WILL OUT_

A GREAT MYSTERY.

CHAPTER VII.-Continued.

"Give them here," said Holmes. "Now doctor," turning to me, "are thos ordinary pills?"

They certainly were not. They were of a pearly gray color, small round and almost transparent, against the light.

"From their lightness and transparency, I should imagine that they are soluble in water," I remarked.

"Precisely so," answered Holmes. "Now would you mind going down and fetching that poor little devil of a terrier which has been bad so long, and which the landlady wanted you to put out of its pain yesterday.

I went downstairs and carried the dog upstairs in my arms. Its labored breathing and glazing eyes showed that it was not far from its end. Indeed, its snow-white muzzle proclaimed that it had already exceeded the usual term of canine existence. I placed it upon a cushion on the rug,

"I will now cut one of these pills in two," said Holmes, and drawing his penknife, he suited the action to the word. "One half we return into the box for future purposes. The other half I will place in the wine-glass, in which is a teaspoonful of water. You perceive that our friend, the doctor, is right, and that it readily dissolves.

"This may be very interesting," said Lestrade, in the injured tone of one who suspects that he is being laughed at. "I cannot see, however, what it has to do with the death of Mr. Joseph Sangerson."

"Patience, my friend, patience! You will find in time that it has everything to do with it. I shall now add a little milk to make the mixture palatable, and on presenting it to the dog we, find that he laps it up readily enough."

As he spoke he turned the contents of the wine-glass into a saucer and placed it in front of the terrier, who speedily licked it dry. Sherlock Holmes's earnest demeanor had so far convinced us that we all sat in silence, watching the animal intently, and expecting some startling effect. None such appeared, however. The dog continued to lie stretched upon the tushion, breathing in a labored way, but apparently neither the better nor the worse for its draught.

Holmes had taken out his watch, and as minute followed minute without result, an expression of the utmost thagrin and disappointment appeared upon his features. He gnawed his lip, drummed his fingers upon the table, and showed every other symptom of acute impatience. So great was his emotion that I felt sincerely sorry for him, while the two detectives smiled derisively, by no means displeased at this check which he had received.

"It can't be a coincidence," he cried, at last springing from his chair and pacing wildly up and down the room; "it is impossible that it should be a mere coincidence. The very pills which I suspected in the case of Drebber are actually found after the death of Stangerson. And yet they are inert. What can it mean? Surely my whole chain of reasoning cannot have been false. It is impossible! And yet this wretched dog is none the worse. Ah, I have it! I have it!" With a perfect shriek of delight he rushed to the box, cut the other pill in two, dissolved it, added milk, and presented it to the terrier. The unfortunate creature's drawer. "See how beautifully the tongue seemed hardly to have been moistened in it before it gave a convulsive shiver in every limb, and lay as rigid and lifeless as if it had been struck by lightning.

Sherlock Holmes drew a long breath, and wiped the perspiration from his

forehead.

"I should have more faith," he said; "I ought to know by this time that when a fact appears to be opposed to a long train of deductions it invariably proves to be capable of bearing some other interpretation. Of the two pills in that box one was the most deadly poison and the other was entirely harmless. I ought to have known that before ever I saw the box at all."

This last statement appeared to me to be so startling, that I could hardly believe that he was in his sober senses. There was the dead dog, however, to prove that his conjecture had been correct. It seemed to me that the mists in my own mind were gradually clearing away, and I began to have a dim, vague perception of the truth.

"All this seems strange to you," continued Holmes, "because you fail at the beginning of the inquiry to grasp the importance of the single real clew which was presented to you. I had the good fortune to seize upon that, and everything which has occurred since then has served to confirm my original supposition, and, indeed, was the logical sequence of it. Hence, things which have perplexed you and made the case more obscure have served to enlighten me and to strengthen my conclusions. It is a mistake to confound strangeness with mystery. The most commonplace crime is often the most mysterious because it presents no new or special features from which der would have been infinitely more difficult to unravel had the body of These strange details, far from making the case more difficult, have really

had the effect of making it less so. patience, could contain himself no

longer ... he said, "we are all ready to acknowthat you have your own methods of til Lestrade succeeded in getting his shawl and extricated a pretty little banks, who is now Lady Aberdeen.

vorking. We want something more han mere theory and preaching now, hough. It is a case of taking the man.

I was wrong. Young Charpentier could not have been engaged in this second affair. Lestrade went after this man, Stangerson, and it appears that he was wrong, too. You have thrown out hints here and hints there; North American Continent there lies and seem to know more then we do, an arid and repulsive desert, which for but the time has come when we feel many a long year served as a barrier that we have a right to ask you against the advance of civilization. straight how much you do know of the From the Sierra Nevada to Nebraska, business. Can you name the man who and from the Yellowstone River in the did it?"

son is right, sir," remarked Lestrade. "We have both tried, and we have both failed. You have remarked more than once since I have been in the room that you had all the evidence which you require. Surely you will not

withhold it any longer. "Any delay in arresting the assassin," I observed, might give him time to perpetrate some fresh atrocity."

showed signs of irresolution. He con- ness, inhospitality, and misery. tinued to walk up and down the room with his head sunk upon his chest and his brows drawn down, as was his habit when lost in thought.

"There will be no more murders he said, at last, stopping abruptly and facing us. "You can put that consideration out of the question. You have asked me if I know the name of the assassin. I do. The mere knowing of his name is a small thing, however, compared with the power of laying our hands upon him. This I expect very shortly to do. I have good hopes of managing it through my own arrangements; but it is a thing which needs delicate handling, for we have a shrewd and desperate man to deal with, who is supported, as I have had occasion to prove, by another who is as clever as himself. As long as this man has no idea that any one can have a clew, there is some chance of securing him; but if he had the slightest suspicion, he would change his name and vanish in an instant shall of course incur all the blame due | silence. to this omission; but that I am pre- It has been said there is nothing apshall do so."

person. "Please, sir," he said, touching his those who had fallen by the wayforelock, "I have the cab downstairs." "Good boy," said Holmes, blandly. 'Why don't you introduce this pattern ing a pair of steel handcuffs from a spring works. They fasten in an instant."

"The old pattern is good enough," remarked Lestrade, if we can find the man to put them on."

"Very good, very good," said Holmes smiling. "The cabman may as well help me with my boxes. Just ask him to step up, Wiggins,"

I was surprised to find my companion speaking as though he were about to set out on a journey, since he had not said anything to me about it. There was a small portmanteau in the room, and this he pulled out and began to strap. He was busily engaged at it when the cabman entered the

"Just give me a help with this buckle, cabman," he said, kneeling over his task and never turning his

The fellow came forward with a somewhat suffen, defiant air, and put down his hands to assist. At that instant there was a sharp click, the jangling of metal, and Sherlock Holmes sprang to his feet.

"Gentlemen," he cried, with flashing eyes, "let me introduce you to Mr. Jefferson Hope, the murderer of Enoch Drebber and of Joseph Stanger-

ment-so quickly that I had no time to he realized that his wanderings had realize it. I have a vivid recollection come to an end, and that there, on of that instant of Holmes's triumph- that barren crag, he was about to ant expression, and the ring of his die. voice, of the cabman's dazed, savage | "Why not here, as well as in a face, as he glared at the glittering feather bed, twenty years hence," he handcuffs, which had appeared as if muttered, as he seated himself in the by magic upon his wrists. For a sec- shelter of a bowlder. ond or two we might have been a Before sitting down, he had depositgroup of statues. Then, with .n in- ed upon the ground his useless rifle, articulate roar of fury, the priconer and also a large bundle tied up in a deductions may be drawn. This mur- wrenched himself free from Holmes's gray shawl, which he had carried grasp and hurled himself through the slung over his right shoulder. It window. Woodwork and glass gave appeared to be somewhat too heavy boundary, of a neighbouring estate. way before him; but before he got for his strength, for, in lowering it, the roadway without any of those quite through, Gregson Lestrade, and it came down on the ground with der, when a gentleman asked him if remind me to wind it and you forgot outre and sensational accompaniments | Holmes sprang upon him like so many some little violence. Instantly there | he was aware that he was trespassing. | about it. which have rendered it remarkable. stag-hounds. He was dragged back in- broke from the gray parcel a little "Oh, no," said Lord Aberdeen, "I am to the room, and then commenced a moaning cry, and from it there pro- the guest of so-and-so!" "Very probterrific conflict. So powerful and so truded a small, scared, face, with very ably," said the gentleman, "but you fierce was he, that the four of us bright, brown eyes, and two little are now on my property." Lord Aberthis address with considerable im- appeared to have the convulsive "You"ve hurt me!" said a childish ed him his card. The owner of the soil spent the last years of his life in strength of a man in an epileptic fit. voice, reproachfully. His face and hands were terribly man- "Have I though?" the man answer- Tweedmouth, who promptly invited the broken. "Look here, Mr. Sherlock Holmes," gled by the passage through the glass, ed, penitently. "I didn't go for to do trespasser to luncheon at Guisachan.

rose to our feet, breathless and pant- ed less than her companion.

Holmes. "It will serve to take him towsy golden curls which covered the business, is well known in that city to Scotland Yard. And now, gentle- back of her head. men,' he continued, with a pleasant "Kiss it and make it well," she years ago Mr. Mintie was living at smile, "we have reached the end of said, with perfect gravity, shoving South River, Parry Sound District, our little mystery. You are very wel- the injured part up to him. "That's and while there was attacked with come to put any questions that you what mother used to do. Where's severe pains in the back. At first he I have made my case out, and it seems like to me now, and there is no danger mother?" that I will refuse to answer them.

PART II.-CHAPTER 1.

In the central portion of the great north to the Colorado upon the south, "I cannot help feeling that Greg- is a region of desolation and silence. Nor is Nature always in one mood throughout this grim district. It comprises snow-capped and lofty mountains, and dark and gloomy valleys. There are swift-flowing rivers which dash through jagged canyons; and there are enormous plains, which in winter are white with snow, and in summer are gray with the saline alkali dust. They all preserve, however, Thus pressed by us all, Holmes the common characteristics of barren-

> of despair. A band of Pawnee or of Blackfeet may occasionally traverse it in order to reach other huntinggrounds, but the hardiest of the braves ment of villages and districts, has are glad to lose sight of those awe- made it easy to trace its progress step some plains, and to find themselves once more upon their prairies. The coyote skulks among the scrub, the buzzard flaps heavily through the air, ing as a striking illustration of inand the clumsy grizzly bear lumbers through the dark ravines, and picks up such sustenance as it can among the rocks. These are the sole dwellers in the wilderness.

In the whole world there can be no dumped on the beach. The jigger had stitute. more dreary view than that from the northern slope of the Sierra Blanco. As far as the eye can reach stretches propensity for boring through the skin the great rlat plain-land, all dusted and lodging between the cuticle and over with patches of alkali, and in- the flesh soon made its presence tersected by clumps of the dwarfish chaparral bushes. On the extreme verge of the horizon lie a long chain of mountain-peaks, with their rugged summits flecked with snow. In this great stretch of country there is no among the four millions inhabitants of | sign of life, nor of anything appertainthis great city. Without meaning to ling to life. There is no bird in the hurt either of your feelings, I am steel-blue heaven, no movement upon bound to say that I consider these men | the dull, gray earth-above all, there to be more than a match for the is no shadow of a sound in all that official force, and that is why I have mighty vilderness; nothing but silnot asked your assistance. If I fail I ence-complete and heart-subduing

pared for. At present I am ready to pertaining to life upon the broad plain. promise that the instant that I can That is hardly true. Looking down miles of the Atlantic. It had taken communicate with you without en- from the Sierra Blanco, one sees a the insect dangering my own combinations, I pathway traced out across the desert, which winds away and is lost in the Gregson and Lestrade seemed to be extreme distance. It is rutted with far from satisfied by this assurance, or | wheels and trodden down by the feet by the depreciating allusion to the of many adventurers. Here and there detective police. The former had are scattered white objects which glisflushed up to the roots of his flaxen ten in the sun, and stand out against hair, while the other's beady eyes the dull deposit of alkali. Approach, glistened with curiosity and resent- and examine them! They are ment. Neither of them had time to bones; some large and coarse, others speak, however, before there was a tap | smaller and more delicate. The format the door and the spokesman of the er have belonged to oxen, and the street arabs, young Wiggins, intro- latter to men. For fifteen hundred duced his insignificant and unsavory miles one may trace this ghastly caravan by these scattered remains of

Looking down on this very scene, there stood upon the 4th of May, 1847, at Scotland Yard?" he continued, tak- a solitary traveller. His appearance was such that he might have been the very genius or demon of the region. An observer would have found it difficult to say whether he was nearer to forty or to sixty. His face was lean and haggard, and the brown, parchment-like skin was drawn tightly over the projecting bones; his long, brown hair and beard were all flecked and dashed with white; his eyes were sunken in his head, and burned with an unnatural luster, while the hand which grasped his rifle was hardly more fleshy than that of a skeleton. As he stood, he leaned upon his weapon for support, and yet his tall figure and the massive framework of his bones suggested a wiry and vigorous constitution. His gaunt face, however, and his clothes, which hung so baggily over his shriveled limbs, proclaimed what it was that gave him that senile and decrepit appearance. The man was dying-dying from hunger and from thirst.

He had toiled painfully down the ravine, and so on to this little elevation, in the vain hope of seeing some signs of water. Now the great salt plain stretched before his eyes, and the distant belt of savage mountains, without a sign anywhere of plant or tree, which might indicate the presence of moisture. In all that broad landscape there was no gleam of hope. North, and east, and west he looked The whole thing occurred in a mo- with wild, questioning eyes, and then

hand inside his neckcloth and half girl of about five years of age, whose strangling him that we made him rea- dainty shoes and smart pink frock, lize that his struggles were of no with its little linen apron, all beavair; and even then we felt no se- spoke a mother's care, The child was curity until we had pinioned his feet pale and wan, but her healthy arms as well as his hands. That done, we and legs showed that she had suffer-

"How is it, now?" he answered, anxi-"We have his cab," said Sherlock ously, for she was still rubbing the Ont., now engaged in the insurance

"Mother's gone. I guess you'll see her before long."

To Be Continued.

TRAVELS OF AN INSECT.

Troublesome South American Native's Slow but Steady Progress Round the World.

The jigger, one of the insect pests of the West Indies and South America, has at last crossed equatorial Africa from the Atlantic to Zanzibar, about 2,700 miles, twenty-six years after its introduction into the Continent. This variety of the flea, much smaller than he felt greatly improved in strength. the common flea, is very troublesome, Two more boxes completed the cure, and if its attacks upon a few animals, and he returned to work hale and including man, are not prevented, it is sometimes fatal to life. The fact There are no inhabitants of this land that its gradual advance among the natives of Africa threw them into consternation, often causing the abandonby step, and a brief summary of its journey across Africa will be interestsect navigation.

> A sailing vessel arrived at Ambriz, Angola, in September, 1872, from Brazil with sand ballast, whish she crossed the ocean in this sand, and its known. There are effective means of preventing its attacks, but before the natives learned how to deal with it the little pest caused great suffering. was long ago evident that the jigger motion to any large extent in its journey through Africa, but that it was carried by caravans in the porterage

In 1885 traveilers crossing the Continent from Zanzibar heard nothing of the jigger till they arrived within 300

THIRTEEN YEARS to penetrate this distance into Africa. The natives at Stanley Pool had witnessed with sorrow the advent of the unwelcome visitor that abided with them, but sent on colonies further up the river. Thenceforth the jigger's progress was more rapid, for steamboats and caravans were multiplying on the upper Congo. Seven years later, in 1892, Dr. Oscar Baumann reported the arrival of the pest at Bukumbi Gulf, midway on the south coast of Victoria Nyanza. It was still unknown on the east shores of the lake. natives declared that it had been brought to the west coast by Stanley's expedition for the relief of Emin | ment. There are many men in the Pasha. However, that may be, the jigger appeared about the same time to co-operate and whose assistance throughout most of the central lake would be extremely valuable during region, following the caravan route the first few years of occupation. from the upper Congo through Manyeina to Lake Tanganyika. The natives along the edge of Victoria Nyanza suf- colonial officials to help the United fered terribly from the infliction, and States in every way. An American many villages were abandoned.

missionaries at Mpwapwa reported the eral days in Hong Kong. While there arrival of the jigger among the moun- he indicated to an English officer tains at that point, 200 miles from the that he would like to get some idea of Indian Ocean. It took the insect two the cost and plan of running a colony years more to reach the coast towns like Hong Kong. The English officer of East Africa, where it appeared almost simultaneously, late in 1897, at his power to help him. A meeting was all the towns between Bagomoya and arranged, and the governer of the Pangani, along seventy miles of the colony several officials and the Amcoast, and another year elapsed before erican consul-general and the brigalate last fall, it was jumping along the dier-general met. The Englishman sands of Zanzibar Island.

parison with the inland tribes, for great deal of time in preparation. They ed for years on the Congo have re- general on every phase of colonial turned home and spread the informa- government. tion that rubbing with tobacco leaves | The consultation started out well,

tion against the jigger. should not girdle the tropical world.

STORY OF LORD ABERDEEN.

It may not be generally known how Lord Aberdeen met his future wife. It was about twenty-two years ago, and Lord Aberdeen was visiting at a shoothis host could not accompany him on the moors, so he went alone, and by accident crossed the "march" or got to wind it. He was tramping along, gun on shoul- well, Mr. Bilkins, that I told you to deen apologized profusely, and hand- Scadsby's will? I thought that he

PAINS IN THE BACK

Are Usually the Result of Imperfect Work ing of the Kidneys-These can Only be Restored to Their Normal Condition by a Fair Use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills,

Mr. Albert Mintie, of Woodstock,

and surrounding country. Some three paid but little attention to them, thinking that the trouble would pass away, but as it did not he consulted a local physician and was told that his kidneys were affected. Medicine was prescribed, but beyond a trifling alleviation of the pain it had no effect. In addition to the pain in the back Mr. Mintie was troubled with headaches and a feeling of lassitude. He was forced to quit work, and while in this condition, weak and despondent, he decided to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. He purchased a half dozen boxes and was not disappointed with the result. Before they were all used Mr. Mintie was feeling almost as well as ever he had done. The pain in his back had almost disappeared, the headache were gone, and hearty as ever. Mr. Mintie asserts that his return to health is due entirely to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and he still occasionally uses a box if he feels in any way "out of sorts."

The kidneys, like other organs of the body are dependent upon rich, red blood and strong nerves for healthy action, and it is because Dr. Williams' Pink Pills supply these conditions that they cure kidney troubles, as well as other ills which have their origin in watery blood, or a shattered nervous system. Sold by all dealers or sent postpaid at 50c. a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by addressing the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont. If you value your health do not take a sub-

A CONTRAST IN METHODS.

British Officials Are Willing to Teach the

Americans. John T. McCutcheon, the correspondent of the Chicago Record, who has been at Manila with Admiral Dewey ever since the first battle of was not using its own powers of loco- Manila, sends a letter to the Record dealing with the problem of American government of the Philippines. In the course of his letter he

Another scheme, bearing on a different phase of the question, is the plan of calling into the governmental service a number of Englishmen who have had years of experience in colonization. This is rather an un-American plan, but it must be admitted that men who have had a lifetime of experience in building up colonies know more about the work than men who would have to learn the work by bitter experience. England has had a century or two of successful colonizing, while America has had none. All the experience based on all of England's practice could be gained without the necessity of learning each step by years of failure and experi-English colonies who would be eager

A story is told in Hong Kong which shows the willingness of the English brigadier-general, on his way from Three years more elapsed before the the Philippines to Paris, stopped sevimmediately volunteered to do all in had prepared elaborate tables, giving The people of the east coast have the minutest details of the governsuffered comparatively little in com- ment, a work which had involved a hundreds of Zanzibaris who had work- were ready to enlighten the brigadier-

and, above all, cleanliness and the but at the first opportunity the genwearing of shoes, are effective protec- erai began telling war stories. Efforts were made to get the conversation After its long journey from Brazil back to the proper channel, but to no the jigger is now established at the purpose. Finally the English governbusy mart whence many vessels sail or perceived that it was useless to for the East Indies and Oceanic. There persist, and he gave up the task in seems no good reason why this per- disgust. The meeting ended in war severing and successful traveller anecdotes by the American general. A day or two later the governor

said to the consul that he realized that the general was not interested in the details and that the material he had prepared was thrown away.

A FORGETFUL SPOUSE.

Mrs. Bilkins-I never saw such a ing lodge in the Highlands. One day forgetful man in my life as you are. The clock has stopped again. Mr. Bi kins-That's because you for-

Mrs. Bilkins-Huh! You know very

BROKE THE WILL.

Jasper-So they have broken old was Mr. Marjoribanks, now Lord devising a will that couldn't be

Jumpuppe-So he did, and they broke The unwitting poacher accepted, and his unbreakable will by citing his atinishing his resistance. It was not un- As he spoke, he unwrapped the gray in that way met Miss Isobel Marjori- tempt to make it as a proof of in-