## Albany Register.

## JACK WALTERS FORTUNE.

BY MRS. M. A. DENISON.

Nobody saw Jack Walter's good traits with so clear a vision as little Traits with so clear a vision as little Atty Brown. Jack was a clerk in the great dry goods establishment of Dor-est & Drew. He was somewhat vain of his really hundsome face, and a trifle foppish, but the groundwork of his character was laid in good, true colors, warranted to wear. Jack was poor, buf ambitious and capable rauch so that the firm in whose employ he was were considering whether they should not raise his salary and send him to travel for their house. Jack got an inkling of their intentions, but discreetly kept it to himself.

As a matter of course, Jack having reached the mature age of twenty-two, was in love with a fair lady. He had first seen her at the store, and his heart was at once taken captive in the meshes of her golden hair.

Anne Rathfairn was very lovely, Everybody said so, and rightly. But she was called a flirt by sober-minded people, and the young men were rath-crafraid of her. Those who enjoyed her confidence knew that she was waiting for a golden prize, and smilled at poor Jacks infatnation.

Miss Rathbarn's father was head book-keeper at Dorest & Drew's, and by no means a rich man. It was his wife who kept the bone establishment She had come into possession going. of a small fortune just as Aune was blooming into beautiful womanhood, and consequently the girl was a little spoiled. The family lived in elegant style, kept a pony-chaise, and Anne was gratified in all her whims, for she was the idol of both parents. Jack had won upon the affections of

the old book-keeper, not for selfish ends only--for there was something about the meek, thin-faced, aristocratic-looking old gentleman that encour-aged friendliness, and Jack had alwave liked him. So, occasionally the young man was invited to the elegant residence of the Rathburns, and in time found himself on a somewhat intimate footing with the different members of the family.

Atty Brown was the poor relation who mended Anne's stockings, and added that hay young beauty in divers ways, for her clothes and board. was a consin on the father's side, with nothing to distinguish her from ordiary young ladydom but a pair of clorious, melting, hazel eyes, fringed by the longest, thickest lashes that TP OVER SCED.

Mrs. Rathburn, like her husband, was tall and thin, and wore fashionable caps and a great quantity of false She had once been the possesbair. or of considerable beauty, but now people called her only fine-looking. If she had been merely the poor book-Leeper's wife without a fortune. I doubt if she would have been considered even that.

These, with a bachelor nucle, whose chief annument was showing wonderful tricks with cards and telling fortunes, made the full quota of the book-keeper's family, among whom Jack found himself placed ou terms of the most delightful latimacy.

It was the first day of April, and Anne sat listlessly looking over some pictures, Atty Brown was knitting a pretty trifle for her consia, on the op-to ite side of the table, when Hetty Rogers dropped in upon them. Hetty was a sleek, sly little branette, who always reminded one of a purring cat. "Girls, do you know what a lovely day it is ?" exclaimed Het, loosening

laughing over April-Fool-Day tricks, and he said there wouldn't be much of t chance for the clerks to fool him, # he was going off early in the morning. I'll just write that laving ordered stv-Th just write that faiving ordered sty-eral things—a silk dress, a box of handkerchiefs, gloves, etc.—I had ex-pected them yesterday, but as they had not come, I shall be pleased if he will see that they are forwarded im-mediately. Th address the note to Jack, and of course he will fly to exce-cute my bidding. Then there will be a fuss, and I shall fool them all. The eider stone to stoned to

a ness, and I shall fool them all. The globy girl never stopped to weigh the consequences. Fun was what she wanted, even at the sacrifice of truth. "Yapital II how the sacrifice" "I thank non." he satt is of truth. "Capital !" langhed Heity ; "it's a most brilliant idea."

"Cruel!" said Atty, indignation in her glance. "You'll never do it, Anne

"Won't 1? You'll see ; and that without giving you time to preach a sermon about it. I'm beat on making an April Fool of Jack. He'll forgive me; don't be anxious; I know-him. It will only hurt his vanity a little, and that won't kill him."

By this time she had opened her writing-de-k and her pen was ratiling over the paper.

"I'm half teamted to say. 'My dear Jack, I will; it's April-Fool-Day, Wou't his handsome eyes open?" And again a soft rosy flush spread

over her cheeks. "There !" sh she folded the note and hid it in a deficately-perfumed envel-ope. "I should like to see him when he gets it ; that's all. You'll go right away, I suppose. It's already eleven,

Herry took the missive and Imrried off in high give; while Atty, who could not appreciate nor yet prevent the joke, bent over her work with indignatat eyes.

"I'd never come here again, after that, if I were he," she said hotly to herself. "It's an insult."

Herty performed her part valliantly, She went to the store; spoke a few words to her consin, who was a clerk there; intercepted the cash-boy, who the meaning in the faces of the clerks, was maning to change a twenty-dollar he saw her, discretanted, magnement,

Jack placed the note in his vest-pocket with just the faintest shalow pocket with just the faintest shalow Jack lived, or rather stayed, at a of embarrassment, and after his cus-tomer had gone, stole a recess of just room was in the fifth story, and was three seconds long in which to read the contents.

"My dear Jack." The blood rushed to bis face : L The blood rushed to bis face : he years. There were dim shalo vs of was in a perfect tremor of delight, circles and vanishing ghosts of roses When had Ame ever written to him s that flourished in worsted at that early before? But here were the lines, fresh from under her own white hand. Sh had called him Jack, "Dear Jack." Shie Pocketing his trophy and his tumult-nous emotions at the same time, he proceeded at once to make the needful

enquiries. He spoke to the cldef clerk, an awful personage in a red wig. "Miss Rathbarn had ordered several things." Miss He produced a list of them-a dress

pattern in slik, gloves, handkerebiefs —and they had not been sent home. Doubtless if was Joe Hunter's fault: the goods had been bought of him. "The most careless clerk in the house," muttered the chief, as he peered over the list. "He must do better or leave."

goods at the silk counter, and inform-den that he was going off to-day on some commission or other. The way he happened to tell me, we were near there; but I couldn't help coming; it was such a cruel thing-at least it seemed so to me. I hope I am in time. Don't look for that package. Mr. Walters; it night put you to so much trouble."

"The trouble is all through with. Miss Brown," said young Walters, with more dignity than she had ever Miss Anne's. seen him assume before. "Tell Miss Rathburn, if you please, with my compliments, that I am infinitely obliged to her," and his eye flashed. "Her little joke has cost me dear."

tone, seeing that her lips quivered. "You have proved to me that all women are not heartless. Good morning. Miss Brown.

had not known of her attempt to frus-trate the "good joke;" neitheir did she wish to incur the anger of one angry with her. Anyhow, whatdid it who could make her thoroughly unconfortable

Walters bore his fate that day with manly composure, outwardly, but his heart was like a secthing cauldron. Himself the soul of honor, despite his poyerty, he could not see how so gena girl as he had deemed his beautiful blonde, could so deliberately have felivered him over to the termentors. Of course, he had much to bear throughout the day. There were in-nitendoes and subtle glances; many a smothered laugh; and more fian one e-11. broad, open joke at his expense. For all the world he would not have had Aune Rathburn's mane so bundled about ; but there was no help for it. Her thoughtless planning had subject-ad her to shame, and him to suffering Walters. that sometimes almost amonated absolute agony. He had thought that Anne loved him. It was quite impossible to think so now. The charm was broken-the spell in which she held him rudely dissolved. Through the jibes and jeers of others, through the meaning in the faves of the clerks,

was running tornange a twenty-donar-note; hade him give the message to Mr. Walters, and walked careless out of the door, hugging inwardly. "Here's something for you," said little Ben, as he slipped the envelope over a huge pile of silks shining in all the colors of the rainbow. Indi yet he had loved her so, did little ben, as he slipped the envelope over a huge pile of silks shining in all the colors of the rainbow. a little commission for him on the way, which he gladly did.

> furnished with a carpet that had done service for a series of rooms, from the parlor-floor up, for at least twenty period, but a dreary grayness pervad-ed the entire width of the room-a ghastly reminder of past beauty. The chairs were likewise souvenirs of "long, long ago," the only one which he could use with comfort he had bought himself.

Poor Jack he could not afford Inxuries for his own use-he was too fond and careful for his old mother for that. sending her sometimes more than half of his salary. But there was one thing he would have, if he took it out of his bread and butter, and that was a gen-time wood fire. He had bought a fea-der and all the other accessories at anction; a small corner under the roof held his wood. He always made the fire himself, and when it was lighted, Three or four clerks were sent at once to look the parcels over. There fusioned first invaribly do-fack's was great rolling aside and throwing poor meagrely furnished room was ter's over here last hight?" she went on, with a smooth fittle purk. Al-was just before you drew down the curtain. I knew his profile. Is that why you like him, Anne? It's just Prew did an immense business. Ad-dresses were looked over, counters, wheel in the wall, radiating hot, un-turned upside down, and that part of the shop we in confusion. The scalar partner had purchased over the start source with his fire for every list fundation. though it was, the day had been raw and chilly, and when the lovely flames leaped and the wood crackled with a sound like bursting apples and the trickle of sweet eider in it, his depresvias rimaging for the missing bindle, when lo! there was a crash and the ase for which Mr. Dorest had paid erriy a hundred diglars went down cith a crash. Dorest, who stood by, turned white, at merely said, other the distance of sweet cuter in it, in depres-sion wore off just a little. He had been the victim of jokes hummerable all that day, hollieted by junior clerks and silly little girls who chained a passing acquainfance with the hand-some Jack, and his spirit was sore and his heart delected his heart delected. "How could she do it ?" he asked biuself, referring again and again to Anne's letter. "Seventy-five dollars slap out of my stlary, and new clothes out of the question. How sad and sympathetic that little thing looked! Atty Brown, I think, her name is, By Jove! she had beautiful eyes though. I never quite caught their expression before. I wouldn't have believed it of Anne. She made a fool of me, to be sure, but she may rue it yet. I don't think I shall forgive her." And he settled his feet on the fender, while his fine face took on an expression of the sternest determination. "Little the steraest determination. "Little she cares for my forgiveness, perlaps, But never mind 1'h be even with her yet. There's Het Rogers. She's pret-ty, rather, and rich, and twenty-live, She likes me, I think; and, by joye! I'll be even with Anne Rathburg yet." There cause a knock at the door, April-Fool's day was not yet over, and Jack was on his guard. As he called ont "come ha!" an imp's face was discernible just on the inside of His uncle has died in India, and he the brilliantly-lighted room, for the heirs millions." was discertible just on the histole of the brilliantly-lighted room, for the wood-fire was doing its best. "Pleathe, thit," itsped the tenor of the house, the handlady's bright boy-a boy so exceedingly smart that every-body hated him-"did you there the lefterth that come here to-day?"

with the strong, true love that should know no change, he was sure he did not, and could not.

He brought an invitation from some took down the other two, smiling grhaly. One was superscribed "Cal-cutty, India," and bore every appear-ance of being genuine : the other was in a delicate, lady's hand, the pennineminent artiste for the opera; but it was not to her alone. He should be very pleased, he said, if her consin would go with her, "Atty never cares to go to the opera," she was foolish to go to the opera. She way have not enough to say, her checks hotly flush-ed, but interpreting the look in his eyes, her women's wit came to her rescue : "but I think she would go, on ship of which very much resembled

"Forgeries!" he muttered ; "and the fellows who tried to do me, will surely be here. I'll fix up another bulky envelope, and then I'll let them stay there, just as I found them. I your invitation, and it will be delightful to witness her enjoyment." So Anne speedily found herself sec-

think one bitter experience is enough." So he arranged the rack, and by that ond in importance. Atty was so charming in her simple toilet, so pure. tender and womanly, that Jack found himself gradually learning to long for Meantime, Miss Hetty and Miss Anne had their little conference, All the glances from under the long brown lashes. His visits to the brownstone had gone off triumphantly. Het's consin, in describing the matter, had dwelt only on its Indicrons side, and front were more frequent than ever; but Anne knew, also, that they were when she in turn detailed it to Anne, Atty went home disquieted, tremb-ling and wretched. Of course she could not deliver his mestage as Anne vy. After the excitement of the fun was over, she wondered if Jack—elev-device, and Anne would and Het were bridesmids. It was in the fun of that same Anne and Let were bridesmids. It was in the fun of the fun was over, she wondered if Jack—elev-device, and the fun of the func-and lief were bridesmids. It was in the function of the function of the func-and lief were bridesmids. It was in the function of the func-and lief were bridesmids. It was in the func-set of the func-on of the func-f soon be a bride. Old Tim Warbeck, a banker, some said a millionaire, had been at her feet for years, and she had

matter? She had never intended to marry him-though if he were only better off, only with-he was so fine-looking! so interesting! and tell-tale bin-he reddened the girl's check. rewarded him at last. Fut nobody knew how that deep down in her heart was a sorrow that only time could efface-and perhaps not even that.

Het seerelly hoped to turn the thing to her own advantage. She had always WHAT I SAW IN A FLY'S HEAD,-liked Jack, and would have given him I was examining a common house fly liked Jack, and would have given one morning with a uncroscope, and her fortune and herself any time if he one morning with a uncroscope, and had asked. So Herty, kitten like, pur-what was my surprise to discover a had asked. So Herty, kitten like, pur-whole lot of little insects crawling about amongst the bairs of his head, I counted as many as seventeen

A week passed, and Jack, still re-They were of a light amber color. sentful, had not called upon Anne, each having six legs and two long One day a dark, hollow-checked man, feelers that they kept fiourishing bewith a pareliment face, and eyes of refore them all the while in the most markable brillioney, walked into Dor-set & Drew's, and enquired for Mr. chergetic manner. They were very nearly the shape of an act-lion or "doodle," as we need to call them. They were very voracions. I saw

from you, sir, before this, to relation On another part of the body I saw to the letter informing you of your un-cle's death, and your brilliant expectively a cach other with all the flereness of mad bulls. Sometimes they would rear up and shake each other like dogs.

The hair on the fly's head was quite mother's only brother died years ago thick, standing out like britles, and at least we have always believed him these little fellows would walk right dead. They your pardon; I have re-ceived no letter." | ing.

log. Sometimes two or three of them would walk up and down on his hairy nose, no doubt to the gasat annoyance

used to the proper interference to be a friend of yours, and he gave use the number of yours, and he gave us the number of your place. Very slogular! We mailed it on the thirty-

And these flens other flens And so on ad infinitum." After this when you see a fly scratch head, you may reasonably conclude that he is not always after an

And should you ever be annoyed. when trying to sleep, by flies crawl-ing over your face, it may be some satisfaction to know that offimes his slumbers are disturbed by these little chaps crawling over his fore.

ARTEMUS WARD'S COURTSHIP.-II wasa cann still night in Joon, when all natur' laisht, and narry zeffer distar-ed the screne silence. I sot with the

objector my affections on the fonce of her daily's pastur'. I had experienced a kind of hankerin after her for some time, but dura't proclaim my pashin; wall, we sot there on the fence a swingin' our feet to and fro, and blu-h-in' as red as a Baldin-ville skule-honce

when it was first painted, and looking very simpli, I make no dowt. My left arm was occupied in baluncing he looked back at that unlucky day, as he called it, and the letter he had so slighted, would be impossible. On the myself on the fonce, while mi right whole, it had not been all fool luck, arm was wound affectsmailiy round Suzimuah's waste. Sez I Susanner, I thinks very mutch of yu," Sez she, "How you do run on," Sez I, "I Then be fell to thinking of the chance speeches he had heard from his moth-er's lips about "poor Frank," who had wish thar wuz winders tù mi sole, soz gone off to seek his fortune, and about you cood see sum of mi fellias," and I whom for years and years nothing had been heard. If it should prove trueside deeply. I privide here, but az she maid no reply tu it, i continued on in the follerin strain: "Ah? cood yu kno the sleeples nites I parse on your account—how vittles haz censed in be and then he started from his trance to find himself addressed by Atty Brown, whose glorious eyes wore the same sweet, sympathetic expression that had reached in his memory, after that trying All-Fool's day. It was only a little parcel she had come for, by Anne's directions, for Miss Anne was attractive tu me, and how my limbs shrunk up, ye wouldn't dowt me, not trying All-Fool's day. It was only a little pareel she had come tor, by Anne's directions, for Miss Anne was mourning in her fishion after her de-voted cavalier and willing shwe. "Tell me how he looks. Atty, and what he says," was Anne's parting in-june'ion, and when they metagain her eyes asked a question. Atty exulted a little when she plied to that question : "I think I never saw him look so well "I think I never saw him look so well nonsents no longer. Jest yon say rite our what your drivin at. If yn mean getten hitched, I'm in.'' Well, we hitched, yon bet! and happy." "Didn't he say a word!" half faltered Anne.' "Not a word, outside of business," said Atty, quietly, And only the next day flet came in, STAMPSE TWINS SURPASSED.-All the stories told of the Siamese Twins hardly equal this of the famous Scotch with a lond "Have you heard the news?" Anne looked up, expectantly, Per-haps, from pique, Jack had gong and got married. Her heart sack. double man, of whom the following account is given in the *Lagran* Sr 4 r-na Historia: Luring the reign of James the Third, of Scotland, and at "You'll be a tonished, but it is per-feetly true. Jack Walters has come, his court, there lived a man double above the waist, single below that reor is coming, into an immeuse fortune. gion. The Klog caused him to be carefully brought up. He rapidly ac-quired a knowledge of music. The two heads learned several languages; Anne smilled, faintly. Her heart fluttered, and she felt almost like cry-iag. She led lost him -the handsomthey debated together, and the two up-per halves occasionally longht. They lived generally, however, in the great-est harmony. When the lower part of the body was thekled the two hidlSPECTACLES.

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"Very strange!" said the little man with the parchment face, apparently mystified. "The letter was sent to his solicitors, and I are sure it was for-warded to the proper direction, be- Now, I wonder if these little fellows

singular! We mailed it on the thirty-first of March."

"On the-thirty-first—of March?" exclaimed Jack, finshing to the roots of his curly hair. "Oh? I remember. The fact is, that the first of April fol-lowed the thirty-first of March, and as I received some bogus communications - or rather suspected them to be such. It might be that lefter-in fact-was it post-marked India ?" he asked, ending abruptly.

"It was-Calentta, India," said the little man, solennly.

"I begyour pardon again ; I'm sure" —Jack began growing robler and more earnest,—"I'll godirectly home. I can get bave, I think, and then, suppose I call on you?" "Very happy, I'm sure, to be of service. There is our earl, Gooch & Lubbell. We shall be delighted to see you through ;" and then apparently frightnand at his own inumbicaness

frightened at his own impulsiveness, he left the store at a rapid gait. To describe Jack's emotions now, a

"I beg your pardon again ; I'm sure"

"That's a jew-lawyer," laughed one of the clerks, as Jack obeyed the sum-mons. "Are you in the hands of the Phili-times?" "The clerks, as Jack obeyed the sum-ous, "Are you in the hands of the hill-times?" The stranger introduced himself. "We expected some communication of the while, and striking at each other all the while, The stranger introduced himself.

time the bell called him to tea.

tations, which, I may now, say, are certainties," he said, "Some communication-may made I had no usele-that I know of. My

"I like him ! Nonsense !" said Anne, with a laugh which was almost contemptuous. "He is a very pleas-ant young gentleman, handy to have round, as mamma says; does all one's errands dutifully and is a splendid escort, with his Greek face and graceful manners. But must one be reported engaged becau e one has a particular friend -

Hetty laughed.

People will talk, you know," she said.

"Why, he's as poor as a church nouse," continued Anne, "Do you think I could ever marry a poor man? Never!

Atty lifted her great bazel eyes in astoal-hment. She had more than supercision and the second and the super-supercision and the second and she not read his absorbing passion?

"See how innocently surprised At pretends to be," latighed Anne, a Laint crimson thege creeping over the marble-like beauty of her skin. "I half believe he is her hero. She is a perfect little mouse when he is here."

"But don't you really like him, Anne?" a-ked Atty, her needles sus-pended. "Anybody can see that he worships you."

worships you." "Nonsense !" said Anne, the flush deepening. "Don't bother your head about him, my dear. He's a splendid cavalier, and that is all. He's very Folish if he ever presumes upon my dealy. "You have been sold, I think : we tion last night. He told his fortune, you know, and said he would marry a little dark girl. Maybe it's you, Het. Your's a great heiress, and can afford b. As for me, a rich husband or none. Oh, by the way, it's April-Fool-Day, in't it? I should like to have some fun! Play a joke on some-lody-a grand joke that might be remigchief, "Well, what is it?" querried Hetty.

"If some one only was going to the store

"If you mean Dorest & Drew"s, that's just where I am going," said Hetty drawing her furs closer. "You are? Well, I'll send a note

to Jack. I have the whole thing plan-ned out, I was there yesterday, and I Joc Hunter showed me some new

mique and beautiful value that day, which stood in its wrappings in the corner of a shell, where Jack him eff was runnaging for the missing bundle, when lo! there was a crash and the vase for which Mr. Dorest had juid nearly a bundred digliars went down with a crash.

but merely said, "That comes out of your salary,

Walters. "Of course, sir," responded Jack, mefully. "I shall pay it with plea-ERIPO.

Another clerk, in jumping on a treacherons roll of cloth, fell and sprimed his nucle, and was obliged to

a home. At last the books were resorted to. Dorest, who was an iraseible man, and had already made up his mind to turn off poor Joe Hunter, looked them over himself. As he was poring at the or-ders, his lean fore-floger running down the columns, a clerk spoke to him in an undertone. Thin face of the senior partner dark-

ened, and he closed the book with an

angry thrust. "Walters," he sold sharply, "come here," And the young fellow went forward, perplexed and unhappy. "Do you know what day it is, Wal-

ters?" queried Dorset. "The-first-the devil!" muttered

Jack, shutting his lips together sud-

have all been sold," said the mer-chant, almost fiercely. "I have lost a vase that can't be matched, and cost me seventy-five dollars; Jacobs has gone home with a sprained ankle, and the whole place has been in turmoil, on account of a fooli-h woman's whim. You ought to have seen. Walters-you should have had your wits about you. There? I have it. I've thought of Bathburn, I should like to devise something?" She clapped her hands and shook her bloade tresses, while her hands and shook her bloade tresses, while her hands of the bloade tresses are bloade tresses. I'm sure her fund-out of the bloade tresses while her hands and shook her bloade tresses. tion if he knew of it, and he will certainly hear of it. However, no use crying for split milk." And with a wave of his hand Walters was dismiss-ed, more chargement, more angry, furt and sore, than he had ever been in his life.

cheeks pale, there he met little Arty

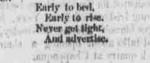
Brown.

a boy so exceedingly smart that every-body hated him—"did you there the letterth that come here to-day?" "No and I don't want to; so you march down stairs," stiid Jack. "But pleathe, thir, I ain't a April fooling. The continuum draw draw and willing to appload of the "But pleathe, thir, I ain't a April ready and willing to apologize. The fooling. The gentieman give me a quarter to thee that you thurely got all she could do to keep them from

welling up and dropping out. "Oh, and he'll know how to be a

POLTAN I I & MIN THE

viduals felt it together ; but when, on the other hand, one of the upper indithe other hand, one of the upper non-viduals was touched, he alone left the effect. This monstrons being died at the age of twenty-eight years. One of the bodies died several days before the



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