

# BETZVILLE TALES

## Rocco Mackintosh and His Two Natures

By Ellis Parker Butler

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ILLUSTRATED BY PETER NEWELL

The most permanently uncomfortable man in Betzville is Rocco Mackintosh, and it is all due to his two natures, which he inherited from his parents. From his mother, who was Rocco Gallucci, he inherited the hot-blooded nature of Italy, and from his father, Sandy Mackintosh, he inherited the cautious nature of a Scot, and while both these natures are excellent, they do not mix well, and in Rocco Mackintosh they did not mix at all. They remained at all times distinctly separate, like the streaks of fat and lean in a piece of bacon.



At Length He Put His Knee on His Chest, and Pinned Himself Down Then, He Seized His Ear in His Teeth and Bit Until He Cried for Mercy.

Three weeks ago last Wednesday Rocco woke with his hot Italian nature in the saddle, so to speak, and an overpowering desire came upon him to write a Black Hand letter, so he sat down and began to write one, but when he was about half through his cautious Scotch nature warned him that he was doing a very dangerous thing, and that if he was discovered he might be taken to court and made to pay a fine. But when he decided not to write a Black Hand letter, his

dagger in his hand he knew he must be prepared for the worst, and that he had a cruel Italian nature to deal with. So he took his shotgun in the other hand and sallied forth, bound at all costs, to protect himself. But hardly had he stepped outside the door than he weakened. What, after all, was \$100 as compared with his life? He went back into the house and took ten ten-dollar bills from his sock, and went out again. He walked to the crossroads and tucked the money under the stone, and then stood back behind a tree to see what would happen. In a minute or so he laid his shotgun on the ground and stole slowly toward the flat stone. Glancing cautiously around, he lifted the stone, picked up the \$100 and slipped it into his pocket, with a cruel Italian chuckle of glee.

At that moment his stanch Scotch nature rebelled. Never would he be robbed in this manner! With a cry of anger he dashed for the shotgun, and at the very moment that he laid his hand upon it his left hand drew the trigger. Then ensued a terrific struggle, in which his Italian nature had all the advantage. Try as he would he was always too close to himself to use the shotgun, while the dagger was just the weapon to use at close quarters. With a groan he dashed the shotgun from him, and closed in upon himself. Again and again he wrestled the dagger from himself, only to have it wrested away again. At length he put his knee upon his chest, and pinned himself down thus, he seized his ear in his teeth, and bit until he cried for mercy. Then, putting his hand in his pocket he pulled out the ten bills and put them in his pocket. He had triumphed.

All the way home his proud Scotch nature gloated on this unequalled achievement and he took his seat at his dinner table with a feeling of great content. He felt in his pocket to see that the \$100 was still there, and it was.

"That for the Black Hand!" he cried, snapping his fingers, and he set to work devouring his meal.

Suddenly he paused and a look of fright and amazement came over his face. He paused with his fork half way to his face, and stared at it. He was eating spaghetti! Instantly he knew what had happened. In his terrific struggle with himself he had mixed his two natures, and the Italian nature had triumphed after all! He had allowed himself to take the \$100 away from himself. He had allowed himself to black-hand himself.

As he finished his meal he laughed merrily to think how he had carried out his threat, and at the same time the tears ran down his cheeks as he thought how he had been victimized. It is a terrible thing to have two natures.

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READY TO FIGHT.

The big man with the fiery look on his face had been struggling with the car window for 20 minutes. Suddenly it came down on him and held him a prisoner. With much fuming and wriggling he finally released himself.

"Confound that blasted window!" he thundered, almost exploding with rage. "I feel like I could chew it up in bits, glass and all."

It was then that the humorous little man in the next seat touched him on the arm.

"My friend," he said, with a merry twinkle in his eyes, "don't be so angry with the window. Why, that window likes you. In fact, it is really affectionate."

"What! Are you joshing me? The window affectionate?"

"Certainly, sir. Didn't it fall on your neck?"

And then the humorous little man vanished toward the smoker.

Unusual Luck.

"So you've rented that haunted house which was on your hands so long?"

"Yes; rented it to an actor."

"Did he find out its reputation?"

"That's the very thing which decided him to take the house."

"Better surprising?"

"He said it would be such a comfort for him to get inside of a house where the ghost walked every night."

# NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Push along the rain that you intend to use this fall so fast as you can.

If the cows do not give their milk freely take it from them, firmly but gently.

The farmer's wife's social life is immeasurably more attractive than it used to be.

Intensive farming of small areas makes closer neighbors, concentrates wealth and social convenience.

Neatness in all departments of the farm life ought to be the farmer's motto, but especially in the dairy.

In any part of the country the more we use our crops to produce something of greater value, the more we will have.

Get the best appliances you can for the dairy, but remember that the best machinery ever made requires gumption behind it.

The new agriculture is one of the important occupations open to youth—and early experience on a farm is a good foundation for later professional training in it.

Feed is too expensive to use sparingly. You get no real returns from a mere subsistence ration. It is what you feed above that that really makes money for you.

The business of the strawberry grower is to supply favorable conditions and to direct the energies of the plant in such directions as will best serve his purpose.

A large number of farmers from Finland, in the northern part of the Russian empire, are going into New England and taking up the abandoned farms in that section.

The Wisconsin dairyman who has been experimenting with molasses as food for his dairy cows declares that it increases the milk flow and improves the quality of butter.

So in a woman's kitchen or sewing room the utensils or materials should be near at hand and always kept in the same place, that no time or steps will be lost in looking for them.

A tremendous experiment in sewage farming will soon be undertaken on the sandy wastes of Long Island. The sewage from Greater New York will be applied by the irrigation process.

A newly stirred soil admits the air to the roots, conserves moisture and prevents the growth of weeds. Every shower tends to seal up the surface and exclude the air. So we aim to stir the soil after every rain.

The Rhode Island State Grange demands a law which will recompense farmers for losses sustained by the enforcement of the state laws regarding tuberculosis and other animal diseases.

The largest alligator farm in the country is near Hot Springs, Ark. It contains about 500 gators, the largest of which is 15 feet long, and whose age is estimated at 200 years. The crop is sold to northern tourists.

Those who work out of doors, "next to the ground," in pure air, suffer none of the ills experienced by those who toil in factories and sweatshops, and the country boy who follows the plow finds health and strength in the furrow.

When animals get sick on the farm, the first question usually is, what medicine is wanted? Now, medicine has its own part, but no medicine will effect a cure without proper attendance and nursing, while good nursing will often bring a patient around without any medicine.

A shelf back of the kitchen table on which to place cups, spoons and small vessels that are used frequently, the wash basin within reach of the roller towel, a drinking cup near the water pail, all save needless exertion and time that may be utilized for something else or rest.

Farmers have a better way of doing their work than in former years. They live up in style since they are making lots of money. There is another view, however. Better living, better clothing and better lodging, and children better educated. This seems to prepare them for leaving the farm, rather than staying on it.

Sometimes one is convinced during the strawberry season that his soil is not rich enough. Some complete fertilizer or a thin coating of decomposed manure may be scattered between the plants to increase the growth. It is well to see that the roots of any rank-growing crops are not encroaching on the strawberry bed. Even the roots of a tree standing 100 feet away may be getting the plant food intended for the plants. So we may in many ways assist our plants in doing their best.

Upon all farms certain expenditures of cash and labor are made which constitute a charge against the farming operations as a whole rather than against any one enterprise. As no entirely satisfactory method has been devised whereby this expense may be properly and justly distributed to the various enterprises of the farm, the term general expense may be applied, which on each farm will average 20 cents and one dollar per acre. Thus the acre cost of production is increased by this amount.

The principal reason why goats do better than sheep in some places is that they are practically inexpensive so far as feeding is concerned. They eat the leaves in summer and the soft twigs in winter, and if there is an abundance of either they will not require anything else to sustain life, but this condition exists only in certain localities, and other means must be adopted elsewhere. They are fond of straw and fodder of any kind. Sugar beet pulp has been fed to them with success. The goats must be taught to eat it, but after once learning they seem not to be able to get enough.

## For the Hostess

Chat on Interesting Topics of Many Kinds, by a Recognized Authority

### A Novel Shower.

A dozen girls who lived for years as neighborhood friends showered one of their number, who is to be a December bride, in this unusual manner: The hostess asked them all to meet at her house informally at two o'clock, the bride-elect was asked to come at three. In this way the hostess explained her scheme, which was as follows. She had material for each one to make the following articles: A dusting cap, three dusters, a broom bag, ironing board, laundry bag, kitchen apron, clothespin bag, roller towel and a case to wind linen dollies on. The entire cost was added and divided equally and then each article was wrapped in tissue paper, tied with ribbon and hidden throughout the rooms. When the honored guest arrived, they chatted awhile, then the hostess announced that a fairy godmother had confided to her that there were packages of value concealed within the portals of the room, to be discovered only by a bride-elect and to the tune of bridal music. Whereupon the hostess sat down to the piano and played wedding marches while the merry little bride hunted the hidden treasures, guided by the loud or soft tones of the piano. All the packages being discovered, they were opened and the girls all set to work on which ever piece they chose. They pronounced this a utility "shower," and it certainly was practical, for the guest of honor said her mind was so in the clouds that she had never even dreamed of the articles presented. Besides it was a jolly afternoon. Refreshments were English toasted muffins, orange marmalade, preserved ginger and delicious tea, brewed by the hostess.

### The Golden Wedding.

A fiftieth anniversary to be celebrated this month is going to be a most beautiful affair. The invitations are lettered in gold engraving and ask you to arrive between the hours of eight and ten. The decorations throughout the rooms are to be in yellow, consisting of showers of gilt wedding bells, which are to swing from every chandelier and be suspended by yellow tulle and yellow satin ribbon over the heads of the couple where they will stand to receive congratulations. This corner is to be made a perfect bower of greens studded with yellow chrysanthemums. Brass candlesticks holding yellow candles are to stand on piano, mantel, bookcases, etc. The honored bride will carry a bouquet composed of 50 yellow roses, and the refreshments are to be orange ice, New York ice cream, sunshine cake iced with yellow, and the bonbons are to be wrapped in gilt paper. Gilt bell-shaped boxes are to be given as souvenirs, bearing the monogram of the happy pair. The November stone is the topaz, and it works up beautifully into seals, with

### Handful of Gold.

I have seen all these articles and they will go as gifts to this wedding. As every one likes to give a toast and often people are not prepared, there are to be perfectly exquisite cards passed to each one to be read aloud after refreshments. These cards are done in gold lettering, with a mother of pearl motif worked out beautifully. The choicest gifts of best writers are found on these latest creations. I must admit they are only postcards, as the reverse side shows. For want of a better name I call them "Sentiment" cards. After the guests have paid this pretty tribute the cards are to be collected and put in a box covered with cloth of gold and presented to the aged couple.

### A Guessing Contest.

This clever little stunt was the finale at a shower given for a November bride. A table was brought into the room having on it a lot of things, each one representing a cake; cards were passed bearing the duplicate numbers of those on the articles. Great fun was had in the guessing. Here are some of the objects, and a hostess may enlarge the list as she desires: A sponge (sponge cake), a little toy her for "layer cake," a chocolate lozenge (chocolate cake), two little Cupids (angel food), a picture of a bride in full wedding costume (wedding cake) a bit of gold and silver gauze or ribbon (gold and silver cake), etc. For prizes there were recipe books and several beautifully decorated cakes.

### FRANCIS OF FASHION.

Skeleton bodies are popular. There is quite a fad for opal matrix. The Japanese wash silks are lovelier than ever. Foliate colorings abound. Enormous black cherries are used on some of the hats. Coats for girls' suits are plain and almost straight. The latest Parisian novelty is the hand-tucked waist. Some of the standing collars are hemstitched around the top. Belts will match the skirts instead of the waists this season. Most of the new crepe blouses are inset with Irish crochet lace. Pretty little neck bows are made of colored open-work embroidery. Swiss embroidery, whether hand done or machine, gives excellent effects. The new hats, almost without exception, show exaggerated crowns. On many of the new ribbons, just arrived, checks play a prominent part.

## Fashion's Latest

On the left is a house gown of Linden green satin with trimming of old gold velvet and gold buttons.

On the right is a reception gown of king's blue panne velvet, with trimming of Venetian point.

### CARE OF THE TABLE LINEN

Best Quality Will Quickly Spoil if Not Handled in the Proper Manner.

The careful keeping of table linen will mean more toward a perfect table than perhaps the quality of the linen itself. The most exquisite table linen will look no better than the poorest quality if it be thrown into a too small drawer or closet.

Just a pair of tablecloths will go further if they are kept well fastened on, better still, rolled on a pasteboard or wooden roller than a dozen ill-kept ones.

All centerpieces, if not rolled, should be spread flat, in a full-sized box or a linen-covered portfolio. The portfolio is a reliable addition to the dining room or pantry, and it may be made at home by covering two pieces of pasteboard with tan-colored linen, or crash, hinging them together with coarse linen thread or with narrow ribbon strips an inch in length, so that the portfolio will hold more flat

linen pieces. This, when filled, is tied together with ribbons and kept in a napkin drawer, where even the sudden rush for napkins can no longer wrinkle the embroidered linens.

Black in the Jabot.

In making the last new jabot for yourself, or, better still, for mother, consider the introduction of a touch of black.

Since these neck fringes are now of such double and triple fulness, it is perfectly possible to have the bit of black detachable. It may be a plaiting of tulle, pique or lace trimmed; it may be plaited and hemmed chiffon, or again, it may be made of chantilly lace, gossamer; but in many cases it is mounted on a small piece of material so that it may more readily be slipped in among the folds of the plaited jabot.

Long black velvet ends depend from the newest jabots, and many of them are touched with gold lace or thread.

There is a new white wash suede that has taken the place of silk and lace gloves with fashionable women

### ANOTHER IMPORTANT VICTORY FOR THE CARTER MEDICINE COMPANY IN THE UNITED STATES COURT.

The United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York—sitting in New York City—has just awarded to the Carter Medicine Company a decree which again sustains the company's exclusive right to use the red package for liver pills.

By the terms of the decree, it is, among other things:

Adjudged that the Carter Medicine Company is the owner of the sole and exclusive right to the use of red colored wrappers and labels upon said small, round packages of liver pills of the style described in the bill of complaint; said right having been acquired by the prior adoption of said style and color of package for liver pills by the complainant predecessors more than thirty years ago, and established by the continuous and exclusive use of the same in constantly increasing quantities by said predecessors and by the complainant, the Carter Medicine Company, itself, from the time of their said adoption until the present day.

The decision just announced is perhaps the most important and far-reaching of all, by reason of the character of the tribunal which rendered it. No Court in the country stands higher.

—National Druggist, St. Louis, Mo.

### REPENTANCE CAME TOO LATE

Small Boy Had Taken Drastic Action to Avoid Being Invited to Party.

A small boy had something to say to his father at the dinner table the other night, says the Philadelphia Record. "Papa," he said, "Johnnie Burton is going to have a party next week, and he said he'd invite me. Am I got to take a present?" "A present? What's that for?" "It's for Johnny's birthday. All the kids take presents." "Things hadn't gone just right during the day with the boy's father. He was not in an agreeable humor. "That's all nonsense," he declared. "Every day or two it's a present here or a present there. If you can't go to a party without taking a present you might as well stay at home." The boy's lip trembled, but he made no reply. The next day the father regretted his hasty words and that night turned to the boy. "Goose," he said, "there are a couple of new books in my overcoat pocket. You can take them to your friend Johnny's party." "It's too late," said George, gloomily. "I licked him to-day so that he wouldn't invite me."

### ECZEMA COVERED HIM.

Itching Torture Was Beyond Words—Slept Only from Sheer Exhaustion—Relieved in 24 Hours and Cured by Cuticura in a Month.

"I am seventy-seven years old, and some years ago I was taken with eczema from head to foot. I was sick for six months and what I suffered could not be told. I could not sleep day or night because of that dreadful itching; when I did sleep it was from sheer exhaustion. I was one mass of irritation; it was even in my scalp. The doctor's medicine seemed to make me worse and I was almost out of my mind. I got a set of the Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Resolvent. I used them persistently for twenty-four hours. That night I slept like an infant, the first solid night's sleep I had had for six months. In a month I was cured. W. Harrison Smith, Mt. Kisco, N. Y., Feb. 3, 1908. Cuticura & Chem. Corp., Sole Mfrs., Boston.

### As to the Hessian Fly.

The Hessian fly is a German product which was conceived in iniquity and born in sauerkraut. It is a long, rangy fly with a bite like a steel trap, and it lays a pale blue, oblong egg at the rate of 30,000 an hour. The Hessian fly will eat anything from decayed custard pie to a glass inkwell, but its favorite dish is the double neck of a fat gent. This bird can perform a two-step on sticky fly paper without crooking its toes, and is proof against rough on rats, the daisy fly killer, and a strychnine hypodermic. No Hessian fly was ever known to die of anything but old age, which accounts for the color of its whiskers. If it ever fastens upon your jaw, it will stay until removed by the undertaker.—Manchester (Ia.) Press.

### Many Children Are Sturdy.

Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for Children, used by Mother Gray, a nurse in Children's Home, New York, cure Summer Complaint, Feverishness, Headache, Stomach Troubles, Teething Disorders and Destroy Worms. At All Druggists. Sample mailed FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

### How Kind.

Edyth—Jack says I was made to kiss.

Mayme—A diplomatic way of referring to your turned-up nose, wasn't it?

If a giddy woman could hear what is said about her giddiness behind her back it would knock some of the giddiness out of her.

### TRUTHFUL ADVERTISING THE BASIS OF SUCCESS.

Since the Ingredients Entering Furuna Are Known, Its Power as a Cathartic Remedy and Tonic is Understood.

COLUMBUS, OHIO.—The active ingredients entering the most popular household remedy in the world have been made known to the public. This means a new era in the advertising of popular family medicines—Furuna leads.

Furuna contains among other things, golden seal, powerful in its effect upon the mucous membranes. Codron seed, a rare medicine and unsurpassed tonic. Cubaba, valuable in nasal catarrh and affections of the kidneys and bladder. Stone root, valuable for the nerves, mucous membranes as well as in dropsy and indigestion.

### COLORS THAT SUIT CHILDREN

Most Effective Combinations Can Be Made by Use of Simple Black and White.

Perhaps the most effective colors—of colors we may call them—for the small child are black and white. It is a nice relief when you have tried of the all-white proposition to get a shepherd's child come in from the snow with the clear white frock and black shoes and stockings. The blue panama hat in fashion with this effective outfit should be draped with a loosely tied scarf of black satin dotted with white spots on each and a half in diameter.

Such is recommending the scarf as a hat trimming, and it is best over these in black, blue and scarlet, with white dots sprinkled over its satin surface.

The plan of providing two different trimmings for the same hat may be satisfactorily accomplished by the use of two colored black, and they will be so charming black, and the amateur, as the scarf means simply the tying of a bow.

### To Freshen Ribbon.

If it is only mused, dust it and then iron between tissue paper.

To wash colored ribbon make a thick lather of good white soap and cold water.

Wash the ribbon in this, rubbing it about gently until the dirt is loosened.

Rinse several times in water that is not a little soapy.

When partly dry smooth out the ribbon and iron between thin pieces of muslin.

In washing white ribbon the water should be warm rather than hot, and the soap a fine white one.

Rinse in two clear waters and one strong blue water.

Hang in the sun until half dry, then press under clear muslin, using a warm iron.

### Jet and Gold Dinner Frocks.

The dinner frocks favored by most wealthy Americans, and foreigners generally, are abate with jet or gold in compact masses. The glittering embroideries appear partly in beads, partly in spangles and cabochons of all sizes.—From the Gentlewoman.