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"He said he'd have a great sur-

prise for me this time, said Laurie,

"Well, I hope it ain't any more o'

them shrimps he brought last time."

said Mrs. Morrell, comfortably. 'I'd

jest as soon cat fishbat an' done with

it. I jest knew it's somethin' to eat

for he knows nothin' else wouldn't

s'prise us. Run on an' get the wood,

Laurie-an' there goes one o' them

Laurie hurrled away, her shy, wild

flower face turned from her mother's

"Well, here she is!"

found the row of hollybooks against

garden planted with hollyhocks and

had planted just such a garden, and

it had grown to its full glory; and

like that pretty picture of his grand-

"Laurie! ' called her mother.

The wood was carried in, and aurie was at once placed in charge

of the churn, and began splashing

"Well, I declare!" exclaimed her

mother, with quite justifiable vexa-

tion. "You ain't payin' a bit of attention to what you're doin'. Look

how you've splashed up this floor.

An' your cheeks is that red, a body'd

think ye had fever. Jest as like as

not you're frettin' because ye'll have

more work to do now that he's comin', but the money's somethin', I

reckin! "People can't always consult

children, like you, when they want

to take in hoarders. Listen! Ain't

that the stage comin'? You'll have

to go out an' meet 'im, for I've got

But before she had finished speak-

ing Laurie was off like a flash, and

was hidden away in the dinng room.

drawn back into a corner-holding

her heart down to keep it from burst-

ing. There was a rattle of wheels

and cheerful greeting. He was down

now-he was paying the driver-he

was coming along the walk, and up

the steps, and into the house. He

would be there in another moment.

She could hide no longer. She must

my hands in the dough."

the dasher up and down wearily.

whole country round.

marigolds and pinks, just for him."

further fence, and walked beside

chickens into the garden!"

Laurie went for the hundredth time | that he wrote 'bout havin' a s'prise and looked at the "spare room." She knew every smallest detail of its arrangement by heart; the gay rag carpet, the blue-and-white spread, the waiting a moment with her face turnopen-worked pillow shams. Were ed away. they not part and parcel of the spare

room, always in order and ready for the chance comer? But she herself had gathered the honeysuckle blooms and the wild grasses for the tall vase in the window, and she herself had arranged the few little books on the stand with the white cloth. Was it chance that the pretty copy of Tennyson was the topmost one of the little heap, and that it lay shyly open at the poem about the king who wooed a beggar maid?

When she had looked wistfully at everything once more, then again she read the letter-for he had written the letter to her, and not to her father and mother, as might have been expected. Her cheeks flamed as she read again:

"I will be there Thursday, and I am going to have a great surprise for yon this time. This will be the fourth summer I have spent at the farm, and it will be like going home again. I have watched yor grow up, little Laurie, and have thought about you a great deal more, I am sure, than you have thought about a stupid. stiff, selfish old fellow like me."

Thursday. He was to be here Thursday, and this was the time. She had begun arranging the room for him four days ago, and every day swept and garnished it afresh and gone to the woods for more flowers. Even now she went to the window and twisted the tendrils of honey suckle so that the flowers would show better, and resolved to go to the woods after prettier ones, after all, and then was in a panic lest he should come while she was gone. If only she might have made this room look as she had dreamed it, over and over again.

She stood, seeing it through a golden haze. Filmy laces floated at the window, caught and drifted here and there by the breeze; and soft car pets were on the floor, and tall mirrors stood between the windows, and everything was so beautiful that the golden-banded bumblebee on the



A letter to her-to heri

honeysuckie blooms seemed to be frightened with idle, wistful dreams. Her eyes fell before the open book. as though he had been there beside the book, looking at her-for had he not given her the book?-and had read the poem, and told her that if and a cheerful "Hello!" at the gate, the king really loved the beggar and then the sound of dragging maid she was the only woman in the trunks down from the roof of the world for him, and poverty was a stage, and her father's voice in loud little thing compared with love.

"Laurie!" cried her mother from the kitchen; "run here a minute an' fetch me in some wood-an' I wish while you're out you'd see if the chickens have get back into the garden. The way they're carryin' on creep out of her corner and meet we won't have any veg'tables left by him. the time Mr. Fairlie comes. What was ... He came along the bright hallway, production.

ing her brown, rough little hand and drawing her closer. "Didn't I tell you, Laurie, that I had a surprise for you this time! Well, here she is. This is my wife, Mrs. Olga Fairlie, if you please—and we are both going to spend a whole, long summer with

tall, pale from work, but smiling with

"Ah, here she is!" he cried, catch-

frank delight.

The beautiful woman with the blue eyes and the golden rings of hair took the hand he put into hers, and looked at the small, frightened face.

Clearly, this country was not so healthful, after all. A look at this girl, with her white cheeks and startled eyes, suggested the thought that they might have belonged to some wild thing out of the woods.

Mr. Morrell came staggering in with a trunk, shouting cordially. "Well, if this ain't a su'prise!" Mrs. Morrell peeped in from the kitchen, smiling and nodding.

"I can't shake hands," she said: 'but you've gone and got married. have ye? Well, I'll bet Laurie's glad to hear that. The lady'll be so much comp'ny for her. Just go to your room-you know where it is."

Mrs. Farlie pulled off her gloves and looked around the room a little disdainfully.

"You have talked so much about your little woodland nymph that I suppose I expected too much," she said. "She's rather a commonplace little country girl, it seems to meno powers of conversation-no expression—and not the smallest spark of imagination."

Mr. Fairlie did not try to answer. He stood still, looking absently at the heap of books on the table.

"Here are her books," he said, fingering them one by one. "See-Longfellow, Whittier-Mrs. Browning -I gave her Tennyson, too, I think. wonder what she has done with

FISHING IS NOT COSTLY.

Sportsmen Here and in Canada May Angle for Salmon Cheaply.

In England salmon fishing is one of the most costly of sports, and even here it is the popular belief that the sport is of necessity one for the rich alone, no man of even moderate means presuming so much as to think of indulging in it. In the British Isles and other parts of northern Europe this is undoubtedly true. Even in this country and in Canada in the last few years the salmon waters have been taken by clubs and individuals, so that now the fishing is restricted to the few; but Labrador and Newfoundland are left free and moderately accessible to the fishing public living in the eastern states, and improved traveling facilities have made the trip to Newfoundland a matter of case, so that the number of sportsmen visiting that island is increasing enormously.

Fortunately the island is largemore than 300 miles each way-and the rivers very numerous, so that it will be some time before the country is crowded. Thus far only a very few of the most accessible rivers have been fished in at all. Along the east coast and the northern peninsula are many rivers that have never known a fisherman. At the present time these are rather difficult of access by land, it is true, but by chatering a small vessel fishermen can, at moderate cost, visit the most remote of them and be sure of almost unlimited

Making Sunday Cheerful.

Sunday is often dull for the boys them, touching their petals tenderly. In the families where the parents "He likes hollyhocks," she said to believe it is proper to keep quiet on herself. "That's why I planted 'em this day. The boys grow restless aftagain this year. He says they made er church and Sunday school are over. him think of his grandmother's gar. and do not know what to do with den. It would be nice to have a whole themselves. Yet the day may be kept quite differently from other days and still not be dull. One little mother of And then, all in a moment, she whom a recent writer tells, and who had three little boys, has made Sunday so delightful that all three lads look forward to it with pleasure. She chooses some especially beautiful stograndmother, but was Laurie herself, ries which are read during the quiet clad in the short-waisted old brocade, afternoon, and keeps for this day favorite walks in woodsy fields. And to mother when she was so fair and close the afternoon comes "candle young, and was the belle of the lighting time," when, at twilight, the boys each light their own candles and the three-branched candelabrum by Ain't you ever coming with that which to eat their simple supper. And Sunday is thoroughly enjoyed.

To Impress Children.

One great reason why children often disobey is because they do not understand what is desired of them. They are careless, their minds wander while they are being instructed, and consequently they disobey. A very effectual way to secure a child's obedience is to insist upon a direct gaze during the time the mother is talking to him. Have him look the speaker straight in the eyes, and if still inclined to wandering, have him repeat what has been told him. This impresses it on his mind and increases its importance, and there is nothing a child likes better than to know that what he is to do is important, or even that it is important that he refrain from certain acts. And really, what is more important to both child and mother than obedience on the part of the child?

Petroleum Fields Still Prolific. The statistics used to show that the Russian petroleum fields are becoming exhausted are misleading. During last year a strike stopped production for twenty days, and a fire raged about the five "gushers" and sixty-two pump wells of the Bibi-Eitab district for five weeks. These fire and strike losses, estimated at 4,200,000 barrels, would bring the production to 75,826,-800 barrels for the year, which amount is almost that for 1902, and is slightly in excess of the American Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

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