

**ONE AND A HALF IN
NORWAY; A CHRONICLE
OF SMALL BEER**

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One and a Half in Norway; A Chronicle of Small Beer by S. R. Scargill-Bird

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S. R. SCARGILL-BIRD

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IN

NORWAY

A CHRONICLE OF SMALL BEER

BY

EITHER AND BOTH

LONDON

KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH & CO., 1, PATERNOSTER SQUARE

1885

L. J. f. 2.



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PREFACE.

"I DON'T think I like the title at all," said the *Half*, reflectively; "it sounds so absurd. People won't know what you mean by 'One and a Half;' and why on earth do you call it a 'Chronicle of Small Beer'?" "The success of a book," replied *One*, dogmatically, "depends in no small measure on the selection of an attractive title, and if it sounds mysterious, so much the better; for thereby will much curiosity be excited, and an experienced angler will tell you that inquisitiveness leads the finny victim to its doom quite as often as the more powerful though less easily aroused impulse of a voracious appetite. Besides, is not 'Three in Norway' a most charming book, which has achieved an almost world-wide reputation? Following humbly in

the track thereof, with even exaggerated oddity, may we not hope for a share, however slight, in the beams of its popularity?

“As to its being a ‘Chronicle of Small Beer,’ is not that the very epithet the critics, if it should ever be subjected to their tender mercies, will rush to apply to it? and shall we not, by thus assuming a humility if we have it not, at once deprive them of the keenest arrow in their quiver, and at the same time ensure a pleasant surprise to the reader in the sparkling pages that follow?”

“Go to! The title is well enough. The explanation thereof will appear anon to the patient reader; and if the chronicle succeeds in describing half the pleasure we experienced from our sojourn in ‘Norroway over the Foam,’ be assured that many will be found to follow in the footsteps of

‘ONE AND A HALF.’”

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