toll sweet when there are a strong body life. and a loving wife and a happy home? "I would gladly give all I possess to men and know that I would probably have more than a week to live."

leaving the foreman in a condition of you did last night. We love you"wondering astonishment. "Something wrong in his works, 1

guess," muttered Burns.

wrote an order releasing all the men dental, but they might have been low after righteousness." avoided with proper care for human life, and Robert Hardy was just beginning to understand the value of humanity.

He worked hard at the routine of his office work until noon. He did what seemed to him the most necessary part of it all with conscientious fidelity. But his mind a good part of the time was with the men in the shops. He could not escape the conviction that if a railroad company had the willingness to do so it could make the sur roundings of these men safer and happler without getting poorer work or even losing any money by it.

When noon sounded, he went home resolved to do something as far as lay in his power to make the men feel that they were regarded as something more than machines.

George was down stairs when his father came in and looked at him with



"I'm afraid there'll be trouble, sir. I can feel it in the air."

curlosity rather than with any feeling of shame for the scene of the night before. After lunch was over Mr. Hardy called his son into the study for a little talk with him before going down to the funeral.

"I do not need to tell you, George,"

he could not help envying these men sisters and have any self respect left But Mrs. Hardy was first to move to this morning. "Why," he said, "proba- you will let drink and cards alone ward the stricken woman. Where did just ready to go to the scene of the ac bly not one of them but has at least after this. In the sight of God, my the wife of the once haughty and proud seven weeks to live and most of them dear boy, remember what he made man learn the touch of sympathy that a caboose and one coach with tender seven months or years, while I- Why you for. You are young. You have drew that other poor sister nearer to and engine. He mounted the engine should these men complain because all of life before you. You can make her and finally soothed her into quietthey are not released from toll? Isn't a spiendid record if God spares your ness? Certain it is that suffering in

would give all my wealth if I might life over again. I can't do it. The shange places with any one of these past is irrevocable. But one can al-Mr. Hardy walked back to the office. coffin than see you come home again as

Mr. Hardy, proud man that he was, could say no more. He laid his hand on the boy's head as if he were a any longer!" Mr. Hardy sat down to his desk and young lad again and said simply. "Don't disappoint God, my boy," and went out, leaving his son sitting there The injuries were clearly acci- to do well. Cleanse thy ways and fol-

> It was 1 o'clock when Mr. Hardy came down stairs, and as he came into the room where Mrs. Hardy and the girls were sitting he happened to think of some business matters between himself and his only brother, who lived in the next town, 20 miles down the road He spoke of the matter to Mrs. Hardy, and she suggested that Will go down on the 3 o'clock train with the papers Mr. Hardy wanted to have his brother look over and come back on the G o'clock in time for dinner.

> Clara asked if she couldn't go, too. and Bessie added her request, as she had not seen her aunt for some time. Mr. Hardy saw no objection to their going, only he reminded them that he wanted them all back at 6. Alice volunteered to amuse George at home while all the rest were gone, and Mr. and Mrs. Hardy departed for the funeral, Mr. Hardy's thoughts still absorbed for the most part with his older boy. Clara had asked no questions concerning the interview with James.

and her father simply stated that they could have a good talk about it in the evening.

cemetery.

The simple service as it began was exceedingly impressive to Mr. Hardy, large roll of bills to be used for the Most of the neighbors present looked family, then went out again. at him and his well dressed wife in with a heightening color, but Mr. Hardy was too much absorbed in his by the behavior of those about him.

from John's gospel sppropriate to the sake of the human race. occasion and said a few simple words. mostly addressed to the neighbors ing in alarm and growing louder, followed by a rapid movement in the narrow ball above, and with a scream of body of her husband lay. She had sudsince her husband's death and realized what was going on in the house with a quick gathering of passion and strength, such as even the dying sometimes are known to possess. She had escaped from her sister and the neigh- the horses were put up and the father bor who were watching with her and, and mother had gone into the house crazy with grief, flung herself over the they continued the conversation. Alice coffin, moaning and crying out in such heartbreaking accents that all present were for a moment flung into a state of inaction and awe.

O God," he continued to think, "I stand where you do today and live my the richly dressed woman, the refined, be of the same household of God with ways repent. George, believe me, your her. So it was that she finally succeedmother would rather see you in your ed in drawing her away into the other room and there held her, gasping for breath, now that the brief strength was spent, and crying feebly: "O God, help me! Don't keep me here in this world

If this brief scene thrilled the neighbors with pity, what shall be said of its effect on Robert Hardy? For a neral in the afternoon. He did not almost overcome by his father's pow- moment it seemed to him more than he have it in his power to do more, and erful appeal, but not yet ready to yield could bear. He started to his feet and yet he felt that this was the least he himself to the still small voice that put his hands before his face. Then, could do under the circumstances. The spoke within even more powerfully calming himself by a great effort, he more he thought of Scoville's death and whispered to him: "My son, give sat down, and his face became almost the more he felt the cruel injustice of me thine heart. Cease to do evil; learn like a stone in its rigidity. When his wife finally succeeded in getting the woman into the rear room, his face re-



O God, help me! Don't keep me here in this world any longer!

laxed, and he breathed more easily but as soon as possible he arose and went out and stood silent there until

The tenement at No. 760 was crowd-ed, and in spite of the wintry weather large numbers of men and women stood outside in the spow. Mr. Hardy had ordered his sleigh, and he and his wife had gone down to the house in that, ready to take some one to the that, ready to take some one to the the suffering widow until he came back. Mr. Hardy also whispered something to his minister and gave him a

That ride in the cold gray of the desullen surprise. She noticed the looks clining winter afternoon was a bitter experience to Robert. 'He roused himself at the grave as he heard the thoughts of what he had done and left words, "Raise us from the death of undone in this family to be influenced sin unto the resurrection of righteousness," and something like a gleam of Mr. Jones offered a prayer for the hope shot through his heart at the comfort of God to rest on the stricken words. Surely there was mercy with family. He then read a few words him who had conquered death for the

He drove back with more peace of soul than he had thought possible. By present. The poor widow had been re- the time he had reached the shop tenemoved to a small room up stairs and ments it was growing dark. He drove lay there cared for by the faithful sis home with his wife and thought with ter. The minister had nearly conclud. something of a feeling of pleasure of ed his remarks when a voice was heard the evening before him with his fambegan his father quietly, but with feel. in the room above, voices expostulat. Ily. This second day had been more agitating in some ways than his first. He had been unnerved at the funeral and had felt remorse more keenly than frenzy the wife rushed down the stairs he had once thought possible. As he and burst into the room where the dead reviewed the events of the day with his wife he felt dissatisfied. And yet denly awakened out of the fainting be had truly tried to do his duty in the stupor in which she had been lying light of eternity. What more could he do?

At the yard he found a special train cident. It consisted of a wrecking car, with a feeling that it was a little nearer the fatal spot and would reach there her own home had marvelously taught first. At the last minute no more defi-

nite news concerning the particular persons killed and injured had been received.

Mr. Hardy felt almost glad of the uncertainty as the engine pulled out and started on its run of 15 miles, soon attaining a speed of 55 miles an hour. The snow was failing in large, moist flakes. It was growing warmer and would rain before morning. He gazed at the narrow band of light on the track ahead and leaned forward as if to help the engine go faster. He did not speak, and so the train rushed through the night.

And so the second of Robert Hardy's seven days drew to a close.

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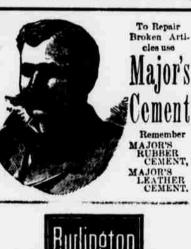


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ng, "that I felt the disgrace of your drunkenness last night very bitterly. You cannot know the feelings of your father and mother in that respect. But I did not call you in here to reproach you for your vices. I want to know what you intend to do in the face of the present conditions."

Mr. Hardy paused, then went on again: "I am perfectly aware, George, that you regard my dream as a fancy and think I am probably out of my mind. Isn't that true?"

Mr. Hardy looked George full in the face, and the young man stammered: "Well-I-ab-yes-I-don't just understand"-

"At the same time," went on his father, "I realize that nothing but a conviction of reality could produce the change in me which you and all the rest of the family must acknowledge has taken place. And you must confess that I am acting far more rationally than I did before my dream occurred. It is not natural for a father to teglect his own children, and I have done it. It is not rational that he

should spend his time and money and trength on himself so as to grow inensely selfish, and I have done that. My son, you may doubt me, but I am irmly convinced that I shall not be alive here after next Sunday. I am trying to live as I ought to live under those conditions. My son," Mr. Hardy spoke with dignity and a certain impression which George could not but feel, "I want you to do as you know you ought to do under the circumstances. When I am gone, your mother and the girls will look to you for advice and direction. You will probably have to leave college for a little while. We will talk that over this evening. But I want you to promise me that you will not touch another glass of liquor or handle another card as long as you

George laughed a little uneasily and then lied outright: "I don't see the harm of a game once in awhile just for fun. I don't play for stakes, as some fellows do."

"George," said his father, looking at im steadily, "you have not told the ruth. You were gambling only a few lights ago. It is useless for you to de-



When baby comes to the home it will bind the wife closer to the husband, or it will gradually tend to cut her off from it will gradually tend to cut her off from his companship. A sickly mother loses in physical charm, and often in temper and disposition. A fretful child is a trial, even to loving parents. The use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription prepares the wife for motherhood. It strengthens the body, and induces a healthy condition of mind, free from anxiety or fear. It makes the baby's advent practically painless. The mother being healthy her child is healthy, and a healthy child is a happy child, a joy to the parents, linking them together with a new bond of affection. There is no opium, cocaine or other

There is no opium, cocaine or other narcotic in "Favorite Prescription."

narcotic in "Favorite Prescription." "I read what your medicine has done for other people." writes Mrs. Edwin H. Gardner, "George turned deathly pale and sat with bowed head while his father went a almost sternly: "Consider your mother, George, whose heart almost troke when you came in last night. I top't ask you to consider me. I have "t been to you what a father ought to ". But if you love your mother, and

He felt anxious about George and told his wife of the conversation he had with him. Mrs. Hardy felt the same anxiety with her husband. After was up stairs with George, and the other children had not come back. It was dark, but husband and wife sat by the light of the open fire and talked together until nearly 6 o'clock. Mr. Hardy had just said something about Clara, and Mrs. Hardy replied, "Isn't it about time they were here?" when the telephone bell rang in the little office adjoining the hallway, where Mr. Hardy did some of the business of the company, being connected by wire with the shops. He went in and answered the call, and a series of sharp exclamations and questions was soon followed by his coming back into the room where his wife sat. By the light of the open fire she could see that he was very pale. His overcoat was lying on the couch where he had thrown it as he came in. He hastily put it on and then said to his wife:

"Mary, there has been an accident to the 6 o'clock way train between Baldwin and here, and Burns has telephoned me to come down. Don't be alarmed. We will hope for the best." Mrs. Hardy started up.

"Why, Will and Bess and Clara were coming home on that train!" "Mary"-Mr. Hardy's voice trem-

bled, but he tried to speak calmly and in comfort-"let us hope for the best." "What did Mr. Burns telephone? Tell me all, Robert. I can bear it with you.'

"He telephoned that the train was derailed and a dozen people killed and as many injured. I must go down the road at once. Oh, my God, spare our dear ones!"

Mr. Hardy was almost overwhelmed by this last stroke, and yet he asked himself how many accidents had occurred this last year on the road, and he had never given much thought to the suffering of those families afflicted. Now perhaps it had come to him, and, bidding his wife pray and hope, he rushed out of the house and down to the station with the energy and rapidity of the youth who in college days had taken prizes for athletic superiority.



