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BY ARTHUR SKETCHLEY.



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Mrs. Brown on the Royal Russian Marriage.

BY

ARTHUR SKETCHLEY,

AUTHOR OF "THE BROWN PAPERS."

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MRS. BROWN ON THE ROYAL RUSSIAN MARRIAGE.

PREFACE.

“WELL,” I says to Miss Pilkinton, “let ’im marry a Rooshun if he likes, jest the same as ’is sister did a Prooshun, for there ain’t ’ardly a pin to choose between ’em; and, for my part, if he were a son of mine, and ’is ’art in the ’Ighlands, as the sayin’ is, I should be better pleased, jest like ’is other sister as is married to that there young Scotch lord, and as ’appy as the day is long, and quite used to ’im a-goin’ about the ’ouse with no trousers on, as no doubt give ’er a turn at fust. But he’s a werry nice young man, and looks werry well in them outlandish togs, as I see ’im a-dancin’ in myself thro’ a-bein’ over in Scotland myself this ’ere last fall; and I’m sure it’s to be ’oped as the Duke of Edinburer won’t dress up for a Scotchman over in Roosher, as the cold would be sure to strike to ’im

with nothink but a kilt on, as it's wonderful as they can go about them 'ills with no more on in Scotland."

Tho' I do 'ope as Roosher ain't so dull as that there Inwerary, as they calls it, as is where that there young Lord lives along with 'is Princess, and 'is father and mother too, as ain't a good plan in my opinion, cos it's best when young people starts in life as they should be left to theirselves, cos, tho' in course that Dook and Duchess knows their place too well for to talk that free with a Princess, tho' she is their son's wife; yet it must be unpleasant for 'er to 'ave to order them about, and for them to 'ave to knock under to 'er, cos, in course, they're nobodies when she's by; and of all the dismal 'oles as ever I did see it's the kirk as she've got to go to of a Sunday, as is a reglar rookery, as is a thing as this 'ere Rooshun Princess won't stand, for I've see a Rooshun church over in Paris as is awful grand, and tho' they're a topsy-turvey sort of religion, them Rooshuns, yet don't give you the 'orrers like them dismal, 'owlin' Scotch. As for my part, I'd rather be no religion at all, cos wotever is the use on it if it ain't a comfort to you, as I'm sure that kirk never would be to me.

But, as I says, let parties do as they likes, and if they're pleased I'm sure I am.

But wot puzzles me is 'owever that there Dook of