## A Tale of Three Lions H. RIDER HAGGARD

 At last the crisis came. Onie Satur"At ought a muid of nealie meas at at anty
shillings for them to fll themselve Harry and tat on the edge of the n the hill-sideat, and thitch we had dud in we gat in the moonlight with our feet Presently I pulled out my purge ang. mptied its contents into purse an here was a half sovereign, two floring South practically doees not coppers, forlate it things that makes living so dear there ". There, Harry, my boy', I satid,
vealth; the in ay, you and I shall haver Harry. elves out to work with the Kafirs an "But I was in no jo ke. or it is not a merry mood for joking to digg, like
mad for months and be completely ou happen to hate diggs, especially lly
nike poison,
nd consequently I resented and consequently
light-heartedness.
shut up!' I sald, raising my hand
as though to give him a cuff, with the esult that the half sovereign slipped
out of it and fell in the gulf below. "'There, dad,' sald Harry; 'that's
What comes of letting your angry pas sions rise; now we are down to four
and nine. "I made no answer to these words
of wisdom, but scrambled down the
steep sides of the claim followed by steep sides of the claim folloowed by
Harry, to hunt for my little all. Well,
we hunted and we hunted and hunted, but the moon-
light is an uncertain thing to look for
half sovereigns by, and there was some loose soll about, for the Kairs had
knaocken orf working at the very spot
a counle ot hours bet


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"He did so, and resting the brown
stone on my knee I scratched at its
surface. Great heavens, thes watt!
Another secret and the secret was
out; we had found a great nugget ofa Dutchman.'"Harry, with his eyes starting out of
his head, glared down at the long
gleaming yellow scratch that $I$ hadgleaming yellow scratch that I had
made upon the virgin metal, and then
burst out into yell upon yell of ex.ultation, that went ringing away
across the ellent claims like the shriek
of somebody belng murderedof somebody belng murdered.
"'shut up, shut up!' I said, 'do you
want every thief on the fields afterwant every thief on the fields atter
you?
"Scarcely were the words out of my
mouth when I heard a steathy foot-
step approaching. I promptly put the
btg nugget down and sat on it, asbtg nugget down and sat on it, as
though it had been an egg, and un-
commonly hard it was, and as I did
so I saw a lean dark face poked oversol
the edge of the claim and a a pair of
beady eyes searching us out. I knewthe face, it belonged to a man of very
bad character known as Handspike
Tom, having I understood been sonamed at the Diamond Flelds because
nemed murdered his mate with a hand-
he had mure. He was now no doubt prowling
spikespike. He was now no doubt prowling
about 11 ake a human hyena to see what
he could steal.
a Ts that
'Yes, that's me, Mr. Tom,'
answered, politely."And what might all that there
yelling be?' he asked. I was walking
along, a-taking of the evening air ang
a-thinking about my soul, when I 'earsalong, a-taking of the evening air an
a-thinking about my soul, when I 'ear
owl after 'owl.'





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## eddy

"Well, all I can say is that a play-
ed-out old clam is a wondertul queer
sort of a place to come for to argity at
ten

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## nit

consummate villain has gone: Harry
did so, and reported that he
ished the ished toward Pilgrimg' Rest, and then
we set to work, and very carefully, bu hands hollowed outt all the space o
ground into which $I$ had struck the pick. Yes, as I thought, there was a
regular nest of nuggets, twelve in all
running from the size of a hazel nu
to the first one was much larger than that
How they all came there nobody can treaks, with storles of which at any
rate, all people accuainted with al
luvial gold-mining will be famillar. I
turned out atterward the
vietion
I had
methe
and
aut of
buffal
turned
altho
woke up Harry and set to work to see
it there were any more nuggets handywe had got had lain together in a llttle
pocket filled with soil that felt quite
difierent from the stiff stuff round andoutside the pocket. There was not a
trace of gold. of course, it is possible
that there were oother pockets full
is I made up my mind that, whoever
found them I should not; and, as a
matter of fact, I have since heard that
that claim has been the ruin of two"'Harry,' I sald presently, 'I am goHarry' I sald presently, 'I am go
ing away this week towards Delago to
shoot butfalo. Shall I take you with
me, or send you down to Durban?.After Italy and Provence there is no
country whecountry where Rome has left moro
monuments in every state of preserva-
tion of decay than in Tunis, says the
LondLondon Dally News. Tunis, says the
Rorgest
Roman circus after the Coliseum 1 s
El-Djem, Arles ranking next and Nimes
insEi-Djem, Arles ranking next and Nimes
coming fourth. At a recent sitting of
the Academy of Inscriptlons tithe Academy of Inscriptlons in Paris
M. Botsier, our correspondent asays
gave an account of a remarkable
Roman discovery at Susa, in Tunis
The French, who, unlike the Enlish
in Egypt, have settled down in Tunisfor good, have got a camp at that sea-,
port which is "a mine of mosalcs,"
where fresh discoveries are made everyyear. The other day a party of soldiers
digging foundations unearthed a mo-
salicdigging foundations unearthed a mo-
saic with three human figures in a per-
fect state of preservation,
three and one-half feet square, but onlye
subject, "Virgil Writing the Aeneld,"
will
of the poet loosely draped in the folds
of a white toga with a blue fringe, sit-a step. He holds on his knees a
papyrus roll on which is written in
pin

 | y. taking no notice of my interpreta- |
| :---: | :--- |
| tion, 'and I stops and smacks my lips |
| ind |
| instead of of that horrid hing for for it, an |
| after and |
| nomer, a very dide was searcely a mis | 



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