

replied the dealer, "but what de ye want we't?" he enquired. "Deed" says Tibby, I'm just gawn te tak it hame an' get oor Tam to mak exercises to me an' the weans.

The man was not over half satisfied as to what she really wanted. However, he put up the book for her, together with a pair of spectacles, for she said "Tam was na sae gude at seein' noo as formerly (puir body.>"). Having secured the exercise book and the specs, Tibby went on her way and reached her 'ain hoos' in safety.

When Tam came home at night, and after she had responded to his "Weel Tibby ye've got hame frae the fair," and she had retailed several items of general news she commenced the task of introducing the subject of the book with "Eh! mon! I was at oor freen Sandy Camerons a' neicht. An' are they a' weel?" says John, "Aye, but that's what they ar' ye may say *unco'* weel,—an they have—Oh! they have the reel reight thing there. O, Tam! they hae family exercises, an' its nae the thing that ye an' me hae been sae lang thigether an' nae hain exercises tae—An' I'm *determined this neicht* afore ye sleep that ye mak them tae me an' the weans."

This appeared rather stern for Tam all at once, who was entirely unacquainted with such matters, although such ignorance was rather uncommon among shepherds even in those parts, who were generally known as a pious and intelligent class.

"Wee'll no fash the nicht. We'll consider aboot it, an' see aboot it after a wee," said Tam meditatively.

"Nae consider ava, just get aboot it at once," replied Tibby promptly and resolutely. I have bought the buik for the virra purpose, an' a pair o' specs, an' a' thigither come—*come!*—my guid man! *nae* refusal!"

Tam, sore against his will, was induced to get on the specs, and with book in hand to proceed according to the plain instructions therein contained, thus:

"Fall into ranks! (A pause.)

Tibby speaks earnestly—"Noo bairns sit ye roun' yer faither, he's gaun tae mak exercises. Whisht! Whisht!