

LIFE, DEATH, HEREAFTER.

A single strain upon the harp of time, Awakened by the gentle touch of love;

TOMMY BROWN'S BEST GIRL.

Tommy Brown was not to be envied. For a young fellow with his gifts in the way of conversation and good looks, to be stuck away in a place like Sutton's Corners, was to say the least of it, hard luck.

Tommy was an expert telegrapher, knowing his business down to the ground, or, as he himself said, down to the ground wire.

"I don't know about that," said H. B., philosophically. "I haven't a girl myself, but it seems to me if I had, I should pine right away here for lack of seeing her.

"In heaven's name, where?" rattled Tommy on the machine. "I thought you said there weren't any girls there."

"Oh, I say," telegraphed Tommy with reckless haste, which seemed to make the very machine chuckle with laughter.

"It isn't more than ten or eleven miles; it's right between the two places. I don't know how the dirt road runs between Sutton's Corners and here, but I guess it goes pretty straight, almost as straight as the railway line."

"There was a pause in the telegraphing, then the instrument clicked out: 'I used to, but it is N. G.'"

"Not a bit; I'm not a reading man," answered H. B. "Why do you ask?"

"I'm amazed at you," replied Tommy; "that's why you couldn't get along with that girl. I believe she has read every mortal thing that ever was printed."

"I would not leave my post of duty," replied H. B., "for all the girls that live, and I strongly advise you to stay where you are."

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NOTES AND COMMENTS.

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The city authorities of Chicago have issued a permit for the building of a gospel ship in that city. It will be a church in the form of a ship with masts, rigging and smokestack.

Dr. Abbott, the secretary of the Board of Health of Massachusetts, gives the bicycle a long mark as a factor in the improvement in the health of Massachusetts women.

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It having been stated lately in the English papers that Queen Victoria has been a total abstainer for several years, somebody has deemed it worth while to investigate the important matter.

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The Panama Canal. Despatches from Panama show that work on the canal has not been discontinued. A new director-general has arrived from France, and 150 laborers have gone to work on the Culbre division, but the most encouraging sign of progress is the adoption on another division of the machinery and methods used in making excavations in the Chicago drainage canal.