## Dra. Grenfiell in Labbrador

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The short story in England, what will it be-
come? That in always an interesting ques-
tion in literary matters, and it is brought come? That in always an interesting ques-
tion in literary matters, and it is brought up in
a direct way just now by Mr. H. G. Wells. He was at one time, not only a very consider-
able, but a very brilliant short-story writer.
In recent years, however, he has been engaged
with his long novels and with serious social with his long novels and with serious social
and political controversies. The result has
been that he has pratctically ceased writing
shortstories. and in this is itypical of other
midle-aged English authors who, like him-
self. were at one time very keen on short midfle-aged English authors who, like him-
self. were at one time very keen on short
stories.
One thinks of Rudyard Kipling, J. M. BarOne thinks of Rudyard Kipling, J. M. Bar
ie, Jerome K. Jerome, Josesph Corrad, George
Moore, and many more whose names sugkest
the question-where are the short stories of the question-where are the short stories of
yesterday? W. W. Jacobs goes on writing
his humorous tales, and hot only keeping, but
increasing his public. Pett Ridge. .ooo, goess
on with his London stories, and he also is read.
ond on with his London stories, and he also is read.
But, generally speaking, there has been a
"slump," as they say of poetry, in the English
short tstory of the best
writers. Whality from the best
Whis? writers. Why is this?
We get a very interesting answer from Mr.
Wells in a long introduction to a collection of
. his short stories entided ""he Country of the
Blind," which the house of Nelson has just
E
 more, sustained and diversion of attention to forms." He
tells us that with himself the creation of the

## 


darkness, in a manner quite inexplicable, some
absurd or vivid little incident more or tess
eelevant to writes no short stories now, or hardlyy ny, and
speaking for himself, and for others, he attrib. peasing in marselt, and for others, he attrib-
tes this, in part anyhow, to a turn in English literary fashions, he points out, "was a good
and ste nineties, halating period for a short-story wri-
and Ser: ${ }^{\text {Stenson and Henry }}$ James were wren
acknowledged masters of it and Kiling and
Barrie came along, scarcely less gifted masBars. It found editorial apreciation in many
ters. ${ }^{\text {quarters, and, indeed. M. W. Wels dectares, .no }}$
Short story of the slightest distinction went for ong unrecognized in the nineties. "The six
penny popular magazines," he adds, "had still
o deaden down the conception of what short story might be to the imaninative limititation
of the common reader-and a maximum length There, no doubt, Mr. Wells puts his finger
surely on the point of decline of the English surely on the point of dectine of the English
short story of first quality, It was levelled
down by the popular magazine, not levelled up, as your leading magazines happily keep it up
in America. As a consequence the first Eng
ish mest lish masters of the shott story turned away
from it it and we see another result of that in
Mr. Weels' remark. 'It is now quite unusual
 chine Eh short story, writing may be due to
that. Every sort of artist demanded human
responses, and few men can contrive to wite merely for a. publisher's cheque and silence
however pleasurable that cheque may be.
mad millionaire who commissioned master
pieces to burie would find it impossibte to bu pieces to burn, would find it impossible to buy
them. Scarcely any attist will hesitate in the
choice between money and attention; and it was primarily for that last and better sort o
pay that the short stories of the nineties were
witten," Still another point Mr. Wells digs out in
his analysis of this retrogression of the Eng-
lish short story There was, he says, a tendency to treat it as theugh it was as definable
a form of literature as the sonnet, ""instead o being just exactly what any one of courage
and imagination can get told in twenty min utes reading or so. someboay, Mr Wells
recalls, said the short story was Mapassint,
while the anecdote was damnable. "It was," he continues, "quite an infernal comment in
he in
its Fools caught it up and pused it freely. Nothice
is so destruntctive in a field of artaistic effort as a a
stock term of abuse. Any one could say any short story, a mere anecdote,' just as any
one can say 'incoherenit' of any novel or of any sonata that isn't studiously monotonous,
The recession of enthusiasm from this com
pact, amusing form fist closely pact, minusing form, is closely associated in
my mind with that discouraging imputation.
One felt hopelesily open to a a paralyzing and
unanswerable charge, and one's ease and hapunanswerable charge, and one's ease and hap
piness in the garden of one's fancies was more
and more marred by the dread of it.? Though Mr. Wells has probably finished
his work as a short-story writer, he observes that he still may be alliowed to remain a critic,
and as a critic he declares all for laxness and
variety in this as in in every field of art. "Insistence, he dect $\begin{aligned} & \text { austere unities, seems to me the instinctive }\end{aligned}$ reaction of the sterile against the fecund. It
is the tired man with a leadache who valuc,
a work of art for what it does not contain," That surely is a witty remark, as weil as a
wise one, but, anyhow, Mr. Wells refises to
eecognize any hard and fait type for the short recognize any hard and fast type for the short
story, any more than he admits any finitation
upon the not matter," he says, "whether it is human or
inhuman., Some things are more easily donie as short stories than other, and more abuit-
dantly done, but one of the many pleasures of
short-story writing is to achieve the impos"Something very bright and moving," tha
is Mr. Wells' prescription for the short stor
 self alone and left in a little brown paper cover
to iie about a room against the needs of quite
casual curiosity. Nav, he would father these casual curiosity, Nay, he would rather these
little brown paper volumes were found in the
bedrooms of convaiescents and in dentists parlors, and railway trains, than in gentle-
meñs studios. Now that is a hint for the the
thoughtul and enterprising publisher. Who thoughtul and enterprising publisher. Wh
will give effect to Mr. Wells' suggestion?
New York Times.

BUT THINK OF THE GIRAFFE In her pretty new frock Sister Mabel felt
quite proud as she sat on the front tsep and
watched some boys playing on the sidewalk. After a time one little boy came to talk
to her and to admire, in his rough little way,
her bright, shiny, shoes and pink sash. "See my nice little square-cut waist," she
crowed, "and my nice coral beads! Don't you want sit-e," replied the boy. "I woulln't
wany irl at all, because lookie how
much more neck you have to wash." "I don't see any sense in referring to the
wisdom of Solomon," said the man, smartly. wisdom of solomond wives."
"He had a thousan
"Yes," answered the woman, tartly, "he

## Disappearing landing wheels, which fold up within the chassis, feature a new aeroplane.

 Within the chassis, feature a new aeroplane.Water for the booilers of steam engines in
France is now heated by exhaust steam. economizes fuel more than 12 per cent.
There were buil in France, during 190, no fewer than 1,300 aeroplanes, with a combined
motive power of 60,000 horse. power, and the
distance wovere in motive power of 60,000 horse power, and the
distance covered in flights at aerodromes
reached a total of 310,683 miles.

## $\mathbb{R}$ emititance Man In $\mathbb{N}$. $\mathbb{Y}$

$2 z^{2}=\mathbf{x}=$
pletely discresitited. No, he's ongland, exam
scamp, but utterly unscrupulous in mioney
scat maters. He hangs about hore sponging an
trying to riase little loans. If hed seen $m$
now within five minutes he'd have woven to
now, within five minutes hedd have woven to
gether a story, of a great business opportunit and have done his best to work me,
'Tve seen a good deal of these fellows They're very picturesque, but they're to be
avoiled like the plague. There e one charac-
teristic the teristic they all have, lifone over onas is un-
worked day ins int every one is
der the delusion that he could be a great business man on a large scale.
"They dream up the most extraordinars propositions you ever heard. One or two have
actually made money in this way They have fallen in with some get-rich-guick geniuses,
have made their personality useflil and have
been shrewd enough to carry off a fair share of the proits.
"But actual work is something these men
won't do. Out of all the educated, agreeable, high-class exiled Englishmen drifting aroun
the hotels of New York I have known of axactly two who ever really worked. One put
his pride in his pocket after he had been over here a couple of years, He found a pretty Am-
erican girl of very, ordinary class that he want. dot marr, and he struck out for himeself.
it met that man eight years ago in Eng "I met that man eight years ago in Eng-
land.p when he was a captain. Now. he is a waiter in one of the largest of the high-grade
downtown restaurants. He is a capital waiter, downtown restaurants. He is a capital waitery
too, and his fevenue from tips must be very neat. A remarkable thing about him is
he is not at all ahshamed of his work. He ev
takes a pride in it. He makes no attempt takes a pride in it. He makes no attempt at
all to hide his itentity. He has gone down in
the social scale, of course, but I think he is the social scale
much happier.
"The other man I speak of makes a really
good income by designing pieces of jewelry for woalthy people. He works hard at this, and
has acquired a reputation. Some day, if all goes well, this man will have an estate and a
big rent roll in England. Now he has nothing and is dependent upor the bounty of his elder
brother, who cordially distikes him. When
the father died the elder son announced forth with that he did not propose to become a bank
for his brother. On condition that he would go and live in America he would send him
monthy £200 a year. If he stayed, nothing.
"Frederick came ove choice. He knew he couldn't earn a eent
tabroad, and a thousand dollars a year was bet ter than star fation. He and his wife had a
bad time at first, and then some people he fell
in with suggested this designing. He could in with suglested profession of it w
make a really good
that when he gets a hundred dollars comes Sir Improvident again and must spen the money on dinners, theatres and geegaws.
"But these two men do work. The others bles or by touches even down to a dime.
The remittance man of New York gener
ally hires a room and tries to eat off his ac ally hires a room and
quaintances and friends. Some of the bio ho
tels have dollar a day rooms on their top floors and these are useful to the remittance man
They five him an address that helps him along At any remittance men are one their nood to each other At any time one of their number may go home
in a blaze of flory and be completely rehabil-
itated. They never forget the possibilities of "One of these men has picked up some
money by giving Americans going abroad let ters of introduction to titted people. Ne
ters are all genuine, and he really knew all the
people he writes to, so fere is no fraud. In each case he adroitly secures a loan from the
m $\approx$ ite has obliged. Another remittance man has, off and o
touted for a private haberdasher successfull Still another is ingenious in selecting victim
for shady financial enterprises. This man ha
actually gained for himself the reputation o actually. gained for himself the rep.
being an Englishman of larage means. ty of looking arter the American interests
wealthy Englishmen has the affairs of en remittance men in its charge. concern the other day. AAl are really men
ability and personality. The have good pre ability and personality. They have good pres
entes and good a atresses. Some are a littl
off, it is true, but the most ot them appear ex off, it is true, but the most of them appear ex-
tremely well. Even now any number of them could make themselves men of mark. But they
have chosen their own path, and they will not with o few months aqo Ine rade an experiment
che was a a man of great
charm, and you were at once interested in him It looked as if there was a chance of making
something out of him. I explained the case to
a a friend of mine, and brought the man arounc
My friend gave him a minor secretarial plac
at $\$_{15}$ a week to start with. He too wa at sis a week to start. You never saw an
charmed with the fellow. Yo gratul an the young Englishman. H
one so get
would work his fingers off. he told me, no that some one hal given him a chance. "Two, days later, at 3.30 oclock in
afternoon, my friend called me mp. "Say,"
said. "Judson-Iudson went out eaty said. udson-Judson went out eatly to lunch
today at a few minutes before I2. He hasn't
come back." '"John,' I answered back, TM afraid our
little experiment has failed", Imentioned tha
pame of a big hotel uptown. Rum one of your pame of a big hotel uptown, Run one of yo
boys. up and see if he innt there?
bles'." was, "itting at one of the cafe

The man addressed at the table that held
three and toward which a fourth man was movhis hand slightly as if he did not care, and orSun. He had quite the air of the grand seig
neer. The third man did not say a word, but
watched his glass wolfishly. It was evident that manners alone restrained him from swal-
lowing its contents immediately, before the others had poured out their Jrinks. Once he
trank his eyes lit up with satisfaction and he
looked at bottle and glasses almost lovingly, as if he rarely saw much quality.
All four men were teatly lressed, the host
Imost handsomely. The clothes of the others almost handsomely. The clothes of the others
were a trifle shabby, but they were well cut smattly and showed himself used to the best.
Every voice was low pitched and pleasant.
About at least two there was a touch of the military. Several other men who seemed strangely
like them came up, spoke and sat down at ad
oining tables joing
have one man who, was doing the honors, who was better dressed than the others, arld more
satisfied with himelf. They're all remittance men, whispered cafe as a sort of club and they use two of the
other big and fashionable hotel's in the same
way way though not as regularly as this. There's
very seldom an afternoon when several tablefuls of thenr are not here. We don't care abour
having them, for their trade's not soo ery val
uable, but they are gentlemen and they're well behavee, so we dont say anythins "Every one of them comes of a glod Eng-
lish family, and they've been sent over here
for something or other. That man with the fine shoulders was a captaip in the British army
in India. You should see him walk. That
man That man next him is almost a lord. His cousi
has the title, and a little boy comes next. I
both te both die he will step into the estate. And all
of them are over here on just enough to keep
body and soul together "Some of them live on as low as $\$ 5$ a week,
but that's unusual The lowest sent then
from home is generally $\$ 50$ a month. Nearly always they have to go to a liwyer downtown
to get it. Of course, some get a great deal
more. There's more. There's one man that conies here who
has $\$ 15,000$ a year sent him from Rome as
long as he lives in New York. He draws his "The men you see entertaining mo have just received some money or hav
made some by a streak of luck. All these gen
tlemen know each other, and. when a man ha any money he is good to the others. He won
lend him much, but he will treat him to the end him much, but he will treat thim to the
best a house like this affords, and that mean
a great deal o these men that know what
riches reand now, exceptat times, have hard riches tre and now, except at
ly a penny in their pockets.,
People who have come int mittance man say that there are 200 or 300
them in New York. There may Be mote whi
are kept under cover and live in seclusion, but that is ullikely, for mingling with people that
are really his kind and getting even fragments
of the luxury he of life to the remittance man. cases, gravitates to New York. So long as he
puts the ocean in between and keess it there
his family does not much are whe his family does not muely care where he stay
In New York he is tikely to meet visiting Eng Iishew who miay not be informed about his
history and Americans who like the English
his are and of good class and are not always as careful
they might be to make inquiries. To be able to rub elbows with such people
he must keep well dressed. The New York
remittance man is sometimes, by hard fate remittance man is somet, eves, if he has to go
without his evening togs, but
hungry he invariably sees that his clothes perhaps he is down to a single suit-are well
pressed, his linen clean and his boots shining
One man of this order much seen in hote cafes has precisely a dollar a day to spend for
eatiting and getting about town after his roon
rent is paid. Every Friday afternoon there is rent is paid. Every Friday afternoon there is
waiting for him at a firm of New York attorneys $\$$ I2. Under no circumstances, after this
is drawn, can he get another cent until the
following Friday. A moderate priced New
Y Now York tailor and an equally modest priced ham
erdasher have orders to let him have so man dollars' worth of goods each three months,
A number of remittance men receive their stipend from home quarterly, but this custom
is being done away with, for these men are, as
a class, improvident ,and if several hundred
a a class, improvident,an is several once. it
dollas is placed in their hand at one
almost certain to go like water. Nearly in variably the remittance man is a persistent dev-
otee of the tables of chance. a New Yorker suddenly wheeled around sharp ly and walked a few steps away, ,I thought it a little better, he sid this
companion. "There's a man there Id rather com maet. His mother, sister and brother
nover in London are ciose friends of mine. over in London are close friends of mine. It
thy came here 1 Id get to the steamer to meet
them and show them every courtesy. rica. He's a superb officet, and he had a grea career before h him. Now-w well, I suppose the
family allow him \$15 a week here fanily allow him $\$ 15$ a week here. It would
be quite useless to give hine any more. He'd
simply gamble it all away.

