

CONDENSED NOVELS

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Condensed Novels by Bret Harte

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BRET HARTE

**CONDENSED
NOVELS**



HANDSOME IS AS HANDSOME DOES.

CONDENSED NOVELS.

BY

BRET HARTE.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY S. EYTINGE, JR.



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CONTENTS.



	PAGE
HANDSOME IS AS HANDSOME BORN. By Ch—s R—de	1
LOTHAW. By Mr. Benjamins	19
MUCK-A-MUCK. After Cooper	36
TERENCE DENVILLE. By Ch—l—s L—v—r	49
SELINA SIBILLA. By Miss M. E. B—dd—n and Mrs. H—n—y W—d	59
THE NINETY-NINE GUARDSMEN. By Al—x—d—r D—m—s	74
THE DWELLER OF THE THRESHOLD. By Sir Ed—d L—tt—n B—lw—r	86
THE HAUNTED MAN. By Ch—r—s D—ck—ns	95
MISS MIX. By Ch—l—tte Br—nte	110
GUY HEAVYSTONE. By the Author of "Sword and Gun"	127
MR. MIDSHIPMAN BREEZY. By Captain M—rry—t, R. N.	139
JOHN JENKINS. By T. S. A—th—r	154

369940

NO TITLE. By W—lk—e C—ll—ns	163
N N. Being a Novel in the French Paragraphic Style	177
FANTINE. After the French of Victor Hugo	184
"LA FEMME." After the French of M. Michelet	193
MARY MCGILLUP. After Belle Boyd. With an Introduction by G. A. S—la.	200

HANDSOME IS AS HANDSOME DOES.

BY CH—S R—DE

CHAPTER I.

THE Dodds were dead. For twenty year they had slept under the green graves of Kittery churchyard. The townfolk still spoke of them kindly. The keeper of the alehouse, where David had smoked his pipe, regretted him regularly, and Mistress Kitty, Mrs. Dodd's maid, whose trim figure always looked well in her mistress's gowns, was inconsolable. The Hardins were in America. Raby was aristocratically gouty; Mrs. Raby, religious. Briefly, then, we have disposed of —

1. Mr. and Mrs. Dodd (dead).
2. Mr. and Mrs. Hardin (translated).
3. Raby, *baron et femme*. (Yet I don't know about the former; he came of a long-lived family, and the gout is an uncertain disease.)

We have active at the present writing (*place aux dames*) —

1. Lady Caroline Coventry, niece of Sir Frederick.

2. Faraday Huxley Little, son of Henry and Grace Little, deceased.

Sequitur to the above, A HERO AND HEROINE.

CHAPTER II.

ON the death of his parents, Faraday Little was taken to Raby Hall. In accepting his guardianship, Mr. Raby struggled stoutly against two prejudices: Faraday was plain-looking and sceptical.

"Handsome is as handsome does, sweetheart," pleaded Jael, interceding for the orphan with arms that were still beautiful. "Dear knows, it is not his fault if he does not look like — his father," she added with a great gulp. Jael was a woman, and vindicated her womanhood by never entirely forgiving a former rival.

"It's not that alone, madam," screamed Raby,