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LOUISBURG, N. C., PRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1905

JESS Q CO. By J. J. BELL.

Author of "Wee Mactreegor," "Mrs. McLerie," Btc.

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CHAPTER I.

ROSES AND RUE.

AVID HOUSTON, joiner and glazier by trade, gardener by nature, stood slackly in the July afternoon sunshine admiring the "glory" roses that budded and bloomed on the south gable of his cottage. With lazy, loving eyes he gazed at them, and now and then he drew a past from the brier pipe in the corner of his mouth and slowly emitted a thin stream of smoke with something like a sigh of contentment. Thrice, with an effort, he had moved away, and thrice he had retraced the few steps and returned to his roses.

A mile along the shore, to which she had retrived on a small annuity on the had retrived on a small annuity on the had retrived on a small annuity on the death of her husband some ten years ago. But she was Glasgow bors and bred and had never resily set into sympathy with the Kimichan natives and their ways. It was during the not infrequent visits to ber aunt however, that Jess had come to know David Houston, and although the life was fond or holding up the man's deviced a thin stream of smoke with some thing like a sigh of contentment. Thrice, with an effort, he had moved away, and thrice he had retraced the few steps and returned to his roses. steps and returned to his roses.

The sound of an opening door caused him to start, and he grew red in the face as his wife, bearing a bundle of washing to be bleached, came round the corner of the cottage. "Oh, David," she exclaimed (she usu-

ally called him Davie), "you've surely forgot the time. It's after 3." "Is it, Jess?" he said, with genuine enough surprise in his voice, adding feebly, "I didna think it was as late." The wife of two months regarded him with grave eyes and shook her head, "I thought," she said after a short pause—"I thought you had gone back to the shop an hour ago at least.

You said you were going."

"I'll see them at the right timewhen your work's by for the day, David," she replied seriously. "Oeb, lass, ye needna be that strict wi' yer man," he retorted good humoredly, "There's naethin' daein' at the shop this weather. Here, Jess, did ye ever see a bonnier"-

"Aye. But come an' see the roses,

"There'll never be anything doing at the shop unless the master's there," room to prepare tea. right, David."

"But Angus is there." "Angus! And what can Angus do?" "Well, he's no' fit for muckle work. but-but he can tak' orders." "And forget them." "Puir buddy! He's gettin' auld,"

said David gently. "That's just all the more reason why you should be looking after things for yourself. Oh, Davie, Davie, I doubt you're too easy going!" Her husband looked uncomfortable. for he felt the truth of her remark,

any more easy going than the other tradesmen of little Kinlochan-by-the-Mrs. Houston broke the awkward silence, speaking more lightly than she felt: "Off you go!" she cried, laughing. "Off you go this minute, Davie, lad, or I'll have to start the joinering

though, as a matter of fact, he was not

His pipe had gone out, and he slipped it into his jacket pocket. "Ye see, lass," he said apologetically, "the Ardmartin show is on Saturday an' I canna but think o' the roses." "Yes, I know, Davie," she returned with sudden sympathy. "You're not to think I don't care about your roses,

but-but"-"I'm a lazy, stupid felia!" he interrupted. "I'll awa' to ma work." And he hurrled off as if from temptation. He turned at the garden gate and waved his hand to her, and she waved hers to him, smiling. But as soon as he disappeared her young face grew thoughtful, and she signed as she started to spread the items of her

When she had laid out the last of the bundle she rose erect, stretching out her arms and forcing back her shoulders, for she was tired and stiff with the day's work, which had begun between 5 and 6 o'clock in the morn

A short chuckle sounded behind her "Aunt Wallace!" she cried, turning

"Ye're learnin', wumman; ye're learnin'," observed her relative, staring at the white patched green. "Nae doo! bending her elderly but still active body to examine at close quarters a specimen of her niece's washing. "An' boo's yer guidman?" she inquired, rising at last from an inspection se lengthy, so keen and so patronizin that the young woman could scarcely

"He's quite well, thank you, aunt, Mrs. Wallace smiled rather sourly "I thocht he micht be no' vera wee seein' that he needs about three 'our to tak' his dinner in.' "Did you meet him on the read?"

Jessie. He's lazy enough wi'eot ye keepin' him. But his fayther, pulr er, I never seen his mither. She wis deid afore I cam' to Kinlochan. I've

ou a cup of tea, aunt," said Jess line aud aranter accommon apearant in a stilf. "You've had a warm walk." me ower the wa' an' me askin' efter his health, fur I thochs he wis lukin' gey

lazy man. Aye, an' I doot it's yersel'

Cuban Diarrhoes. U. S. soldiers who served is Uuba during the Spanish war know what this disease is, and that ordinary remedies have little more effect than so much water. Cuban diarrhoes is almost as severe and dangerous as a mild attack of cholers.

There's naethin' peely wally about him

Mrs. Houston conducted her aunt in-doors and into the parior, with its eld fashioned furniture of her husband's parents, relieved by the modern daintinesses which she had provided just be-fore and since her marriage, and by the flowers which the garden, small though it was, generously afforded.

"Ye're the yin fur falderals," observed Mrs. Walisce, with a critical stars round the room. "Ye're like yer mither wi' yer e'e fur useless things an' yer fine way o' speakin'. That's the warst o' a lassie takin' a man's job in an office an' gaun cot at picks to cleaner. fice an' gaun oot at nicht to classes.
Mphm! But every lass noosdays is a
young leddy an' ower fine fur the
things that wis guid enough fur her
fayther an' millher. 'Deed, ye sud hae
mairrit yin o' then fancy chaps that di
naethin' but pu' down their cuffs an' dance about the flure o' the big drapers in Glesca. Yin o' thou chaps wad shairly please ye better nor a plain

Jess, having heard all this before laughed good naturedly and left the spread tray, her aunt was still in her

"I suppose ye ca' this afternune tea!" she said, with a saiff. "I'm extrem vexed I didna bring ma vessitin' cairds wi' me, yer ladyship! But I left them in ma cairriage." "You can send the footman up after ward," retorted Jess calmly as she

"Ye're ower smairt, wumman," said Mrs. Wallace, with her short chuckle. "Weel, weel, seein' ye've made the tea I suppose I'll need to tak' it." And she took it with a considerable relish.

poured out the tea.

presently. "It's a change for ye, eh?"
"Yes," said her niece softly. "Of
course I like it, aunt," she added somewhat sharply. "Mphm! They a' say that at the stairt. Yer hauns 'll no' be as genteel

"I don't mind that," said Jess, no absolutely truthfully. "Ye canna rub an' scrub an' dae ain washin' an' keep yer hauna like a doochess'. Whit wey did Davie no' get some puir buddy to dae the bit

like as they wis in the office."

washin' fur ye?" "He wanted to, but I wouldn't him. I can manage it fine myself. It isn't such a big job, you know." "Weel, I'm shair I'm glad ye're pleased—thenk ye, jist hauf a cup—but I doot ye're daein' mair nor yer share Ye're daein' mair nor yer man to keep the hoose gaun,"

"Oh, no, Aunt Wallace, Davie works "Aye, when he yinst gets st said the old lady, shutting her mouth with a snap. "He's jist like a' the ither

"Haud yer tongue! I've leeved here fur ten year come Martinmas, an' I ker whit I'm talkin' aboot. Gie a Kin lochan man a job to dae, an' if he's his ain maister, like yer ain man, he'll to dae't or loss it a'thegither. Aye, an' mony's job here's been lost a'thegither. Whisht! I'm no feenished yet. I grant ye the job's dune quick an' weel when got to wait for that! Did I ever tell ye aboot and Maister McDonald's gate? Na; I didna. Weel, it's a parable fur the guidwife o' ony Kinlochan man, especially if he's a jiner, an' there's jist the yin jiner in Kinlochau the noo. Mind, I'm sayin' the noo, fur I'm think-in' there's room fur anither, if he's got ony spunk ava', in the future. Och, ye needna fice up! Weel, auld Maister McDonald bided in the big boose next to ma wee yin, an' be wis a rale kind auld man, an' mony's the basket of Weel, it wisna lang efter I cam' to Kin lochan that his gate gaed wrang—it was and like hissel"—an needst repair in'. So he sent fur the jiner—it was rate an' said he wud get it rep "Come into the house, and I'll make wild sort the gate wi'cot delay. I mind fine suid Maister McDonald speakin' to

Quality vs. Quantity.

in', no' kennin' he wie deld. I seen the gate lyin' across the road an' Davie tayther comin' along the coad wheeling wi' his bag o' tools. He didna loss the job, but he never had the face to see is the account. I dinne think he existed onythin' to Davie about it, so I can tell him the story when he's present the story. He had!

ower busy. Ha, ha!"
"I'm sure I'll do nothing of the sort cried Jess indignantly. "A story ill that is always exaggerated."
"That's ower big a word fur an au wife like me, lassie, but every wo 've tell't ye's as true as I'm sitt here. An' efter a', when ye get ten the Kinlochan folk, ye'll no' wunr ken the Kinlochan folk, ye'll no wunner at onythin'. I cud tell ye hoo Sandy Stewart, the penter, tuk twa year to come to whitewash Mistress Dowle's weakin' hoose an' then near quest date when he fun' her haddle had done it hissel'. An' I cud tell ye— Na; I'll no' say ony mair. But mind, Jess, an' keep yer man's nose on the grindstane. He's ower fon o' growin' roses an' paneles an' so on, a' vers fine in their aln way, I grant ye, but no' the kin' o' things that'll gi'e ye saut to yer kall. Na, na; ye maun luk efter yer man Na, na; ye maun luk efter yer man. Business afore pleasure, as the wise

wumman said when she whuppit rean afore gl'ein' it gundy. Pil jist tak' anither moothfu' o' tea. I hope ye can bile tatties as weel as ye mak' tea.

nade her hot with anger. Davie all you've said, Aupt Wallace," he said presently, with assumed grav "Vera likely. Walt till ye've been

nairrit a year or twa afore ye tell yer Maybe by that time I'll has somethin' guid to say. But it depends on yeror say, keep him awa' frae the roses an' pansies. Weel, it's time I wis aff. I've two judgers comin' the morn, so I'll maybe no see ye for a whiley. Ma oal cellar door, but there's nae hurry for twa-three year. Guid bye to yo, ma dearle." And Mrs. Wallace kissed her niece quite affectionately, if hur-riedly, and made for the door. Jess accompanied her to the garden

watched her along the road and en slowly retraced her steps to the stage. Instead, however, of enter-g the house at once she went round to the south gable and spent a co and just before her marriage, fa

usiness as paramount.

Her aunt's allegations and insinua-ions she realised were based on truth. poing ways of Davie or excused them ty in the fact) had peyer saved a penmy. When money was necessary be would render accounts to the people who he thought could pay them an send old Angus round a day or two later to collect what he could. If financial affairs were not managed cording to the best business metho hey were at least managed st

ad gave it to Paul-when the latte isked his own. David Houston had indredth part as carefully kept and atched over as his roses and panales, a wife need never have worried her pretty head; but, as it was, she had more reason, to do so than she knew. In the ledger of one of the big city

feeting Elks, Buffalo, N. Y.,

The Seaboard announces if there is a sufficient number to justify it may will arrange to operate a special uliman Sleeping Car to run from taleigh through to Buffalo to acommodate the Elks from Wilmington, Charlotte, Durham and Raleigh attend the meeting of the Grand edge which will be held in Buffalo alve 10th 15th

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