

# **THE MAN WHO LOST HIS PAST**

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The Man Who Lost His Past by Frank Richardson

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**FRANK RICHARDSON**

**THE MAN WHO  
LOST HIS PAST**



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# THE MAN WHO LOST HIS PAST



BY  
FRANK RICHARDSON

AUTHOR OF  
"THE KING'S COUNSEL"

WITH 50 ILLUSTRATIONS BY TOM BROWNE, R.I.

LONDON  
CHATTO & WINDUS  
1903

TO MY AUNT  
IMOGEN BRIGGS  
OF  
NEW YORK CITY

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28

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30

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32

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34

35



## CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE MAN WITH THE FRENCH NOVEL ...	1
II. HE COMES TO LONDON ... ..	6
III. HE EXPLORES ... ..	11
IV. HE IS NOT IRVING ... ..	16
V. THE MAD HATTER ... ..	24
VI. HE MEETS A HEARTY MAN AND INAUGURATES "THE PARKER HAT" ... ..	29
VII. HE TAKES MEDICAL ADVICE ... ..	45
VIII. HE IS NOT HENRY VIII., AND NO ONE SAID HE WAS ... ..	53
IX. MAINLY ABOUT WHISKERS ... ..	64
X. HE IS NOT SIR THEODORE PARKER, AND HE, THEREFORE, DETERMINES TO DABBLE IN THE OCCULT ... ..	77
XI. MADAME BRANO ... ..	85
XII. DABBING ... ..	91

CHAPTER	PAGE
XIII. HE ACCEPTS THE HOSPITALITY OF A STRANGE MAN ... ..	104
XIV. THE STRANGE MAN TIPS THE WINK, AND IS ADMIRED BY HIS COLLEAGUES ...	113
XV. HE DECIDES TO TAKE LEGAL ADVICE ...	119
XVI. HE DOES NOT TAKE IT ... ..	126
XVII. HE MEETS A GREAT WIT ... ..	133
XVIII. THE WIT AND THE WITNESS ...	146
XIX. THE STRATEGY OF THE STRANGE MAN ...	159
XX. THE POWER OF LOVE ... ..	168
XXI. HE MEETS AN OLD SCHOOLFELLOW ...	173
XXII. VARNER AND VARNER, SONS, AND VARNERS	185
XXIII. THE FICKLENESS OF THE PUBLIC ...	199
XXIV. FROM THE CAPE ROYAL TO THE "BULLER'S HEAD" ... ..	205
XXV. HOW HE LASTED TILL CLOSING TIME ...	231
XXVI. THE KINDNESS OF THE COACHMAN ...	233
XXVII. MRS. POTTER ... ..	240

# THE MAN WHO LOST HIS PAST

## CHAPTER I

### THE MAN WITH THE FRENCH NOVEL

THE little man was absolutely dazed.

That he had escaped with his life and "Le Journal d'une Femme de Chambre" seemed almost a miracle, for the two other occupants of the first-class compartment had been practically abolished. Several carriages had been telescoped, a luggage van had been annihilated, an engine driver had been killed, and various miscellaneous mutilations had been caused by some cryptic misfeasance resulting in the wrecking at Chalk Farm Station of the mid-day express from Manchester to London.

To the congratulations of the London and North-Western officials the little man made scarcely a reply. When it had been several times explained