

A Brother's Wife.

By S. BARING GOULD,

Author of "Mehalah," "Kitty Alone," "The Queen of Love," Etc.

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"My dear," said Mr. Murgatroyd, the banker, to his wife, "it is the first Christmas without our boy, and please heaven, it will be the last; but under the circumstances it was inevitable."

"You see, Eliza," continued the banker, "we could not tell when my father would die, and with his death and the funeral, the house would be so upset that we couldn't—really couldn't—have Jack here, with his tremendous spirit and noise. After all, it won't matter much; we can send for him next week, and I daresay he will not mind."

"I think he will mind it a great deal," said Mrs. Murgatroyd. "He only went to school at Michaelmas, and he will have been counting days till the Christmas vacation and now—"

"Well, Eliza, he will have to remain on at school one week after the rest of the boys leave, that is all."

"But he has been making a holiday frowner."

"What is that?"

"Oh, a sort of nose or chrysanthemum, or something of the nondescript sort of flower, with many petals gummed on as there are days in the term. Then every day a leaf is removed, and by the time all the holidays have arrived, poor Jack—he will have his striped chrysanthemum—and no holiday."

"Yes, he will have holiday, but deferred," said Mr. Murgatroyd.

"That cuts his vacation short by a week."

"It could not be helped. With my father dying, then dead in the house, it was quite impossible to have him home till all was settled."

"Well," said Mrs. Murgatroyd, with a sigh, "then next week he comes."

"Next week he comes," repeated her husband. "To me the privation is greater than to you. You have your servants to attend to and occupy your mind."

"But not my affections. And you have your clerks, Samuel."

"Well, well, well," said the banker. "We will not argue about the matter. I am happy to say that Jack's future is likely to be a fortunate one. My father has left me everything, and of course, that means that all will eventually go to Jack."

"Nothing been heard of George, I suppose?"

"Oh, nothing; not likely that there would."

"Did not your father ask after him?"

"Oh, course he did. But what could I say—that we had received no favorable news."

"You mean no news at all."

"Well, yes; none at all. But of course we know pretty well how matters go in such cases."

"How long ago is it since your brother fell out with you?"

"He did not fall out with me at all, but with my father. I have had nothing to do with his affairs. He was independent in his ways, and independent-spirited, and did not incline

out of our carriage and walk. There will probably be a train to meet us. I do not suppose the rock and earth and wreckage can have been cleared away by this time. It will be very unpleasant in the rain and in the darkness. I shouldn't have come, but that business called me. However, we shall see."

"The engine slackened pace, the brake was put on, the wheels groaned, but the puffing and snorting of the engine increased, and the steam whistle sounded. The train was brought to a stand still. At once the windows were lowered and heads thrust forth, and inquiries shouted as to what was the matter. Had anything occurred?"

"The rain beat in the faces of those who looked forth. They saw puffs of illuminated steam, and flames of coal pouring forth smoke and fire."

"Presently a swaying light was visible, carriages ahead were heard shouting. The guard was coming down the length of



"Accident! What Accident?"

the train, swinging his lamp and telling the passengers to get out of the carriages and stand on the platform.

"Now, then, all out! and straight ahead between their fires and feller your noses."

All stumbled from the train, being on no platform. There were cries, scolding; some fell and hurt themselves. Some refused to leave their carriages, and some porters came to their assistance to carry their packages and rugs. A lady was carrying a paper package containing Christmas presents for her children. The string that contained the whole slipped off, and all the toys were strewn on the ground between them and the heavy duff coats. There were not porters sufficient to assist all who clamored for help. A good deal of selfishness was manifest in the men passengers. Awaiting their goods of the darkness and of their having no encumbrances, they slipped away without assisting the women burdened with babies and bundles.

Mr. Murgatroyd clambered the bank and threw himself over the railings enclosing the grounds belonging to the railway company, and began to wade through a plowed field, with the clay as combed and tenuous as glass.

After laboring along some way he halted. Whither was he going? Where was the gate to the field? Would he reach it with the boots on his feet?

He turned back and recrossed the rails, descended the bank, and asked the way of a workman.

He was bidden following the lines, pass the train in waiting, and he would come to a bridge where the high road was carried over the line. He must ascend to that, and then he could not miss his way.

Accordingly he obeyed the instructions given him.

"Now, then, where are you going?" shouted the guard of the train waiting for the passengers. "Look alive, Jump in. You're not going along the line."

Mr. Murgatroyd persisted. He reached the bridge, his hands were cramped and his feet were numb. He had sought to return home by this identical train which had crushed into the fallen masses of rock and earth. Whither should the boy go but home? He had

not come by an earlier train, or he would have reached his destination. If he had escaped unharmed, he might have, he probably would have, been conveyed over the mass of debris and been whirled into the train that had passed with a whiz and a flash of light as he came in the opposite direction. If so, by this time he was safe in his mother's arms. But there was the chance that he had suffered, that he was lying in one of the refuges opened hastily for the accommodation of those injured, and before returning home he must make sure whether this was so or not.

On the bridge a party of carolers were walking, shouting out snatches of the Christmas hymn:

"Christians, awake, salute the happy morn
Wherein the saviour of the world was born."

It was evening, night rather, not morning, and appearing to morning, but that did not concern the singers, who saw nothing inappropriate in their song.

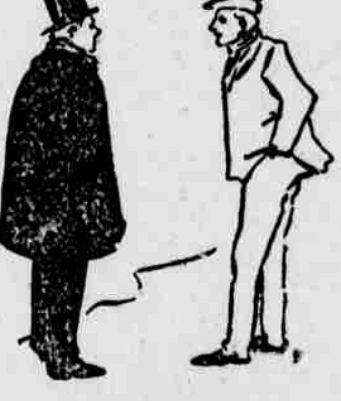
The banker ran after the carolers, accented them, and inquired where the injured persons were. He must see that there was some at the Horse and Jockey, he was answered.

"Where's that?"

"Right ahead—the way we are going. I say, have a halt, you hallo!"

furred his pipe up with parkin cake and beer, and ain't no good at all. The singing don't pretty without a hallo. Its like playing a toon on a fiddle w' one string broke.

(To be concluded.)



"I say, have a Halt, you hallo!"

What are the cold waves saying. As they whistle and below about? Why don't you get your overcoat out? —New York Press.

Better So.

"Oh, do you love me, dear?" he cried, "and will you cast your eye on me?"

And simply echoed "Not!" —Philadelphia Record.

Buffalo Live Stock.

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 4.—Cattle—Receipts, 2,600 head; on sale, 30 head; market closed dull; lower; choice steers, \$14.75; lambs, \$12.50; hogs, \$10.00; fair fat cows, \$2.25; 2.60; hogs—Receipts, 1,300 head; on sale, 1,200 head; market closed steady; good to choice, \$10.00; mixed and common, \$8.50; light weights, \$9.50; export sheep, \$4.50; best native lambs, \$4.25; lambs—Receipts, 5,000 head; market closed steady; good to choice, \$12.50; mixed and common, \$10.00; light weights, \$11.00; export sheep, \$4.50; best native lambs, \$4.25; lambs—Receipts, 5,000 head; market closed steady; good to choice, \$12.50; mixed and common, \$10.00; light weights, \$11.00; export sheep, \$4.50; best native lambs, \$4.25.

THE WORLD OF BUSINESS

Stocks and Bonds.

New York, Dec. 4.—Stocks were the principal feature of the trading at the stock exchange today, but neither the sales nor the fluctuations were as important as on yesterday, and the price range between 1025 and 105, closing at 104, a gain of a full point for the day. Chicago Gas, while rather feverish, ruled slightly higher than on yesterday, at 57 1/2. Rice, which had opened lower, then became steadier, but ran off again in the late dealing. In the specialties Pacific Mail rose 3/4 to 23, declined to 21 1/2, and recovered to 22 1/2. The market closed irregular, and in the main weak. Burlington and Quincy was especially weak and fell to 8 1/2. Net changes show declines of 1/4 to 1 1/4 per cent. Baltimore and Ohio, however, lost 4 1/2 to 5 1/2. Pacific Mail gained 1/4; Sugar, 1, and Consoil Coal, 1 1/2 per cent. Total sales were 224,944 shares.

The range of today's prices for the active stocks of the New York stock market are given below. The quotations are furnished The Tribune by Will Linn, Allen & Co., stock brokers, 41 Spruce Street, Scranton.

Stock	Open	High	Low	Close
Am. Tobacco Co.	20 1/2	20 3/4	20 1/2	20 1/2
Am. Cotton Oil	19	19 1/4	18 3/4	18 3/4
Am. Sugar Ref. Co.	102 1/2	103	102 1/2	103
Atch. To. & S. Fe.	17 1/2	17 3/4	17 1/2	17 1/2
Ches. & Ohio	15 1/2	15 3/4	15 1/2	15 1/2
Chgo. & N. W.	107	107 1/2	106 1/2	107 1/2
Chic. & N. W.	107	107 1/2	106 1/2	107 1/2
Chic. M. & St. P.	75	75 1/2	74 1/2	75 1/2
Chgo. & N. W.	107	107 1/2	106 1/2	107 1/2
Del. & Hud.	127 1/2	128 1/2	127 1/2	127 1/2
D. & W.	145	145 1/2	144 1/2	145 1/2
Gen. Electric	30 1/2	30 3/4	30 1/2	30 1/2
Gen. Motors	102 1/2	103 1/4	102 1/2	102 1/2
Louis. & Nash.	12 1/2	12 3/4	12 1/2	12 1/2
M. & E. Ry.	10 1/2	10 3/4	10 1/2	10 1/2
Manhattan E. R.	10 1/2	10 3/4	10 1/2	10 1/2
Mo. Pac.	27 1/2	27 3/4	27 1/2	27 1/2
N. Y. C. & H. R.	30	30 1/2	30	30
N. Y. L. E. & W.	13 1/2	13 3/4	13 1/2	13 1/2
Nor. Pac.	15 1/2	15 3/4	15 1/2	15 1/2
Ont. & West.	12 1/2	12 3/4	12 1/2	12 1/2
Pac. Mail	23	23 1/2	22 1/2	23 1/2
Phila. & Reading	10	10 1/2	10	10
Southern R.	10 1/2	10 3/4	10 1/2	10 1/2
Tenn. C. & I.	30	30 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2
U. S. Steel	41 1/2	42 1/4	41 1/2	41 1/2
Wabash	18 1/2	18 3/4	18 1/2	18 1/2
West. Union	57 1/2	57 3/4	57 1/2	57 1/2
W. L. G.	14 1/2	14 3/4	14 1/2	14 1/2
U. S. Leather	64 1/2	64 3/4	64 1/2	64 1/2

CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE PRICES.

Commodity	Open	High	Low	Close
WHEAT	102 1/2	103 1/4	102 1/2	102 1/2
December	102 1/2	103 1/4	102 1/2	102 1/2
OATS	25 1/2	25 3/4	25 1/2	25 1/2
January	25 1/2	25 3/4	25 1/2	25 1/2
CORN	27 1/2	27 3/4	27 1/2	27 1/2
January	27 1/2	27 3/4	27 1/2	27 1/2
LARD	5 1/2	5 3/4	5 1/2	5 1/2
January	5 1/2	5 3/4	5 1/2	5 1/2
PORK	8 1/2	8 3/4	8 1/2	8 1/2
January	8 1/2	8 3/4	8 1/2	8 1/2
May	8 1/2	8 3/4	8 1/2	8 1/2

Scranton Board of Trade Exchange Quotations—All Quotations Based on Par of 100.

Name	Bid	Asked
Green River Lumber Co.	110	110
Dime Dep. & Dis. Bank	100	100
Scranton L. & C. Co.	100	100
Nat. Borne & Drilling Co.	100	100
First National Bank	100	100
Thuron Coal Land Co.	100	100
Scranton Jar & Stopper Co.	100	100
Scranton Glass Co.	100	100
Lacka & Sons	100	100
Spring Brook Water Co.	100	100
Bimhurst Boulevard Co.	100	100
Scranton A. & S. Co.	100	100
Phila. & Reading	100	100
Lacka, Trust and Safe Dep. Co.	100	100
Scranton Packing Co.	100	100
Scranton Baking Co.	100	100
Lacka, Iron & Steel Co.	100	100
Western Mill Co.	100	100
Scranton Traction Co.	100	100
Bonia Plate Glass	100	100

DOCTOR Acker's Remedy

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will stop a cough in a night, check a cold in a day, and cure consumption if taken in time. If the little ones have Whooping Cough, use Acker's Remedy.

The disease progresses so rapidly that the loss of a few hours in treatment is often fatal. ACKER'S ENGLISH REMEDY will cure Whooping Cough in a few days. It is kept in the house for emergencies. A 25 cent bottle may save your child's life.

Three sizes 25c, 50c, \$1. All Druggists.

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