WORTH WINNING, WORTH REEP shoulder.

BY MATTIE DYER BRITTS.

CHAPTER II.

From New York Ledge 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! Somerimes they are little fools. Perhaps I will be one, perhaps I won't, Miss learned, before it was too late to Jess!"

that morning with a will; and be- Iv when one has a home treasure fore her callers could possibly be to defend. expected she had taked off her untidy wrapper, curled her hair and made herself as pretty as she could If she took a bit of a cry while she held the curling-iron, it might have been because that small instrument of torture was too hot.

They came, and it seemed to Kate that Jess looked slightly surprised at her appearance.

"Why, they told me you had grown quite domestic, dear! Given up society, and all that!" the bridesmaid's dross in her lapyoung lady cried, settling her silken plumage in Kates cosiest chair. "But I declare, you look as fresh beyond lay the wedding-cards. and blooming as ever! I am quite tied together with snowy ribbon, veved at Charles."

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

"Oh, yes indeed! It seemed like was going to take me out riding once more. this afternoon?" she rattled on. "I told him he ought to take you, never a bride." but he said you wouldn't go."

But her usual "I couldn't leave the her with so much malicious fun? baby" was not spoken, and Stella For the third time she was to be a stared a little, and then smiled and bride's attendant now-and hernodded her head, as if she hed sud- self? Why does no one come to denly chanced upon a brinht idea. lead her to the altar also, to fulfill

had suggested, but the visiters de- nv? to remain to dinner that day. Kate:

coax Charley away from you?"

for a minute. But Kate said, very speaking of her as "an old maid;" ns Jessie's:

"You may, if you can!"

but said not a word.

a thoughtful face.

"No! she shall not have my hus- Yet Augusta Vivian was lovelier now. If Charley were not just as smoothness of her brow, the goldgood and true as he is-well-I'm bright hair waved in luxurous oyes open in time! Thanks to you, ples, and the bloom on her cheeks darling laby, you must be very, -and yet she never yet had had very good, indeed. For you will one offer. morrow night."

came the office-boy, bringing a little note, to say that she need not Augusta, mournfully, and not withwait, for he would not come to din- out a spice of bitterness in her dener. Had an engagement for the jection.

think I shall be of the party."

But when Charley came up at tea- likely to drag out the monotonous and fauitless dress, as he had not ble in that keen hand-to-hand conseen her for months.

some face all aglow. "Has any one sit at home with folded hands and ecme? Are you going out?"

"Yes, I thought if you cared to

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

"But, the baby?" asked Charley. doubtingly.

"Sarah can do very well with the baby." said Kate, though her cheeks reddened under his glagce.

"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, blu hing redder. "Halliujah!" 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 sup-

per, 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 save a heart-break, that "worth Kate flew around in her nursery winning worth keeping"-especial-

## 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 erying."

She sat there on the low, velvetcovered divan, with the exquisite white tarletan, barred with shimmering lines of silver-while just like drifted snow.

And Aunt Bessie, seeing that remonstrance and argument would alike be unwelcome just at the moment, went quietly out of the room old times to be with Charles again. with the ivory needle case she had Oh, by the way, did he tell ; ou he come to seek, leaving Augusta alone

"Three times a bridesmaid, and

Was it, then, that there was act-"Not to-day. Some other time, ual truth in the words of the old with pleasure," answered Kate. saw which people quoted against Kate gave the invitation Charles a woman's sweetest, proudest desti-

It is all sheer nonsense to sa Miss Jessie promised to come in a that a girl must not admit visions few days and spend a week or two of love and matrimony into her with them; and, as they were tak- head. She would be but a lifeless, ing their leave, he said archly, to loveless statute otherwise; the visions will come unbidden, and ex-"Perhaps you will wish that I istence would be uncomplete withhad not come at all! What If I out their enchanting glitter. So it was with Augusta Vivian at eight-Stella was absolutely frightened, and-twenty. People were already calmly, and with a smile as bright the young, sixteen year old damsels thought her "shockingly old," and Lily, ber married sister, with two "Kate, you'er a trump," whis- babies, patronized and pitied her. pered Stella, when she bent to kiss "Poor Gussie," said Mrs. Lathrop, her sister-in-law good-bye. And "it isn't likely she will ever marry Kate gave her hand a little squeeze now. Why, I was engaged before I was eighteen, and Gussie is near She ran back to her nursery as lythirty. However, I always wantsoon as her callers were gone, and ed an old maid sister to live with took little Johnnie on her lap with me and help about the children and the housekeeping."

band's heart," she murmured. "I now than she had been at eighteer. have been at fault-I can see that. Not a wrinkle-marred the marble thankful that I have had my eyes masses from her blue veined temtoo, Miss Jess! And now, my was red and ripe as that of a peach

have to divide your empire with an bad all the wifely instincts bepapa, after this. And I'll have a longing to every women worthy of dressmaker in the house, befor to the name—she had her aspirations, hopes and dreams, and it was At noon, instead of Charles, dispiriting to see them blighted one by one.

"Nobody cares for me," thought "No man ever spoke to afternoon, but would come home early to supper.

"An engagement? Yes; to ride Am I unlike other women? Am I with his cousin!" said Kate, to her- unworthy of the destiny that fate self with a smile. "All right, Mr. has reserved for them? Here I Charley! The next time, I rather roses, solitary and alone, save for live in my little cottage among the Aunt Bessie and the kitten, and She was very busy that aftenoon, here, from aught I can see, I am time, it was the old Kate who met series of my days. I wish I were a him in the hall, with fluffy hair world and forget all personal trouflict which invigorates while it oc-"Why, Kit!" he cried, his hand. cupies them; but women can only aching hearts, waiting for the day to come which may never dawn.



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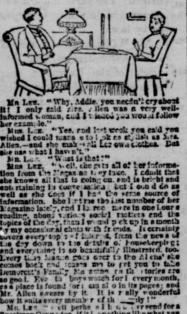


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"Hello! Too. Glad to see you call fellow! It's almost true years ince we were manifered. Si downt let's have an experience meeting. How the wife?" "Out she's so so, some as usual, skwys want the wife?" "Out she's so so, some as usual, skwys want go wenthing I can't a flord."
"" "Well, we ad want something more than we've got. Don't you?"
"" Yes: but I guess 'want will be my master." I started to keep down expenses; and now Lil says I'm 'man,' and she's tired of saving and arver having anything to show for it. I aw your wife down street, and she looked as happy as a que en!"
"I think she is; and we are cosmonical, too.—have to be. My wife can make a little go 'urther than anyone I ever knew, yet she s alway, surpris ng me with some cainty contrivance that adds to the confert and beauty of our little one. and she's always 'incrry as a larry'. When I asis how she manages it, so always larred we we have it will be after the sale will have should have to be very car ful, but she maile one condition: she would have her Mag dire. And she was right! I wouldn't do without it self for double the salestraption proc. We, it tigether, from the tide-page to the last we he stories keep our hearts young; it e sympo of important events and scientific matters ke me posted so that I can talk understandingly what is going on; my wife is always symp as on new idea from the household department; and we read downton her was alle with the coup, by doing just as directed in the Saultaron Dopartmet. But I can't relyou had," "What we der'al Marazine is !"
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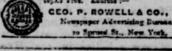
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