

The Free Press Short Story

At the Wreck of the Circus Train

BY SAMUEL MERWIN

Now, as a matter of fact, there are...
adventure and excitement by any means.

the other, and each had an end sticking...
out to the air. The third car was half-

I guess everybody knows what a wrecking...
train is—a flat car with a steam-

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

One day I was cleaning the bright work...
of the St. Paul Limited over the first-

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

The crew were hustling out in a strag-...
gling line, some without hats, and some

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

Here, Andy, he called. "Give me a...
man or two, will you? I'm short-hand-

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

Then we struck the rolling prairies...
where the towns are farther apart, and

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

Their yams were getting stiffer and...
stiffer—from the way they looked at me

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

It was a circus train—"Harris Con-...
solidated Railroad Shows" was the name

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

through, but there didn't seem to be...
anybody in the crew with head enough

crawled back—and say, that culvert was...
an awful muddy place—and tossed out a

I was thinking about what the circus...
man had said, that the thing to do was

"Take it easy," the circus man said...
not very loud; "he'll come if you give

They didn't pay much attention, so...
I said it again, some louder: "I tell you,

"If you'll quit jawing, I'll chain up...
that elephant."

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

Finally he said, "Why, hay, mostly...
and bread."

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

By that time I guess he was ready...
to try most anything, for he went back

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

It didn't seem a minute before we...
stopped, and the exhaust was blowing

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

It didn't seem a minute before we...
stopped, and the exhaust was blowing

They didn't say anything more, but...
started through the tool car. I was

It didn't seem a minute before we...
stopped, and the exhaust was blowing

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suggestions)—"How would just a simple

THE DIFFERENCE

"Do you know, John," remarked Mrs.
Jaggs, as her husband stumbled up-



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DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
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