

Selected Story.

(From Chambers' Journal.)

A Cast of the Net.

THE STORY OF A DETECTIVE OFFICER.

CHAPTER I.—CONTINUED.

Now this was a very awkward incident—I mean of course about the clerk—and showed me that my work had already begun, and was likely to be a little more intricate than I had expected. How the stranger came to know as much as he evidently did, I did not trouble myself just then to consider; he did know it; that was the fact I was concerned with. Why it was worth his while to take so much trouble about a small affair, I did not much care either, though this was more important, as it was evident some one had employed him, for I would swear he was no smith or fitter; and so it was clear there was a good many in the swim. I don't mean to use any slang if I can help it, but "swim" is a regular word, you know, and we can't do without it.

My mind was at once made up. I was always very quick in making up my mind, and prided myself upon it. I am bound to admit I often got wrong through it, but perhaps no oftener than other people who were slower; and I took care to make a good deal of the times when I was right, and so that recovered everything. Now, Peter Tilley, the officer I had asked for, was a man as much about my size and build and color of hair and eyes, as if he had been my twin-brother; and indeed he was not much unlike me in his features. Any one who knew us would not mistake us for each other, but a casual acquaintance might do so. I was wearing then a rather extensive moustache and whiskers; they gave me quite a military cut; and they were not common in the force then, though any man wears them now that chooses. I at once determined to shave them off—for I never allowed personal considerations to interfere with my business—and this I knew would immensely increase his resemblance to me as I appeared that day, while I should of course look very unlike myself. Then I would send Tilley to the *Yarmouth Smack*—which was a public house at which, under some disguise, I had agreed to lodge while on my search—and he could keep his eyes open for anything going on; but he was not to trouble himself much. It was uncommonly likely, I thought, that the spies—for I didn't doubt there was more than one—would make sure that Smith or Brown or Jones, or whatever Tilley called himself, the lodger at the *Yarmouth Smack*, was Sergeant Nickham, and so, as long as they kept him in sight, they had the trump-card, if I may be bold enough to say so, in their hands. And if I had not met Inspector Maffery when I did, when the clerk's visit was fresh upon me, and I was rather out of temper about it, I should probably never have thought of mentioning the matter, and the detective work would have begun on the wrong side.

Byrle & Co.'s factory was close to the Thames, and had a wharf in connection with it, and one waterside public house would do as well for me as another. In fact, as the receiver was as likely to live on the opposite bank as on their own, I might actually gain by living at some place with the river between me and the factory, for a boat could easier cross the river in the dark than a cart could drive through the narrow streets and lanes without being noticed.

I told Tilley as much of my plan as was necessary; he was delighted to help me, for he fancied I was a rising man, and it was something of an honor to work for me. He was willing enough to wear the moustache too; indeed, this was such a common and natural sort of disguise that it was adopted quite as a matter of course.

I did not tell him that I wished him to be mistaken for me; I took care to choose the moustache and whiskers; but it never occurred to him why that particular style was chosen; nor did I tell him, or Inspector Maffery or Mr. Byrle, that I was going to shave. There's nothing like keeping your own counsel in these cases; and I resolved that if I had occasion to report myself to the Inspector (for he was supposed to have the case in hand), I would actually wear a false moustache myself; but it was specially arranged that I should not go near any of the authorities until I thought it desirable, for Mr. Byrle was of the opinion that if any suspicion got afloat with regard to myself, the men who were robbing him were quite fly to watch where I went. (I am afraid that I have dropped into slang again; to be "fly" to a thing means that you are up to it, or down to it, as some prefer to say.) Well, this was Mr. Byrle's opinion, and I am bound to say, after the visit of the sham clerk, it was mine, too.

To be Continued.

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Renovating and Repairing Clothes.

MR. PATTERSON guarantees that no matter how badly faded or stained garments may be, he will restore them to their original color.

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March 25—ly law

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March 30—law

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WHILE taking this opportunity of thanking our numerous customers for the liberal manner in which they have patronized

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we would inform them that we have now increased facilities for the production of first-class work, and are prepared to make PHOTOGRAPHS of a Style and Quality that has never been before attempted in this City. We have an exhibition, at our Rooms, a large number of Photographs of every variety, including the

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The Reformer and Vitalizer of the Blood.

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Fellows' Compound Syrup is composed of ingredients identical with those which constitute Healthy Blood, Muscle and Nerve and Brain Substance, whilst Life itself is directly dependant upon some of them.

By its union with the blood and its effect upon the muscles, re-establishing the one and toning the other, it is capable of effecting the following results:— It will displace or wash out tuberculous matter, and thus cure Consumption.

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Do not be deceived by remedies bearing a similar name; no other preparation is a substitute for this under any circumstances.

Look out for the name and address J. I. FELLOWS', St. John, N. B., on the yellow wrapper in watermark, which is seen by holding the paper before the light.

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Dec. 6, 1877.



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DR. MELVIN'S CAPSICUM POROUS PLASTERS are acknowledged by all who have used them, to act quicker than any other plaster they ever before tried, and that one of these plasters will do more real service than a hundred of the ordinary kind. All other plasters are slow of action, and require to be worn continually to effect a cure; but with these it is entirely different: the instant one is applied the patient will feel its effect.

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Dec. 19, 1877—2m

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Ch'town, March 19, '78. 1m 3 tw

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