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Volume I. No. 34

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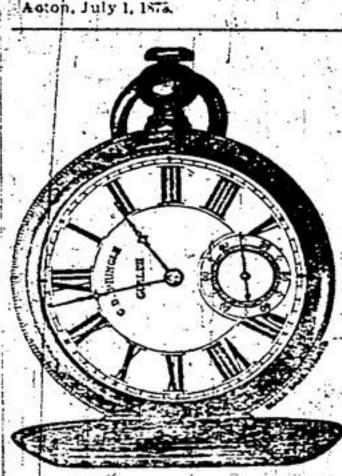
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N. B.-We were awarded all the The undersigned begs to thank his twenty-one pint tickelsfor 50 cents. P. S. ARMSTRONG. Acton, Nov. 10th, 1875.

THE BLIND MAN'S BRIDE. When first, beloved, in vanished hours

The blind man sought thy hand to gain They said thy cheek was bright as New freshened by the summer's rain. The beauty which made them to rejoice My darkened eyes might never see;

But well I knew thy gentle roice, And that was all in all to me. At length, as years rolled swiftly on, They talked to me of Time's decay, Of roses from thy soft check gone, Of chon tresses turned to gray. I heard them, but I heeded not,

Thy chier still cheered my darkened lot And that was all in all to me. And still, beloved, till life grows cold We'll wamler 'neath the genial sky, And only know that we are old, By counting happy hours gone by ; Try check may loose its blushing hue Thy brow less beautiful may be,

THE WEE WIFIE.

But O, the roice which first I knew.

has been recorded by nodess illustrious an author than Sir Walter Scott, who allades to it in the voluminous notes to cipal events occurred in or near Edinod-gh. about the year 1716, and English suitor of our befoine was one of the commissioners sent by government to manage the estates forfeited by the rebellion.]

CHAPTER I. AULD LANG SYNE. Travelling for pleasure in the last century was too expensive and arduous to be attempted except by those who, in addition to lore purses, possessed plenty of leisure and courage. The young couple who now debate whether to spend Christmas at home or abroad, would then have been dismayed at the prospect of a journey that would have involved so many tedious hours spent in a couch or sailing

It was, therefore, no mere hold day-making that brought Alla Macfarlane, the sole survivor of highly respectable family, a middle aged, yet still handsome and intel ligent law-writer, to Hamburg, a Christmas time. Much as he was enjoying the change from his dull office in one of the quietest streets of Edinburgh to this lively senport he would not have been there at such an inclement season but for affairs that were too important be entrusted to an agent or clerk But having this salve to his con science, he made much of his holi day; and notwithstanding the lrawbacks of winter, he did esitate to employ such time as could snatch from business in visit

ing those parts of the city best He had paused on the quay one morning to gaze at the busy scene it presented, when a respectable elderly woman, who had been following him ever since he passed an hotel in one of the best streets, gently twitched his sleeve. His surprised glance told him at once she was a countrywoman of his own, and her dress-more characteristic in those days than nowenabled him to decide that she was a domestic in some respectable if not affluent Scottish family.

She curtised low when she found that she had succeeded in attract ing his attention, and addressed him with what was balf query, half

"Ye'll no think me rude stopping you in the public way, if it's Macfarlane you are called."

" My name certainly is Macfarlane, but I do not think I know you, my good woman," he replied. "It's no matter, sir," she rejoined, briskly, " for ye ken my master weel enough; at least, he says so -Major Hugh Erskine it is. He saw you pass his window yestercen and again this morn, and he bid me run after you and fetch you to him. I was to say that if ye havena forgotten the old times when ye were boys together, ye'll come and see him now he's ill and helpless."

"Hugh Erskine here!" Mr. Macfarlane's thoughts re verted instantly to the days when he had been apt to envy gay, hand some Hugh, who, more fortunate than himself, both in parentage and position, was able to choose his own course in life : who, therefore, entered the army, and went to India, while he-though of an equally adventurous turn of mind - was forced to accept the more monotonous profession of the law. Hugh Erskine ill !-- he whose remarkable strength of constitution

of his more puny associates! membered hearing that the dashing ever, gave a promise of being posi- But at last he felt that his deparyoung soldier had married soon tively pretty when she had attain- ture was imperative, and he said the late County Fair at Milton, Oct. ceived during the past summer, and after he landed in India; but after ed her womanhood—slided into so as he sat beside Hugh Erskine's ton, have promised me their help." until you get settled down, as you Tweed tells a story of a Scotch wife that the name of his boyhood's the room, looking askance at the couch. friend had rarely reached his ears. stranger. Once, indeed, he had read with in- "This is Effie, or Euphemia,". Saturdays. Parties who keep cows will terest an account of a daring ex- said her father, fondly drawing her and buy their milk. Twenty-one quart this had occurred so many long tickets for \$1, if paid in advance, or years ago that he had forgotten the was to both of us? But where is knowing, when I am no more, they in all I do?"

Spare me the trial of not see that I have a selfish purpose complain of their husband's neglect unither man o' me." "But, my dear the trial of home. A spoonful of home, was to both of us? But where is knowing, when I am no more, they in all I do?" circumstance till this incident Agnes, my darling? Did you tell will be left in a strange country, "No; for indeed I cannot imagine keep more bees in the hive than Agnes, that gangs to the ither brought it back to his memory.

"I will visit your master with | whose name she is so well acquaint | creditlous enough to speculate with | she answered, nestling close to him | pleasure, if you will give me his ed is here?" address or show me the way," he . "Annot told her, papa," was lost! When I die, there is nothing | "And yet it is true; I must be said to the woman. "Has he been the half-whispered reply; "but she for them absolutely nothing!" the most covetous, the most exact distress from all parts of the counresiding here long ?" will not come

"Mair weeks then I care to !. the hotel; " for they have been sad | here !" ones, baith to me and others !"

he is seriously ill ?" . The withering change I could not see his native country. Dreading the But it was to no purpose. Still keeps the same sweet tone to me, desire to behold his birthplace once tion. more, that he had insisted on mak- With much animation he was

year ago! I was with the regiment; the daughter of his friend; geant in it, -and I nursed her, and eyes sank modestly, and the closed her beautiful een, and when pink of her cheeks deepened have been with them ever sin'." | the additional beauty her confusion

"Then my old friend has a fam- lent her.

wiping away the tears that gathered But he did not speak till, with a added; solemnly, "for they'll sune be covered himself, and stammered an orphan's though they dinna think excuse

of sympathy, and then was silent. for he began to suspect that it was quer this when she knows that it anxiety on account of his children | pains me for her to avaid the pereager to see bim; and he had just relinquished the guardianship felt no inclination to encounter inother ordeal. - It was, therefore. with mingled sensations-real reand a resolve to evade any such pretty gown. trust if it were proposed to himthat he followed Annot Murdoch could have peoped into the heart into the presence of her master. Major Erskin, the pale, haggard in- who now led her so courtously to

was but a faint shadow of the bold. he brightened up at the sight of a dreams of girlish beauty.

once: and for the sake of my litle girls were not as carefully educated will strengthen my treasure. It at mass on Sunday morning, he girls I want to leave as long as I as they are now, it was rare to find will not fret you to leave Ham-"It's their fate," he went on to skine say, after a pause,"that troubles me. Scotland, and hunt up my kinsfolk, ashamep at the length of his call, father's grave no more; but per- subject that he is correct. that they might have some one or rose to go. "I shall want you to ceiving that her answer did not sums up the faith in this concise other to watch over them when I help me to reconcile these poor child- satisfy him, she conquered her nat- and intelligible form. Hear the am gone; but Providence denies me | ren to the trial that must soon | ural regrets, and added dutifully cure in all things; for he hears the

about you so much and so often, will be left alone."

Allan Macfarlane grouned inward- pending death of her parent. more responsibilities of the kind, girl for a few hours. or beg Major Erskine to saddle

had so often excited the admiration most immediately a little maiden, Edinburgh, because he saw that his Mr. Macfarlane indistinctly re- ungraceful slip of a girl, who, how- valid and his sorrowing children.

her, love, that the old friend with friendless, and destitute! I was you committed an act of selfishness!" will ten of vinegar.

"Did I understand you to say fain have been spared the unpleas. following him where he went, he it too late, do I ? No other has cap- cities we have the superfluity of autry of seeing a sulky child drag-She nodded an affirmative, and ged into the room, and lectured in explained that the Major had been his presence for feeling no anxiety. so soverely wounded in the skir- to behold a grave, middle-aged law- take your daughters to my own. mish reported in the newspapers writer, snatched up his hat, and, house. You know well enough that he never regained his health, pleading his engagement, begged that your sweet Agnes is too levely and had been advised to return to that Miss Erskine might be excused. to be exposed to the risk of scandal severity of a Scottish winter, he Major was peremptory; and, fear-though I am as old as her father. had evaded it so far by remain- ing that he would excite himself It is, therefore, impossible, unless, ing on the Continent; but latterly dangerously, his fretting guest resishe consents to become my wife! he had been seized with a vehement sumed his seat and the conversa- never thought to have wedded at

that, after travelling by easy stages taken place at a spot with which as far as Hamburg, his excessive both were familiar, when he chancweakness rendered him unable to ed to raise his eyes, and they fell upon a young girl who had noise-"I suppose Mrs. Erskine is with lessly glided to her father's chair, him? observed Macfarlane, when and was standing behind it, furtivehe had gathered from the woman's ly glancing at the eloquent speaker. tale that bis friend's state was a But while he perused the lineaments of Agnes Erskine, he forgot "Hech, sir! did ye no ken that to finish his sentence. Never had the bonny leddy died mony a long he seen one so delicately lovely as -for my gude man was a ser- when, embarrassed by his gaze, her t was all ower, I comforted the the richest crimson, he forgot to putr bairns as weel as I could; and apologize, so entranced was he with

Major Erskine looked on and "Twa lile lasses, sir-as gude as smiled, as he saw the cause of the they are bonnie!" she responded grave law-writer's sudden silence. hickly on her eye-lashes. "The start and a blush as deep as the Lord help and comfort them !" she young lady's, Allan Macfarlane re-

Mr. Macfarlane said a few-words | father said, gently drawing her forward ; "but she will try to conhat had make Major Erskin so son whose friendship I hope to se-

"It was not because Agnes of half a dozen boisterous, self. shy that she did not wish to come willed young people, who had been and see Mr. Macfarlane," intersuch troublesome wards that he posed the more loquacious. Effic. "She knew you would praise her to him, papa, and she was afraid he would be disappointed in her, espegret for the condition of poor Hugh, cially as she hadn't time to don a Disappointed in her! If

of the quiet, reserved gentleman. valid, in whose sunken eyes the a chair, and addressed her ever and arrived, declaring she could never light of life was nearly exhausted, anon with such studied politeness, love anyone but father; but Agnes she would have learned that she timidly went to the door to meet merry lad he had once known, but was the incarnation of his brightest her grave, middle aged bridegroom

Major Erskine sank into a doze "I thought that I should have but still his visitor stayed, for he by the couch on which he reclined; she could converse sensibly and "I must hurry you away from erate Liberal Catholic cannot be el-"but that hope has died out. My pleasantly. Her wandering life this place," he said. "I have ected to parliament by Catholic doctors have plainly told me that with her father had expanded her taken a cottage at Portobelle, votes. In a pastoral letter read the voyage would finish me off at mind, and at a time when young where the pure, invigorating air throughout the diocese of Montreal, one so well-informed as Agnes Er- | burg ?

great. You must see the poor from them much longer that in a wherever he pleased.

was closing about him, and already with reluctance 7 for her tears, and been before. And how could be drawn them together so closely, early morning, or after my toils seige is laid to your hearts by fact that a man is naturally lazy. find the heart to say to his dying | that he found it difficult to rememfriend that he could not accept any ber he had only known this poor cheerless existence has done very reme moment, arrives and she times. After this first visit, he visited

his sinking friend daily, lingering, But the invalid had touched the though his affairs were now finishbell standing beside him, and al- ed, and his presence required in about fourteen or fifteen-a pale, attentions supported both the in-The dying man raised himself

"Take them with you, Allan, find it much cheaper and less trouble to ploit in which Major Erskine had towards him. "It was the name the poor children, and try to find a he asked, as he sat down with his get mik delivered at their doors, and stated with great courage, but even of your little sister that died Allan. home for them with some charitable wee wife on his knee. "Do you they would do well to sell their cows acted with great courage, but even of your little sister that died Allan. home for them with some charitable wee wife on his knee. "Do you

their mother's fortune, and it is of her own accord.

"But I desire it!" said her fath- sufferings of the Major, made the in view in all I shall do for your wealth and a superfluity of labor." count !" she answered with a sigh, er, anguily. "Go back and say to ordinarily calm, prudent writer for comfort and happiness. It is to win This paradoxical epigram we have as she proceeded to guide him to her that I command her to come get everything but Agnes; and your heart) my Agnes; to have the already quoted from the New York Allan Mucfarlane, who would times, the wistful eyes of his friend freely and fully. I do not ask for good-to a large extent. In our came back to his sent.

you it is impossible that I should making free with her name, even all, more especially one so many ing the attempt. The result was discussing some changes that had fair to ask a girl just entering woyears my junior; and it is scarcely manhood to give herself to a man whose youth has long been over but if her heart is free____"

"It is! it is! exclaimed the

"You are sure of this?" Mr. -" quite sure? Heaven forbid ride to my arms!"

be sheltered from all harm by your called to prayer. The genius Effic, for her sake !"

He could say no more, for his pew: The minister began by sayemotion had exhausted him; but ere | ing ;-Mr. Macfarlane quitted Hamburg. a minister of their own persuastion was called in. The pale Agnes with one hand clasped in her father's, gave the other to her grateful "Agnes is foolishly shy," her lover, and he left his young wife indignant look in the direction of with the promise to return again the voice, continued :-shortly, and remain till all was

But Major Erskine only survived his child's marriage a few hours and when Allan returned to clain his bride, and conduct her to Scotland, a grave in a quiet churchvard Annot had vigilantly guarded while others, equally meritorious

her young ladies from all intrusion. wept with them their first bitter | beyond that bourne from which no tears for their loss, and then urged them to wrestle with their grief; and endeavor to meet Mr. Macfarlane, if not with smiles, with some appearance of cheerfulness. Wilful Effie ran away when he

-looking so delicate, so fragile in her mourning robes, that as he took her in his arms, he trembled lest and the Church is independent of seen our old baunts once more, had overcome the timidity of the the trials she had undergone should parties. Bishop Bourget Allan," he said, as Macfarlane sat modest maiden, and discovered that have undermined her constitution. Liberal Catholic, nay even a Mod-

"You will come again?" the Ma- bering what he had for the moment other unsavory things, and proven Allan ! I meant to take them to jor said, when Mr. Macfarlane, forgotten-that she would see her from Papal utterances on the same

this boon, and my anxiety is very come upon them. I cannot conceal that she was quite ready to go bishop, the bishop hears the Pope, children; they have heard me talk few days or weeks at farthest they "But you must tell me your Christ who keeps him infallibly wishes," he said, gently. "I do right in all his teachings. Who that you'll not be like a stranger to A smothered exclamation made not intend to play the tyrant to now will reconcile these two interhis deeply affected visitor look up. you, my Agnes, and if I appear preters of the earthly Infallible? Mr. MicFarlane rose from his Agnes had overheard her father's cold and stern, it is but an outward Is Archbishop Lynch in deadly chair, and stammered something remarks, and with every feature seeming, for the dearest wish of my peril with a viper in his cosom, or about an engagement; but Major convulsed with agony, was totter- heart is to make you happy. And, is His Grace of Montreal slightly Erskine was bent on having his ing from the room, careful, even in yet, I may often fail in this; not beside himself, or is there an inner this moment of anguish, to spare because the will is wanting, but harmony subsisting between them "No, Allan, you must not go! I him the sight of her distress, through my utter ignorance of the undisturbed by the jar of contrawant you to know and like them. Fearing that she would faint, Mr. needs of so young a creature as you dictory words and the clash of ir It would be such a inexpressible Macfarlane hurried after her, and are. The best years of my-life have comfort to me to feel that I have sustained and consoled her till she been spent in such methodical labor secured a friend for them in you!" was partially resigned to the im- | that it has dulled me, and I have had nothing to tempt me from my Ty. Some fellow who has "been tive resemble a dream? In coming ly. The net he meant to evade When he did leave her, it was toils; but plodded on, content to there" gives the following advice: upon sleepers. be a mere machine, and have no Now young men, see that you con- " Constitutionally tired" is now he saw himself plagued as he had his efforts to wipe them away, had relaxation but a brisk walk in the duct yourselves becomingly when the polite way of expressing the

"Is it good to gratify myself ?" this year.

These tidings, and the mental ling of men, for I shall have an end try, caused by the redundancy of after pacing the room two or three rich jewel of your love given to me Independent, and in Canada it holds! tivated your fancy, and brought labor, among our farmers redundan-"Hugh Erskine, I need not tell you to look scornfully on the woo cy of wealth. The absolute staging of the plain-visaged, clderly nation which prevails over large-Allen Macfarlane K'

pressing a score of kisses on her passible condition of the roads durblushing face, he released her, that ing the last part of this winter, but see might go and warn Annot that the difficulties of merchants are their arangements for their de- greatly enhanced by the impossibiparture might be made at once. lity of collecting accounts from Yet, ere she reached the door, lie farmers, who are known to have called her back, that he might teach money in the bank, but wito have those rosy lips to call him. Allan had credit forced upon them on so and "my husband," and reward many sides that they have no idea her for it with more tender words of paying out money so long as

(To be continued.)

Put that Rascal Out. While the congregation wer

collected at church, on a certain oc-Macfarlane persisted, in his anxie- casion, an old, dark, hard-featured ty to secure Agnes's own happiness, skin and bone individual was seen wending his way up the aisle, and that I should take an unwilling taking his seat near the pulpit. The officiating minister was one "You will not do so. You have | who detested written cermons, and her esteem, her affection; and, las for prayers he thought they Allan, dear, generous friend! You ought to be the natural outpourings have the unutterable gratitude of of the heart. After the singing her dying parent! Agnes will was concluded, they were as usual love, and you will be good to little introduced, did not kneel, but leaned his head devotionally upon his

> "Father of all, in every age, by saint and savage adored-"Pane!" said a low but clear

> voice near old hard-features. The minister, after casting

> "Whose throne sitteth on the adamantine Hills of Paradise-" "Milton!" again interrupted the

The minister's lip quivered, but recovering himself be began -"We thank thee, most gracious held the mortal remains of Hugh Father, that we are permitted once more to assemble in Thy name

> traveller returns_" "Shakespeare!" again interrupt ed the voice.

.This was too much. " Put that impudent rascal out shouted the minister. " Original !" ejaculated the voic in the same calm, but provoking

Archbishop Lynch says priests should not interfere in election warns his flock against liberalism in every form, compares it to a ser "Not much," she said, remem- pent, to the old serpent himself and and the Pope hears the voice of nade concert

A WAY OUT OF THE DIFFICUL- In what respect does a locomo were closed at night. Such a leap-year ladies. When the sup- We live in wonderfully refined well for me, but I shall not doom pons the question, don't slop over you to it." He smiled indulgent and get excited, but let things take ly at the young creature, who was there natural course. Don't holler still half afraid of him. "No, no," or give away, but kind of lean over he added, "you shall have no cause and double up calmly, but firmly. to complain of me. I would have Promise every one that asks you my birdie enjoy in moderation all | that's the way the girls do. And the pleasures and amusements be then sit down solidly and ask them fitting her youth; and my good what salary they get and if they A witty, popular, and learned cousins, Sir John and Lady Swin- wouldn't mind ma living with you Lord on the northern side of the "How good you are to me!" sin't used being away from home. shortly after the nuptial knot had exclaimed Agnes, with swimming Do this, young man, and you won't been tied, mildly expostulating

parts of the country, is owing di-"Ah ! no !" she arswered; and rectly, of course, to the almost imthey can get interest upon it. If our merchant is the least stiff with

his customers he simply loses them. for he has plenty of neighbors who cannot afford to be likewise. act is there has been too much trading. Owing to the enterprise in the first place of Montreal merchants, who import too much, and manufacturers who make too much, seconded by the country merchant, who finds himself, through the blandishments of drummers overburdened with goods, people have been in the habit of buying a great deal more than they would have done had they had to give ready money for all that was sold them. This is most clearly proved by the fact that this year the inconvenience of bad roads has enabled farmers to do to a arge extent without the Christmas purchases and household expenses and luxuries, on the purchase ofwhich traders have hitherto

counted with certainty. By the

amount of the money not spent in

this manner the country is the

Look Out, Young Man. When it is said of a young man, "he drinks," and it can be proved. then what store wants him for a clerk? Who will trust him? What dying man would make him his executor? He may have been forty years in building up his reputation it goes down. Letters of recombut less favored, have been carried mendrition, the backing up of his business firms, a brilliant ancestry, cannot saye him. The world shies off. Why. "he drinks! he drinks!" That blasts him. When a young mun looses reputation for sobriety, he might as well be at the bottom of the sea. There are young men here who have their good name as their only capital. Your father has started you out in city life. He could only give you an education. He gave you no means. He started you, however under christian influence. You are achieving your own fortune, under God, by

own arm. Now LOOK OUT, YOUNG MAN, that there is no doubt about your sobriety. Do not create suspicion by going in and out of liquor establishments, or by an odor of your breath or by any glare of your eye, or by any unnatural flash of your cheek. you cannot afford to do it, for your good name is your only capital, and when that is blasted by the reputation of strong drink, all is gone.

-FUNNIGRAPHS.

A round of pleasure-A prome A favorite book with girls Book

A somewhat limited acquaint nce-Knowing your own mind. Latest thing in front door locks -Night-keys.

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Very unsatisfactory sort of bread -The roll of fame. A malady peculiar to milkmen Water on the brain.

in Shakespeare. Does not Hamlet exclaim, " How right I do it. Pat. ing of O'Thello, Corry O'Lanus and

have to buy a solitary silk dress with her husband for indulging i two tumblers of whisky toddy just before going to bed. "My dear We have heard many women Agnes, a glasso whisky toddy makes

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