

# A Selfish Husband

He Is Apt to Make a Slave of His Wife—The Boy Father of the Man—Lack of Time for the Small Politenesses of Life—Effect on Children.

It was my misfortune a short time ago to visit the home of an old friend for a few days, and I came away wishing that I had never been invited, or else that I had not accepted with such sagaciousness the hospitality offered. I plunged so tenaciously to all the old ideas that it is hard to let them go as they have gone, one by one, till I have very few left now.

Mary, my friend, was always a delicate, shrinking creature, always expecting a snub, and usually getting it, though it was seldom or never intended, for she was one of the sweetest of girls, with a gentle clinging nature, ready to sacrifice her own pleasure for the service of others, and ever making the olive branch of peace to her guileless. She made me think of the mimosa, that sweetly fragrant flower whose leaves shut so quickly on the approach of an animate life, yet open wide to the adverse winds that beat and throw them around, seeming to express more sweetness than ever. Adversity and neglect have developed her wonderfully, and she is now a woman of character, has gathered charm with every flying year. I would seem that under such conditions I ought to have enjoyed my visit, but all the same I didn't.

Mary's husband, Jack Brown, was the crumpled rose leaf. Now there is a man who was born to be a master, and he only succeeded in being a great big-well, I was going to say "brute," but that would be harsh, perhaps, so I will substitute "tyrant" instead. I may sound better, but the terms are almost synonymous. I used to know him when he was a boy, and his sister and I were chums. He ruled the whole house, and the five sisters, all older than he, had to dance when he whistled, which was every minute while he was in the house.

I've known that boy to lie in bed in the morning and shout till he wakened the neighbors for one of the girls to come and get out his clean linen for him, but in the studs and cuffs, and get out his collars and neckties, and see that his shoes were "shined." They kept no servants, except a cook, so they took turns in being lackey for him. He always had the coziest corner of the fire, the sweetest tid-bit at the table, and he never brought a bucket of water or a scuttle of coal in his life. He was not "strong," you know, having inherited weak lungs from his mother.

HE WAS SELFISH. But he could play ball six straight hours at a stretch, finish out the day with tennis, and the night at a dance, to say nothing of the athletic prowess which made him the envy of many of his set. When he was too cross to get up after a night out with the boys, the whole family from mother to baby sister stood around him, waiting ready for a spring when he should make a request, but mind you, the girls got right up at 6 o'clock and got to sweeping and dusting, no matter what the hour of retiring.

His appetite was pampered, his word was the law of the house, yet it was true, he was never ugly or coarsely tyrannical; he simply had a "way" of getting exactly what he wanted under all circumstances. A well-bred way, I grant you, for his was a family of refinement, but after all, could a selfish man be called refined? True refinement is the lack of self-assertion, and Jack Brown never forgot his big handsome self for a moment. Although his sisters were largely to blame for spoiling him, and had made their own lives subservient to his, they were every blessed one of them glad when he married, but mighty sorry for the little woman who had taken on her small shoulders their five separate burdens.

Of course, Mary adored him. You never saw a little bit of a woman in your life who was not the abject slave of her big husband. She adores him yet. That is her strange self-assertion. It is an original saying that the more you beat a woman and a dog the better they will love you. Of course, Jack doesn't beat Mary, but if I were his wife I'd rather be beaten than treated as though he had a bill of sale of me, and that my one excuse for living was to minister to his pleasure.

AT HOME AND ABROAD. When he saunters out in the morning, correctly attired, in faultlessly-fitting clothes, and raises his hat to his friends as they pass, he is referred to as that "handsome Jack Brown," that "perfect gentleman," that "prince of entertainers," and all that sort of thing, and it is true of him, outside of his own home, and in it, when on infrequent occasions he is moved to share his beautiful home with his friends.

He always says "my house," "my dog," "my horse," "my servants," which is all very funny, when some

folks are yet alive who remember that in the big family in which he was reared there was never money enough for anybody to say "my" about, even the gowns the girl wore turn about to dances belonged to no one of them in particular, and even all these "mys" were paid for with money which his wife inherited.

In fact, as you have discovered, Jack Brown is a gentlemanly boor. He knows all there is to know about etiquette and is a perfect Beau Brummel. Yes, in more ways than one. He loves society and good clothes, a luxurious home, jolly friends and a good time, but he doesn't care how many hearts he rides over in his selfish way to get them.

He comes down to breakfast and growls if the paper has not been aired, he growls if the coffee has cooled while he kept it waiting, he growls if breakfast happens to be a moment late, he growls because the meat is too done and the eggs underdone. He simply snorts when his wife says good morning, and glares if she has failed to make his toast, preferring her way to that of the servant. She must tie his necktie, brush his coat, dust his hat, and get him his cane and properly aired and perfumed handkerchief.

To his guests he is all smiles and attention, to his wife and children he is taciturn and gruff. He brings home all his fancied troubles, and never a word does his devoted wife ever get told his burdens. He would as soon think of going to the groom with their childish trials as to him. He never spends an evening at home if he can avoid it, and he has long since found in a book the following good sense: "A well-bred man is quiet in dress, respectful to women, kind to the weak, helpful to the feeble. He may not always be especially generous or effusive, but good-bredness will tell him all the proper observances and the duty of being a conventional gentleman. He assumes a virtue if he have it not, and is courteous and tender to the old, the feeble, the hungry and the poor."

Jack Brown would rattle around in that measure like a grain of mustard seed in a gourd. And Jack Brown has counterparts all over the world. I wonder sometimes if it is a natural depravity, inherent in the heart of the human creature, which leads us to give pain where least we mean it, and when those we hurt are nearest and dearest to us. Certain it is that the home life of the average American is far from being what it should be, and the cause of it doubtless lies in our roots in our never-ending "hurry," our desperate endeavor to keep up with the procession, which leaves us no time, so we think, for the small politenesses which are the oil to the machinery of life, lack of which makes everything hard, and soon ruins the finer parts.

Perhaps, in the hurry and worry of business life, men forget to be lovers, and think their wives are too sensible to notice the lack of sentiment, so long as they know that down deep at heart the old love is as warm as it ever was. But how do these wives know it? If Jack comes down to breakfast, and a morning greeting to either wife or children it is certainly a cheerful glancing of the day.

LOVE AND SYMPATHY NEEDED. In their honeymoon days a young couple would have been the only proper method, probably, of meeting his wife, and why isn't it worth more now than it was then? Mary has been a wife for twenty years or more. She has fulfilled in every way the vows she made at the altar, yet she walks more surely alone today than if she were no wedding ring. She has no part in his plan of pleasurable excursions, she cuts no figure in his thoughts, she is no more to him than the Chinaman who launders his linen, only he knows that his wife he can always depend upon to do as he wants.

As his laundress, he can depend on her to do as he wants. Of course he loves her! He told her so, and he clinched it by marrying her! That ought to satisfy her. But does it? When a woman marries, does she give up more than a man's name? Is she to be a home, the care of children, the burden of rearing reputable men and women? Does she, at the altar, solemnly promise that with the taking of the name she will forever forgo all the sweet tenderness and courtesies of her girlhood days?

And then the children! What can you expect of boys and girls who grow up in such an atmosphere? The boy is to be a "little gentleman," he has got to have a gentleman to pattern after. Will Jack's boy find much of an exemplar in the home example of his father? A boy's first and lasting impression of manliness are usually patterned after the father. I am afraid that Jack Brown, jun., will never be known as a Chesterfield, and already people are saying, "What a little limb, and how does it happen?"

SON LIKE THE FATHER. You see, they only judge of the public appearance of Jack, sen., and they don't know that by right of heredity from his father he was born selfish, egotistical, domineering and cruel. These traits have been enhanced by his example. All the teaching of his parents would not outweigh one single word of his father, whose crabbedness he already has better perfect. Example is much stronger with children than precept, and a mother may talk of doing good, but if she is a selfish, domineering and cruel, she may as well be a hypocrite. Example is much stronger with children than precept, and a mother may talk of doing good, but if she is a selfish, domineering and cruel, she may as well be a hypocrite.

If his daughter is to be a "little lady" she must be treated as such in her home, that she may know how to accept the attentions of gentlemen outside. All the talk of her mother will not convince her that her father is not a deau ideal of deportment, and if she accepts him as her exemplar, her moral tone must be lowered to his. If, indeed, she does not lose faith in all mankind when she begins to measure her father by the men she meets, and finds that his double standard of morals and etiquette is not accepted one—Senora Sara, in Washington Star.

Give Holloway's Corn Cure a trial. It removed ten corns from one pair of feet without any pain. What it has done once it will do again.

## SURGERY WITHOUT PAIN.

Important Operations Done While the Patient is Fully Conscious.

A recent meeting of the Philadelphia County Medical Society was rendered particularly interesting on account of the presentation of a paper by Dr. T. Parvin, on the new method of abolishing the pain of surgical operations without the necessity of employing ether or chloroform. This is the system suggested and practiced by the well-known German surgeon, Schleich, who, by its use, has been able to perform practically all of the minor and all of the major operations of surgery without the slightest pain to the patient and without depriving him in any other way of his consciousness.

By the method of Schleich there are prepared three solutions of common salt, in which are dissolved different quantities of muriate of cocaine and morphia. The part to be operated upon is thoroughly cleansed with an antiseptic solution, and the surface brought to a low temperature by a spray of chloride of ethyl. Into this area of the skin, which, by the action of the spray, has been deprived of all sensation, the solution containing the cocaine and morphia is injected by means of a special hypodermic syringe, numerous punctures being made in all directions. This renders the deeper structures insensible to a surgeon's knife, and for a period of from twenty minutes to half an hour the patient is not conscious, so far as actual pain is concerned, of extensive cutting and sewing.

The new method differs in an important degree from the ordinary employment of hypodermic injections of cocaine. The strength of the drug which has been used in the past is about one part in each twenty-five parts of the solution, while in the Schleich method there is often employed a strength of only one in ten thousand, or of half that strength. A few drops of the solution are employed, while in the latter the tissues surrounding the part to be operated upon are thoroughly infiltrated with the cocaine solution. The small quantity of the cocaine employed by Dr. Schleich, it is apparent that something more than the cocaine is responsible for the local anesthesia so perfectly obtained. In the opinion of Drs. Keen, Ashurst and Morton, who discussed the merits of the new system the infiltration of the tissues with the solution and the distention and consequent pressure upon the small nerves were responsible in a large measure for the absence of pain when the incision by the knife is made.

To indicate the manner of employing the method of Schleich and to show the entire absence of pain, one of the surgeons had the solution inserted beneath the skin of the arm and an incision an inch long made and sewed up before the patient was conscious. In the discussion it was generally conceded, both from the results achieved by the German surgeon and the experiments made in a number of cases in this country, that a decided advance had been made in the field of anaesthetics, and that for a large number of operations the infiltration method would entirely supersede the general anaesthesia by ether and chloroform.—Philadelphia Record.

## WM. G. WADE'S CASE

Remarkable Recovery From Bright's Disease.

The Son of an East End Butcher Afflict Three Years, Given up as Incurable Takes Dodd's Kidney Pills and Gets Well.

First of all, one word as to our attitude towards the publication of testimonials. It is not hostile; all we ask and require is that the story shall be true. We reserve the privilege in every case to first investigate, and, if we prefer, to publish the account as obtained by our own reporters and correspondents.

With this explanation we give the particulars of an interview at the butcher stall of Mr. H. Wade, 940 Queen street east, Toronto.

Calling early this morning our reporter asked for the subject of the cure, Mr. Wm. G. Wade.

"Oh! yes, sir; that is my son," said a solid-looking man with a business turn; "he will be here presently."

"I called to see your son, then," said our man, "who had been reported as cured from an extended illness by using Dodd's Kidney Pills."

"Well, sir, as I said before, my son will be here himself shortly," replied Mr. Wade.

"I suppose, though, to save time, and as you must know the facts, we may talk till he comes."

"Yes, sir, certainly."

"Well, then, will you kindly tell me the ailment, how long it continued, and the particulars of the cure?" asked our representative.

"Yes. It started from a cold after our boy, who was then 15, had had diphtheria. He had inflammation of the kidneys, was in his bed for many weeks; was an invalid for three years, some times in bed, part of the time moping about and unable to do anything. We had two doctors, and a specialist in consultation with them. They made the usual tests, and named his trouble Bright's Disease of the Kidneys, finally saying that the case was incurable. But here comes the boy himself," said Mr. Wade.

Looking around I saw a strapping young fellow with a quarter of beef on his shoulder, which he deftly hung on a hook, with a short puff, against the refrigerator.

"Billy," said his father, "here is a gentleman wanting to see you about your illness and cure."

"Good morning, sir," said the big boy. "Yes, I was a very long time ill, though I never thought I should die. I was very bad at times, and never could pick up until I commenced taking Dodd's Kidney Pills. I have taken 36 boxes, and am as well and strong as any of the lads hereabouts. Oh, yes, the doctors said it was Bright's Disease of the Kidneys. At times I passed blood and suffered a great deal." And the boy stalked out in his wagon for another quarter of beef.

The reports of cholera in St. Petersburg shows 23 cases and 9 deaths since Nov. 16.

Minard's Lintment Cures Diphtheria.

## THE SULTAN'S HAREM.

He Has Only 600 Wives and Concubines Surrounding Him.

A gentleman who has lived in Constantinople says: The harem of the present Sultan is a museum of living pictures, a fine collection of every nationality, a regular fair of the fair sex. He has over 600 wives and concubines, besides a number of female servants and playmates. All are entrusted to the care of the aga, the chief eunuch. (In the Book of Esther he is termed the Helga.) The only legitimate wife is she who marries him first. Those who come afterward are merely concubines and favorites. The advantages and superiority of the first wife lie only in the fact that her children are recognized as fit for the throne, otherwise she is subjected to the regular harem discipline like the rest. More often than not the Sultan pays greater attention to one of his favorites than to her. But these favors are as changeable as the weather. Today it is Zuleika, tomorrow it is Fatima. The harem gets every year an additional living ornament, donated by the nation, through a strange religious custom.

Ramadan is the period of the year corresponding to the Christian Lent, and during that month the Moslem abstains from food, drinking and even smoking, devoting himself to fasting and religious exercises. At the end of Ramadan the Moslem world celebrates the three days' feast, known as the "Kurban Beiram" (the sacrifice of Abraham). The first night of that great feast an illumination takes place, and the notion donates to the Sultan a gift as a token of loyalty—a tribute in the shape of a handsome virgin. So it goes on year after year.

"The harem life would be regarded by western women as very monotonous, but to these Orientals, who were brought up from infancy in seclusion and isolation, it has plenty of variety. There is plenty of music and dancing, sweet candles, cakes and pies, aromatic coffee to sip and fine stories to listen to. Besides, there prevails an ambition among the inmates which keeps them all the time in a certain activity—the ambition to appear handsomer than their rivals. What becomes of these hours? They also serve as a purpose. The Sultan, in his generosity when he decorates a high official as a token of recognition for his services, often adds a living picture from the royal harem."

**Growing Prevalence of Bright's Disease.** Bright's Disease shows itself usually in depression of spirits. Life loses its zest. Efforts bring an early fatigue. There is loss of appetite; listlessness; sleep fails to refresh. The patient may or may not be in pain in the region of the kidneys. It is not only astonishing, but alarming the extent to which the disease is seizing the ablest men of the country. The deceptive nature of the trouble is almost akin to that of consumption. Our dearest friends are carried off with it before we are aware of the nature of their disease. The one salvation is to rid the system of the trouble at its inception. This is being most successfully accomplished by South American Kidney Cure, a medicine that will cure any case of Bright's disease that has not already signed the death warrant of its victim. It is a medicine that most completely rids the system of those elements that go to constitute this disease, working distinctively on the kidneys.

ODOROMA is the best mouth tonic in the world.

## Veterinary Surgeons.

H. TENNANT—VETERINARY SURGEON—Office, King street, opposite Market House; residence, corner King and Richmond streets, London. Telephone 738.

H. WILSON & SON—OFFICE, 994 KING street, London; residence, 840 Richmond street, London. Telephone 738.

## Artists.

MISS EMILY M. GUNN, STUDIO 138 Dundas street, receives pupils in all branches of art. ywt

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WILSON'S SULPHUR BATHS ARE excellent, benefiting all who take them. 320 Dundas street. xt

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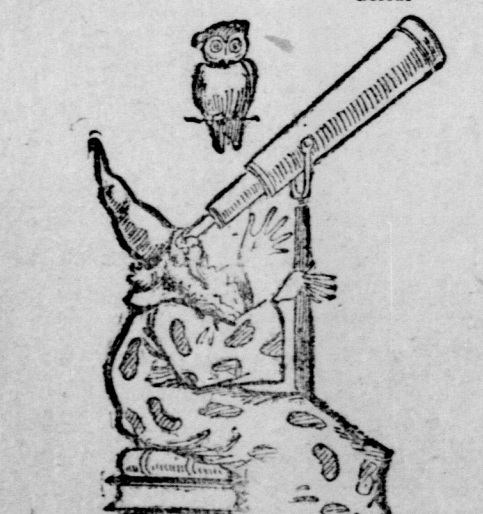
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