

POETRY.

MY SCHOOLGIRL SWEETHEART.

Up to the old brown schoolhouse that stood on a hilltop high, Each day we went together, my little love and I.

She was a winsome lassie, my sweetheart twelve years old; Blue were her eyes as heaven, shining, her curls of gold;

Light were her fairy footsteps, pleasant her sunny face; Carrying youth's predictions of woman's coming grace.

Cheerily, lovable, modest, how can her charms be told; I was her schoolboy lover, sitting across the aisle,

Braving the teacher's anger for a whisper or a smile. Many a red-cheeked apple or pear of golden hue

Quick passed in the hours of study, noticed by only two; I drew her sled in winter, and to her tiny feet

I bound the flashing runners. Then o'er the frozen sheet, We two would glide together, happy 'mid frost and cold;

For, was she not my sweetheart, my darling twelve years old! Grew there a springtime blossom, soon was the flower here,

To her came sunnier glories, and when the chestnut buds Opened their lips in autumn, showing their treasures brown,

'Neath the tree sat my sweetheart—I shook the treasure down. So passed the hours of winter, so sped the summer days;

She has become a woman with gentle graceful ways; I have attained to manhood, yet by our own sweet will,

I am her own true lover; she is my sweetheart still. SELECT STORY. AN UNBROKEN PROMISE.

A CASTAWAY.

PART I.

CONTINUED.

CHAPTER VII.

GERALD'S LUCK.

timid, Madge. You dislike going among strange people; and perhaps you are afraid of the officers and flighty fellows that you have heard of in Avonmouth.

"No, indeed, it isn't that." "Indeed, what can it be, then? Oh, I know—that young Hardings?"

"Mr. Hardings? What about him?" "Well, Dobson wanted him to go to the Avonmouth Theatre has not been open for two years now, and the scenery

all wants looking after and touching up; and Dobson wanted young Hardings to go off in advance, and get it ready by the time you came there; but when he was spoken to this morning, he said he was very sorry he could not, that his engagement

was up, and that he did not think of his having any chance of his coming back to the circuit." "And what has that to do with me, dear Miss Cave?"

"Well, my dear, I have got eyes in my head, though they are not as bright as they were, and I can see that while that excellent young man is desperately in love with you, you have a sneaking kindness

for him; and I thought you might have set your horses together, and—" "Mr. Hardings hasn't spoken to me on the subject, dear Miss Cave; and I assure you I have not the smallest knowledge of his movements."

"Well, my dear, no offence. I won't take your answer to Dobson just now, lest you might change your mind. Think it over, and let me know to-morrow; and if I were you, I would lie down a bit after dinner and rest myself. You ought to be very brilliant to-night; for it is not only the last night, but Dunsany's benefit; and he's sure to have a big house; for he's a member of some order, and we shall be full of brothers, with aprons on, and green ribbons and tin things-me-jays around their necks."

"Then Madge, nothing kindly at the old lady, went upstairs, and after looking into the sitting room to tell Rose to get her dinner by herself, as she felt too tired and unwell to eat, went to her own room, and attention was aroused, and her interest excited.

"If that is to be the case," said she, "you must no longer talk in riddles, but speak out plainly, Gerald." "I want nothing better," said the young man. "I told Rose, last night, to let you know I wanted to speak to you on a most important matter."

"Yes, I recollect making the appointment, Rose told me that it was important; and it is important, is it Gerald?" "To me the most important matter in my life," said Gerald, not looking at her, and speaking very low.

"Tell me, then," said Madge, in the same tone. "Under the fascination of that moment, with his low voice murmuring in her ear, her hand resting on his arm, in the full consciousness that he was devoted to her body and soul, the great mental agony she had just been laboring under melted away entirely for the time."

"Tell me, then," she whispered again. "Why should I tell you the first part of it again?" he murmured, "unless, indeed, you have the same gratification in knowing that I have in saying it. You know how I love and worship you, my darling! How, since the first hour I saw you, I have been your slave, never happy but when near you, and having no other thought but of and for you. You hear me, Madge?"

"She made him no answer, save what he might have expected, the smallest pressure of her hand upon his arm." "I have said this to you before, and you have listened to me and laughed at me, and while you half forbade me thus addressing you, let me go on, because you said it was idle talk. I told you then that the time had come when I must tell you what he is no longer, when I might have the power of attaining such a position as would enable me to ask you to become my wife. You recollect all this, Madge?"

"He bent his head and looked down at her. Her face was very white, and it was more by the motion of her lips than from anything he heard, that he understood her to assent." "Do you recollect further what you said?" "I do." "I recollect the words: 'You shall ask me when the time arrives, Gerald,' you said, 'and I will answer you then.' Madge, the time has arrived now, and I claim your answer."

"Gerald!" said Madge, with a low cry. "It has arrived now, my darling; he continued, passing his arm around her. 'I am to remain a scene-painter and a theatre drudge no longer. Listen, dear one! For months past I have been working in secret, and I have succeeded in pictures, which I sent to London. Yesterday morning I heard from the agent I had consigned them to, that they had been bought at the prices which I had fixed upon them; bought, the agent tells me, by some rich, eccentric old man, who wishes to come to London, and pledges himself to find sufficient commissions for me to occupy my time for months to come. More than this, the agent advises me at once to come to town, and introduce myself to my patron, as should be a very easy matter, there is no knowing where the good results may end. When I got that letter Madge, my first thought was of you; now, I said, I can ask her to be my wife; now I can ask her to link her lot with mine, not as the obscure drudge of a country theatre, but as one who has a fair prospect of fame and fortune; now I can offer her rest from the toil she has undergone, and freedom from the annoyances and insolences which she is compelled to put up with. Madge, darling, I can, I do, offer you this now. What do you say in reply?"

"She said nothing. He drew her closely to him, and bending down, noticed that her eye-lids were closed, and when he pressed his lips upon her cheek, it was stone cold. Gerald feared she had fainted, but immediately afterwards she had unrolled her eyes, and murmured in broken tones, 'I am very ill, Gerald! Take me home—take me home!'"

SENSATION AT ST. ANDREWS.

A Tailor Arrested on a Charge of Attempted Bigamy. A ripple of excitement pervaded at St. Andrews Monday afternoon when it leaked out that George Hood, merchant tailor, had been arrested, charged with attempt to commit bigamy.

The complaint upon which the warrant for arrest was issued was made by Leonard G. Chase, who charged Hood, being a married man, with attempting to enter into marriage with his daughter Ethel, who is a young lady about twenty-four years of age, and of prepossessing manner and appearance.

The warrant was executed by Sheriff Stuart, who brought his prisoner before Justice C. E. O. Hatheway, who after a short preliminary examination, remanded Hood to jail for eight days, with the alternative of giving bail. The bail was not forthcoming, and the prisoner, who denies the charge, was taken to prison.

Go. Hood came to St. Andrews in August last from Edmondston, Victoria county, ostensibly with the intention of going to Lubec, Me., but as it now appears, unfortunately for himself, decided to remain in St. Andrews, opening out his stock of clothes in the shop of the Messrs. Caffrey house. He, it is said, made the acquaintance of Miss Chase at a dance held last fall in the syndicate building, and subsequently they fell in love with each other. It was said, however, by the knowing ones that Hood was a married man. He told some of his friends that he had a divorce from his wife, and to others he denied that he was married. Married or divorced the intimacy continued, and culminated in an offer of marriage. Some time last December Hood got a marriage license from the issuer of licenses at Westbrook, Cumberland, and in the latter part of that month with his fiancée applied to Rev. W. Comben, Methodist minister at St. Andrews, to tie the knot. With the caution characteristic of that gentleman, he, on finding that the would-be bride's family were ignorant of the proposition, and not being satisfied with the reasons given for such privacy, refused to officiate. Whether or not they succeeded in getting another person to perform the ceremony cannot be said. Hood is a man of very quiet manner, thirty-four years of age. Four years ago he worked and did business on Grand Manan, residing on Woodward's Cove with a woman who claimed to be his wife, and with them three children. Two of these children are present living with Hood's father at Lubec, Maine. Last December Sheriff Stuart had sent to him from a lawyer in Bangor, Me., for service on Hood, papers issued by the divorce court at Augusta in an action brought for divorce by Hood's wife, one of the allegations being that of cruelty. The papers notified Hood to appear at a court to be held in Augusta in January. The papers, however, came into the sheriff's hands late for service, consequently the trial did not come off. Hood was aware his wife had applied for a divorce and decided not to oppose it. He took it for granted that she had got it. Leonard G. Chase only heard on Saturday last that there had been his divorce, and had assumed the phase they now do, and as the most effectual means to remedy the trouble resorted to the law. The outcome of the affair will be watched with interest. It is stated that Hood was married in Nova Scotia, that there are four children, and that Mrs. Hood will appear in court as a witness. M. N. Cockburn, barrister, is looking after the interest of Mr. Chase.

A later despatch says that the bigamy case has fizzled out. Hood was taken from jail and discharged for want of sufficient evidence.

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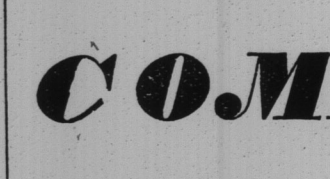
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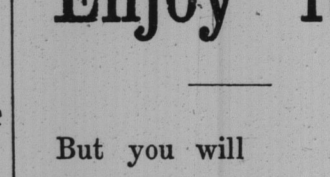
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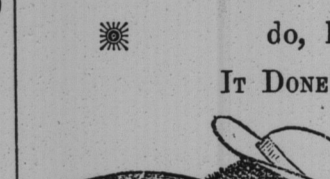
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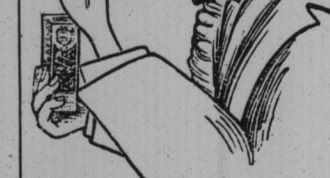
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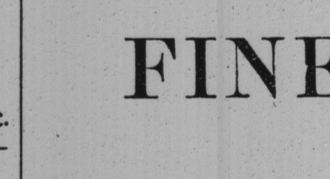
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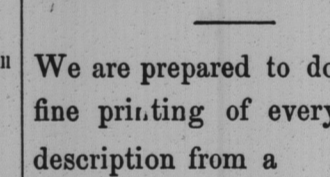
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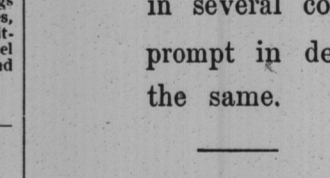
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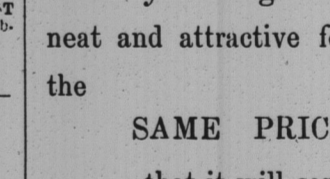
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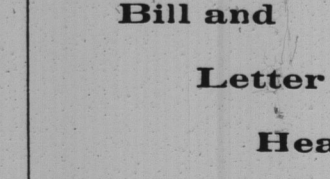
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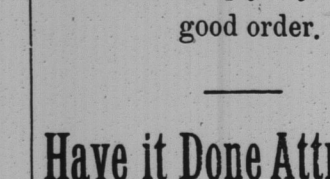
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