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WHO MADE THE PROPOSAL?

Dr. Gibson having made an unprofessional visit to Mrs. Kellicott, walked down to the gate with her daughter

Matty was twenty years old and the doctor was thirty. Her eyes were brown and his were gray. She had on a pick calico dress and a white muslin apron; he wore clean, cool-looking linen clothes, and a wide Panama hat.

The gentleman admired the lady's flowers very much, especially the white roses, one of which, by the way, she had tucked under her ear; she inquired, with considerable show of interest, about the Ruggles children, who had the measles. He told her bravely all about Tommy and Ben, Alice and Kit; and when he had finished, a cilence fell upon them.

Matty was leaning on the garden gate, looking down the village street. She thought how funny it was for Mr. Scott to paint his new house pea-green, with lavender trimmings, and was about to say it to Dr. Gibson when he stopped her.

He said the very thing she would not have expected to hear. He said : "Matty, I love you and want you

to marry me !" The very look in the bright, brown eyes would have told him without a single spoken word, how thoroughly unlooked for such a proposal had been. She had never in all the years she had known Dr. Gibson thought for a moment of the possibility of his loving her. She was very sorry, she told him, but she didn't love him one bit, at least that way. But the tears came came into her eyes, as she saw

the quiet face grow a trifle pale.
"I hardly believe you did care for me," he went on, after a pause. "But I hoped you might yet learn to do it."
"But-but," said Matty, with embarrassment, "I thought every one knew I was engaged to my cousin

"Your cousin Tom?" echoed the doctor. It was impossible to mistake the expression that passed over his face. It was not merely a personal regret at the fact that she announced but an impartial disapproval at the

He made no commeat, however, but directly said :

"Matty, I shall never get over this -I mean that I shall always love you, and if you need a friend or protector, or-or any one, you'll come to me, t noa 1 Hox

She promised and held out her hand to him. He shook it warmly, said, 'God bless you," and left her hurried-

Matty, still leading on the wooden gate, watched the retiring figure out of sight. She was very quiet all day and in the evening propounded this absurd question :

ilt you?" Tom stroked his downy upper lip

and looked pensive. "Couldn't say," he replied after some moments of reflection. "You too, she could not help thinking; but rolling pin aside, with an emphatic might try and see."

soberly than the occasion seemed to | free, paid no more attention than bewarrant. Tom stared very hard at fore. She waited for him, in growing she and Dr. Gibson were in love with her, but immediately forgot the inci-

Nearly a year passed. One day Mrs. Kellicott's "help" rushed frantically into Dr. Gibson's house, and breathlessly announced to the gentle- by flirting a little with different genman that "Mr. Tom would be dead- tlemen, er'n a door nail long before he got | There was Will Ellis. This young there if he didn't jump." For two gentleman had offered himself to our seconds, thinking of him as his rival heroide on an average of four times a in Matty's affections, the doctor had year, ever since she was fifteen. She half a mind to consign him to the ten-der mercies of good, stupid old Dr. and emphatically; but they were the Wells; but his tender nature prevail- best friends in the world. She now ed, and he started for Mrs. Kellicott's told him in so many words that she at the very heels of the excited ser-

a high fever and delerious. He pro- singular declaration proceeded not nounced it a severe case of typhoid from any special regard for him, but fever, and privately added a doubt was made from some occult design on that he would recover. He sent to her part. Forthwith the pair embarkhis own house for charges of clothing, ed open what seemed to be the stormand prepared to devote himself to the lest flirtation Skinnersville ever saw. sick man. Matty, too, was unwestried In the long mornings they drove or in her work, and, being necessarily rode together; they dined at Mrs. much in Tom's room, consequently saw | Kellicott's and immediately after sailthe doctor constantly. He and his ed forth on some other excursion, patient presented a marked contrast Both were excellent equestrians and ta each other; the latter was captious Matty colored in galloping over hill barrassment. The doctor went on and peevish to an unheard of degree, and dale on one of Will's handsome and talked incessantly of some un- horses. (Will, by the way, was a rich known being named Kate. On the other hund, Dr. Gibson was so patient | ten on the veranda, and spent the evand gentle, so strong, helpful, doing ening at the piano, or in reading. At so much for Tom, and yet forgotting the hour of nine Matty always sent none of his accustomed duties, that Matty opened her eyes in admiring mony or regret at his departure. In astonishment.

One morning, as the doctor prepared a sleeping draught for somebody and dictated to Matty a prescription stood between the two parties to it. for somebody else, she said with real solicitude:

and 'tis my belief you are overworked, dear friend, Mrs. Kellicott. And all berself in her brown gingham apron Tribune.

and you ought to take a rest."

"Do I appear to be at death's door?" he inquired, straightening up and squaring his shoulders, as if proud of his proportions.

"No, Matty," he continued solemnly, though with a merry twinkle in the honest eyes, "work, as Mrs. Bowers frequently remarks, is a pannyky.' At last Tom was pronounced out of

he must remove himself and his belongings from Mrs. Kellicott's house to his own. Matty, hidden by the honeyauckle vines over the piazza, watched him go and cried a little. The morning after, Tom and Matty sat on the piazza; he reading, or pre-

gently, neither uttering a word for Still no advance on the doctor's part. more than balf an hour. Presently Matty shook out the mus-

the other, into her lap. Then she looked up. Tom was staring straight at her. She colored violently, and so, for that freshing breeze.

untter did he. "Tom," she began, "don't be augry. Oh, do forgive me! -" She paused, him softly; but she went on bluntly,

'I want to end our engagement."
"So do I," rejoined he, with difficulurst into a hearty laugh.

"You see, Mat," said Tom, when he could speak, "I love some one else." Matty appeared to be taken quite by surprise at this declaration.

"But I couldn't help it, indeed I couldn't. She is -' "She is a young lady whose name is Kate, and her eyes are the blackest, and her checks the reddest, and she on the pavement under the window. sings 'Under the Stars' with guitar ac- and lean over the sill. companiment," rattled Matty, all in

propound. "But you havn't told me," he called after her. "And never shall," she returned,

whisking into her room. whole village of her altered pros-

In due time Tom was married, Mat-

ty officiating as first bridesmaid. Matty, after the excitement of Tom's wedding, bethought herself what she like to make some laws, that's all." should do. There were her summer "Tom what would you do if I should dresses to be made up, her music scholars to attend to, the sewing circle and ly the flowers; but these occupied neith-There ought to have been Dr. Giltson, that gentleman, instead of falling at "Perhaps I will," she replied, more her feet, as soon as he heard she was looking very earnest and determined,

bring him to his senses.

and emphatically; but they were the would accept all the attentions he would offer her during the next week, When he arrived he found Tom in taking care to remember that this man's son.) Then they drank an early Will home, without a particle of cerashort, what appeared in Skinnersville as a serious courtship was in reality purely business matter, and so under-

the time the girl was raging inwardly at her quondam suitor.

"Why doesn't he ask me once again?" she queried, mentally; "I am sure he loves me, and one might see that I love him, but I can't tell him so. I suppose I shall be an old maid.'

But the doctor was not to blame. A man of the world would have seen Matty understood him and colored through Matty's stratagem, but he did not; be imagined that she was either trying to drown her disappointment at danger, and now the doctor felt that losing Tom, or had really decided to marry the enamored Will.

Truth occurred to Matty at last. She could hardly believe such stupidity existed in the mind of man; but she determined to try what her modest and retiring nature could effect. So she dismissed Will, and became to tending to read, while she sewed dili- all outward resemblance, a little pun, He came and went constantly to the house, however. Matty gave up all in cap she was making and laid it on hopes, finally, of ever coming to a bether work box, put her silver thimble ter understanding with him, when aside and dropped her hands, one over something happened.

Dr. Gibson "dropped in" one morning when Mrs. Kellicott sat sewing on. the pleasant veranda, in the cool, re-

"You musu't come here," she called, as he tied his horse to the hitching post. "My work requires my untrying to think how she could tell divided attention; besides, you'll step on the ruffles. You may go and help

Matty, if you like." The young woman was making pies y repressing a whistle. Then both in the kitchen. She saw the doctor coming around the corner of the house, gave a hurried glance at the bright bottom of a tin pan she was holding, found herself presentable, and greeted him composedly. She was very glad to see him, she said, wouldn't he come

> No, he wouldn't come in, the day was so beautiful. He would just stand

So there he stood under the grapevine trellis, with a little of the golden It was Tom's turn to stare, "Where sunshine falling over his hair and did you find all this out?" he asked. shoulders. Matty observed that he "My dear little bird, etc. I think looked thoroughly unlover-like, and I'll go and write to my future cousin," | concluded that he didn't intend to and off she ran, glad to escape the propose. She also noticed a rip in his many go where the highest wages are question which she feared he might coat, and wondered who would mend paid, it for him.

Someway, the talk veered 'round from the weather to woman's rights.

Matty, on this, spoke up. She didn't at all believe in the sec-In less than an hour she had recon- ond hand influence which reached the written to Miss Kate Spencer; and band and brothers. "When I vote," persuaded Tom to write also, and had she said, "I want to march to the polls done much toward informing the and put in my own vote my own self." "What a pretty spectacle you'd

> your hand, and-' "I am not at all sure that I want to vote," she interrupted, "but I would

"Well, you might patition the Legislature," suggested the doctor, grave-

"Oh, they're not legal laws; only er all her time nor her thoughts. social customs and usages. I'll tell There ought to have been Dr. Giltson, you just what I mean." She laid the bang, placed her floury arms akimbo, and quite regardless of the fact that wonder and worry, an eternity-two each other. "Now, at a party, when weeks-and then took measures to a lady sits alone in a stuffed chair all the evening, not dancing, simply be-She employed only recognized and cause she hasn't any partner, and can't ladylike means, however. She began ask any one. Oh, you know, Dr. Gib-

son, you know-"
"How it is myself?" interpolated

the doctor. "How it was at Mrs. Campbell's the other night. If I had been Anna Radcliffe, or Dora Collard, I'd have asked some of you men to dance with

"Then you think women should have the privilege of asking for whatever they wish?" he retorted with a half smile.

She answered that she thought just that. "Well, Matty, I quite agree with you. I not only think they should have this right in such a case as you

have mentioned' but also'in more serions affairs. For instance, women might with perfect propriety make proposals for marriage Now such an idea had never entered Matty's foolish little head, and she

with much gravity: "I am aware that it would be very unconventional proceedings, and I am sure no woman will ever be wise enough to take the initiative; and yet I am persuaded that in many instances it would be the most natural and beautiful thing she could do.

He was looking unconsciously up at the blue sky, shining through the filagree work of vine leaves about him. It was evident that he was thinking of This state of affairs continued for a it in the abstract only, but a faltering week or so, during which time the little "Dr. Gibson," recalled him to "Dr. Gibson, you will certainly kill doctor ignored Matty's existence, ex- the concrete. And there stood Matty, yourself, if you keep on at this rate, cept as she was the daughter of his smiling, blushing, ready to extinguish are closed in a long embrace. N

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"Dr. Gibson, I like you ever so much, 'she faltered, bravely but breath-

The doctor jumped through the open window, and made his proposal over again.

Western Correspondence,

LONE ROCK, RICHLAND CO., WIS., I

July 16, 1877. ED. REPUBLICAN: - After quite a silence I once more resort to my rusty pen to post your readers on men and things of this remote region. At this date we are sweltering under a tropical sun, mercury having gone up to 96° in

But as the productions of the soil at present claims the most attention, I will say that everything presents a thrifty appearance. Corn is looking splendidly and promises a heavy yield. Wheat is very beavy; the winter variety has been harvested, and from all quarters the reports are that the yield will average twenty-five bushels per nere. Spring wheat has not yet been barvested, but we will have a heavy yield of this variety. Oats have a large growth and the prospects are that the crop will be better than last season. Hops are in bloom and are looking finely; should prices be good our hop-growers will realize quite a sum from their hops. And to sum up the whole crop prospect, I am happy to report a bountiful harvest of all the products of the soil of this State.

The wheat erop of Iowa and Minnesota is also reported splendid, which I think will be encouraging news to the laboring classes of the Eastern States. Wages are good and the farmers find a scarcity of help in haging and barvesting, for the lowa farmers are offering from three to five dollars per day for harvest hands; the result is that

The 4th inst. passed off with a celebration at this place, the principal amusements being horse-racing, trotting, base ball, etc. The purses paid for fast horses amounted to several ciled her mother to Fate's decree, and ballot box through the agency of hus- hundred dollars, and as we have a splendid race-track here nearly everybody has horse-racing on the brain.

> I would not forget to state that polmake, Matty, with that rolling pin in lities is having considerable sway here at present, for we elect a Governor this fall, and nearly every prominent man in the State is mentioned in connection with that office.

> > We have recently been visited, in some parts of the State, with fearful wind, rain and hail storms, and in some instances, during the past month, villages in the northern part of the State have been nearly destroyed. The village of Pensaukee was swept out of existence on the 7th inst., and about a

dozen lives were lost. Hastily yours, N. B. Hood.

A rollicking Hibernian, of the Light Division of the Peninsula, was once trudging leisurely along the road with a pig in a string behind him, when, as bad luck would have it, he was overtaken by General Crawford. The salutation was not the most cordial. "Where did you steal that pig, you plundering rascal?" "What pig, gineral?" exclaimed the culprit, turning round to him with an air of the most innocent surprise. "Why, that pig you have behind you, you villain ?" "Well thin, I vow and protest, gineral," rejoined Paddy, nothing asbamed, and turning round to his four-footed companion as if he had never seen him be fore, "it is seandalous to think what I wicked world we live in, and how ready folk are to take away an honest hoy character. Some blackguard, who wanted to get me into trouble, has tied that baste to my cartouche box !"

"Shy as a girl!" This is a protty and pertinent simile. This morning a seized the sugar box with great embevy of young girls were passing the office, enting peanuts and snapping the shells over their heads, when a couple of boys in a wagen came along, when one the shy maidens said :

"Want a peanut, Billy ?" "Yes," answered the expectant Wil-

"Stand on your head then, and I'll give you one," she cried back. And then all the maidens lifted up their voices in a voluminous scream and William gave the horse such lick that filled it with consternation .-

The silver dollar and the rag bab

Danbury News.