So I could do nothing. But I watched the criminal news, knowing that sooner or later I should get him. Then came the death ing eight beats draw in the breath, breathing deep and low and forcing the diaphragm down first, then filling the upper lungs. Then exhale this breath during four beats of the pulse. of this Ronald Adair. My chance had

"Now, if you are working with piece of machinery, say a typewriter, what do you do to make it run more moothly? You don't put a lot more oil on it and gum and clog it all up. You clean it first. You can best clean the blood by breathing. The blood passes through the lungs, and it need

and expects to find plenty of fresh air with oxygen in it. If it can't find per-fectly fresh air it needs more air which is not perfectly fresh. It needs to be cleaned by contact with the air. "Once in awhile hold the lungs full

return with his crime and to be terribly alarmed. I was sure he would make an attempt to get me out of the way at once and would bring round his murof breath as long as you can without expulsion. In doing this you are simat once and would bring reund his mil-derous weapon for that purpose. I left him an excellent mark in the window, and, having warned the pelice that they might be needed-by the way, ply cleaning the machine. You are cleaning the blood. At the same time you are giving that little fillip to the action of the heart and the nervous system which you thought you were Watson, you spotted their presence in giving when you took the cocktail. In the latter case you didn't clean the mathat doorway with unerring accuracy-I took up what seemed to me to be a judicious post for observation, never dreaming that he would choose the same spot for his attack. Now, my chine. You simply ran it a little faster and gummed it up a little more. You can get the same results, the same feeling of exhilaration and of accom dear Watson, does anything remain for plishment, without taking the cock

tail, and at the same time the machine "Yes," said I. "You have not made it will steadily improve in its running quite clear what was Colonel Moran's quality. Breathe the best air you can motive in murdering the Hon. Ronald get and plenty of it. It is as necessary "Ah, my dear Watson, there we com into those realms of conjecture where the most logical mind may be at fault.





in sere

Our Special Price

T. W. BOYD & SON

1683 Notre Dame St.

MONTREAL

who can ride a bicycle

new subscribers' to The

wen . Would prefer a

100. Salary or summis

NSLOW BROS.,

Newcastle

who wishes to earn

Apply at once to

WANTED.

The undersigned have received from Mr. Nash of Maine the agency for New Brunswick for his famous treut mezzo ork. A trout mezzo is one halt the fish so mounted upon a convex eliptical panel as to stand the fish out in bold relief.

TROUT

MezzcWork.

giving the effect of an oil painting or whole mounted fish, with the real thing to show for your prowess. The process of preserving fish in this artistic way wasdiscovered by Mr. Nash in 1900, and patented by him.

> EMACK BROS, Leading Taxidermists.

Fredericton, N. B.



where he will be pleased to see h ustomers and friends.

PRESSING. GLEANING, REPAIRING ex ecuted with nestness and despatch.

J. R. McDONALD.



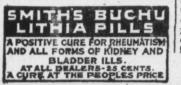
faction as he cuddled the butt into his shoulder and saw that amazing target the black man on the yellow ground, standing clear at the end of his foresight. For an instant he was rigid and motionless. Then his finger tightened on the trigger. There was a strange, loud whiz and a long, silvery upon his face. He was up again in a moment, and with convulsive strength he seized Holmes by the throat, but I struck him on the head with the butt of my revolver, and he dropped again floor. I fell upon him, and as I held him my comrade blew a shrill call upon a whistle. There was the clatter of running feet upon the pave ment, and two policemen in uniform,

# ARE YOUR **KIDNEYS SICK?**

Let your morning urine stand for 24 hours in a glass or vessel, and then if it his milky or cloudy, or contains a reddish brick-dust sediment, or if particles or germs float about in it, your kidneys are diseased. If the kidneys are well they filter just so much blood, but if they are sick or weak from any cause, they leave the poison in the blood, and this poison affects the entire system.

It is natural to pass urine three times a day, but many who regard themselves as healthy are obliged to pass water six to text times daily and are obliged to get up frequently during the night. They have sick kidneys and bladder and don't know it. Smith's Buchan Lithia Pills cure Rheumatism and all Kidney and Bladder diseases, and make new rick blood

We will send you a generous sample post paid Fre-, together with our large book on the above mentioned diseases. Address, W. F. Smith Co., 185 St. James Street, Montreal, Canada.



your attention; Lestrade, and also the bullets which fit it." "You can trust us to look after that.

Mr. Holmes," said Lestrade as the whole party moved toward the door "Anything further to say ?" "Only to ask what charge you in tend to prefer?"

"What charge, sig? Why, of course the attempted murder of Mr. Sherlock Holmes."

"Not so, Lestrade. I do not propoto appoar in the matter at all. To you and to you only belong the credit o the remarkable arrest which you hav affected. Yes, Lestrado, 1 congratulat you! With your usual happy mixtur-of cunning and audacity, you have go him

"Got him! Got whom, Mr. Holmes?" "The man that the whole force has

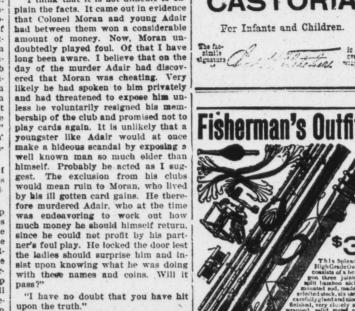
"Moran, Sebastian, colonel. Unemployed. Formerly First Bengalore Pio-neers. Born London, 1840. Son of Sir Augustus Moran, C. B., once British minister to Persia. Educated Eton and Oxford. Served in Jowaki cam-paigu. Afghan campaign, Charasiab (disputches), Sherpur and Cabul. Author of 'Heavy Game of the Western Himalayas' (1881); 'Three Months In the Jungle' (1884). Address: Conduit street. Clubs: The Anglo-Indian, the

sanded back the volume. "The man's career is that of an honorable soldier

"It is true," Holmes answered. "Up to a certain point he did well. He was always a man of iron nerve, and the story is still told in India how he crawled down a drain after a wound-ed man-eating tiger. There are some trees, Watson, which grow to a cer-tain height and then suddenly develop some unsightly eccentricity. You will see it often in humans. I have a the-

ory that the individual represents in his development the whole procession of his ancestors, and that such a suddea turn to good or evil stands for some strong influence which came into the line of his pedigree. The person becomes, as it were, the epitome of the history of his own family



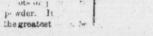


"It will be verified or disproved at the trial. Meanwhile, come what may, Colonel Moran will trouble us no more. The famous air gun of Von Herder will embellish the Scotland Yard museum, and once again Mr. Sherlock Holmes is free to devote his life to examining those interesting little problems, which the complex life of London so plentifully presents."

## (To be continued.)

Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in Cows This is a blue-law town now, is't it? interrogated the drummer in St. Louis. Yes, sir, replied the barber.

'But how is it you keep open A y. after midnight? to cantas Advoc Oh, you see my razors studen: .. salary dat sion. W .... 987 318. ULN UL 1 5.5



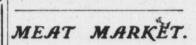
## Record 2.30 For Infants and Children.

32.2ms

A dark bay, 151 hands high, weighing 1200 pounds. One of the largest, speediest and handsomest sons of the celebrated All Right," 5817.

Will be travelled on the following routes: Red to Newcastle, at Foley's Stable, Chap lain Island Island Road to Ways, Millerton, Indiantown, Renous, Bartholemew River, Blackville at Jacob Layton's, Little South West.

For terms and particulars apply to MELVIN G. SUFHERLAND. Redbank, N. B.



I have opened a meat market in the Quigley building, resr of Post Office, where I will carry a choice line of

FRESH BREF

AND PORK.

I trust to be favored with a fair share of your patronage and will guarantee to give satisfaction.

WM. FALCONER,

Newcastle.

#### **Students Can Enter**

At Any Time

As we have no summer vacation, do not divide into terms, and the instruction gives is mostly individual. We do not find it convenient to give a summer vacation, as many of our students

summer vacation, as many of our students are far from home, and would be seriously venienced by an interrupution of thei Fork



Catalogues free te any address. S. KERR & SON:

