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DR. CLIFT
Graduate of N. Y. University and the N. Y. Hospital. 21 years' practice in N. Y. City. Diploma registered in U. S. and Canada.
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A Tillyloss Scandal

By J. M. BARRIE

Author of "The Little Minister," "Auld Licht Idylls," "A Window in Thrums," Etc., Etc.

"I'm waiting," he said, after a pause. "Take your feet off the fender," replied Chirsty.
"Tell me my name immediately," requested Tammas.
"That's what's troubling ye?"
"It is so. What's my name?"
"Sal, whatever it is. I wish it wasna mine."
"Your grand folk called me James."
"So I noticed."
"How was that?"
"Ye couldna expect the like of them to ken the ins and outs of your name."
"Name of your tricks, woman! I wasna born on a Sabbath. It was you that said my name was James; ay, and what's more, ye called me James yourself."
"Do ye think I was to conter grand folk like the Balribbie family?"
"Conter here, conter there. I want to bottom this. They said I had been at Balribbie."
"Weel, I think ye might have been glad to take the credit of that."
"It's my opinion," said Tammas, "that ye've been pretending I was James Pitbladdo."
"Ye might have been proud of that, too," retorted Chirsty.
"As sure as death," said Tammas, "if ye dinna clear this up I gang to Balribbie for light on't."
"She looked me in the face at that," Tammas used to say as he told the story, "and when she saw the mighty determination in it she began to sing small. I pointed to the place whaur I wanted her to stand, and I says, 'Now, then, I'm waiting.'"
"I never pretended to ye," said Chirsty, "but what it was touch and go my no marrying James Pitbladdo."
Tammas nodded.
"The leddies at Balribbie thoct it was him I was to marry."
"I daursay."
"They dinna ken about you at that time."
"They dinna seem to ken about me yet."
"James used to come about Balribbie a heap, and they saw he was after me, and Miss Mary often said to me was I fond of him? Ay, and I said he was daft about me. Then he spiered me, and after that they had him up to the house."
"So, so, and that was the time he got the tea?"
"It was so, and then I gave up my place, them promising to come and visit me when I was settled."
"Ay, but James creipt off after all."
"Weel ye ken it was his superstitiousness made him give me the go-by."
"I've heard versions of the story frae folk in the toon, but I didna credit them. Ye took guid care never to tell me about it yourself. Ye said to me it was you that wouldna have him, no that he wouldna take you."
"He wanted me, but he was always a superstitious man, James Pitbladdo. He was never fonder of me than when we parted."
"All I ken," said Tammas, "is that he wouldna buy the ring to ye, and that must either have been because he didna want ye when it came to the point, or because he was a mighty greedy crittur."
"He's no greedy; and as for no caring for me, it near broke his heart to give me up. There was tears on his face when we parted."
"Havers! what was there to keep him frae buying the ring if he wanted it?"
"His superstitiousness."
"What is there superstitious about a ring?"
"It wasna the ring; it was the hiccup did it."
"Ay, I heard there was a hiccup in the story, but I didna fash about it."
"James did though, and it was a very queer thing, I can tell ye, though I didna put the wecht on it that he did. As many a one kens forby me, he walked straight to Peter Lambie's shop to buy the ring, and just as he had his hand on the door he took the hiccup. Ye ken what a superstitious man James is."
"If I wanted a wife it's no hiccup would stand in the road."
"Because you're over ignorant to be superstitious. And James didna give in at first try. He was back at the shop the next night, and there he took the hiccup again. Then he came to me and said in terrible disappointment as it would be wicked to marry in the face of Providence. I never saw a man so crushed like."
"Ay, I'm no saying but what this may be true, but it doesna explain your reason for calling me James."
"I call ye Tammas as a rule, when it's necessary to mention your name. Ye canna deny that."
"Tell me how I'm James to the gentry."
"I wasna to disgrace myself to them, was I?"
"Whaur's the disgrace in Tammas?"
"Ye maun see, Tammas Haggart, dull as ye are, that it was a trying position for me to be in. When I left Balribbie the leddies thoct I was to marry James Pitbladdo; did hey no?"
"I daursay."
"And I had told them James was complete daft about me; and so he was, for he called his very porridge spoon after me, a thing you never did."
"Did I ever pretend to you I had these poetical ways?"
"I wouldna have believed it, though you did. But was ever mortal woman left in such a predicament because of a superstition? Nat'rally, when I married you, I didna let on to the Balribbie

family as ye wasna' James Pitbladdo, and James Pitbladdo they think ye to this day. What harm does it do ye?"
"Harm! It leaves me complete mixed up about myself. Chirsty Todd, ye have disgraced me this night."
Here Chirsty turned on him.
"I've disgraced ye, have I? And who has shamed me every night for years, if no yersel', Tammas Haggart?"
"In what way have I shamed ye?"
"In many a way, and particularly with what ye say at family worship. Take your feet off that fender."
"I keep my feet on the fender till I hear what new blether this is; ay, and longer if I like."
"The things ye say in the prayer is an insult."
"Canny, Chirsty Todd. That prayer, as weel ye ken, was learned out of a book, the which was lended to me for the purpose by a flying stationer."
"Ye're a pair crittur if ye canna make up what to say yersel'. Do you think you'll ever be an elder? Not you."
"Wha wants to be an elder?"
"None of your blasphemy, Tammas Haggart."
"Wha's wrang with the prayer?"
"Gang through it in your head, and you'll soon see that."
Tammas repeated the prayer aloud, but without enlightenment; whereupon Chirsty nearly went the length of shaking him.
"Did ye not pray this minute," she said, "for the heads of this house, and also the children thereof?"
"I did so."
"And have ye no' repeated these words every night for near three years?"
"And what about that?"
"Tammas Haggart, have we any bairns? Is there children thereof?"
Tammas used to say that at this point he took his feet off the fender. When he spoke it was thus:-
"As sure as death, Chirsty, I never thoct of that."
His intention was to soothe the woman, but the utter unreasonableness of the sex, as he has pointed out, was finely illustrated by the way Chirsty took his explanation.
"Ye never thoct of it!" she exclaimed, "Tammas, you're a most aggravating man."
In his humorous period, Haggart could have stood even this, but that night it was beyond bearing. He jumped to his feet and stumbled to the door.
"Chirsty Todd," he turned to say, slowly and emphatically, "you're a vain tid. But beware, woman, there's other than James Pitbladdo as can take the hiccup."
Chirsty had strange cause to remember this prophecy, but at the moment it only sent her running to the door. Tammas was half-way down Tillyloss already, but she caught him in the back with this stone:-
"Guid-nicht, James!"
With these words the Thrums Odyssey began.

(To be Continued)

Mothers

Anxiously watch declining health of their daughters. So many are cut off by consumption in early years that there is real cause for anxiety. In the early stages, when not beyond the reach of medicine, Hood's Sarsaparilla will restore the quality and quantity of the blood and thus give good health. Read the following letter:
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Cough

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THE DELINEATOR.

The April number of the Delineator, which is called the spring number, contains a splendid assortment of styles and fabrics that will be fashionable during the season. In the literary department a theme of particular interest to most women is instructively treated in Margaret Nurse's article on The Art of Preserving Youth. The second paper by Mary Cadwalader Jones (Mrs. Frederick Rhineland-Jones) maintains the interest created by her March contribution on the Evolution of Dress. Mrs. Theodore Sutro discusses law as a profession for her sex; J. Bell Landfear describes a pretty "Rainbow" Drill for Children, and the general interest in bicycling is shown in an account of the latest attire therefor. The third and last of the dental articles is devoted to Artificial Teeth. Sara Miller Kirby's Admirable Kindergarten Papers are also brought to a conclusion in this number. There is a delightful sketch of Easter in a Southern town, and timely directions for the making of Easter Egg Novelties, as well as the Delft Embroidery now so popular. There is also another of Mrs. Haywood's papers on Ecclesiastical Embroidery. H. C. Wood tells about an original Leap year Party. In addition to the regular article on Seasonable Cookery, there is a practical paper on the Chemistry of Foods, by A. B. Longstreet. Household sanitation from a popular standpoint, Mrs. Witherpoon's Tea-Table Chat, a Review of New Books, and novel contributions in Fancy Work, Knitting, Crocheting, Lace-making, etc., are among other features.
Address communications to The Delineator Publishing Co., of Toronto, Ltd., 33 Richmond St. West, Toronto, Ont., or the local agent for the Butterick Patterns.
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