bright fire glowing behind a burnish- up the chimney until she heard her ed grate; a carpet whose soft, velvety husband's voice calling her imperapiles was shaded in blue and wood tively: colors, to correspond with the damask covered furniture; and a little ing? gilded clock, which had just struck nine at night-all these things met ran up stairs, 'I wish Frank wouldn't Mrs. Chickerly's eye as she laid down her book, and yawned as widely as her ripe cherry of a mouth would admit.

She was a plump, fair faced young hurry. matron of some four and twenty, eves, and a complexion whose roses | the next thing to be selected. stood in need of no artificial rouge to heighten their charms, while her dress of soft crimson merino was exquisitely adapted to her semi-blonde | be quick!' "Fanny," said Mr. Chickerly,

looking up from his newspaper, "did you call on those Carters to-day?" "No; I never thought of it." And they leave town to-morrow

morning; and Carter is absurdly sensitive to all slights fancied or real. Fanny, I desired you to make a Mr. Chickerly, glancing at his watch point of calling. "Well I did intend to, Frank,"

ean't think of everything. "You cannot, it seems." "It appears to me you are making

a mountain out of mole-hill," said Fanny, rather tartly. "It may affect my business very

influence with it." Mrs. Chickerly was silent, patting the velvet carpet with her foot in a manner that indicated some annoy-

"I shall have to leave here very early to-morrow morning," said her husband, presently. "To go to Scenersvill, about Aunt

· Elizabeth's will?" "Yes. "Oh, I wouldn't, Frank."

"Why not?" as not that she'll change her mind were you.

Mr. Chickerly smiled. doing things, Fanny, but not mine." to her little dinner a le solitaire, with

always in the wisest marner. I wish in walked her lord and husband. you would break yourself of that some day bring you to grief." Mrs. Chickerly contracted her pretty eoebrows.

"I don't believe in being lectured. "And I don't very often lecture

for that. "You don't think you were marrying an angel when you took me, I

hope? "No, my love. I thought I was marrying a very pretty little girl, it did seem rather provoking to be whose few faults might easily be kept at home by a button." corrected. Faults! Have I any great faults,

"Little faults may sometimes entail great consequences, Fanny.' out of the room.

want to wear to-morrow. I wish you | can't run any more risks. would come up stairs and sew it on He did not speak unkindly, and for me. 'I will, presently.'

'Why can't you come now?' 'I just want to finish this book: there's only one more chapter.'

it best not to contest the question. bright fire, Mrs. Chickerly gradually grew drowsy, and be are she knew it she had drifted off it to the shadowy regions of dream-land.

Shall I help you to some macearoni? Corvallis... Canyon City, Grant co... Albany... Dalles, Wasco county... LaGrande, Union county... She was roused by the clock strik-

ing eleven.

'Fanny, Fanny it's past five, and cook hasn't come down stairs yet. Are you sure you spoke to her last emy, appoplexy!

Mrs. Chickerly rubbed her eyes and stared sleepily around. speaking to her last night, she said

ed her:

'No need, Fanny,' he said, a little bitterly, 'I must leave the house in fifteen minutes, or miss the only through train. It's of no use of lence, then Mr. Chickerly added o'clock from the 20th of March to the speaking to cook now.
'I am so sorry, Frank.'

was apparently absorbed in turning Fanny Chickerly sat like one conover the various articles in his bu- demned, by the utterance of her own

have packed the others—those that band's side, laying one tremulous are fit to wear. I have shirts enough hand on his shoulder. but not one in repair.' Fanny crimsoned as she remember-

ed how often, in the course of the ly. last month or two, she had solemnly promised herself to devote a day to unspoken, and silently pressed the the much needed renovation of her little hand in his own; and not a has reopened his Oyster Saloon and Res-She looked around for her thimble.

'I left it down stairs last night. I'll get it in a minute!"

could not resist the temptation of pausing a moment to warm her chill-A cheerful south room with a bay- ed fingers, and watch the greenish window full of blossoming plants; a purple spires of fame shoot merrily

'Fanny! Fanny! what are you do

'Oh, dear, thought the wife, as she be so cross. He's always in a hurry. Little Mrs. Chickerly never stopped to think that the real reason was that she, his wife, was never, in a

The needle threaded, the thimble with bright auburn hair, soft blue fitted on, an appropriate button was 'Oh, dear, Frank, I haven't one

the right size! 'Sew on what you have then: but But Fanny was quite certain there

was 'just the right button' somewhere in her work-basket, and stopped to search for it. There, I told you so! she cried triumphantly holding it up on the

end of her needle. 'Well, well, sew it on quick,' said

nervously. 'That's just your worrying way, pouted Mrs. Chickeriy, "but one Frank; as if anybody could sew a button on well in a hurry. There! my needle has come unthreaded!"

'Oh, Fanny, Fanny!' fairly out of patience at last, 'why didn't you do it last night as I begged of you? I shall miss the train; and what little seriously, Carter's house carries great | chance we had of a place in Aunt Elizabeth's will, will be sacrificed to your miserable habit of being always behind hand.

Fanny gave him the shirt, and began to whimper a little, but Mr. Chickerly had not the time nor the inclination to pause to soothe her petulant manifestations of grief. He finished his dressing, caught up his valise with a hurriedly spoken 'goodbye,' and ran down stairs, two steps at a time in the street.

'There he goes,' murmured Fanny; "It's such bitter cald weather to travel in? and Aunt Eli abeth is such a whimsical old woman it's as likely button! I wish there wasn't such a button! I wish there wasn't such a thing as a button in the world!" (A about making a will when you get | wish which we much misdoubt, many | CARDS, there. I would wait a little, if I another wife than Mrs. Fanny Chickerly has echoed, with perhaps better

"That would be your system of Mrs. Chickerly was sitting down My system, Frank! What do you | a daintily browned chichen, a tumbler of current jelly, a curly bunch "I mean that you believe in put- of celery ranged before her, when, in fact all kinds of work done a in Printing ting things off indefinitely, and not to her surprise the door opened and office, at

'Why, Frank, where on earth did habit, Fanny. Believe me it will vou come from?' Cried the astonished wife.

'From the office' coolly answered Mr. Chickerly. 'But I thought you were off for

Scenersville, in such a hurry.' 'I found myself just five minutes you, my dear; pray give me credit too late for the train, after having run all the way to the depot.' "Oh that was too bad."

> Chickerly smiled a little as he began to carve the chicken. 'Yes I was a little annoved at first;

What are you going to do?' 'Why I shall make a second start

to-morrow. 'I'll see to it that your breakfast is ready this time, to the second, and "If you scold any more I shall go all your wardrobe in trim,' said Fanny, rather relieved at the prospect of "You need not, for I am going a chance of retrieving her character. myself to pack my valise. By the You need not. I have engaged a way there's a button off the shirt I room at a hotel near the depot. I

yet Fanny felt that he was deeply displeased with her.

But, Frank-'We'll not discuss the matter any further my love, if you please. I And Fanny opened her volume so have resolved to say nothing more to resolutely that her husband thought | you about reforms. I see it is useless and only tends to foster an un-Sitting all alone in front of the pleasant state of feeling between us.

Three days afterwards, Mr. Chickerly once more made his entrance, Dear me! how late it is! she just at dusk, carpet-bag in hand, thought, with a little start. 'I must | while Fanny sat enjoying the ruddy go up stairs immediately. There I light of the coal fire and the conforgot to tell cook about having sciousness of having performed her breakfast at five to-morrow morning duty in the mending and general and of course she's abad and asleep renovation of her husband's drawer by this time. I'll be up early enough full of shirts—a job which she had

to see to it myself, that will be just long been dreading and postponing. 'Well, how is Aunt Elizabeth?' And laying this salve to her con- questioned Fanny, when her husscience, Mrs. Chickerly turned off band, duly welcomed and greeted, the gas and crept drowsily up the had seated himself in the opposite easy-chair.

'Dead, was the brief reply.'

Yes 'Was her will made?'

"Oh, Frank, I forgot all about pected me, on the day she herself appointed; and on my non-arrival on with conscience-stricken face. But the only train that stops, she sent I'll run right up—she can have the for the village lawyer, made her will REBECCA DEGREE LODGE NO. breakfast ready in a very few min- and left all her property to the or-She sprang out of bed, thrust her feet into a pair of silk-lined slippers, and threw a shawl over her shouland threw a shawl over her shoul- had induced her, on the spur of the are invited to attend. Mr. Chickerly bit his lip and check- tion of leaving it to him. She died the next morning.'

composedly: Mr. Chickerly did not answer; he missing batton has cost me!'

reau drawer, while Fanny sit shiver- conscience. Not alone the one missing on the edge of the bed, cogitating but the scores—nay, hundreds ing how hard it was for her husband of trifling omissions, forgetfulnesses, to start on a long journey that bitter and postponements which made her life one endless endeavar to 'catch 'I can make a cup of coffee myself up' with the transpiring present, over the furnace fire, she exclaimed seemed to present themselves before springing to her feet, but Mr. Chick- her mind's eye What would this ery, etc., etc. end in? Was not the present lesson Sit down, Fanny, please. I sufficiently momentous to teach her would rather you would sew this to train herself in a different school? She rose, and came to her hus-

> word was said more than this upon the subject.

But it was not forgotten. Fanny Chickerly sat herself resolutely to The housemaid had just kindled a fire in the sitting room grate; it was blazing and cracking cheerfully among the fresh coals, and Fanny when we resolve to do a wise thing.

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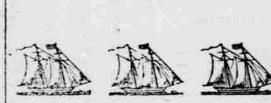
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