

**MISER FAREBROTHER.
A NOVEL. IN THREE
VOLUMES. VOL. III**

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Miser Farebrother. A novel. In three volumes. Vol. III by B. L. Farjeon

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B. L. FARJEON

**MISER FAREBROTHER.
A NOVEL. IN THREE
VOLUMES. VOL. III**

MISER FAREBROTHER.

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A *Nobel*.

BY

B. L. FARJEON,

AUTHOR OF

"GREAT PORTER SQUARE," "GRIF," "IN A SILVER SEA," "THE HOUSE
OF WHITE SHADOWS," ETC.

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MISER FAREBROTHER.

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CHAPTER I.

A BAD BUSINESS.

AT ten o'clock on this morning Captain Ablewhite, unannounced, and without knocking at the door, walked into Jeremiah's room in the hotel at which he had taken up his quarters. Jeremiah was still in bed. Closing the door carefully behind him and turning the key, Captain Ablewhite drew a chair to the side of the bed and sat down.

"This is a bad business," said Captain Ablewhite.

Jeremiah was in a parlous condition. His face was haggard ; his eyes were bloodshot ; he was shaking like a man in a palsy.

"This is a bad business," repeated Captain Ablewhite, "You are too much upset to reply. But why, oh, *why* have you lost your head ?"

Jeremiah put his hand up, feebly and despairing'y, and passed it vacantly over his forehead.

"I have here," said Captain Ablewhite, plunging his hands into the pockets of his gorgeous dressing-gown, "a pick-me-up. It will pull you round, and then we can talk."

He produced two bottles—one containing the pick-me-up, the other soda. Taking a large tumbler from a table he poured a good dose of the pick-me-up into it, and then uncorked the soda, which he emptied into the glass.

"Drink this."

Jeremiah drank it, and almost instantly became for a while clear-brained.

"Better?" asked Captain Ablewhite.

"A great deal better," replied Jeremiah.

Then, for the third time, the jovial Captain—he was as fresh as a two-year-old—said, "This is a bad business."

And still, clear-headed as he now was, Jeremiah did not know what to say in answer to a very plain statement of fact.

"Let me see," said Captain Ablewhite, taking out his