

"By Jove! but she and Norah had a narrow escape! hauled in, in the very nick of time, to save them from drowning; and this she declares, all because of the medal. See, she encloses one of those wonder working marvels, and begs again that I will wear it—it would make her so happy!

"Upon my word, George, I shall begin to pout if this young lady threatens to encroach on prerogatives," said his wife, smiling as she took the offered letter to read for herself. "You are pretty well looked after, I should say, already!"

After reading Rose's story to the end, "It is certainly remarkable," she added, and, believing as the girl does. I am not surprised at her attributing a miraculous power to the medal. Do you mean to wear it?"

"No, I could not bring myself to do anything I should consider so irrational. If it were simply a brass coin, I should not mind wearing it to please her, but with this religious element attached to it, I should feel as if I were abetting, or pretending, to superstition. What's your view of the case?"

"I should say, wear it as you would a coin, and forget the religious element. It can't do no harm, if it does you no good; and it will please your little friend."

"You are a wise woman, wifey! I'll tell her for her sake, and for auld lang syne, I will wear it as she requests, but that, if I ever feel a scruple about doing so, she must leave me free to take it off, and put it carefully by, as a keepsake."

A letter was written suggesting this arrangement. Rose accepted the compromise. And George acted accordingly, wearing the medal for a time, and then consigning it to his dressing-case.

After some peaceful and happy years, this loving couple were visited by sickness and sorrow. The young wife fell ill of malignant fever; and her husband, after a few weeks of intense anxiety and anguish, was left distracted and alone.

His ceaseless watching, day and night, by his dying wife, loss of rest, and distaste for food, told heavily, not only on his bodily health, but for some time endangered his reason.