

The Value of Publicity.

This is the age of advertising. Not only do the merchants and the manufacturers advertise their wares, but municipalities and states and entire sections of country have enlisted under the banners of publicity and exploitation, maintaining press agents and engaging the potency of printers' ink. Dixie land has gone into the field in centralized form. A large building is to be erected in Washington, to be used in part as a clubhouse for southerners and in part as headquarters for a systematic propaganda of the advantages of the south. The scheme is of unquestionable value, remarks the St. Joseph News-Press, and there is no doubt about the results. There is also noted a revival of the project entertained some years ago of erecting a great states' building at Washington, to be maintained jointly, and to be used as a sort of permanent exposition of the products and advantages of the various states. The original plans provided for exhibition rooms for each state, post offices for each state, where visitors from that state could get their mail; information bureaus for such visitors, a species of headquarters for the transient and permanent people in Washington from the several states. It was a comprehensive affair and yet one involving but comparatively little expenditure on the part of each state.

They are finding that in addition to Alaska's possibilities in the way of mineral and agricultural production certain animals may be acclimated and domesticated there. Ernest Thompson Seton suggests that a portion of Alaska be set aside as a range for the woolly yak, the animals to be imported from Tibet, their natural habitat. The yak is a hardy beast, valuable for carrying burdens and as a milk and butter producer, while the flesh is excellent for food. In 1891 Rev. Dr. Sheldon Jackson, the United States educational agent for the territory, introduced 16 head of reindeer into Alaska. These deer, as is well known, are highly useful as draught animals and for other purposes similar to those for which the yak may be used. So successful was Dr. Jackson's plan that at the latest accounts the imported reindeer had increased to more than 10,000. A great deal can be done in a country supposed to be practically of no account, remarks the Troy Times, provided the right course is taken.

In accordance with their regular annual custom, the merchant tailors, in national convention, have again considered the problem of relieving the evening dress outfit of gentlemen of its somber and funereal aspect. Their notions are purely aesthetic, of course, and the suggested changes have in view the showing of more white. Among the specific recommendations are a broader view of the white waistcoat, a pocket in the coat for the display of the edge of a white handkerchief, a white silk fob and white silk stockings shown above the low cut pumps. It is a rather entrancing picture, remarks the Boston Herald, but it may reasonably be doubted if it effects the banishment of the old pattern of the shiny swallowtail and the supplementary habiliments that have done yeoman's service for 10, these many years. Their status is as immutable as the laws of the Medes and Persians.

Italian thrift, which has long been known, was brought prominently to notice by the great earthquake and the generous contributions from the poorest of Italian laborers in this country. The amount of money sent by money-orders from this country to Italy has been steadily increasing for 20 years. In 1906 it reached the enormous total of sixteen and a quarter million dollars. A New York banker in relations with Italians says that of 100 laborers earning 14 cents an hour at railroad-grading or similar work, 95 will save from \$25 to \$27 a month, after paying for food, shanty-rent and clothing.

The desire to be clean will not be daunted nowadays. The story comes from an apartment-house district in New York that on Sunday the friends of the tenants visit them in herds to use their bathtubs. The charge is two cents for a fine hot "wash," and five cents if towels are provided.

Radium has now been marked down to \$5,257.99 an ounce and thrifty housewives should now lay in their spring supply.

In the magnificent palace, near Paris, where lived the late Victorien Sardou, playwright, was a huge chest that contained numberless little boxes, duly labeled. In these cardboard receptacles were notes jotted down at any time, in any place; newspaper cuttings, epigrams and aphorisms of his own—a chest of ideas and plots.

Gas engines are rapidly replacing the steam engine in smaller factories. They give twice as much power for the same quantity of fuel.

# A Pin for a Clew

By an Ex-Operative of the Secret Service

## Capt. Dickson Illustrates a Detective's "Nose for Details."

**W**HAT do I consider the most important thing to notice when first investigating a crime?

Capt. Dickson, a retired secret service officer, had repeated the words of my question.

After some moments of thought, he replied: "Well, from my own experience, it has become a fixed conviction with me that no crime is ever committed where the criminal fails to leave behind some clew that, if it is only found and its worth appreciated, will invariably lead to the detection of the culprit."

"I have a case in mind, a post-office robbery. It happened when I was connected with that department, before I was transferred to the broader field of the secret service. I will never forget the village where it occurred. It was a town of some 300 or 400 souls in the Green mountains. It had only one hotel, and in the three weeks that I was detained there, I almost destroyed my digestion endeavoring to support life on its abominable fare. I believe that I felt a keener satisfaction in the royal meal I secured at Boston, on my return to Washington, than I did in capturing the author of the robbery."

"The post-office safe had been tapped for a large quantity of stamps, about \$500 in money and a brand new money-order book. This last item gave importance to the case, because a book of money-order blanks in the hands of a clever crook can cause the government more trouble than a session of congress."

"The safe was a crude iron affair which was fastened by means of a clumsy brass key. The key was too large and too heavy to be lugged about, and after the safe was locked it was hid away in a corner of the cash-drawer. A peculiar circumstance of the robbery was that the safe had been found locked and the key was in its place of concealment. The culprits had possessed an intimate knowledge of the habits of the postmaster and his assistant, Miss Lundy, a young lady of fine appearance and charming personality."

"Mason, the postmaster, had a theory that two tramps had committed the theft. He said that two suspicious characters had come into the office the afternoon before the robbery and had bought five two-cent stamps. He considered this a suspicious circumstance, as he said that persons of their type always bought stamped envelopes—no more than they needed at the time—and that they always mailed their letters before leaving the office, addressing them with the dilapidated pen maintained by the postmaster at all country offices for victims who have no alternative than to use it. At the back of the building, a window-glass had been broken out, and Mason especially directed my attention to it, as he said it must have been by this means that the robbers gained entrance to the building. All of the doors had been securely locked."

"I made a minute examination of the premises, and the only thing I found was a small steel pin with a green-glass head. It was in a crack of the floor immediately in front of the rifled safe. Without attracting attention, I secured the pin and stuck it beneath the lapel of my coat. I thought it might prove of value. It did. It was the key to the situation."

"My examination showed that the robbers had entered the post-office through the front door, and that the broken window was merely a blind or else it had been broken by accident. I didn't take much stock in this last theory, but put the window down as a deliberate effort to muddy the water. There were two doors, a front and a back one. The rear one was kept locked and the key to it hung on a nail in the office. Only Mason and Miss Lundy had keys to the front door."

"It was not so easy to trace Mason and the young lady on that evening. After some considerable work I learned that neither of them had been at home the early part of that particular evening. No one knew where they had been nor what they had done during this period. Mason had left his home and Miss Lundy her boarding house early after supper on that night on the pretext of taking a walk. Mason had returned sometime after midnight. The hour of Miss Lundy's return was uncertain."

"Already sorely puzzled over the evidence which was accumulating, one morning, upon arising, I was more than ever mystified by finding a slip of paper under the door of my room. In a sprawling, unnatural hand, four words were written upon it: 'Mason robbed the safe.'

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about the very language of his incoherent confession and his manner in making it that told me that Mason was not the thief.

"What more do you want?" Mason breathed. "I did it, I tell you, and I shall be convicted of it. I can't restore the stamps and the money-order book because I have destroyed them, but here is the money, every penny of it."

"He threw a roll of bills in my lap and continued: 'My confession is sufficient to convict upon. I will repeat it in court and I want you to arrest me and get me away from here just as soon as you can.'

"Just at this juncture the depot-agent entered the office with a telegram for me. It was a cipher message from the department. Taking out my code book, I translated it in a moment and the contents of it, in the light of Mason's confession, was nothing less than unnerving."

"Without a word I wrote the message out and passed it over to Mason: 'Money orders being passed Waco and other Texas towns.'

"What does it mean?" he cried.

"Before I could answer him, Miss Lundy came into the office. With a

"After some time they called to me. Between the two of them they explained everything. They had long been lovers and, with the aversion that lovers have for the clattering of village gossips' merciless tongues, they had succeeded in keeping their attachment a secret. They had been engaged for some time, and it was their custom to meet at the home of a kindly old widow lady of an evening, she alone knowing of their engagement. On the night of the robbery they had spent the evening together at the widow's."

"She and Mason had left the widow's about ten o'clock and Mason had left her at the gate. After leaving her, Mason had taken a long stroll and, about midnight, had passed the post-office in returning to his home. As he approached the building he had seen a lady leaving it, closing and locking the door after her."

"Next morning, when he opened the safe he discovered the robbery. His suspicion of Miss Lundy had then come upon him."

"It was a pretty tangle. The lovers had straightened it out to their own satisfaction and, while I knew that neither of them had any guilty knowledge of the deed, I was far from being

BACKACHE IS KIDNEYACHE.

Usually There Are Other Troubles to Prove It.

Pain in the back is pain in the kidneys, in most cases, and it points to the need of a special remedy to relieve and cure the congestion or inflammation of the kidneys that is interfering with their work and causing that pain that makes you say: "Oh, my back."

Thompson Watkins, professional nurse, 420 N. 23d St., Parsons, Kans., says: "For some time I was annoyed with sharp twinges across the small of my back and irregular passages of the kidney secretions. Since using Doan's Kidney Pills I am free from these troubles."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

FIDO DULY WARNED.



Look here, Fido, if you can't be a better horse than this I shall have to discharge you an' get an automobile!"

COVERED WITH HIVES.

Child a Mass of Dreadful Sore, Itching, Irritating Humor for 2 Months—Little Sufferer in Terrible Plight.

Disease Cured by Cuticura.

"My six year old daughter had the dreadful disease called hives for two months. She became affected by playing with children who had it. By scratching she caused large sores which were irritating. Her body was a complete sore but it was worse on her arms and back. We employed a physician who left medicine but it did not help her and I tried several remedies but without avail. Seeing the Cuticura Remedies advertised, I thought I would try them. I gave her a hot bath daily with Cuticura Soap and anointed her body with Cuticura Ointment. The first treatment relieved the itching and in a short time the disease disappeared. Mrs. George L. Fridhoff, Warren, Mich., June 30 and July 13, 1908."

Fiery Courtesy.

In a Canadian town a few days ago a dry goods firm was burned out in the morning. In the afternoon a competing firm inserted the following advertisement in a local paper:

"We desire to extend our sympathy to our respected competitors in their loss by fire and to express the hope that their affairs may soon be so adjusted as to enable them to continue business without undue loss of time."

Sheer white goods, in fact, any fine wash goods when new, owe much of their attractiveness to the way they are laundered, this being done in a manner to enhance their textile beauty. Home laundering would be equally satisfactory if proper attention was given to starching, the first essential being good Starch, which has sufficient strength to stiffen, without thickening the goods. Try Defiance Starch and you will be pleasantly surprised at the improved appearance of your work.

Footrest for Invalid.

In making a gift for an elderly person or invalid the comfort of a foot-stool or footrest should not be overlooked. A carpet remnant is excellent for this purpose, or the sound parts of a worn-out rug or carpet may be utilized.

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson* In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Something at Least.

Wife—What would you men have had if God had not made us? Husband (quietly)—One more rib.—Widow.

Thousands of country people know that in time of sudden mishap or accident Hamlin Wizard Oil is the best substitute for the family doctor. That is why it is so often found upon the shelf.

He who is false to duty breaks a thread in the loom, and will find the flaw when he may have forgotten the cause.—H. Ward Beecher.

Red, Weak, Watery, Watery Eyes Relieved by Murine Eye Remedy. Commended by Experienced Physicians. Composed of Pure Food and Drug Laws. Murine Doesn't Smart; Soothes Eye Pain, Try Murine in Your Eyes. At Druggists.

Women would have no use for mirrors that would enable them to see themselves as others see them.

FILES CURED IN 6 TO 14 DAYS. PAZO OINTMENT is guaranteed to cure any case of Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Files in 6 to 14 days or money refunded.

Nine men out of a possible ten wear a sand look after they have been married a year.

Lewis' Single Binder straight 5c. You pay 10c for cigars not so good. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

A man's idea of values depends on whether he wants to buy or sell.



"SHE DIDN'T DO IT, CAPTAIN DICKSON—I ALONE AM GUILTY."

sions were a woman and a man and that they had taken the pains to advise me of what they had seen by means of the brief, unsigned notes.

"The situation puzzled me more than ever and I didn't fall asleep until late that night, having tossed away many restless hours upon the instrument of torture which did service for a bed in the stuffy room of the hotel. Involuntarily, next morning, I as soon as my eyes opened. It was there, a third note, on the same paper, in the same hand and of the same purport as that of the morning before. The only change was in the wording of it."

"Why don't you arrest Mason?" He robbed the postoffice. Ask him if he didn't break the window-glass. He won't deny it.

"I worried through the morning somehow, never trusting myself to show up at the post-office. At noon I was forced to go back to the hotel, as it was the only place of public entertainment in the village. I headed straight for my room, expecting to find a fourth note on the table. I was not disappointed, for there it was, as big as life, the exact counterpart of the day before."

Miss Lundy is the robber. More than ever puzzled, I strolled over to the postoffice after lunch. Mason was there and alone. Miss Lundy had not returned from her dinner. The postmaster's face was piteous to behold. He shrank from me as I greeted him and put his hands over his face. His hands shook like a man's with the palsy. Before I could find a seat he arose and went into his private office, beckoning me to follow.

"I seated myself and watched with patience while he strode back and forth across the limited space of the office. Suddenly he stopped squarely before me, and bracing himself with a painful effort, blurted out a jumble of words, confessing that he had robbed the safe. I was struck all of a heap, but never for an instant did I believe him. There was something

woman's intuition, she saw that something was wrong. A look of terror, which amote me to the heart, swept over her face. She sprang forward and stepped between Mason and me, who stood staring at each other like wooden images."

"Oh, Capt. Dickson," she sobbed, "don't you believe him. He didn't have a thing to do with it. I did it myself. The money is in my trunk. I have burned the stamps and the money-order book."

"She didn't do it, Capt. Dickson," ranted Mason like a man demented. "She knows nothing about it. I alone am guilty and she is merely trying to save me from prison; she is my affianced bride."

"Hold on there," I cautioned, "you are a pair of sentimental young innocents, and while I am willing to give you my blessing, although it is a bit out of my line, I am not going to believe a word either of you say about this robbery and don't either of you dare to breathe a word of such absurd nonsense to any one else. I know that neither of you robbed the safe and you couldn't convince me of it if you talked a thousand years and produced the charred remains of that money-order book itself. Dry your eyes, Miss Lundy; shake yourself together, Mason; and let's get down to serious talk and clear this thing up. See here, I continued, producing the four notes that had been left at my room, "honor bright, now, you wrote those notes, didn't you?"

"I didn't say to hear more but beat out of the office as if the furies were at my back instead of two lovers happy beyond expression in the knowledge that their doubts were unfounded and that there was happiness still remaining for them. I wasn't going to take chances on their being disturbed, so I took possession on the porch before the post-office door to head off any persons who might feel inclined to intrude upon their privacy."

satisfied and felt that my work had just begun.

"With my suspicion of Mason set at rest, I could confide more fully in him, so I set out with two clews, the woman visitor that Mason had seen and the pin with the glass head. There were many women in the village that fitted the description in a general way and that was a hard clew to follow, so I fell back upon the pin. There were none of the kind for sale in the village nor had there ever been, so I knew that the pin must be an imported one. This was some progress, but I was still far from shore."

"I don't know that I would ever have run the thief to earth if it hadn't chanced that I met a lady one afternoon who wore a flower pinned upon her breast. A glance showed me that the pin which held it was the twin brother to the one I had found. The lady, I learned, had been in the village some four or five months, teaching a dancing school with great success. No one knew where she came from."

"It was an easy matter to clear up the robbery after this. She was an old timer in criminal deeds and as sleek a crook as ever wore petticoats. She had easily learned the careless methods of the post-office and, when she deemed the occasion ripe, had selected a skeleton key from her stock and pulled off the robbery, a neat job except for Mason's untimely appearance upon the scene. She had most of the stamps in her possession, but she had sent the money-order book to her husband, who was then operating in the profitable field of the southwest."

"How about the lovers, did you say? They were married in due time and I had the pleasure of officiating as best man."

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Some tropical daisies measure a foot in circumference.