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"Love in the Wilds"
 —OR—
The Romance of a South African Trading Station.

CHAPTER I
 AFTER FORTY YEARS.

"Yes, I suppose so," snarled the squire. "You mean you'll go, hat in hand, and beg him to ride all over the estate. Bah, sir, I had more spirit when I was half your years! I would have thrashed the rascal within an inch of his life who dared to ride over the Dale lands."
 "So would I," retorted Hugh, "if I thought he meant to be impudent, but—"
 "Ay, but, but, but!" mocked the squire. "But what, sir; what is the difference? By gad, sir!" turning to the servant who stood at the door undecided whether to do his fiercer bidding or not, "if you are not out of this room and off with my message I'll—"

The man hurriedly withdrew, and Hugh, who was averse to such rudeness toward the man, who, though a stranger, had treated him courteously but a few hours before, caught up his hat and followed after.
 The squire, dashing down his tea-cup, snatched a whip that hung in a rack above his head and hurried after him.

The three, father, son, and the servant, arrived at the paddock in a group.
 The squire, slipping to the front, roared out:
 "Hi, you, sir! What the deuce do you mean by trespassing over a gentleman's grounds?"

The settler pulled up short and turned round in his saddle with a pleasant smile that added to Squire Darrell's anger.
 "I beg your pardon," he said.
 "Confound you for an insolent jack-anapes!" roared the squire. "Hark you, sir: you're trespassing; if you don't make for the road in double-quick time, by gad, I'll—"

"Trespassing?" repeated the horse-man, with a still pleasant smile. "I'm very sorry, I'm sure, and with a cool touch of the hat he turned his horse's head and rode off.
 The squire stopped for a moment to swear himself out of breath, then turned and walked after Hugh, who, directly his father had commenced to harangue, had gone back.

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"Good-morning," said the settler, casting a sharp glance after the departing squire. "I'm just off and couldn't leave without saying good-by. You mustn't mind me. I've taken a fancy to you—no offense—and it isn't in me to beat round the bush."
 "It is very kind of you," said Hugh, smiling, but not with a very pleased expression. "So you are off to your cattle station? Well, I wish you a prosperous voyage."
 "Thank ye, thank ye," said the man, "and the same to you."
 "But," said Hugh, with his hand upon the gate, anxious to end the interview and rejoin his father, whom he knew would be storming inside, "but I am not going on a voyage."
 "Oh, yes, that's true!" said the settler, with a strange smile. "Still, it will stand good until you do. And," he added, as he turned toward the path leading to the village, "and if you do, let the trip be to the Cape of Good Hope."
 Hugh laughed shortly.
 "As likely there as anywhere else," he said, carelessly.
 "Ay," said the man; "we never know what a day may bring round. Anyway, if you do come across the herding pond in that direction, don't forget to ask at Cape Town for Stewart's Corner."
 And with a hearty "Good-by" he walked sharply off.
 Hugh entered the dining-room, expecting a storm, but the squire did not seem so much enraged as he expected.

"So that insolent bagman who rode over the paddock is a friend of yours, eh?" he asked, wrathfully.
 "Well, no, not a friend," replied Hugh, decidedly. "I never saw him but once in my life—at the forge last night. He is—"
 "Oh, hang the insolent fellow! I don't care who he is—there, don't say another word about him."
 Hugh, only too glad to drop the obnoxious subject, sat down, to luncheon, after which the squire's old bay mare and Hugh's stout, well-paced cob were brought round.
 As in the walk so in the ride the squire was particularly agreeable, and the cloud began to disappear from Hugh's face and he became more talkative and light-hearted than he had been for some time—so much so that when the squire asked him to gallop the cob across the fields that he might see how he went, Hugh, starting off with a laugh, calling his two hounds after him, flew along the velvet turf and over the hedges as happy as the dogs themselves.

At dinner Squire Darrell's good humor reached its climax.
 "Bring in the old port," he said to the butler, and, drawing his chair up to the window, invited Hugh to come and see the sunset.
 "It is a beautiful evening," said Hugh.
 "Yes," said the squire, "it makes the old place look cheerful, eh? By the way, Hugh," he added, "we are rather lonesome here, lad."
 "Lonesome?" repeated Hugh, with his short laugh. "I don't think so, sir; at least I am not."
 "Oh, you're young!" said the squire; then, glancing up at his face and meeting his eyes looking out at the sky again: "The place seems dull—dull, Hugh. Wants the feminine element to light it up."
 This was touching upon dangerous ground, and Hugh felt it safest to say nothing.
 "It's weary work for both of us," continued the old man, fumbling in his pocket for the letter. "We get snappish with one another, not having a woman to quarrel with."
 Hugh smiled rather grimly.
 "Our quarrels are soon over," he said.

As it was, they walked on in silence until they reached a small gate leading to the kitchen garden of the Dale House, where, much to Hugh's surprise and the squire's rage, the obstreperous horseman who had been caught trespassing at breakfast-time appeared, leaning against the fence in close conversation with one of the farm laborers.
 Before the squire could get out the oath which rose to his lips, Mr. Stewart, with a cheery "Good-morning," advanced and held out his hand to Hugh.
 Hugh, rather taken aback by the familiarity, yet too courteous to resent it, held out his hand, and the squire, purple in the face, stood stock-still with a stony stare for the space of a minute, then turned sharply and strode on his way.

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Pattern 3153 is here portrayed. It is cut in 6 Sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. Size 38 will require 6 1/2 yards of 44 inch material. The width of the skirt at lower edge, with platts extended, is 2 1/2 yards. This model shows a new basque waist with vest portions. It is suited to mature as well as slender figures, and appropriate for silk, cloth and wash fabrics.
 A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 15c. in silver or stamps.

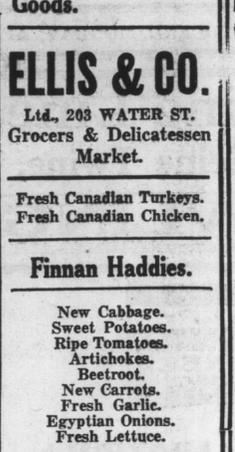
Pattern 3137 was used to develop this convenient garment. It is cut in 4 Sizes: Small, 32-34; Medium, 36-38; Large, 40-42; Extra Large, 44-46 inches bust measure. For a Medium size 4 1/2 yards of 36 inch material will be required. As here pictured, blue chambray was employed with striped blue and white gingham for the trimming. Linen, khaki, alpaca, voile, repp and poplin, also percale and lawn are suitable for this style.
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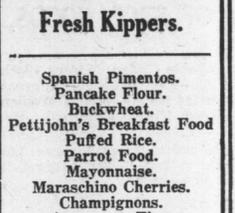
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