

The Home Reading Circle



THE JIMMY JOHN BOSS

By OWEN WISTER

AUTHOR OF "RED MEN AND WHITE"

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SYNOPSIS.
Dean Drake has been placed by Max Vogel, the great cattle owner, as superintendent of his ranch at the Malheur agency. Drake is a remarkable boy, only 19 years old, but such faith has Vogel in the boy's courage and ability that he has put him to control the unruly cowboys. The journey from Boise is made with Bolles, the school master, who is going to his post at the agency. For a part of the way, they have as companion Uncle Pasco, who peddles cheap jewelry among the miners and cowboys. Pasco hears that no whisky whatever is to be allowed at the ranch and tells Drake that he expects soon to visit the agency. At the ranch Drake finds among the cowboys, buccaroos, they are called—three brothers, named Drinker, Drunk and Drunk. "Full," "Half-pass Full," and "Drunk." They are surprised at Drake's youthfulness and prepare to make things lively for him. One night "Half-pass Full" asks permission to go to a neighboring town, but Drake puts him off. "They'll not go this time," he says to Bolles. "Question is; will they go next?"

PART II.
Drake took a fresh cigar and threw his legs over the chair-arm.
"I think you smoke too much," said Bolles, whom these days had made familiar and friendly.
"Yep. Have to just now. That's what! as Uncle Pasco would say. They are a half-breed lot, though," the boy continued, returning to the buccaroos and their recent visit. "Weaken in the face of a straight bluff, you see. Unless they get whisky-conscious. And I've called 'em down on that."
"Oh!" said Bolles, comprehending.
"Didn't you see that was their game? But he will not go after it."
Half-pass Full did not go to Harney City for the tobacco whisky, nor did any of the other boys. Bolles, however, like the children that were there. After the late encounter of grit, the atmosphere was relieved of storm. The children, the primitive pagan dangerous children, forgot all about whisky, and lusted joyfully for Christmas. Christmas was coming! Drake read the children's match! A big feed! Cheerfulness bubbled at the Malheur agency. The weather itself was in tune. Castle Rock seemed no longer to frown, but rose into the shining air, a friendly strength. Except when a rare sledge of horseman passed Mr. Bolles, journeys to the school were all to show it was not some pioneer colony in a new white silent world that heard only the playful shouts and songs of the buccaroos. The sun overhead and the hard-crushing snow under foot filled everywhere with a crisp, tingling hilarity.
Before the sun first touched Castle Rock on the morning of the feast, they were up and in high feather over at the bunk-house. They raced across to see what Sam was cooking; they begged

ing at Drake and the buccaroos, who had strolled out to look at him. "Done a big business this trip," said he. "Told you I would. Now if you was only givin' your children a Christmas tree like what I seen that feller, yer school morn, doin' just now—hee-hee!" From his blankets he revealed the well-known case. "Them things would shine on a tree," concluded Uncle Pasco.
"Hang 'em in the woods, then," said Drake.
"Jewelry, is it?" inquired the young Texas man.
Uncle Pasco whipped open his case. "There you are," said he. "All what's left. That ring'll cost you a dollar."
"I've got a dollar somewheres," said the young man, fumbling.
Half-pass Full, on the other side of the sleigh, stood visibly fascinated by the wares he was given a skillful glimpse of down among the blankets. He peered and he pondered while Uncle Pasco gibbered out to him: "Scatter your truck out plain!" the



BEHIND HIM LURCHED HALF-PAST FULL.

It was now near four o'clock, and Sam came in, announcing dinner. "All ready," said the smiling Chinaman.
"Pass the good word to the bunk-house," said Drake, "if they can hear you."
Sam went across and the shouting stopped. Then arose a thick volley of screams and cheers.
"That don't sound right," said Drake, leaping to his feet. In the next instant the Chinaman, terrified, returned through the open door. Behind him lurched Half-pass Full, and stumbled into the room. His boot caught, and he pitched, but saved himself, and stood away, heavily looking at Drake. The hair-curling dense over his bull head, his moustache was spread with his grin, the light of cloddish humor and destruction burned in his big eye.
"Twas false jewelry, all right!" he roared, at the top of his voice. "A good old jimmyjohn, full, boss. Say, boss, ole jimmyjohn, full, boss. Say, boss, ole jimmyjohn off the

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AT THE THEATERS.

Roland Reed and his excellent company, including Isadore Rush, will be the offering at the Frothingham next Friday and Saturday evenings and at a Saturday matinee, presenting on Friday evening and at the Saturday matinee Mr. Reed's latest success, "The Wrong Mr. Wright," and on Saturday evening "The Politician." The production of "The Wrong Mr. Wright" will be the first performance of that play in Scranton and Friday night will be Elks' night. Mr. Reed having tendered Scranton lodge a benefit on that occasion. It has scored a hit in all the large cities. It is highly amusing and entertaining, and Mr. Reed has been fitted with a strong character in Seymour Siting. The sale of seats opens this morning.

"My Friend from India" is one of the best illustrations the stage has seen lately of the play which aims at fun exclusively, no other object being slightly or deeply concealed in its three acts of superbounding action and humor. Nothing short of confirmed rheumatism or gout can well excuse anybody applauding its scenes, while laughing at the most liberal terms. All New York has agreed, in following out of the question. The Smyth and Rice Comedy company will be seen in the new farce at the Academy of Music one night only, Monday, April 26.

Rice & Barton have established a reputation which they invariably sustain and have equipped their new organization with exquisite costumes and glittering scenery, as well as surrounded themselves with artists of the highest rank, including Frankie Haines, Washburn sisters, Crawford and Manning, Phillips and Robinson, Clara Lawrence and Barton and Echoff. Their programme sparkles with fresh features. "A Trip to Boston," a nautical absurdity, opens the show, and is resplendent with handsome costumes and elaborate scenery. The olio is made up of select specialties, interspersed with beautiful gags, as a satire, "Naughty Coney Island," the extravaganza, is one of the richest the author has ever conceived. At Drake's theater the last half of this week, opening today.

Tuesday evening Stuart Robson will appear at the Academy of Music in his new play, "The Jucklins," which is a stage version of Opie Reid's story of the same name. The dramatization is the work of Daniel L. Hart, of Wilkes-Barre. How well he has done his work is apparent from the favor with which the drama has been received. Here is what three Chicago papers say about it: "The Jucklins" is a hit. Even at present it is in many ways superior to "Pudd'nhead Wilson," which belongs to the same category of the drama.—The Tribune.

"An emphatic verdict of approval. Jucklins has no prototype in contemporary literature."—Times-Herald.



A sickly, fretful baby is a distressful burden to both of the parents. After a long and sleepless night the father is unflinching for the mother for her household duties. If a woman will take proper care of herself during the period preceding the birth of her child, she will bear the burdens of maternity as kept strong and healthy, her children will be robust and good natured. This is the best medicine for keeping these delicate and important organs in a healthy condition is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Thousands of women have testified to the marvelous action of this remedy. More of it is sold than of all other medicines for the same purpose combined. It acts directly upon the organs involved. It restores their health and vigor. It prepares a woman for the duties of motherhood. It insures the health of baby. It makes its advent easy and almost free from pain. Women who use it do not experience the usual discomforts of the period of gestation. It is the most marvelous medicine ever known for wives and mothers. It is the preparation of an eminent and skillful specialist, Dr. R. V. Pierce, who has been for thirty years chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, at Buffalo, N. Y. Women who wish to know more about it should write him.

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SILKS.
25 pieces Moltre Velour silk, this is the latest style fabric in the market, prices range from—
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Special sale of 15 pieces black broadened silks, 50c. grade, we are offering same at—
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10 pieces black all-wool serge, 50 inches wide, regular 80c. grade, Our Price—
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15 pieces black figured mohair, our 75c. and 85c. grade, Our Price—
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25 ladies' tailor-made suits closed refer coats, tan, navy and black, worth \$10.00, Our Price—
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40 ladies' and children's cloth capes, broad trimmed, worth \$2.00, Our Price—
\$1.25
75 ladies' cloth capes, single and double, broad chevrons, broad trimmed, worth \$1.50, Our Price—
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75 misses' and children's refer coats, broad chevrons, broad trimmed, sizes 2 to 12, worth 1.50, Our Price—
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HELLO

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What Sarah Bernhard says

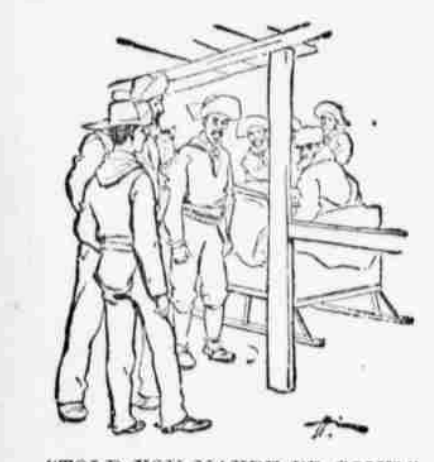
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"TOLD YOU MAYBE I'D COME."

and joyfully swanned lumps of his raw plum-pudding. "Merry Christmas," they wished him; and "Merry Christmas!" said he to them. They played leap-frog over by the stable, they put snow down each other's backs. Their shouts rang around corners; it was like boys let out of school. When Drake gathered them for the shooting match, they cheered him; when he told them there were no prizes, what did they care for prizes? When he beat them all the first round, they cheered him again. Why he hadn't offered prizes! He wasn't a good business man after all!

The rounds at the target proceeded through the forenoon, Drake the acclaimed leader; and the Christmas sun

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The Bicycles we offer are the well-known Monarch Cycle Co.'s Defiance and the famous Dart Bicycle. Every wheel sold will be fully guaranteed. We have had too of these wheels consigned to us to sell at the low price of \$29.50 to raise cash quickly for the owners of these bicycles. You will have choice of colors, Black and Maroon; each wheel highly decorated. Why pay \$60 to \$100 for a bicycle when this sale offers you the opportunity of securing a High Grade Wheel at this price? Sale Opens Thursday Morning and Continues Thursday and Friday.

Morris Bros.' Shoe Store, 330 Lackawanna Avenue