

DESTINY.

If you had never crossed my path While hurrying life's ways along...

AN ARIZONA IDYL.

"Wake up. Hump yourself now. It's time for us to skedaddle." The sleeper, thus rudely brought back to the cares and sorrows of the waking world...

to the reduction works, and, with the sum thus realized, they could open up the mine properly, and either sell or work it themselves...

Open air life has many advocates, but it cannot be denied it is destructive to the complexion and to the other beauties more especially feminine. But what Mrs. Hawes may have lacked in the way of velvety bloom and youthful softness of contour...

Perhaps it was this insensibility to fatigue which first awoke the latent passion in the heart of Mr. Price, but there is no knowing to a certainty; with regard to phenomena of this nature, despite our boasted science, all is as yet but conjecture.

"How do you do, Mrs. Hawes?" said Price, as he sank apologetically down upon a nail keg just inside the flap of the tent. A slight nod was all the response to this salutation...

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dispatch, suggested that they repair at once to the justice of the peace and have the ceremony performed. But, much to his surprise, Mrs. Hawes would not hear of it.

Price hastened to assure her that though he must necessarily long to advance the hour which should make her all his own, he doubted that he would be able to restrain his ardor so that the proprieties might be observed in all things.

Notwithstanding the plausible explanation he had given of the origin of Watson's message, he was considerably disturbed by it, and waited until 3 o'clock in the morning to meet his partner on the arrival of the west-bound express.

found the lady engaged in putting the finishing touches to the "green caliker"; when he reflected that now, perhaps, that festal garment no longer possessed a reason for existence; when, in short, all the bitter thoughts of what might have been came crowding into his mind, emotion almost mastered him.

"Must a ketchid cold last night, from the way't you snuffle," remarked his fiancée by way of greeting. The delicate, one might almost say wily, solicitude conveyed by these simple words was all that was lacking to complete Price's discomfiture, and it was some time before he managed to reply in a choking voice.

"Yes, I wuz up rather late, I wanted to see Watson. He come back on the train." "Drunk agin, too; I heard his screechin' an' hollerin' round."

When Price beheld the woman of his choice was irretrievably lost to him, that he could no longer hope to win her, the glamour of the impossible endowed her with all the charms fancy ever dreamed of; but when he found that instead of losing her, she possessed him, body and soul, at the very moment when his felicity should have been the most complete and unalloyed, it was tinged by a vague regret—the indefinable, intangible sense of disappointment which ever accompanies the realization of our cherished ideals.

This disappointment was heightened by the fact that the bride would not consent to Watson being present at the marriage ceremony. Price would have liked to have his old partner witness the legal sanction of his bliss, but the lady was inexorable, and Price acquiesced, a performance in which he was rapidly acquiring proficiency.

The discordant clamor of the charivari had long since been hushed; darkness had invaded the sidereal heights and silence brooded over slumbering Arivaca. The barkeeper of the Fashion was just locking the door of the establishment, and Watson, who had been compelled reluctantly to abandon his location before the bar, clung to an awning post, and inveighed against the folly of marriage and the wiles of woman.

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