## THE STIRKBRIDGE MYSTERY

CHAPTER I.

Stirkbridge was a village in one of the English midland counties. It was a quiet, .. sid fashioned place, looking clean and picturseque, with its whitewashed cot ages, cobbly causeways, quaint old church, and long stretches of green sward bordering the road mpon which it stood. Half a mile beyond it was a small though thickly set wood, belonging, as did the village itself, to Mr. Robert Brotherton of The Towers.

Mr. Brotherton was not popular in the willage. He was rarely at home in the large house with the high tower, from which the country could be seen for miles around, situated at one end of Stirkbridge, and which was his nominal residence, and when he did occasionally, for a few weeks, occupy The Towers, his haughty manner to the salagers, and the indifference he displayed to the small grievances in which they sometimes wished to interest him, as their landlord, did not prepossess them in his favour.

succeeded his father at the age of thirty-five, had ewned The Towers and the estate be lenging to it, unwedded; and he had come to be regarded as a confirmed bachelor, When at length it became known that at the ripe age of fifty five he was about to marry, a considerable amount of surprise and curios-My was manifested, especially as the bride speech was rumoured to be a young foreign lady of great beauty. The marriage never came off. upon the hearth. A madman at a bazaar. On the morning preceding the day on which | An! Ah! Ah!" the end of the peal rising Mr. Brotherton should have proceeded from almost to a shriek, and causing several Stirkbridge to London to claim his bride, he persons near to regard him with redoubled was found dead in Stirkbr'dge Wood.

The sleepy old village was roused to a ferment of excitement, especially when day after day passed without bringing the diecovery of any clue to the murderer. That the act had not been suicidal, was proved by the fact that the wound which had been the cause of the death was such as could not have been self-inflicted. In spite of the unpopularity of the victim, the utmost interest was evinced in the steps taken by the authorities for the detection and capture of the perpetrator of the crime. But he remained at large, unpunished, his crime one of those mysterious deeds which now and again beffl ; the most strenuous efforts of the police, and by-and-by Stirkbridge, becoming unable to extract fresh matter for discussion from the subject, let it drop, relapsing into its former condition of bucolic tranquillity.

Twenty years passed, bringing with them few changes to the village. The owner of The Towers now was a nephew of the late Mr. Brotherton, who had inherited the whole of his uncle's property. He never resided at The Towers, disliking a country life, and, unlike Mr. Brotherton, he was accustomed to let the house. The last tenant, who had now been in possession more than five years, had taken the place on a long lease. He was not an Englishmanno one knew exactly what his nationality was, some saying Spanish, some Italianbut his English was tolerably well spoken, he having in boyhood lived much in Eng land. He was, in appearance, except for the doing to the house, and a few little alteraremarkable brilliancy of his dark deep set | tions that I think it would be more coneyes, an old man, grey haired, hollowcheeked, wrinkled, and bent in form. His They will not take long to do. perhaps a manner of hving was plain in the extreme, week or a fortnight-and I am going to give The Towers was a large house, and during you a fortnight's holiday." its occupation by other tenants it had Straughnessy employed only three—a house keeper, a housemaid, and a page, with there?" she respectfully it quired. occasional help from a village gardener. He lived in almost hermit-like seclusion, never, nessy. "I am not going away myself; I The tenor of his thoughts was here interexcept for an infrequent early morning wish to superintend the workmen. I shall rupted by a succession of loud piercing ramble through the wood, or when upon have my meals brought from the Red Lion, shrieks in which was a sharp tone of terror. certain state occasions he lett Stirkbridge and I daresay some woman from the village Coming as they did-with such startling for the day, being seen outside his grounds, can be got to attend here an hour or so a suddeness, breaking the before undisturbed was considered odd, eccentric, "a bit touched," by the villagers, though Mrs. Driffield, trying to prevent the surprise she was teel saw Dr. Loton entertained, and which had

long, low apartment, from which a narrow behind. "And when are we to go, please, ed an unpleasant qualm, remembering that had been built to satisfy a whim of old Mr. Brotherton's, the murdered man's father. In Stranghnessy. "As soon as you can manage so stiff and still, incapable alike of committhis room Mr. Straughnessy spent the greater to get ready. How long would that be, do ting good or ill. part of his time, and since his occupation of you think?" the house no one but himself had been allowed within it, he locking the door both sic; just time enough to write and let our They had been discussing their master's sudupon entering and leaving it. Such a pro- friends know when to expect us, and to get den illness, his strange ways, the mystericeeding could scarcely fail to arouse some ready for us. We're none of us Stirkbridge ous locked room, and by-and-by—though smile. "You are a sensible woman, Mrs. curiosity, particularly in a place like Stirk. folks, you see, sir, so we have just to this was not in connection with Mr. Straughnified by gossiping tongues, and where the "Then we will say three days from now, another of like kind—the murder in Scrik. tricks imagination sometimes plays even on dearth of larger interests made even the most that will be Thursday," interrupted Mr. bridge Wood. For some time they had sat the strongest of us. Mary had been a little trivial doings of its inhabitants established Straughnessy. "That will do quite well thus, then Mary, remembering there were upset by the suddenness of Mr. Straugh-

Stranghnessy among his other peculiarities ter; the housemaid to her home in a neigh. determined to return to the kitchen by the was close behind him, drew back with a to travel upon it, he had put off his journey antil the week following.

October 1, 18 -, was a fine bright day, the sky but sparcely flacked with clouds, luggage. For several days the men remained, that time of the year. About noon, several people were in Stirkbridge station, waiting for a couple of trains which were shortly due within a few minutes of each other. They stared hard when Mr. Straughnessy's bent figure slowly meandered on to the platform, but no one ventured to address him, and to none did he vouchsafe a greeting. He stood looking aimlessly down the line in the direction from which his train was expected, apparently oblivious of all around him, until he was startled from bis abstraction by the approach of a gentleman-a short, stout, good-tempered-looking man in olergyman's garb-who had just entered the station, and who in hearty genial tones secorted him.

"Good-morning, Mr. Straughnessy," he said, holding out his hand, into which Mr. Stranghnessy very reluctantly placed his own. "Glad to see you out a fine morning His this. Better for you if you took a listle a tendency to a dr zz ing rain, had prevailed "Oh, air !" she again ejaculated.

trip somewhere more often. Eh! Pon' you think so? By the way," with a jovial laugh, "I have a commission to perform in which you are concerned—a special message to you from a lady. '

A suspicious frown from the old man rewarded this sally, and bending his shaggy browed visage close to the smooth face of the reverend gentleman, he shot upon him a glance, so threatening, so uncanny, so malicious, as to cause him involuntarily to shrink back. In a moment, however, the good-natured parson recovered his usual

equanimity. "Poor old fellow!' he thought. "If he continues in his unhealthy secluded style of living he will go from bad to worse-from a little queerness to dangerous madness. Nothing like moping for unhinging the brain." Aloud he continued: "My wife declares she is thoroughly offended. You have refused to see us twice lately when we have called at The Towers. You have For twenty years Mr. Brotherton, having refused to visit us. And she wants you to atone by attending our beziar next week. What do you say? Will you come?"

Mr. Straughnessy advanced still closer to his interlocutor, and his thin lips parted in a repulsive grin, revealing his gleaming teeth, as in peculiar guttural tones he enunciated the following extraordinary

"A death's head at a feast. A keleton attention.

"Good Heavens!" thought the vicar. "He's worse, fifty times worse, than he was three months ago. He's simply frightful. bayond the reach of any influence of mine, I'm afraid." And with the hasty remark, "Ah, my train, I see; good morning," the Rev. John Barristaw hurried off.

As near an approach to a smile as was ever to be seen on Mr. Straughnessy's grim countenance now momentarily played upon

"I think I've settled him at last," he muttered. "Confound him. He's taken a vast amount of time learning his lesson of leaving me alone. Year after year has he pestered me in this way. While his lady. wife, with her airs, and her graces, and her subscription lists, hanging about my doors, has driven me nearly mad-nearly made me the old lunatic the intelligent villagers imagine me to be. Well, well: I think I've settled the Ray. John Barristaw now." And, still mumbling to himself, he climbed into his train and was carried away.

One morning, a month after the occurrence of this little episode, as Mrs. Driffield, after receiving her master's orders for the day, was about to retire from the dining. room, where her daily audience with him usually took place, he called her back, saying he had some pleasant news for her.

"I am going to give you a little holiday, Mrs. Dr ffield," he said; "you and the other venient to have done while it was empty.

"Yes, sir. Thank you, sir," said Mrs. possessed a large staff of servants, but Mr. Deiffield. "But some one will be wanted just to look after the place a bit, sir, won't

"I shall do that," replied Mr. Straugh of mind,

his housekeeper, said he seemed sane enough, ing expressing itself upon her face Mr. not presented itself to her mind before, that a little perhaps because of the strictness Straughnessy was reversing the order of Mr. Straughnessy's death was suicidal and with which he preserved his seclusion, but things to which she had been accustomed. not the result of an accident - they completechiefly because of a strange habit they had At her other situations, repairs had been ly threw Mrs. Duffield off her balance. She conducted, along with painting, etc., during sank trembling into the nearest chair, utter-The largest room in The Towers was a the family's absence, the servants remaining ly unnerved, while even Dr. Loron experienc-

his humbler neighbours with a certain not prevent them experiencing and express. Driffield's room and her own, rose and left he kitchen for the purpose of attending to the west out into the passage, followed by being superbly decorated and the kitchen for the purpose of attending to th The occasions upon which Mr. Straughnessy their master thus sent them off. They did her neglected work. was accustomed to leave Stirkbridge were not accept his reason as the correct one. chester, a manufacturing town fifty miles alterations, and there was little repairing staircase; but after completing her task, stairs at the end of distant. What was the purpose of his visits needed. Their suspicions naturally jumped she found that her candle, which she had to the landing above, and to Berrichester was not known, but regulated to the conclusion that the mysterious closed table without remarking its above, and with table without remarking its above. larly, with one exception, since his coming chamber had something to do with Mr. table without remarking its shortness, was apartment, from which a narrow winding to Stirkbridge had he, the first week in Straughnessy's desire to be rid of them, but burning so low that the movement of carrystaircase led up to the tower. He was a tol-January, April, July, and October, made his whether their conjecture was well founded on the likely to extinerable bear and of the likely to extinerable bear and of the likely to extinerable bear and of the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of—if not extinerable bear are included on the likely brave man, but a chill of the likely brave man are the likely brave man excursions thither. The one exception had or not they had no means of judging, and guish it. The back staircase was in dark-actly fear, some feeling akin to it—passed been when nearly a week of soaking wet when Thursday came round they departed, closed room were faintly like by the looked through the door weather had come one October, only one day, Mrs. Deffield and the boy, who was her closed room, were faintly lit by a lamp half-open, as Mary had left it—and beheld

> Upon the morning of the Monday following, Mr. Straughnessy left by train for Ber richester, returning in the afternoon accomaleeping at The Towers, their meals served along with Mr. Straughnessy's from the Red Lion, and a woman from the village attending for an hour or two a day. After their departure Mr. Straughnessy continued as before until the return of his servants.

> Mrs. Driffield was curious to notice whether the alterations mentioned, but not specified by Mr. Straughnessy, had been carried out; but, so far as she could see, the interior of The Towers was the same as when she left it a fortnight ago. Those portions of the house that had seemed most in need of improvement were unchanged,

## CHAPTER II.

It was a raw November night. Fog, with log tones.

throughout the day, and the roads of Stirkbridge were saturated, and the cebbles dark. "Try and tell us, there's a good garl." ened with moisture. It was nine o'clock, and with the exception of a solitary figure convulsive shudder, and a glance of apprehenhurrying along the High Street, no one seemed to be abroad. The lights of lamp of the appearance of the cause of her fright. and fire were shining from many a cottage window, and the sound of loud laughter, dered. I couldn't be mistaken," she continuand of the clinking of glasses, came through | ed, vehemently, seeing a faint smile curl the the doors of the Red Lion.

from The Towers, and, judging from the plant as evol.

alarmed expression of his face and the speed up in the master's room, I could take my body, a bullet entering his chest was about the back. To say the least the without overcoat or umbrella, his errand was an urgent one. About the middle of foolish girl, you have let your imaginathe village was the house of Dr. Loton, the tion run away with you." And he turned Stirkbridge medical practitioner, and it was towards Mrs. Driffield. "You must assist on his door step the boy paused.

He rang the bell, inquired for Dr. Loton, please, Mrs. Driffield," he said. and was told the doctor was within. "The master's been taken ill," he gasped, his breath coming quick and short, "very

ill. They think 'e's poisoned 'imself." "Good gracious!" ejsculated the man who had answered the door. "Well, I for The body removed, Dr. Loton was about to one am not surprised. He was a queer up, leave, when Mrs. Driffield stopped him with was Mr. Straughnessy. I'll tell the doctor a question. at once. Lucky 'e 'appens to be in."

Dr. Loton was informed his services were in immediate request at The Towers, and Straughnessy had been accustomed to induce | was as you found him." sleep by its means, though never, as upon "Yes, sir; exactly like that. His grey and pinched, he was a ghastly sight.

"He is dead," he said quietly. "Dead!" repeated the housekeeper. "That was what I feared."

doctor inquired.

"I saw hin just after dinner to day, sir." "Did you notice anything strange in his demeanor! Did he seem in his u ual spirits -not depressed at all? Mrs. Driffield considered a moment before

replying, her fingers nervously twisting the fringe of her black silk apron. "He was very quiet, sir," she said at

length; "but that he often was. He wasn't one to talk much to his servants. Now I she was still in a great state of terror thirk of it, though," he did look graver than "don't be so foolish. Take my word for it,

Dr. Loton meditatively rubbed his chin with his hand, a habit of his when thinking. He remembered how many times he had heard Mr. Straughnessy spoken of as not being in the full possession of his mental faculties, though Mr. Barristaw had often asserted he was merely a little odd—nothing servants as well. I want a few repairs ly run with the popular verdict, giving as his reason for the changing of his opinion an account of his last interview with the old man, when he had been both shocked and startled by the wildness of his manner and words. He (the doctor) was strongly inclined to suspect Mr. Straughnessy s death had not been caused by an accidental overdose-as the housekeeper upon first seeing him had suggested—but that it was a case of suicide—suicide while in an unsound state

quiet of the house, and following closely "Yes, sir, no doubt," agreed Mrs. De:ffield, upon her introduction to the idea she plainly strange stories had been circulated through "The sooner the better," replied Mr. the village concerning the man who now lay

Meanwhile the housemaid and the page "Two or three days would be long enough, had been sitting together by the kitchen fire. nessy, save as one weird topic leads to say you will have heard of the strange William at Potsdam, and would attend certain duties she had forgotton, in the nessy's death, and so became an easy prey The servants were well pleased at the flurry consequent upon the discovery of Mr. to hallucinations. That is all." chamber came to be looked upon by some of prospect of a holiday, but their pleasure did Straughnessy's condition, to perform in Mrs.

Friday, being tolerably fine; and Mr. nephew, to visit some friends at Berrichesshining from one of the landings, so she what was within, while Mrs. Driffield, who

Blowing out her candle, she ran down a The room, save for a faint haze at the short flight of steps connecting the landing further end, was in darkness; and on which was her room with the front stair- from out the darkness two figures case, and arrived opposite the mysterious seemed to shine as if containing light chamber. Great was her astonishment at in themselves and being independent riage of justice, the Home Rule organishment at the light of the decimal property of the decimal pr

that the opportunity lay before her, of in Stirkbridge Wood. The other was a are left unhung, says the Gladstonian mastering the secret hitherto hidden, but stranger to him—a handsome youth, with a while the leading journal of Torying with wide-open eyes at the door. She longed two starting dark, foreign-looking face, glowing black the result abortive and little honors. with wide-open eyes at the door. She longed, eyes, and strongly marked brows. They ap. American administration of justice. yet dreaded, to approach it, and after a peared to be standing upon the spot upon while-after a good deal of hesitation-she which the body had been found-there were did draw near to the room, and pushing the the two larch trees, with the little mossy path door further back looked in. It was the running between them—and there was fierce terrified acresms she emitted upon seeing anger depicted upon both faces, but especially

"What is the matter? What has a arm-

"What is it, Mary ?' said Mrs. Driffield.

"I've seen a ghost," said the girl, with a sion towards the door, as if in expectance "Mr. Brotherton's ghost. Him as was mur doctor's lips. "I knew Mr. Brotnerton by The solitary wayfarer was the page boy sight when I was a girl. I remember him as

"Nonsense," replied the doctor. "You me to place the body on the will be hetter there. And Mary, you may ico, a dead man, and our "hero" walls."

He still retained concionment

Mrs. Driffield did as she was requested, but Mary shaking with nervous fright, was unable to render any assistance whatever.

"Will there be an inquest?' she asked anixiously.

"I don't see how it can be avoided," redrawing on his top coat he at one proceeded | plied the doctor. "It is tolerably clear he thitherwards, in company with the boy, died from an everdose of laudanum. Swiftly striding along, he questioned his com | Whether the laudanum was administered panion as to the circumstances surrounding with suicidal intention or not, is not at all the case. He elicited the facts that the clear; but either way, an inquest would be poison taken was laudanum, and that Mr. | held. As I saw him first, I think you say,

this occasion. before retiring for the night. supper had been laid, and the gong sounded Arriving at The Towers he was met at the dinner at twelve, supper at eight.—but hited to the assembled composed, ushered him upstairs to Mr. he hadn't come down; so after wait-Straughnessy's bedchamber, the room in ing nearly half an hour, I came up to which he had been found, lying back in an his room. I knocked several times and at easy chair, motionless and rigid, with an last, being afraid something was wrong, empty bottle labelled "Poison" lying by his opened the door and came in. The blind side. Huddled up in the chair, his face was drawn down, the lamp lit, and he was lying in the chair just as you saw him, sir. The doctor took the nervelers hand hang. I spoke to him, and touched him, because I ing over the chair in his. Af er a while, thought at first he was asleep; but when I bent down-I am rather short sighted, sirand looked closer, and saw what his facwas like, and noticed the bottle, that in the "When did you last see him alive?" the morning had been nearly full, empty, I thought he was ill-had perhaps taken too much laudanum as I'd heard of people doing, and I sent Tom for you at once, sir."

"You did qui'se right," replied the doctor. "Well," with a last look, before leaving, at the pale face on the bed, "I think there nothing further I can the matter at present, so wish you good-right, Mrs. Driffield. Come. come, my girl," he added, to Mary, seeing ghosts don't exist out of anyone's imagina-

"But I saw it, sir," she insisted, "with my own eyes. It was no fancy. I wash'o thinking anything about ghosts, nor nothing like them, until I saw it all shining like out of the darkness at the end of the room. It was Mr. Brotherton, or his ghost. And I must leave the house. I wouldn't stay another night in it for worlds."

"What ! Will you leave Mrs. Driffield all alone here except for the boy? Surely you cannot be so selfish—so silly. Come, take me with you to the room you speak of, and see if I don's show you your supposed ghost is all moonshine."

"Oh, I daren's go there again, sir. daren's if I was killed for not going," cried Mary emphatically.

"Tell me how I can find it, then," he said. He thought that perhaps if he inspected the apartment and found the cause of the girl's fright-some trifling thing he had no doubt it would prove to be-he might be able to set her fears at rest. It would, he knew, be extremely inconvenient | dock was \$250,000, and now another \$30 to Mrs. Driffield for Mary to leave her just being just half the sum needed for the val then, and he wished, if possible, to induce is applied for. It has been discovered

"I can show you the way, sir," said Mrs. Driffield, "if you really wish to go. It is not tar from here -on the next landing. But do you think it is well to go? You have not lived in the same bouse with Mr. Straughnessy like we have, and you don't will not be unwilling to aid in the import know what strange ways he had. I haven't much faith in ghosts and such like myself; but still," shaking her head, "the master was a queer man, and there's no knowing what he may have had in a room that no one-none of us, anyway-has been in this last many a year."

"Pooh! pooh!" said Dr. Loton with a Driffield; surely you are not afraid. I dare

ing some wonder as to the motive for which the kitchen for the purpose of attending to who preferred comparative nearness to the tian mosaics.—[LondonTruth. when, once a quarter, he went to Berri They had heard no previous mention of staircase, but after complete the housekeeper, he ascended the She ascended to the rooms, which were ing in the death chamber alone. Directed by

slight ory,

seeing that the hitherto jealously locked of the darkness around them. One of them | England agreeing with the Unionist | Company of the darkness around them. She stood—fascinated by a desire, now owner of The Towers—the man murdered Three of the vilest wretches ever left in Citable 12. what the interior contained, that had so upon that of the younger man, one of whose and she came to the conclusion that the down the staics to the room in which she from beneath his coat. Like a flash came believed Mrs. Driffield still was, bursting in the conviction to Dr. Loton's mind that with an affrighted cry of "Oh, sir! Oh, what he saw was the scene of the murder, and that the olive complexioned manwith the ed you?" asked the doctor in quiet, sooth- not wonder at Mary's fright. There stood the exact image of Mr. Brotherton, lifelike and yet with an inanimation and a curious

haze about him, unlifelike and a frem the darkness in an unlifelity [TO BE CONTINUED]

Shot Through the Body

Aprepos of the projected erhibs Waterloo relics at Drury Lane, a ton dent writes to the London "Globa" incident may interest your reday they see the watch of a hero who had day, June 18. He was shot the the back. To say the least, it is wound one would like, and the doctor those days had some rules to so by by hear now of marvellous wounds, opens and cures, and the victim recoven; Waterloo you were shot shrough the therefore you were, in the eyes of the He still retained concionsness, and no "Take this watch to my brother and him—" more was not said, he fell bet sensible. The calls and shrieb di wounded, the flying shot from Welli pursuing army generally confued the geon, and after the search for the dai made he for set where he had left the who was shot through the body; fore, the watch remained in his possi After the war, he was ordered to join and ment in Canada, with no opportunity finding the dead man's brother, a thought, and the watch went within Canada. Three years later our here, her recovered in some wonderful way prin because he was left alone), was at a party at Bath, and heard, smid, silence of interest, the story of his is bited to the assembled company. Item round at last to him, and to the senting the surgeon, and everybody present he "Oh, then you are the man who stolen watch ! 'Had a ghost from Waterleo appear ed they could not have been more started However, a shake of the hand, with an right, my boy," made the poor surgeon que happy, though he felt the "hero" ourns have died on the field. The watch peculiar make, was handed down with story to the hero's godson, and may ben to our enterprising Augustus' collection Waterloo relics.

A Former Channel Bridge Project The project for a bridge across the la lish Channel, savs the "Engineering a Building Record," recalls a scheme of t same kind proposed twenty years are, bei which the present one appears to indeed. In 1868, according to an old role orner saying: "You w of London "Engineering," the French Eng or endorsed a design prepared by M Car Boutet, who was called an engineer. Bar modestly proposed, for £8,000 000, to his more, and that hereafter in three years, ten spans of 9846 feet at with a capacity of 24 loaded trains at centre of each span. There were to be in parallel main trusses 198 feet deep sti ends, and 51 at the centers, each trush fully and wonderfully composed of parallel (nearly) hor zontal iron wire in cable in the same vertical plane. After be woven together by cross ropes they to become endowed with enormous resident to flexure, and act as rigid beams. I wrought iron piers were to be flutted buoys, acjusted by an enormous set an in the center and leveled on and bon with the underlying sand by screep much like the adjustment screws or in

Esquimalt Graving Dock. It is said that the British Government will soon be asked to contribute to then of lengthening the graving dock at La malt, British Columbia. The amount op naily granted for the construction of the dock, which is only 430 feet in leg will not be nearly long enough for the steamers which the Canadian Pacific B way Company is constructing, and at British Government is greately interest in the new mail service it is though that ment of the dock. - [N. Y. Times.

## Victor a's Spring Tours

I hear that besides going to Italy in Ma the Queen will probably pay a visit to 66 many at Whitsuntide, in order that she be the guest of Empr ss Frederick at U berg, in the Taunus, and her Majesty wo opening of the magnificent mausoleum is being built there for the reception of coffi a of the Emperor Frederick, which is the Egypt. The financia ransferred to it on June 15, the interior lish officials are desirable,

What the British Pay for Tobacco The cost price of tobacco annually import ed into the United Kingdom is but 13,00

000, but taxation of one sort or and amounts to £9 000 000, and when we included retail profits and coat of the paratus required by smokers, we may arrive said the visitor, who he down cost of smoking to the British whiskers pulled Irish public at £16,000,000, being nearly per head per annum of the adult male pr lation of the United Kingdom.

English View of the Cronin Verdict American dissatisfaction with the verdict is shared here to the full Nobody doubts that there has been and

Speak English. Stranger-"Did a pedestrain P way a few minuets ago? Granger-"No' sor. I've been onte tater patch for more'n a nower, an' not thing has past cept one solitary mil, was trampin' erlong on foot.

Fires are Rasing Everywhere First Small Boy-We had a first house last night. Second Small Boy-That so!

F. S. B. - Yes. Pa fired sister's best

THE PRINCE'S theri Edward Ears Good Switch story is told of t of Prince of Wales L sardish," an (X :ell oung Prince stood on

palace at Windsor s lesion to learn by musing himself by lo and playing with at and pious person, seked him to this The young Prince " "Then," said oust put you in a co "answared the little i I won't stand in the Prince of Wales." tocked out one of th his foot. At this M her seat and said, "Sin pust put you in the cor. a knocking out a se pess then rang, and entered to say to Pri requested the present ness immediately on a cted with his son. Th at once, and heard t hole matter, after whi tile son and said, poin "Sit down there and w Prince Albert went t ht a Bible. "Listen, Prince of Wales, " to tle Paul says to you and ur position." Hereupo iv., 1 and 2:- "N sir, so long as he is a from a servant, the all, but is under t un'i the time appoint "It is true," continue that you are the Prince conduct yourself proj es man of high posit

the death of your mothe of England. But now ho must obey his tutors s, I must impress upo of the wise Solomon, 24: 'He that spareth ! n, but he that loveth his etimes.'" Hereupon th rod and gave the heir to ightiest Empire in Chris ble switching, and then tudy your lessons until you leave to come out, hat you are now under the law given by God." The Bone of Content French are gradually r intenable position in reg

te of the fact that Fran

gypt when the rebellion

agland to accept the resp

work of firmly establi

England allowed Fran are of the control of of public affairs. Fran tage of this to block and rative reforms in order to withdraw altogether nd has steadily and firmly ate the country until overthrow of the pr Was past. That ab in doing so was nd over again by the call troops to prevent the car the rebels and the invas by the way of the Nile. izes her mistake and wiel e by requiring a withdray the British troops. H ment to this. She is rea equility of Egypt and my lecide just how many Br cessary to preserve the which siezed not only th but Europeans when the as made upon the Nile shows how little confider strongly efficered b rendered confident of a British force backs, totally defeated ross, but had the Egyp

an troops by anybody. , and had there been no Br foroll back the tide of w tedly have spread all over only at Alexandria. Th ent is still full of life an withdrawal of British tro rded as an invitation to th The French Governme re, long continue to bring pt, by opposing the prope ber finances merely b t like the power whose pre

40 reduction of interest p omething to be Thankfull re is one thing, dear mad whikers pulled out by yo that is ?" smiled mamma Truth.

An Unparal'eled Case. ngle: "Strange case, th re men who stole the mo McFangle: Very or Malingle: "But, my de

was his wife." Ris Notes. here," raid the oradit Too those goods on four y bot, I gives you Your notes sell on the neione inc, or I would go and of cloding."

The Reballion orth west has been suppr devote rosso The only edy is Patnam's peyer falls ; nev a the original d