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The Professor Marrying a Cook.
 Some years since, when I was a college student, I had amongst my acquaintances a curious personage, whom every one regarded with considerable respect, and as a character of great general merit. He lived many years without a wife, and expected to live so always. Indeed he was the professor of mathematics, the abstraction of his science forbade his indulging in the idea of getting married. To the female sex, therefore, he showed no special regard.

His character was purely negative. Of course he was not popular with the ladies, and they kept themselves at a distance from him. But circumstances often bring about a match in other cases, placed him in a peculiar dilemma. It seemed a whim that a necessity was laid upon him to get married. He was one of the faculty of the College—all the other professors were married and obliged to entertain the distinguished visitor in the winter. He had always boarded. Of course it wasn't expected of him that he should ever give a party or dinner. But it began to be regarded as rather mean in him to shirk of this matter from year to year, and "well off as he was pecuniarily, to throw upon the other members of the faculty the cost and trouble of entertaining the special friends and patrons of the College. The question was, therefore, frequently asked:

"Why doesn't the old miser entertain some of the distinguished visitor that visit us?"

Now, our professor wasn't a miser at all and it often troubled him to think he was situated that he could get married if he would. And yet, what could he do? Must he get married? And if so, to whom? He had no special regard for any one in the vicinity of his college and no one had any special regard for him. In his younger days he had seen at school a young lady in the city of New York who had been a "peculiar" interest. But of her he hadn't heard for years. Doubtless before this time she was married, or in her grave. Possibly, however, she was still living and waiting for him! Glorious thought! He could get married, and she would be his wife. He could get married, and she would be his wife. He could get married, and she would be his wife.

Now there was a young lady in the neighborhood that the professor thought ought to be married. He had seen her at the boarding house, and spoken to her once or twice.

"But, she may say no," and if she did, "I hide my head!" and then she would become of the dining?" "The Government must have a dinner and he must have a wife. And hence he lay awake about it all night. At last as the morning broke he cried out to himself, "What's the best to be done? I'll do it!" "Content!" She will say no, will she? "What then?" Other men have lived through it, and I shall. If not, I'll have a clear conscience about the dinner, and after all I will write a note to her, saying "I am sorry you are not engaged favorably." So the professor sat down and wrote a note to Miss A. "Stay a minute," said he to himself, "what will the Governor think of the lady? She is handsome and polite, but can she entertain company? Can she entertain company? Can she entertain company?"

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