

THE HIGHWAYMAN AND THE FOOL.

At the point where the range of mountains which divides the northern from the southern half of Donegal approaches nearest to the innermost extremity of Donegal Bay there is a wild and rocky pass, which from a distance shows as a saddle-shaped hollow in the sky-line, giving the impression of a bite taken by the mouth of a giant clean out of the center of the mountain.

At the beginning of this century, when Mr. Balfour's light railways were not thought of, and even the Finn Valley Railway as yet was not, its place was taken in the internal economy of the country by the high-road running through the Gap, which forms the basin of the River Finn.

When this state of siege had continued for some time, a gentleman of Enniskillen, of the name of O'Connor, had need of two hundred pounds within a certain time. This money he had to get from Derry.

He offered Barney the pick of his weapons and his best hunter, but the omadawn preferred to go unarmed and mounted upon the worst-looking horse in the stable, an old grey, that was blind of one eye and lame of one leg, but could still do a good day's travelling.

For Barney's silliness only came on in fits at the season of the new moon. The present was a lucid interval, so he could be trusted to take care of himself.

With the help of an early start, in spite of the sorrier of his nag, he managed the fifty miles between Enniskillen and the town of Donegal on the first day, and early on the second reached the Gap.

Suddenly a gigantic figure outlined itself upon the mist, seeming to Barney larger than human, and he crossed himself as he rode nearer to it; but as the deceitful fold of vapor rolled away, the figure resolved itself into a man on horseback, standing across the roadway at its narrowest point.

"Where are ye for?" said the stranger shortly. "It's a soft day, yer ahner, an' where am I far, is it? Troth, I'll just tell ye; it's Darry I'm far, that same, an' mebbe ye'll inform me if I'm an the right road?"

"Oh, his name? His name's Misher O'Connor, of Enniskillen." "And has he much money?" "Lashins."

"How do you know I'm not the highwayman?" "Ah, now! ye're makin' game, yer ahner. A fine jentleman like yerself, an' a splendid baste, the likes av ye you is it that 'ud be a dirty robber."

"Will you be coming back this way?" "I didn't know." "Dahn't know." "To-morrow?" "Aibllins."

"Mebbe I might, an' mebbe I mightn't, an' mebbe I might too." The omadawn had turned suddenly sulky after the manner of his kind, and it was evident that there was no more to get out of him.

Two days afterwards Barney was once more passing through the gap, this time on his return journey. It was evening, and the scene was very different from the first occasion of his visit to the place.

"Why, it's yer ahner's self agin," cried Barney, delightedly; "more power to yer elbow." "Oh, so you're here, then?" said the other, with evident relief.

"The money, is it? Troth, it's in me pouch safe enough, I'll warrant ye. I thought I'd sacrament that robber villain."

"Give me the money, d— your soul!" said the robber, out of patience, as he drew a pistol from his holster, "or I'll shoot ye."

"I don't want to hurt you," replied the other; "but I must have that two hundred pounds, so just hand it over, and no more foolery!" "Ah, thin," cried the idiot flying into a passion, which lent fluency to his invective.

BEST FOR WASH DAY USE SURPRISE SOAP BEST FOR EVERY DAY.

With a curse the robber replaced his pistol in its holster, leaped from his horse, and began scrambling down the cliff, to try and save part of the spoil if possible.

"Stop, d— your eyes!" cried the highwayman, starting to climb up again, "what are you doin', ye jape ye? Stop, or I'll shoot ye."

"After that day the highwayman was seen no more in his accustomed haunts. But in honor to the omadawn's stratagem, the place has ever since borne the name of Barney's or Barnesmore Gap.—The Catholic Universe.

DROPPED ON THE STREET.

THAT WAS WHAT HAPPENED: A WELL KNOWN RESIDENT OF UNION, B.C., WHO HAD BEEN IN DECLINING HEALTH.



I FELL DOWN ON THE STREET. would do me good, but in this I was disappointed, and seemed to be steadily growing weaker.

"Now you're jokin', sir," said the natural anxiously. "Shure ye wouldn't for to play a trick that road on a poor boy?"

"Don't stand jabberin' there. Give me the hard stuff." "An' he was the thafe all the time, see that now, he! he!" and the idiot went into a fit of laughter rocking himself to and fro on his horse, and wagging his hands helplessly.

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BALED HAY.—Sales of car lots of No. 1 sold on track here at \$13 to \$13.50. Sales have been made at country points at \$12 for No. 1.

TALLOW.—Market quiet, and we quote 5 1/2c to 6c for choice and 5c for common.

DRESSED MEATS.—Farmers' dressed beef 3 1/2c to 4c for hind quarters and at 2 1/2c to 3c for fore quarters.

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