

ed Bella! Out of the same book, This made the fellow a little sus-picious, for it was the old Ferrises who had been keen about the match all the sust of the man after hearing his sweetly, "that they would not believe me!" "But hew did more that they would not they would not "But hew did more that they would not they would not "But hew did more that they would not "But hew did more that they would not "But hew did more that they would not "But he picious, for it was the old Ferrises who had been keen about the match all through. The fellow, you see, had tin. However, he couldn't exactly call Bella's brother a young liar, so Bobby escaped for the time. But when be was in a hole next week over a stiff French exercise, and tried the same sort of game on his sister, she was

sort of game on his sister, she was too sharp for him, and he was caught out. Somehow women seem more mistrustful than men. They're so beastly suspicious by Harold cave one startled close nature, you know

"I know," said I. "But did the around and then fled like a hare,

Bobby got packed off to school a The curate faced the laurels hesiwhole year earlier than his people tatingly. But Aunt Maria flung

moral of this story -it was evi- a second later the coast was entirely seen by us. Indeed in both direc- dead body. dently meant to contain one some- clear.

where-when a flood of golden By this time there were sounds There was only the church, but on stones ! lamplight mingled with the moon rays on the lawn, and Aunt Maria and the new curate strolled out on perhaps we had better be off. Rethe grass below us and took the di- treat was an easy matter. A stunt- had entered the edifice within the her first questions was: rection of a garden seat that was ed laurel gave a leg up onto the last hour. I was, as I have said "Who was the girl in black in the backed by a dense laurel shrubbery garden wall, which led in its turn to puzzled by this, but thought noth- carriage with you two that dreadreaching round in a half circle to the roof of an outhouse, up which at ing of any supernatural element it fulday? the house. Edward meditated a dubious angle, we would crawl might have. moodily. If we only knew what to the window of the boxroom. Lovelace, on the contrary, re-

"you'd soon see whether I was right or not. Look here! Let's send the kid down by the porch ts revealed to us one day by the domestic cat when hard pressed in the course of an otter hunt in Malaga, he did not wish to go reconnoitre !" o which the cat-somewhat unwill- ashore, but the commander of the

"Harold's asleep," I said; "it ing-was filling the title role, and ship detailed him, together with it had proved distinctly useful on three others, to carry a dispatch to seems rather a shame"-"Oh, rot !" said my brother; "he's occasions like the present. We the consul at that port. I remain-the youngest, and he's got to do as were snug in bed—minus some ed aboard, but on the others returncuticle from knees and elbows- ing I heard what was designated he's told

So the luckless Harold was and Harold, sleepily chewing some- as a queer story on Lovelace. hauled out of bed and given his sailing orders. He was naturally rather vexed at being stood up suddenly on the cold floor, and the

job had no particular interest for The curate's undaunted demean- out in terror something about a him, but he was both stanch and or, as reported by Aunt Maria, was woman in black that was standin was disciplined. The means of generally supposed to have terrified just back of Lovelace. All looked

exit were simple enough. A porch the burglars into flight, and much around, but could see nobody of iron trellis came up to within kudos accrued to him thereby, there, and they went on choosing easy reach of the window and was Some days later, however, when he the fruit, when the child gave anhabitually used by all three of us had dropped into afternoon tea and other still louder shriek and fell LADIES' COATS & SACQUES when modestly anxious to avoid was making a mild curatorial joke public notice. Harold climbed about the moral courage required deftly down the porch like a white for taking the last piece of bread sobbing out that the woman had

go. At last the fellow said, 'Well, I think I know where she means, the hollow tree in your father's paddock. It happens to be an elm, but she wouldn't know the differ-ence. All right; say I'll be there, badn't got his money. 'She was got his shilling.'' ""A was in a frightful funk," con-tiuued the narrator, warily guard-ing his ear with his hand, "but just then the drawing room win-dow opened and you and Aunt hadn't got his money. 'She was got his shilling." ""A the first of these ports that the hadn't got his money. 'She was got his shilling." ""A the first of these ports that the hadn't got his money. 'She was got his shilling."

and certainly circuinstantial. After "He found Bobby," said Edward indignantly. "Young Ferris was a gentleman, every inch of him. He brought the fellow another mes-sage from Bella: "I dare not leave the house. My cruel parents im-mure me closely. If you only knew what I suffer! Your broken heart-ed Bella" Out of the same hook "A decreating circuinstantial. After all, the boy might have really seen something. How was a poor man to know—though the chaste and lofty diction might have supplied a free adaption from the last penny deadful lent us by the knife and bot boy? "Why did you not alarm the house?" he asked. The something is the same hook of the same hoo

sort of game on his sister, she was laurels. When some ten yards concealed it from view.

his lips. Harold gave one startled glance But as my eyes went from him and before I could catch him h back to the spot not 30 feet away, had fallen from the carriage into where the girl had stood, I saw the street.

"I know, said I. "But did the two—the fellow and the sister— make it up afterward?" "I don't remember about that," replied Edward indifferently, "but The serve and buried himself in the broad bosom of the cook, his special ally. "Where did she co?" he asked "Where did she go ?" he asked. I was as much puzzled as he, for in black at my side still holding had meant to send him, which was herslf on him. "Oh, Mr. Hodgitts," it was hardly possible that she could her gashed throat. She was gon just what he wanted. So you see I heard her cry, "you are brave— it all came right in the end?" I heard her cry, "you are brave— for my sake do not be rash!" He gained one of the adjacent houses the carriage and joined the driver I was trying to puzzle out the was not rash. When I peeped out or have gone down the street un- who was bending over Lovelace's

tions there was no one in sight. He had broken his neck on the

Take the story for what it is

All at once he turned his laugh

moment the horses reared slightly,

As he did so a long sigh caught

my ear, and I turned my head to

see for a brief second the woman

worth, gentlemen. Explain it if they were talking about," said he, This overland route had been turned at once to the ship and for you can. These are the bare facts. -Philadelphia Times.

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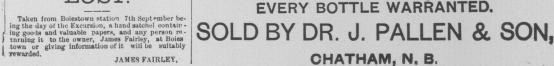
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