

STILLMAN GOTT

their appearance in society.

The two had grown nearer together through this series of steps, and it had become a recognized fact among the other youthful swains that it was a useless waste of time to attempt to see Elinor Day home, for Edward Locke was not only always the first at her side when prayer-meeting "let out" or the sociable "broke up," but he was never refused. And he grew to love her as spring brightened into summer, summer ripened into autumn, and autumn faded beneath the cool blasts of on-coming winter, and he counted that day lost when he did not see her and hear the sound of her voice, if only for a moment, and thus she became almost his very life. For her sake he worked, for her sake he had his ambitions, and for her he would have dared anything.

He had been satisfied with the life on a farm until his love for her had caused him to build air castles and to hope for fame and fortune that he might lay their fruits at her feet. And consequently, against the wishes of his father, he left the farm, and for months had been employed on the county paper assisting the editor in "get-