## Cralarada Tiscturd.

# Special XMAS Bargains 

 The Big Daylight StoreFOR ALL XMAS SHOPPERS.

This Xmas more than any other, one should look for something useful for your Husband, Wife, Mother Daughter, Sister, Brother or Sweetheart, in the way of a nice Dress Pattern, Cloak, Suit of Clothes, Overcoat, Shoes for any of the family. and in fact anything in the Ladies' and Gentlemen's Furnishings. A Nice Pair of Blankets would make an appropriate present.

## Our Stock is Large and Complete

Most too large for this time of the year, and as we want the CASH, we shall make Special Prices all over the store from now till Xmas. We have not the room nor the time to quote prices here, but you have all felt the Panic no doubt, and although our business has been good, and better than we could expect, but our collections have been slow, so we therefore to make up for the bad collections will sacrifice our profits to get in the Money, for we are not ashamed to say WE NEED IT. So come and help us, and yourselves at the same time, in the Bargains for the Next Three Weeks. Have Confidence,' Turn Your Money Loose,

## ELLWOOD FENCE

This is a picture of Ellwood hog fence. than of ali other makes combined. strands of plain barbed wire, it p

More of this style is use in connection with several lately pig-tight and will also turn large stock



I have this fence from eighteen to fifty-eight inches high

LIGHTER, STRONGER, AND CHEAPER THAN LUMBER, It Makes a Beautiful Yard Fence.

## A. J. ROE,

 Lumber, Cement ard Wire.colorado

EYAS

CUTTING SCRAPE IN SNYDER In a difficulty which occurre

Early to Bed
and early to rise, makes and early to rise
happy and wise
Herbine before
cure for Cons 'clock last Sunday afternoon,

 Wolf, a son-in-law of the elder

Wheat.
Ed received a serious stab in
the left breast, and his condition the left breast, and his condition
is yet considered critical, while is yet considered critical, while Sailed Vermantes, a you his father was cut across the Mexican woman at the section shoulders several times and is
reported as doing very well. $\begin{aligned} & \text { house came to her death Wednes- } \\ & \text { day morning about } 7 \text { o'clock by }\end{aligned}$ reported as doing very well.
Wolf was placed under arrest No cause placed under arrest. difficulty has the origin of th

CITY COUNCIL MEETS
another Mexican, were the on
witnesses to the deed, both

CITY ORDINANCE ferrods testified be-

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Meyer, that on being } \\
& \text { to the scene of the trace- }
\end{aligned}
$$

to the scene of the trage-
he found the woman gasping $\begin{gathered}\text { owner. 118. If any person being } \\ \text { ART. } \\ \text { the owner of the property defin- }\end{gathered}$ he found the woman gasping
the owner of the property defin-
ed in the preceding article as
ending a nuisance, shall fail or as
 sian examined the body and fuse to abate the same- after no-
pound carefully and certified as he e heinbefore provided,
hat from the relative poll ho deemed guilty of a

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS
FOR SALE-2000 bushels fine
Spanish peanuts for seed. Will Spanish peanuts for seed. Will
deliver them at Colorado in any
quantity quantity. Buy your seed now
before they are all gone.
(11-8tf) A. S. Corbel, Colorado M, G. Knotty, Fire, Tornado Insurance. Old Line Companies Insurance. Old Line Companies
only. Prompt settlement in case only. Prompt settlement in case
of loss. Office in St. James
Block. POSTED
My pastures and farms fifteen
miles southwest of Colorado are My pastures and farms fifteen
miles southwest of Colorado are
posted according to law and tresposted according to law and tres-
passers will be prosecuted. This means everybody keep out.

LOST-A white horse mule 14 tail. Any information will be
thankfully received. L.C. Dupree FOR SALE-A splendid buggy, angle and light; must be sud re-
cordless of price. Come and see f $\mathrm{c} \quad$ B. F. DeLANEY.
Pocket and Pocket and Taste curriery.
MeNurry has a large line ado anything from a pocket
knife to the best of razors. Miss Dulaney at Payne's showing and selling the newest
ready to wear and tailored hats: Lithographed vendor's lien
notes for sale at RECORD office, Syrup t Syrup Genuine home made ribbon cane syrup, absolutely pure, at
Birdwell's. Cheaper Than Dirt.
If you can be interested
land proposition, I can do it land proposition, I can do it.
can do all but collect your profit
for you. I offer two sections of for you. I offer two sections of
land in southern part of Mitchell county, separately or togethto file on and hold down school
land. Good farming land, only golden opportunity for some
body, why not you? C. H. Ear
nest, Colorado, Texas.

Texas \& Pacific TELEPHONE CO This is the only Company that connects with the lo cal exchanges at Westbrook, Colorado Snyder, Loraine Roscoe, $\quad$ Sweetwater, Terkel, Hermleigh, McCauley, Ropy Hamlin, Sylvester, Etc friend will have to walk probait half a mile to answer the telephone
Tell your Central to put your ca over the lines of the Texas Pacific Co. and get direct con
nection. Otherwise you will not.
$\vdots$ If You Need Anything See.
in the Leather Line

## J. B. Annis

HandMade SADDLES AND HARNESS is my specialty, and I guarantee everything I make or sell to be as good as the BEST
Next Door to MccLure, Basion \& Co,
Colorado, Texas

## Fall Announcer

I ${ }^{\text {AM now better than ever }}$ prepared to serve the pub
The prepared toter serve the pub
the
Maple and Fancy Grocery
My stock is fresh and
Call and
J. O. McCreles Colorado, Texas

Winona: Rushiord wagons
 Grain. Hay, Hides, Coal and Farming Implements.
 W. J. PRITCHET Q SON

## The Palace Market

COLORADO, TEXAS.


We are in a Position To offer you the beet the market
afters in in way of Frat and


 your orders
anywhere.
C. L. GRABLE, Prop. PHONE 96.

## 밍 <br> PIA <br> N <br> 1 <br> s

How Would it Suit You to Buy P Piano and Make Your Own Price?

## Saturday,Dec.21,1907

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon, I will sell to the Highest Bidder, the Handsomest Piano in My Store. There will positively be no string to this sale, and if the highest bid is 30 cents, it gets the piano. The piano is on exhibition in my store, and may be seen and examined at any time. It will be Delivered to the Purchaser Free of Charge, no matter where you live.

Persons who may wish to bid on this piano, and who are not able to ${ }^{2}$ be here in person, may send their bid by mail. All bids will be on a Cash Basis. However, arrangements can be made for installment terms, if made before the sale.

I will also sell at the same time
Two Organs of Different Styles to the Highest Bidder

Remember the Date and Place,
SaturdayDec.21,1907

at My Store.

# GEO. W. MOSHER The Piano Man Colorado, - - - Texas. 

THE COLORADO RECORD
Published every Friday at Colorado, Mitchell County Texas. Office in Masonic Building.
BY THE WHIPKEY PRINTING $C O$.


Entered as second-closas matter at to
City official Paper.

## IN SEASON OR NOT.

## Record waim chimes chimes

 To bid you all be merry: For well it knows the busy timesThe loving plans-the The hidden work, the whispered
fun,
December days are bringing, Will brighten many a care-worn
And set the silent singing.
The paramount question-" The paramount question-"Is
there arry package here fer me?'" $\overline{\text { The next national spasm will }}$ be Christmas.
Believe all stories faise that ought to be, is the best way to
discipline the heart against the scandalous.
$\qquad$ The only freckles t The only freckles that won't
come off are those on a name come off are those on a name
reputation. Tears of repentance can not wash them away.
Things are fast assuming their status quo in financial circles, are emerging from obscurt
Next year will be leep year and presidential campaign year. But its n
leap year its nat.
year.
e amount of deep, dark intrigue and conspiring going on in many christian homes these in many christian homes these
pre-Christmas days, is surpris
he postoffice in Colorado, Texas, under ...Telephone No. 258

Do you tell your little children there is no such thing a Santa Claus? That it's all stuff about comes from whence, man, who whither, the night before Christmas, who loves them and brings each one just the present they want. If you have done them his cruel injustice, you need not wonder when they refuse to be-
lieve the tidings of lieve the tidings of great joy
which were brought the waiting shepherds on the Judean hills. If you do, it must be for one or
two reason. You are either too sordid to buy them a few cheap appreciate the symbolism of His Life and Passion in the senti-
ment in the coming of Santa Claus. The bringing of happi fruition of it's hopes, holds the essence of the hristian religion.
The vital elements of faith, hope and charity are in it, figuring to the childish heart and mind
the Passon of our Lord. Their disillusionment will come soon enough, so let it be by another. confidenee the child had in you,
before it's idol was mocked. WE'LL TRY
A love-lorn swain of poeti sseciate editor of the Record for elp. In trying to fix up a suit gharms, he had exhausted the abridged superlatives in the unthe drop-stitchy and peek down lines of Ella Wheeler Wilcox and rhapsodies of Byron - they both ion. We confess to a liking for oetry ourself, whether it comes ure to b atose, but have merely sipped at

So. and washable of the hardest task is to excts and associations ploit lovely perfection through | argerother, she is stepping $\begin{array}{l}\text { cyfe you, young man, you are } \\ \text { hfpeless, and her father had bet- }\end{array}$ |
| :--- | When Colorado gets her new ter unchain the dog next time passenger depot at the foot of When God crowned his cre-

Walnut street, and the yards are leveled set with trees and a ative work with so-called noble nice sod. the impression made up- man, he sent his angel messenon the visitor and prospector on $\begin{aligned} & \text { gers throughout the star-strewn } \\ & \text { realms of space to gather all }\end{aligned}$ arrival, will be much to the pro- $\begin{aligned} & \text { realms of space to gather all } \\ & \text { there was of beauty and bright- }\end{aligned}$ fit and credit of the town. Front ness, of enchantment and glam-
street could, and should be made street could, and should be made our When the angelic host re-
the most attractive thoroughfere the most attractive thoroughfere turned from their harvesting and in Colorado, and the building of the new depot will naturally atcality. $\qquad$
If you can afford no other gift to swell the sum of hunan happiness, at this season of "good-
will," give some fainting broth er word of sympathy and handare here-plenty of them-men and women, whose monotonous grind of burden, both of shoulder and heart, crushes their spirits down, who "long in vain for
the chance passing of "A Good the chance passing of "A Good
Samaritan." Perhaps you are Samaritan." Perhaps you are
one. Give your best, and the one. Give you best, and the CHILDREN'S
 chilaren's diseases. It not only kills
the worms, but removes the mucus and slime in which they build their nests.
Its action on the child is mild and leaves Its action on the child dis mild and leaves
him in a healthy condition. Joe Daniel, Surmae, Tenn., says that he gave one oflis children White's Cream Vermicolic, and from the first doge the chilid
passed 73 worms. Sold by W. L. Doss.

Builder's and Shelf Hardware, Cutlery and Tools at Moeser's.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

rates for announc
For Congress,
For Stste Offices
For Cunty and Distric
For Precint offices
For Precint offices.
For City Offices.
All announcements are invariably
cash in alvance, and will not be inser-
ted unless paid for when order This does not carry with ordered any free
hotice. For Public Weigher,
W. A. LOWDER.

SICNS OF SANITY TO BE SEEN One of the most bitter opponthe terrific warfare waged against that official was the Ft. Worth Telegram, and that it has and commendable. In a rigneant ssue we notice the a recent "The Te Tomen an outline of the plans for the
Democratic Club of Texas the Democratic Club of Texas, which
E. G. Senter and others of Dalsay are organizing. We would
sa Senter the Telegram cannot command the organiza-
tion of any political club in Tex-
as at this time much politics. We have too center will lend his efforts to a
canning factory club for all Texleague to promote the beautiflca-
tion of Texas cities gram will not only join but will
talk about the club every oppor-
Of all the crazy opponents of the junior senator, Senter is the
wildest, and this piece of is wise, and while the man has long since passed that stage that reason appeals to him, we are hopeful that other papers and individuals will come to see the matter in the light it presents itself to the Telegram, and that we may have something like
peace until the senator again ofpeace until the senator again of-
fers for office. It is greatly to fers for office. It is greatly to
be desired-Abilene Reporter.
REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF
THE CITY NATIONAL BANK OF

## he close of busipess, Deec RESOURCES

Loans and Disceunts
Overdrafts, secfred and
secured
Jlation
Banking hpuse, furnite cir-
xtures
Due from National
Dot reserve hgents)
Due from State Banks
Bankers
Due from approved reserve
gents
Notes of otherer National
Banks
Fractional paper currency
nickles and cents
Lawful money Reserve in
Bank, viz:
$\begin{array}{llll} & 87 & 716 & 00 \\ \text { pecie } & & \\ \text { Legal tender notes } \\ \text { Redemption } & 500 & 00\end{array}$
Tedemption fund with U. S.
Treasurer ( 5 per cent circu
ation
Total LiAbilities.
urplus fund
Undivided profits, less expen-
sesd and taxes profits, le
National Bank notes

| in | ing |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| in |  |

Due to other National Banks
ndividual deposits subject to
Demand certificates of deposit Notes and bills rediscounted
Cashiers checks outstanding Bills payable. includingng cer-
tificaesoof deposit for mony
borrowed

STATE OFTEXAS $\mid$ ss
I, J. E. Hooper, Cashier of the above
named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Correct-Attest: E. Ho
J. D. Wulfjen,
D. . . Arnett,
F. E. McKenzie

Subscribed and sworn to befor this 10th day of December 1907 .
R. G. Smith, Notary Publis. millinery accessories In addition to the widest possible range of hat style3 we are aiso showing everything new in
veils and trimmings. Miss Mills at Adams' Store.
All kinds of heary and shelf
hardware at McMurry's.

## THE

## Chrisimas Holidays

ARE AT HAND

All tastes and ages have been carefully considered in the selection of our Gift Books, which is the largest

Our display of Toilet Sets and Accessories carries the entire range of styles-new before.
show

Bibles, Testaments, Albums, Stationery, Pictures, Medallions, Bric=a=Brac, Fancy Frames, Mirrors, Leather Goods, are shown in endless variety

| Our Doll and Toy department has exhausted the wants and imaginations of the children. | Never before have buyers in this line had the opportunity now offered them, of gettinc the Right Things at |
| :---: | :---: |
| You are cordially invited to come and inspect this array of fancy goods. | the Right Prices: Our stock is and varied. |
| We are sure we can please your every line, from the rattler for the tots to the comfort and solace of declining age. | Many beautiful and useful articles in rich Cut Glass, Hand Painted China and Dresden Ware, offered at prices in reach of all. |

## Colorado Drug Company.

## BURNS \& BEI.L,

 Big StoreIs yet brim full of big values in every department. You can most always find the very article you are looking for, at our store, of the right quality, at the right price. Before buying your Xm as presents, read the following suggestions:

Gift Suggestions for Men,

## Neckties

Largest stock, well selected, newest styles neck
ties we ever had at this season. Al the wanted
colors are here in Windsors, Strings and Four-inHands, prices
$25 \mathrm{c} .35 \mathrm{c}, 50 \mathrm{c}$ and $\$ 1.00$ each
Men's Plain and Fancy Hose 12łe to 50 . Many beautiful desig,
embroidered patterns, $\ddagger$ dozen in a box

## Suspenders

Large variety of patterns, put up in individual
boxes. Very appropriate for Xmas presents, Only 75c per pair
Men's Silk and Wool Mufflers Nice assortment, Black, Red, Gray and White
$35 \mathrm{c}, 75 \mathrm{c}, 85 \mathrm{c}$ and Men's Xmas Shirts In all the new patterns, styles and figures, prices Also, we mention further as appreciative gifts,
Hats, Gloves, Overcoats, CL thing, Shoes, Fancy Hats, Gloves, Overcoats, Cle thing, Shoes, Fancy
Veats, and many other uselu and appreiative
presents. Come and let us show you these goods.
BURNS \& BELL,
WhOLESALE AND RETAIL
Dry Goods, Groceries and Hardware.

# A Great Showing ${ }^{\text {PoR }}$ People 



Staples<br><br>All ther Staples will partieppate in thic

Dress Goods and Silks Wo have cut the prices on all Dress Goods. and
Silks. and they
are marked down $\ddagger$ and $\phi$ in plain Commencing Wednesday, Dec. 18
Dry Goods, Clothing, Furnishing Goods, Hats and Caps, Boots and Shoes
Our methods are Hubbards' Methods as we were taught, and they have stood the test for years We go into the trade center of the world's greatest markets and with Cold Cash procure the goods---the best that money can buy. We take all the ldiscounts and turn the bright. clean merchandise over to the people at the smallest possible margin, but turn them often. Red Hot Selling at Hubbards.

The so-called financial panic found this institution loaded to the guards with an immense stock of highgrade Dry Goods. Clothing Boots, Shoes, Hats and Caps piled out, stacked up, all over the store, with prices now marked on them that should bring all the people of the city and county, as well as adjoining counties for miles around, to our store.

IT'S THE PRICES THAT DO THE WORK
Prices and High Grade Goods. More for your money than you get elsewhere.
Hubbards are Ever on the Alert
with the cold cash to pick up bargains, and their customers get the benefit. We want you to be one of them. We believe we can make it to your interest to trade with us.

## Hang On

To Your Dollar
Until you have seen our stock and gotten our prices
Wednesday, Dec. 18th

> Bring your orders to us. Let us show you what we can save you in dollars and cents. We are in the dry goods business to sell you good honest goods at prices that will make you our friend. Your children can buy fur you with perfect safety.

One Price to All $\geq 1$
Back if Youmy $Q$ ? on any-article sold in the ghore, if not cut ort the bolt or damaged. Tiayt's Hubbard's way

## YOUR DOLLAR HERE WILL DO WONDERS

Dress Goods, Silks, Laces, Embroideries, all Underwear, Corsets, Gloves and Hosiery, as well as little notions, will be sold at a great saving to you and your family. Our effort to get your shoe order this fall means if Hubbards get it we have made a friend for the House of Hubbards' forever after. Our shoes are solid as a rock and the best money can buy. If you want clothing for men and boys come and bring the whole family. We fit the "hard to fit." Let us fit 'em out. We ask it only on the fact that we will help you save some of your hard-earned dollars. Also we call your attention to our prices on Shirts, Hats, and Neckwear, of which we have a complete line. The one special feature that means the upbuilding of the Greatest Store in Colorado, is, by fair and up-to-date, progressive methods, we go before the people of Colorado and surrounding country better prepared to supply their wants than ever before.

|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

## Soe Moeerer tor Buck; Stoves oe Majestic Rangee.

## IN THE FOG

Richard Harding Davis.
COPYRICHT, 1901, BY ROBERT HOWARD RUSSELL

## CHAPTER

T
HE Grill is the club most difficult world To mer its new member as greatly as tolls distinguishes the a vacant Garter or bad been caricatured in "Vanity
Fair."
Men wha belong to the Grill Club never men ion that fact. If you were to ask one of them Which clubs he frequents, he will name all save that particular one
He is afraid if he told you he belonged to the Grill, that it would Hound like boasting.

The Grill Club dates back to the days when Shakespeare's Thea tre stood on the present site of the "Times" office. It has a golde
Grill which Charles the fecond presented to the Club, and the origi mal manuscript of "Tom and Jerry in London," which was bequeathed to it by Pierce Egan himself. The members,

## at the Club, still use sand to blot the ink.

The Grill enjoys the distinction of having blackballed, withou political prejudice, a Prime Minister of each party. At the same sit
ling at which one of these fell, it elected, on account of his brogue ting at which one of these fell, it elected, on account of his brogue
and his bulls, Quiller, Q. C., who was then a penniless barrister. and his bulls, Quiller, Q. C., who was then a penniless barrister.
When Paul Preval, the French artist who came to London by royal command to paint a portrait of the Prince of Wales, was made an honorary member-only foreigners may be honorary members-
ho said, as he signed his first wine card, "I would rather see my name on that, than on a picture in the Louvre,"
At which Quiller remarked, "That is a devil of a compliment, be avee the only men who c
On the night after the great fog of 1897 there were five mem bers in the Club, four of them busy with supper and one reading in long table. At the far end of the room the fire of the grill glows red. and, when the fat falls, blazes into flame, wich looks down upon the street. The four men at the table were strangers to each other, but ns they picked at the grilled bones, and sipped their Scotch and soda,
try conversed with such charning animation that a visitor to the
in 3 , which does not toferate visitors, would have counted them in 4 , which does not tolerate visitors, would have counted them as
premms of long acquaintance, certainly not as Englishmen who had

first time, and without thform of an introduction. But II of Swn dition of tifill, that whoever enters it 79 y. year

 OUOW IIONEman wi the black pearl stud, "that 1. Fot catalogue as adventures. That African explorer, young Chet ney, who turned up yesterday after he was supposed to have died in
Uganda, did nothing adventurous. He made maps and explored the Uganda, did nothing adventurous. He made maps and explored the
sonarces of rivers. He was in constant danger, bnt the presence o danger does not constitute adventure. Were that so, the chemist who
eftuches high explosives, or who iuvestigates deadly poisons, passe Chrough adventures daily. No, 'adventures are for the adventurous.
But one no longer ventures. The spirit of it has died of inertia. We are grown too practical, too just, above all, too sensible. In this room
for instance, members of this Club have, at the sword's point, dispute the proper scanning of one of Pope's couplets. Over so weighty
matter as spilled Burgundy on a gentleman's cuff, ten men fough egross this table, each with his rapier in one hand and a candle in the
other. All ten were wounded. The question of the spilled Burgundy concerned but two of them. The eight others engaged because they were men of 'spirit.' They were, indeed, the first gentlemen of day. To-night, were you to spill Burgundy on my cuff, were you even
to insult me grossly, these gentlemen would not consider it incumbent to insult me grossly, these gentlemen would not consider it incumben
upon them to kill eachoother. They would separate us, and to-morrow morning appear as witnesses against us at Bow Street. We have here morning appear as witnesses against us at Bow Street. We have here
to-night, in the persons of Sir Andrew and myself, an illuatration of to-night, in the persons of sir
how the ways have changed."
The men around the table turned and glanced toward the gentle man in front of the fireplace. He was an elderly atid somewhat portly person, with a kindly, wrinkled countenance, which wore continuall a smile of aimost childish confidence and good-nature. It was a face book froin him at arm's-length, as if to adjust his eyeeight, and his brows were knit with interest.
"Now, were this the eighteenth century", continued the gentle man with the black pearl, "when Sir Andrew left the Club to-night Thild have him bound and gagged and thrown into a sedan chair The wateh would not interfere, the passers-by would take to thei heels, my hired bullies and ruffians would convey him to some lonely of it where we would guard him until morning. Nothing would come spirit, and possibly an essey in the 'Tatler,' with stars for names ontitlod, let us say, 'The Budget and the Baronet.'
"But to what end, sir $P$ " inquired the youngest of the menibers. "And why Sir Andrew, of all persons-why should you select him for this adventure $P$

The gentleman with the black pearl shrugged his shoulders.
"It would prevent him speaking in the Honse to-night.

Navy Increase Bill," he added gloomily. "It is a Government measure, and Sir Andrew speaks for it. And so great is his influence and so large his following that if he does"-the gentleman laughed rue-fully-"if he does, it will go through. Now, had I the spirit of our ancestors," he exclaimed, "I would bring chloroform from the near est chemist's and drug him in that chair. I would tumble his uncon If I did, I would save the British taxpayer the cost of five more battle ships, many millions of pounds."
shipe, many mill The gentlemen again turned, and surveyed the baronet with freshened interest. The honorary member of the Grill, whose accent already had betrayed him as an American, laughed softly. "To look at him now," he said, "on
deeply concerned with the affairs of state."

The others nodded silently.
"He has not lifted his eyes from that book since we first entered," added the youngest member. "He surely cannot mē̃n to speak to-night."
"Oh, yes, he will speak," muttered the one with the black pear moodily. "During these last hours of the session the House sits late but when the Navy bill comes up on its third reading he will be in his place-and he will pass it.
The fourth member
The fourth member, a stout and florid gentleman of a somewhat sporting appearance, in a short smoking-jacket and black tie, sighed
"Fancy one of us being as cool as that, if he knew he had to stand $u p$ within an hour and rattle off a speech in Parliament. I'd be in, a
devil of a funk myself. And yet he is as keen over that book he' devil of a funk myself. And yet he is as keen over that boot
reading as though he had nothing before him until bedtime." "Yes, see how eager he is," whispered the youngest member. "He does not lift his eyes even now when he cuts the pages. It is probably
an Admiralty Report, or some other weighty work of statistics which bears upon his speech."

The gentleman with the black pearl laughed morosely
"The weighty work in which the eminent statesman is so deeply engrossed," he said, "is called 'The Gre
detective novel, for sale at all bookstalls,"

The American raised his eyebrows in disbeliel
The Great Rand Robbery $p$ " he repeated incredulously. "What
"It in a pearl stud. "It is his one dissipation. He is noted for it. You, as a
stranger, could hardly be expected to know of this idiosyncrasy. M his in Gaboriau. Since I have been a member of Parliament I have He brings them even library without a shilling shocker in his hands. ,the Government benches reads them conceated inside his hat. Once started on a tale of murder, robbery, and sudden death, nothing can tear him from it, not even the call of thé division bill, nor of hunger, nor the prayers of the party Whip. He gave up his country house because when he journeyed to it in the train he would become so aboorbed in his detective stories that he was invariably carried past bis station." The member of Parliament twisted his pearl stud nerv
ously, and bit at the edge of his mustache. "If it only were the firs ously, and bit at the edge of his mustache. "If it only were the firs
pages of 'The Rand Robbery' that he were reading." he murmured pages of 'The Rand Robbery' that he were reading, he murmures I could hold him of the last ! With such another book as that, I swear chloroform to keep him from the House."
The eyes of all were fastened upone Sir Andrew, and each saw with fascination that with his forefinger he was now separating the last two pages of the book. The member of Parliament struck the table softly with his open palm.
"I would give a hundred pounds," he whispered, "if I could place and pounds," he added wildy-"five thousand pounds "" The American observed the speaker sharply, as though the word bore to him some special application, and then at an idea which appar ently had but just come to him, smiled in great embarrassment.

Sir Andrew ceased reading, but, as though still under the influ ence of the book, sat looking blankly into the open fire. For a brie epace no one moved until the baronet withdrew his eyes and, with sudden start of recollection, felt anxiously for his watch. He scanne
its face eagerly, and scrambled to his feet. The voice of the Ambit to his feet.
"And yet Sherlock Holmes himself" he cried, "oould not decipher "And yet Sherlock Holmes himself," he cried, "could

,

At these unexpected words, which carried in them something the tone of a challenge, the gentlemen about the table started as eu
denly as thongh the American had fired a pistol in the denly as thongh the American had fired a pistol in the air, and S The gentleman with the black pearl was the first to recover. "Yes, yes," he said eagerly, throwing himself across the table "Yes, yes," he said eagerly, throwing himself across the table. Tell na at once, pray do-tell us at once." The American flushed uncomfortably The American flushed uncomfortably and pieked uneasily at tablecloth.
'No one No one but the police has heard of it," he murnured, "and the
only through mer It is a remarkable crime, to which, unfortunately, am the only person who can bear witness. Because I am the only wi ness, $I$ am, in spite of my immunity as a diplomat detained in Londo by the authorities of Scotland Yard. My name," he said, inclining his Navy, politely, "is Sears, Lieutenant Ripley Sears of the United States bave, at present Naval Attache to the Court of Russia. Had I not for Petersburg."

The gentleman with the black pearl interrupted with so pro nounced an exclamation of excitement and delight that the American "Dammered and ceased speaking.
"Do you hear, Sir Andrew $P$ " cried the member of Parliament jubi lantly. "An American diplomat halted by our police because he is th I believe of a nost remarkable cri. .ormarkable crime I believe you said, sir," he added, bending eagerly toward the nava The 1. other members. They were looking doubtfully at him, and the fat of each showed that he was greatly perplexed.

## Sir Andrew adv chair toward him.

"The crime must be exceptional indeed," he said, "to justify were not forced to leave at once, I should take the liberty of asking you to tell us the details.
The gentleman with the pearl pushed the chair toward Sir An
drew, and motioned him to be seated.
"You cannot leave us now," he exc
about to tell us of this remarkable crime."
He nodded vigorously at the naver
after first glancing doubtfully toward the sere and the American, after first glancing doubtfully toward the servants at the far end of
the room, leaning forward across the table. The others the room, leaning forward across the table. The others drew their chairs nearer and bent toward him. The baronet glanced irresolutely at his "watch, and with an exclamation of annoyance snapped down the
lid. "They can wait," he muttered. He seated himself quickly and lid. "They can wait," he m
nodded at Lieutenant Sears.
"If you will be so kind as to begin, sir," be said impatiently. "Of course," said the American, "you understand that I under-
stand that $I$ am speaking to gentlemen. The confidences of this stand that I am speaking to gentlemen. The confidences of this Club
are inviolate. Until the police give the facts to the public press, I must consider you my confederates. You have heard nothing, you
know no nne counected with this mystery know no one counected with this mystery. Even I must remain anony
mous."
The gentlemen seated around him nodded gravely.
"Of course," the baronet assented "with eagepness, "of course", "Of course," the baronet assented Nvith eagegness, "of course", "
"We will refer to it," said the gent jeman with the black pearl, "a
The Story of the Naval Attache." " "I arrived in London two days ago," said the American, "and I
engaged a room at the Bath Hotel. I know very few people in London, and even the members of our embassy were strangers to me. But
in Hong Kong I had become great pals with an officer in your navy, in Hong Kong I had become great pals with an officer in your navy,
who has since retired, and who is now living in a small house in Rutland Gardens opposite the Knightsbridge Barracks. I telegraphed him
that I was in Londora, and yesterday morning I received a that I was in Londory and yesterday morning I received a most hearty
invitation to dine with him the same evening at his house. He is a bachetor, so we dined alone and talked over all our old days on the
Asiatic Station, and of the changes which had come to us since we had last met there. As I was leaving the next morning for miy post o
Petersburg, and had many letters to write, I told him, about $1 /$
o'elock, that I must get back to the hotel, and he sent out his serva

## "For the next quarter of an hour, as we sat talking, we could hear

with no rcsult.
"It cannot be that the cabmen are on strike,' my friend said, as
he rose and walked to the window.
"He pulled back the curtains and at once called to me.
'You have never seen a London fog, have you $\$$ ' he asked. come here. This is one of the best, or, rather, one of the worst,
them.' I joined him at the window, but I could see nothing. Had not known that the house looked out upon the street I would have believed that I was facing a dead wall. I raised the sash and stretched out my head, but still I could see nothing. Even the light of the stree lamps opposite, and in the upper windows of the barracks, had. been
mothered in the yellow mist. The lights of the room in which I stood mothered in the yellow mist. The lights of the room in which I stope penetrated the fog only to the distance of a few inches from my eyes
"Below me the servant was still sounding his whistle, but $\mathcal{C}$ could afford to wait no longer, and told my friend that $I$ would try and fil afford to wait no longer, and told my friend that I would try and fip
the way to my hotel on foot. He objected, but the letters I bad to write were for the Navy Department, and, besides, I hed alwayd heqr that to be out in a London fog was the most wonderful experience that to be out in a London fog was the most wonderful experience
and I was curious to investigate one for myself.
"My friend went with me to his front door and Jaid down a cour
"My friend went with me to his front door and Taid down a co for me to follow. I was first to walk straighit aoroose the street to along the wall until I came to a row of houses set back from the walk. They would bring me to a cross atreets. On the other this street was a row of shops which I what to follorecuntil they $j$
the iron railings of Hyde Park. I was to keep to the railing roached the gates at Hyde Park Corief, where T wais ta thy zida course across Piccadilly, and taok in toward the riilings, of $G$
Park. At the end of these railings, going east, I would find the Park. At the end of theso railinge, going east, I would find th
singham, and mv oth hotel.

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