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B. F. SLOAN, EDITOR.

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Select Poetry.

THE GROOMSMAN TO HIS MISTRESS.

BY THOMAS WILLIAM PARSONS.

Every wedding says the proverb.

Wishes nation, soon or late.

New yet no any marriage.

Entered in the book of Fate.

But the names were also written

Of the past and yet to wait.

Biography then says the morning

When my friend, with fondness took.

By the solemn rite permitted,

To himself his mistress took.

And the destinies recorded

Other two within their book.

Will the priest fulfill his office

And the parson and the kinsman

Aimed their glances at the bride,

But the groomsmen eyed the virgin

Who was waiting at her side.

Three there were that stood beside her:

One was dark and one was fair,

But the fairest was the one who

Save her Arab eyes and hair.

Neither dark nor fair I call her,

Yet she was the fairest there.

Will her groomsmen shall I not?

Yes, to them, and only these—

Gazed upon this dark-eyed maiden

Who was fairest of the three.

Thus she thought: "How blithe the bride"

When the bride was such as she!"

There I mused upon the edginess

Till my wisdom was perplexed,

And I wondered, as the churchman

Dwelt upon his holy text,

Which of all who had been chosen

Should require the service next.

Whom will be the next occasion?

For the flowers, the feast, the wine?

For the groom, the bride, the bridesmaid?

Or, who know I not, the best?

What if I were—forgive the fancy—

What if I were—both mine and thine?

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What if I were—both mine and thine?

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Choice Miscellany.

THE GROOMSMAN.

A Tale Founded upon Incidents in Real Life.

BY H. H. MOORE.

(CONTINUED.)

CHAPTER IV.

Life! what is it? what else but a passage

To the tomb, or else to the humbler mound

Where the long grass waves as the wind moans by,

Where the daisies nod and the violets bloom,

And the flowers of the field are in bloom,

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