
THE HOMESTEADERS

"John! Nothing unusual about a wife going with her husband, is there?"

"No, of course, but you know——"

"Yes, I know"—glancing at the ring on her finger. "This still stands at par, doesn't it?"

"Yes, dear," he answered, raising the ring to his lips. "You know it does. But to venture into that wilderness means—you see, it means so much more to a woman than to a man."

"Not as much as staying at home—alone. You didn't really think I would do that?"

"No, not exactly that. Let us sit down and I will tell you what I thought. Here, let me get the cushion. . . . There, that's better. Now let me start at the beginning.

"Until you came here last summer—until all this happened, you know—I was quite satisfied to go on teaching——"

"And I have sown discontent——"

"Please don't interrupt. Teaching seemed as good as anything else——"

"As good as anything else! Better than anything else, I should say. What is better than training the tender child, inspiring him with your ideals——"

"Oh, I know all about that. Until I began to have some genuine ideals of my own I was satisfied with it. But now—well, everything is different."

"I know," she answered. "The salary won't support two. There's the rub."