

HACK AND HEW.

Hack and Hew were the sons of God
In the earlier earth than now;
One at His right hand, one at His left,
To obey and do taught them how.

And Hack was blind, and Hew was dumb,
But both had the wild, wild heart;
And God's calm will was their burning will,
And the gist of their toil was art.

They made the moon and the belted stars,
They set the sun to ride;
They loosed the girle and veil of the sea,
The wind and the purple tide.

Both flower and beast beneath their hands
To beauty and speed outdrew—
The furious, fumbling hand of Hack,
And the glorying hand of Hew.

Then fire and clay, they fashioned a man,
And painted him rosy brown;
And God Himself blew hard in his eyes;
"Let them burn till they smoulder down!"

And "There!" said Hack, and "There!"
thought Hew,
"We'll rest, for our toil is done."
But "Nay," the Master Workman said,
"For your toil is just begun."

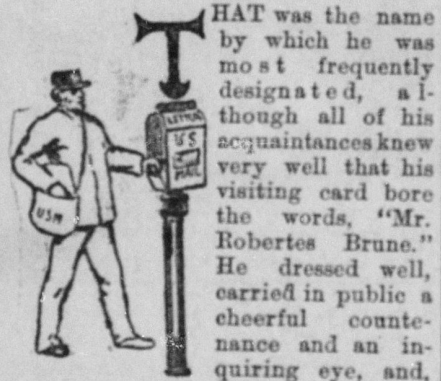
"And ye who served Me of old as God
Shall serve Me anew as man,
Till I compass the dream that is in My heart,
And perfect the vaster plan."

And still the craftsman over his craft,
In the vague white light of dawn,
With God's calm will for his burning will,
While the mounting day comes on,
Yearning, wind-swift, indolent, wild,
Toils with those shadowy two—
The faltering, restless hand of Hack,
And the tireless hand of Hew.

—Bliss Carman, in Atlantic.

EVERYBODY'S GOOD FRIEND

BY JOHNSON BERT.



HAT was the name by which he was most frequently designated, although all of his acquaintances knew very well that his visiting card bore the words, "Mr. Robertes Brune."

He dressed well, carried in public a cheerful countenance and an inquiring eye, and as to business, his desk was in the office of a private banking house near Wall street, and he was supposed to be a silent partner of the bankers themselves. He belonged to two or three clubs and spent much time in each of them, which is not the way of city men of brisk business manner, such as Mr. Brune possessed; and scores of strangers, brought into one or other of the clubs by city acquaintances who did not know what else to do with them, gratefully remembered Mr. Brune as one of the evening's chief sources of enjoyment. He had a way of becoming acquainted quickly and of making new acquaintances feel at ease with him, and he also had a way of remembering a call or two he had to make, and in which he would invite a new acquaintance—of the proper sort—to join, which was so unlike the custom of New Yorkers in general that men from other cities and without New York connections were likely to feel under obligations to him and also to believe that they had made the entree of metropolitan society.

As time went on, it was remarked at the clubs that Brune himself introduced many men from out of town, but as all of these were anxious to repay all courtesies they received, and were fairly able to do it, the members who took most notice of Brune's hospitality made no objection, for they were the professional club loungers—a class of men who never fail to enjoy entertainments for which other men pay. There pours into the great city a steady stream of men and families who have made money elsewhere and want to spend it where the most pleasure can be bought. To all these who fell in his way Brune was as hearty as if they had been old friends. He did not introduce them to members of the "Four Hundred," but he explained to them, confidentially, that his own friends were not of that particular set because they did not care to be in it, and that they were quite as good and refined as most of the people whose names appeared oftener in the fashionable news of the daily papers—a statement which nobody could deny. He would take unwearied pains, too, with families who desired to make the city their home; he would take them to real estate agents who could be trusted to deal fairly with them, and he knew the best decorators and upholsterers, and dealers in furniture and pictures and bric-a-brac, and he would introduce newcomers in a manner which would make them truly grateful. He would also introduce them to Holden & Trust, the bankers with whom he had his office, taking care first to assure them that there was a great difference between banks in a great city; the bigger institutions were mere machines, while Holden & Trust was a concern modeled after the English bank, where the accounts were few but large, and where any customer was made to feel as much at home as if he were in a friend's parlor which, indeed the business office of the firm greatly resembled in its appointments and quiet.

No one ever seemed to find reason to complain of Brune; he never took his male acquaintances to gambling houses or got them drunk, and he never made love to the young ladies of their families that came to the city. Indeed, to his newer acquaintances this seemed his only fault; for a number of young women who had broken with their original cavaliers, as became damsels who aspired to become city belles, found Brune much more to

their liking than most of the city youths with whom, through his kind offices, they became acquainted. He had so much of what women call "style," and he knew how to say nice things, and to suggest new ways of killing time, and to occasionally provide pleasant surprises that cost money—a faculty which is quite as rare among city youths, in proportion to their numbers, as in any country village. To be the wife of such a man would be to become a social queen—so thought some pretty young women whose knowledge came principally from their day-dreams.

But Brune seemed provokingly blind to all intimations that there were hearts at his feet, waiting only to be picked up; even when rallied on being a bachelor he would escape by laughing and saying that he was really too poor to marry and do justice to a wife. This appeared strange to many who saw how freely he spent money which he wished to entertain a party; but he was always able to say truly that a bachelor's personal expenses were comparatively trifling, while to maintain a home in good style in the city cost a great lot of money—a statement which heads of families, whether new or old, were always ready to verify from the depths of personal experience.

The truth was, that Brune had started in life with a firm determination to marry rich or not at all, and he was keeping himself faithful to that purpose. It cost him terribly, he sometimes told himself, for he was really a susceptible fellow and his heart got a new scar about once a year; but he wasn't going to win a girl merely to have her taken from him by a matter-of-fact father, who didn't want his money spent by his daughter's husband. He was in the market; if any rich man wanted him for a son-in-law there was a proper way for the rich man to bring the affair about—provided the daughter was pleasing. Indeed, Brune was obliged to elude one brilliant opportunity to marry money, both father and daughter being willing and anxious; but the lady was a kittenish creature past forty, while Brune himself was little beyond thirty.

But the god of love and the goddess of plenty kept their eye upon him, and there came a time when they seemed to join forces. Miss Adah Moorhart, a handsome damsel from the far West, had set her heart on becoming Mrs. Brune, and, as she had been accustomed to having her own way about everything else, she did not intend to be thwarted in her one greatest desire. She had an able ally in her mother, who held the family purse-strings and wanted just such a man as Brune in the family, her own husband having amounted to nothing since he inherited his father's money. Being a prudent woman, she had interrogated her bankers, Messrs. Holden & Trust, very closely about Brune's business and financial standing; but those gentlemen declined to say more than that Brune banked with them; his account, though not very large, was never overdrawn; he had a few thousand dollars' worth of securities in their safe; his business was a commission business, which, in New York, was a term which covered almost anything; but they chanced to know that Brune's own branch of it was of a confidential nature, and that all the checks he deposited with them were drawn by houses of good business standing. Behind all this there seemed some mystery which Mrs. Moorhart was determined to solve; but the bankers pleaded business confidence as their excuse for not going into particulars, unless authorized to do so by their customer.

From that day Brune's fortune was made, as he half suspected when his bankers told him of Mrs. Moorhart's visit, for a woman of strong will and abundant leisure will expend a lot of both for the bliss of fathoming a mystery. Certainly there could not be anything wrong about Brune, or some one would know of it; no one who knew him said anything but good of him; besides, had he not always been known as everybody's good friend? Mrs. Moorhart tried to make her home even more agreeable to him than it had been, while the daughter let her glorious eyes rest upon him from time to time in a manner which no man with eyes of his own could fail to understand.

"Mr. Brune," said Mrs. Moorhart one evening, after her daughter had entertained Brune greatly by telling of dashing horseback rides through the wild country—a sport she longed to enjoy again, she said, yet dared not hope for until she could go back again to look over the family property—"Mr. Brune, that property troubles the dead girl more than a little, and I would like to consult you about it, if you'll allow me. You're everybody's friend, you know."

"I am entirely at your service, my dear madam."

"I heartily wish you were," replied the lady with a sigh. "Much of the Western property which my husband inherited belongs to Adah—she is not here, is she?—no, I thought not. When she came of age, I insisted that my husband should divide the estate, as well as the personal property, and give her a share, she being our only child; I wanted her to learn the value of money, and how to take care of it, instead of growing up a silly, fashionable girl, only to squander the property of her husband should she ever marry. Of course she will inherit all that remains, in the course of time. She managed it with capital ability while we lived West, where she was practically on the ground, but since we have been East it has not yielded as large an income as it should. It is very hard to secure good agents there; all men of ability are restless until they get into business for themselves. I would like our portion of the estate properly looked after, too,

and we are so desirous of feeling at ease about it that we would be glad to give a competent person a third of the entire income for his services. I suppose it would be presumptuous to hope that you could afford to give up your business here for something that would bring you not more than twenty-five thousand a year—a sum which we would gladly guarantee you; but if you could entertain the idea, I assure you that you could easily spend a large part of your time in the East."

"My dear Mrs. Moorhart," said Brune, trying to keep his heart out of his mouth, "I am more flattered by your offer than words can tell. But really, I'm afraid you overrate my business ability. Were I to fail, I would feel unspcakably unhappy; I would be terribly humiliated should Miss Moorhart find it necessary to dispense with my services, and, worse still, to be found fault with by her, of all women in the world."

"I should imagine," said Mrs. Moorhart, slowly and with a confident look, "that you are clever enough at business to make your position so secure that she could not afford to dispense with your services, and that I wouldn't dare do so."

"My dear madam," protested Brune, "I beg you won't think that I could plan to take any advantage in business of a lady—of two ladies, indeed."

"I didn't suppose anything unfair," was the reply; "all's fair in—there! I've said more than I intended, but I've supposed that you held my daughter in high esteem."

"Higher, my dear madam, than I ever had for any other woman. But—"

"You must be less observing than your sex in general if you have not learned that Adah, who is no flighty girl, returns your regard."

"I am deeply grateful for your confidence, my dear madam."

"May I ask whether any other woman stands in the way of your acting upon my suggestion and becoming my daughter's business manager—for life?"

"None—none. By your kind permission, I will speak to her this evening."

"You will make her very happy. But perhaps my suggestion will lead you to neglect business interests of your own."

"My own business," said Brune, slowly, "can be dropped at any time without loss—that is, any loss to be thought of for a moment while I have such a wife to look forward to."

"I have never known just what your business was, but—"

"It is merely a general commission business," said Brune.

"Selling, or buying?"

"Well, neither, strictly speaking; that is—well, I assure you there is nothing wrong about it, for 'twas through it that I came to be called 'everybody's good friend.'"

Mrs. Moorhart bit her lip, and then smiled as she asked:

"Will you promise to tell me all about the business as soon as you are married?"

"Upon my honor."

"Insist upon an early marriage, then—all men do, I believe—and I will see that Adah accedes to your wish."

The wedding was a splendid affair, according to the newspapers; the bridegroom alone had so many friends and well-wishers that not all of the invited could get into the church. As to the presents, they were as numerous and handsome as might be expected by a bride who was rich and handsome and a man who was everybody's good friend. When the happy couple returned from the church to the house, the bride's mother didn't fall in tears on her daughter's neck; she led her son-in-law aside and whispered:

"You promised—"

"Yes, to tell you about my business. Well, it's been to be everybody's good friend, and be well paid for it, though none of them suspect it. Holden & Trust pay me one per cent. on the deposits of everyone I've introduced to their bank, yours included; real estate agents, furniture dealers, grocers, merchants—every one, in fact, with whom my friends do business on my introduction pay me a commission on my friends' business. It's a line of trade I never thought of getting into, because I didn't know it existed; but after I'd had some commissions pressed upon me, I resolved that the business and I were made for each other. Of course, any commissions I get hereafter on your trade I will return to you. Perhaps, now you know all, you regret having selected me to manage your daughter's affairs."

Mrs. Moorhart gently boxed her son-in-law's ear and said:

"I'm more than ever satisfied that you're just the man for the place—and dear Adah will agree with me."—Once A Week.

Looking Glasses in Coffins.

One of the ancient customs connected with Swedish funerals was to place a small looking glass in the coffin of an unmarried female, so that when the last trump sounds she might be able to arrange her tresses. It was the practice for Scandinavian maidens to wear their hair flowing loosely, while the matrons wore it bound about the head and generally covered with some form of cap. Hence the unmarried woman was imagined as awakening at the judgment day with more untidy locks than her wedded sisters and more in need of a glass.—Westminster Review.

Central Park is badly tunneled by moles and New York park commissioners have appropriated \$250 to pay for the services of a mole trapper for three months. This man cleared the moles out of the park seven years ago. He buries long wire traps in their holes. He has driven the destructive animal out of Prospect Park and Greenwood Cemetery.



HIGH ROOSTS.

The roosts should not be high, especially if the birds are large and heavy. By observing hens when they go on the roosts at night it will be noticed that when the roost is high it is with difficulty that some of them reach it and secure positions. Before all of the members of the flock get settled there will be several falls from the perch, due to the general scramble for favorite places, and when leaving the roost in the morning the heavy birds come to the floor with more force than is beneficial, the result being leg difficulties and sometimes internal injuries.—Chicago Times.

TAINTED MILK.

The causes of tainted milk have been classified by Doctor Gerber as follows:

1. Poor fodder.
2. Poor, dirty water, used not only for watering the cows, but also for washing the cans.
3. Poor air where the cows are.
4. Uncleanliness in milking.
5. Keeping the milk too long in too warm and poorly ventilated places.
6. Neglecting to cool and aerate the milk quickly after milking.
7. Lack of cleanliness in the care of the milk.
8. Poor transportation.
9. Sick cows.
10. The cows being in heat.

FOOD FOR GROWING STOCK.

The feeding of young animals is a very important part of the business of a farmer and requires study, for two especial reasons. One is that what is lost by neglect in the youth of any animal can never be regained by any future care and liberality; and the second that a young animal in its early life is only able to digest food under imperfect conditions. The stomach and other digestive organs of a young animal are fitted at first only for the digestion of milk, and this must be its staple food for a much longer time than is the custom to provide it. It is only when the teeth are formed and fit for use that the parotid glands and pancreas begin to secrete the substance that is needed for the digestion of any food that contains starch, for starch is not itself absorbed, but only as it is changed into sugar by the action of this fluid. Thus it is only courting danger and attempting impossibilities to try to rear a healthy and profitable calf without milk, unless by the use of some specially prepared foods that may be digestible by the young animal. This fact accounts for the invariable diarrhoea that follows the use of any kind of grain foods in the feeding of young calves, and proves the necessity for as long feeding with milk as may be possible.—American Agriculturist.

SUCCESSIVE OAT CROPS.

There is good reason why the oat crop should be the most exhaustive of any of the grains. Its leaf is not so broad as that of barley or wheat, and it sends its roots very much farther than does barley at least. Wheat roots reach down into the subsoil and get moisture, and probably also some plant food, where the spring grain would not reach. Oat roots completely fill the surface soil to the depth of the plowing. It is this which makes it so hard to get a good catch of clover, and this failure to get a good clover growth is usually the reason why the land is left left another year and sown with oats again. We have known several cases in which successive oat crops were grown for several years, with the result of so entirely destroying the soil's fertility that the land would scarcely produce white beans. Clay land is most often injured by cropping with oats, and the effect on such soil is to harden it into clods. Where land has been made poor by oat growing one of the best ways to restore it is to plow in the fall and sow a crop of peas with whatever fertilizer can be got. Peas make more shade for the ground, and they will get much of the plant food they need from the air. Peas are besides a better grain to seed with clover than is the oat. We mean, of course, peas sown broadcast and covering the whole surface of the ground.—American Cultivator.

RAINING POTATOES FROM SEED.

To produce a strong, vigorous potato with good eating and keeping qualities, we must select for its parents varieties possessing these qualities; and by judicious crossing we may expect, to some extent, to fix in the new variety, some at least of the qualities we desire to produce. The seed balls should be gathered early in the fall, laid in the sun a few days, and then squeezed out into water. The seeds will soon rise to the top, when they have to be skinned off and placed on paper or cloth to dry. After drying thoroughly in the sun, or a warm, dry room for about forty-eight hours, the seeds are to be put in paper bags to keep until wanted.

Early in the spring they may be sown thinly in rows in a hot-bed, or later in the open ground. When two to three weeks old the seedlings have to be pricked out singly into carefully prepared hills, which should be about two feet apart in rows three feet apart. A small numbered stake has to be put in each hill, and during the growing season detailed notes should be taken concerning the habit, strength, time of ripening, yield and general appearance of each plant. This record must

Oldest of Waterworks.

A recent work on sanitary engineering says that Damascus possesses, in all probability, the oldest water works in the world. The city itself is the most ancient of existing cities, having seen the rise and fall of the Greek and Roman Empires, of Babylon, Nineveh, Palmyra and Jerusalem. When taken by the Saracens from the Romans the water works already existed, and it is probable that the latter constructed the works which still exist and supply the town. Damascus lies in a valley on the River Abana, which flows from the Lebanon hills, and is lost in the desert to the east of the town. In spite of a copious supply of excellent water, Damascus has had no immunity from epidemics, owing to the fact that the double canalization for water supply and drainage, being more or less leaky, saturated the soil and raised the spring level nearly to the surface, and the sewers are rarely if ever cleaned, are not systematically ventilated, and they pass under many of the houses. It is not surprising, therefore, that Damascus is and always was an insalubrious town.—New York Sun.

\$100 Reward. \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

When Nature

Needs assistance it may be best to render it promptly, but one should remember to use even the most perfect remedies only when needed. The best and most simple and gentle remedy is the Syrup of Figs manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co.

In every community there are a number of men whose whole time is not occupied, such as teachers, ministers, farmers' sons and others. To these classes especially we would say, if you wish to make several hundred dollars during the next few months, write at once to B. F. Johnson & Co., of Richmond, Va., and they will show you how to do it.

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