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control of her consonants, and said "bay" for "day," and "pear" for "heir."

"I hope it will be a boy," wrote Sophy, in conclusion, "because everyone says that it is the one thing wanting to make the marriage perfect. I will be interesting to see how the event will really affect them both. Marlesford called to-day in the hope, he said, of finding you at home. He was preoccupied and nervous. When he showed me the pearls he had bought for Tessa, he exclaimed 'I wish she cared for these things as she once cared! I don't know how to prove my devotion. I have offered to build her a villa at Amalfi: she loves the sun. I begin to see that women are reassured of one's love by just the little ways which a man never thinks of.' We talked about her for an hour, and I did my best to hint at things he might do which would certainly please her—even better, perhaps, than jewels and villas. He has fine qualities, and it is not his fault that he cannot understand any woman God ever made. I confess stupidity of the kind touches me, but I can see where it exasperates Tessa."

The letter from Tessa herself ran as follows. —

"DEAR MR. FIRMALDEN,—Do let me tell you that I felt all you suffered at the Police Court yesterday. I wish I were well enough to write my thoughts. They seem to fly like a swarm of