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AMERON & OPPOSITE HOWDENS' GROCERY,

The Divorcees

Disappointed Once, They Hoped For Happiness In a Second Marriage

By EDITH V. ROSS •••••••••••

Two ladies met at a western town "Why, Margaret!" exclaimed one o

"Why, Gertrude!"
"You've not changed in the least since we parted on commencement day

"But-I am sorry to see you here. I presume you have been unfortunate in narriage, as I have been?"
"I have certainly been unfortunate."

Mrs. Gertrude Smith and Mrs. Marraret Jones were at least fortunate in possessing very common names—in this that they were better able to lose themselves in a place where all transient residents were known to be sequiring citizenship that would enable them to get divorces. The two women compared notes as follows: Mrs. Smith had soon after leaving

college met a man who seemed to her to be perfection. He was affable, intelligent and prominent as a man. He had deferred to her in everything until they were married; then he had changed. Where before he had assured her that her will was law with him, no sooner had they returned from the honeymoon than he opposed her in everything. Unreasonable was no word for it. She had studied his comfort in every way she could think of. If there was any dainty food he liked she had taken pains to provide it, for the table. If he came home worn with business she would get him out to a theater.



"I PROPOSE THAT WE MAKE UP AND MARRY

For these attentions she expected some return. Her sister, Mabel, poor girl, had no home, and the wife wished to have her with her. But Mabel irritated the husband, and he had declared that she should not come there again when he was at home. Then there

At this point Mrs. Jones broke in. "You have described my husband exactly, only with us it is a case of mother-in-law, and my husband is as unreasonable as yours, though our difficulty is the reverse of yours. He insists on having his mother live with us. True, she has no home and is very lonely, and my husband is her only child living. I will give her credit for being cheerful, and she doesn't inter-fere with me at all. But I married her son and not her, and I will not be imposed upon by having her with me day in and day out."

Thus did these much abused women pour their troubles into each other's ears, neither of them realizing that she was telling a story as old as the rite of marriage itself. But neither of them confessed the real reason why she had given up trying to get on under the matrimonial yoke. The rea-sons why that yoke was unpleasant were plentiful, but the one main reason why they had decided to throw it off was not mentioned by either. When Mrs. Smith had asked Mrs. Jones if she thought she would ever marry again after having secured her divorce she had thrown up her hands, exclaiming:

And Mrs. Jones declared that if she was ever freed from her present husband she would never take another. But as time passed a constant com-

panionship brought confidences. Mrs. Smith one day, while cataloguing her husband's different methods of making her miserable, incidentally spoke of a man who was his very opposite in his treatment of women. She had been thrown with him intimately and had always found him ready to give way to her in all those little matters in which a woman expects a man to humor he Indeed though this gentleman was middle aged he was as deferential as one of twenty, and when an older man gave way to a woman it was to be assumed that he would keep up his deference in the married state.

"It is singular," said Mrs. Jones, "how our cases agree. I. too, have met just such a man as you describe— not one of those men whose deference is accompanied by a flourish that reveals its insincerity, but there is something genuine that speaks for itself. You have asked me, dear, if I will marry again in case I get my divorce. I will make one exception among all the men of the world. If the one I speak of should ask me I will not say that I would refuse him."

Upon this confession Mrs. Smith let out a little more that she had not yet revealed. She confessed that her own particular friend had dared to make love to her before her separation and that she had repelled him, whereupon he seemed broken hearted. If her pres ent bonds were severed and she could listen to this other love without shame she was not sure but that she might

Beyond this the confidence did not extend. Perhaps had the ladies been a dozen years younger each might have told the other the name and home of her admirer and as much else about him as she could call up. But at thirty-two one is not so confidential as at twenty. Besides, there was a special reason why neither cared to tell too much. Each of these men, so deferen-tial to the wishes of the woman he admired, had a wife of whom he was trying to get rid, or, if this is stating the case too strongly, his wife was trying to get rid of him.

There was one comfort in this heart matter which pertained to both of these ladies. Neither had any children. There were no innocents to be wrung by parental infelicities. The law being elastic, each was on the way to prove that she had married a bad man and had been made unhappy and she would be able to marry a good man, who would be a blessing to her. What was to become of these two unworthy men neither wife considered.

It is a long road that has no end, and both these ladies at last found themselves free from one matrimonial yoke and delighted at the prospect of taking on another. Mrs. Smith's residence in the west became unnecessary a month earlier than Mrs. Jones' and she departed for the east. By this time the bosom friendship of their younger days had blossomed again, and each had admitted to the other that as soon as the knot was untied she proposed to have a clergyman—if one could be found—to tie another one. Before Mrs. Smith's departure it had been agreed between the two that she should wait for her friend and that they should be married at the same During the next month's separation

letters passed between them, Mrs. Smith writing of the subjection of her fiance to her slightest whim and Mrs. Jones chafing under the delay in her own coming to the same happiness. And it is worthy of mention that the two men who were casting off their partners to step into a blessed felicity with these two women were also looking forward to their own weddings.

A few days after Mrs. Jones obtain

ed her decree she arrived in the city of New York and the same evening met her friend Mrs. Smith in a private room at a fashionable restaurant. The ladies met for the purpose of dining together, and each had invited her fiance to be of the party. The ladies met some time before the

dinner hour and had a good, long chat, each congratulating the other on her freedom from a brute and her approaching marriage with a prince of chivalry. The princes arrived simultaneously, were taken up to the di room in the same elevator ar ushered into the prese fiancees at the same

"Mr. Smith and M There was con Mrs. Smith's f and Mrs. Jone It seemed for

that we men have swapped wi you wives have swapped hu Mr. Smith, I have heard what ble fellow you are to live with have no doubt you have heard terrible fellow I am to live wit opinion is that none of us are better ourselves by the change. I propose that married again."

"I concur," said Mr. Smith, the gentleman's statement, a make you, Gertrude, a similar offer The two divorced women looke each other. A suspicion of a smill came upon Mrs. Jones' lips. Mrs Smith's lips caught it, and it broaden ed into a laugh.

"Come, ladies," said Mr. Jones; "let us have dinner. I have been hungry for a new love. I am now hungry for

"And I," said Mr. Smith, "for terra

The party sat down to dinner and onsumed many choice viands, washed down with several bottles of cham-At the end of it a clergyman was called in, who remarried each woman to her own husband, and each ouple departed for its own home, satisfied that all is not gold that glitters and that it is better to bear the ills have than to fly to others we know

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ners are still in the formative stage. It is made of heavy linen, hand em-broidered with a delightful nursery story. The border is also embroidered. The story may be stenciled instead of embroidered if more convenient. A bow of washable ribbon ties the bib around the child's neck

When the Nose Is Red. If it is due to sunburn, as is of-ten the case, rub the nose once or twice with undiluted lemon juice. This treatment is rather drastic and will very likely cause it to peel, but it will be effective also in making the sun-burn disappear. Too often, however, a red nose is the result of indigestion or poor circulation.

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