

"I will go with you to the office," said Stella, confidently, for she saw before her one of the very cases which could but call out her spirit. A soul was in trouble, and her own heart was touched, and she could but feel that wrong should be righted, and she was ready to do what she could to accomplish the purpose.

"Who is he? What is he?  
She stopt not to ask.  
Lift him up, care for him,  
This was her task."

In a few moments she had her mother's consent, and was on her way with the heart-stricken woman for the rescue of the son.

"Pa," said she, "as they entered the office, 'here is a good lady in trouble, will you hear her story?'"

"Of course daughter, I'll listen to any trouble she may have."

Mrs. Robinson looked at him through her tears as she said, "Doctor, I am perhaps a stranger to you, and yet I come to you with some assurances of your sympathy, in my present affliction. My son George has been book-keeper for the firm of Wood, Jones & Co., for a year and more, and to-day they had him arrested under the charge of embezzlement. I know he is not guilty, for a more honest and truthful son is not to be found. There is a great wrong in the matter somewhere, Doctor," said she.

"What do you want done, madam?" asked the doctor.

"I want him out of jail, first," said the afflicted woman, "and then we'll meet them in the courts the best way we can."

"What's his bail bond?" the doctor asked.

"The sheriff told me it would be six hundred dollars."

"Can you meet me here in my office at nine o'clock to-morrow morning?" asked the doctor.

"I will," she answered.

Then, thanking the doctor for his generous sympathy, and Stella for her kindness, Mrs. Robinson left the office, leading her little girl, who that night would be her only company in her sad and widowed home.

"Pa," said Stella, when they were left alone, "if that young man is innocent of the crime charged against him, as his mother says he is, it would be a burning shame to let him remain in prison."

"We'll see in the morning, daughter, what the case is," responded the doctor, "and if I am satisfied of his innocence, we'll see that he eats a free dinner to-morrow at his mother's."

The following day, prompt to the hour, Mrs. Robinson was at the Doctor's office, where, in a half hour's talk she convinced him that her son was the victim of one of the partners of the house, who had purloined the funds for his own use, and defaced the books to hide his tracks, and then accused the young book-keeper of the theft.

The Doctor did not hesitate, but went at once on the young man's bond, and released him to the great joy of his mother. Public opinion, of course, was suspended until the trial came off, which was not until two months, which time had been prudently economized by the wicked partner, for he had, under false pretence, closed up his interest in the house, and when the trial of young Robinson came on the ex-partner was *non est*.

Through Stella Gregg's influence and her father's generous management, the widow's son was fully vindicated on the trial, and the jury gave a unanimous verdict of *not guilty*.

Public indignation ran high against the absconding partner, and the fair fame of young George Robinson shone brighter than ever before. With choking emotions he thanked Dr. Gregg for his generous interference in his behalf, and assured him that until the day of his death he would ever remember him as one of the best friends of his life.

The house generously restored him to his desk again, with assurances of an interest in the house, which he has since obtained, where his integrity, probity and modest intelligence have given him a character even above suspicion. Miss Stella Gregg, has become one of his most intimate friends, and rumor has it that the Doctor himself may yet become his father-in-law.

"Thus fate builds hopes for honest men,  
And gives them back their rights again."