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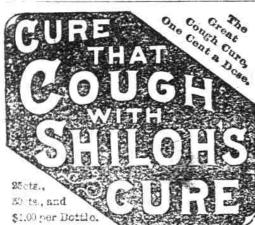
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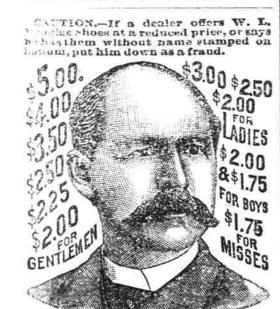
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By A. CONAN DOYLE.

said, smiling at my expression of surprise. "Now that I do know it I shall do my best to forget it."

"To forget it!" "You see," he explained, "I consider that a man's brain originally is like a little empty attic, and you-have to stock it with such furniture as you choose. A fool takes in all the lumber of every sort that he comes across, so that the knowledge which might be useful to him gets crowded out, or at best is-jumbled up with a lot of other things, so that he has a difficulty in laying his hands upon it. Now the skillful workman is very careful indeed as to what he takes into his brainattic. He will have nothing but the tools which may help him in doing his work, but of these he has a large assortment, and all in the most perfect order. It is a mistake to think that that little room has elastic walls and can distend to any extent. Depend upon it, there comes a time when for every addition of knowledge you forget something that you knew before. It is of the highest importance, therefore, not to have useless facts elbowing

out the useful ones." "But the solar system!" I protested. "What the deuce is it to me?" he interrupted impatiently; "you say that we go round the sun. If we went round the moon it would not make a pennyworth of difference to me or to

my work." I was on the point of asking him what that work might be, but something in his manner showed me that the question would be an unwelcome one. I pondered over our short conversation, however, and endeavored to draw my deductions from it. He said that he would acquire no knowledge which did not bear upon his object. Therefore all the knowledge which he possessed was such as would be useful to him. I enumerated in my own mind all the various points upon which he and I naturally began to run my eye had shown me that he was exception ally well informed. I even took a pencil and jotted them down. I could not help smiling at the document when I had completed it. It ran in this way:

SHERLOCK HOLMES-his limits. 1. Knowledge of Literature.-Nil.

2 Knowledge of Philosophy.-Nil. 3. Knowledge of Astronomy. - Nil.

4. Knowledge of Politics. - Feeble. 5. Knowledge of Botany .- Variable Well un in belladonna, opium and poisons generally. Knows nothing of practical gardening. Knowledge of Geology — Practical, but limited. Tells at a glance different soils from each other. After walks has shown me splashes upon his trousers, and told me by their color and consistence in what part of London he had received them. 7. Knowledge of Chemistry. - Profound.

8. Knowledge of Anatomy. - Accurate, but un-9 Knowledge of Sensational Literature -Immense. He appears to know every detail of his results appear to the uninitiated every horror perpetrated in the century.

10 Plays the violia wall. 11. Is an expert single-stick player, boxer and

12 Has a good practical knowledge of British When I had got so far in my list I threw it into the fire in despair. "If I can only find what the fellow is driv- the other. So all life is a great chain, ing at by reconciling all these accom-



HE WOULD CLOSE HIS EYES AND SCRAPE CARELESSLY AT THE FIDDLE.

which needs them all," I said to myself, "I may as well give up the attempt at once."

I see that I have alluded above to his powers on the violin. These were very remarkable, but as eccentric as all I knew well, because at my request he | my life." has played me some of Mendelssohn's Lieder and other favorites. When left to himself, however, he would seldom produce any music or attempt any receyes and scrape carelessly at the fiddle which was thrown across his knee. Sometimes the chords were sonorous and melancholy. Occasionally they were fantastic and cheerful. Clearly they reflected the thoughts which whim or fancy was more than I could thousand to one against him." determine. I might have rebelled "You would lose your money them by playing in quick succession a whole series of my favorite airs as a my patience.

During the first week or so we ha callers, and I had begun to think that my companion was as friendless a man as I was myself. Presently, however. I found that he had many acquaint ances, and those in most different classes of society. There was one little, sallow, rat-faced, dark-eyed fellow who was introduced to me as Mr Lestrade, and who came three or four dressed, and stayed for half an hour or more. The same afternoon brought a gray-headed, seedy visitor, looking like a Jew peddler, who appeared to me to be much excited, and who was closely followed by a slip-shod elderly woman. On another occasion an old white-

torm. When any or these nondescript individuals put in an appearance, Sherlock Holmes used to beg for the use of the sitting-room, and I would retire to my bedroom. He always apologized to me for putting me to this inconvenience. "I have to use this room as a



ONE MORNING A YOUNG GIRL CALLED FASHIONABLY DEESSED.

people are my clients." Again I had an opportunity of asking him a pointblank question, and again my delicacy prevented me from forcing another man to confide in me. I imagined at the time that he had some strong reason for not alluding to it, but he soon dispelled the idea by coming round to the subject of his own accord.

It was upon the 4th of March, as I have good reason to remember, that I rose somewhat earlier than usual, and found that Sherlock Holmes had not yet finished his breakfast. The landlady had become so accustomed to my late habits that my place had not been laid nor my coffee prepared. With the unreasonable petulance of mankind I rang the bell and gave a curt intimation that I was ready. Then I picked up a magazine from the table and attempted to while away the time with it, while my companion munched silently at his toast. One of the articles had a pencil mark at the heading, through it.

Its somewhat ambitious title was "The Book of Life," and it attempted to show how much an observant man might learn by an accurate and systematic examination of all that came in his way. It struck me as being a remarkable mixture of shrewdness and absurdity. The reasoning was close and intense, but the deductions appeared to be far-fetched and exaggerated. The writer claimed by a momentary expression, a twitch of a muscle or a glance of an eye, to fathom a man's inmost thoughts. Deccit, according to him, was an impossibility in the case of one trained to observation and analysis. His conclusions were as infallible as so many propositions of Euclid. So startling would that, until they learned the processes by which he had arrived at them. they

might well consider him a necromancer. "From a drop of water," said the writer, "a logician could infer the possibility of an Atlantic or a Niagara without having seen or heard of one or the nature of which is known whenever we are shown a single link of it. Like all other arts, the science of deduction and analysis is one which can only be acquired by long and patient study. nor is life long enough to allow any mortal to attain the highest possible perfection in it. Before turning to those moral and mental aspects of the matter which present the greatest difficulties, let the inquirer begin by mastering more elementary problems. Let him, on meeting a fellow-mortal, learn at a glance to distinguish the history of the man, and the trade or profession to which he belongs. Puerile as such an exercise may seem, it sharpens the faculties of observation and teaches one where to look and what to look for. By a man's finger-nails, by his coat-sleeve, by his boot, by his trouserknees, by the callosities of his forefinger and thumb, by his expression, by his shirt-cuffs--by each of these things a man's calling is plainly revealed. That all united should fail to enlighten the competent inquirer in

any case is almost inconceivable." "What ineffable twaddle!" I cried, his other accomplishments. That he slapping the magazine down on the could play pieces, and difficult pieces, table; "I never read such rubbish in

"What is it?" asked Sherlock Holmes. "Why, this article," I said, pointing at it with my egg spoon as I sat down to my breakfast. "I see that you have ognized air. Leaning back in his arm read it, since you have marked it. I chair of an evening he would close his don't deny that it is smartly writ that I have it in me to make my name ten. It irritates me though. It is evidently the theory of some arm-chair lounger who evolves all these neat little paradoxes in the seclusion of his own study. It is not practical. I should like to see him clapped down in possessed him, but whether the music a third-class carriage on the Underaided those thoughts, or whether the ground, and asked to give the trades of playing was simply the result of a all his fellow travelers. I would lay a

"You would lose your money," Sheragainst these exasperating solos had it lock Holmes remarked, calmly. "As not been that he usually terminated for the article, I wrote it myself."

"You!" "Yes, I have a turn both for observaslight compensation for the trial upon | tion and for deduction. The theories which I have expressed there, and which appear to you to be so chimerical, are really extremely practical so velope in his hand, and was evidently practical that I depend upon them for the bearer of a message.

my bread and cheese." "And how?" I asked, involuntarily. "Well. I have a trade of my own. I suppose I am the only one in the world. I'm a consulting detective, if you can understand what that is. Here in London we have lots of government detectimes in a single week. One morning tives and lots of private ones. When a young girl called, fashionably these fellows are at fault they come to me, and I manage to put them on the right scent. They lay all the evidence before me, and I am generally able, by the help of my knowledge of the history of crime, to set them straight. There is a strong family resemblance about misdeeds, and if you have all the haired gentleman had an interview details of a thousand at your fingerwith my companion; and on another a | ends, it is odd if you can't unravel the

a fog recently over a forgery case, and I said, blandly, "what your trads may that was what brought him here."

"And these other people?" "They are mostly sent out by private ly. "Uniform away for repairs." inquiry agencies. They are all people who are in trouble about something, and want a little enlightening. I listen to their story, they listen to my comments, and then I pocket my fee." "But do you mean to say," I said, "that without leaving your room you can unravel some knot which other men can make nothing of. although they have seen every detai for themselves?"

"Quite so. I have a kind of intuition that way. Now and ugain a case turns up which is a little more complex. Then I have to bustle about and see things with my own eyes. You analysis increased wondrously. There see, I have a lot of special knowledge which facilitates matters wonderfully. are invaluable to me in practical work. Observation with me is second nature. had come from Afghanistan.' "You were told, no doubt."

"Nothing of the sort. I knew you came from Afghanistan. From long habit the train of thought ran so swiftly through my mind that I arrived at geant of marines." the conclusion without being conscious tor, then. He has just come from the | genut of marines?" tropics, for his face is dark, and that is not the natural tint of his skin, for his wrists are fair. He has undergone you were astonished."

I said, smiling. "You remind me of Edgar Allan Poe's 'Dupin.' I had cane. A stendy, respectable, middle the community in which he lives. His feet.

outside of stories." Sherlock Holmes rose and lit his had been a sergeant." pipe. "No doulst you think that you are complimenting me in comparing me to Dupin," he observed. "Now, in ray opinion, Dupin was a very inferior fellow. That trick of his of breaking in on his friends' thoughts with an apropos remark after a quarter of an hour's silence is really very showy and superficial. He had some analytical genius, no doubt; but he was by no means such a phenomenon as Poe appeared to imagine."

"Have you read Gaboriau's works?" Lasked. "Does Lecoq come up to your idea of a detective?"

Sherlock Holmes sniffed sardonically. 'Lecoq was a miserable bungler," he him: said, in an angry voice; "he had only one thing to recommend him, and that positively ill. The question was how to identify an unknown prisoner. I could have done it in twenty-four hours. Lecoq took six months or so. It might be made a text-book for de-

tectives to teach them what to avoid." ed in this cavalier style. I walked over



HE HAD A LARGE BLUE ENVELOPE IN HIS HAND.

to the window, and stood looking out into the busy street. "This fellow may be very clever," I said to myself, "but he is certainly very conceited." "There are no crimes and no criminals in these days," he said, querulously. "What is the use of having brains in our profession? I know well famous. No man lives or has ever lived who has brought the same amount of study and of natural talent to the detection of crime which I have

done. And what is the result? There is no crime to detect, or, at most, some bungling villainy with a motive so transparent that even a Scotland Yard official can see through it." I was still annoyed at his bumptious style of conversation. I thought it best to change the topic.

"I wonder wist that fellow is looking for?" I asled, pointing to a stalwart, plainly-diessed individual who was walking lowly down the other the apathetic one. side of the street, looking anxiously at the numbers. He and a large blue en-

"You mean the retired sergeant of marines," said Sherlock Holmes. "Brag and bounce!" thought I to myself. "He knows that I cannot verify

his guess." The thought had hardly passed through my mind when the man whom we were watching caught sight of the number on our door, and ran rapidly Leross the roadway. We heard a loud knock, a deep voice below, and heavy steps ascending the

stair. "For Mr. Sherlock Holmes," he said, stepping into the room and handing my friend the letter.

Here was an opportunity of taking MLNN & CO., NEW YORK, 361 BROADWAY. railway porter in his velveteen uni- thousand and first. Lestrade is 3 well- thought of this when he made that population.

known detective. He got himself into | random shot. "May I ask, my ma,"

"Commissionaire, sir," he said gruff-"And you were?" I asked, with a slightly malicious glance at my com-

"A sergeant, sir, Royal Marine light infantry, sir. No answer? Right, He-clicked his heels together, raised

his hand in a salute, and was gone. CHAPTER III.

THE LAURISTON GARDENS MYSTERY. I confess that I was considerably startled by this fresh proof of the practical nature of my companion's theories. My respect for his powers of still remained some lurking suspicion which I apply to the problem, and in my mind, however, that the whole thing was a prearranged episode, in-Those rules of deduction laid down in tended to dazzle me, though what that article which aroused your score | earthly object he could have in taking me in was past my comprehension. When I looked at him he had finished You appeared to be surprised when I reading the note and his eyes had astold you, on our first meeting, that you sumed the vacant, lack-luster expression which showed mental abstraction. ation. "How in the world did you deduce

that?" I asked. "Deduce what?" said he, petnlantly "Why, that he was a retired ser-

"I have no time for trifles," he reof intermediate steps. There were plied, brusquely. Then, with a smile: may be he cannot sell them unsuch steps, however. The train of "Excuse my rudeness. You broke the less he is courteous to his customreasoning ran: 'Here is a gentleman | thread of my thoughts; but perhaps it of a medical type, but with the air of a is as well. So you actually were not military man. Clearly an army doc- able to see that that man was a ser-

"No. indeed." plain why I know it. If you were ter and the circumference; a cirhardship and sickness, as his haggard asked to prove that two and two made cle too narrow for the admission face says clearly. His left arm has four, you might and some difficulty. of an additional member. been injured. He holds it in a stiff and yet you are quite sure of the fact. and unnatural manner. Where in the | Even across the street I could see a tropics could an English army doctor great blue anchor tattooed on the back more into requisition than it is have seen much hardship and got his of the fellow's hand. That smacked of in the home. If a man would arm wounded? Clearly in Afghanist the sea. He had a military carriage. experience the sweets of domestan.' The whole train of thought did however, and regulation side-whiskers. tic happiness he must recognize not occupy a second. I then temarked There we have the marine. He was a that you came from Afghanistan, and | man with some amount of self-importance and a certain air of command. "It is simple enough as you explain You must have observed the way in olive plants whose beauty and which he held his head and swung his fragrance are to adorn and bless for work that God has put under no idea that such individuals did exist aged man, too, on the face of him-all As a general rule the boorish facts which led me to believe that he man will have rude and uncouth

"Wonderful!" I ejaculated. that he was pleased at my evident sur- Home. now that there were no criminals. It appears that I am wrong-look at this!" He threw me over the note which the commissionaire had brought. over it. "this is terrible!"

"It does seem to be a little out of cognized in the code of honor; the common," he remarked, calmly. but the sentiment that forbids it "Would you mind reading it to me

This is the letter which I read to

"MY DEAR MR. SHERLOCK HOLMES: There tols for two." In this day a man has been a bad business during the night at 3 was his energy. That book made me Lauriston gardens, off the Brixton road Our man on the teat saw a light there about two in of public opinion or forfeit his empty one, suspected that something was amis. He found the door open, and fu nifure, discovered the body of a gentleman, well dressed and having cards in his pocket I felt rather indignant at having two land, O., U S A. There had been no robland. O., U.S.A.' There had been no rob-bery, nor is there any evidence as to how the man met his death. There are marks of blood in the room, but there is no wound upon his vail in the Senate, and that Sen-guished experts. In a word, Harpers Weekly characters whom I had admired treat- bery, nor is there any evidence as to how the person. We are at a loss as to how he came is a puzzler. If you can come round to the house any time before twelve, you will flad m. the gentlemen in indissoluble with the solid critical character of the review there. I have left everything in statu quo until I hear from you If you are unable to come I shall give you fuller details, and would esteen it a great kindness if you would favor me with

> "Yours faithfully. Tobias Gregson." "Gregson is the smartest of the Scotland Yarders," my friend remarked; used your Salvation Oil several getic, but conventional -shockingly so. They have their knives into one another, too. They are as jealous as a pair of professional beauties. There no good. I then used Salvation will be some fun over this case if they | Oil and the results were good." are both put upon the scent."

I was amazed at the calm way in which he rippled on. "Surely there is not a moment to be lost," I cried. "Shall I go and order you a cab?" "I am not sure about whether I shall

go. I am the most incurably lazy devil that ever stood in shoe leatherthat is, when the fit is on me, for I can home. It gives the latest information be spry enough at times."

"Why, it is just such a chance as you have been longing for." "My dear fellow, what does it matter to me? Supposing I unravel the shared to make its artistic a tractiveness Gregson, Lestrade & Co. will pocket

all the credit. That comes of being an unofficial personage." "But he begs you to help him." perior, and acknowledges it to me; ant and William Black. Mrs. Oliphat but he would cut his tongue out before | will become a contributor, Marion Har he would own it to any third person.

hook. I may have a laugh at them, if please a cultivated audience. I have nothing else. Come on!" He hustled on his overcoat, and bustled about in a way that showed that an energetic fit had superseded

"Get your hat," he said.

"You wish me to come?" "Yes, if you have nothing better to do." A minute later we were both in a hansom, driving furiously for the Brixton road.

. It was a very foggy, cloudy morning, and a dun-colored veil hung over the house tops, looking like the reflection of the mud-colored streets beneath. My companion was in the best of spirits, and prattled away about Cremona fiddles, and the difference between a Stradivarias and an Amati. As for myself, I was silent, for the dull weather and the melancholy business. upon which we were engaged depressed my spirits.

[TO BE CONTINUED]

Five towns have been annexed to the conceit out of him. He little Louisville, Ky., adding 20,000 to the

Highest of all in Leavening Power .- Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

## **ABSOLUTELY PURE**

COURTESY.

The Newberne Journal very truly says that in this utilitarian age, almost the first question in considering any subject is, will it pay? If it does not pay-if the good is not greater than the evil-there is nothing to commend it, and it should be dismissed as unworthy of consider-

Does courtesy pay? Really, there is nothing that pays better. It is a part of the businessman's capital. It matters little how superior the goods of a merchant To Build Up ers and the general public.

The society man who is wanting in courtesy will soon find himself tabood and relegated to "It was easier to know it than to ex- a circle of which he is the cen-

Nowhere is this quality brought in his wife the first lady in the tassium.] land, and see In his children

children. He may gain wealth,

lows. The duel is no longer re- Mothers, do not be without it. also puts an injunction upon words and actions that in the old-

en time meant "coffee, and pis-

must rise to the advanced plain the morning, and, as the house was an claim to be called a gentleman. We have heard much of late of the front room, which is bare of Senatorial courtesy, and it has sometimes been ridiculed. Anybearing the name of Enoch J Drobber, Cleve thing may be abused and perverted but we trust that the person. We are at a loss as to now became into the empty house: indeed, the whole after ators will join the statesmen and che news features of the daily paper and the into the empty house: indeed, the whole after ators will join the statesmen and artistic, and liferary quality a of the magnetic

Unequaled as a pain destroyer. Mr E D Weiss, Gay Building, HARPERS YOUNG PEOPLE St. Louis, Mo., writes: "I have "he and Lestrade are the pick of a bad times and find it unequaled as a lot. They are both quick and ener- rain destroyer. I was troubled with pains in my legs and tried several remedies which did me

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[Prickly Ash Poke Root and Po-

Many a man looks up in the sky

Oh, What a Cough. Will you heed the warning. The str-"Commonplace," said Holmes, but his soul will never thrill with nai Perhaps of the sure approach of though I thought from his expression recollections of Home, sweet that more terrible disease Consumption. Ask yourselves if you can afford for the sake of saving 50 cents to run the risk prise and admiration. "I said just It seems to us that men are not and do nothing for it. We know from as corteous as they were in the experience that shill his Cure will curdays of our fathers. They are your cough. It never fails. This exnot held to so rigid account for were sold the past year. It relieves "Why." I cried, as I east my eye their conduct towards their fel- eroup and who ping cough at once.

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