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THE OAK-TERRACE LAUNDRY

THIS IS A SWEET AND CLEAN LAUNDRY PROPOSAL

"Yes, of course, Tom Bilbeck is here. It's all for the best."

The receiver hummed for a moment. Even we knew that he had raised his voice.

"Silly; of course I'd come home if I could. But Tom broke his automobile."

"No, no. He didn't break it on purpose."

"Listen, dear, you mustn't say such things over the telephone. Some one might be listening. Besides, you are entirely mistaken. How could I fall in love with a man who looks like Tom Bilbeck?"

There was absolute silence in the room, also on the part of Mrs. Hem-

[illegible] he has got [illegible]

Of course I laugh at him and all that, but— What's that? You're coming here? Oh! Is there a train yet coming this way? Good! That will be lots of fun. Then we can go home together in the morning. I am so glad. Good-by, dear!"

Mrs. Hemmingway hung up the receiver and turned back to our frantically silent company. I wished that I could say something to show that I was alive, but my throat choked.

Something in my face must have shown, however, because Mrs. Hemmingway looked at me and exclaimed in dismay:

"Did you hear what I said, Tom?"

"Well, part of it," I admitted.

"You mustn't think I meant it." She tried hastily to repair the harm she had done.

"I simply had to make John think it was all right."

A loud "Whoa!" outside distracted our attention from the conversational tangle into which we had fallen.

"The sheriff!" exclaimed Colonel Stewart, going to the door.

A fur-wrapped figure came in, shedding snow.

Evening, sheriff," the colonel greeted.

The sheriff unwrapped a muffler which had been over his mouth before he responded.

"Evening, Colonel."

(Continued Next Week)

Cool

The angry grocer ran around the counter and seized the customer by the arm. "Do you know, madam," he blurted, "that your dog has eaten a pound of my best fresh country butter? I saw him do it a second ago!"

The customer relieved the grocer of her arm and regarded him coldly.

"I did not know it," she replied, "But if you are quite sure it was your best butter, and that it really did come from the country, I don't think there is much reason to suppose it will do him any harm."

"You hit your husband with a chair? Pray tell me why you did it, Mabel."

"I did it," sighed the lady fair, "Because I could not lift the table."

A sorry lad
Is Tommy Black;
She wouldn't give
His letter back.

He thought that she
Would be a sport;
Instead, she landed
Him in court.

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