

CHAPTER II. From New York Letter. And then Mrs. Kate nodded her head, and her eyes had an unusual sparkle in them, as if she had suddenly come to some resolution which she was determined to carry out.

Jess Kingsbury was the very princess of pretty flirts, as Kate well knew, and Charles had once had a fancy for her. Who knew what she might take it into her head to do now, especially if she had the chance which Kate seemed bent on giving her to work her siren spell.

"Charley is as good as gold," said Kate. "But men are men and women are women sometimes! Sometimes they are little fools. Perhaps I will be one, perhaps I won't, Miss Jess!"

Kate flew around in her nursery that morning with a will; and before her callers could possibly be expected she had taken off her untidy wrapper, curled her hair and made herself as pretty as she could.

"Why, they told me you had grown quite domestic, dear! Given up society, and all that!" the young lady cried, settling her silk-en plumage in Kates comest chair.

"I hope you enjoyed the opera, last night?" observed Kate, rather coolly, not replying to her words.

go, we would run 'round to Stella's while, this evening," she answered, putting her hand on which her diamond ring again shone on his broad shoulder.

"But, the baby?" asked Charley, doubtfully. "Sarah can do very well with the baby," said Kate, though her cheeks reddened under his glance.

"Sarah? Why, Katie, what does it all mean? Is it possible?" "Yes, it is quite possible that I am not going to neglect you any more, Charley, my dear," she interrupted, blushing redder.

"Hallelujah!" and Charley caught her to him in a swift embrace. "Kate, I'm the happiest fellow in town just this minute!"

"Then I shall take care to keep you so," said Kate. "Come to supper, silly boy." She kept her word—and her husband, Miss Jess found it of no avail to cast her sweetest spells around her handsome cousin, for his wife was wide awake and learned, before it was too late to save a heart-break, that "worth winning worth keeping"—especially when one has a home treasure to defend.

THREE TIMES A BRIDESMAID. From New York Weekly. "Augusta Vivian! why, what on earth are you crying about?"

Miss Vivian dashed the crystal drops petulantly from her eye lashes. "Crying! What nonsense. I'm not crying."

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