"It is the most beautiful hair that ever I see," persisted Dick. "It is that Sally." Sally walked on a few steps, after her, for a time forgetting his usual self-conceit, and, indeed, almost oblivious of his own personality in his growing admiration and love. Sally it, it belongs to a friend of mine." was a dainty little lass, quick and precise in her ways. As she walked in front of him he noted how light was I know?" her step, how graceful her movements; the very turn of her little round throat had a charm for him, and the curling tendrils of that wonderful hair fascinated his eye.

The path led them presently to the high wall which surrounded the squire's park. The very stones seemed to glitter in the bright sunlight, and the shadows of the curling baby leaves which hung over from the plantation within danced and flickered on its surface. Sally tilted back her head and looked up at the shifting green tracery. "Eh, I wish we were o' the t'other side o' theer, and they say it's beautiful at this yon, wall," she cried. "I've never been time o' the year. Th' daffodills is out, and birds' nests i' th' trees; they say it's like fairyland."

ull," replied Dick. "I'll 'help yo,' and | what's her name?" f we meet onybody we'll say we're nobout goin' on a message to th' keepor; he lives you, yo' know, i' th' little white cottage over theer."

Sally, after some demur, consented to slimb the wall, on the condition that Dick got over first. The young man complied, and Sally soon scrambled up, pausing on the top of the wall to look down at him with her head on one side like a startled bird.

"I shall fall, I kmow I shall fall!"

The usual lovers' comedy was then enacted, Sally finally jumping with a are bigger nor Sally's, and brown, and mad," as Sally began some indignant miss it even then, but he made a spurt,

There did, indeed, seem to be a little of daffodils grew on either side of the a bit awkward if hoo fancies me so path stretching away in a long perspective of green and gold as far as the cried Sally, walking away, but very eye could reach; the gnarled trunks of slowly. She was angry with Dick, lover. the trees stood out boldly amid the furious with Jane; nevertheless, her more delicate undergrowth of budding curiosity was too great to be withash and crimson-tipped sycamore saplings; the great bushes of rhododen- direction of her home, still giggling to glanced bravely in the sunlight, were manner. sown with clusters of lilac and crimeverywhere, everything seemed to gliting, after some coquetting, a posy on "Hoo isn't my lady as I know on," tials in the centre of each. "Now," he said, "we'll make it com-

He slowly and carefully scratched beneath the affecting picture the lines

when a quick, light step just behind path, no other figure appeared by her as ever I wanted. I may ha' joked a board a moving train. Life is much them made them start, and a tall girl side, but in her arms she held a very bit before, but I'm in earnest now. Do too short to be fooled away in any and jumped down into the path. It "Here's yo'r lady!" cried Jane was Jane Wharton, the keeper's daugh- shrieking with laughter. "Here's the said, Jane and he had had some little brown! Coom and talk to her." amorous passages together in former | There was, however, complete silence days. Jane, however, looked from one for a moment or two, after which I re-

"Well, Richard," she cried, "I reckon yo're caught at last! Wonderful lovin' ever fancy thot nasty dirty dog's hair yo' looked just now, and what's this was mine! I'll never speak to yo' yo'n drawn out so beautiful? Two again!" hearts and a bit of poetry. Let's see.

am young and I am bonny, I am tender, I am true;

If you'll have me for your sweet-

I'll have you. looked up quickly, their eyes, by common accord, fastening themselves on I've been longin' to mak' yo' feel a wound round Jane's head. Both heaved a simultaneous sigh of relief. Jane's lass, didn't yo'? Well, there's poor neither brown nor fair, but certainly with no tinge either of red or gold. Jane laughed again. "I know what yo'r thinkin' on," she cried. "Im in the

secret too." Sally looked up quickly and wrathfully, but said nothing. Dick rubbed his hands and laughed in a puzzled

"Happen yo' sent it?" he cried. Jane chuckled. "Well, if yo're talkin' about a little parcel as was left at yo'r place last neet I don't mind sayin' I took it theer."

Jane, and laughed again.

who had now risen to her feet, crimson with anger.

"Yo' look quiet enough," she pursued; "think o' yo' sendin' locks o' hair to folks as yo'n scarce set eyes on!" "Yo' know very well I didn't send it," protested poor Sally, on the point hair as made me first think of yo', of tears; "yo' know it is not my hair," "Isn't it just the same color?" giggled Jane. "Now, yo' know very well, smiling to herself, and Dick hastened Sally, there isn't another girl i' th' place as has hair like thot-at least," correcting herself, "not as yo' know of. But theer, dunnot be in sich a stew;

it isn't yo'r hair-I may as well own hand. Dick rose too, much excited and astonished. "And did yo' send it to me?"

still convulsed with merriment, "but hoo noticed yo' as how 'tis. Hoo peeped at yo' once fro' behind one o' these trees, and hoo even followed yo' a little way, and when yo' didn't turn

"Cried!" echoed Dick, with an astonished smirk. "Cried! How ever did hoo coom to think so mich o' me as thot?" "All the lasses here, yo' know, think sich a good shapped one as the others," a deal o' yo', Dick," cried Jane, sud- she murmured. denly becoming serious and wagging

welcome to 'em all for me," she said. sent me her hair is a friend o' y'ors?" 'ud gi' it to onybody as 'ud be willin' form at the start and obliquely off up-

"Rose what?" "Ah, thot 'ud be tellin'! Yo'd happen like to see her?" "Well," said Dick, breaking off with I'm not to be had fur the axin'." a furtive glance at Sally, who began to walk away with her nose in the air; funny little twinkle in his eye. but Jane's next words arrested her.

her if yo' like." "If Sally hasn't no objections," said Dick hesitatingly. "It makes a mon feel a bit queer, yo' know, to hear these Well! I'd be ashamed to tell sich lees, things. I don't want to ha' nowt to if I was yo'. How is it that we're If he had been a second later coompany now-but I'd jest like to see ax me?"

bit of fairyland behind that wall. Lines ing suddenly a little alarmed. "It'll be ax yo' gradely." mich as thot cooms to."

stood.

grons, the green shining leaves of which herself in a particularly exasperating

"You needn't be freetened, Richard; hoo'll not say nowt, I'll promise yo'. son and white; the white stems of Bide a bit Sally, wunnot yo'? Yo'd like birch and beech flashed out here and to see this beauty. Ha, ha! shut yo'r Dick held it fast. there like silver; there was sunlight e'en, both of yo' and I'll fetch her in a minute."

wandered on a little way, the sense Dick, observing after a moment in a like a dear little lass. Coom, yo'll say inward under the car and be smashed, that they were trespassing adding a choked voice, "I'm sure I don't know it, Sally, an' make me 'appy?" certain zest to their enjoyment. Sally what I'm stopping for. It's nowt to

sat down on a mossy bank and en- Sally's evident pique. "I've nowt to kin' a fool o' me. Why couldn't yo' let he should roll over outwardly he would tertained each other for some time afdo wi'her. Yo' needn't be so takken to,
me allone? I never did nowt to you!
roll into safety; inwardly he would

ed and applauded when he drew two a humiliating little sob which she Dick sprang to his feet, and his whole it lasted. large, lopsided hearts, with their ini- ineffectually tried to disguise with a manner changed.

and Jane's voice called out:-

ter. Dick looked up in some confusion, beauty! Look at her hair-did yo' ever and edged a little farther away from see sich bonny golden hair? And look Sally; he felt bashful at this sudden at her e'en-they're bigger nor yo'rs, encounter, for, as it has been already aren't they, Sally? and sich a lovely

to the other and burst into a merry gret to say, Dick began to swear, and Sally to cry. "To think," she sobbed, "as yo' could

Dick's reply need not be recorded, Jane dandled the puppy up and down, and waved its paws, and laughed till the tears ran down her cheeks. "Ah, ha! Mester Dick," she cried,

composing herself at last, "wasn't thot as if I'd heard it before." The couple See what it is to be too mich setup! Ever sin' I heerd yo' say as all th' lasses bit silly yo'rsel'! Yo' thought yo'd nowt little Sally as was ready enough, but we're not all o' the same mak'. Coom, han yo' nowt to say. This here beauty is to be had for th' axin'. Hoo isn't so well shaped as th' others, and my fether says he'll give her to ony one as 'll tak' her. It were thot as first put th' notion into my head. I says to mysel', "I'll have a bit of a marlock wi' you conceited chap, Dick. What!

She once more waved the dog's paw and ran off. When she was out of sidering a moment. "Well, then, arter fendant. I come to speak for my friend, Dick began to feel rather annoyed. sight, Dick ventured to draw near to all, yo' an' me has no need to trouble pointing to the prisoner. "Well," he said, "I'd like to know Sally who stood, still sobbing, with her we're minds about Jane. We'll soon You're a pretty fellow for a witness,

him angrily away, however.

"Be off! I want noan o' yo'; yo' do." hannot a word to say. I'd be ashamed Dick's arm stole round her waist. "It were thot," agreed Myers. "I to look onybody i' th' face if I were never seed hair o' thot color before, and not let her have it all her "Of coorse," agreed Sally, smiling, too.

"Why didn't yo', then?" cried Sally, turning her little flushed, tear- dered on, arm in arm, in the sunlight, stained face towards him. "Eh, I'd ha' any unbiassed observer would have been fain to see that, but I dunno be- agreed with them. lieve yo' could.'

"I could," said Dick stoutly, "The fact is, Jane played this trick out of spite because I wouldn't ha' nowt to say to her. Jane was awful gone on

"I dunnot believe it," said Sally, vaguely comforted nevertheless. "But I wouldn't have her at no price," went on Dick loftily waving his

again, this time more pettishly. "Jane says hersel' as yo're allus makkin' out he inquired. "Fancy thot! Is it onybody as every lass i' th' place wants yo'." "Yo' may ha's seen her, but I doubt tion; "they all do, Sally, but there's noticeable on that account. He went if yo' noticed her," responded Jane, nobbut one lass as I want, and you know her name."

Sally lifted her long cyclashes, on which the big tears were still hanging, and looked at him piteously. "But how could yo' ever think my yo'r head, hoo sot her down i' the path hair was like a nasty dog's?" she said

plaintively. "It were a pretty little pup, though," said Dick, deprecatingly. Sally pouted. "Jane said hoo weren't

her head solemnly. "Yo're not the only beauty as how 'tis. Wonderful valone, Sally, yo' needn't think it. Why, uable breed, that theer is-I heerd as Dick here says hissel' that theer isn't a squire gave pounds an' pounds fur the lass o' th' place as he couldn't have for | dog as he has yonder."

Sally was impressed for a moment, Sally tossed her head. "I'm sure he's but presently resumed, still in an injured tone: "This one weren't worth

Sally whisked round, and stamped her little foot. "Go away, do," she cried. "I hate th' very seet on yo'. All lasses is not o' the same mak', as Jane said. take a railroad train. Dick gazed at her, still with that

"Yo' haven't!" ejaculated the girl. "Of all the impident, barefaced-"I can never get down," she cried. say to her-me, an' Sally is keeping keepin' company, then, if yo' didn't wouldn't have made it at all. As

laugh and a scream and being duly her hair is softer nor Sally's, I tell yo.' protest. "I say thought yo' did; but came up level with the steps, caught But I'll fetch her, and yo'll see for it were a mistake, yo' know, quite a the handrail nearest to him, the one mistake, an' I'm goin' to make it all on the body of the car, made a spring

clasped his hands. "Will you be my his feet up on the steps, missed the little wife, Sally dear?"

"I'll moan stay here to be made a fool of," she said, with a quivering of the car. lip, and would have rushed away but that Dick caught her by the skirt.

"Nay, Sally, 'earken a minute. 'I am young,' that's me; 'I am bonny,' that's you; 'I am tender,' that's you too; 'I am true,' that's both of us."

"Nay, wait a bit, Sally. 'If yo'll have me for your sweetheart'-that's me dropped. Of course there was an even

say as yo'll have me. I'll love you true, such fashion as that." I will; theer's nowt as I wunnot do for

But Sally's feelings were ruffled, and though Dick's penitence was sincere, it was some time before she would allo wherself to be molified. This happy result was, however, finally brought about by Dick's suggesting that his earlier than the generally assigned date, humiliation was greater than hers, since she ruthlessly declined the hand and heart which he had never before offered to any woman.

"If Jane were to know, I wonder what hoo'd say," he added artfully. Sally found the idea soothing; a faint dimple appeared at the corner of her mouth.

Dick heaved a deep sigh. "Yo' con tell her if yo' like," he said valiantly; "it's all the same to me now what happens. I care nought fur nothin' as onybody can say. I'm brought low enough, an' onybody as chooses con walk o'er me-Jane 'll be 'appy enough-it's just what hoo wants to be able to laugh at me." Sally looked pensive. Dick pursued, without looking at her :-

"It's what hoo's bin workin for all along-hoo cannot thooal the notion of onybody havin' me nobbut hersel' Hoo'll think hersel' wonderful clever." "I dunnot see thot," said Sally petulantly; "it's no business of Jane's." "Hoo thinks it is, then," said Dick. "Eh! Hoo'll be fain, I tell yo'. I know what 'ud really vex her-it 'ud be to see us two 'appy together, keepin' coompany jest same as if hoo hadn't played whether he was for the plaintiff or dehannot yo' a word for her? Coom, then, word, hoo'd laugh the wrong side of her

mouth, then." "Dun yo' think so?" said the girl,conwhat business yo' had puttin' locks of hair inside my window."

face buried in her hands. She pushed show her," she added consequently, "as said the counsel, not to know what we care nought fur the worst hoo can plaintiff or defendant means.

A light suddenly seemed to dawn mat, and not let her have it all her upon Jane. "Did yo' think Sally sent own way? But the truth is yo' hadn't "Jane will be mad to see us as friendly rister. What part of the ship is that?"

A light suddenly seemed to dawn own way? But the truth is yo' hadn't "Jane will be mad to see us as friendly rister. What part of the ship is that?"

And, indeed as the young lovers wandered on, arm in arm, in the sunlight, THE QUEEN'S LONG REIGN The end.

AT A RAILROAD STATION.

What Happened When a Drunken Man Tried to Board a Moving Train.

"Standing the other day on a railroad platform waiting for a train," "I dunnot believe it," said Sally said a traveller, "I saw among the passengers who had just got off a train -not the train that I wanted-a well-"So they do," said Dick, with convic- dressed man who was drunk; he was into the station, and the other passengers disappeared as people do after they get off a railroad train. The people who had been waiting for that train had boarded it, and the platform, a minute before all in a bustle, was now almost deserted, except for a few who were waiting as I was for the train in the other direction, and a policeman.

"Out from one of the station doors "Hoo mayn't be thot, but hoo's a came the man with the jag. He saw the deserted platform, and then he looked up and saw the train-his train -moving smoothly and rapidly out of | the station and gathering headway all the time; and instantly he made "Dunnot yo' say as this here lady as so mich, then; Jane said her feyther break for it, running along the plat-"Coom, we's soon get ower, if thot's notice her. Wheer does hoo live and fact," said Dick with a twinkle in his do when they haven't anything to do ity the Jubilee Institute for Nurses. on the tracks. Of course everybody on magnitude and endowing in perpetudo when they haven't anything to do, and almost everybody was inclined to in Hyde park or Windsor park.

"But this man was a runner, and he was not only swift, but true. From the "Hoo's at our place now; I'll fetch I haven't axed yo' yet, as I know of the station, and saw the moving to attend monster mass meetings to er wavered.

HE RAN TRUE AS A DIE. "Oh, well," said Dick, "I thought yo' of the moving train just back of the to enclose the whole as a gift to the "Hoo's bonny," said Jane. "Her e'en axed me first. Theer, dunnot be so front platform. We thought he would Queen. "Wait, Jane, wait," cried Dick, feel- square now, I truly am; I'm goin' to for the steps, at the same time reaching He flung himself on his knees, and forward part of the platform. He got for the other hand rail, the one on the poor. Sally drew herself up and cast a look of unutterable scorn upon her smiling hung there for a second or two, holdfront rail by a hair, swung round back- income tax. ing with one hand the rail he had grabbed first, and dangling from the corner

"Well, we had all stopped smiling end of London. some time before then. The policeman and one or two more had started on a run up the platform toward the train. They couldn't do anything the thing "I'm sure it isn't yo'," cried Sally, was natural to make a rush for the tugging viciously at her skirt; but place. The chances were a million to one that he couldn't pull himself up, ter and sparkle and flash. The couple idly. Sally stood still with her back to that's what yo're goin' to say to me, clear of the car, as he might tumble picked a bunch of daffodils and fastme how bonny this lady o' yo'rs is, Mesed her skirt, and then inconsequently on the ground parallel with the track Dick, to wear in his button-hole. They returned Dick, much exhilarated by cried, "to go laughin' at me, an' makther as if he had been in China. If ter the fashion of lovers of their class, Sally. It's noan o' my fault if hoo will An' now yo'n bin teasin' me an' torsundry designs on the soft mould of the path in front of them with the soft mould not some some thing very bit- as if I couldn't welly look onybody i' of the projecting attachments of the car. It was a thrilling situation while

"What the man did do was to lie per-"Eh, poor little lass! it was a shame, fectly still; he had been stunned or In a few minutes rapid steps were it was thot. Eh! I'd like to pay Jane dazed by the fall, and in a second the heard pattering over the soft ground, out fur playin' us sich a trick. Theer, car had passed on and left him lying 6d. "Now, then, keep yo'r e'en shut, I soombry should crack my stupid head. up and brought him back to the platwhich had been ringing in his head tell yo'! This way, my beauty. Now!" I met ha' knowed as yo' were noan the form; he could walk then all right Dick and Sally opened their eyes and kind o' lass as 'ud do ought as wasn't and talk, but he hadn't the faintest They were just contemplating this craned forward their necks eagerly. Seemly. Give ower cryin', do, Sally; realization of what he had just escaped. work of art with heads bent sideways, There stood Jane in the middle of the it's true what I say, yo're the only one 'For my own part I never try to

ERROR AS TO CHRIST'S BIRTH.

Through the erroneous time fixed by the calculations of Dionysius, the nativ- dependencies at noon precisely (Greenity of Our Lord took place four years for it must have preceded the death of Herod, who died four years before the for "poor children by the sea." beginning of the Christian era. After giving data upon which the later com- called "Victoria's belt." putation is founded, Farrar, in his "Life | of Christ," adds: "Under no circum- present a Shakespearean play for this stances can it have taken place later | night onlyy, admission free; prothan February, B.C. 4." And then grammes (illuminated) gratis. with the Nativity itself, the "wise men" | That a new arrangement of the laws rightly claim our attention. But why take place to be called "The Code the traditional number 3? There is no Biblical authority for fixing any number at all to the Magi of the Gospel land receive a mug, a Bible, a bag narrative. St. Matthew, the only ev- of bulls-eyes, a portrait of her Maangelist who mentions them says: There came wise men from the east reign. to Jerusalem." The idea that they were three in number no doubt is founded upon the three kinds of gifts they offered-gold, frankincense and myrrh; annexes every place, and the proceedat least, this was the teaching of St Augustine.

TIT FOR TAT

A British sailor being a witness in a murder case, was called to the stand and was asked by the counsel for the crown

Later in the trial the counsel asked job ter-day? the sailor what part of the ship he was "When yo' coom to think on it," he in at the time of the muder.

Abaft the binnacle, me lord, said the hands and fairly dancing with glee.
"I had though," retorted Dick, "but to thot."

Then suddenly composing were theer. I could ha made her look "Coom Sollar to know what to do wi seller, said the sailor, grinning at the hersel"," said Dick emphatically. The court laughed.

PROPOSALS FOR CELEBRATING THE EVENT IN BRITAIN

A Great Many Schemes Suggested—Charity

Holds a Foremost Place. Among the many proposals for celebrating the long and happy reign of the Queen may be mentioned the following which are under discussion in Britain:

That the Queen should open Parliament in person.

Everybody to get increased wages. The establishment of a memorial to illustrate the progress in science, literature and art.

A great central fund for supplementing the income of clergymen whose means of subsistence are inadequate. The proclamation of a national holi-

An official and private combined scheme of decoration and illumination of the metropolis.

An international philatelic exhibition in London.

To place the benevolent fund of the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses on an adequate financial basis. To raise a national subscription for freeing the public hospitals from debt.

Review by the Queen of Volunteers

Foundation of homes of refuge for the aged and infirm.

Treats for the elementary school children.

express hearty congratulations to the Queen; that these should be sent to the Lord Mayor; and that the citizens of London should provide a golden casket of exquisite workmanship

Build an Hotel de Ville with the Royal Aquarium for a site.

Erect an English Luxembourg. Provide pensions for the honest and Memorialize for the abolition of the

Erect a memorial chapel adjoining Westminster Abbey;

Build a great play-house—a colliseum of enlightened amusement in the East

Every citizen to make the Queen some sort of birthday present. Construct a national house of music. Restore Greenwich hospital to its or-

iginal use, and people it with deserving veterans of both services. A revising of the words of the National Anthem, which are denounced

as "doggerel." An annual bank-holiday, to be called "Victoria's Day," and to be observed forever.

An issue of gold and silver coinage, to be offered to the public at double its face value, the profit to be given to the poor.

The passing of an act of Parliament making it a criminal offence to pay a woman less than 2s. for a day's work of twelve hours. That the pay of soldiers should be

raised to that of police and firemen The city to present a golden casket to the Queen. A special commemoration Bible to be published

A history of the reign of Queen Victoria-bound in morocco, and profusely illustrated to be published at

That her Majesty be humbly entreated to sit for her portrait to a British

That all deserving indigent persons of seventy-seven years be "set up" for the rest of their days. That the event be celebrated by building cottage homes for, and giving pensions to those who can work

no more. That "God Save the Queen" be played and sung simultaneously all over Great Britain, her colonies and

wich time), September 23. That on that day all theatres and music-halls be thrown open free. That "homes" be built and endowed

That London should be encircled with an open space a mile wide, to be That all the London theatres should

Victoria." That each board school child in the

jesty, an orange, and a history of her The passing of an Act of Parliament This is the sarcastic suggestion of

an Australian paper-by which Britain ings to finish with an international cricket match, in which England makes 18,000 runs.

A SERIOUS CASE

Mrs. Newly, is it true that your husband is so very absent-minded? Perfectly. We've been married six months and many an evening at 11 he Plaintiff or defendant? said the salt- gets up, takes me by the hand, tells me or, scratching his head. Why, I don't what a delightful time he had and know what you mean by plaintiff or de- would leave if I did not remind him.

> THE WRONG TRAIN. First Train Robber (out West)-Hul-

lo Bill, how'd yer git along wid that ? Second Train Robber (sadly)-Didn't git along noway. Got the wrong train. Eh? Didn't yer git the express?

Naw; we made a mistake and struck

an excursion of real estate agents, an' they took every cent we had. "What a remarkable man Monocle is: so far-sighted, you know." "Yes; and yet he's so near-sighted that he can't

see two feet without his glasses."

to thot." Then suddenly composing were theer. I could ha' made her look "Coom. Salily, we'n got the best o' th' binnacle is! joke!" The court

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