

WIFE'S AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT FOR HUSBAND.

MANBY V. SCOTT.

(2 Smith's L.C. 433.)

Now love in a cot is a very good thing,
 And love in a palace is better ;
 For Cupid's rare crown makes any man King,
 While Kings are made men by his fetter.

But the drama of life
 With love in the plot,
 And no blemish of strife,
 Was not
 The sweet lot
 Of two people named Scott.

With madame's caprices by him ill-endured,
 Their lack of *rapprochement* was crying ;
 Faith, it seemed that their fortunes could only be cured
 By one of them skipping or dying.

So a chivalrous friend
 Was convinced that he ought
 (Such evil to mend !)
 To trot
 With Dame Scott
 To some halcyon spot.

They went ; and Sir Edward for twelve happy years
 Lived a life both sedate and serene.
 Then, vice having reaped less joyance than tears,
 Dame Scott reappears on the scene.

But Sir Edward he proved
 An obdurate Scott ;
 Though once he had loved
 He'd not,
 By a jot,
 E'er efface his wife's blot.

Woe's me ! but Dame Scott must have clothes to her back,
 And Manby's rare silks suit her well ;
 " Won't dear Mr. Manby supply her sore lack,
 And send rude Sir Edward the bill ? "

Now that very morning
 Mr. Manby had got
 Formal warning
 From Scott
 That he'd not
 Pay for any such shot.