

the campus you hardly recognized me. Papa has been wondering what could be the matter with you. I was afraid I had done something to hurt your feelings, but mamma's afraid you are sick. Oh, Fred, if I have offended you or you are not well, please do tell me," and the tears began to gather in the pretty black eyes, and there was a quiver in her voice.

Fred was touched, and he said tenderly: "Well, I am sick—sick at heart."

"Then why didn't you come to me," she pleaded. "You always used to bring your troubles to me."

This was more than he could stand. Suddenly turning he seized both her wrists in a grip like a vice, and in voice so low that she could hardly hear him, he said: "Carrie, don't you know why I am heart sick? Haven't you read it, can't you feel it—hasn't my every action told you that I love you despairingly, desperately? I have been trying my best to keep you in happy ignorance of it, but now you have wrung it from me. Forgive me, but I can't help it."

It was a very queer sensation to him to suddenly find her pretty head resting on his shoulder and hear a happy sigh, "Oh Fred," but he had become somewhat accustomed to it before he again spoke: "Carrie, he said, I thought Archie Custer —"

"Oh don't talk about him," she broke in; "I am sick and tired of him. He's been hanging around me so long and can never take a hint."

"But people said you were —"

"Oh, I know people said lots of things, and papa was going to tell Mr. Custer some pretty plain facts if he did not soon quit his attentions. He was all right enough in the summer when there was no one else; but, oh, he's been such a nuisance this fall.

"Then why did you look up into his face so admiringly that day between the halves when we whipped Hamford?"

Carrie laughed softly before she replied: "You dear old fellow, is that what has been the matter with you? Why I was only listening to him saying what a hero you were."

Fred did not reply, but she felt the mighty muscles contract under his coat sleeves as he drew her closer and kissed her on the forehead. Not only Archie Custer but a number of other gentlemen and ladies too—for Fred had his card well filled—wondered what had become of their partners, but only Bessie Harland saw them emerge from behind the screen with the happy light in their eyes.