

HOW THE FARMER MISSED IT.

If I had told her in the spring... The old story briefly... What the sparrow and the robin began to sing...

KATE FOSTER.

"Here is the wish-bone, girls; who wants it?" Aunt Kitty said, holding up the well-dried and polished bone... Three merry voices answered...

"I'll have to give it to the one nearest to me, my little Katie; and she is the nearest to marriage, too, I guess... Here, now, pull with Mabel or Jeanne, and see if I am all right..."

"Come, Katie, make your wish, and up with the bone," said Mabel... Katie followed her sisters into the hall... Mabel said: "It is 'Squire Ellwood'."

"Run quick! pull down the bone. Don't let him come under it," cried Katie... Mabel flew to her bidding. Too late! The door opened, and, without any ceremony the 'Squire' walked in...

"Why, bless me! I liked to have knocked down my little lady-love with my rough entry..." "Tis not Katie; it's me—Mabel," she answered in her confusion...

"How Mabel ever came to single Katie out as the one so expressed by the 'Squire' she could not tell herself, except his connection with the wish-bone, then in her mind..."

"Ha, ha, ha! what a wise little girl you are!" laughed the 'Squire', patting the blushing cheeks, and following Mabel into the sitting room... The 'Squire' did not stay long that evening...

"What is it darling?" "In an instant her eyes were swimming in tears; and she shook her head, saying: 'You will laugh at me if I tell you.'"

"No, no, aunt. This has hurt me badly, but 'tis not forever. If I had made my father miserable, I should feel it in years to come. I cannot understand how it is that I am not more troubled, except that I am guided, and comforted, too, by a higher power..."

"Why, Katie, I went early this morning. But never fear; if you will come, I'll take you away from a dozen 'Squires, you dear, frightened little bird,' Willie said..."

He went away soon after. Katie accompanied him, with her sisters, as far as the garden gate, where the incidents of the afternoon were talked and laughed over... Willie Holden was the only son of an old and esteemed friend of Kate's mother...

"best friend," as the captain always said, when referring to the Squire... Often this friend had come to the captain's relief in financial difficulties... Many times Mrs. Foster said to her daughters: "There is no better man living than Squire Ellwood..."

The Squire was a man of abundant means, with no one nearer of kin than a distant cousin to share it with... Some folks wondered that he had never married, and why he did not then... He was not too old by any means—only 55—and handsome enough to please anybody...

Others declared that he had been disappointed in his younger days... A beautiful woman had jilted him, and he had no faith in any woman since... The next day Squire Ellwood came early, and was closeted a long while with Captain Foster...

After he had gone there was another conference between the captain and his wife... The girls knew nothing of this, as they were off to a picnic... But Aunt Kitty's mind was sorely exercised. At length, however, she concluded that her brother-in-law was financially unagony again...

Captain Foster was a very extravagant man, living far beyond his means, fond of all the good things of life, and a few of his neighbors hinted, some of the bad things, too... At any rate he truly lived for the day only, with no thought of the future, and consequently he often needed the Squire's help...

There was a look of pain on Mrs. Foster's face that no one understood... At length it all came out. Squire Ellwood wanted to marry Katie! Aunt Kitty scolded and threatened, coaxed and cried, but all to no effect... Katie's father favored his friend's suit...

Poor Katie. It was a dreadful shock to her at first. She feared it would break her heart, and she knew she would die if she had to marry any other than Willie. Katie dearly loved her handsome father, and ever before his word had been her law; but now she felt as if she must rebel...

"If I only should suffer," she said, "I would not mind it so much. But how can I ever hurt Willie so dreadfully?" Then Captain Foster took her with him into his sanatorium, where they remained all the forenoon; after which the poor child came forth very pale, but calm and decided...

She would marry the Squire. The news flew quickly to the next farm. Willie laughed at it... But when the announcement came again, and he declared, unless from Katie's lips, he would not believe it... So he went to her, she declaring it must be the last time they should meet, and he avowing he would take her from the square if at the very altar...

"You are mine, Katie, and I cannot give you up. Why will you wreck the happiness of both? I know you are suffering, and I—" "Willie," she said, "stop. Say no more. This matter is decided. My own feelings were not considered when I agreed to— and her voice quivered; she could not speak those words to Willie..."

"I chose between you and my father which I should make miserable. That was it. I could not bear to be against him. Willie is young and can bear it better, and in time another will comfort him," I said. And so it must be. Now go, Willie, far away for a while, until we shall both feel better. Good bye..."

He sprang forward to catch her to his heart, but she fled from him and escaped to the next room, sending her mother to soothe him as best she could... Preparations for the wedding were hastened. Three days before the one fixed for the marriage, Katie and her aunt stood watching the vessel that bore Willie away from his native town...

As the poor girl turned to go in, Aunt Kitty saw the trembling lip, and putting her arm about her, she said, "Oh, my darling, this is too cruel! This is breaking your heart, I know..." "No, no, aunt. This has hurt me badly, but 'tis not forever. If I had made my father miserable, I should feel it in years to come. I cannot understand how it is that I am not more troubled, except that I am guided, and comforted, too, by a higher power..."

The wedding day dawned brightly. Katie stood at the window watching the sun rise and thinking how many, many times it would go down ere she should return to her home... A knock at the door recalled her. She opened it to her mother, who handed her a letter. She knew the handwriting, and opened it without comment. It was dated the night before, and read: "MY DARLING: Ever since, in babyhood, you lisped my name, I have loved you, yet the idea of ever winning you for my own has been of very recent birth..."

sadness or gloom, not rather of warning, has stolen over me, and seems to promise no morrow for me... "There is a strange feeling about my heart; perhaps the fullness of joy is too great. God bless you, my Katie! In life or death I will prove to you how grateful I am that you have given me good hope for future happiness. Yours, "E. ELLWOOD."

"What a rough old bear of a man that Mr. Wade is!" she exclaimed, holding up both her hands, "don't say that; he is one of the gentlest and best of men." And good reason had this charming woman to think so, as will presently appear...

At the beginning of the war, an army officer, serving in Texas, sent his resignation to a brother, to be used in case his State seceded from the Union... The brother, who was a strong Secessionist, at once sent in his resignation and it was accepted...

The officer, after visiting all the Departments gave up in despair, went home and told his wife what he must do, as the North would not have his services, and he could not go South and fight against his own people...

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"Why don't you go to old Ben Wade of Ohio?" "Oh," said she, "they say he is so rough; a terrible man indeed, and I'm in dread of going to him..." "Never mind what they say," replied the friend; "you go and see old Ben, and you can tell us afterward about his peculiarities..."

The next day the lady did call at Mr. Wade's house, and learning he was in, trembling approached the dread presence. There was nothing forbidding in Mr. Wade's looks, and she soon, under the most gentle encouragement, confided to him everything about her husband's case... When she came to speak of her children she quite broke down and sobbed most bitterly...

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The multitude praise those who are at the top of the ladder, without asking how they got there... Uncivilized people are all alike; their passions are alike and they even all look alike... Enuff is happiness, but we have no standard to measure the quantity...

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Ben Wade and the Officer's Wife.

The ladies were never afraid of Mr. Wade, in a certain way, as they often were of public men... Wade's heart was as fresh as a spring of water, and they seemed to instinctively understand he was a good man...

"What a rough old bear of a man that Mr. Wade is!" she exclaimed, holding up both her hands, "don't say that; he is one of the gentlest and best of men." And good reason had this charming woman to think so, as will presently appear...

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English Castle Distinctions.

The distinction between persons who are in trade and those who are not is maintained upon the most constant vigilance... This discrimination is perpetuated and deepened by the etiquette of the court...

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The Ex-Empress Carlotta.

Since the Empress Carlotta, after the disastrous fire at Truvenner, has resided at the Chateau de Bouchout, Her Majesty's health has greatly improved... She is allowed complete liberty, not only in the chateau but in the park...

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Rupture CURED.

W. J. Horne, Proprietor California Elastic Truss Co., 702 Market Street, San Francisco... The Truss I purchased of you one year ago has proved a miracle to me... I have been ruptured forty years, and worn dozens of different kinds of Trusses, all of which have ruined my health...

Latest Medical Endorsements. W. J. Horne, Proprietor California Elastic Truss Co., 702 Market Street, San Francisco... In regard to your California Elastic Truss, I would say that I have carefully studied its mechanism, applied it in practice, and do not hesitate to say that for all purposes for which Trusses are worn it is the best Truss ever offered to the public...

A REMARKABLE CURE. W. J. Horne, Proprietor California Elastic Truss Co., 702 Market Street, San Francisco... I am truly grateful to you for the wonderful CURE your valuable truss has effected on my little boy... The double truss I purchased from you has EFFECTUALLY CURED him of his painful rupture on both sides in a little over six months...

A HEAD WORTH HAVING. John Harris, who had his head split open by a falling ax at the new Yellow Jacket about some two years ago, is again on the Comstock... Although the ax fell 160 feet upon his head, and he lost in consequence a strip of the skull-bone four inches long and two and a half inches wide, he has taken a temporary rest, and with him and brought it back, and thinks a good deal of it and with it yet...

Why is a young lady forsaken by her lover like a deadly weapon? Because she is careless... A Boston child remarked, after gazing earnestly at a man who was bald, but had heavy whiskers—"His head was put upside down, wasn't it?"

California Elastic Truss Co. 702 Market Street, S. F. HALL'S PATENT DOVETAILED BURGLAR-PROOF SAFES. Have been tested by the most disastrous configurations in the country... They are thoroughly fire proof. They are free from dampness. Their interior is perfectly dry.

They are free from dampness. Their interior is perfectly dry. Although about 150,000 of these safes are now in use, and hundreds have been tested by some of the most disastrous conflagrations in the country, they not only will stand up to record wherein one of them ever failed to preserve its contents perfectly.

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Hamlin & Wrenn Proprs. Having JUST RETURNED FROM SEASIDE with a new stock, and having leased a new premises, we are now prepared to do all kinds of DRAYING AND HAULING, either in the city or country, at the lowest living rates. Can be found at the old truck stand. A share of the public patronage respectfully solicited. Corvallis, Dec. 27, 1878. 15-241

FRANKLIN CAUTHORN, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

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