MC2289

POOR DOCUMENT



# MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES,

## BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

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## THE ADVENTURE OF THE BERYL CORONET

(Continued.)

"Now, Mr. Holmes, you know the people who live under my roof, and I shall continue with my miserable story.

"When we were taking coffee in the drawing-room that night after dinner I told Arthur and Mary my experience and of the precious treasure which we had under our roof, suppressing only the name of my client. Lucy Parr, who had brought in the coffee, had, I am sure, left the room; but I cannot swear that the door was closed. Mary and Arthur were much interested and wished to see the famous coronet, but I thought it better not to disturb it.

"'Where have you put it?' asked Arthur.

"'In my own bureau.'

"'Well, I hope to goodness the house won't be burgled during the night,' said he.

"'It is locked up,' I answered.

"'Oh, any old key will fit that bureau. When I was a youngster I have opened it myself with the key of the box-room cupboard.'

"He often had a wild way of talking, so that I thought little of what he said. He followed me to my room, however, that night with a very grave face.

"'Look here, dad,' said he, with his eyes cast down, 'can you let me have £200?'

"'No, I cannot!' I answered, sharply. 'I have been far too generous with you in money matters.'

"'You have been very kind,' said he; 'but I must have this money, or else I can never show my face inside the club again.'

"'And a very good thing, too!' I cried.

"'Yes, but you would not have me leave it a dishonored man,' said he. 'I could not bear the disgrace. I must raise the money in some way, and if you will not let me have it then I must try other means.'

"I was very angry, for this was the third demand during the month. 'You shall not have a farthing from me,' I cried; on which he bowed and left the room without another word.

"When he was gone I unlocked my bureau, made sure that my treasure was safe and locked it again. Then I started to go round the house to see that all was secure—a duty which I usually left to Mary, but which I thought it well to perform myself that night. As I came down the stairs I saw Mary herself at the side window of the hall, which she closed and fastened as I approached.

"'Tell me, dad,' said she, looking, I thought, a little disturbed, 'did you give Lucy, the maid, leave to go out tonight?'

"'Certainly not.'

"'She came in just now by the back door. I have no doubt that she has only been to the side gate to see some one; but I think it is hardly safe and should be stopped.'

"'You must speak to her in the morning, or I will, if you prefer it. Are you sure that everything is fastened?'

"'Quite sure, dad.'

"'Then, good-night.' I kissed her, and went up to my bedroom again, where I was soon asleep.

"I am endeavoring to tell you everything, Mr. Holmes, which may have any bearing upon the case, but I beg that you will question me upon any point which I do not make clear."

"On the contrary, your statement is singularly lucid."

"I come to a part of my story now in which I should wish to be particularly so. I am not a very heavy sleeper, and the anxiety in my mind tended, no doubt, to make me even less so than usual. About two in the morning, then, I was awakened by some sound in the house. It had ceased ere I was wide awake, but it had left an impression behind it as though a window had gently closed somewhere. I lay listening with all my ears. Suddenly, to my horror, there was a distinct sound of footsteps moving softly in the next room. I slipped out of bed, all palpitating with fear, and peeped round the corner of my dressing-room door.

"'Arthur!' I screamed, 'you villain! you thief! How dare you touch that coronet?'

"The gas was half up, as I had left it, and my unhappy boy, dressed only in his shirt and trousers, was standing beside the light, holding the coronet in his hands. He appeared to be wrenching at it, or bending it with all his strength. At my cry he dropped it from his grasp and turned as pale as death. I snatched it up and examined it. One of the gold corners and three of the beryls in it, was missing.

"'You blackguard!' I shouted, beside myself with rage. 'You have destroyed it! You have dishonored me for ever! Where are the jewels which you have stolen?'

"'Stolen!' he cried.

"'Yes, you thief!' I roared shaking him by the shoulder.

"'There are none missing. There cannot be any missing,' said he.

"'There are three missing. And you know where they are. Must I call you a liar as well as a thief? Did I not see you trying to tear off another piece?'

"'You have called me names enough,' said he; 'I will not stand it any longer. I shall not say another word about this business since you have chosen to insult me. I will leave your house in the morning and make my own way in the world.'

"'You shall leave it in the hands of the police!' I cried half mad with grief and rage. 'I shall have this matter probed to the bottom.'

"'You shall learn nothing from me,' said he, with a passion such as I should not have thought was in his nature. 'If you choose to call the police, let the police find what they can.'

"By this time the whole house was astir for I had raised my voice in my anger. Mary was the first to rush into my room and, at the sight of the coronet and of Arthur's face, she read the whole story, and, with a scream, fell down senseless on the ground. I sent the housemaid for the police, and put the investigation into their hands at once. When the inspector and a constable entered the house, Arthur, who had stood sullenly with his arms folded, asked me whether it was my intention to charge him with theft. I answered that it had ceased to be a private matter, but had become a public one, since the ruined coronet was national property. I was determined that the law should have its way in everything.

"'At least,' said he, 'you will not have me arrested at once. It would be to your advantage as well as mine if I might leave the house for five minutes.'

"That you may get away, or perhaps that you may conceal what you have stolen,' said I. And then realizing the dreadful position in which I was placed, I implored him to remember that not only my honor, but that of one who was far greater than I was at stake; and that he threatened to raise a scandal which would convulse the nation. He might avert it all if he would but tell me what he had done with the three missing stones.

"'You might as well face the matter,' said I; 'you have been caught in the act, and no confession could make your guilt more heinous. If you but make such reparation as is in your power, by telling us where the beryls are, all shall be forgiven and forgotten.'

"'Keep your forgiveness for those who ask for it,' he answered, turning away from me with a sneer. I saw that he was too hardened for any words of mine to influence him. There was but one way for it. I called in the inspector, and gave him into custody. A search was made at once, not only of his person, but of his room, and of every portion of the house where he could possibly have concealed the gems; but no trace of them could be found, nor would the wretched boy open his mouth for all our persuasions and our threats. This morning he was removed to a cell, and I, after going through all the police formalities, have hurried round to you, to implore you to use your skill in unravelling the matter. The police have openly confessed that at present they can make nothing of it. You may go to any expense which you think necessary. I have already offered a reward of £1000. My God, what shall I do! I have lost my honor, my gems and my son in one night. Oh, what shall I do!"

He put a hand on either side of his head, and rocked himself to and fro, droning to himself like a child whose grief has got beyond words.

Sherlock Holmes sat silent for some few minutes, with his brows knitted and his eyes fixed upon the fire.

"Do you receive much company?" he asked.

"None, save my partner with his family, and an occasional friend of Arthur's. Sir George Burnwell has been several times lately. No one else I think."

"Do you go out much into society?"

"Arthur does. Mary and I stay at home. We neither of us care for it."

"That is unusual in a young girl."

"She is of a quiet nature. Besides, she is not so very young. She is four and twenty."

"This matter, from what you say, seems to have been a shock to her also."

"Terrible! She is even more affected than I.'

"You have neither of you any doubt as to your son's guilt?"

"How can we have, when I saw him with my own eyes with the coronet in his hands?"

"I hardly consider that a conclusive proof. Was the remainder of the coronet at all injured?"

"Yes, it was twisted."

"Do you not think, then, that he might have been trying to straighten it?"

"God bless you! You are doing what you can for him and for me. But it is too heavy a task. What was he doing there at all? If his purpose was innocent, why did he not say so?"

"Precisely. And if it were guilty, why did he not invent a lie? His silence appears to me to cut both ways. There are several singular points about the case. What did the police think of the noise which awoke you from your sleep?"

"They considered that it might be caused by Arthur closing his bedroom door."

"A likely story! As if a man bent on felony would slam his door so as to wake a household. What did they say, then, of the disappearance of these gems?"

"They are still sounding the planking and probing the furniture in the hope of finding them."

"Have they thought of looking outside the house?"

"Yes, they have shown extraordinary energy. The whole garden has already been minutely examined."

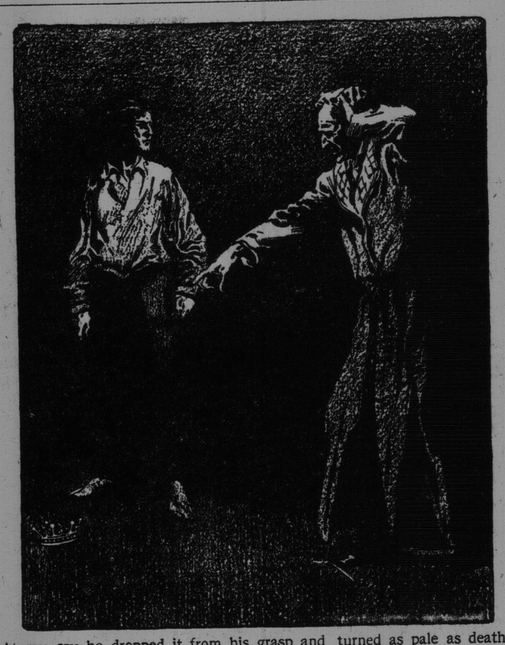
"Now, my dear sir," said Holmes, "is it not obvious to you now that this matter really strikes very much deeper than either you or the police were at first inclined to think? It appeared to you to be a simple case; to me it seems exceedingly complex. Consider what is involved by your theory. You suppose that your son came down from his bed, went, at great risk, to your dressing-room, opened your bureau, took out your coronet, broke off by main force a small portion of it, went off to some other place, concealed three gems out of the thirty-nine with such skill that nobody can find them, and then returned with the other thirty-six into the room in which he exposed himself to the greatest danger of being discovered. I ask you now, is such a theory tenable?"

"But what other is there?" cried the banker, with a gesture of despair. "If his motives were innocent, why does he not explain them?"

"It is our task to find that out," replied Holmes; "so now, if you please, Mr. Holder, we will set off for Streatham together and devote an hour to glancing a little more closely into details."

(To be Continued.)

When Mrs. Jones broke her husband's meerschaum and he began to storm about it, the lady of the house said she didn't see any need of making such a fuss over a stove pipe.



At my cry he dropped it from his grasp and turned as pale as death.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The public have become perfectly aware of the fact that we do exactly what we promise—give them strictly first-class and reliable goods at clearance prices. Everything marked in plain figures showing the original and reduced prices.

Every sale we make is one of the best advertisements we could possibly have. The goods and prices speak for themselves.

LADIES' BLACK SILK AND WOOL EOLIENNE DRESS SKIRTS.

BLACK VOILE DRESS SKIRTS, with Taffeta silk drop skirt; former price, $20.00; clearance price, $14.99.

BLACK VOILE DRESS SKIRTS, with French Batiste drop skirt; former prices $6.00 to $12.00; clearance prices $3.99, $7.99 and $9.99.

BLACK TAFFETA SILK DRESS SKIRTS.

BLACK PEAU DE SOIE SILK DRESS SKIRTS.

BLACK SATIN MERVILLEUX DRESS SKIRTS.

BLACK JAPANESE SILK DRESS SKIRTS—

Former prices $11.50 to $18.00; clearance prices, $7.99, $9.99, $10.99, $11.99 and $13.99.

BLACK VENETIAN CLOTH DRESS SKIRTS, former prices $3.50 to $13.50; clearance prices $2.49, $3.49, $4.49, $4.99, $5.99 and $6.99.

NAVY BLUE ACCORDION PLEATED CASHMERE SKIRTS, former price $15.00; clearance price, $7.99.

CREAM ACCORDION PLEATED CANVAS SKIRTS, former price $12.00; clearance price, $5.99.

COVERT CLOTH SKIRTS (showerproof) in fawns and blues; former price, $9.00; clearance price, $4.99.

Also SKIRTS in various materials, in brown, light grey, dark grey, fawn and navy blue; former prices $3.50 to $12.50; clearance prices, $1.49, $1.99, $2.49, $2.99, $3.99, $4.99, $5.99 and $6.99.

NATURAL PONGEE SILK COSTUMES former prices $20.00 and $25.00; clearance prices, $9.99 and $14.99.

LADIES' BATH GOWNS and LOUNGING ROBES, in Plain and Fancy Velour and All-Wool Eider Cloth; former prices $6.50 to $22.50; clearance prices $3.99 to $11.99.

LADIES' CLOTH COSTUMES, sizes 32 to 42 inch bust measure, in black, navy blue, brown, grey, and fancy mixed cloths; former prices, $8.50 to $25.00; clearance prices, $3.99, $4.49, $4.99, $5.49, $5.99, $6.99, $7.99, $9.99, $11.99 and $12.99.

LADIES' HOISERY—Best makes in Fast Black Cotton and Lisle Thread; at clearance prices.

Ladies' Tan Cotton and Lisle Thread Hose, fast colors; clearance prices, 29c., 39c., 49c. and 59c.; former prices 40c. to 85c.

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MEN'S AND BOYS' ALL LINEN COLLARS, every stylish shape, sizes 12½ to 18c; former prices 12c to 25c each; clearance price, 3 for 19c.

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MEN'S WHITE SHIRTS, perfect fitting former prices 75c. to $1.50; clearance prices 59c. and 79c.; sizes 14 to 19.

BOYS' WHITE SHIRTS, former price 75c.; clearance price, 59c.; sizes 12 to 14.

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MEN'S JAPANESE SILK HANDKERCHIEFS, best grades, plain hemstitched and initialed; former prices, 50c. to $1.00; clearance prices, 39c., 59c. and 79c.

LADIES' WHITE LUSTRE WAISTS, with tucking and newest sleeves, sizes 34 to 40; regular value, $1.25; clearance price, 99c.

LADIES' WHITE LUSTRE WAISTS, with tucking and lace trimming; newest sleeves; regular value, $2.00; clearance price, $1.59. Sizes 34 to 40.

LADIES' BLACK MERCERIZED SATEEN WAISTS, with tucking and newest sleeves, sizes 34 to 44; regular value $1.00; clearance price, 79c.

LADIES' FANCY STRIPED FLANNELETTE WAISTS, with newest sleeves, sizes 34 to 42; regular value 65c; clearance price 49c.

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S WHITE WEAR. The balance of our stock at HALF PRICE.

GREAT BARGAINS in LADIES' COSTUMES and SEPARATE SKIRTS.

LADIES' FLANNELETTE WRAPPERS in navy, brown and cardinal, fancy stripes and figures; newest sleeves; sizes 34 to 40; regular value $1.10, $1.60 and $2.50; clearance prices, 89c, $1.19 and $1.99.

LADIES' KNITTED GOLF JERSEYS, newest styles, in white, cardinal, brown and navy; regular value, $2.50 and $3.00; clearance prices, $1.99 and $2.19.

LADIES' BLACK MERCERIZED SATEEN UNDERSKIRTS, regular value $1.25, $1.60 and $2.00; clearance prices, 99c., $1.19 and $1.59.

LADIES' SILK MOIRETTE UNDERSKIRTS in pink, light blue, turquoise and fancy stripes; regular value $2.75 to $5.50; clearance prices, $1.99, $2.99 and $3.49.

LADIES' TAFFETA SILK UNDERSKIRTS in pink, light blue and Nile green; regular value, $6.50 to $11.50; clearance price, $4.99.

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## TO BE TRIED THIS WEEK

### Hillsboro Man to Face Grand Jury on a Charge of Murder.

Portland, Me., Sept. 6.—(Special)—Edward F. Cole, of Hillsboro (N. B.), will face a jury on the charge of murdering his townsman, John Frank Steeves, at Falmouth, near Portland, on or about April 12, 1905, if the grand jury of the superior court brings in a true bill as it is expected that it will do at its present sitting here.

Cole has been in the county jail here since the hearing of his case in May, when probable cause was found against him on the charge of murder and he was held for action of the court which opened this week. The jury will probably report late this week or early next week and friends of Cole expect that its word will put the prisoner on his trial.

Cole and Steeves were friends in Hillsboro before they came to Portland. Cole was here some time before Steeves arrived and had been employed in various ways when the two met after Steeves, arrival, the new comer was persuaded to go to the Cole house as a lodger and for a time the men were friends, but later were estranged, Cole claiming that Steeves had left his house owing him for board.

At the preliminary hearing it was shown that shortly before Steeves' disappearance in April, Cole had approached a friend and urged him to join in a plan to entice Steeves to a room, drug him and rob him of money that he had been seen to have about him. The offer was refused, but was remembered when Steeves' body was found in the woods on Easter Sunday by boys picking Mayflowers. The throat was cut and the skull fractured; there were evidences of a struggle nearby, and several pools of blood were found. Then the recollection of the conversation about the plot directed suspicion to the Hillsboro man. It was found that while he had been without money before the day of the murder, he later had several Canadian bills.

A pawnbroker told of his offering for sale a watch that was identified as having belonged to Steeves. At the hearing a number of residents of Falmouth identified Cole as one of the two men seen there on the day the murder took place, Steeves, the dead man, being the other.

### RESTIGOUCHE ELECTIONS

Dalhousie, N. B., Sept. 6.—(Special)—The municipal elections took place in Restigouche county yesterday with the following result:

Addington—Adams, McBeath, acclamation.

Eldon—Mann, Dawson, acclamation.

Balmoral—Arseneau, Bernard, acclamation.

Coleburne—Jamieson, Mawhinney, acclamation.

The greatest interest centred in the parish of Dalhousie and Durham with the following results:

Dalhousie—Stewart, 281; Saintonge, 148; Barberie, 136; Golden, 42.

Durham—Culligan, 220; Hayes, 219; Murchie, 179.

## HUMORS OF HISTORY---138

**King Edward the Sixth. A.D. 1547 to 1553**

King Edward VI., the son of Henry VIII., was ten years old when he came to the throne. He had, of course, very little share in the actual government of the country. He was of a kindly and gentle disposition—much given to study; and there is preserved in the British Museum a diary from his own pen recording the events of his reign. He died at Greenwich in 1553, in his sixteenth year, after a reign of six years.

## ST. JOHN MAN IS PRESIDENT

### Dr. S. G. Ritchie Chosen as Chief Officer of Nova Scotia Dental Association---Maritime Province Dentists.

Halifax, N. S., Sept. 6—(Special)—The Provincial Dental Association met this morning when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Dr. S. G. Ritchie, Halifax, president; Dr. W. H. H. Beckwith, Halifax, 1st vice-president; Dr. H. L. Mitchener, Mahone Bay, 2nd vice-president; Dr. F. W. Ryan, Halifax, secretary; Dr. Frank Woodbury, Halifax is representative of the Dominion Dental Council for four years.

Dr. G. K. Thompson, Halifax, is a two year representative of the Dominion Dental Council.

A union meeting of the New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia members was held this afternoon and in the evening reports were presented and a number of interesting papers read and discussed.

Tomorrow's session will be opened at 9 o'clock with clinics and demonstrations by Doctors W. C. Gowan, Creemore (Ont.); S. G. Ritchie, Halifax; J. M. Magee, St. John; J. S. Bagnell, Charlottetown; J. W. Moore, St. Stephen; C. F. Gorham, St. John; G. R. Thomson, Halifax; E. A. Randall, Truro.

During the session special papers will be read by Doctors F. W. Woodbury, Halifax; J. H. Ayer, Charlottetown; F. W. Dobson, Halifax; A. F. McAvenrey, St. John; J. M. Magee, St. John; F. W. Barbour, Fredericton.

Dr. J. M. Magee, St. John, is chairman of the New Brunswick executive committee; Dr. F. H. Ayer, Charlottetown, chairman of the P. E. Island executive committee, and Dr. F. R. Thomas, Windsor, chairman of the Nova Scotia executive committee.

### ANOTHER HITCH

Ottawa, Sept. 6—(Special)—There is another hitch in connection with Canada taking over the Halifax fortifications. Early this summer the imperial authorities were informed that the Canadian militia department was unable to assume control on July 1 as agreed and it was suggested that it be postponed until Sept. 15. There was no reply received to this.

It was evident that the war office considered a further postponement was necessary. The Ottawa government therefore proposed another postponement until October 15 and Sir Frederick Borden and General Lake left on a trip to the Pacific coast. Yesterday a reply was received to the first message agreeing to the transfer on Sept. 15. Officials here are in a quandry what to do in the absence of the minister of militia.

Each day has its special privileges as well as its special duties. The morning is a good time for considering in advance the duties, the evening for considering in retrospect the privileges.—Thoughts.

## THE DECLINE LAST WEEK

### How It Came About---Forces Back of the Slump in Stocks ---Position of the Banks.

(New York Post, Saturday.)

Up to this week there was some doubt as to how far the speculative public had entered the stock market. But the collapse in prices, which began Wednesday, followed by two days of heavy liquidation, showed that a large number of semi-professional traders had come in on the rise which began June 10, that they had "pyramided" their accounts by using their paper profits as additional margin, and that a somewhat perilous situation had been created. During this advance certain banking interests encouraged buying and supported the market "leaders." This week they withdrew all such support. Then the fictitious character of much of the movement became apparent.

In the pressure of liquidation, thousands of orders to "sell at the market" poured in from various sections on Thursday and Friday. Many speculative pools made up of operators who handle together from 25,000 to 100,000 shares, were called on for margins aggregating hundreds of thousands of dollars. These speculators quicky reduced their holdings as the simplest course to pursue.

One of the pools was tied up in Reading, which stock yesterday showed a decline of nearly a dozen points from 125¾, the high record price touched last week. One broker who handled many speculative accounts, said this week that he found some banks unwilling to lend heavily even "on call" at 2¼ or 2½ per cent., and large loans could easily have been obtained on that basis, where proper collateral was offered. Rates were easy enough, but it was the fear of stringency, the supposed preparation of bankers for what might develop later, and the withdrawal of support of powerful interests, which made some lenders over cautious.

The temporary rise in stocks after peace was announced last Tuesday was interpreted by the uninitiated as meaning that with war out of the way the market should continue to advance. But those acquainted with the methods of Wall street told their friends to "sell on good news." This advice was lost on the average man, who only thinks of buying stocks on the rise when something favorable happens. Prominent operators, who handle one hundred thousand shares, were also counting on the market to go higher. Private investors, who bought stocks during the rise, and put them away for income-producing purposes, were not affected by the slump at all.

### A GENTLE TOUCH

Ottawa, Sept. 6—(Special)—Stewart Hamilton, an American, from Havana, who has arrived from Montreal, reports that he either lost or was robbed of his pocketbook containing checks amounting to $1,500 and $300 in bank bills.

Doctor—"But do you think that Skinner will take this? It's just what he needs, but it's anything but palatable."

Blunt—"Oh never fear; I've known Skinner twenty years, and in all that time I never knew him to refuse anything that came his way."

I have heard a good man say that a curse was like a stone flung up to the heavens, and most like to return on the head that sent it.—Scott.


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