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A-R-T-I-S-T

STUDIO, SMITH BLOCK NEAR BAIKIE'S irea ratora regardagan IN DAIDY WATO

Oh,fair the earth and sweet her ways And bees hum in the clover; The orchard with its sweetness fills The light winds trooping o'er the hills, And birds with song brim o'er.

'Tis then a blushing orchid's face Peeps out from some neglected place Where ferns unfurl their laces; And not a flower, from daffodil To those which brave October's chill Can show so many graces.

Oh, sing a song of daisy days, Ripe strawberries in meadow ways. And butterflies in session; Of days when bobolinks will tell, Above the bindweed's snowy bell, That music's their profession.

-Katherine H. Terry.

#### AN EXCELLENT REASON.

Is it something immensely import-

ant?" I asked, as Winifred looked up with a number of wrinkles on her forehead. "Immensely," she said with a sigh.

"Are you writing a poem?".
"Nothing could possibly be more prosaic!"

"Then I may be able to help you," I suggested. "Certainly not!" she exclaimed, and she instantly covered her sheet of pa-per with the blooting-pad. "That," she added, "would be too ridiculous.

At all events," she insisted, "I must write the letter myself."
"Whom is it for?" I ventured

"Lord, Carfield, whom I met at the

Traceys' at Newport. "I wasn't aware you corresponded," I suggested. "Oh, we don't. At least, he has nev-

er written to me before," she answer-"And you find Lord Carfield" letter

difficult to answer?" I asked. Winnie sat with her right elbow on the edge of the blotting pad, her eyes fixed on the window, a charming air of self-consciousness on her small face. A tress of her hair fell forward over her forehead, which was still wrin-

"Suppose you let me tell you what to say." I proposed, standing with a hand on her chair.

"Oh, I know what to say-"Then where's your difficulty?" demanded. "At least I think I do-only I don't

know how to put it." "Well you see, that's where I might come in.'

"It has nothing-nothing in the world to-to do with you," she said, rising impulsively. "I'm not quite sure of that"—
"But I am perfectly sure," she in-

"Now, if you were to take me into

our confidence as far as to show me ord Carfield's letter"-"Of course I shall do nothing of the kind," she retorted. "Then I must try to guess its con-

tents"-"You could never guess!" 'cried Winnie decidedly. "He wishes you to marry him," I

said. Winnie turned upon me with an expression of complete surprise. "Why how did you know that?" she

exclaimed with a fine flush. "Lord Carfield has really asked you to marry him?" I asked.
"Isn't it a nuisance'?' she cried;

lifting her eyebrows with an air of extreme perplexity.
"Well, that's all right," I said.

"What is?" she demanded. 'So that you think it's a nuisance?' "Well, it is," she answered. "All my people are bothering me about it. They want me to"-

"They don't want you to marry the man!" I cried. "They insist there's no reason why I shouldn't," said Winnie, with a harassed expression. "Oh, but there's the most excellent

eason," I urged. "Oh, do tell me what it is!" she pleaded more hopefully. "I said I could help you.

"But how?" she cried. "Take a fresh sheet of paper and a new nib," I suggested, "then I'll dictate your answer. Now, then," I dictated, "Dear Lord Carfield' "---

"I've put that." "Thank you very much,"-"Oh, I can't begin that way," she ob-

"Well," I said, "we'll try again. Radley's Stomach "Well," I said, "we'll try again. Winnie put the end of her pon hetween her teeth and turned toward me

with a doubtful at "You know," sh said, "I don't real ly feel honored at all "Of course not. It's a mere matter of form. Now, then, we're not getting on. I am deeply honored by your request, but I regret to tell you' "-

"I must know what I'm going to tell him first," cried Winnie, pausing

again. "I regret to tell you that I am unable to consider it' "

"But I did-very seriously," she in-"Oh, well," I said, "of course, if

ron really care for the fellow'-"Well?" she cried provokingly. "Why, you may as well write the letter without my interference.' "That's what I told you at first! said Winnie triumphantly.

"I think I shall say good-by," I returned, and I took my hat from the "Good-by," she said, with a careless

nod, as I stepped toward the door. 'That will be the second sheet of paper I've wasted!" she cried.

You're going to write another, then?" I suggested. "You might post it for me-I shan't be two minutes," and taking her pen she began to write at a great pace. When she had finished she carefully blotted the letter and directed an en-velope. "You might like to read it?" she suggested, on the point of seal-

The contents were barely two lines, asking Carfield to call at 4 o'clock the following day. 'Will that do?" she asked.

"I think mine would have been better?" I said. "Now suppose you sit down again and finish my letter then we can compare notes, you know, and I'll post which you please." "Very well," she assented, and she

sat down and took her pen again. 'Where were we?" I asked. "'Dear Lord Carfield, I am deeply honored by your request, but I regret to tell you that I am unable to consider it'-that's all we-ve done," 'said Winnie, looking up with an expectant

expression.

'Because"-"Yes, I've written that." "Because I am already engaged to e married to"-Winnie threw down her pen, making

large blot on the pad. "I didn't know you were making a joke of it!" she cried, indignantly. "I'm not," I insisted.

"You are telling me to write non-"You never wrote anything half so sensible in your life," I assured her.

"Besides, it isn't true," she said.
"Not yet," I answered, "and you haven't finished the letter. Now, supoose you finish t." Wnnie took up the pen again.

" 'Because I am already engaged to be married to Mr. Arthur"-"Oh, this is dreadful!" she murmured, bending low over the paper. "'To Mr. Arthur Everest,'" I said. Now all you have to do is to remain his very truly, or very sincerely, and

sign your name." So Winnie signed her name; then she leaned back in her chair and stared hard at what she had written. I drew a chair to her ride and sat

"And now?" I suggested. likely I could send him a letter of

that kind." "Still, it contains the truth," I hint-"It says that I am engaged to be married," she said, "and of course I am nothing of the kind."

"You will be, Winnie!" Some day, perhaps." 'To-day is as good as another,"

"And to somebody," she added. "If it comes to that," I'insisted, "I am better than any one else!" Winnie looked into my face with a smile on her lips; then she became

preternaturally serious. Perhaps-perhaps you are," she said. quietly, and then- But don't think I shall tell you what followed. -Thomas Cobb.

Hi! Mame! Dis old crank won't let de little darlint play wid his whiskers!

Dampening His Enthusiasm Sheridan once witnessed, with the had been writing for the stage for twenty years and had never made a success. This time, however, it caught the popular fancy, and applause greeted and ended each scene. At the end grieved Achaeans the victors. Mine of the second act Beardman's elation got the better of his discretion, and, leaning over toward Sheridan, he exelaimed:

"Sheridan, Sheridan, it's going to be a success, a complete success!" "Ah, yes," murmured Sheridan, with exquisite compassion in his voice.

"Too bad, too bad!" "Too bad?" stammered his friend. "Why too bad that it should prove a

"Because now," retorted Sheridan, "it'll take you another twenty years to convince any one your wrote it."-San Francisco Argonante

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found for sexual weakness, such as impotency, varicocele, shrunken or-gans, nervous debility, lost manhood, mank nervous debility, lost manhood, night emissions, premature discharge and all other results of self-abuse or excesses. It cures any case of the difficulty, never falls to restore the organs to full natural strength and vigor. The Doctor who made this wonderful discovery wants to let every mank now about it. He will therefore send the receipt giving the various in man know about it. He will therefore send the receipt giving the various ingredients to be used so that all men at a trifling expense can cure themselves. He sends the receipt free and all the reader need do is to send his name and address to L. W. Knapp. M. D., 1710, Hull Bldg., Detroit, Mich., requesting the free receipt as reported in this paper. It is a generous offer and all men ought to be glad to have such an opportunity. such an opportunity.

BOOTS CHANGED HIS CAREER

"Talk about your two good sults of clothes," said the son of a well-known Confederate army officer. "In my young days shoes, one pair, was the oadge of the plutocrat. I came of a large family, eight sons, and when things were going particularly well one of us had a pair of shoes. I was the youngest, so that it never was I. Now, you would be surprised to know the control of the contr the effect, mental, moral and physical, that shoes have on a man. I consider that my career, aye, and my character, hinge upon the possession of a pair. When I went to school in Virginia thirty years ago, of course I was barefooted. I was a quiet youth, strong for my age, but phlegmatic and would put up with a lot rather

than get into a fight. "My particular enemy in the school was an impudent and conceited boy, somewhat older than myself. He was the son of our family doctor, an only son, and the proud possessor of a pair of shoes, shoes of the old country type, with thick soles adorned with plenty of steel. You see we were not utterly poverty stricken. a family doctor. You couldn't expect Southern gentleman to be able to stand for a family doctor and shoes for his family at one and the same time. My enemy was forever tor-menting me, but I endured it silently for a long time. At last one day my patience would endure it no longer. I fell upon him and a sanguinary conflict ensued. We fought for an hour or more. We fought like windmills in a hurricane. It is true we did not often hit one another. We were usually too close or too far off, but we smote everything in sight, trees, walls and particularly the air. Tweedledum and Tweedledee were not marker to us. We managed to blacken each other's eyes and bleed each other's noses, chiefly through the contact of our heads.

"Finally, however, my enemy bethought him of his superior arma-ment. He drew back and delivered upon my unfortunate bare shanks a kick 'And now?" I su ggested.
"Of course,", she continued, "it isn't of cruel force and precision. I can feel to-day the impact of that mass of leather and steel. It was agony. surrendered unconditionally. Now began a period of the most heartrending humiliation and misery. Wherever I went that wretched shod youth followed. I was his slave. I ran his errands. He thwarted me in all my undertakings. He stood on his steel and leather between me and the small-

est taste of enjoyment. "There was a girl, a sweet little blue-eyed thing of twelve summers, my first love who was to me as all the world, including the village candy store. With her I would commune under the trees near the village school. With her I would wax gallant and eloquent. Yankees I would slay by the score, rather than that a hair of. her head should be disturbed. I wished her to believe me a Paul Jones and Stonewall Jackson in embryo, only

with a spice of wickedness. "I believe I should have succeeded but for that horrid boy with his shoes. One day when I was holding forth to my lady love in an especially lofty strain, the wretch came sauntering past. As he took in the situation, his yes lighted up He made straight for me.

"'Get out," he said in tones of peremptory conteptm. 'I want to talk to

"For a moment, as the spirit Jackson and Jones burnt bright in my breast, I was for giving battle. But he merely raised his foot and I saw the flash of steel beneath the leather. The fire of my valor was quenched. I turned one last despairing glance on Delia, who was laughing and slunk away. The horror of those shoes was upon me and my knees knocked together. "But I swore vengeance, and all things come to the man who knows how to wait. That winter my father carried through successfully a piece of business. Result, the whole family author, a new play by Boardman, who was shod. My own footgear was especially magnificent. No shoes, mind but boots, with stout leather reaching even unto the knee. Homer was all right when he made the wellenemy and I met. He was vanquished from the start. I think he turned pale when his eye fell upon my leather-clad shanks. He would have declined combat. But burning with the wrongs I had suffered I fell upon him without giving, him time to retreat, The battle was short and fierce. scorned to use my feet, but I was no proof against his mulish onslaught. I took his kicks without feeling them and smote him with my fists. Finally get him down and choked him until was weary. But as he arose, humble, brussed and trembling, I deliber landed my armed feet on each f his shins, and with a howl of agony te turned to flee. I delivered one

Il. on Nature's appointed kicking "My fame reached Delia's ears, and she was all smiles when she received me. She had understood, she said, all along and her heart had bled for me. I had my doubts, but the heart of youth is as wax in a maiden's hands. Shortly after my enemy approached I called to him sweetly and he came

tremblingly. "'Why don't you tell me to get out? I asked pleasantly, swinging my foot the while, and the titter of Delia seat the hot blood of pride and joy coursing through my veins. What became of Delta I don't remember. But upon shyness and phlegm left me. I became energetic and confident. I succeeded came captain of my college football My subsequent career has team. been one of effort crowned with suc-

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