

LITTLE PRIMROSE.

'Could anything be more provoking?' cried Miss Annie Villon, as she impatiently tossed aside a letter she had just received. 'Uncle Barn is actually coming here for a long visit. He is quite an invalid, lately, it seems, and I dare say he chooses to come at the time of our vacation, because he will require a great deal of attention.'

'You can do as you like,' said the elder sister, 'but I shall make no change in my arrangements for the gratification of a selfish and ugly old man.'

'But Uncle Barn was always so fond of you, Annie, for he was the gentle, remonstrance.'

'His fondness for me has never made my life any easier,' Miss Villon answered, contemptuously, 'it has never saved me from drudgery in a salesroom, nor from dullness and poverty at home.'

Rose sighed. 'When he indeed was not as pleasant as might have been desirable. The low wooden house, built on a scrap of unwholesome ground, with a stretch of rocky common on every side, was far out in the bleak and unsightly limits of the city. The least unbecoming thing in the surroundings was a gaunt and sickly aspen that grew beside the modest entrance.'

'To the store! Never!' he asserted with passionate tenderness. 'I want you to come to me as my best beloved and my most honored—as my wife.'

'The glad surprise of that brief hour had quite unnerved the gentle, long-enduring little heart, and she could only lean her pretty head against her lover's arm and weep tears of divinest joy that had all at last gone well with her and hers.'

'Really, you are as precise in your arguments as you are in everything else,' Annie laughed, scornfully, and with irritation, 'you merit your nickname, for you are verily a Prim Rose. You have no more ambition than the colorless flower in the pot beside you. And you are entirely content, I suppose, to relinquish your proposed pleasure, and remain at home to oblige and entertain our disagreeable old Uncle.'

'Certainly shall not disappoint or disoblige the only relative we have, and one who has always been most kind to us both,' Primrose declared, stonily. 'With I shall go,' Annie insisted, with determination. 'There is nothing gained by obliging a poor and inconsiderate relation. And besides, the trip will afford me such splendid opportunities. Were you aware that Mr. Wilson has proposed to join the party?'

'Our employer,' murmured Primrose, bending low her pretty head over the dainty white blossoms, from which Mr. Wilson, himself, had given her that fanciful and fitting name. Annie did not note the swift blushes of the face hidden by the primrose flowers.'

'I am sure, Rose,' she continued, in a manner that had become abrupt, confidential, 'I am very sure that something more than a murmuring in the mountains attracts Mr. Wilson. I have noticed that he seems more than necessarily concerned about our comfort, and of course, he cannot care for you, Rose—you are too plain, and prim and reserved. I fancy, however, that I am handsome enough and clever enough to secure him. And you need not be surprised, little Primrose, if I soon wear an engagement diamond—and that the rarest that his money can buy.'

'She was much too engrossed by the brilliant anticipation of the conquest she had planned to make, to heed the sudden look of pain that came upon the fair patient face of her younger sister.'

'A few days later she departed, and shortly afterwards Uncle Barn arrived. He was an agreeable old gentleman, small of stature with a grand head, covered with thick, frosty hair. He had been thoughtful eyes that could twinkle with sky sarcasm, or soften the kindest smile, and his voice and manner were grave and pleasing. He seemed neither astonished or troubled by the deterioration of his favorite niece.'

'I, no doubt, somewhat exaggerated my little illness, he remarked, and of course, Annie would not sacrifice her pleasure to nurse a sick old man.'

'Annie will be very glad to learn that you are quite well,' said little Primrose, nobly apologetic for the imitations sister whose fate she deplored, and she really needed a little change of rest. And, besides, she could scarcely have remained without displacing the friends who invited her to be one of their party.'

I and I propose to retire from speculation, and establish for myself a home, that you will understand must have a mistress. And as you are the homely body, I offer you the situation.'

'But Uncle Barn my sister is much more,—she began, but he interrupted her by an expressive gesture.'

'My dear,' he said affectionately and with authority, 'you are elected to be my daughter and heiress. Annie is your sister and my niece, she will have precisely what she deserves, that and nothing more. And gently kissing her lovely white forehead, he strolled out of the house.'

As she stood there, half bewildered, in the centre of the tiny parlor, some one tapped lightly upon the open door, and glancing up, she beheld Mr. Wilson. He advanced towards her with a look on his face, eager for a look at her fine, eager face that brought the warm red blushes swiftly to her pretty cheeks and a new splendor to her large, soft eyes.

'I thought you had gone, she faltered, while he still held her delicate shy hand. "I thought you were with Annie and the rest of them."

'When I learned that you were not going, I chose to stay in the city, where I could still be near you,' he answered, meaningly, 'I have missed you grievously these days, Little Primrose, the store seems another little world, and you wish me to come back, perhaps,' said Rose.

'To the store! Never!' he asserted with passionate tenderness. 'I want you to come to me as my best beloved and my most honored—as my wife.'

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General Business.

MOSS & SON

have imported their Fall Stock of goods with also for presents, mourning, etc.

General Business.

Sheriff's Sale.

To be sold by Public Auction, on Friday the 20th day of April next, in front of the Registry Office at New Brunswick, the following real estate...

General Business.

North Atlantic Steamship Company

STeam FROM LONDON and LIVERPOOL to CHARLOTTETOWN, BATHURST and MIRAMICHI.

General Business.

VAUGHAN & BROS.

IRON—Common, Refined and Home Shoe. STEEL—Tool, English and Tool Calk. YELLOW METAL—Ingot and Sheathing.

General Business.

WILLIAM MURRAY.

Miramichi Foundry. AND MACHINE WORKS, CHATHAM, N. B.

General Business.

JOB-PRINTING

LOWER Water St. Chatham, MIRAMICHI.

General Business.

BOOK AND JOB-PRINTING

in first class style. This establishment was the only one in the Province in a position to enter into competition with the city offices at the Dominion Centennial Exhibition.

General Business.

TEAS!

Choice Congou and Oolong Teas. 760 PACKAGES IN STORE.

General Business.

DISDISSOLUTION OF CO-PARTNERSHIP

The partnership heretofore existing between J. Johnston and J. Johnston, is hereby dissolved by mutual consent.

General Business.

TAILORING.

The subscriber has to tender their sincere thanks to their many friends and customers in this and the Northern Counties for the past three years, and to inform them that they have purchased an old established Tobacconist business in Montreal, which will be conducted by Isaac Harris who will always be pleased to meet our friends from New Brunswick.

General Business.

NOTICE OF SALE.

To George Arnold, formerly of the Parish of Chatham, in the County of Northumberland and Province of New Brunswick, at present of the County of Miramichi, in the Parish of Miramichi, in the County of Miramichi, in the Province of New Brunswick.

General Business.

General