

"No, no. I don't mean exactly that. I mean, Oh, Bess, don't you know what I mean? I mean that I love you, and I can't bear to think of leaving you without knowing that you love me; without having your promise to brighten my life."

The sweet eyes drop and a conscious blush mantles her cheek, making it vie with the color of her ribbons. He doesn't need any verbal answer. Her eyes tell him all he wants to know.

But after they have talked on the thousand and one trifles which lovers find to talk about, Jimmy musters up the courage to ask her if she will go west with him when his orders come.

"Oh, Jim," she cries, "we musn't think of that yet, you know I can't leave papa." This is a poser for the young man, and it makes him do some heavy thinking, for his love is strong within him, and he finally says:

"But Bess, dearest, suppose you didn't have to leave your father, would you marry me soon?"

"Oh, Jim, what do you mean." And he explains to her his little scheme which, with the help of some of his political friends, he hopes will prove successful.

Whether it was or not may be gleaned from an official looking document which came to him at Mrs. Langton's, where he was spending a few weeks. After reading it he takes it with a smile on his lips and joy in his heart to Bessie, and this is what she reads:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 25, 18—. }

LIEUTENANT J. M. LAWLER,
Albany, N. Y.

Sir: You are hereby notified that you have been assigned for duty as 2d lieutenant with the ——th Regiment of Cavalry. You will report to Colonel Alexander for duty on Oct. 1st.

By order of the Secretary.

JAMES SIMPSON,
Adjutant General.

Lieutenant Lawler did not report alone.

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