

# Reminiscences of SHERLOCK HOLMES

by Arthur Conan Doyle  
Illustrations by V.L. Barnes

## The ADVENTURE OF THE RED CIRCLE

(Continued.)

"How's this, Watson?" he cried, picking up the paper from the table. "High red house with white stone facings. Third floor. Second window left. After dusk—G. That is definite enough. I think after breakfast we must make a little reconnaissance of Mrs. Warren's neighborhood. Ah, Mrs. Warren! what news do you bring us this morning?"

Our client had suddenly burst into the room with an explosive energy which told of some new and momentous development.

"It's a police matter, Mr. Holmes!" she cried. "I'll have no more of it! He shall pack out of that with his baggage. I would have gone straight up and told him so, only I thought it was but fair to you to take your opinion first. But I'm at the end of my patience, and when it comes to knocking my old man about—"

"Knocking Mr. Warren about?"

"Using him roughly, anyway."

"But who used him roughly?"

"Ah! that's what we want to know! It was this morning, sir. Mr. Warren is a time-keeper at Morton & Waylight's, in Tottenham Court road. He has to be out of the house before seven. Well, this morning he had not gone ten paces down the road when two men came up behind him, threw a coat over his head, and bundled him into a cab that was beside the curb. They drove him an hour, and then opened the door and shot him out. He lay in the roadway so shaken in his wits that he never saw what became of the cab. When he picked himself up he found he was on Hampstead Heath; so he took a bus home, and there he lies now on the sofa, while



Bundled Him into a Cab That Was Beside the Curb.

I came straight round to tell you what had happened."

"Most interesting," said Holmes. "Did he observe the appearance of these men—did he hear them talk?"

"No; he is clean dazed. He just knows that he was lifted up as if by magic. Two at least were in it, and maybe three."

"And you connect this attack with your lodger?"

"Well, we've lived here fifteen years and no such happenings ever came before. I've had enough of him. Money's not everything. I'll have him out of my house before the day is done."

"Wait a bit, Mrs. Warren. Do nothing rash. I begin to think that this affair may be very much more important than appeared at first sight. It is clear now that some danger is threatening your lodger. It is equally clear that his enemies, lying in wait for him near your door, mistook your husband for him in the foggy morning light. On discovering their mistake they released him. What they would have done had it not been a mistake, we can only conjecture."

"Well, what am I to do, Mr. Holmes?"

"I have a great fancy to see this lodger of yours, Mrs. Warren."

"I don't see how that is to be managed, unless you break in the door. I always hear him unlock it as I go down the stairs after I leave the tray."

"He has to take the tray in. Surely we could conceal ourselves and see him do it."

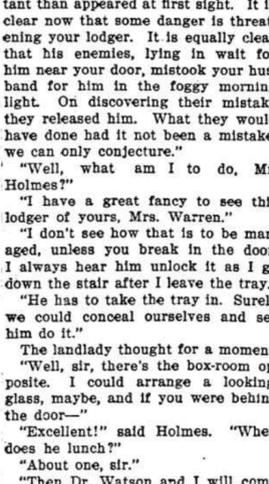
The landlady thought for a moment. "Well, sir, there's the box-room opposite. I could arrange a looking-glass, maybe, and if you were behind the door—"

"Excellent!" said Holmes. "When does he lunch?"

"About one, sir."

"Then Dr. Watson and I will come round in time. For the present, Mrs. Warren, goodbye."

At half-past twelve we found ourselves upon the steps of Mrs. Warren's house—a high, thin, yellow-brick edifice in Great Orme street, a narrow thoroughfare at the northeast side of the British museum. Standing as it does near the corner of the street, it commands a view down Howe street, with its more pretentious houses. Holmes pointed with a chuckle to one of these, a row of residential flats, which projected so that they could not fall to catch the eye.



I Caught a Glimpse of a Dark, Beautiful, Horrified Face.

should find ourselves one stage advanced in our investigation."

When we returned to Mrs. Warren's rooms, the gloom of a London winter evening had thickened into one gray curtain, a dead monotone of color, broken only by the sharp squares of the windows and the blurred haloes of the gas lamps. As we peered from the darkened sitting-room of the lodging-house, one more dim light glimmered high up through the obscurity.

"Someone is moving in that room," said Holmes in a whisper, his gaunt and eager face thrust forward to the

the signal station all right. We know the place, and we know the code; so surely our task should be simple. There's a 'To Let' card in that window. It is evidently an empty flat to which the confederate has access. Well, Mrs. Warren, what now?"

"I have it all ready for you. If you will both come up and leave your boots below on the landing, I'll put you there now."

It was an excellent hiding-place which she had arranged. The mirror was so placed that, seated in the dark, we could very plainly see the door opposite. We had hardly settled down in it, and Mrs. Warren left us, when a distant tinkle announced that our mysterious neighbor had rung. Presently the landlady appeared with the tray, laid it down upon a chair beside the closed door, and then, treading heavily, departed. Crouching together in the angle of the door, we kept our eyes fixed upon the mirror. Suddenly, as the landlady's footsteps died away, there was the creak of a turning key, the handle revolved, and two thin hands darted out and lifted the tray from the chair. An instant later it was hurriedly replaced, and I caught a glimpse of a dark, beautiful, horrified face glaring at the narrow opening of the doorway. Then the door crashed to, the key turned once more, and all was silence. Holmes twitched my sleeve, and together we stole down the stair.

"I will call again in the evening," said he to the expectant landlady. "I think, Watson, we can discuss this business better in our own quarters."

"My surmise, as you saw, proved to be correct," said he, speaking from the depths of his easy-chair. "There has been a substitution of lodgers. What I did not foresee is that we should find a woman, and no ordinary woman, Watson."

"She saw us?"

"Well, she saw something to alarm her. That is certain. The general sequence of events is pretty clear, is it not? A couple seek refuge in London from a very terrible and instant danger. The measure of that danger is the rigor of their precautions. The man, who has some work which he must do, desires to leave the woman in absolute safety while he does it. It is not an easy problem, but he solved it in an original fashion, and so effectively that her presence was not even known to the landlady who supplies her with food. The printed messages, as is now evident, were to prevent her sex being discovered by her writing. The man cannot come near the woman, or he will guide their enemies to her. Since he cannot communicate with her direct, he has recourse to the agony column of a paper. So far all is clear."

"But what is at the root of it?"

"Ah, yes, Watson—severely practical, as usual! What is at the root of it all? Mrs. Warren's whimsical problem enlarges somewhat and assumes a more sinister aspect as we proceed. This much we can say: that it is no ordinary love escapade. You saw the woman's face at the sign of danger. We have heard, too, of the attack upon the landlady, which was undoubtedly meant for the lodger. These alarms, and the desperate need for secrecy, argue that the matter is one of life or death. The attack upon Mr. Warren further shows that the enemy, whoever they are, are themselves not aware of the substitution of the female lodger for the male. It is very curious and complex, Watson."

"Why should you go further in it? What have you to gain from it?"

"What indeed? It is Art for Art's sake, Watson. I suppose when you doctored you found yourself studying cases without thought of a fee?"

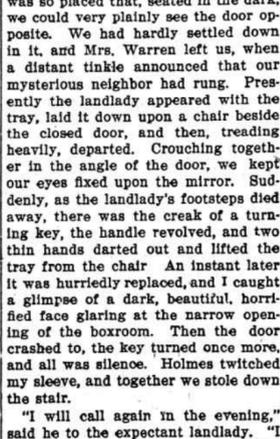
"For my education, Holmes."

"Education never ends, Watson. It is a series of lessons with the greatest for the last. This is an instructive case. There is neither money nor credit in it, and yet one would wish to tidy it up. When dusk comes we

window-pane. "Yes, I can see his shadow. There he is again. He has a candle in his hand. Now he is peering across. He wants to be sure that she is on the look-out. Now he begins to flash. Take the message also, Watson, that we may check each other. A single flash—that is 'A,' surely. Now, then. How many did you make it? Twenty. So did I. That should mean 'T.' A 'T'—that's intelligible enough! Another 'T.' Surely this is the beginning of a second word. Now, then T E N T A. Dead stop. That can't be all, Watson? 'ATTENTA' gives no sense. Nor is it any better as three words—'A T. T. E. N. T. A.' unless 'T. A.' are a person's initials. There he goes again! What's that? ATTE—why, it is the same message over again. Curious, Watson, very curious! Now he is off once more! A T—why, he is repeating it for the third time. 'ATTENTA' three times! How often will he repeat it? No, that seems to be the finish. He has withdrawn from the window. What do you make of it, Watson?"

"A cipher message, Holmes."

My companion gave a sudden



"A Cipher Message, Holmes."

chuckle of comprehension. "And no, a very obscure cipher, Watson," said he. "Why, of course, it is Italian! The 'A' means that it is addressed to a woman. 'Beware! Beware! Beware!' How's that, Watson?"

"I believe you have hit it."

"Not a doubt of it. It is a very urgent message, thrice repeated to make it more so. But beware of what? Wait a bit; he is coming to the window once more."

Again we saw the dim silhouette of a crouching man and the whist of the small flame across the window, as the signals were renewed. They came more rapidly than before—so rapid that it was hard to follow them.

"PERICOLO!—pericolo!—Eh, what's that, Watson? Danger, isn't it? Yes, by Jove, it's a danger signal. There he goes again! 'PERICOLO! Hallo, what on earth—"

The light had suddenly gone out, the glimmering square of window had disappeared, and the third floor formed a dark band round the lofty building, with its tiers of shining casements. That last warning cry had been suddenly cut short. How, and by whom? The same thought occurred on the instant to us both. Holmes sprang up from where he crouched by the window.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

### WORK THAT A WATCH DOES

Read These Figures, and You Won't Wonder That the Mechanism Gives Out.

It is a matter of everyday occurrence for a person to say to his watchmaker:

"Here is a watch which you sold me some ten years ago. It has always gone well till just lately, when it has taken to stopping without any apparent cause."

The people who speak in this way little think of the amount of work a watch has performed in this space of time and might be astonished at the following figures:

In ten years, which includes two leap years, and consequently a total of 3,652 days, the hour hand has made 7,304 and the minute hand 87,648 revolutions. The end of an average minute hand travels more than 10,820 yards—more than six miles. The second hand has made 5,268,880 revolutions, and its extremity has traversed on the dial a distance of upwards of 123 miles. The escape wheel has made 52,588,800 revolutions, and as it has 15 teeth, it has come 788,832,000 times in contact with each pallet. The balance has made 1,577,644,000 vibrations, and any point on the outside of the rim has covered a distance of about 50,000 miles, and is equal to twice the circumference of the earth.

—Answers.

### Fill Mines With Sand.

The owners of many mines in Europe and Australia fill the abandoned workings with sand, so that the mines may become once more a part of the solid crust of the earth. Old, worked-out mines are often a menace to buildings or communities above them; and protection by timbering, which is the American method, affords security for no great length of time. Sand filling has been practiced in the mines of western Australia for the last fourteen years. W. H. Storms, writing in the Engineering and Mining Journal, says that the cost in Australia is about 26 cents for each ton of ore extracted.

### Simple Wedding Ceremony.

In Borneo the bride and bridegroom sit on metal logs before the priest who gives them cigars and betel while they bow together. The bridegroom then places the betel in his bride's mouth and a cigar between her lips. They are married.

### One of Memory's Triumphs.

"Time," says the Sedgwick Pantagraph, "may rob us of our teeth and hair, but it can't take away the memory of how good the ground used to feel to our bare feet along about the springtime."

## REVENUE OFFICE WILL BE REMOVED

MAJOR MICAH JENKINS, THE HEAD OF THE OFFICE TO REMOVE FROM SERVICE.

### PRESIDENT ISSUED ORDER

The Work in the South Carolina District to Be Combined With the North Carolina Office—Many People Opposed to This Change.

Columbia.—President Taft has issued an order consolidating the revenue district of South Carolina with the fourth revenue district of North Carolina. The order was issued to take effect on October 1, after a protest had been filed by the Columbia Chamber of Commerce and business men of South Carolina. The office, which has been held by Maj. Mich J. Jenkins for several years, has been abolished as a result of the presidential order. The consolidation follows the enactment of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill passed at the last session of congress, when provision was made for the continuance of 63 of the 67 revenue districts.



"A Cipher Message, Holmes."

Maj. Jenkins has held the position of collector of internal revenue for more than nine years. He is well known throughout the state and has wide family connections. He graduated at West Point and later taught in Virginia, being the principal of the Bethel Military academy. At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war he enlisted with the Rough Riders of which Theodore Roosevelt was the colonel. When the military campaign was directed against Santiago and the regiment moved on the city, the memorable charge took place that brought fame and honor to the command. Because of signal service on that day Maj. Jenkins was promoted immediately to major from second captain. At the cessation of hostilities the citizens of South Carolina raised a fund with which to purchase a sword of honor for Maj. Jenkins, a son of South Carolina, in recognition of his bravery. The sword was presented to him at the Charleston exposition, the presentation being made by Col. Roosevelt, who by that time had received additional honors by being elected president of the United States.

### Governor Commutes Death Sentence.

The death sentence imposed upon Isaiah Butler, Charleston negro, was commuted to life imprisonment by the governor upon the recommendations of a lunacy commission. Butler was to have been electrocuted at the state penitentiary. The members of the lunacy commission making the report are Dr. W. M. Lester, Dr. S. B. Fishburn and Dr. R. T. Jennings, the prison physician. The commission found that Butler is "totally irresponsible" and that he was "an imbecile at the time of his alleged crime."

### Third Primary in Aiken County.

The third primary passed off quietly in Aiken county. There was only one race, that for the House of Representatives. J. Chester Busbee and R. J. Wade, the latter a former Representative from this county, were in the race. Twenty-five boxes out of thirty-four are in and Busbee has a majority of 132. The indications are that he will maintain this lead through the subsequent returns from the remaining boxes, and will win out by a very narrow margin. The voting was rather heavier than was expected.

### Important Real Estate Transfers.

Among the recent transfers of property in Orangeburg county of a large nature are those of P. C. Brunson, 400 acres in Orange township, to C. A. Stroman, for \$28,000 and that of John O'Carin to A. C. Watson and Jake Fairley, 450 acres for \$27,000, also being located in Orange township, the two tracts of land being on opposite sides of the city of Orangeburg and about three miles away.

### Barney Reeder Found Not Guilty.

Not guilty was the verdict of the jury who heard the case of Barney Reeder a young white man of Swansea, charged with assault and battery, in the general sessions court at Lexington, Judge Shipp presiding. This was the second trial of the case, the jury failing to reach a verdict at the first trial more than a year ago. Reeder was charged with shooting Clarence Rucker, the largest cotton planter in the county, with a Winchester rifle, the wound causing the right leg of Rucker to be amputated.

### Atlantic Coast Line Train Wrecked.

Train No. 32 on the Atlantic Coast Line railway, from Augusta to Florence, was wrecked near the station at Lone Star. The engine was completely demolished and the mail car, express car and combination baggage and passenger car left the track. J. L. Wyson, the engineer, was pinned beneath the engine and had to be dug out. He suffered a dislocated ankle and severe bruises. H. S. Broom, the mail clerk, sustained a wrenched back and bruises. Other members of the crew were bruised.

### Campaign Fund in Charleston.

Chairman H. W. Conner of the Charleston county Democracy stated that the fund which is now being collected for the expenses of the national Democratic campaign aggregates about \$1,200, and it is still growing. It is not Mr. Conner's plan to suspend the canvass, limiting the campaign to three days. He and his committee will continue to collect money for some days to come, and Mr. Conner said that he is hopeful of getting \$2,000. Charleston should not fall below this amount.

## A BATTLEFIELD MEMORIAL

Unveiled—D. A. R. Commemorate Eutaw Springs Conflict.—The Story of Fight Retold.

Orangeburg.—In the midst of the historic shades of old Eutaw battlefield and in hearing of the rush of waters of Eutaw springs, a monumental shaft, erected in commemoration of the battle of Eutaw and in preservation of Revolutionary history, was unveiled in the presence of an enthusiastic and patriotic assemblage. A fervent patriotic atmosphere prevailed.

The monument is a fine specimen of Winsboro blue-pearl granite, rising to considerable height, of large proportion and in all making a very handsome shaft. On the top piece is carved the insignia of the Daughters of the American Revolution. About the middle section of the monument is the following appropriate inscription: "This stone marks the field whereon was fought the battle of Eutaw, September 8, 1871, between a force of the United States, under Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Greene, and a force of Great Britain, under Col. Stuart. Neither side was victorious, but the fight was beneficial to the American cause." The inscription was written by A. S. Salley, Jr., State historian, Columbia. The monument also bears the following record, "Erected by Eutaw chapter, D. A. R., 1912."

This monument was erected by Eutaw chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Orangeburg, with the generosity of W. Hampton Dukes, stone dealer, Orangeburg, who sold the monument for cost and erected it without cost to the chapter. The Eutaw chapter has been working about three years to get this monument and greatest praise is due these noble women. The fruition of their long desire was made lovely to behold, when Will Shecut Sease, Misses Mary Louis Watson and Chivalette Islar unveiled the shaft.

### South Carolina New Enterprises.

The Carolina-Florida Realty company of Charleston has been commissioned by the secretary of state with a capital stock of \$100,000. The petitioners are F. H. Horbeck and A. T. Smythe, Jr. A general real estate business will be conducted by the company. The DuBose Real Estate and Insurance company of Camden has been commissioned with a capital stock of \$10,000. The petitioners are C. P. DuBose and J. S. Lindsay. A charter has been issued to the Air Blast Ginning company of Jacobs with a capital stock of \$3,500. The officers are: R. Z. Welch, president; H. Jacobs, vice president, and J. C. Covington, secretary and treasurer. A charter has been issued to the Thetis Realty company of Charleston with a capital stock of \$1,000. The officers are: C. D. Gadsden, president and treasurer, and H. L. Erekman, vice president and secretary.

### Interest in Calhoun County Fair.

As the time draws nearer for the event, interest increases in the Calhoun county fair. The day, November 5 to 9, inclusive, will be one continuous festival of enjoyment and enlightenment. The grounds, which comprise about 20 acres, beautifully located and well suited for such purposes, have been placed in first-class condition and there is little that remains to be done but for things to "settle down" and take good shape. Buildings are all erected, painted in water paints to suit the demands of the eye, coops, stalls and apartments have been completed, the race track in first class condition and, in fact, everything that a county fair calls for has been done, and more too.

### Politics in Colleton County.

The Colleton county executive committee met, having been called to hear a protest on the race for sheriff, but the protest had been withdrawn the only work done was to declare the result of the second primary. J. G. Owens received 1,183 votes and Sheriff W. R. Fox 1,176, according to a recount for the votes and Owens was therefore declared the nominee. A motion was carried instructing the chairman to write the state chairman that if another primary were held the expenses would have to be borne by the state committee.

### To Open Hookworm Dispensaries.

Lexington.—Dr. Ward of the state board of health, and Dr. L. A. Riser of the Rockefeller Commission, have been in Lexington making preparations and laying the formal plans for a vigorous campaign against the hookworm. The work in this county will begin October 5, when a dispensary for the examination of persons and the treatment of the disease will open in the court house. This will be the first of five dispensaries to be established in the county, the other points where they will be opened to be named later.

### Members of General Assembly.

Jas. A. Hoyt, clerk of the house, has prepared a list of the members-elect of the South Carolina general assembly for 1913-1914. The list is given by counties and the hold-over senators are marked by an asterisk. The new county, Jasper, has representation this year. Attention is called to the fact that in Newberry county the second primary has been postponed until the state executive committee decides to take action on the primary. This primary is between C. C. Wyche and H. H. Evans.

### Officer Shot While Making Arrest.

In an attempt to arrest an escaped convict, Special Officer E. C. Harrell was shot in the foot. He was not seriously hurt, the ball merely cutting the flesh from the top of the toes. The escaped to Wilmington, N. C., where known as "Sweet the Monkey." He had been sent to the South Carolina penitentiary for highway robbery and escaped to Filmington, N. C., where he was sent to prison, and escaped to be rearrested, but he is a genius for escaping and the locks and bars could not hold him.

## OFFER CORN PRIZES

VALUABLE PREMIUMS OFFERED FOR BEST ACRE IN CHARLESTON COUNTY.

### A NEW CONTEST THIS YEAR

Agricultural Society Has Doubled Prizes Offered in 1911—Farmers Can Help By Co-operating With The Society.

Charleston.—In 1911 the Agricultural Society offered cash prizes for the best acres of corn grown in Charleston county as follows: First prize, \$100; second prize, \$50; third prize, \$25. This was done in order to encourage corn raising in the county. Several contestants entered for these prizes, but many of them reported after the storm of August 27, 1911, that their crops had been partially or wholly destroyed, and that they would not be able to continue in the competition. Under these circumstances, the Society thought best to withdraw the prizes offered for 1911, inasmuch as almost all of the contestants had lost their prize crops, or they had been so seriously damaged as to render the decision almost impossible; and in the second place, it would have been a very unsatisfactory exhibit for the county if the remnants after the storm had been published as prize acres of corn in Charleston county, and would have made a very unfavorable impression on the agriculturists throughout the state, and those that probably were looking towards Charleston county as a point at which to establish themselves.

Under these circumstances, it was decided by the agricultural committee of the Society to double the prizes offered in 1911 for a new competition in 1912, thus making the first prize offered for this season, for the best acre of corn, \$200; second best, \$100; third best, \$50, a total of \$350.

### Executive Clemency For Three.

The Governor has granted a pardon to Joel Smith, who was convicted in the Union county court in September of this year on the charge of housebreaking and larceny and sentenced to serve 60 days in the Union county jail. A pardon has been granted to D. V. Perry, who was convicted in Calhoun county in November of 1909 upon the charge of assault and battery and sentenced to two years. Perry was paroled during good behavior by Gov. Ansel in 1911. A parole has been granted by the governor to G. W. Ennis, who was convicted in Barnwell county in 1892 on the charge of arson, and sentenced to a life term in the state penitentiary.

### Father and Son Get Long Terms.

Lexington.—Fifteen years and seven years, respectively, at hard labor in the state penitentiary or upon the public works of Lexington county, was the sentence of the court in the case of Jacob Watts and Govan Watts, father and son, who were convicted of manslaughter in the general sessions court last week. The two were charged with the killing of Adam Watts, a Confederate soldier 72 years old, August 7, last. Adam Watts was the brother of Jacob Watts and an uncle of Govan Watts, and the killing occurred after a general row in the home of the aged veteran.

### Vaughn Brought Back to State.

T. U. Vaughn, former superintendent of the Odd Fellows' superannuation at Greenville, charged with a serious crime, who escaped from the Greenville county jail early in June and who was re-arrested in Baltimore several days ago, was brought to the state penitentiary for safe-keeping. He was brought back to South Carolina by Sheriff Poole of Greenville county. It is expected that a special term of court will be held in Greenville to try him.

### Landrum.—The farmers hereabouts

are busy gathering and ginning their cotton. It is believed that there will be a shortage of 40 per cent in the production this year.

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### Sub-Committee in Greenville.

Greenville.—The sub-committee investigating irregularities in the recent gubernatorial primary came over from Spartanburg and held a two-hours' session in the court house. Avery Patton, chairman of the citizens committee that has been doing some investigating locally, was the chief witness examined. His testimony was of a general character, no specific names or charges being brought out. No testimony was forthcoming from Detective Reed, or any of his assistants, so far as could be learned.

### Politics in Horry County.

Conway.—With 2,378 votes accounted for and three precincts to hear from, which will not poll more than 150 votes, E. J. Sherwood has received the nomination for the house of representatives from Horry county over his opponent, W. D. Lowmire. (The latest returns, which include 33 out of 36 boxes, give Sherwood 1,275 votes and Lowmire 1,103. Despite the fact that only two candidates was nominated, about 65 per cent of the first primary vote having been polled.

## INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department, The Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

### LESSON FOR OCTOBER 6.

#### JESUS WALKING ON THE SEA.

LESSON TEXT—Mark 6:45-56. GOLDEN TEXT—"But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid."—Matthew 14:7.

The miracle of the feeding of the five thousand marks a crisis in the life of Jesus. (John 6:15). The humanity of Jesus is shown in that as soon as he had performed that miracle he first sends away his disciples, then sends away the multitude, while he departs "into a mountain to pray." To pray the prayer of thanksgiving, to pray for strength to withstand this new temptation, (John 6:14, 15); to pray for those whom he had fed; and surely to pray for his chosen ones that they might understand him and his mission.

Jesus had taken his disciples into the mountain for their own good. (Mark 6:31) and now he sends them away lest they lead to the advice, the importunities, of the crowd and consort with them in their desire to make Jesus a temporal rather than a spiritual king. Such a course would have precipitated matters. But in his solitude as he prayed, Jesus was watchful of his own.

He had sent them into the storm to avoid a greater danger, would he not watch over them? So with many a testing in our lives. They seem severe, but how little we know of the greater danger we have missed. He saw (v. 48) their distress long before they saw their relief. (v. 49). Jesus knew the need of prayer. Jesus knew the need of solitary prayer as he must pass this crisis, so it was that while he lingered in prayer they were distressed till "the fourth watch,"—near daybreak. Once before (Mark 4:38) they had been with him in a great storm while he slept. Now they are alone, but Jesus is not asleep. Though seemingly alone yet he was helping them through prayer (Heb. 7:25) and when the proper time arrived he went when the rescue (I Cor. 10:13). The helplessness of the disciples and the stress of the storm is heightened when we consider the fact that these were fishermen inured by exposure to such storms. To further test their faith he made as though "he would have passed by them." (v. 48). So it is that testings and sometimes such catastrophes as that of the Titanic would teach man his real weakness before God. But though verse 48 revealed a dark situation the dawn of help was at hand.

#### III Considered Test.

It is not strange that they did not recognize Jesus. He often comes to us in ways we do not at first recognize, in ways that at first terrify us, but he does not leave us long in suspense. We read, he "straightway" rescued them "It is I; be not afraid." Notice he assures them first who it is that is near, "It is I." They recognize the tones of his familiar voice and then they were ready for his words of confidence, "be not afraid." So God speaks to us in the hour of our darkest trial, saying "Lo, I am with you always."—"be not afraid."

From the parallel account by Matthew (Matthew 14: 28-35) we read of Peter's attempt to walk upon the water. His rash and ill considered test of the reality of Jesus' presence. Then we see him as he too compares himself with the angry storm and taking his eyes off of Jesus begins to sink. Peter's sharp, piercing cry; his clear, definite, appeal is at once answered and Jesus leads him safely back into the boat.

How different is the picture once Jesus was in the boat, and how soon they reached the goal toward which they had been struggling, (John 6:19, 21). If any one is at sea, if any one is fruitlessly toiling against wind and wave, only let them take Jesus on board and soon they will reach a safe landing place.

The disciples were amazed and their hearts were hardened (vv. 51, 52), and this even after the creative miracle of feeding the five thousand—why so? It is evident that even those nearest to him did not apprehend the true meaning of this miracle, on the contrary their hearts were hardened, e. g., blind. This is given as a reason for their amazement, in the face of this miracle, at his victory over the storm. This would not have occurred had they as yet fully understood the feeding of the multitude. We are told that the next day Jesus upbraided the multitude because of this very same lack. John 6:22, etc. Of course the disciples did not follow him for the loaves, still they had not entered into that deep spiritual conception of Jesus that would have saved them from amazement at any of his acts.

#### Spiritual Application.

The real interpretation of Christ's miracles is not that we are to be amazed at the material manifestation but that we are to see the spiritual lesson and application.

It was a different reception Jesus received when they reached Gennesaret (vv. 53-56). There he is recognized at once. There they flock to him with their sick ones and Mark with a few deft strokes shows us the picture of a vast deal of healing. None is disappointed, for we read that as many as touched him were made whole.

In this lesson we see Jesus directing his disciples. We see the disciples obeying that direction even though it led them into contrary winds. We see him as he walks into them bringing relief, superior to boisterous wind and wave. His presence brought peace as it always does to storm tossed humanity. His assurance is that of his own presence (Matt. 28:20), "It is I; be not afraid." We see Jesus answering the fear of the disciples.