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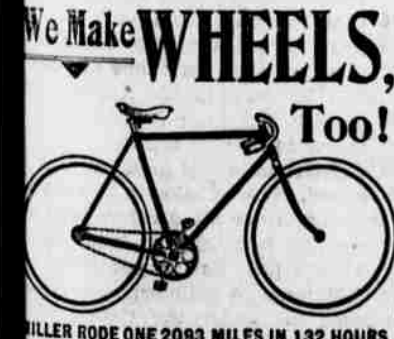
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—N. Y. Truth.

### HEART SORROWS.

Every beam hath its sorrow.  
Every heart its bitter woe:  
Masks they are, instead of faces,  
Which are passing to and fro.

Could we know the weary watchings,  
Could we count the silent tears,  
See the hearts all seared and bleeding,  
Telling on through weary years.

Struggling with oppression, maybe  
Striving 'neath misfortune's load,  
Smiling, while the soul is starving,  
For the sympathy of man—

Would we not withhold the censure  
Trembling on our thoughtless lips?  
Ah! we know not of the trials  
Which have wrought this dark eclipse!

Hope and faith in God are stranded;  
Friendship fades like morning dew;  
Wrong and scorn have seared and blighted  
Hearts that once were brave and true.

Sin and poverty, it may be,  
Drugged for him life's bitter cup;  
But, remember, he's your brother,  
Lend a hand to help him up—

Nor with righteous indignation,  
Or a Pharisaic pride,  
Fold too close thy spotless garments,  
Or pass on the other side.

—Mrs. Mary Ware, in Woman's Work.

### A FIRST ATTEMPT.

By J. A. Flynn.

"IT'S an awful nuisance. Will and Flo getting engaged!" said Will's young brother, ruefully.

"I don't mind their being engaged," said Flo's young sister, stroking her cheek thoughtfully with her tennis racket. "But I wish they weren't always off by themselves. They make up such a good set."

"And there's no one else this morning," said young brother Ralph, flinging his racket, discontentedly, into the corner of the tent. "I'll give you 30, and service every time, if you like to have a single Maudie."

Maudie shook her head decidedly. Ralph was a fine partner—a tall, lissom boy just 16, and growing into a grand athlete—but as an opponent he was rather trying for a little girl two years his junior. "You play too well, Ralph," she apologized, "and I get so hot. Father says you play better than a man."

"Not if he's a good player," avowed Frank, frankly. "Will can beat me when he likes. But there isn't much difference between a boy and a man in anything, really, you know."

"Oh, but men can do lots of things boys can't."

"What things?"

"Oh—well—smoke."

"Look here!" said Ralph, confidentially, producing an ugly little clay head with a vulcanite stem.

"Oh, Ralph! You don't really, do you?"

"Don't I just? I say, Maudie, let's go down by the brook, and I'll teach you to smoke, if you like."

Little Maudie made a funny mouth—big sister Flo couldn't make prettier faces than she; and Ralph had once confessed to a chum that he "liked the look of that kid." "I should be sick, I expect, and I don't think I want to learn, Ralph."

"Well, let's go down by the brook, and I'll smoke," said the boy, grandly. Of course, he didn't insult her by saying: "Don't tell"—that was quite unnecessary. So they went and sat on the grassy bank, and he had a few—very few—whiffs at his nasty pipe. Then they started catching tiddlers with their hands, and putting them in a pool scooped out of the mud; and he let the pipe go out. A man would have relit it, but Ralph felt that he had done enough for honor.

"Grown-up people don't care about catching tiddlers," remarked Maudie, suddenly, as she deposited the seventeenth unhappy fishlet in the pool.

"Not women. Men do. They like everything that boys do, so far as I can see. Boys can do everything that men can; but girls can't do what women can. Though I can't see that women do much."

"Oh, but they do. Lots and lots of things."

"Well, they ain't much good at games, anyhow. They don't care about them really, anyone can see."

"Some of them do. I do."

"But you're not a woman, kiddie. Mind! you'll be in," and he rescued her adroitly from overbalancing, as she hung over the brook. It did not occur to him that a woman might have lingered a superfluous second in a man's arms, just as his pretty comrade did in his.

"When I'm a woman, Ralph, I'll play you at tennis, and beat you," she said, saucily.

"But you won't care about it really," observed he, disregarding the threat as unworthy of serious notice. "You'll like women's things."

"What things?"

"I don't know, do you? What things do women like?"

"Oh, flirting; going for walks with young men; being engaged, perhaps—I expect," answered little Maudie, washing her hands in the pool, and waving them in the air to dry. Will would have wiped Flo's hands dry himself, but Ralph merely tossed over his big pocket handkerchief.

"Girls can't do those things," he observed.

Maudie's eyes sparkled very wickedly. "Oh, but they could," she averred, "only they haven't anyone to do them with. Boys are so different than men. Of course, they can't make love, or anything of that sort."

Ralph rested his chin reflectively upon his hand, and kicked holes in the bank with his heels. "They don't want to; they could if they liked."

"No, they couldn't. You couldn't."

"Yes, I could, as well as you."

"Oh, no, you couldn't. My part is easy—at first. I have only to look nice. Just see me! She smoothed her hair and dress, folded her hands demurely in

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