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WHOLESALE & RETAIL,

HŒNIX SQUARE, F'TON.

Our Story.

A Dernier Ressort

(Continued.)

Jack Palmer grasped her hand as she pened the door—the thought passing through his mind at the same time how different it was to the soft hands he had for years been accustomed to grasp-and exclaimed, in as impassioned a tone as he could command: Ruth, dear Ruth,

and do I indeed see you once more? Miss Corbett wrested ber hand from his and looked as him in amazement. Then a light began to dawn upon her. Is itcan it be Jack Palmer? she asked.

It is-it can, replied that gentleman. And what do you want? Ruth went on,

with cool, calm directness. What-do-I want? stammered the

Yes, what do you want?

What do I want? again repeated Mr. Palmer. Why, Ruth, how can you ask? I came to see you.

And why, pursued the lady. Why? Because my heart has returned to the old allegiance. Because I longed for my boyhood's home. Because, Ruth,

And then, said Ruth.

Then—then, replied the city gentleman shifting his hat from one hand to the other and wincing perceptibly under the glare of those calm blue eyes; and then, I hoped Ruth, you would become my

I want you to forgive and forget the

Have you lost all your money? asked Miss Corbett.

Well, yes, I have lost the greater part of it, but before I lost it I made up my mind to seek you again. I did, upon my word, and ask your forgiveness.

Sorry to say that I doubt that very much. And now, Mr. Palmer, I advise you to return to town as soon as possible, while I hang out the rest of my wash-

And you won't forgive me, Ruth?

Well, really, I've quite forgotten what I have to forgive you for. But, there, I forgive you, if that will do you any good, and wish you a pleasant journey back to your city friends.

If ever a city gentleman walked off a front porch after an interview with an elderly rustic maiden, utterly routed and discomfitted by that elderly rustic maiden Jack Palmer was that city gentleman. He could not have felt more discomfited even if he had seen Miss Corbett, with a tranquil little smile hovering about her mouth, go placedly back to her grass-plat, pick up the clothes pin she had dropped to answer his knock and to let him in, and proceed to fasten a handkerchief to the line therewith.

Jim Farlow spied his old chum coming back and went to the door of the shop. Hallo, said he; what luck? But the other never answered, but strode by, his jaunty manner all gone, without word or sign.

Ha! ha! shouted the blacksmith, nearly doubling himself up in the excess of his mirth. The darnyer raysort didn't

That very evening as Jim Farlow was on his way home he stopped for a moment to speak to Ruth Corbett. She was standing by her gate evidently on the lookout for him.

Did you see Jack Palmer to-day? she

Well, yes, I had that honor, replied the blacksmith. Did you?

I did, said Miss Corbett, and all I've got to say is and I couldn't bring myself to say that if it wasn't leap year-that it's a pity you haven't a little of his assurance. And if I had, what would I do suggest my waiting till doomsday? he rewith it, asked Jim, coming as near to her plied, savagely. Is there no other? as the gate between would allow.

Let it help you to ask me the same question he asked me.

And that was-that was-said the black smith.

Yes, it certainly was, gravely assented

The gate flew open-Jim caught her in his arms-It was: Will you be my wife, he fairly shouted. And I haven't the slightest objection, said Miss Corbett.

SULD FOR A DOLLAR

Leonard Halsey had the tooth-ache. have insisted on it that no human being perfect fiend. had ever been under the sway of such a fiendish pain before—that it was impossible to endure such agony five minutesbeen suffering its red-hot tortares for no perpose. fifteen minutes, and was still sufficienty alive to swear like a trooper at each extra Middleton's door.

now, in this dismal little rainy town, where he was to spend the night, it had begun to ache at full swing.

Leonard Halsey's teeth were his pride,

and he haed to lose them; but being at man of prompt action, he made up his mind that having it out was preferable to the death which would inevitably overtake him, should he suffer until morn-

Knowing there was no dentist in the town he determined to call upon the kindly offices of the first physician.

Where does the nearest doctor live? he inquired of the landlord.

Just across the street, but-Before he could go further, however, the victim was half way across the

There upon the door a plate made of spar. so that he who runs(on a dark night) may read, Halsey saw the legend in black

Dr. E. Middleton.

Is Dr. Middleton in? demanded he of the girl who answered his summons, with such fierceness, that she fell back, fearing him an escaped lunatic.

Yes sur, yes sur.

Then what are you staring at?

Nawthin sur. Walk into the office, answered Margaret, with her politest manner, feeling that any other course placed her in imminent danger of being scalped.

Obedient to her order he walked into the office without further ceremony.

Instead of the doctor however, was only a young girl reading a book. She rose politely, and, acknowledging his presence, handed him a chair.

She waited a second or so with an expectant look upon her face, and then asked, in a sweet, clear voice:

Can I do anything for you? You seem to be suffering.

No, thank you. I want to see your

This was at random, of course, but then, Halsey was not in condition to be very lucid, or anything else that was rational.

My father? echoed the girl with wonder in her voice. Why, he has been dead ten years!

I mean Dr. Middleton. I beg your pardon for assuming that he was your makes me forget everything, my manners price, \$14.00.

The worsted Suits, \$7.00 regular to the price of the p

A burst of soft meriment made him look angrily at this girl who dared to laugh while he was in such misery.

It is now my turn to ask your pardon. But I think you will understand my laughing, and excuse it. I am Dr. Middleton. Now can I do anything for you?

It was Halsey's turn to fall back a step or two, or he would have done so but that he had seated himself at once on entering the office. But it is no exaggeration to say that his misery was swallowed up in the momentary shock of amazement.

But, good heavens-I hate women doctors and I want this tooth out, he replied angrily, as if he resented her sex, and considered himself personally aggrieved

I'm sorry, but I don't see now I can help it now, demurely answered Dr. Mid-

Help what? asked Halsey. Being a woman doctor. He knew that she was laughing at him, though never a ghost of a smile was on her face, and she shook her head gravely, as though she deprecated the circumstance.

Where is the next doctor, or is she a woman, too? asked Halsey, impatiently.

No, she is a man, and has a dwelling house about two blocks off, but is at present in Boston for the night. If you'd wait till about noon to morrow? she suggested, wickedly, in a questioning tone.

Heavens! wait till noon! why don't you

Yes, one other. Dr. Alford. Is he a man or a woman?

He is a man, too. But-

But what? tell me quick. Good gracious! woman, did you ever have the toothache? Hurry up and relieve me.

I am perfectly willing to be of any service. Dr. Alford who is your only remaining hope, is sick in bed, still you might try there. If not come back and I'll lend you my forceps so that you may pull it yourself.

Halsey shot out the door, muttering to himself. A woman doctor! Humph! wanted the job herself likely. I bet I'll That fact was undeniable. Equally un- find somebody to take out this confound demable was the fact that it was a pretty ed mass of pain. Lend me her forceps, bad one-nay-if that gentleman himself indeed! A woman that will stand and had been questioned about it, he would laugh at a man in my misery must be a

Bnt then, what could be expected of a woman who would study medicine.

Muttering to himself he wandered up and this in the face of the fact, that he had and down the muddy streets, but all to

Misery finally brought him back to Dr. I've come to ask you to lend me your

All day long the tooth had growled, and forceps. I'm going to get some man to pull this thing.

Dr. Middleton hesitated al moment, then said, bravely: Continued next issue.

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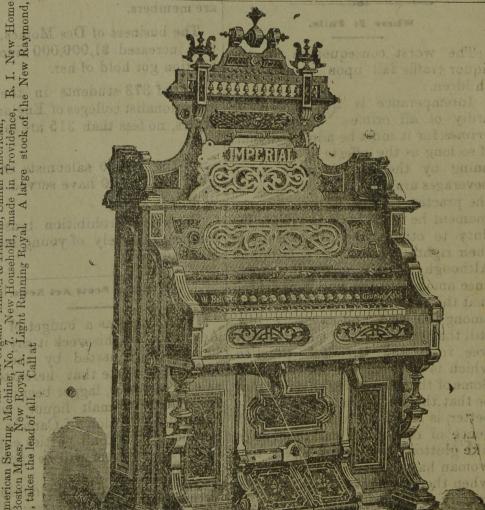
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