"Oh, mother, it is snowing fast still there is nothing to look at but snow !

grumbled Kitty O'Hara. welcome the true old-fashioned weather." "But it's rather dreary to be buried

mother?" "No I don't; and you ought to be ashamed to stand there and chatter so foolishly, Kitty. Come and prepare your father's tea.'

When Kitty had spread the coarse linen cloth over the broad deal table, and laid in order on the tray the plates and cups and saucers, she cut some thick alices off a quartern home-baked loaf, and, stooping down before the fire in a halfkneeling attitude, began to toast them. If Kitty could have seen how pretty she looked then! No one noticed her save the ancient tabby cat, who sat purring and blinking on the cosy hearth, as it usually did all day. Mrs. O'Hara was rattling pans in the dairy; but, had she been in the kitchen, she would never have thought of admiring her daughter. Long before, when Kitty was a tiny delicate-looking child, with eyes like forgetme-nots, a rose-and-lily complexion, and and it was with a deep sigh and a sad shake of the head that the regretful too? Ain't ye got any legs?" mother now lamented her daughter's lost charms. Who that had known Kitty twelve years previously would ever have contemplated that she would have changed in so marvellous a fashion? But Mrs. O'Hara's tastes were peculiar; she could back shutting out the keen cold air. somewhat plump figure, a bronzed, healthy, gipsy skin, dark fringed eyes the expression of which was a mixture of mirth and seriousness, and a loose thick coil of wavy auburn hair. Yet, notwithstanding many a sharp reprimand on the one side and too often an impertinent reply on the other, with an occasional toss of the head, mother and daughter "rubbed along" very smoothly together, and loved each other at the core truly and sincerely.

last thick round of toast, a muffled noise of wheels echoed through the still air, Tilly what to arrange on the breakfast- The simple little name fell from his lips "how solemn you look! Here-come and succeeded by a loud shrill whistle at the front gate. Down fell the toast and knife on top of it.

"Mother, mother, here's father!" shout ed Kitty.

Without a second's delay, Mrs. O'Hara strode from the dairy and hastened to unbolt the door; and Tilly, the hard-worked maid-of-all-work, suddenly ceased her violent clattering of cans and followed in

"What a beautiful winter night-like ten to his ghost-stories!" thought Mrs. and dazzling valleys.

O'Hara sat in his wide arm-chair in the home-cured beef and pickled tongue; toast, and brown ginger-cakes her mother evening! There were the lofty hall, best parlor, and kitchen to finish with final toe; there were the numerous varied presents to be given to the hired hands on the morrow waiting to be arranged in order their heads on their pillows, must be It was odd-very. done "decently and in order," said farmer

Steadily the hours sped on, and soon the large round moon broke through the rolling clouds and looked down quietly upon the sleeping world. It was a sie to called out in his gruff honest voice:— towards the divine creature was his promised wife— more in the desperate effort to collect his ous night and at by those standing in warm well-lit rooms, "Jack Frost" at a little beauty in it to the half-frozen traveller, the hungry, the footsore, the stranger who had lost his way?

something! What can it be?"

sat up in bed, listening. Again came that | cept the hospitality of a poor hard-work- of you"-that he answered wildly and de- pleadingly at her mother. strange murmuring sound in the dead of | ing man and welcome ! night-half cry, half call. An awful si- 'Your good-natured offer I accept with right for you to remember me! I belong lately. I cannot tell what's come to you,' lence ensued; then something was thrown much thankfulness. I feel too weak and to some one else-some one else. These said Mrs. O'Hara. at the window. Kitty's heart went pit-a- footsore to turn out this morning and violets will soon perish; so must your pat so violently that it seemed as if it continue my journey, and shall be only thoughts of me." "Flowers and memory just let me live quietly with you and must stop beating. She did not believe | too glad if you will spare me a slice of in hobgoblins or ghosts; she was neither | your Christmas beef and taste of plum- | die!" Kitty screamed; and her voice was | superstitious nor timid; yet, when a sec- | pudding.' ond pebble struck the glass pane and rolled down upon the sill, she felt terribly Mrs. O'Hara. alarmed, yet could not have explained

"I'll smother myself under the clothes!" | pay you.

moaned bewildered Kitty. passage; before she could get to Tilly, of mercy. brightly on the toilet-table; perhaps the Hall. glimmer of the light had attracted some one outside. Yet who would come on Christmas Eve to such a lonely little bed to-morrow with rheumatic fever, my farm behind the hills?

Kitty threw a shawl over her head, braced herself up not to be afraid, pulled back the curtain, opened the window, and then shouted in a voice of assumed some one. I'm sure I'm not equal to the patient seemed to improve; each day over Miss Kitty.'

sternness-

"Any one there?" The words sounded harsh and unnatu ral, and echo answered them far away. barn, I pray you!

"Who are you?" "A traveller who has lost his way." "How am I to know you are speaking

my father.

with fearless steps and knocked at her middle-aged doctor from Snaresleigh had ness as she said slowly :mother's door, never doubting for one to pay a visit to O'Hara's farm every day; moment that they would let the poor and once, when his light blue eyes were Dylton made no answer. He was the parlor and was sitting by the head of

the old sow in the yard. He could not fortune to have to say something unpleadoes my heart beat with such mad rapid- With that kiss the girl awoke and gazed be brought to his senses or induced to be- sant-and announced that the gentleman ity? What is it to me?" lieve that there was really a miserable was "very bad indeed." being outside pleading for shelter-for The poor fellow's mind seemed gone thoughts were chasing each other through reality and truth the dear voice. admittance even into the barn. Oh, no! entirely. He had no knowledge of where her brain, and met Mr. Dylton's dark Heknew all about it; he knew-he was he was or who were tending him; he ones fixed upon her. not such a fool-what the rogue wanted. | would talk to hisfavorite horses and dogs, | "Kitty, will you find me ink and pa- so when-when- In bewilderment she He had heard of such capers before the rush miles across the country on his mare per? I can walk so well now, I think stared round the roun. was not born yesterday. If he were to Saxon, with Tiger and Tip tearing at his I could manage to get as far as the postgive ear to the mad fancies of mankind, heels, and call loudly and repeatedly for office.

they would be murdered in their beds some one named "Maude," who Kitty and the whole place ransacked before thought must be his sister. dawn-that was all. Kitty had better go

back to her bed and dream. "And what else should you look at at thrown anyhow about her shoulders and soon, dearest. Oh, my love, what would Christmas-time? For my part, I like to head, the little spirit-lamp flickering and you have done if I had died?" glimmering in her hand.

it's actually Christmas Eve !"

The farmer was suddenly attacked with a violent fit of coughing. When it ceased, You're glad to see me?" he ordered Kitty to leave the room; and Kitty, feeling very nervous, and scarcethe instant she disappeared he hastened ly conscious of what she was saying, -anout of bed, thrust his feet into his mon- sweredster slippers, wound round his body a blanket huge enough to cover a modern Goliath, told Mrs. O'Hara to mind her own Maude; and I was doubting-and own business when she inquired what he was doubting- I think I'll sleep a bit intended to do, put on his spectacles care- now, dear, if you don't mind. You'll let fully, armed himself with a thick stick me hold your hand so? 'Tis such a tiny and a clumsy lantern, and stalked down- hand-so soft, sostairs, sending such a ghost-like creak- He fell asleep, and Kitty stirred not ing sound through the silent house that was almost afraid to beathe even.

and uttered a feeble scream. on the stranger's face for a long half- for the better. Oh, how fervently Kitty

"Humph, humph," muttered the far- Tilly crept cautiously on tip-toe into mer, "ye look mighty wretched, be ye a the room, brought Kitty a steaming cup curls soft and fair as flax, Mrs. O'Hara friend or foe! Why can't ye walk in, of tea, put a little more fuel softly upon had proudly declared her- "a beauty"; when ye see me standing a martyr to the the fire, and then glided out to her work east wind, and just out of my warm bed again.

> thing, which O'Hara seemed not to hear, to disengage her hand lest she might about kindness and gratitude-all the awaken the perceful sleeper to his sad sound he could force between his poor wanderings and pain. But about a forget my promise," said Reginald Dylton able. chattering teeth-as the heavy door swung quarter of an hour later he moaned slight- gaily. They were all grouped in the door-

are contemplating cutting our throats by- room and-by, perhaps you'll be good enough to spare my daughter Kitty. If it hadn't been for her soft heart, you might have been out there, although-although it's rine O'Hara. Christmas Eve, and it would sort of go agin me to see you stiff and stark and cold on my door-stone. I'm dashed if I should of the month?" eat any Christmas dinner !"

"We will not waken him yet; he must Before Kitty had finished buttering the be very tired, poor fellow!" said Mrs. at all. O'Hara, bustling about and directing Kitty.

"Not tired, ma'am, in the least, thought of calling her Katharine. though my eyes have not closed for twenty-four hours, but so stiff and aching said you were to take when you awoke." -so woefully stiff! I thought I'd never manage to crawl down-stairs!'

Mrs. O'Hara turned round sharply, and saw standing close by her elbow, a tall, body; but you're mending now, and I'm rather slender, pale-faced gentleman, sure mother'll neverremember the trouble opposite to her, or rather in the farthest once, but lately she's awfully mopish." neither particularly handsome nor partic- if you only get well. Very good-hearted of the four corners, a bashful young man ularly plain, but a human being of quite is mother," added plain-spoken Kitty. an ordinary type-of the same stamp as "I wonder if I shall ever be able to at a mad rate, and looking very miserable the good old-fashioned times when we one passes in a crowded city scores of walk about again without crutches?" he indeed used to sit on grandfather's knee and listimes each day. Yet Kitty, at that mo- moaned in a most mournful tone, and ment crossing the hall from the little par- with an expression of intense melancholy this Donald M'Nab. He had been known, O'Hara, as she glanced at the white hills lor, almost smothered with holly and in his dark eyes. He was evidently evergreens, thought him in her own thinking of something far away from medi- lightful pleasure of a whole Saturday gone, Kiss me just once before I go An extra-merry cosy meal was the jolly mind "perfectly splendid." Poor Kitty cine or Kitty. substantial tea in the farm-kitchen. had seen so few people, hod led such a "Do not worry your head about th chimney-corner, and with immense relish farm enlivened now and then only by a this, to get to sleep again," said Kitty he undertook was honest, red-headed sipped his cocoa and ate his big slices of flying visit from some vulgar freckled calmly. cousin, whose sighs were loud and long | He looked half wonderingly at the aland Kitty made no pretense of apprecia- because he had failed to turn her small most pretty and truly pleasant face, tion as she munched the crisp buttered brain. It was no wonder that she con- drank the draught without a word, and sidered this stranger "beautiful," and de- then lay back silently on the pillows, He his position was very trying—he took out made so well. How full of fun and clared later on that his smooth white fell asleep again, and this time dreamed a large speckled pocket-handkerchief and go or stay?" bustle was the remainder of that happy hands were simply "magnificent." And —dreamed that Kitty O'Hara, the Irish wiped his forehead—wiped it furiously, then Kitty glanced despairingly at her farmer's daughter, had fallen in love with and made his face more fiery than ever. own plump brown ones, her mother's him, that somehow he had discovered sprays here and there of holly and mistle- long bony fingers, Tilly's crimson wrists the secret and plunged poor Kitty into that if she lived to the age of Methuselah come with me.

fine dark eyes, and pointed with his finger law a fairy! It seemed such a difficult gether again all in a moment; he was

respectable distance on the other side of to my Kitty; and—and I must say I had Would not Kitty be content to be his and such railways and the towns upon them, or local agents of the Company, or to be haved very shabbily to that young man the window—but, alas, there was very my fears as to whether we'd all be to- Maude's best friend? Oh, how he hated behaved very shabbily to that young man. should be quite as much be made matters Humph, humph!"

"You suspected me?" Kitty O'Hara started from sleep, and there—there, sir! Here's my hand. Ac-

"That we will do right heartily," put in "There is gold in my valise-more than

Before she could get to her father or we live behind the mountains, we are not ed dream!

mother, she must cross a horrible dark behind the people in the town in deeds

she must mount winding creaking stairs. So the stranger took his seat amongst his thick fingers before the comfortable For one minute she lay very still, think- them, and made himself as affable and kitchen fire, "that our patient's going on ing. At last an idea struck her. Per- merry as he could in the circumstances- remarkably well-yes, remarkably well. haps some one had lost their way. She his poor limbs were so painful—and the You're a wonderful woman, Mrs. O'Hara would open the window and shout. simple farm-folk knew not that they were --wonderful. By-the-by, do you know Kitty's little spirit-lamp was burning entertaining rich Squire Dylton of Dylton what part of the country he came from,

> "If that poor wretch isn't laid on his name isn't Jemima O'Hara!' "I must confess he looks queer," re- Kitty. Good-bye Mrs. O'Hara.

turned her husband. trotting fifty times a day up them stairs, added new strength, new vigor. with everything to be carried up and down; and he, being a gent, 'll expect friends in England," he said smiling one fashion at the sleeping face, and wondersuch a load o' attention. Oh, dear, oh, morning to Kitty. "Shelter this bitter night, if only in a dear, to think that he should come to our house on purpose to be ill !"

"I don't suppose he can help it, mother. I dare say he'd be glad to be well, if he could," said Kitty quietly. "I don't suppose you know anything who, I dare say, have troubled themselves sounded from the tall timepiece in the

"You must wait a bit longer. I will call The farmer's wife's predictions proved tives-I possess not one." too true. Reginald Dylton was unable the Kitty's loving heart ached as she lis- next morning, and many mornings fol-

"I'll be with you soon, darling-very soon," he said one afternoon, staring in-But Kitty stood quite still, making no tently at the ceiling. "I rolled down a attempt to move. And such a queer ob- steep mcuntain, and it was nearly over ject she looked-her quilted petticoat with me. My limbs ache a bit. I'm bettrailing on the floor, a coarse gray shawl ter-I'm almost well. I'll be with you

As the sufferer uttered this last sentence "Oh, father and mother, I didn't think he smoothed Kitty's hand and gazed anxiyou wish we were hear the town, said passionately and indignantly. "And nition in that stare, only alook of extreme he pointed to the direction, "I told you had learned to love some one better. who try it. It is a specific for all female not have been been beinging to the pointed to the direction, and direction in that stare, only alook of extreme he pointed to the direction, the pointed to the direction in that stare, only alook of extreme he pointed to the direction. bewilderment.

"Answer me. Maude, this instant

"Yes, very." "How fond and foolish! That's my

honest Tilly, sleeping the deep hard sleep | had not rested for several nights, and of a faithful servant, turned on her side Mrs. O'Hara was getting wan and haggard with watching him. An undisturb-The lantern held by O'Hara shone full ed good sleep might prove a turning-point

hoped and prayed it might be so

A whole hour fled by, and still Kitty The pale-faced traveller mumbled some- sat patiently in the same position, afraid hearts in the world.

"Where am I?"

name somewhere before. What is the day have to spare Kitty for a return visit to "It is the 31st of December-New Year's

You are the farmer's daughter round the hills, and then-

so easily, so naturally; he never once churn the butter!" "I'll just pourout the medicine mother

"I'm a great plague to you all," the patient murmured in a weary tone. "It has been an anxious week for every-

secluded life in that out-of-the-way little future. Try, when you've swallowed very steady, very earnest in everything fore my leg was broken. It isn't your

-with a cut here and there by way of the deepest distress, and that he could she would never change her mind. ornament-and her father's hard huge hardly see her face for the tears that like a fairy! It seemed such a difficult gether again all in a moment; he was task to make Kitty understand that this divine creature was his promised wife— the future more in the desperate effort to collect his the future mistress of Dulton Hell thoughts and retire.

It has been sensibly suggested that in a moment; he was according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, safety, conveyance of passengers, and lot according to steamer and berth. Intermediate, saf "To be sure, to be sure, your life's due the future mistress of Dylton Hall. thoughts and retire. gether to welcome the Christmas morn! her to kneel at his feet and cry so! She ought not to mind—she really ought not. He thought that he went out in the very O'Hara coming in soon afterwards. "Well, you see, sir, we're but lonely early morning andgathered a sweet bunch mortals who bide in these dull parts; and of violets to give to Kitty when he should a deal of money; but—but—I'm not go- handle from 9,000 to 10,000 horses annually. "What's that! Hark? Surely I heard 'tis extremely unusual for a person to ask say farewell—that when he placed them ing to be his wife; so there!"—and Kitty I handle very tew Clydesdales. The great last black Silks, that is our dollar silk, will cost admittance in the dead of night. But in her hand she said, "For ever-for all dashed the last bean into the dish and proportion of the draft horses I sell are

spairingly, "Nay, nay, 'twould not be shall live for ever; I say that neither shall father!" that Reginald began to shout, "Help,

Kitty was not in the room at all. How in her mind. Kitty was changed sadly, "Sir," said O'Haraindignantly, "though | pleasant it was to awake from such a wretch-

"It's my opinion, Mrs. O'Hara," said the short, fat medical adviser, spreading this guest of yours-his name, profession,

"Only his name—Reginald Dylton." "Ah, yes! Well, more in good time;

"And there'll be a handful of work for now that the critical point was turned,

"How terribly they must have missed | world ailed her young mistress. you! How anxious they must be?" she

remarked quietly, with eyes drooped. Dylton laughed, "I have a tolerable number of friends "Have pity on me! I am almost about it, child!" answered Mrs. O'Hara once or twice to wonder what's become of kitchen. Still Kitty slept on. me all this time; but of near kin-rela-

> "What! No father, no mother?" "No; and neither sister nor brother."

"How very lonely you must be!" very watery and the tip of his nose of a watching her curiously; but the girl did the couch looked at her intently. Kitty had no easy task to rouse her reddish purple tinge — occasioned of not know it. She was thinking, "Who "And I never guessed that she cared father; he had had a long day in the market, and was snoring now as loudly as weather he had rubbed his hands a about in his sad delirium?" Kitty knew speaker stooped over the still face and yes, Kitty could not help saying it-as peculiar habit of his when it was his mis- now that it was no favorite sister. "Why kissed the white forehead.

She raised her eyes just as these had just been dreaming of, and heard in

"It is a long way. I will post your letter; my mother wants one or two Altonleigh, is, I believe, in Rome at the things from the village."

"Will you? What a dear little soul you are, Kitty !" She ran away, laughing and blushing, found the necessary articles, and left alliance being formed once, Kitty; but sumption, which is screfulous disease of the him to attend to her household duties Lady Maude made a mistake, like many lungs. By all druggists, and make herself ready for her little jour- other young ladies have done before.

was holding a large square envelope in -that I had not been to see her for so his hand, and, as he beckoned to Kitty, long, and that during my absence she always becomes the favorite remedy of those the other day that I had no relatives; There was also another reason. Kitty look well, this letter is to a lady who, I hope, at me!" will soon be my wife. She is very beauti- Reginald Dylton stood up; and, as ful, very-the youngest daughter of an Kitty looked at him, she saw a crutch un-Earl-and I am afraid she will have been | der his left arm and his leg amputated to worrying herself about me. But she tra- the knee. Her whole face flushed a vivid to be a plumber, vels a good deal, and mixes in high and scarlet. She tried to say something, but brilliant society, so that she has very little her lips seemed locked. A mist was time for despondency or melancholy. I gathering over her eyes, and big tears have told her in this note how a certain | were ready to fall. little girl, under Providence, has saved

to be with them next week."

look indifferent and make herself believe did not matter to her in the least. "It's nothing to me-nothing at all," loss of his limb she said again and again, tripping at a dangerous pace through the slippery snow, ding, and then travel about for a whole clutching almost with a fierce grasp that year, and see some of the finest sights of detestable letter in her hand. "He will the world; and after that, when we've go back to his people, and we shall for- put the final polish to our education,

"Good-bye, Kitty, good-bye! I'll not ly, stirred, sighed, and then opened his way and bidding their guest farewell. see nothing lovely in a tall, well-formed, "Mother, Kitty, you're wanted? Be eyes—how gravely they looked at Kitty! He had shaken hands with every one, quiet, sir, can't you? Be quiet! If you How they roamed round and round the and O'Hara had politely hinted that there was only bare time to meet the train; but the young man persisted in lingering "With friends," Kitty answered softly. by Kitty. "Remember, next summer, that you had been ill, therefore I'll not "What is your name, child?"--"Katha- Kitty, I and my wife hope to pay you a visit," he went on, and then, turning to "O'Hara, O'Hara! I have heard that Mrs. O'Hara, he added, "and you will

> One wave of the hand, a last nod to Kitty, who was staring with a fixed dazed "Ah, yes, I remember! It isn't a dream look till the little vehicle was lost to sight "Bless the girl," said Mrs. O'Hara,

> > "So you won't have me, Katharine?"

She was siiting in one of the out-houses

of the farm, shelling broad beans, and was standing, twirling his wide straw hat

He was a most persevering young man, when a boy at school, to forego the de-

The perspiration pouring down his red only a wretched cripple. cheeks-certainly it was a warm June morning, close upon twelve o'clock, and pleaded Kitty. Kitty declared, with great vehemence,

The poor fellow felt utterly "cut up" palms. How strange that she had never were blinding his eyes—and why he cried and low-spirited, for, as long as he could later, watching her husband playing with to-night. Everything, before they laid thought of noticing these things before! was a mystery—when he told her that he remember, he had adored Kitty. He was engaged to marry a beautiful young knew that he was not handsome; he had ness as a special blessing. "And but for you a corpse might be lady with long golden hair, who could felt keenly, and often how little there lying yonder?" The strange gentleman play exquisitely on the piano, the harp, was about his personal appearance. twee, mibs, you would never have been so delooked at Kitty very earnestly with his and the organ, could speak fluently four shock. He would be with a voted to your home and family."

> A steadier, more painstaking fellow isn't of education as the rivers or the mounto be found in all Ireland," said Mrs. tains. By all means, why not?

time will I keep these flowers in memory pod into the basket, and looked up half grade Percheron-Normans. They are do-

"You are very strange in your manner "Don't let any one bother me again

"Snaresleigh isn't overcrowded with so laden with horror, soloud and terrible, Donald M'Nabs. Rest contented, my dear; I'll answer that no one will worry you again;" and, though Mrs. O'Hara With that cry he awoke. Mrs. O'Hara smiled as she made this remark to her I shall need for my wanderings. I will re- was smoothing the tumbled blankets, and daughter, she felt really uneasy about her

> seemed unhappy and restless, and gave away to pettish temper. "Wants a change, ma'am, believe me Miss Katharine wants a change," said the

village doctor. But, when this idea was suggested to Kitty, she held up her hands in dismay, declared that there was nothing the matter, and insisted that she was well. So the roses bloomed and faded, and rich fruits ripened and dropped into the gar-

The busy hay-making time came and went, and autumn crept on, stealing the leaves from the forest trees and sigh-I'll not idle here. Good morning Miss ing in a sad plaintive strain around the society. mountain paths. The harvesting was all It really was surprising how rapidly, done, and the corn gathered in the barn. "Tilly, go and throw the striped rug

Tilly did as she was bidden; but she "Very soon I shall be able to join my could not help staring in a regretful ing for the hundredth time what in the

"She'll go off quite quiet-like, after the manner of my cousin Jane-that's my idea," thought Tilly.

Four o'clock-four loud clear strokes-"You said you'd come in the summer, and the snmmer's gone," she muttered. "I'd like to see you once again before l

— She will forgive me—your—your tened to the stranger's voice, so weak from exposure and pain. She hastened move a limb. The short, fussy little compassion and her voice full of gentleat the St. John Centennial and Dominion Exhibition, to KOBIN & SADLER, Montreal, ov-Some one who had noiselessly entered er all competitors.

"I have come back to you, my Kitty !" His Kitty? How dared he called her

sentence she uttered.

straight into the dark beautiful eyes she

"Lady Maude, now the Countess of present moment."

"What do you mean? I thought you were going to marry Lady Maude ! "I did contemplate the idea of such an She told me candidly oue day that she "Come here a minute, Kitty." Dylton | would never be happy if she married me

"Don't you see?" said Reginald playmy life, and how I hope, if all goes well, fully, "An Earl's daughter couldn't possibly marry a man with one leg; but "Yes," said Kitty; and she tried to a farmer,s daughter might-eh, Kitty?" But Kitty did not answer. How prothat this gentleman's coming and going voking he was! How little he seemd to Pierce's "pellets." By druggists, care either for the loss of his love or the

"Yes; we'll have a quiet little wed get him, and the old life will go on as it | we'll go to England and settle down, a did before-that's all." And Kitty began steady old couple at Dylton Hall. Ah to sing a snatch of some merry air, as if the good old place sadly needs a mistress, she had one of the happiest, lightest Kitty! Don't you think I've planned it all beautifully?

"Splendidly," answered Kitty; but in her heart she detested the lucky farmer's daughter, and felt that life was unbear-

"You don't inquire how I lost my leg you have become wonderfully silent. "How did it happen? Tell me; indeed want to know !' "Well, I was terribly hurt in a rail-

way accident; but your mother told me excite you now, but give you particulars | NI Street, Toronto Mail prepaid, assorted packages of beautiful Christmas and New Year another time. I'd better be going." He rose, lifted his crutch, and held out his hand. Kitty touched it lightly, and looking at him shyly, said :-"I hope the young lady you are going to marry will be aimable and good and

not so fickle as Lady Maude. "I rather think that I shall not marr at all, Kitty. I shall probably settle Knee and Ankle. Remember the world is proabroad, and let the old home.' Kitty's eyes were wide with astonish

"No, thank you," answered Kitty say to your changing your mind? Her tions. A friends will make a fuss, won't they ?" "Oh, no! The friends won't do anything; and the girl -she was pleasant

> "Oh, no-Ireland!" "What is her name?"-"Katharine

Kitty hung down her head; for very shame she could not raise it. "Come, Kitty, don't louk so woe-beafternoon's fishing because a difficult sum away. I know you cared for me a weewould not "prove." Very hard-working, bit-never mind how I found it out-bethe same feeling towards me now. I am

> "Do not go far from Ireland for ever, "Child, is it anything to you whether I

"It is everything to me !" sobbed wretched Kitty. "Then, darling, if you are in earnest,

"Reginald," said Kitty three years "Why, my dear?" use of both your winter months.

rivers laid out, and that the sources of sheep are carried on them. For further particu the ventilation perfect; and every provision, lars apply to any Grand Trunk Railway Agent, has been made for the comfort and protection AMERICA'S GREATEST HORSE DEALER.

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