

Fresh from the Gardens

THE KESTREL HOUSE MYSTERY By T. C. H. JACOBS

SYNOPSIS

Mercer, whom she dislikes.

A series of mysterious disappearances has been alarming the neighborhood. Mona lage, the vicar's caughter, being the latest victim.

Another bearder at the farm, Perelval preceding the latest victim.

Another bearder at the farm, Perelval preceding the moor, rie and his valet. Plack, discover a secret underground passage on the moor, rie and has lecked plack, discover a secret underground passage to the moor belonging to Mona Factor and restrict a parcel from his specimen of tract a parcel from his specimen of tract a parcel from his specimen. Pyecroft afterwards finds the stolen parcel has disappeared. Earnard steals into Kestrel House alone.

CHAPTER XIV .- (Cont'd.)

With an ease remarkable in such heavy man the inspector moved for-ward on the tips of his toes, making not the slightest sound on the soft curpet of rine needles. Overhead the branches rusted threateningly, but he scarcely heard them. His senses were alert for some sign of movement in or about the house, and the dismal rustle formed only a Lackground to the general atmosphere of depression.

Passing around the side of the house, Barnard completely circled it twice before he ventured to approach the back entrance. Very carefully he tried to door and was surprised to find it unlocked. Though it was not the custom of the local people to leave coth doors and windows unlatched at night, he was surprised and suspicious

peered into the blackness, but he could see nothing. He listened, but the place was as silent as a grave, a heavy un-natural silence which affected him oddly. Shrugging his shoulders, he smell. As he pressed the button of an electric torch torch he knew what he would see. The and for the fraction of a second swept the light forward. It revealed a long, stone-walled passage, at the far and

a remackable discovery: the lock was ly endeavoring to see who or what it was.

Barnard leaned against the wall, thinking furiously. Something was no further movement was made. Very wrong, they would never have been so cautiously he began to edge along the wrong, they would never have been so cautiously no began to edge along the careless. Risking the light again, he wall and as he did so he was aware swept it over the door and made a that the other person was moving further discovery. The door was actually standing open and the chain corridor. He paused and listened, had been swung around from the had been swung around from the straining his ears to eatch the slight other side for the purpose of preventing it from closing. His eyes narroving the murmur of restrained breathing, not no trouble with that door when he nard's presence and the inspector's came to open it. Was it some mem- mind flashed back to the open door ber of the household who had a secret below mission of his own? Or was it that some other person had, like himself.

With jaw set grimly he levered the be trifled with. To raise any sort of door open sufficiently wide to allow commotion would bring serious conhim to slip through. Moving now in complete darkness he felt his way along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other fellow with whole pushing out his right foot and draw; hearted feeling.

Obviously the man knew the danger is now the same. The pages the pages in the same of the pages in the same. The pages in the same in the same. The pages in the same in the same. The pages in the same in the same in the same. The pages in the same in the same is not the same. The pages in the same is not the same in the same. The pages in the same is not the same in the same is not the same in the same in the same in the same is not the same is not the same in the same is not the same in the same is not the same in the same is not the same is not the same in the same is not the same in the same is not the same in the same is not the same is not the same in the same is not the same in the same is not the same is not the same in the same is not the same in the same is not the same in the same is not the sa along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step, carefully he cursed this other renow that along the wall, step by step b with the memory of that carpet-covered trap in the main hall still clear in his mind he moved with the utmost caution. And it was fortunate that he did so. Ten steps he took and then the strain was becoming intolerable a soft voice spoke; it was the mereat when the strain was becoming intolerable a soft voice spoke; it was the mereat when the strain was becoming intolerable as for two properties and the strain was becoming intolerable as for two whisper, but to the inspector's overwheeled vehicle hardly bigger in body than a bab carriace. If it was a pri-

Henry Holt and his ward, Muriel a fine wire. Immediately he touched farm. Holt has a friend, Moineau, living it he knew what it was:

At Kestre! House, and is desirous that Muriel marry Moineau's nephew, Hayden Mercer, whom she dislikes.

His groping foot came in contact with a fine wire. Immediately he touched the wire. Immediately he touched in the wire what it was:

"Burglar alarm, of course," he murmerer, whom she dislikes. Muriel his groping foot came in contact with

mured approvingly. "Goodness only knows how many more, they don't mean to be caught napping!" He risk-ed the light again and found that he was at the foot of the stairs. Carefully testing each tread he slowly mounted. Another wire he discovered and avoided. One stair moved sus-

Over all the uncanny silence still reigned, and Barnard licked his lips and sighed as he safely gained the head of the stairs. Somewhere along this corridor he judged that he would find Moineau's laboratory, an inspec-tion of which he greatly desired. For, contrary to his statement to Moineau, the chief inspector had considerable scientific knowledge, especially in electricity, and a sight of the apparatus and of that machinery which he had heard working might enable him to form some idea of their purpose. He puzzled to understand why the sound had been so muffled.

His feet making no sound on th thick carpet, he worked his way along using his torch in brief flashes. A white painted door at the end was his objective, but he took fully five min-utes to reach it. Cautiously turning the handle he found that the door was Cautiously he turned the handle and keys from his coat-pocket he inserted locked. Slipping a bunch of skeleton one in the lock and turned. It yielded and with infinite caution and patience he slowly opened it. His nostrile twitched as he sniffed the close, musty torch he knew what he would see. The room was innocent of anything except

dust and cobwebs. Softly closing and locking the door of which was another door, which in contrast to the outer door bore a big a second later he had stiffened, prepared for instant action. Somethi Swiftly he went forward, moving had moved in the darkness ahead. It with ease in the darkness, until he felth was but the faintest creak, yet he his outstretched fingers touch the wood. He groped for and found the he waited, every muscle tense, his eyes padlock, and at the same instant made peering into the inky blackness vain-

The minutes dragged out and still

this very moment prowling through tiated the traps, no novice at the atmosphere, particularly in early morning, which plays all the strange game, and one who was clearly not to tricks with perspective that seem-so unreal and impossible in Japanese art.

wrought perves it sounded like a shell "All right, Barnard . . it's a fair

p."

Barnard's hand strenked to his Jocket. He failed absolutely to recog-nize the voice, but his mind instantly grasped the fact that the other oe-lieved himself known. The torch flashed out and the powerful beam shone for a moment on a white but smiling

"So!" muttered the chief inspector and swore teneath his breath, for the man before him represented a new and titally unexpected factor in the game, Slick Samuels, forger and blackmailer, wanted for half a dozen daring crimes, one of the Berger crowd and a desperate man.
"No tricks," snarled Parnard, "I've

got you covered." "And you're a cheerful liar, Bar-nard," whispered Slick Samuels. "Cut out the meledrama, toy, and let's get

out a here. I've had enough of this hole, it gives me the willies. Did y hear that hell fire screaming a while "No," snapped Barnard. "Lead the

way, Slick, and mind the traps."
"Only one trap, boy, in the hall, it's

easy," replied Samuels.
"Which way did your man's demanded the inspector, a new suspi-"Front room window, wiry?" "Then move quickly, my lad, there's

another shadow stealing around this

house beside ourselves and I've a fancy he'll be awkward."

Slick Samuels grinned in the darkness as, with noiseless ease, he glided ahead.

"Sure; tall, red-headed bloke. I'v been trailing him some lately. But I guess you was after him, eh? and found me instead."

Barnard did not reply, he guessee piciously, but gripping the bannister who the red-headed man was but he rail he stepped over it and went on. enough experience as an officer not to be deceived by the complaisance of the smooth Slick Samuels, and was alert

for the first sign of treachery.

In silence they negotiated the broad main stairs, which, unlike the back stairs which Barnard had used, were free from traps.
"Watch your step here," warned

"Watch your step here," warned Slick in a whisper, "don't tread on the bally carpet, boy." "I know it," returned the inspector, "get on."

But before either could make a move there came a faint muffle sound from somewhere below, not unlike the rattle of a chain. A second later Slick Samuels groaned aloud as there burst upon their ears a cry, a shrill squeal of mingled rage and fear, animal, yet with a strangely human note.
"D'hear it?" whispered the startled

Barnard swallowed and a lump seemed to stick in his gullet. "Get on," he ordered in a husky voice.

From somewhere above them a doo opened and footsteps sounded hasten ing along the corridor. Slick Samuel leaved the trap and glided across th very room in which Barnard had in-terviewed Moineau. Close on his heels into the open air came the inspector, and together they softly closed the window, Samuels sliding the catch with an instrument which Barnard

viewed with much curiosity.

"Easy, eh?" smiled the crook, as they hastened to gain the cover of the plantation. "Guess those birds rely on their precious traps."

Barnard nodded, never for a mon-

ent taking his eye off the other. It was highly probable that the man was armed, but that was a matter which could wait until Trotter appeared.

(To be continued.)

Japan in Poetry

Japan, thirty-five years ago, like reece in the forties, was a subject on which anyone might try his poetic

mums, lotus or red maples, or in plain winter garb. The mountains do show up jagged and in fantastic shapes,

than a baby carriage. If it was a priowner's house, bearing monogram or crest upon the runners' shirts as well horse, a liveried betto or running sped through the streets ahead of his master, warning pedestrians to give place. During the daytime s of men and women dressed in soft silks or cottons, and workingmen with no dres but a loin cloth or over it the short jacket of the mechanic. ists that can cooling in well-construct filled the streets with the murmur of polite exchange of conversational ritual; with the soft padding of bare feet or the rhythmical scrape of high wooden pattens whose two supports of thin hard wood were tuned to a musical accord. At night the streets were empty and the silence unbroken except in summer by the myriads of in sects whose shrilling is an age-old theme in Japanese poems.-William Franklin Sands, in "Undiplomatic Memories."

Why Not Keep On Going? Saint John Telegraph-Journa (Ind.): A British professor declares a mosquito can fly seventee hours without settling. Maybe he can,

"Tough luck," said the egg in the monastery. "Out of the frying pan into the friar."

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A youthful moder of printed cotter voile of princess lines, is shirred at the front of the bodice to create a softened line.

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Greenwich Up-To-Date

The New Outlook Toronto)-The ost famous astronomical station in the world, Greenwich Observatory, is to be modernized by the addition is to be modernized by the addition of a large new telescope. The in-strament will be of the reflecting pattern, with a mirror thirty-six inches in diameter and with a spectroscope attached. The cost is to be defrayed by William Johnston Yapp, a Londoner, widely known in commerical circles, and a mining director with interests in British Columbia. The telescope will require the addition of a new dome to the historic building which overlooks other side for the purpose of percent. Set sound and, try damed the purpose of percent. Set sound and, try damed the purpose of percent. Set sound and, try damed the purpose of percent. There was nothing, anywhere, quite the world's time-piece. A new transactive was very anxious that he should have it was he was fully conscious of Barden with that door when he world's presence and the inspector's presence and the inspe the Thames and may be said to house which was described as "the most serviceable meridian instrument ever This, then, was that person who had preceded him into this silent house of and kakemono; there is a quality in with this instrument in its eighty with this instrument in its eighty years of service. The news value of stories such as the above may seem trivial to some people, compared with (say) the erection of a sky-scraper or the building of a specific apparently of the French Description.

To hail its advent in the east—the children were happy. Some grown night forgetting; ups were attracted to our group and were glad to watch the children solve their puzzles and to join in their very their puzzles and to join their very their puzzles and to join in their very their puzzles and to join their very their puzzles and to join their very their p sky-scraper or the building of a giant ship. But without the observations made by the men who nationt ly peer into eye-pieces, neither sail ormen nor even architects could get on with their work.

How To Cool Milk

Cooling has long been recognized as one of the most important factors in the production of high-grade milk but the best method of cooling milk on the farm is still a subject of discus vate conveyance it was drawn by two swift runners in the livery of the owner's house, bearing monogram or eva in explaining why they are making

as upon the car itself. If one used a a special study of cooling at this time. The work in the station dairy laboratory has had to do chiefly with a comparison of can cooling with cooling over an aerator and a study of the best size, insulation and type of tank for the dairy farm, it is explained. tl is the opinion of these special ed tanks is easier and equally as ef ficient from a sanitary point of view as cooling over an aerator.



Down South they have found a shoe polish that is intoxicating." "I have heard of a fellow who when he opens his mouth puts his foot in it, but I have never understood why before."

A slip of a girl can make the steadiest man fall.

Memories Recalled

A delightful view into the past is glimpsed in this entract from "A Half Century in Salem" by M. C. D.

All through the long, severe winter we were cold as a matter of course excepting the side next to the glow ing wood fire, and that was scorched; the entries and sleeping-rooms were probably at freezing polat, ice in the water pitchers, unmelting frost were probably at freezing point, ite in the water pitchers, unmelting frost on the windows. But the roaring fires were built up in the spacious like a freezing dragon. The kody, cavities with back log, back stick and fore stick, split wood and cat stick, chips for kindling, with big bellows to blow the fame, and who cared for cold? In those far-on drys punctuality headed the list of domestic virtues; establishments were not large, two or three at the utmost constituting the force. We were not large, two or three at the utmost constituting the force. We nimost constituting the force. We kept help then; sometimes they were hindrances, addicted to occasional sauciness, especially if they were good, and nobody in the parlo would have been bold enough to in terfere materially in the woman's rights of the kitchen. Still, Yankee help was an admirable institution and when it was judiciously managed it gave large returns of love and The family all met at the breakfast table in winter at eight o'clock

and very cozy and appetizing was the morning meal . . . hot bread cakes, tye griddle cakes, or Indian meal Johnny cake, smoking from its board, and drop cakes baked on the brick floor of the oven, were abund-antly supplied. . Breakfast over, the next duty was to fit ourselves for the outer world: wadded hoods, long tippets, knit mittens, carpet moccasins, woolen overcoats, for the girls; with a difference for the boys of greased boots, ugly beaver hats, or knit cars shared like a gudding. As we ressed over the country chine and a gudding tull speed toward the cruel things the handits after the faming brand from the fire.

One bandit, braver than the rest, was attempting to set the tents ablaze, we fired a few rounds from the magnetic form the fire.

As we ressed over the country chine sun and evidently winged him.

our heads; but only boys were per-mitted by public opinion to drag sleds, and the sole girl of the period who dared so to do was called "Tom boy," by way of showing the superfor good manners of the numerous critics.

At one o'clock dinner was served in reverse order: first the pudding then the ment, and as the children were obliged to be in the schoolroom again at two o'clock there was no time for dessert, and the fruit was disposed of at odd seasons. At six the pleasant tea, or supper, as it was usually called, was spread; and when the 'second girl' had cleared the table, a happy group quickly sur-rounded it, while books, work, games. slates and pencils, with a dish of rosy apples, furnished the occupants of the evening . . . and the win-

Director of Agriculture

A French woman, Mlle. Jeanne Garola, has recently been accorded a unique honor by her country, writes a correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor, the French Department of off with the children, who were al-Agriculture having appointed her the ready tired out by the wrought-up atirector of a governmental agricultural station. Such a position has never before been filled by a woman and the appointment of Mile. Garola establishes a precedent which is highly encouraging to the class of intelligent French managers and many of whom have worked and studied with desperate

Mile. Garola's father was previousby the director of this government was a neatly labelled surprise for each:

agricultural station and his daughter day of the journey. Such a delightful To fondle and caress a joy, yet hold it as not only been trained by him in variety! all practical details, but encouraged to faction, apparently, of the French Department of Agriculture.

have hoped for and comes as a just home without neighbors. How would recognition of her ability not only as my sister manage after the esources an actual tiller of the soil but as an of a large city? executive.

Skyscraper Erected Specially For Books

Hanover, Germany. — Skyscrapers have been built for department stores and office rooms, as tenement houses and hotels, but Hanover can boast of owning the first skyscraper in Europe built for books, writes a correspond-ent of the Christian Science Monitor. Being a skyscraper in Europe, it has European dimensions, that is, its vision for girls, the other for boys. height is only ten stories. The build- It is astonishing if you bear such a ing is owned by the town library, purpose in mind, how the treasures ac-which has so many books—150,000 cumulate. For instance, when we were volumes—that it had to have a ten-sewing, an otherwise useless remnant storey building to store them. But to provide for the growth of the library, be worked upon by small fingers. Odd there is sufficient room for 230,000 crayons and pencils were saved, picbooks. The library was originally tures to cut out or color were collect-presented to the town by Konrad von ed. Beads were put in a box with Sarstadt in 1440. He little thought needle and thread and bright bits of that some day it would fill a house at note-paper, on which the children ings of his time, with elevators and in their own particular style to enmechanical conveyances for transport-

Cherish Homeland Soil

him. It is a pathetic custom followed would draw interest at once. by many exiles, and the Spanish royal blessings we put in that box were end family are observers of the old ritual. less.

One of the Infantas has brought to Paris a box of Spanish soil from Madrid, and the Infanta Isabella had alleted tasks of each child, but to buried with her some Spanish earth save awkward situations, to avert from her own garden, though she rests in French soil.

The ADVENTURES of CAPCAIN and his Dog SCOTTIE

plane looked horfear.

brother of Lieutenant Stone, who had been held captive for many weeks. Just for safety, we mounted a machine gun in front of our plane. If force of bandits afraid of our drawn he have

afraid of our dragon, he would cer-tainly understand enough not to fool with a machine gun. As the sun sank toward the west-ern sky line, we wheeled our plane out of the hanger, and soon were

of greased boots, ugly beaver hats, astir.

As we rassed over the country-bag.

Then came the fun of sliding in the wide gutters all the way to school (there was a glare of ice in front of Miss Becky Cabot's fine old house), or plodding through deep snow banks which buried us up to our beads: but only how were recursioned.

As we rassed over the country-we fired a few rounds from the machine gun, and evidently winged him in the foot, for he dropped the brand, and limped into the darkness. "Hurry," I cried, "we must search the tents before they are burned, and long tail flying behind in the sky, and long tail flying behind in the succession of the machine gun if the bandits return." buried their faces in their hands We followed the railway tracks,

and soon we came to the siding writing to "Captain Jinmy". 2010 where we hid from the bandits in Star Building. Toronto, will receive the string of freight cars. Due East his signed photo free.

What came before: Captain Jimmy from that point, we followed the nact aim friend Lieut Jed Stone plan to from that point, we followed the nactis. They targain with Captai Fu for his assistance, in exchange for Kying Lotch in the chiffs proved a reloome Lotch in the cliffs proved a welcome

before my minds eye a picture of the rible enough, but days when as boys together, we rible enough, but played on the old ranch out near Winnipeg. days when as boys together, we

enough to freeze enough to freeze any ignorant bandit camp with forms unshed should take the camp. Black forms unshed should trieve forms unshed should trieve forms. forms rushed about-tripped, fell and Of course, that is just what we intended our plane to do. While the Landits fied in terror, we would have a chance to rescue Guy Stone, the brother of Lieutenant Stone, who had

Landing on the ground, we reared down toward the tents. The entire

seemed to have deserted and taken to the forest. Then a dark form rushed toward the tents with a

(To be continued.) Note: Any of our young readers writing to "Captain Jimmy", 2010

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The health-giving, delicious drink for children and grownups. - Pound and Half Pound tins at your grocers.

A JOY STORE

Grace Archbold

Not long ago, it fel lto my lot to family of nephews and eices to their parents who were settling out west. A friend of mine, the mother of four children, found time to ce me off. As she bade me farewell. she handed me a mysterious looking ag. In the excitement of departure, I tucked it away and promptly forgot all about it.

The novelty of the train soon wore mosphere of those last few days.

"What can I do, Auntie?" wailed a plaintive voice.

The question was repeated more

and more insistently. Our neighbors York City. These articles are appear-frowned and fidgetted until I began to ing weekly in our columns. women who are skilled farmers and feel conspicuous and uncomfortable. In desperation I dived about in our numerous packages and finally came earnestness to improve and increase across the forgotten parcel. It con- To touch the cup with eager lips and tained all kinds of amusements for the little ones. Imagine my relief! There. To woo and tempt and court a bliss-

That parcel made all the difference Lest it become necessity and cling too in the world to us. Instead of the trip tigatity: take special studies in agriculture, in the world to us. Instead of the trip tigatly; particularly in the cultivation of being a tedious affair, we were able to enjoy it. The interesting spots on out regretting; the way were a delight because the To hall its advent in the east—the

bartment of Agriculture.

To receive this appointment herself, ficulties of many a mother there, try was more than Mile. Garola could have miled a young family in a solution of the difference of the second of the

"I know what I will do," she re-marked, when I was telling her about our experiences, some days after our arrival. "Why not work out the same idea for emergencies in daily life?"

That was the beginning of her "Joy Store" as the children called it. I remained on with her for several weeks and together we put in the first items. She had the good fortune to possess an old family chest with a quaint gilt padlock attached. In it we put all sorts of contributions, keeping was cut into a doll's garment ready to es as high as the build- would like to draw or to write letters er, were put in the chest. A shor story, culled from a magazine or news paper, which we knew would have a Paris.—More than one Russian special appeal to Jack or Freddy, was moble now resident in Paris has among made more personal by printing the his treasures a small bag or box of boy's name upon it. This individual Russian soil that is to be buried with

Of course these treasures were no intended to interfere with the usual quarrels on wet days, and to relieve the tiresome periods of convalescence. Then, again, they would prove a boon before a m. I unavoidably delayed, when the appetite is sharp and the tongue sharper.

My sister, writing me later, spoke of being able to add frequently to her "Joy Store" and said it was the greatest help to her. She did not make too constant an inroad on it, and she kept a second box as a depository for games or articles that could be used continu-

ously. This certainly is one way of avoiding the eternal "lon't, don't," which everyone agrees, nowadays, spells ruination to the disposition of a child. It is a salvation, when the cry, "What can I do, Mummy?" comes as the last straw to the ears of a driven parent .-Issued by the National Kindergarten Association, 8 West 40th Street, New

The Art of Living

taste, not drain it;

lightly;

To have enough to share-to know the

Countryman and Townsman

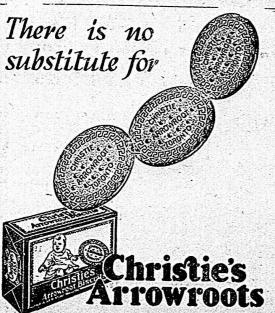
Quebec Action Catholique (Ind.)-It strange that an ordinary farmer who will finish the year with a hundred dollars, with a bigger establish-ment than he had the year before, with improvements made to his farm, after having paid all his debts and filled his cellar and barn with provisions, will envy the lot of a commercial traveller in the town who earns \$125 a month. He loses sight of the progress accomplished to compare the number of dol-lars which the townsman can handle. Yet what a difference between the lot has not put a penny aside.

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