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"How can you tell you won't be

here?"
"I feel pretty sure of it."
"And I'm pretty sure you will. I swear I won't get married while you are away."
"But you will, in spite of your swear-

ing, if the right man comes along."

"But the right man won't come—
while you are away." The last words
were whispered so softly he could hardly hear.

Even then he missed her meaning, but as he looked at her, lovely in her confusion, so utterly desirable, the strong rein that held his passion in control snapped suddenly and his love mastered him.

"Sybil," he whispered, in a voice that sounded strange to his own ears, so tense was it with passion, "I never meant to tell you, but it can do no harm now that we are parting. I go away because I love, because I cannot conquer my love. I know it is mere folly. I know how high you are above me. But I cannot bear to see you give yourself to another."

'You go because you love me?" she said.

Her surprise and innocence were admirable, but her eyes, which she turned on him at last, were full of laughter. "Is love a reason for part-

"A hopeless love."
"But why—hopeless?"
The question set his heart beating hadly. Then her eyes met his and told their own story without a word spoken. Even yet he could hardly be-

"Is it true, darling? Don't torture me; is it true?"

"Quite true. Oh, you foolish boy, of course I love you. I fancy I have always loved you, though I did not always know it. I was just waiting and longing for you to give me the chance to tell you. I feared I would have to propose to you myself in sheer desperation. But I didn't—did I, Hugh; tell me I didn't do that."

For answer he took her in his arms.

For answer he took her in his arms and with a lover's kiss made all her

beauty his own.

An hour later they came down together from heaven to the everyday world.

"As you are no longer in such a hurry away," she said, "you may as well stay to lunch. Mother expects you."

"She will be surprised at our news." "I think not. I told her you were coming here to-day to propose to me, and that I would accept you. I knew you had a story to tell me, and I could guess how the story would end.

THE END.

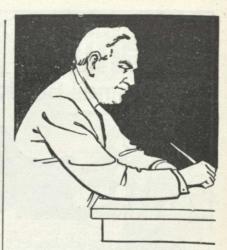
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Those who indulge in this pastime will find two books, recently issued, of great value. These are "Success With Hens" by Robert Joos and "The Back Yard Farmer" by J. Willard Bolte. Both are published by Forbes and Company, 443 South Dearborn St., Chicago, and can be secured by mail for \$1.13 each. Neither volume is technical, but written in a popular style, which adds to their attractiveness. Nor are they written for those who produce on a large scale—they are for those who keep from twelve to thirty have and who have a little thirty hens, and who have a little patch of back yard in which they desire to grow flowers and vegetables instead of grass. Indeed, "The Back Yard Farmer" will alone be sufficient for most small producers, as it con-

tains several chapters on hens.



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