

Few people could guess why George Oakworth, master of the national school at Craigside, extended the pat-ronage of his friendship to Dick Den-hoime, drunkard and law-breaker. He was a handsome, pale, intellectual youth of twenty-five years, with a taste for botanising and geological speculation; while Dick, fifteen years his senior, was a man of no taste what-ever, unless the taste for ale be counted -a being whose rough and dissolute aspect spcice with such unblushing ef-frontery of his flagrant knawishness that a little dissimulation might have passed, in him, for a kind of negative victure.

passed, in him, for a kind of negative virtue. Yet the relationship which subsisted

Yet the relationship which subsisted between them was that of the most intimate comrades. They lived in the same cottage: they spent their Satur-days in long excursions; and it was un-stood that those who wished to quarrel with the young teacher might also hope to indulge themselves in the hos-tility of Dick. The opinion was boldly hazarded by some that, if the truth could be told, George Oakworth was no better than he ought to be, be-cause a man is known by the company he keeps. There were others who pointed out that the schoolmaster, out of motives of personal timidity, had merely possessed himself of a stout de-fender. Not only were both these views mistaken ones, but when the friendship was struck up it was Dick who took the initiative. Atandoning a hopeful career and the m-retricious insincerities of a big city. George Oakworth had sought oblivion and honest dealing in a village com-munity. The first week of his duties at the national school was disturbed by an incident, which, trivial in it-soff, sufficed to shape for a while his course of life. He had begun with a genite hand, hoping to interest the boys rather than to govern them; and although some at times had fallen happily asleep, and others, on the back bencives, had exhibited a morti-fying preference for the furtive game called "nonghts and crosses," he had persevered with heroic good temper. But one restless morning the sharp erack of an explosive paper peilet sounded on the wall behind him, and the school burst out laughing. His face flushed, and his practised eyr eraveled at once to the delinquent, an overgrown and labberly youth and whose father hadsenthim toschool at an age when it was no longer pos-sible to teach him any thing. The gend is have and his bractised before it was seen, and which set a to be low and whose father hadsenthim toschool at an eye when it was no longer pos-sible to teach him any thing. The school felt that the incident hainsistered a box on the ear which smote, as the lightning smiles, before it was seen, and

He could fight any three small boys of the control gipt any three small boys of the control gipt any three small boys of the control gipt any three small boys of the school when he first came to it, duration of the three school came of the construction of the school came ter, paie and unsuspecting, advanced upon the raw-bond hero and struck him an impressive silence trooded in the room. And the wide-eyed on-lookers were right. The incident had not terminated. When the young boyr sprang to his feet with a cry of rage the dominic gripped him by the sides of his waistcoat, kneading his fists into the robel's addomen, and rushed him down the schoolroom till his tack struck the wall with a crash that knocled all the breath out of his bodg and all the expression out of his tace. "You big taby," he eried hoarsely. "Go to your seat. If you had been more of a man I'd have thrashed you!" And, turning to the rest, he added, with a quietness of manner that was equally appalling with fury. 'I wish to treat this school as a seminary of gentimen, but I will be treated as a gentimen, but I will be treated as a gentimen. The visit his visit and avful somple." Moreover, a clamorous bel-lowing of inarticulate the reats and pro-tests barst the next moment from the hum held booly, and could not be sub-dined. Master Puggy Cullingworth was proven to doors, and crifted home-wards while a bissense state of recep-tivy cance upon the smaller fry, and his disaul uluations died away grues on cy into the far distance. "New fulles bissenses state of recep-sing the sound of passing footsteps in the road all ges were turned towards the door. In vain he rattled on the desk with his ruler, he only made the little wretches nerrous. "At lar curiosity got the botter of in. "Does any one know," he asked, "wy Cullingworth is not at ashool this morning."" "All mak went ty. "Well?" he said, pointing to the

pushed into the room by the pressure of those behind them, several people made a trailing step or two forward from the threshold, and paused sheep-ishly. All but the foremost took off their caps, and he was scowling royally. "Well, gentlemen," said the school-

"Well, centlemen," said the school-master, prompt tospeak first, "to what may 1 attribute this intrusion?" Ephraim Cullingworth-whom -he had recognized by his unmistakable likeness to the absent scapegrace-strode out and answered. "None of thi dammed impidence?" he shouted. "Will a tak' it standin' or liggin?" Mr. Oaiworth's behavior was admir-blease," he said-his eyes had flashed and then turned grave-'I am placed here in charge' of your children, and, whatever they may hear elsewhere, I cannot have bad language in the school-room. We will discuss this affair out-side."

A murnur of approval passed through the crowd. Walking gulekly past his antagonist, he stood with the key in his hand while that individual, sulky and irresolute as if he suspected a trick, hesitated before following the rest into



THE RESULT OF THE FIGHT WAS A COM-PLETE SUBPHISE. the playround. Then, putting the key in his pocket, he handed his coat to the nearest bystander-who happened to be Dick Denholme-and said briefly, for every one's hearing: "I suppose you know what fair play is in Cragside?" "Comed to see it given," Dick an-swered with a grin. The ring was formed, and the stripling offered his hand to his burly adversary. "Keep that for my lad," he said, "an" frame tha [get ready]!" The result of the fight was a com-plete surprise. Less than five minutes

Trame the [got ready]" The result of the fight was a com-plete surprise. Less than five minutes sufficed, amid a scene of unbridled en-thusiasm, to demonstrate the master's supremacy. His challenger lay groan-ing, unable to respond to the call of "Time," and he resumed his coat. breathing hard, but without a scratch. A shrill shout went up within the school house, whose windows were throngen with wide-eyed faces pressed against the glass. Dick Denholme spoke up like the funny man in a melodrama. "Now-then?" he cried, above the din of volces. "ther some on yo' calkin' o' what ye'd do. Are yo bahn to get agate? He's here, is t' lad, an' just i' fettle [in "form]. He willn'tkeep yo' waitin.-What, ye're back'ard' comin' forard? Well, then, he s'll feight wi' his coit on. Six to one bar one--it's a fair wager?" But the victorious dominie cut short this flattering stream of banter. "Ex-cuse me," he said stiffly: "1 think we good enough to clear the playround as soon as your man cang ow with you." And he went in without further par-ley, leaving them to straggle away with as much dignity as they could mater.

And ne went in without further par-ley, leaving them to straggle away with as much dignity as they could muster. If he had cared to think of it, George Oakworth might have found in this re-contro the means of becoming popular; but as it was, he only made the ac-quaintance of Dick. That uncomely outlaw was so seized with admiration of his skill as a boxer, that he regularly wayial is a boxer, that he regularly wayial is as boxer, that he regularly wayial him on the road home, and heept him is conversation with queer stories of village life. The sequel the readers knows. It should be added, however, that old Mrs Denholme, who soon afterwards became the teacher's landlady, made him so comfortable, and himself very much at home; and further, that Dick had fower occasions for over-indulgence in malt liquor than aforetime, and began to respect him-self accordingly. In one particular only did Dick find the schoolmaster an uncongenial friend. He could never bring him to talk sympathtically of affairs of the heart. Yet he made to him a most in-timate confession, which, until then, had never passed his lips. "Te will at hardly believe it," he said-they were walking one afternoon among the heather of the parish com-mon-"but there's a lass f Cragside parish 'at'ould wed me to-mora if Aw could but kacp teototal. Aye, there is. Awm a gaunless [stupid] fooll, mate, that's what Aw am. Shoo's t' grandest lass f foor parises, a'm 'w do believe shoo fancies me! But-weil, tha knows. Aw git droughen wi all my mates but thee."

about to pass her when she found her tongue. The teacher smiled, and raised his hat with a town-bred courtesy. "Why not?" said the, glad of the chance to stop and feast his eyes upon such fresh and sailent loveliness. What ripe, sweet lips she had! and how ten-der was the blue of her lustrous eyes?" "Eh, you mustn't, Mr. Oakworth They're planned to fettle you down yonder. I heard 'em planning it yes-ternight, when they were drunk, and they're drunk to-day. They'll do it, for sure." And then she became con-scious of his too eager gaze and of her own astonishing boldness, and blushed to the roto of her hair, and doucde the pleture of modest distress. "T think I dare face them with you to stand by me," said the graceless rogue. "Arey ougoing that way?" "Mel Nay, I'm going home again, as quick's my legs'll earry me!" And with a Parthian glance, that seemed to rest upon him a thought longer than it might have done she tripped away along the path by which she had come. Without the presence of mind to cry "Good-bye!" or "Thank you!" George Oakworth stood very stupidly looking after her, and then-turned back to follow. Once she glanced over her shoulder, perhaps to see if he had heeded her warning; but, whether she suspected his manoeuvre or was merely satisfied, she looked behind no more. Her pace quickoned presently into a run, so rapid that, himself walking, he oould not keep her in sight; and com-ing soon afterwards to a place where the road divided, he had to abandon the pursuit. It was within a month of this ad-

bing soon afterwards to a place where the road divided, he had to abandon the pursuit.
It was within a month of this adrentwards, he had to abandon the pursuit.
It was within a month of this adrentwards, within a month of this adrentwards, would be a solution of a sudden change in his habits volunteered the remark that he thought it bad for his health to sit up reading so late as he had been used to do, because it deprived him of the morning air. Nature, he declared, never locked so beautiful as when the dew was still on the grass and the smell of the cool earthwas in the air. And the simple soul, who almost loved him, told him that he locked a vast deal better for early rising already—"pearter" was the word sig employed. All she wished was that he could persuade "that idle lad" to get up earlier too. Deary mei fle lay abed sometimes till nine o'clock, when the best of the day was gone.
Stealing silenly down stairs one balny morning at four o'clock or therabouts Mr. Oakworth discovered the cause of lick's apparent sich fulness. A couple of hares which he had not noticed overnight lay on the slopstone; and Dick was out in the yard in his stockinged feet, la borionsly scraping a coat of fresh soil from his bohanied boots. Palpably, he had notyet been in bed. As their eyes met the poacher started, but Mr. Oakworth, ward had was file.



fround, he became conscious of a family family family family family raised has yes.
For an instant he failered in histricic; the girl's glance was upon him as if the work of a barber of the arksome girn, and the hasky health and in the backy health and is the which confessed itself in every generous line of her queeniy figure, were the family bearth and the search of the grave of the strange the bard not behave the family bearth and the search of the grave of the search of the grave of the search softly carpeted with dry leaves And here he waited again, his head in a whirl. A rustle among the branches, and his head in a divide the among the branches, and his wood-aymph came peeping. But as he stepped eagerly forward she beat a quick retreat, and stood laughing at him from behind a hazel-bush and shaking her lovely head. He, the rascal, approaching her with a look of tame supplication, made a sudden dash and caught her round the waist to smatch a kiss; but, adroitly, with a moist pain laid upon his mouth, she baulked the proffered embrace; and still laughed upon him over her rosy arm. The tantalizing situation! Her face so near his own that he could perceive the most marvellous new and gleaning beauties in it, ner glorious blue eyes looking right into his, and dancing with frank enjoyment of his buffed ardor. "Now then?" quoth Maggie, "you've selled all my mushrooms." He began to pick them up, but she would not let him do so much as that for her, and hastened to do it herself, moneuvring all the time against another she and on her hip. "Is that all? Where's your gathering." The had to confess that he had for-going to sold for any. Mark cole for the sum of the self. "On, Mr. Oakworth!" she waid, miner exactly. "you promised!". This glance rested upon her with an expression grave and piering all cher eyes foll and ther eyes foll and the rest quick for her, and hastened to do it herself. "Manners and her virtue ever on the quit fins he do for any." Magite to seed her heart quicklened. How pure and womanly she seemed to him to be, in the understood, and did not meet his glance rested upon her with an expression grave and piering and womanly she seemed to him to be, in the dire heart quicklened. How pure and womanly she seemed to him to be, in the dire low we do nee or twice her keen, familiar ear detected a crackling in word. Once or twice her keen in an inclus and on the rest of a new for heart quicklened. How pure and womanly she seemed to her weit an expression grave and piering in the set of her heart q

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HOLLY, AND MAGGIE STOOD GAZIN

Incl.Y, AND MAGGE STOOD GALING
UPON THE TWO MEN.
Incessant iteration, sought to regain his liberty and renew his debuach.
Only in the small hours of Monday morning, when Dick sank at last into a healthy siumber, did he cease from the horrid vigil. Then, absolutely worn out, he fell asleep instantly where he sat.
He was roused by a click of the latch on the bedroom door; but roused so imperfectly that he did not at once connect the sound with any cause. But it was broad morning, and, starting up in fear of being late at school, he saw that Dick was gone. He tounded downstairs. As he entered the kitchen, Dick was gone. He connect the sound with any cause ing a drawer where both of them knew that the table knives were kept.
George Ockworth strode to him. "You fool!" he said.
The poor devil turned to him meely and moved toward the staircase again. "It'll bide [keep]" he muttered.
Nonsense, man!" cried the young fellow, sick with dismay. "I shall want you for best man one of these days."
Dick had the piteous gaze of a wounded animal. His eyes wandered "He doesn't knaw," he gasped.
'Cheer up, old man," urgod his nurse and preserver. "What is it I don't know? Teil me."
''Asy nowt, mate," answered Dick feebly, steady ing himself by the wall and avoiding his questioner's eyes, "but it's my lass' at ye're coortin.".
Mrs. Denholme, coming down stairs an hour later to begin the labors of the little household, found George Oakworth hig rota, his hands under his head and his gyes fixed upon the ceiling. If her sight had been good she would perhaps have been struck by his excessive pallor; but he bade her good morning pleasantly, almost tenderly, and filed herself lighting a fra, he went up to speak to the convalenced the room.
''Ho dood the room.'' Wold be the room.'''' While she basiel herself with grain. '''' on your will be the it.'' mourt by the rened the rowill gout his faud.
''Goudo-type, old ch

itree, by the month of their holly-grove. It pleased him a little to think of the scarfpin as a keep-sake. It had been him mother's gift to him, and there was no woman else so worthy to keep it as this rustic maiden for whom his heart was bieeding. He must have been mad to think of her for one instant as false, as like—

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nd.

Flour, Bonny, No. 1, \$1.85 per bag. Chop and feed, \$1.15 per bag. Ham, 14c per pound. Lard, 124c per pound. Shoulders. 11c per pound. Codish, 9c per pound.

das by barrel, 4½c per pound. bounds sugar vanilla cakes, 23

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6 05, 8 47, 9 40, 10 41 a m, 12 25, 1 32, 2 27, 3 45, 55, 6 58, 7 12, 8 47 pm, for Drifton, Jeddo, Lumer Y ard, Stockton and Hazleton.
6 05 a m, 12, 3 45, 45 5 pm, for Mauch Chunk, Ilentown, Bethlehem, Phila., Easton and New ork.

6.65 a.m., 122, 345, 455 p.m., for Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Philla, Easton and New York.
 m. for Bethlehem, Philla, Easton and New York.
 m. for Bethlehem, Phila, Baston and New York.
 m. 216, 436 p.m. (yia Highland ranch)for White Haven, Glen Summit, Wilkestare, Pittston and L. and B. Junetion.
 SUNDAY THAINS.
 H. H. Bard, S. B. Difford, Jeddo, Lum-er Y, and St & Difford, Jeddo, Lum-er Y, and Y, and St & Difford, Jeddo, Lum-er Y, and Y, and St & Difford, Jeddo, Lum-er Y, and Y, and St & Difford, Jeddo, Lum-er Y, and Y, and St & Difford, Jeddo, Lum-er Y, and Jedon and Difford.
 J. Star, J. Star,

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J. C. BERNER.

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Codfish, 9c per pound. Mackerel, 10c per pound Haddock, 5c per pound

Haddock, 5c per pound. Bologna, 8c per pound. 3 pounds mixed cakes, 25c pounds coffee cakes, 25c. pounds ginger cakes, 25c. pounds soda cakes, 25c.

was bleeding. He must have been many to think of her for one instant as false, as like— He had barely time to hide, warned by the familiar click of a gate, before she came in sight of the spot where he had been standing. He crouched among the bushes, trembling at the thought of being found there; and oht the dolorous pang that pierced him when a little cry of joy announced that she had seen the note. In the moments of dizzy throbbing confusion and heart-sickness that followed he was vaguely conscious of hearing a moan and something like a fall; but when he came to himself, starting and beginning to listen intently, he wondered whether it was possible that he could have made those sounds. But, if not-lif it was Maggie, and she was lying there! Heavens! did she love him, then? and so much, so strangely? He came out from his hiding-piace, and stod, with white face and listess hands, distracted with indecision. He could not leave her so; but to go to her was never to leavo her again.

4 pounds soda cakes, 25c. Sodas by barrel, 4% per pound. 2 pounds sugar vanilla cakes, 25c. 5 pounds rice, 25c. 4 pounds rice, 25c. 6 pounds out meal, 25c. 5 pounds barley, 25c. 5 pounds out meal, 25c. 5 pounds valencia raisins, 25c. 3 pounds Valencia raisins, 25c. 3 pounds Valencia raisins, 25c. 3 pounds Valencia raisins, 25c. 4 pounds Marseilles soap, 25c. 5 pounds tarseilles soap, 25c. 5 pounds tarseilles soap, 25c. 5 pounds tarseilles soap, 25c. 5 pounds Laglish breafast tea, A No. 1, \$1.00. Blankets, white, 79c, 99c. \$1.00, \$1.20. \$1.25, 0.1.75, \$3.00, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$8,00 and \$0.00. Comforts or quits, 50c, 75c, 90c, \$1.00, \$1.25, to Lowns' \$5.00. All kinds woolen dress goods, 20c yard; double width, up to \$1.75.

Ladies' and children's coats, all at half price. \$10.00 coat for \$5.00; \$8.00 coat for \$4.00, etc.

out to go to her was never to leave her again. A heavy hand elapped him on the shoulder and shook him much as an electric discharge shakes one. "Dick!" Of all men in the world the least welcome. His eyes resites with a short laugh that sounded cynical and florce. "Aye, Dick!" he said, with a short laugh that sounded cynical and florce. "Dost think Aw didn't kanaw wheer ye do yo'r sweetheartin?" The schoolmaster made a gesture of desperation. "For God's sake," he burst out, "don't let's quarrel here. Go and see to that poor girl. I dare not." Dick laughed again as the younger man began to speak: but at the allusion sion Maggie, though he could not have understood it, his face grew suddenly grave, and his lips moved queery. "Nay," he replied, speaking quickly and butween gasps, "That's what Aw've comed for. Ye knaw nowt what ye're doin'. If it be agean her will-an' thes goin' away, mate fro' Cragside —Dang it, we're mates, lad-we've been like mates, choose how!' The schoolmaster looked at him, comprehending nothing yet. "Sitha, Aw willn't hev it! Dost hear? Aw tell tha Aw cannot thoil 'ti'' He was shouting, and his face was uite oth of a furious man. There was a rustle in the thicket of holy, and Maggie, a vision of loveli-ness among the dark leaves, stood gaz-out upon the two men, very pale and wid-sped. A moment later, with a tremulous cry of mingled fright and idy, she had thrown herefit upon the schoolmaster's breast and was whisper-ing agery!: 'You won't go now! Oh, say you won't go! I should die, 1 hink!" Me clasped her passionately, with a treas." blurted Dick, unheeded; "shoo're noan o' my lass. Dunnot stand there like a stuck sheey! Dang tha, tha make me wild!" And he plunged headlong down the side of the garger." bluck and raffish father. But she came of age a few months late, and one bright morning in the whort hey were married quite happly without his consent. The merrymak-ings at George Oakworth's new home near the schoolhones were preside over by Dick in his predestimed and voluntary capacity o