

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-past Full," and "Drunk." They are surprised at Drake's youthfulness and prepare to make things lively for him. One night "Half-past 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-past Full did not go to Harney City for the tobacco whisky, nor did anybody else," Drake said. "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! Mr. Bolles, a shooting 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.

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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-past 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.

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buccaroo exclaimed, loudly. "I'm not buying in the dark. Come over to the bunkhouse and scatter."

"Brass will look just the same anywhere," said Drake.

"Brass!" screamed Uncle Pasco. "Brass, your eye!"

But the buccaroos, plainly glad for distraction, took the wolly old roosting man with them. Drake shouted that if getting cheated cheered them, by all means to invest heavily, and he returned alone to his fire where Bolles soon joined him. They waited, accordingly, and by and by the sleighbells jingled again. As they had come out of the silence, so did they go into it, their little silvery tinkle dancing away in the distance, faint and fainter, then like a breath gone.

Uncle Pasco's trinkets had audibly raised the men's spirits. They remained in the bunkhouse, their laughter reaching Drake and Bolles more and more. Sometimes they would shuffle and laugh loudly.

"Do you imagine it's more leapfrog?" inquired the schoolmaster. "Gimbling," said Drake. "They'll keep at it till somebody's won everything they bought."

"Have they been lively ever since morning?" "Had a reaction about noon," said Drake. "Regular homesick spell. I felt sorry for 'em."

"They seem full of reaction," said Bolles. "Listen to that!"

"Hello, Uncle Pasco," said he. "Thought you were Santa Claus." "Santa Claus! H'm! Yes. That's what. Told you maybe I'd come."

"So you did. Turkey is due in—let's see—ninety minutes. Here, boys. Some of you take Uncle Pasco's horse."

"No, no, I won't. You leave me alone. I ain't stoppin' here, I ain't hungry. I just grubbed at the school. Slop-in at Missouri Pete's tonight. Got to make the railroad tomorrow." The old man stopped his precipitate statements. He sat in his sledge deeply muffled, blink-

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.

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AT THE THEATERS.

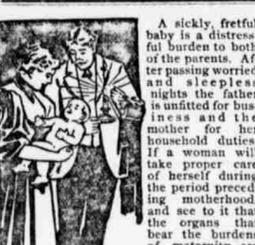
Roland Reed and his excellent company, including Isadore Rush, will be the offering at the Frothingham next Friday and Saturday evenings and at a Saturday matinee, presenting on Friday evening and at the Saturday matinee Mr. Reed's latest success, "The Wrong Mr. Wright," and on Saturday evening "The 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 failing to laugh on the most liberal terms. All New York has agreed, in altogether 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, in which perfect models pose. 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 unftted for his 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. 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.

"About six years ago my wife became afflicted with female weakness," writes the Rev. I. J. Coppedge, of Elmo, Kaufman County, Texas. "She could not stand on her feet or get in any position in which she did not suffer great pain. She was naturally a strong woman. I had several physicians to treat her without any permanent relief. She expired of every ailment. I saw an advertisement of your 'Favorite Prescription' and spoke to me about it. I got her a bottle of the medicine which she soon found was helping her. She kept on until she had taken six bottles. Since taking the last she has not suffered a moment with the old trouble. She has been well nearly twelve months. I am glad to state that she is all the medicine she took. She is in good health and we are happy."

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What Sarah Bernhard says

THE LEADER

124-126 Wyoming Ave.

SPECIAL VALUES

SILKS. 25 pieces Moltre Velour silk, this is the latest style fabric in the market, prices range from 95c. to \$2.00 a Yard. Special sale of 15 pieces black broadcloth silks, 50c. grade, we are offering same at 69c. a Yard.

DRESS GOODS. 10 pieces black all-wool serge, 50 inches wide, regular 80c. grade, Our Price 49c. 15 pieces black figured mohair, just the thing for skirt, 30c. grade, Our Price 39c. 15 pieces black figured goods, our 75c. and 85c. grade, Our Price 45c. 10 pieces fancy weave spring goods, real value 90c. Our Price 49c.

LADIES' SUITS. 25 ladies' tailor-made suits closed refer coats, tan, navy and black, worth \$5.00, Our Price \$3.98. 25 ladies' tailor-made suits eaten and closed refer coats, navy, black and mixed chevrot, broad trimmed, worth \$7.00, Our Price \$4.98.

LADIES' CAPES. 40 ladies' and children's cloth capes, broad trimmed, worth \$2.00, Our Price \$1.25. 75 ladies' cloth capes, single and double, broad chevrot, broad trimmed, worth \$1.50, Our Price 79c.

LADIES' JACKETS. 50 ladies' tailor-made jackets, worth \$4.00, Our Price \$2.98. 75 misses' and children's refer coats, broad chevrot, broad trimmed, sizes 2 to 12, worth 1.50, Our Price 98c.

MILLINERY. Our policy in this department may be summed up as follows: Reproductions of the Finest Novelties in Trimmed Millinery At \$1.98, \$2.98, \$3.98

Select your own material, and that, together with a nominal charge for trimming, will give you a hat equal in every respect to one that could cost you twice the money elsewhere. No fancy prices here.

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YOU CAN SAVE MONEY BY BUYING NEW AND SECOND-HAND CLOTHING

Ladies' and Children's Wear. Seal and Plush Sacques, Carpets and Feather Beds From L. POSNER 21 Lackawanna Ave.

MADE A WELL MAN OF ME. REVIVO RESTORES VITALITY. THE GREAT 30th Day.

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HELLO

AT A. E. ROGERS' Jewelry Store, 213 LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

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Light Weight Wool Merino, Balbriggan, Etc., AT CONRAD'S. 305 Lackawanna Avenue.

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Manufacturers of the Celebrated Pilsener Lager Beer

CAPACITY: 100,000 Barrels per Annum

What Sarah Bernhard says

HIGH GRADE BICYCLES, \$29.50

Ladies' and Gent's Wheels—Monarchs, Defiance and Dart's Models 1897.

SPECIAL SALE THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, APRIL 22 and 23

AT MORRIS BROS.' SHOE STORE, 330 LACKAWANNA AVE.

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