



GIVING HIM THE SHAKE.

MERCIER—"But, don't you remember me, Laurier? I helped you in Quebec in the last election."

LAURIER—"All very good; but I can't have anything to say to you until you've cleaned yourself up a bit." [*Passes on.*]

Jerusha left me the prey of housekeepers and all the other ills that beset a lonely man—well—well—no matter—she is better off where she is—whilst I— — but enough, let it end here.

LOVE BESIDE THE SEA.

SCENE—*A Seaside Hotel.*

MAUD—"Heigho! Is'n't everthing dull? Only two men in the place, and I am engaged to one and you to the other."

ETHEL—"Yes. And I have been engaged to Harry two weeks. I have almost made up my mind that I shall have to break with him to-night."

MAUD—"Have you, really?"

ETHEL—"Really and truly."

MAUD—"Then, I'll tell you how we can have a little excitement."

ETHEL—"How?"

MAUD—"You always spend the evening with Harry in the parlor."

ETHEL—"And you with Jack on the piazza."

MAUD—"Exactly. Now, at nine o'clock I'll break with Jack and you break with Harry at the same time."

ETHEL—"Yes."

MAUD—"I'll see that Harry leaves his hat in the parlor,

and when he leaves me he'll have to go in to get it. See that you have Jack dismissed by that time and I'll speak to him as he passes me on the piazza."

ETHEL—"And?"

MAUD—"And each of us will make the fellow she is talking to propose."

ETHEL—"Glorious! But it is only five o'clock yet. We have four hours to wait. O, how slow the time will pass till then; but it will be fun, won't it?"

P. MCARTHUR.

SUGGESTION FROM A CIVIL SERVANT.

PREMIER ABBOTT announces that the Government will appoint a Royal Commission to investigate and reform the Civil Service. Would it not be a good thing if he also appointed a Commission of Civil Servants to investigate and reform the Government?

The example might be followed with good results by the Governments of Ontario and Quebec.

LIFE is a drama, and the American heiress is anxious to play the *title* role.

"THIS suspense is terrible," remarked the horse-thief who was being interviewed by Judge Lynch.