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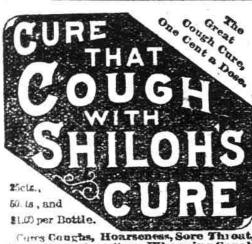
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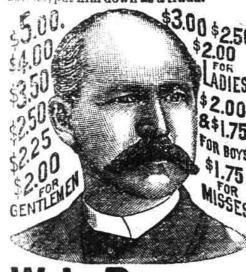
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By A. CONAN DOYLE.

"He cowered away with wild cries and prayers for mercy, but I drew my knife and held it to his throat until he had obeyed me. Then I swallowed of this county. I will also be in the other, and we stood facing each other in silence for a minute or more. waiting to see which was to live and the first warning pangs told him that the poison was in his system? I laughed as I saw it, and held Lucy's marriage ring in front of his eyes. It was but for a moment, for the action of the alkaloid is rapid. A spasm of pain contorted his features; he threw his hands out in front of him, staggered, and then, with a hoarse ery, fell over with my foot and placed my hand | the prisoner will be brought before the ment. He was dead!

"The blood had been streaming from my nose, but I had taken no notice of it. I don't know what it was that put | led off by a couple of warders, while it into my head to write upon the wall | my friend and I made our way out of with it. Perhaps it was some mischievous idea of setting the police upon a wrong track, for I felt light-hearted and cheeral. I remembered a Ger-



"HE COWERED AWAY WITH WILD CRIES AND PRAYERS FOR MERCY."

man being found in New York with 'rache' written up above him, and it was argued at the time in the newspapers that the secret societies must have done it. I guessed that what puzzled the New Yorkers would puzzle the Londoners, so I dipped my finger in my own blood and printed it on a convenient place on the wall. Then I walked down to my cab and found that there was nobody about, and that the night was still very wild. I had driven some distance, when I put my hand into the pocket in which I usually kept Lucy's ring and found that it was not there. I was thunderstruck at this, for it was the only memento that I had of her. Thinking that I might have dropped it when I stooped over Drebber's body, I drove back, and, leaving my cab in a side street, I went boldly up to the house-for I was ready to dare anything rather than lose the ring! When I arrived there I walked right into the arms of a police officer who was coming out, and only managed to disarm his suspicions by pretending to be hopelessly drunk.

"That was how Enoch Drebber came to his end. All I had to do then was to do as much for Stangerson, and so pay off John Ferrier's debt. I knew that he was staying at Halliday's private hotel, and I hung about all day, but he never came out. I fancy that he suspected something when Drebber fai'ed to put in an appearance. He alytically." was cunning, was Stangerson, and always on his guard. If he thought he quite follow you." could keep me off by staying indoors he was very much mistaken. I soon found out which was the window of his bedroom, and early next morning I took advantage of some ladders which were lying in the lane behind the hotel and so made my way into his room in the gray of the dawn. I woke him up and told him that the hour had come when he was to answer for the life he had taken so long before. I described Drebber's death to him, and 1 gave him the same choice of the poisoned pills. Instead of grasping at the chance of safety which that offered him, he sprang from his bed and flew at my throat. In self-defense I stabbed him to the heart. It would have been the same in any case, for Providence would never have allowed his guilty hand to pick out anything but the

"I have little more to say, and it's as well, for I am about done up. I went on cabbing it for a day or so, intending to keep at it until I could save enough to take me back to America. I ragged youngster asked if there was a cabby there called Jefferson Hope, and



"I DESCRIBED DREBBER'S DEATH TO HIM." tleman at 221B Baker street. I went round, suspecting no harm, and the next thing I knew, this young man here had the bracelets on my wrists, and as neatly shackled as ever I was in my life. That's the whole story, gentlemen. You may consider me to the nocturnal visitors were two in be a murderer; but I hold that I am number, one remarkable for his height just as much an officer of justice as (as I calculated from the length of his

you are." So thrilling had the man's narrative | dressed, to judge from the small and been, and his manner was so impressive, that we had sat silent and absorbed. Even the professional detection ference was confirmed. My well-booted flaw."

tail of crime, appeared to be keenly in- had done the murder, if murder toere terested in the man's story. When he finished we sat for some minutes in a stillness which was only broken by expression upon his face assured me

"There is only one point on which I should like a little more information." Sherlock Holmes said at last. "Who was your accomplice who came for the ring which I advertised?"

shorthand account.

The prisoner winked at my friend which was to die. Shall I ever forget jocosely. "I can tell my own secrets," the look which came over his face when he said, "but I don't get other people into trouble. I saw your advertisement, and I thought it might be a plant, or it might be the ring I wanted. this result, for no other hypothesis My friend volunteered to go and see. I think you'll own he did it smartly." "Not a doubt of that," said Holmes,

heartily. "Now, gentlemen," the inspector reheavily upon the floor. I turned him must be complied with. On Thursday upon his heart. There was no move- | magistrates, and your attendance will be required. Until then I will be responsible for him." He rang the bell as he spoke, and Jefferson Hope was the station and took a cab back to Baker street.

CHAPTER VIL

THE CONCLUSION. We had all been warned to appear before the magistrates upon the Thursday; but when the Thursday came there was no occasion for our testimony. A higher Judge had taken the matter in hand, and Jefferson Hope had been summoned before a tribunal where strict justice would be meted his capture the aneurism burst, and he was found in the morning stretched upon the floor of the cell, with a placid look back upon a useful life and on work well done.

"Gregson and Lestrade will be wild about his death," Holmes remarked, as we chatted it over next evening. "Where will their grand advertisement

to do with his capture," I answered. most instructive points about it."

"Simple!" I ejaculated. "Well, really, it can hardly be de-Holmes, smiling at my surprise. "The proved that I had judged correctly. proof of its intrinsic simplicity is that without any help, save a few very orthree days."

That is true." said I. usually a guide rather than a hindrance. In solving a problem of this sort, the grand thing is to be able to reason backward. That is a very useful accomplishment and a very easy one, but people do not practice it much. In the everyday affairs of life it is more useful to reason forward, and so the other comes to be neglected. There are fifty who can reason synthetically for one who can reason an-

"I confess," said I, "that I do not "I hardly expected that you would. Let me see if I can make it clear. Most people, if you describe a train of events to them, will tell you what the result would be. They can put those events together in their minds, and argue from them that something will come to pass. There are few people, however, who, if you told them a result would be able to evolve from their own inner consciousness what the steps were which led up to that result. This reasoning backward, or analytically."

"I understand," said I. "Now, this was a case in which you were given the result and had to find everything else for yourself. Now, let me endeavor to show you the different steps in my reasoning. To begin at as you know, on foot, and with my mind entirely free from all impressions. I naturally began by examining the roadway, and there, as I have already explained to you, I saw clearly the marks of a cab, which, I ascerwas standing in the yard when a tained by inquiry, must have been there during the night. I satisfied myself that it was a cab and not a private carriage by the narrow gauge of the wheels. The ordinary London growler is considerably less wide than a gentleman's brougham.

"This was the first point gained. I then walked slowly down the garden path, which happened to be composed of a clay soil, peculiarly suitable for taking impressions. No doubt it appeared to you to be a mere trampled line of slush, but to my trained eyes tracing footsteps. Happily, I have almuch practice has made it second nature to me. I saw the heavy footmarks of the constables, but I saw also the tracks of the two men who had first passed through the garden. It was easy to tell that they had been before the others, because in places their marks had been entirely obliterated by the others coming upon the stride) and the other fashionably

elegant impression left by his boots. "On entering the house this last in-

was. There was no wound upon the dead man's person, but the agitated the scratching of Lestrade's pencil as that he had foreseen his fate before it he gave the finishing touches to his came upon him. Men who die from cause never by any chance exhibit agi-

tation upon their features, liaring sniffed the dead man's lips. I detecte a slightly sour smeil, and I came to the conclusion that he had had poisor forced upon him. Again I argued that it had been forced upon him from the hatred and fear expressed upon his face. By the method of exclusion I had arrived at would meet the facts. Do not imagine that it was a very unheard-of idea. The forcible administration of poison is by no means a new thing in criminal annals. The eases of Dolsky, in Odesmarked gravely, "the forms of the law sa, and of Leturier, in Montpelier, will occur at once to any toxicologist.

"And now came the great question as to the reason why. Robbery had not been the object of the murder, for nothing was taken. Was it politics, then, or was it a woman? That was the question which confronted me. I was inclined from the first to the latter supposition. Political assassins are only too glad to do their work and to fly. This murder had, on the contrary, been done most deliberately. and the perpetrator had left his tracks all over the room, showing that he had been there all the time. It must have been a private wrong, and not a political one, which called for such a methodical revenge. When the inscription was discovered upon the wall I was more inclined than ever to my out to him. On the very night after opinion. The thing was too evidently a blind. When the ring was found, however, it settled the question. Clearly the murderer had used it to smile upon his face, as though he had | remind his victim of some dead or abbeen able in his dying moments to sent woman. It was at this point that I asked Gregson whether he had inquired in his telegram to Cleveland as to any particular point in Mr. Drebber's former career. He answered, you remember, in the negative.

"I then proceeded to make a careful examination of the room, which con-"I don't see that they had very much | firmed me in my opinion as to the murderer's height, and furnished me with "What you do in this world is a mat- | the additional detail as to the Trichiter of no consequence," returned my nopoly cigar and the length of his companion, bitterly. "The question is, nails. I had already come to the conwhat can you make people believe that | clusion, since there were no signs of a you have done? Never mind," he con- struggle, that the blood which covered tinued, more brightly, after a pause," I the floor had burst from the murderer's A Simian Paderewski Could '5 ver Two would not have missed the investiga- nose in his excitement. I could pertion for anything. There has been no | ceive that the track of blood coincided Simple as it was, there were several dom that any man, unless he is very full-blooded, breaks out in this way through emotion, so I hazarded the opinion that the criminal was probably scribed as otherwise," said Sherlock a robust and ruddy-faced man. Events

"Having left the house, I proceeded to do what Gregson had neglected. I dinary deductions, I was able to lay telegraphed to the head of the police my hand upon the criminal within at Cleveland, limiting my inquiry to the circumstances connected with the marriage of Enoch Drebber. The an-"I have already explained to you swer was conclusive. It told me that that what is out of the common is Drebber had already applied for the makers' tools. It is not out of the way



A RAGGED YOUNGSTER ASKED IF THERE WAS A CABBY THERE CALLED JEFFER-

protection of the law against an old rival in love, named Jefferson Hope. and that this same Hope was at present murderer

"I had already determined in my walked into the house with Drebber was none other than the man who had the beginning: I approached the house, driven the cab. The marks in the road showed me that the horse had wanbeen impossible had there been anyone in charge of it. Where, then, could the driver be, unless he were inside the house? Again, it is absurd to suppose that any sane man would carry out a deliberate crime under the very eyes, as it were, of a third person, who was sure to betray him. Lastly, supposing one man wished to dog another through London, what better means could he adopt than to turn cabdriver? All these considerations led me to the irresistible conclusion that Jefferson Hope was to be found among the jarveys of the metropolis. "If he had been one there was no

reason to believe that he had ceased to be. On the contrary, from his point of every mark upon its surface had a view, any sudden change would be meaning. There is no branch of de- likely to draw attention to himself. tective science which is so important He would probably, for a time at least, and so much neglected as the art of continue to perform his duties. There was no reason to suppose that he was ways laid great stress upon it, and going under an assumed name. Why should he change his name in a country where no one knew his original one? I therefore organized my street-Arab detective corps, and sent them systematically to every cab proprietor in London until they ferreted out the man that I wanted. How well they succeeded and how quickly I took advantage of it are still fresh in your recollection. The murder of Stangerson was an incident which was entirely unexpected, but which could hardly in any case have been prevented Through it, as you know, I came into possession of the pills, the existence of which I had already surmised. You see the whole thing is a chain of logical sequences without a break or

tives, blase as they were in every de man lay before me. The tall one, then, "It is wonderful!" I cried. "Your

merits should be publicly recognized. You should publish an account of the

case. If you won't, I will for you." "You may do what you like, doctor," that he had foreseen his fate before it he answered. "See here!" he concame upon him. Men who die from tinued, handing a paper over to me; heart disease or any sudden natural "look at this!"

It was the Echo for the day, and the .ragrapa to which he pointed was deoted to the case in question.

"The public," it said, 'have lost a sensational treat through the sudden death of the man llope, who was suspected of the murder of Mr. Enoch Drebber and of Mr. Joseph Stangerson. The details of the case will probably never be known now, though we are informed upon good authority that the crime was the result of an old-standing and comantic feud, in which love and Mormonism bore a part. It seems that both the victims belonged, in their your fer days, to the Latter Day Saints, and Hope, the deceased prisoner, bails also from Salt Lake City. If the case has had no other effect, it at least brings out in the most striking manner the efficiency of our detective police force, and will serve as a lesson to all foreigners that they will do wisely to settle their feuds at home and not to carry them on to British soil. It is an open secret that the credit of this smart capture belongs entirel" to the well-known Scotland Yard officials, Messrs. Lestrade and Gregson. The man was apprehended, it appears, in the rooms of a certain Mr. Sherlock Holmes, who has himself, as an amateur, shown some talent in the detective line, and who, with such instructors, may hope in time to attain to some degree of their skill. It is expected that a testimonial of some sort will be presented to the two officers as a fitting recognition of their

"Didn't I tell you so when we started?" cried Sherlock Holmes, with a laugh. "That's the result of all our study in scarlet; to get them a testimonial!

"Never mind," I answered; "I have all the facts in my journal and the public shall know them. In the meantime you must make yourself contented by the consciousness of success, like

" Populus me sibilat, at mihi plaudo Ipse domi simul ac nummos contemplar in

[THE END.]

MONKEYS' THUMBS.

Octaves. The hands, the fingers, and above all better case within my recollection. with the track of his feet. It is sel- the thumbs belonging to Chico attracted my particular attention. Now you must know that it is because man has a thumb, and for the reason that his thumb is so beautifully jointed, supple and adjustable, that he has been able to overcome all difficulties, says a writer in Harper's. The other fingers are all very well in their way, but it is the thumb that controls the real movement of the hand. Without a thumb you never could wield a heavy sledgehammer or the most delicate of watchto say that man is the master, holding every other living thing "under his

Here is a little bit of natural history which must be remembered about monkeys. All the morkeys of the old world have some kind of a thumb. As St. George Mivart, a great zoologist, writes: "Any old-world monkey with a rudimentary thumb (that is, a thumb, even if imperfect) is superior in that respect to an American monkey." In fact, the American monkey has no thumb at all. Nature compensates in a measure in our new-world monkey by giving him a wonderful tail. This American monkey tail is prehensile. It answers almost the purpose of a fifth limb. A South American monkey gives of all kinds. All that want meat his tail a hitch around the limb of a tree, and there he hangs quite comfortably, independent of hands or feet.

Chico's thumbs are superb, being fully four and one-quarter inches long The ordinary length of the human thumbais about two and one-half power is what I mean when I talk of in Europe. I knew now that I held the inches. Chico's middle finger is a trifle clew to the mystery in my hand, and over five inches long. Man's is three all that remained was to secure the and one-half inches. The ourangoutang's hand was narrow, apparently, but it seemed about the width of that own mind that the man who had of whuman being's, only the sense of proportion was lost, owing to the extreme length of the fingers. The knuckles were small and perfectly in of 200 pounds. For sale as follows line. The stretch of such a hand as dered on in a way which would have Chico's would be enormous, fully per express, 75 cents. thirteen inches. The octave on the piano measures seven inches. If Chico were a pianist he could with little effort cover two octaves and would leave Paderewski quite in the shade. If Not less than two tons will be taken Chico had a taste for the double bass, by freight unpacked. once that those long fingers of his were wound around the neck of a big fiddle, what a wonderful performer he would be, providing the instrument would stand the strain.

[TO BE CONTINUED]

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria

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"Oh that was before he preposed."-Life.

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HARPER'S PERIOPICALS. HARPER'S MAGAZINE HARPER'S BAZAR

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