

Select Story.

The New School Ma'am.

Continued.

CHAPTER VIII.

BY THOMPSON WILSON.

Mr. Theophilus Wilson, pastor of the First Congregational Church in North...

"Don't trouble yourself, my dear sir, said the Squire, gravely. 'You must find it difficult, I am sure. I find, by my books, that you are owing me six months rent.'

"I am afraid it is as much as that," said the minister, signing.

"The reverend gentleman looked up at his guest in surprise. 'If you will furnish four ten dollar bills,

"Mr. Wilson," said he, "I make you a present of these, and now, perhaps, you can pay me the rent due—thirty-seven dollars and a half."

"My good friend," said the minister, almost overcome, "how can I thank you for this generosity?"

"By paying me my rent," said the Squire smiling. "I am very particular to have that paid promptly. If you will furnish me with writing materials I will write you a receipt."

"This was the way Squire Hadley collected his rent. He never received a receipt from the minister's poor furniture, and his wife's worn dresses with scornful sympathy, yet had either complained, or would have charged them with weariness."

"It will do you good, said the minister, 'it won't make the house any warmer, and will only induce to the vanity of the minister and his wife.'

"I never thought either of them," expatiated her husband.

"You only look to the surface," said his wife in a tone of calm superiority. "I go deeper. You think, because Mrs. Wilson cannot afford to dress well, that she has no vanity. I can read her better. If she had the means, she would not dash you, you depend upon it."

"There is one thing I can't understand, Lucia," said her husband. "Why are they worldly in their ways that are not in us? I don't know what you mean."

"You like to dress well, and I like to have my house look neat. Why does not that show a worldly spirit in us?"

"Because you are not a minister, nor I a minister's wife."

"What difference does that make?" "You are very dull this morning, Mr. Hadley," said his wife, scornfully.

"Perhaps I may be, but still I should like an explanation."

"Ministers should set their hearts on things above."

"No, in the same way. They should be humble, and not self-seeking. They should have good example to the parish. Does Mr. Wilson pay his rent regularly?" she asked suddenly changing the subject.

"To be sure he is in arrears."

"I can't read his mind without looking at the books," said the Squire gravely.

"I understand you don't want to tell me. I dare say he is owing you half a year's rent."

ing problem to make my salary cover the necessary expenses of my family. I hope in a few weeks to be able to pay something."

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