

To Sherlock Holmes excellent for drawing the veil
she is always *the* from men's motives and ac-
woman. I have seldom heardtions. But for the trained tea-
him mention her under anysoner to admit such intru
other name. In his eyes she
eclipses and predominates
the whole of her sex. It was
not that he felt any emotion
akin to love for Irene Adler.
All emotions, and that one
particularly, were abhorrent
to his cold, precise but ad-
mirably balanced mind. He
was, I take it, the most per-
fect reasoning and observ-
ing machine that the world
has seen, but as a lover he
would have placed himself
in a false position.
He never spoke of the
softer passions, save with
a gibe and a sneer. They
were admirable things
for the observer --