

cummaging in a drawer, he suddenly grew quite excited when, in spite of a On her behalf Ballantine made one I have been down in almost all the produced something which he tossed search, the scrap of paper was not of the most eloquent speeches ever oceans and seas on the globe, said a The story of those ships as told me to me.

asked.

It was a woman's rather worn black silk glove, with four little pearl buttons at the wrist-a glove ering.

cases," he observed. tory connected with it."

Maria Manning. lady was standing one August after- stood in Mrs. Smith's room. noon at the door of a house in Green rang impatiently.

as the door was opened.

turned away as if disappointed; and buffed by her marvellous coolness. then said she would enter and wait his return in his sitting-room, to what?" she asked, standing before which she was shown. The lady's him calmly and dignified. name was Maria Manning, and she "I have reason to believe, Mrs. and her husband were intimate Smith," he replied "that you are one friends of Mr. O'Connor, a some- Mrs. Manning, suspected of the murwhat wealthy officer in the Customs, der of a gentleman named O'Connor. and Mrs. Manning often waited in I must ask you to allow me to the sitting-room when on calling search your luggage." she found O'Connor out. She remained there now for nearly an hour; are quite welcome!" answered the the eastern Alps, bordering the upbut O'Connor did not return, and imperturable Mrs. Smith, handing per Rhine. Hemmed in by Switzershe left, expressing her disappoint- him a bunch of keys. ment.

was seen of the Customs House offi- identity as the lady they were huntcer. His landlady, becoming alarm- ing, and very soon the now whiteed, sought the aid of the police, and faced, dark-eyed, yet still perfectly a couple of detectives were despatch- composed woman was being carried ed from Scotland Yard to search his in a cab to the police-station-a prisrooms to seek a clue to his myster- oner, charged with the wilful murious disappearance.

and tidy man-most tidy!" declared The sleuthhounds of justice had run his landlady, in answer to a ques- down Mrs. Manning, in spite of her tion put to her by one of the detec- clever trick of the boxes labelled to

"Then how is it his papers are like down Manning? this?" asked the officer, pointing to of documents scattered in confusion. The landlady shook her head.

since Mr. O'Connor left?"

save his visitor, the Swiss lady—Mrs. Manning. In a few minutes the de- ing capture. tectives were on their way to Mr. Miniver Place, Bermondsey.

The place was empty. The most which would lead to his arrest. vigorous knocks at the door failed to bring any answer. And at last | Manning!" one of the neighbors informed the detectives that Mr. and Mrs. Mann- in the columns of the newspapers ing had left the house some days pie- and on posters on the walls throughviously, having sold their furniture out the length and breadth of Bri-"all in a hurry." It was a strange tain. They met the eye of a young coincidence which made the officers lady who had known Manning, and keen to enter and see whether in the who, strangely enough only a few described house there lay some clue days previously, while travelling to

appearance.

top to bottom. If those silent walls he was going to Jersey. She wrote, those empty, hare rooms, held a sec- stating these facts, to the Governor ret it was well concealed. The de- of Guernsey, who telegraphed them tectives turned their attention to the to London; and in hot haste the little back garden, and dug it foot keenest trackers from Scotland Yard by foot. Nothing! The house in were sent over to Jersey to find if Miniwer Place would apparently fur- Manning were there. nish no evidence against its occutives gazed at it admiringly, and wonder, after the drink he's had. started. Then he went down on his knees, and, taking his penknife from eagerly. his pocket, dug it into the cement between two of the flags.

"New. Hardly set!" he exclaimed excitedly, examining his knife. "The flags have only been recently laid. What lies beneath them?"

The house in Miniver Place was about to give up its ghastly secret. Beneath the flags, buried under a foot or two of soil, the detectives came upon the corpse of a man, into whose sinister grave as quantity of quicklime had been poured. The tle thatched cottage. body was that of Mr. O'Connor, and he had been killed by a bullet dis- to the bent man who opened the charged into his temple. Eighteen door to his knock. "You have a terrible wounds on the head, inflict- lodger here. I believe he is one Maned with a hammer or some such in- ning, who is wanted for murder !" strument, showed that his murderer The old man started, and nearly. had resolved to make doubly certain dropped his candle. "Show me his of his awful purpose.

A terible crime had been committ-Where were the Mannings? For many days the acutest detectives in London hunted in vain to discover a trace of them. Had any cabman carried a tall, dark, handsome lady, speaking English with a bewitching French accent, to any of the railway stations? Every driver was examined, and at last a man was found who remembered such a fare. He had driven her to the South-bedside, and holding the candle so for." The boxes were still in the Patrick O'Connor!" left-luggage office. .

"Mrs. Smith, sir!" A tall, handsome,

broker on the Royal Exchange. She handsome white lace veil, was pale had a few shares in the Amiens and and calm-"a handsome tigress," as ONE OF Boulogne Railway, she explained, of one of the spectators described her. called again. The shares had not her !" been sold. Mrs, Smith was disapthe meaning of her anxiety.

Amiens-Boulogne Railway! so slim that I could easily pass it those shares be those about which through my signet ring. The fingers he had read something in the newsof its wearer had been long and tap- papers-something about their having been abstrated from the drawers "It is a relic of one of my early in the room of the man O'Connor, "The hand for whose murderers the police were filled that glove had a terrible his- scouring the country? The stockbroker rushed off to the police-sta-It had belonged to the notorious tion to inform them of his strange visitant, and in less than an hour A tall, dark, fashionably dressed the head of the Edinburgh police

She received him with frigid politewood Street, London. With her deli- ness. As his keen eyes noted how cately gloved hand she knocked and strangely Mrs. Smith agreed with with the description he had received "Is Mr. O'Connor in?" she asked, of the sought-for Mrs. Manning, his growing conviction that the woman Mr. O'Connor was out. The lady he wanted stood before him was re-

"The reason of this visit is-

"Certainly! With pleasure! You

Ten minutes' search in Mrs. Seven days passed, and nothing Smith's boxes amply revealed her der of that man discovered in the "Mr. O'Connor was a most careful grave beneath the kitchen flag-stones! Paris. Would they be able to hunt

He had left Miniver Place, so the an open drawer in which lay a mass police learnt, two days later than his wife. By all accounts, he was a man of mean ability; but it is a "It looks as if some stranger had fact, confirmed by the experience of been rummaging," went on the de- the best English and French detectective. "Who has been in the room tives, that the meanest intellects are very often those which display the The landlady could remeber no one most baffling cunning in committing criminal deeds and cleverness in elud-

Every clue followed by the detec-Manning's residence, a little house in tives failed, and at last a large reward was offered for information "Murder! Wanted, Frederick George

The words in large type stood out to the reason of Mr. O'Connor's dis-Guernsey, in the Channel Islands,

"We've got a queer chap down here, pants. Rather, it testified in their lodging near Baumont," confided one favor. It was marvellously clean. of the publicans to a detective. "Hes The flagged kitchen floor had been staying at a cottage. Drinks brandy recently hearthstoned till it was as near enough to drown him. Stops inwhite as snow. One of the detec- doors most part of the day-and no

"What is he like?" asked to officer

some respects the description was estates or at Vienna-for, besides bethat of Manning, and the detective ing Sovereign Prince of Liechtenresolved to take the responsibility stein, he bears an Austrian title by upon himself of making an unexpect- virtue of which he is a member of ed descent upon the visitor ..

ing when the detective, with two by long distance telephone. other officers, made his way to a lit-

"I am a detective," said the officer room. I must see him at once."

The old man led the way along a Who were its perpetrators? passage to a door. The detective took the candle from his hand, lifted the latch of the door, and enter-In a corner of the room a man in bed raised himself on his clow, and turned towards the intruder a

> white, startled face. "Who are you, and what do you

> want?" he cr'ed. "I am a detective," replied the stranger, stepping swiftly to his

appeared, pale and trembling, in the that my words sank deep into her niece of the old gentleman's instead chief constable doesn't know me yet, well-dressed, dock at the Old Bailey. His wife, heart."

dark lady was ushered by a clerk in- in a black satin dress, with a colorto the office of an Edinburgh share- ed shawl round her shoulders, and a

which she wished to dispose. The "It was she who prompted the broker promised to do what he could crime! It was she who fired the Has Been at the Bottom of the to find a purchaser, and Mrs. Smith shot! It was she who brought me wrote down her name and address, to stand here! I ask your pity, and and left him. Two days later she that you will take vengeance on

Such, shortly, was the defence has been considered by many to have pointed, and, above all, she showed Manning made by his counsel. The been one of the most successful salthe greatest anxiety to recover the eyes of the pale. dark-haired woman vage works undertaken by divers, but I was in my old friend Serjeant piece of paper on which she had with the firm-set mouth beside him it is by no means the most impor-Ballantine's chambers one day when, written her name and address. She in the dock flashed as she listened, tant or the strangest. to be found; and when she left the heard at the Old Bailey. But what diver attached to a well-known firm by one of the syndicate of gentlemen "What do you think of that?" he sharebroker wondered what could be could avail her? What could avail the other day to a London Tit-Bits who found the money for the venture

"Guilty!" the body of the court

forest!"

sible care, she stepped firmly to her doom, while Manning was hardly altogether pleasant experience to feel Australia. But we salved her, and I equal to walking to the gallows. swers.

PAYS TO BE RULER.

Prince Is Taxed by People of His one day Principality.

country, almost unknown, in the very heart of central Europe. An independent and whimsical principality of sixty-eight square miles. It is in land and Austria, and but a few miles from the German frontier, it has been independent for over two centuries, and was forgotten by Bismarck, so runs the local peasantry, in the reorganization following the Prussian wars with Austria and France

It is not tucked inaccessibly away. Thousands of travellers on their way Innsbruck, have seen from the train the towering mountains of the little State. Others, on their way to Davos-Flatz, have glanced at a distant little town, at the foot of a castled rock, without suspecting that they were looking at one of the capitals of Europe.

There is no military service. There is no national debt. There is a nominal tax, only a tenth as large as that of Austria. The ruling Prince gives freely for the good of the people out of his huge private fortune. So far from deriving any revenue from his principality he pays heavily for the pleasure of holding

Following the close of the war between Austria and Prussia, in which Liechtenstein allied itself with Austria, there came another gravely presented protest. The citizens were weary of the expense of a standing army, an army which, consisting of eighty men, with a Captain and a trumpeter, had bravely marched to- ployed by the mother of the owner, ward the scene of hostilities, but too | who was an only son, and as soon as late to arrive before the war had the news of the disaster came to To Die for the Country Is Not a come to its swift end.

having a vote. The little body meets once in every year and remains in session for several weeks, engaged in the very attenuation of discussion of petty things.

It is Lilliput ruled by its Gulliver. And although, on account of the fiscal arrangement, Austrian coins and stamps are generally used, the Prince's personal pride in his possession has led him to have his own stamps and coins as well, bearing his name and face and title.

And there is another touch to add to the unreality of it all. Coming to Vaduz only at infrequent intervals, The publican described him. In and busied as he is at his private the Austrian House of Lords-he can It was a beautiful autumn even- at any time call up his principality

A WOMAN'S CURIOSITY.

She cycled up to the butcher's in all shop, and came in with a smiling

"I want you to cut me off twentyfive pounds of beef, please,"

The butcher was incredulous. "Twenty-five pounds?"

"Yes, please." When he had finished, he asked her whether she would take it or have it

sent home." Oh, I don't want to buy it," sho explained. "You see, my doctor tells me, I have lost twenty-five pounds of flesh through cycling, and I wanted to see what it looked like in a lump. Thank you so much."

Bridge, and she had two boxes with awakened man's face." ('And you that Millie will clope with that the missing will in an air-tight tin constable was amazed. "Why, your her, labelled "Mrs. Smith, passenger are George Frederick Manning. I ar- young rascal." Mother-"I don't case, which I believe was formerly honor, I don't even know the man," to Paris. To be left till called rest you for the wilful murder of Mr. think so, dear. I reminded her last used for keeping important papers in protested he. "Now, sorr," broke evening that girls who eloped got aboard ship. The result of my find in Pat, "I have lived in the borough A hangdog, pitiful villain, Manning no wedding presents, and I feel sure was that the property went to a for nearly twenty years, and if the

TEEM TELLS OF HIS EXFERIENCES.

Sea Many Times, and Seen Strange Sights.

The raising of the submarine Al

representative, and some of the jobs would make exciting reading if put I have had would astonish most peo- into a book. We found two ships She stood pale, rigid, her eyes ple, who know little or nothing of within a mile or two of the place the flashing before the judge as he assum- the work. It is now twenty-seven ones we were in search of had been ed the black cap, and, seizing a years ago since I made my first des- sunk according to our chart, but they bunch of flowers rying before her on cent, when little more than a big were so broken up that any treasure the dock-ledge, she hurled it out into lad. We were engaged in salving a there was in them had been washed ship which contained a lot of bullion out; and although we found a good "Base, shameful England!" she off the coast of Ireland, and our sec- many loose Spanish doubloons and "I am a foreigner, and you ond diver got badly injured by the some gold church ornaments worth, treat me like a wild beast of the tide against the ship. I was thought so I believe, about \$20,000, there too inexperienced to go down below, was no profit for the syndicate when A few weeks later the two were but as the illness of the diver was a all the expenses had been paid. executed. Undaunted to the 'ast, serious matter, and as I was keen on One of the most troublesome jobs and costumed with the greatest pos- the job, I was allowed to try.

oneself sinking to the bottom in earned \$60 a week whilst out there. "A tigress! No other word des- about ten or twelve fathoms of wa- Then I have done many little jobs on cribes her so fitly!" declared Ser- ter. But I wasn't one to give in, my own account, such as going down jeant Ballantine, as he took the and so I set to work with the head at a well-known south-coast watering back from me .- London An- diver, and was lucky enough to be place after a gold presentation watch the first to locate the bullion, which which the owner's little child dropped was half buried in sand in the treas- into about seven fathoms of water ure chamber. I had a nasty fright off the pier. The watch was worth warm, and whilst we were at work | tleman so valued it that he spent

A BIG SHADOW

A people who tax their Prince. A seemed to be hovering above us, and on looking up my mate discovered a shark-a stray one, probably, out of the Mediterranean. He managed to make me understand, and we both retired for a time into the treasure chamber. Fortunately the rascal sheered off and we did not see him again.

I soon, continued the speaker, was put on the regular list of divers attached to the firm, and found it more interesting work than pumping air on or attending to the lines. My next job was at a little place on the banks of the Seine, endeavoring recover a lot of fewellery which was supposed to have been thrown into the river many years before. didn't find the jewellery we were in search of-no doubt it had washed down many miles or even into the sea long before-but we found some gold ornaments, which a gentleman said were more than 800 years old, a beautiful mug of solid gold, a sort of crown, several daggers which had jewels in their handles, and also a couple of skeletons with heavy rusty chains round wrists and legs. I was told there was a story about them, which said that they were the bodies of a noble's daughter and her lover, who were thrown by her father into the river from the walls of an old castle which used to stand thereabouts. Anyway, the country folk were so alarmed at those old bones that they would scarcely go to bed till they had been buried.

MY NEXT JOB was salving the wreck of a yacht lost in the Mediterranean. We were em-England we were dispatched with all There is now a written Constitu- our gear (except boats) overland. tion. There is a little Parliament of The job must have cost \$3,000 or Nothing. They had searched from unsuspected by him, had learnt that fifteen members. Three members are \$3,500 first and last. We found the named by the Prince. Twelve are body without much difficulty—the appeared in the London Times recentelected by the people, every man in yacht lay in about eight fathoms in Liechtenstein over 24 years of age one of the little bays along the Italian Riviera-and in the young fel- characteristics. low's arms, in the cabin, was claspto hold our tongues at the time.

> want another like it. Of all the her- lead to disaster. rible sights, some of those poor, to give it up for several shifts. can tell you that, though I'm not "What would be thought," it is in the least a nervous sort of chap, I couldn't sleep at nights for several weeks. We were well paid; but .othing could pay for what we went through. And when we went ashore we were often beset by relatives of the victims, simply hungering for the information. One poor lady-I am never likely to forget her face-used THE TERRIBLE WEATHER

of January, February and March whilst I was engaged on the job. She lost her husband in the disaster, and I heard tell she afterwards lost her reason, poor thing.

I was once employed to go down a well in the southern counties, as it was supposed that the will of an old think, been down in colder water, the Japanese in this war. and there was a regular collection of articles at the bottom.

of to the next of kin. The night be- isn't that a character for yez?"

fore I went down I received a letter. saying that, if I discovered anything and would either leave it where it was or bring it to a certain place in London, I should be handsomely rewarded. The letter was not signed, but I have little doubt that it was sent by the party who had most to lose by the discovery of the will.

One of my most exciting jobs was with a privately-equipped expedition which went to Central America for the purpose of attempting to discover a couple of treasure ships which had been sunk about 150 years before

THE COAST OF PANAMA.

I was ever engaged on was doing Well, I can assure you it wasn't an the repairs to a sunken vessel in that first job, for the weather was about \$125 I suppose, but the gen-(with what he gave me) nearly \$200 in recovering it.

Then, whilst I was working in the United States, I was once engaged to find the weapon with which a well known man had shot a young girl whom he had abducted and taken to a place on the Hudson. I found it AFTER A WEEK'S SEARCH,

which cost the relatives upwards of \$2,000 in addition to the cost of the handsome gold watch they gave me. One of my most interesting experiences, said the speaker, in conclusion, as he commenced to get ready to go down below once more, was on my Australian trip. When the work was done on the steamer 1 was offered a job to go to a pearl bank and dive for oysters. I was six months at the place on and off, for we could not work sometimes for days together owing to bad weather, and can truly say that I learned more of the bottom of the sea and the things that swim there and crawl about than during three or four years of other work.

For one thing I'm sure I saw the sea-serpent or his first cousin one day, although my mates chaffed me and said it could only have been a conger. Anyway, it was pretty well as long as a 500-ton ship, and had a monstrous head with a horn-like growth on it. I never saw it igain, and never wanted to. If I had I think I should have refused to go down any more. We got up ahout twenty-five tons of oysters altogether aal, although the yield was nuch poorer than the parties employing us expected, I believe there were about \$75,000 to \$100,000 worth of pearls washed out of the putrid mass.

ENGLAND HAS THE ROT.

Glorious Thing.

Some striking points are made in a letter signed "R. E. V.," which changes of recent growth in national

The requirements of a nation that ed the body of a beautiful young is to win a war are, it is stated, woman he had carried away from three in number-money, brains, and Paris. This fact, I may say, was bravery. It has been the custom to never allowed to get into the papers, assume that what Englishmen lacked both I and my mate being well paid in the second qualification they made up by possession of the last to an I had a job at the Tay Bridge, unusual degree. The writer believes continued the speaker, and never this is a mistake that may some day

"The fact really is that we have dead folk beat all. At last, after lost, as a nation, that absolute fearmore than a week of it, the whole lessness that we once possessed." thing got so on my nerves-the wa- There is a "rot" in the national ter was dreadfully cold-that I had spirit, a lack of self-sacrificing pat-I riotism.

asked, "if one were to meet the father of a young man just killed in action and were to congratulate him on his son's death for his country, as they do in Japan, and have, no doubt in England? I am afraid it would not be prudent. The spirit is not there, and until we go through to spend the whole day on the tank the fire and give death its proper value we shall remain so clogged with prudence as to be apparently afraid.

"It is not too late to stop the 'rot.' but as every step backward must be paid for, so must this, and paid for with some sacrifice.

"Let us teach our children, in school and out, that it is a glorious thing to die for England, and pergentleman had been thrown there by haps in time we may return to our the next of kin. I have seldom, I old ideas, and the temperament of

An Irishman was charged with a For one thing there were several petty offence. "Have you anyone in tubs of spirits sunk by smugglers court who will vouch for your good many years before, any amount of character?" queried the judge. "Yes, old chain, and a silver cup of the sorr; there is the chief constable Eastern Railway station at London that its beams fell full upon the Father-"I'm very much afraid reign of George III., and sure enough yonder," answered Pat. The chief