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SHORT STORIES.

WILLING TO OBLIGE.

A Scottish emigrant on his arrival at Montreal stopped for a moment to examine a coat hanging in front of a clothing store, when the proprietor asked him if he would not try on the coat.

"I dinna ken but I wad," responded the emigrant, consulting his watch; and he went in and set to work. No matter how often he found a fit, he tried on another and another till he tried on about 30. Then, again looking at his watch, he resumed his own garment and walked off, saying:

"Weel, I've lost time, nae doot, but hang the fellow that'll no' oblige anither when he can!"

HER MODE OF REFUSAL.

Young Harroby was in love. He had declared his passion to the young lady, and she had passed him along to her father. Father listened to his tale patiently.

"It's all right so far as I am concerned," the old gentleman said, "but I am afraid that Janet will not marry you."

"Oh, don't say that!" the young man pleaded. "Has she said so?"

"No," said the old gentleman, "but from what I know of Jane, if she had wanted you she would have taken you without referring you to me."

REDUCTION.

Some time ago Sir Arthur Conan Doyle arrived in Paris from the Riviera, and, having hailed a taxi at the station, drove to his hotel. As he paid his fare he was rather surprised when the chauffeur said, "Thank you, Monsieur Conan Doyle."

"How do you know my name?" asked Sir Arthur.

"Quite simply," the chauffeur replied. "I read in the newspaper that you were coming from Nice. At the station I examined you and saw that you were English. Your hair seemed to me to have been cut by a southern barber, and on the heel of your shoe were traces of Marseilles mud."

Sir Arthur stared at him in astonishment. "Are those the only signs by which you recognised me?"

"Oh, no," said the driver. "There was one other. I saw your name printed on your trunk."

BLEAK PROSPECT.

"Two bags and a hatbox," said the tourist who was travelling for the first time in Scotland, on arriving at a little wayside station. The porter mournfully collected the articles and put them on board a cab. "And, by the way, porter," said the passenger, "what do they usually give you here for a tip?"

The porter jerked his thumb over his shoulder. "See yon big hoose among the trees?" he asked.

"Yes, but what has that got to do with it?"

"Weel, that's the workhouse, and it's fu' o' auld railway porters."—"Argonaut."

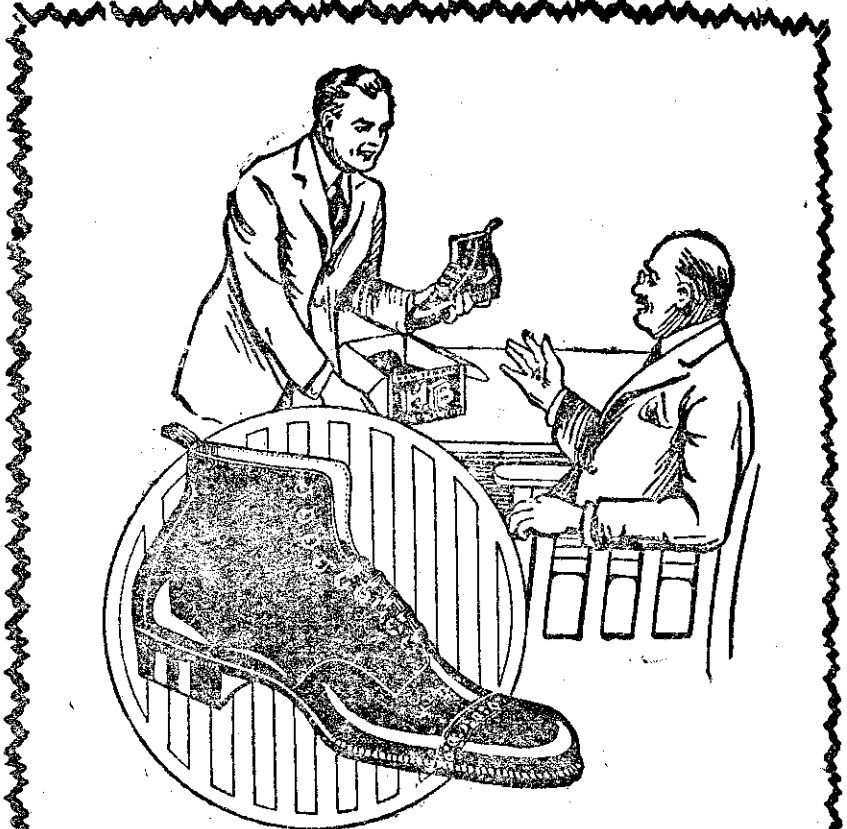
PROOF OF CURE.

"I suppose you have effected some surprising cures in your time?" remarked a young lady at dinner the other night to a famous nerve specialist.

"Rather," came the emphatic reply.

"Only last week I cured a man so completely that he had the nerve to attempt to borrow a 'fiver' off me before he left the hospital."

He—"Oh, pray Miss Johnson, don't call me Mr Brown." She—"Oh, but our acquaintance has been so brief (sweetly). Why shouldn't I call you Mr Brown?" He—"Oh, only because my name's Robinson!"



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