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### Literature.

## SHARP LESSON.

It is not at all pleasant to be the audior of a dispu c between husband and wife, a jangling of sweet bells that never ought to be in discord. And Robert Hume, confined to a sofa by a badlysprained ankle, execrated, internally, the arrangements of the Swiss hotel that had made a curtain the only division between the room where he lay and the adjoining

In vain did he cough and whistle to renind the disputants that he was within

Harry's charming young wife, wrangled over a grievance

"I need not be alone, Harry," the lady interposed, significantly. "I thoughtthat is, I hoped-you weald go with

"And leave Hume till the eve "You did so yesterday, when

why I should be with him today. side. I do not like Mr. and Mrs. Ormsby. in the society of such a prosy old couple." "They are my relatives, Harry," Mrs. band. "And I have often told you

howecould I refuse?" "That was before Hume's accident. he met with it in saving you from a

still uneasy about them, we will increase the distance as soon as we can hire an i galid carriage and take Hume with us."
"But, Harry, 1 don't want to excu myself. Mr. Hume would be the person to wish me to behave ungrate to such old friends; neither doe: h

"I should like to know what I am to

do. Do you forbid-absolutely forbidmy going to the Ormsbys?" "That you may represent me to them as a tyrant? Certainly not. Please your

Another pause, and then the lady spoke "I cannot think it would be right to

make. Had you said at the time-" But here she was auguily stopped. into a discussion that can only come to portance to you than my wishes, and you Do so, then. The steamer starts in half

an hour. Fritz will carry your wraps He could be heard stalking toward the and then a question was eagerly asked. door; but lighter, more rapid footsteps . "But there is a letter, or a message for

but be a dear, kind boy, and accompany bodies were not yet recovered." Say you will? It is such a lovely morn- deadly pale, and reeling back, so that Mr. ing. It will be charming on the lake, Hume put out an arm to steady him.

with which his wife regarded her rela- are residing there; compatriots whose tives; and that she, his bride of a few name she called Ormsby."

"I have no doubt," he cried, sarcasti- natured remarks concerning them. Still fond arms sought to detain him.

"But kiss me before we part. Do,

apologize for leaving him for a few hours.

and seem at her ease, but vainly hoping the disaster, to hurry the men who were

wave her a farewell in token that his riage, was all Harry Wilsdon could do or Although Mr. Wilsdon did not show its gay freight of tourists, he joined Mr. wrung his friend's hand, and left the ho-

Apparently he was in the best of spirits; but his friend had known him too long and too intimately not to descry that they were forcel.

bout the gardens of the hotel.

That he was not regretting his harshness to his wife was evident from the

"Evelyn coming by it? Oh, dear, no. I do not expect her till the evening. What woman can resist the pleasure of while his friend, Harry Wilsdon, and being made much of by a couple of old foggies eager to supply her with all the gossip of the family? She will be able to tell us how many of her cousins, to the remotest degree, have been born, married, and buried, since we left England, six months ago.'

> "Mrs. Wilsdon would be very unwom if her marriage had killed her interher own relatives," replied Mr.

eft them for me, of her own free torted the aggrieved husband. I hope you will never give her

she been complaining of me?" de anded Mr. Wilsdon, suspiciously. dear fellow, what a ridiculous stion! It think it's the other way Wilsdon pleadingly reminded her hus- Ore of these sudden storms that sweep cross the lake must be coming in this

> that his prediction should have been veri- and sorrow it elicited. fied, grew more gloomy and irascible as Someone presently inquired where was

thought of her!

Too thoroughly out of humor to make an agreeable companion even to Mr. Hume, he went off for a solitary walk, coming back at twilight, jaded and fatigu-

embling in the hall, or loung-

how he should receive her. The steamer swung up to the landingplace, where a merry group had hastened and in doubtful weather." to meet their friends, but Harry Wilsdon was not amongst them.

He had decided to stay where he was, and he flung himself into a chair beside Mr. Hume's sofa. She might seek him, he would not seek her. A step-was it hers? The

gently unclosed; was it Evelyn? No; but the wife of the hotel proprietor, looking rather grave and anxious. "Apparently, Madame Wilsdon has "Not arrived? Then she proposes re-

maining with those Ormsbys.' This was muttered under his

treated a soft, appealing voice. "I am captain of the boat had nothing for Mr. so sor; y to have vexed you. Do let us Wilsdon, but he brought a very sad remake a compromise. I still think I must port. There had been a storm, and a what had happened, and beg of him to go to the Ormsbys, because they expect loat upset; a lady, and the gentleman

me? Then I promise not to stay for "Why do you come and tell this to more than a greeting and a good-bye. me?" demanded Harry Wilsdon, growing

doubtless; only I could not but remember But Mr. Wilsdon was not to be conciliathat, before Madame started this mornated. He was -though he would have ing, she inquired how she should most scouted the idea—jealous of the affection easily find Belchamp, and les Anglais who closer.

months, should assert herself, and not "Then it is my poor Evelyn's old yield him ready obedience, was too pro- friends who are drowned. What a shock

cally, "that you will enjoy yourself a "The lady was young," said madame, great deal more without than with me. in a half-whisper, "the gentleman was who neither then nor afterwards confes-You have chosen to go your own way; old; she was not his wife, but a visitor. The older lady was nervous, and remaintune, and her grief is terrible."

morning if you are really, really vexed to me?" asked Harry Wilsdon, hoarsely. the opportunity occurred he could not re-But, ere he could be answered, he threw sist taking advantage of it. To this there was no other reply than up his hands, exclaiming, "I know, I Harry had suffered severely during the the slamming of a door, and Mr. Hume know! it is my wife! my Evelyn, who has brief period he believed Evelyn lost to fancied he could detect the sound of low perished! Oh, my lost darling, and I him; and it made him a better husband was not there to save or die with you!" But he did not see Mrs. Wilsdon till Mr. Hume tried to urge the possibility Perhaps Robert Hume never proved

He argued in vain, he could not obtain a hearing. To start for the scene of her husband would yet appear, if only to putting a pair of horses into a light car-

Within a quarter of an hour after hearing the evil tidings, the young man had Hunre soon after, and insisted on being tel, promising to double the payment to allowed to wheel him in an invalid chair the driver if he would hasten-hasten!

covered his ghastly face. a still more hideous fact, that he was hurrying through the darkness to find his young wife, not flying to meet him with outstretched arms, nor even clinging tearmanner in which he answered a remark fully to his neck, as she had done a few hous earlier; but DEAD, drowned? His no longer, but a pale, mute corpse, on whom he might lavish caresses, but never

And they had parted-oh Heavens!

how they had parted! He had been cold and unjust, he had refused the kiss, or the kind word for which she had pleaded so lovingly; he had brooded over her fancied offences all the live-long day, refusing to see that it was he who was in the wrong: that his conscience justified her, although his lips had not acknowledged his own jealous folly. He could never tell her this now. Oh, Evelyn, sweetest and fondest of wives how could he live his life without you? Faster, man! Make your horses go faster still, or get fresh ones, no matter at what cost, so that they bear him to the spot where Evelyn was lying!

Mr. Hume limped on to the veranda t watch the departure of his friend, who was carried out of sight by the galloping horses before the news had been disemin

No one on the boat had heard it, the captain prudently keeping it to himself till he had landed his passengers; but, ext boat; and her husband, annoyed many were the expressions of sympathy

She knew he had disapproved of her dons here, and how had he borne the tidting the Ormsbys at all; yet, here she ings, of the fate of the missing bride? gering with them, for hours and But no one could answer, for Robert

watched and waited till a carriage came

The driver waved his hat as soon as he saw Mr. Hume. Then Harry Wilsdon surang from the vehicle, no longer white pusions, or to watch for the and frenzied with despair, for with him,

There had been a sad no This few was supposed to include Mrs. Evelyn explained, "and the Ormsby Wilsdon, and her husband, standing were connected with it, but only so far sulking apart, was debating in his mind that the unfortunates, whose lives were lost through their own rashness, in venturing on the water in the frailest of boats

It was a father and daughter who were drowned, the bereaved wife and mother

standing on the shore unable to render any So great was this poor creature's distress, that Mrs. Ormsby had volunteered

to remain with her while Mr. Ormsby went to fetch her brother, the clergyman of a French Protestant church, distant about half a day's journey.

But Mrs. Ormsby had overtaxed her own strength, and when Evelyn arrived she found her services as nurse and consoler so greatly in requisition that she could not tear herself away.

"But I wrote," she added; "I sent mounted messenger with a note to you, Mr. Hume, for I remembered that I had forgotten to return to you the key of your travelling bookcase, and knew you might be wanting it. I asked you to tell Harry join me at Belchamp. I was quite fright- ed or upholstered will kindly send same me, and would feel hurt at any neglect; who was rowing her, had sunk, and the ened, when, long after midnight, he burst by boat. Orders will receive prompt atinto the room, where I was writing let- tention, ters for the poor widow, looking quite ill

and strange, and behaving like \_\_\_\_\_ "Chut, you need not describe to soberminded Hume all the foolish things I said and did when I saw my wee wife alive and well," interposed Harry, laughing, yet with a break in his voice as he threw

"But it was so provoking," Evelyn went on, "that you never had my note. Twice a Week-Wednesday & Saturday for her!" and Harry repented all his il!- that he had given it into your hand. It is extraordinary, isn't it?"

"Most extraordinary," said Mr. Hume, sed that the note was in his pocket. He had longed to give Harry Wilsdon a sharp lesson, to make him aware that he was not treating his young wife with "Why do you tell me this? What is it the consideration she merited; and when

she ran into the room, her swollen eyes of the report being untrue, but mine himself a better friend than when permithidden by a veil, to bring him some news- hostess insisted that it was only too-well ting him to endure the pangs of suspense He gave up this point, and contented in the future, when the cares of business "I shall come back by the boat that himself with reminding the distracted or other trials ruffle Harry Wilsdon's reaches here early in the afternoon. Will husband that, beyond the name of Orms- temper, and make him peevish, Evelyn, SUN PUBLISHING COMPANY, Ltd. you kindly tell Harry-I do not know by, there was nothing to connect Mrs. recalling his anguish at her supposed death,

still living, will feel how dear to his heard she must be, and, with the soft answer

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