

Furnival's Chippendae Mystery

By George F. Butler and Herbert Ilsey

Chairs Figure in a Complex Detective Problem Which Is Brought to a Head by the Famous Physician.

THE Northbrook Downs chief of police and the detective jumped from the rear of the second floor and hastened up the wide and beautiful driveway which leads to the mansion. At the door they were met by Mr. Towne himself and ushered into a room at the rear of the second floor.

"Be pleased to sit down, gentlemen," he said, "and in a few words I'll tell you the case before you." He was a large, stout-bodied man of 60, clean-shaven, with grizzled hair, a fleshy, nervous upper lip, a voice rich with good living and a conversational manner which, however, he could change at will into an appearance as winning as he pleased. He was very amiable and courteous now, and, as officer, on this his first personal meeting with the city magistrate, were ready to declare that his reputation as a detective was not based on the harsh, cold-blooded, and grasping monster general opinion represented him to be, he was mild-mannered.

"I do not wish to continue what has occurred to a telephone," he continued, "and so asked you to call upon an unknown errand. The fact is, I hesitated, coughed, and then went on: 'But let me begin at the right end of the story, at the beginning. You noticed, of course, as you came along, that there is a high wall around my premises. It is of stone up to a height of seven feet, and above that and overtopping it is an impenetrable English thorn hedge, which is four feet higher, making a practically impenetrable protection for these grounds of eleven feet in height. The garden is a little loftier even than that, are always locked at night, and the porter's lodge is right beside them. Nobody could enter that way unless by him. The house itself is wired throughout with a burglar alarm, which rings in the dining room with a din that can be heard even to the limits of the park and to raise a window or open a door, at least any of those which are locked, will be secured for the night. The door to this room is always locked. It is, as you can see, so that no one can get in without carrying the key to it on my person constantly. The three windows are double-locked. Yet last night some one got in here and took away five very valuable Chippendale chairs. I am sure you are acquainted with them. They were tucked under the arm or into the pocket, but five good-sized chairs, which would furnish a load for a wagon. And this—do you remember the ward and with a dramatic gesture drew the screen aside, 'this is all we have to indicate how the thing was accomplished.' For days the local police worked upon the mystery, using every art known to detective annals. Eventually, however, they called in Dr. Furnival.



"Come in," said Mr. Towne, who was rubbing his eyes and looking confusedly around, as if he were just awaking from a sound sleep. A maid entered and, with great attention in her manner, spoke a few words to her master in a low tone. Mr. Towne turned to Dr. Furnival.

"Doctor," he said, "my sister, who is thought to be dead, has been found. The reason she has taken a great dislike to him, it seems, from what the maid says, and fell into hysteria as soon as she saw me. I was just in time to see her." She is in the house now, and I wish you would see her for me."

"Willingly," Dr. Furnival answered, starting at once to follow the maid, who led the way rapidly to an upper chamber. Ten minutes afterwards, as the detectives were sitting in the room, the door opened and a young man, who was wearing a white coat and a stethoscope, came in. He was looking at his watch and was saying to himself, "Why, that's the first time she has sat up for—"

"Begin Mr. Towne in as hand for silence," the doctor raised his voice, "what you have just told me, the reason why you dislike your doctor?"

"She was a very slight woman of 40, with weak eyes and a pallid skin, which, however, showed that she commenced in a mechanical way."

"I became acquainted with Dr. Fawcett through an advertisement in the papers, in which he claimed to find bed bring together soul-mates. I sent for him, and he said it was through hypnosis that he worked, and that I must submit my mind to his in order to accomplish results. I allowed him to try several times. He put me to sleep, but he did not succeed. I felt not the least bit of influence from his suggestions. He said it was because I antagonized him in my thoughts, and that I must give my mind wholly up to his—that is, I must believe in him and his power, no matter what he did. He said that even if I should see him apparently commit a murder, I should distrust my own eyesight, knowing that it would be impossible for him to do a wrong of any kind. Until I reached that state of trust, he said, my desires would never be satisfied. But after a long time, I decided to try to fall asleep beneath his hands, held my eyes fast shut even when he pricked me with a pin on the arm. He thought I was asleep, and he drew long, deep breaths as if I were really unconscious. Presently I felt that he had left the room, but I expected him back immediately, so I lay quite still, hoping that somehow he would be able, now that I obeyed him so implicitly, to bring me back to my senses. But after a long while I heard a noise that frightened me, for it came from the curio room beneath my own, and I knew my brother was away and would be furious if anybody should go in there in his absence, especially my doctor, whom he disliked greatly, and instantly I felt the conviction that it was the doctor. I forgot that I was sick and had been unable to leave my

ADVICE TO THE AUTHOR

Every once in awhile the birds would reverse and land on a limb instead of a branch. This is perfectly reasonable because their forelegs are used to support them. The birds were fitted from branch to branch. Why shouldn't the birds fit from branch to branch? In the first place they need the energy in the second place a feathered bird is supposed to move around a great deal.

the sky to prevent its effulgent rays from penetrating the atmosphere, and, as far as the shadows and cheerless boards were concerned, the trees were responsible because their foliage interrupted the logic of the sunlight.

This kind of logic can be continued indefinitely in nature description. With all due respect we recommend it to novelists desirous of increasing the length of their books. It will prove of special significance to all authors receiving compensation at "so much a word."

A Benefactor of the Race.
A man has invented a contrivance by means of which a woman's waist can be fastened in the back by simply pulling a string. The husband's window should send him an engrossed resolution of thanks.

Impossibility.
It is impossible for a woman to understand how any man can have so much energy in the back as to be able to do with it.—Milwaukee Journal.

Best to Conceal Sorrows.
Those who wish friends to whom to open their hearts, are cannibals of their own hearts.—Eaton.

Real Estate Exchange

OF WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL
Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Mich.

The following is a partial list of Farms, City and Village Lots, and Real Estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list.

- 227 Pleasant house and lot 65 feet front and 110 feet deep. Front on South River street, west by B. & N. R. R. 1/2 mile. House, 2 stories, with bath and sewer modern conveniences. Furnace, range, and refrigerator. For sale for \$10,000. Will exchange for improved city property for portion of the purchase price.
- 228 Village lots on Woodward avenue bounded north by and of Mollie G. Smith, east by B. & N. R. R. 1/2 mile. House, 2 stories, with bath and sewer modern conveniences. Furnace, range, and refrigerator. For sale for \$10,000. Will exchange for improved city property for portion of the purchase price.
- 229 Good, comfortable, cool, old-fashioned house with 50 feet of front on South River street, west by B. & N. R. R. 1/2 mile. The price is only \$1,500.
- 230 One on East River street, just south of the lot owned by John C. Smith, on West River street. For particulars inquire of Mollie G. Smith at 1015 Woodward avenue.
- 231 Eight-acre farm in 1013 Lake town, 1/4 of 1/4 of section 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. Three acres of good orchard, house of 2 rooms, good outbuildings, 10 miles from Detroit. 3 miles from Commerce. Improved electric road within a mile. Price, \$2,000.
- 232 One little home for someone of small means. 1/2 of 1/4 of section 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. Three acres of good orchard, house of 2 rooms, good outbuildings, 10 miles from Detroit. 3 miles from Commerce. Improved electric road within a mile. Price, \$2,000.
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Big Game Fees.
In the German possession in Africa a permit to shoot costs \$105; special permission is required to kill more than two giraffes, four rhinoceroses, and six elephants. In the case of elephant shooting, the authorities must give one tusk from each animal, and the hunter receives a small payment if he shoots a lion, a bear, a wild boar, or a hyena. A permit to kill gazelles, antelope, and monkey, costs only ten dollars.

Toilet's Work for Charity.
As a writer for charities, Count Tolstoy comes out an easy rider. The profits from almost his last completed book, "What Must We Do Then?" were devoted to relieving the poverty of the dwellers in the Moscow slums, and since then he has consistently refused to benefit in any way whatsoever by the sale of his numerous works, preferring to devote all the proceeds to philanthropic purposes.

Dog's "Constitutional."
There is a coach dog belonging to one of the barons who has a law that takes a constitutional when they let him out. He runs ahead of the Baron's car from the barn to the battery, and back with the car. The baron then returns to the barn and loads during the rest of the day.—New York Press.

Bright Boy!
"James, my son, take this letter to the post office and pay the postage for it." After a little while the boy James returns, highly elated, and says, "Father, I sold a lot of men putting letters in a little place, and when no one was looking, I slipped yours in for nothing."

A Sound Sleep.
"Morning!" morning!" I said patently, as he had entered the breakfast room. "I've had a splendid night. Slept like a top!" His wife asked him, "You did?" she replied, "grin!"—like a humming top!"

An Opinion.
The advertising theologians are still pointing forth floods of ocean from the end of the world, though they differ, at great length, as to the method of its final destruction. Our private opinion is that it will be talked to death.—London Opinion.

Lured by Hope of Wealth.
The yellow desert stretching eastward from Ludritz bay in German southwest Africa has become a great attraction, though a few months ago its monotonous and dunes were hateful and depressing. Diamonds have been found there and a great mining fever is raging. Men are thronging there till now wild beasts have held undisputed sway.

Long Voyage in Small Boat.
A paddle-wheel steambot which draws but 4 feet of water is making the perilous ocean voyage from England to the West coast of Africa, and it will be used on a shallow river.

Increases Liquor Duties.
The British government has increased the duties on spirits for Sierra Leone 25 per cent. in response to the agitation concerning liquor traffic in Africa.

Value of High Thoughts.
Thoughts do influence the health. Cheerful, high-bred thoughts drive dull care away.

Gentleness and Strength.
Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as strength.—St. Francis de Sales.

Of Man.
Unless above himself he can erect himself, how poor a thing is man.—Dryden.