

THE LONE INN

By FERGUS HUME.

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[CONTINUED.]

CHAPTER IX.

Dr. Merrick was delighted to see me again so speedily and assured me that he had thought of nothing else but the lone inn crime. The peculiar circumstances of the case fascinated him greatly. "Decidedly I should be a detective," he said laughingly. "I have been inventing all kinds of theories in connection with this matter. By the way, my idea of searching the shipping list was a good one."

"Before doing so it would be advisable to find Rose Strent or her father." "Why so?" "Because they only can give positive evidence as to the committal of the crime. Failing them, Felix may slip through your fingers."

wished to assure myself of the identity of Rose Strent. When I found out all about her, there might be a possibility of solving the mystery. "Well, no matter," I answered carelessly, stuffing the card back into my case. "I'll see Mr. Briarfield another time."

"I think Rose Gernon is blackmailing Felix also." "Quite so. What else can he expect? Or else," added Merrick, looking straight at me, "it's a case of love and marriage."

go through with the matter, managed to screw up my courage. It was a most unpleasant task, but very necessary if I wanted to attain my object. When Miss Bellin entered, I could not suppress a start, so changed was she in outward appearance. As I said before, she was a tall, well developed and very beautiful woman, but now she had grown thin, and her face wore an anxious expression. I could not help thinking that she knew something about the tragedy at the lone inn, as I could conjecture no other reason for her ill health and manifest discomposure. She came forward, with a nervous smile, and greeted me in a low voice.

row evening, and you shall see for yourself. "You are the enemy of the man I love." "I am the bitter enemy of the man who pretends to love you because I believe he killed his brother."



It was Rose Strent and none other.



"I will be with you at a quarter to 8 to-morrow."

come to my rooms in Duke street. I will await you at the door, and we will go to the chambers of this villain. "He is no villain."

CHAPTER XI.

My interview with Olivia passed off better than I expected. If she had ordered me out of the house, I would only have looked on it as the just punishment for what must have appeared my impertinent interference in what did not concern me. The very fact that she listened so quietly proved that she suspected Felix was masquerading as her lover. She could only be assured of this by overhearing his interview with Rose Gernon and therefore accepted my invitation to go to the Jermyn street rooms. If their tenant was Francis, he would resent the intrusion of Rose, but if Felix the two confederates would doubtless talk of their guilty secret.



PALPITATION OF THE HEART. Shortness of Breath, Swelling of Legs and Feet.

"For about four years I was troubled with palpitation of the heart, shortness of breath and swelling of the legs and feet. At times I would faint. I was treated by the best physicians in Savannah, Ga., with no relief. I then tried various Springs, without benefit. Finally I tried Dr. Miles' Heart Cure also his Nerve and Liver Pills. After beginning to take them I felt better! I continued taking them and I am now in better health than for many years. Since my recovery I have gained fifty pounds in weight. I hope this statement may be of value to some poor sufferer."