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Sir Conan Doyle's First Case

THE creator of "Sherlock Holmes," on being asked why he gave up the practice of medicine, told the following story:

It was at midnight in a cold January. The jangle of the door-bell woke me from a sound sleep, and, shivering and yawning, I put my head out of the window and said:

"Who's there?"

"Doctor," said a voice, "can you come to Peter Smith's house at once? His youngest girl has taken a dose of laudanum by mistake for paregoric, and we're afraid she'll die."

"All right; I'll come," I said.

I dressed and tramped three miles through the cold and the wet to Smith's. Twice on the way I fell on the icy pavement, and once my hat blew off, and I was half an hour finding it. Finally I reached Smith's. The house was dark—shutters all closed—not a light. I rang the bell. No answer. At last a head stuck itself gingerly out of the window in the third story.

"Be you Doctor Doyle?" it said.

"Yes, let me in."

"Oh, no need to come in, Doctor," said the head. "Child's all right. Sleeping quiet."

"But how much laudanum did you give it?"

"Only two drops, Doctor. Not enough to hurt a cat. Guess I'd better take my head in now. Night air is cold. Sorry to have troubled you."

I buttoned up my coat and turned homeward, trying to stifle my anger. Suddenly the window was raised again, and the same voice cried:

"Doctor! I say, Doctor!"

I hurried back. Perhaps the child had taken a turn for the worse.

"Well, what do you want?" I said.

And the voice made answer:

"Ye won't charge nothing for this visit, will ye?"

A Competent Physician

ONE day in Shanghai," says a writer in the Record-Herald. "when I was feeling poorly, I called a Chinaman to me and said, 'John, have you any good doctors in China?'"

"Good doctors!" he exclaimed. "China have best doctors in world!"

"That one over there," I said, pointing to a house covered with a doctor's signs—"do you call him a good doctor?"

"Oh, he great doctor!" he exclaimed. "He great! He best doctor in China. He save my life once!"

"You don't say so!" I said. "How was it?"

"Me velly ill," he said confidentially. "Me callee Doctor Han Kou. Givee some medicine. Get velly, velly worse! Me call Doctor Sam Sing. Givee more medicine. Me going to die! Blimeby call Doctor Eudon. He no got time, no come. He savee my life!"

"When I was a boy at Washington," says Sousa, the conductor, "there was an old Scottish gentleman, with whom I played now and then. One evening in his hearing I ran through a new waltz of my own composing. 'Man,' he said, 'it reminds me o' a day when I played at an entertainment at Morningside Asylum. After I had played a solo on the fiddle, the doctor boddy said to an auld loony in the front row, 'Weel, M'Pherson, what d'ye think o't?' 'I'm thinkin',' said M'Pherson, 'its a guid thing we're a' daft here!'"

Rice & Hutchins Get Grand Prize.
St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 18. — Rice & Hutchins of Boston, makers of All America shoes for men and women and Educator shoes for children, received Grand Prix at St. Louis Fair.

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