THREE LITON BOYS.

BY W. E. NORLIE

"And to thipk," he went on without heeding my cemark, "that she has spent the while of her life in a country personage! So much for rural simplicity! Why, there isn't one of these Belgravian women who could hold a candle to her for cool-

who could hold a candle to her for cool-ness."

I don't know what he had expected her to say or do, but he was evidently an-noyed, and added that he wouldn't be in Jun's shoes for a brille. He was obliging me with his views upon feminine nature in general, which, I am worry to say, were too disrespectful and too cradely expressed to bear reputition, whon somebody called out to him that it was his torn to play. He had a long and rather difficult shot to make, and at the instant when he was trawing back his one Hika all of a sud-den stepped close behind him, so that he struck her shapply in the side with the butt end of it. She gave a little ery and fell back upon the sofa where I was sin-ting. Bracknell, full of apologies and alarm, dropped his one and peered anx-ionally at the blanched cheeks of the suf-

ionsly at the blanched cheeks of the sufionsly at the blanched cheeks of the suf-forer; Jim came tearing up from the other end of the room; somebody ran for a glass of water; the rest of the players crowded round the sofa, and we had quire a little scene. At length Hilda got back her breath, and, smilling faintly, assured us that size was not really hurt.

"It is nothing—nothing at all," she said. "It was my own fault entirely, and I shall be all right in a few minutes. Please go on with the game and don't look at me."
To this day I can't feel superlist she did.

To this day I can't feel sure that she did it on purpose. If she did, I am glad to think that she received a gonsaterably smarter dig in the ribs than she had burgained for. In any case, this triffing incident had the effect of producing a complete alteration in Brackhedl's bungs. By was naturally concerned at least repreach the producing a complete alteration in Brackhedl's bungs. By was naturally concerned at least repreach the bind been saying hard things of her the minute before. He remained string be side her after she had gently pushed Jim sway, and the others, at her request, had resumed their game, and I saw that a rapid interchange of words took place between them. Their colloquy was seen interrupted, but it had lasted long enough to bring a slightly increased color into Brackhedl's cheeks stid a pensive look into his eyes. Knowing what I did of Miss Hilds, I was convinced that she must either wish to subjugate him once more or to avenure herself upon him; and, all things considered, there seemed to be a very fair chance of her succeeding in her aim, whatever that might be.

When I said as much to my other on the following morning, after giving her the full account which she always likes to have of what had taken place at the dinner party and after it, she shook her head. "Ah, my dear Harry," she sighed, "you are too ready to seek for bed motives and stody had people—that is, if poor Hilds is really land. If I were you I should find it much more interesting to study Mildred. Is she too good to be attractive."

"Are you suggesting that I should fall in love with Lady Mildred." I inquired. "My dear boy, no! What would Lord Staines say! Besides, I am afraid you would be a day too late. Have you really not discovered Mildred's secret. Harry?—you, who are so quick sighted!"

We all have our weaknesses: and amongst the many to which I should fan's that of fancying that I can read the hearis and minus of my neighbors with some facility. Now, in truth, it had not occured to me until then that Lady Mildred had

suppose so," agreed my mother

CHAPTER V.

I am but a poor equestrian and can only speak upon such subjects with the dididence which beseems me, but I have always understood from those who ought to know that the hunting in our parts is of an inferior order. The covert shooting on the other hand, is fairly good, and that belonging to the Staines Court property may almost be called famous. Now Lord Staines had left his coverts untouched until Christians, being, as I verily believe, instigated to this act of self-denial by a desire to please his heir, who at that time was one of the best shots in England Great, therefore, must have been his surprise, and zerout also his disappointment on finding that Brackmell preferred to follow the hounds during his stay, and that he could not even be persuaded to take his gun out of its case on non-hunting days.

"It seems to me," the poor old gentle-

days.
"It seems to me," the poor old gentle-man declared in my hearing, "bat he must have taken have of his senses. I really can't account for his behavior any other way,"

I could have accounted for it; though I

sould have accounted for it; though I do do to prepared to say that my explana-dust prepared the hypothesis of lassaity.

I could have told Lord Staties that, indif-I could have told Lord Statues that, indif-ferent as the lettering was there was a certain cosmity goatheman in the neigh-borhood who was devoted to it, heart and soul; that the gentieman had recently presented a well broken upidle horse to his betrethed; and furthe that when Bracknell was not out him g with the couple alcrement he was at a rightmelf in some other and periapt as innocen-fashion in the company of one of them. But I did not fell him this, partly because I was not asked and partly because I am constitutionally averse to being blown up-sky high.

Two not nake and parity eccanse i am constitutionally averse to being blown up sky ligh.

A few days before that on which the wedding had been appointed to take place, I was invited to intelseon at the rectory, it having been infinated to me that I should be expected to make myself useful subsequently in helping to more furniture and carry out other preparations for the feast at which Mr. Turner proposed to entertain his friends after the ceremony. When I arrived I found Jim and Mr. Sparks, the curate, seated in the drawing room, with our host, but Hilds was conspicuous by her absence. Her absence had become quite disagreeably conspicuous when the clock struck half past 2, by which time we were all very hungry, having reached the extreme limit of our subjects of conversation. In the course having reached the extreme limit of our subjects of conversation. In the course thereof it had transpired that Bracknell bad come over in his dog cart two or three hours before and had per-suaded Hilda to go out for a drive with him. "But she assured me," said Mr. Turner, fidgeting about uneasily, "that she would be back very shortly, and I am altogether at a loss to account for this delay."

delay."

"Oh, they'll turn up all right," returned Jim composedly. "Brucknell never knows what time of day it is. I don't think they deserve that we should wait any longer for them, though."

Here the curate, a good natured but not very intelligent young man, judged it appropriate to remark, with a loud laugh, "Upon my werd, Mr. Leigh, you will have to look after this poung lady. It's

early days for her to begin driving off with a gay bachelor and finding his com-panty so agreeable that she forgets to come house to luncheon."

After this graceful sally on the part of

pany so agreeable that she forgets to come home to luncheon."

After this praceful sally on the part of Sparks, we went into the dining room and refreshed ourselves; but we listened in vain for the sound of Bræckeell's charlot wheels, and at length Jim, whose lawyer was coming down from London to see him, was compelled to leave us. His compositive remained undisturbed up to the last; but as soon as he was gone Mr. Turner confided to me that he, for his part, was becoming seriously alarmed.

"I would not mention it while James tras here," he said, "but it struck me that long Brackeel was driving a somewhat restive animal, and I cannot help fearing that some accident has occurred."

If any accident had occurred within ten miles of its we should certainly have heard of its we should certainly have heard of its by that time, and so I told him, but he was not convinced; and as the poor old fellow was evidently fretting himself into a fover, I could but offer to secur the examiny in search of the absentess. Accordingly I set out in one direction while the good-natured Sparks trudgets away in machiner; and a very disagreeable walk. I had of it through the rain, which began to come down immediately after I started. None of the people whom I met had seen Bracknell, poon whome head I did not in two heard of that kind very rarely get their necks broken unless it be by the hand of the public executioner, and only if they happen to belong to the lower orders, but I did think that between them they were carrying impudence about as far as it could very well be carried. However, as I did not at that time foreses that I should ever write the bistory of these delinquents. I ceased to think about them as soon as I had finished my dinner, and, having made myself comfortable with a blazing fire and a cignr, set to work upon an article of which I hoped to have the skelcton completed before bedtime.

I was exetting on quite nicely, and had scribbled down several epigrammatic sayings to be scattered carelessly over my composition and

"I suppose so," agreed my mother absently. "Poor Jim!" and some the persevering my owked with her for having seen what I had failed to detect, "I do not understand why you should pity him. All is for the best in the best of possible worlds, you know."

"I believe that all is ordered for our good," she answered simply, "chough I fear that you do not. We must not presume to say that it would have been better for our friend to marry Mildred than Hilda, who, after all, has a great deal that is nice about her. Poor Jim!"

My dear mother permits herself a touch of dry humor at times which, I think, refreshes her. She glanced up at me half deprecatingly after this last claeulation, and we had a little laugh together. I suppose she perceived as plaintly as I did that there was trouble coming, but she did not choose to talk about it before it came, and probably she was quite right.

"Read that Herry," said he, tragfe"Read that Herry," said he, tragfe-

me. "Read that, Harry," said he, tragic-ally. "Read it, my dear young friend, and tell me, if you can, what is to be done. Because I am willing to confess to you that what to do I know not at all. The note, which I perused with no small curiosity and automishment, ran as follows:

follows

small curiosity and autometiment, ran as follows:

"Bran Para-Lord Bracknell and I were married before this registers here this meeting. It is all quite legal and regular, for course; but we think we cought not to out the registers ensured think we cought not to out the registers ensured as from going through it in the ordinary were and so we propose to drive over early to-morrow meeting and be married aught quite privately by you. I am sure you will unterstand how advines be shirt in order to prevent sounded, and I need not warn you that no a round must be said at Status Court math it is all over and we, have left again, Afterward you can brack the news to Lord Banner. Bracknell thinks his father will not have been made unearly by his non-appearance, as he often runs up to Lordon without mentioning that he is grount to for Dense boil far in that I shall sent all my thinks pocked up, and that she sound begat doing it at one, and att up all which of necessary, as lines he no time to lose, in the course of the said of the said of the court of t

end. We shad to who you soon after 90'clock

"Your all chimats can then "Your all chimats can then "Your all chimats can then the above is a strictly marall representation," but the above is a strictly marall representation, but the state of wrate in down word for word, it immediately after, I had read it, this king is worthy of membrance as a currently in the word of pistolary composition. Never, I imagine, was a treatherous are avovered with more cynical effortiery. The writer seemed to have forgotten altogether that she had been empowed to be unarred in the rourse of a few days to an house! man who had the folly to ndore her. One can't think of everything, and I suppose she was fully absorbed by the important considerations set forth in her letter. She was anxious to avoid unaccessary semical, she did not wish to incur the discomfort of a stormy interview with Lord Stames, and she was determined not to part with her new clothes. If she had vandered away from these main points she might perhaps have confused her futher, unind, which, to be sure, was not a very clear one.

I really could not see my way to offering that unluchyman much confort. "If you wish for my option," I replied when he repeated his demand, "I should say that you had better read the marriage service over them and then pack them off with all dispatch. After that, it will be your pleaning duty to impart the good news to Lord Stames, my dustness of mine, but in common charity I will undertake Jim. May Heaven send us both a good deliverance?"

As seon as I had got rid of the Rev. Simeon, I went to bed. I fooded think of nothing but poor old Jim and the cruel blow which it would be my lot to strike him on the morrow.

CHAPTER VI.

As matters fell out, the tisk of enlight-enling Lord Staines was thrown upon my shoulders, in addition to that with which I had already saddled myself; for scarcely had I fluidhed my breakfast when Mr. Turner arrived, trembling and breathless, to say that he really did not feel equal to encountering the brunt of his patron's wrath. Indeed," he added, with a indicrous

"Indeed," he added, with a indicrous effort to regain his accustomed snave promposity." I am not sure that it would be right on my part to do so. I have not forgotten the very improper terms in the fact Statuse chose to address me when I called upon him once before oner—a somewhat similar errand, and both for his sake and for my own, any repetition of such a scene is—cr—to be deprecated. To you profinity of language would be less shocking—at least, I mean that you must be more accustomed to hearing it; and—er—in short"—

"In short," I interrupted, not over re-"In short," I interrupted, no over respectfully—for really the flev Simeon's aspect at that meanent was not calculated to induce respect—"you want me to do your duty work for you. Very well: I don't particularly mind: I may as well be hanged for a sheep as for a limb. Only I don't particularly mind: I may as well be hanged for a sheep as for a limb. Only I don't propose to prevent Lord Staines from going down to the rectory later in the day and shocking you with profame language. The may and be altogether your fault that your daughter has disgraced herself and investigal Bracknell into disgracing himself with her, but you may as well be prepared to be told that it is. If I were in your place I should be a good deal more frightened of Jim Leigh than of Lord Staines."

"Gendy, my dear young friend,

deal more trushensed of Jim Leigh than of Lord Staines."
"Gendly, my deer young friend, gently." returned Mr. Turner with disnity. "You are excited, and I do not blame you for it; but to say that my daugnter has disgraced herself is to say too much—a creat deal too much. That she did very wrong in engaging herself to James I allow, and he will not find me slow to express my sincere sorrow and sympathy; but we must bear in mind that her affections were given in the first-place to Lord Bracknell. I will not say that the young people were justified in taking the law into their own hunds; yet I may doubt whether Lord Staines' motives for forbidding them to many were of the highest kind. Now do not answer me, I beg of you. I can see that you are not yet master of yourself. If you will allow me I will go up stairs and sit with your learner of yourself. If you will allow me I will go up stairs and sit with your fear mother while you wak over to Staines Court."

Evidently Hilds had been talking to him, and it would be absurd to waste good indignation upon such hopeless in epitude.

"Pray do so, Mr. Turner." I innewered.

eptitude.

"Pray do so, Mr. Turner," I answered;
"my mother will be very ciad to see you.
Only I hope you will kindly refrain from
expounding your views with regard to
your daughter's marriage to her, because
she is rather subject to attacks of

your daughter's marriage to her, because she is rather subject to attacks of names."

With this valedictory shot I set out to perform the first and least painful of the duties which I had accepted. I found Lord Staines in his study, and apparently in a rather bad humor.

"Oh how do you do, Maynard?" said he, looking up from the letter which he was writing. "Do you happen to know anything about that fellow Bracknell! When I was his age it used to be considered the civil thing just to let your father know when you proposed to leave his house or return to it, but nowadays the young men seem to think that they need to take any notice of their fathers, except when they want mousy. Here is Bracknell gone off, nobody knows where, at the very moment when I am making business arrangements for which his signature is required. I told him about it two days ago, but of course my convenience counts for nothing when it is a question of going to some confounded steeple-chase or other." I thought there was nothing to be gained by patting off the svil moment. "I can't tell you where Lord Bracknell is, Lord Staines." I replied, "but I have come here to give you some very uppleasant news shout him. He was married yesterday at!" o registrar's office at Stockingham to H.

"see"."

Prince Bis-an Amer-This ex-urprising German Henry Vil

FOR THE WORLD'S FAIR. A Mammath Tree from California to Be Exhibited.

A Mammath Tree from California to He Emiliared.

California is to be honored by having a section of one of her farmous big trees made a prominient feature in the Government building at the Columbian exhibition at Chicago. The project the accomplishment of which is fully assured, is a unique one. The section of the tree will be twenty-three test is diameter and thirty feet long. This will be divided into three parts, and these will be placed in their natural position, one above the other, and so arranged as to form something like a two story house. The contract for the tree was made by H. A. Taylor, of the department of the interior, with the King's River Lumber company in the spring of this year, and the company is how at work getting it out in their forces of sequois gigantees in the Converse basin on King's river in Fresno county.

their forest of sequoia gigantea in the Converse basin on King's river in Freano county.

The contract called for a tree 20 feet 4 inches in diameter, but the tree actually found will be three feet greater in diameter. There are of course larger trees in the forest, but the requirement was that this section should be perfect in all respects, cylindrical, straight and without a burn in the bark, and this was the largest found to fill all these conditions. The tree selected, says the San Francisco Chronicle, is one known as the "General Noble." It measures thirty-eight feet in diameter as both ends, as nearly as possible, a piece is being taken out of the tree at some distance from the ground. To do this and to preserve the section of the same diameter at both ends, as nearly as possible, a piece is being taken out of the tree at some distance from the ground. To do this and to preserve the section from harm by falling, as well as to meet other requirements, has proved to be a work of considerable magnitude. The idea is not to send a solid section, but, reather, the rim of the tree hollowed out, and cut into segments of suitable size, and all to be numbered so that they can be erected at Chicago so as to loak from the exterior like the solid section of a sequoia thirty feet in height. The three parts into which the section is being cut consist of two parts of fourieen feet each, to be hollowed out, and one two feet thick, which will serve as a floor between the two stories. lowed out, and one two feet thick, which will serve as a floor between the two stories,

will serve as a floor between the two stories, as it were, as it were. The work of cutting, lowering and box ing the segments is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible, and it is expected that the tree will all be shipped by the end of October. To get the tree to a point where wagons can reach it required the building of a road twomleslong. The entire exhibit, including the work, will cost the government several thousand dollars. The tree when creeted at Chicago will stand directly under the great dome of the Government building.

Religious Differences.
In the greater concerns of life there
are wonderful illustrations of the conare wondermi mustrations of the con-flicts of opinions. There are something over 1,200,000,000 of human beings in the world. Among these are six va-rieties of religious belief; three of these ricties of religious belief; three of these are said by one class to be false, and by others three are said to be the true re-ligion. And yet every religionist, every sectarian claims that he and she alone are right. What our Chinese neighbors say is "true" we say is "false." We call them "heathens"—they class us as "out-side barbarians."

side barbarians."

What we English speaking people think is the right and the true religion is in a startling minority in human belief or religious creed—for there are only some 550,000,000 Christians in all the world. There are some 6,000,000 Jews, and they have clung with singular rescattance in all are to their religious. persistency in all ages to their religious belief; it is seldom a Jew renounces his faith; it is more seldom that a Christian embraces Judaism. There are more than 400,000,000 people who are pagans and Mohammedans.—Detroit Free Press.

carls That Demand a Pin.

The scarfyin should always be worn with the flat, madeup scarf. There is a place for its insertion, and by seeming to hold it together it attains a utilitarian phase, in that it is an aid in glossing over the percentage of madoup sug-gestiveness that is always more or less associated with the imitative article.

The madeup flat or puff scarf, if worn without a scarfpin, discloses its artificiality in all the baldness of its me-chanical inferiority. It is a curious paradox in the fashions, therefore, that the scarfing that does not actually need the scarfini in reality requires it most of all.

In the self tied De Joinville, or its madeup reproduction, the scarfpin must pierce the cross folds at the intersec-tion.—Clothier and Furnisher,

A Clever Woman.

A lady of fine artistic taste has dis-

A lady of fine artistic taste has dis-covered that at church parade her prayer book, by its incongraous color, entirely ruined the effect of a carefully conceived costume. It struck a discord in an otherwise perfectly harmonious dress. This has been remedied by hav-ing a cover to her prayer book which shall be perfectly in second with ing a cover to her prayer book wines, shall be perfectly in accord with the leading tone of her garments. The prayer book cover will henceforth receive as attentive consideration as the bonnet, the gloves and the sunshade, and no jarring note of color will be in troduced by means of a volume bound in blue velvet or in scarlet morocco.— London Graphic,

Visitor at School-Little boy, you can cipher emarkably well.

Little Boy—Humph! you oughter see ms
at.—Fargo Argus.

Haby Accor's Favorite Author.
"Mr. Anson, who is your favorite author?"
stack a baseballist of the Chicago captain.
"Fielding," was the prompt reply.—Now

THUNDRUMS.

West Ch

Why is a ground very Side A boy who has a deany by

Why store a witning jeckey bold Resemble size who has a cold? The jeckey's home is seaned, of on The other fellow's sound is four

Why is a man who has dispersed His cold like one who curre year The first man's cold is well, a wr The second fellow's well is cold. Why is a boss who anger shows Like any lad who awintaning gos Cross as a bear must be the boss The happy lad's bare as a cross.

Why is the dude ashanied to show His sunform like a fainner, (1) One bides his tan from feelish pelda The other always tans his hide

Why does a storm stayed saller qu Resemble one who has no sight! One cannot go to sea, you know. The other cannot see to go.

Why is a berry picking lad Like he who buys them, good or bad? The one gets all he can, he beta— The man who buys cans all he gets.

A letter writer, why is he Lite one who will a marriage see! One writes a note; the other might If interested, note a rite.

Why is a suiter answered "No."
Like one who doesn't have to go?
The dirst, alsa, may miss a kiss,
The other -01 may kins a miss.
-B. C. Dodge in Detroit Press Pr

SUCCESS

If to some theme his thy lutent to rise.

Thou must attend how best to tane the first.

Elso will design the weel picked notes inspire.

Herein the secret of true triumph that.

When thou would'ut rare a work of mighty size.

Advance but slowly as a growing fire.

Scan well they path lest hasty action the,

Or like a fame thy action's impulse disc.

Proceed with hope; believe the goal in rise.

Proceed with hope; believe the goal in rise.

Let not mere failure peep upon thy heart;

Graat cake, remember, from small acorns are

Though it be trivial, well perform thy part;

And persevering till thy labor's through,

Full crowned success will into being start.

—Edward K. Cowing in Detroit Tree Press.

Perilous Riding on the Iron Herse.

"Did you ever ride on a locomotive?" asked O. G. Haskins. "I tried it once and have no desire to repeat the experiment. It was out in Colorado, where you sometimes run so close to bottom-less chasms that you could drop your hat into them, and make turns so short and sudden that it nearly disjoints your spinal vertebræ. The master mechanic was an old friend of mine and gave me permission to ride over the road on the engineer did not appear to fancy my presence much, but treated me civilly. We were behind time, the night was black as Erebus, and a terrific thunderstorm was raging. The engineer was determined to go in on time, and the way he rushed around those curves and across canyons was enough to make a man's hafr turn gray.

"The peculiar three about these years." Perilons Riding on the Iron Horse

man's hair turn gray.
"The peculiar thing about these moun-"The peculiar thing about these mountain engines is that they do not take a curve like any other vehicle. They go plunging straight ahead until you feel sure that they are clear of the track and suspended in midair, and then shoot around and leave you to wonder by what miracle you have been saved. The trucks take the curve in the orthodox manner, but the superstructure is so arranged that it consumes more time in making the turn. With the lightning playing about the mountain peaks and half disclosing the frightful gorges and swollen torrents, the great iron leviathan swaying and plunging along that slippery, serpentine track, I first realized the perils of railway travel and the responsibility of the sullen man who kept sponsibility of the sullen man who kept his hand on the throttle and his eye on the track. I stood with my heart in my the track. I shood with my near in my throat, admiring his nerve, but not envy-ing him his job. At the first stop I clambered back into the coach and staid there,"—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Bright Old Men in Essex County,

Essex county, Mass., has been noted not only for its legal lights like Rufus Chicate. Caleb Cushing, Judge Story and others, but also for its deputy sheriffs, some of whom have served many years.
Of one of these men, Daniel Potter,

many amusing stories have been told.

At one time he entered a newspaper office in Salem, and addressing the only

office in salem, and addressing the only scribe who was in sight said: "I thought I would tell you that to-morrow I shall go where I never went before and can never go again." The scribe, knowing his caller, promptly "gave it up," and then Mr. Potter said:

"It is into my eightieth year!" Some years ago these old deputies had a gathering at the home of a scrtain or of their number in Gloucester. We they were roaming about the hose called the attention or his an old clock, a great far.

He told his friends of ment to this ancient:

ment to this ancient t cuite pathetic at cer remarks, which he l by w ing in a voice Gentlemen, I

clock every nig

He had evidently on his visitors, wh who had been caref clock, turned the t by the story by so "Well, I s' something