

Basil burst into the story of Charley Neal's death then, and his own indebtedness to the widow. "But I'll pay her back safe enough, Jim, principal and interest too. It sha'n't be said we robbed her, poor little woman!" he said, his voice shaking with emotion.

"There is no call for you to worry yourself, Basil old fellow. I will see that Mrs. Neal is well cared for," Jim said, turning away with a light on his face, which Maudie saw and was quick to understand, although the others did not.

Jim was as good as his word. Six months later, when Tom Everson came to the Inlet on the new steam-tug to claim the fulfilment of the promise he had succeeded in winning from Maudie, he was accompanied by a clergyman who had double duty to perform.

There were two weddings next day, in the big sitting-room with the square fireplace, and when Jim, standing with Ella Neal's hand in his, promised to love and cherish his wife whilst life should last, every one present knew that the cherishing would be of a vastly more tender character than any Ella had known before.

Basil gave the brides away, whilst Paul acted as best man, Mr. Gibson and his wife being the only invited guests, whilst the uninvited ones comprised every Indian on the Inlet.