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## CHAPTER III

Mis Stafford paid a very long vis it to Janie. She wrote home tha "one thing and another" was detaining her; but she mentioned "Mr. Lang" with strange and sus picious frequency, and that she was having a delightful time.
And on the day before her delightful visit ended she came in from the lawn, where she had been sitting and atrolling with Mr Lang and confrented Janie with dewy eyes and a tremulous smile.


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Janie promptly caught her in her arms and kissed her, and shed a contented tear or two.
"I knew it," she said-"I knew it! I alwaynknew you were just Howard's atyle, and I knew what would happen when he met you That was one reason I wanted you to come, Jo. It wan! And I'm not a bit sorry he thought you were Jo way of introducing you!"

## THE END.

## The Ishmaelite.

from hearth

## CHAPTER I.

"Harry, I can endure this n longer!
Miss Hester Glendenning's high bred, intellectual face wore a slight and wholly unwonted flueh and her precise, well modulated vuice betrayed a most unusual agitation.
"You must get rid of this-this Ishmaelite!"
The Ishmaelite in question was Col. Bob Hockaday, whose ac quaintance young Harry Glendenning had formed while making a sojourn of several monthe' dura tion in the West during the pre vious year
The voung fellow had acquired a strong liking for the older man and had been the recipient of more than one favor at his hands, and upon learning that Col. Bob con templated making his first visit to the East during the ensuing year, Harry had cordially invited his new found friend to share the hospitality of his home whenever he made the anticipated journey.
The invitation had been accepted and, in due time, to the prim and proper New England village had come Col. Bob, a slouch-hatted, pepper-and-salt clad figure, a trifle basgy at the knee and inclined somewhat to embonpuint.
The newcomer "hit off" quite well with the old Judge, Harry's grandfather, who in his younger davs had bruken away from the routine of life in the staid and nober village and climbed out of the
at long enough to try his fortune in California in the early fifties. But to Miss Hester a somewhat conservative and wholly proper spinster, Col. Bob speedily became as a thurn in the flesh
You acquired strange tastes and acqua ntances during your stay in the West." she said severely to Harry. not long after Col. Bob's arrival. "It may have been good for vour health, but it seems to have been exceedingly bad for your morals. To think that you should have invited this-this creature
here! What could you have been thinking abeut*"
"Do not be ton severe with Col.
half ataused. "It "His way! "It is only his way." his outrageous ou may condone manner if you can, but in that He has won for in cannot and contempt of the entio veraiua He has distributed entire village. He has distributed gratuitous in. ults everywhere He has out. raged our hospitality and made uta public laughing stock."
All of which was a trifie tog strong an arraignment of Col. Bob though partially merited, I will confess.
"He has grossly, shamefully, in. "Well, yes, he "Well, yes, he did shake young Van Vlarcom up a bit, but what of it?"
The shakiug up of the said $V_{a n}$ Vlarcom had occurred ir this wise: pon that particular afternoon Col. ob was sitting at his ease on the shady piarsa of tha Glendenning residence, with his feet cocked up on the railing, drawing invidious comparifons between life in that taid and conservative New England town and in the great aud glorioun town and in the great and glorioug
West-all to the diaguat and annoyance of Miss Hester and the secret enjoyment of young Harry, who slyly led the guest on when he showed sigus of flagging.
Several times Col Bob had appealed to the lady for ratification of hid remarks, with an "Eh, Mins Glendennin'?" and a stabbing motion toward her with his thumb, harmless and innocent in its intent, but almost maddening to her. "The village is all right enough," aid the Ishmaelite, oracularly, in eply to an artful question from Harry. "Thar is something kinder reatful and grod about them overhanging elm trees. It is as pretty a a picture, too, with the roade winding around among the trees, and up and down little hills and slopes and past comfortable houses half hidden behind the elms and fir rces. It is a nice place to die in,
"But, to live in-
"It is a good place for old folk and poets, perhaps, but it is no place for a live man. I feel like: torehlight parade in a grayeyard. Haw! haw!"

But, the people?"
"It's the people that tire me most. man must live by rule and rote here. He must walk the beaten paths that his grandfather trod, and worship the traditions like an In. dian.
Even this traducing of the emi nentlw respectable and wholly be loved place of her birth was enough to have condemned him wholly in Miss Hester's eyes, but it was only as the beginning of his offenses.

Yes," he resumed, "I feel like-" Just then there came an inter ruption. A spirited horse, bearing slender, girlish figure on his back, came plunging around the bend in the elm-shaded road followed by a correctly ciad esquestrian mounted on a handsome but obvinusly fire lere steed. The foremost horse bolted a little way, reared, whirled and plunged wickedlv, fighting to unseat his slender rider.
The young lady's face was white, but she was making a brave figh for the mastery. Her escort, small, sallow young man with an ap curled mustache, waved whip and cried, "Whoa!" many times in an agitated voice, and ranticallv jerked his nober sued defeating the execution of any hedefeating the execuic ing enter. tained

