BARKER'S LUCK By BRET HARTE CONTROLL BY BRET HARTE Published by arrangement with the Little By arrange

A bird twittered: The morning sun and papers with a kind of paternal should be a supported to the field by arrangement with the late carry Digitars Newspaper Syndicate.

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If you can't find them, bring one recombinant air, which had one of one of the window. The room was filled with his love—It was shootingstand the string room door; saw the vision of a hand, it was the find of the window. The room was filled with his love—It was shootingstand the string room door; saw the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door; saw the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door; saw the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door; saw the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door; saw the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door, and the with the string room door, as the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door, as the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door, as the vision of a hand, it was the string room door, as the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door, as the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door, as the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door, as the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door, as the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room door, as the vision of a hand, it was the fill the string room and the string room door, as the vision of a hand, it was the string room door, as the vision of the string room and the string room and the way as the string room and the grant of the window ledge of the fill the string room of the st

serve with red wine. I'm not feeling very peckish this morning."

"But we're partners," gasped Bar-ker.

Accustomed to these regular Barme-cide suggestions, Barker made no direct reply. Fremently looking up from the fire, he said, "There's no mere saleratus, ac you mustn't blame me if the biscuit is extra heavy, I told you we had none when you went to the grocery yesterday."

"And I told you we hade't a red cent to buy any with," said Stacy, who was also trensurer.

Neverthaless, they sat down to what Barker had prepared, with the keen appetite begotten of the mountain air. Jerked beef, fristled with sail peric in a frying pan, holled potatoes, biscuit hand coffee compared the repast, Suddelly they leard the sound of horses' hoofs, saw the quick passage of a rider in the open space before the cabin, and felt the samal object the cabin, and felt the country news-morning delivery of the c

he must confess all to him. He must go back to the hotel—that hotel where he had indignantly left her, and tell the father he was a fraud.

up, exclusive, college-bred men who mine ha gone up, when it should have occasionally came here to this hotel sas customers. In everybody's eyes I have been only the rich hotel keeper's popular daughter, who sometimes waited upon you—but nothing more. But at least we were then pretty much slike, and one as good as the other. And now, as soon as you have become suddenly rich, and, of course, the superior, you rush down here to ask me to acknowledge it by accepting you."

"But my partners didn't! On the contrary"—
"Don't tell me, George," said Miss Kitty severely. "They ought never to have let you come here with that stuff. But come! You must go at once. You must not meet paw; you'll blurt out everything to him; I know you! I'll tell him you could not stay to lunch-con. Quick, now; go. What? Well-there!"

Whatever it represented, the exclamation was apparently so protracted that Miss Kitty was obliged to push her lover to the front landing before she could disappear by the back stairs. But, once in the street, Barker no longer lingered.

The sun was beginning to send of the cabin. There, on an old flour of the cabin. There, on an old flour stay to have to the corner of the cabin. There, on an old flour contracts.

"Everything's up." gasped the eathless Barker. "It's all up about these stocks. It's all a mistake; all an infernal He of that newspaper. I never had the right kind of shares. The ones I have are worthless rars: and the next instant he had blurted out his whole interview with the bank manager. The two partners looked at each

The two partners housed at each other, and then, to Barker's infinite perplexity, the same extraordinary convulsion that had selxed Mea Nitty fell upon them. They laughed, holding on each other's shoulders they laughed, clinging to Barker's strug-gling figure; they went out and laugh-ed with their backs against a tree-They laughed separately and in differ-

you, and he mustn't give you away.
He'll do anything for me."
But my partners didn't! On the contrary"—
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But," he added mfidly, as the men gianced at each other—"you said "taken the contrary"—

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her lover to the front landing before she could disappear by the back Stary. Stary.

Stairs. But, once in the street, Barker no longer lingered.

The sun was beginning to send of the cabin. There, on an old flour dwarf shadows towards the east when barrel, stood a large tin prospecting pan, in which the partners also cocawhere their old working ground was spread before him like a map. They dry towel covered it. Demorest where not there, neither were they lying under the four pines on the ridge whisked it dexterously aside, and discharge they were wont to rest at midway. He turned with some alarm to the started back.

spread before him like a map. They were not there; neither were they jying under the four pines on the ridge where they were wont to rest at midday. He turned with some alarm to the new claim adjoining theirs but there was no sign of them there either. A sudden fear that they had, after parting from him, given up the claim in a fit of disgust and depression, and departed, now overcame him. He claim in a fit of disgust and depression, and departed, now overcame him. He claim in a fit of disgust and depression, and departed, now overcame him. He claim in a fit of disgust and depression, and departed, now overcame him. He claim in a fit of disgust and depression, and debarted back.

He had nearly reached it when the challenge of "Who's there?" from the challenge of "Who's there?" from the challenge of "Who's there?" from the challenge of sternness and impatience which he was wearing vanished as he saw Barker, and with a loud shout of "all right, it's only Barker! Hoorayl" he ran toward him. In an instant he was joined by Stacy from the cabin, and the two men, catching hold of their returning partner, waltzed him joyfully and breathlessly into the cabin, But the quick-eyed Demorest auddenly let go his hold and stared at Barker's face,

"Why, Barker, old boy, what's up?"

"Everything's up," gasped the breathless Barker, "It's all up about these stocks. It's all up about these stocks. It's all a mistake: all

"Oh, Kitty said so," said both partut ners gravely.

"Yea," stammered Barker, turning
away with a heightened color, "and,
as I didn't stay there to luncheon, I
think I'd better be getting it ready,"
ed He picked up the coffee pot and
turned to the hearth as his two part-

"And his worry over that note?"
said Demorest.
"And what Ritty said?" said Stacy.
"And what Ritty said?" said Stacy.
"Look here! I reckon that wasn't all that Kitty said."

"Of course not."
"What luck!"

They laughed separately and in different corners. And then they came up to Barker with tears in their eyes, dropped their heads on his shoulder, and murtured exhaustedly:

"You blessed ass!"

"You blessed ass!"

"But," said Stacy suddenly, "how did you manage to buy the claim?"

"Ah! that's the most awful thing, boys. I've never paid for it," ground Barker. dropped their heads on his shoulder, and murmured exhaustedly:
"You blessed ass!"
"But," said Stacy suddenly, "how did you manage to buy the claim?"
"Ah! that's the most awful thing, boys. I've never paid for it," ground Barker.
"But Carter sent us the bill of saie," bett Carter sent us the bill of saie," persisted Demorest, "or we shouldn't have taken it."
"I gave my promissory note at 20 da. "R." said Barker desperately, "and where's the money to come from now?"

GIFTS THAT LAST



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