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CHATHAM, NEW BRUNSWICK, OCTOBER 6, 1898.

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Miramichi Advance. OCTOBER 6, 1898,

The Wrong Note.

CHATHAM, N. B..

When I left the train at Elmwood and found that no one was that brooked no contradiction, 'and to like to meet me, I was surprised. Twice I walked around the station, vainly peering into the gathering darkness in search of the Torring-ton trap. I was nonplused, for I saw nothing but a rickety public hack, with a rickety horse and a rickety driver importuning me to become his fare. Loath to believe my eyes, I sought the station my eyes, I sought the station that no one was there to meet me, I was surprised. That brooked no contradiction, 'and so I telegraphed to Dick to come down. See what a position you placed me in. I couldn't let him know he was second fiddle."

We had stopped walking, and she stood facing me in the light of a window. Her glance was one of deep reproach. "We are always glad to have you, as you know, but this time it is just a little worn. See what a position you placed me in. I couldn't let him know he was second fiddle."

We had stopped walking, and she stood facing me in the light of a window. Her glance was one of deep reproach. "We are always glad to have you, as you know, but this time it is just a little worn. See what a position you placed me in. I couldn't let him know he was second fiddle."

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We had stopped walking, and she stood facing me in the light of a window. Her glance was one of deep reproach. "We are always growled Brooks.

"I?" Brooks started eagerly to ward her. She raised her hand in warning.

"I don't know which" she said. Would a true hearted girl, a girl warning.

"I don't know which" she said. Would a true hearted girl, a girl warning.

"I don't know which" she said. Would a true hearted girl, a girl warning.

"I don't know which" she said. Would a true hearted girl, a girl warning.

"I don't know which" she said. Would a true hearted girl, a girl w

agent.
"Wasn't Mr. Torrington's carriage here to meet this train?" I

The man shook his head. "It was down for the 3 o'clock," he replied. "Took a gentleman off. This announcement served to ining formally accepted, was compelled to make my way thither in a public conveyance, while another had been met at the station and ty horse made no very good speed, and I realised that the dinner hour was rapidly approaching. But at length we rattled through the gates

and up the drive to the house. Maria Torrington greeted me on the veranda—which was so ill-lighted that I could hardly see her face—yet it struck me that there was confusion in her tone.

"I'm very glad to see you," she said. "It's a surprise indeed." "Surprise?" I said. "You knew was coming."
"Er—yes," she murmured hesitatingly. "But it's so late we'd given

you up. You must hurry for din-Hobson, show Mr. Bottomley Here a tall figure loomed out of the darkness into the foreground, and before I could follow the servant who had taken my bag my hand was seized, and a heavy voice said: "Hello, old man! Glad to see

"Why, hello, Brooks!" I exclaimed. "I'm glad to see you."

been racing for two years for the fair prize below! When the servants had gone and I was alone, I stamped the floor vigorously and tore open my bag with such vio-lence as to send the contents scatering in every direction.

This thing was getting unpleasnt. I could overlook the lack of hospitality in allowing me to make my own way to the house; I could orget her evident surprise at my oming after I had been formally nvited by her mother and had as formally accepted, but I could not forgive her asking Dick Brooks and myself at the same time and driving him home in triumph, as it

I was angry-so angry that I crumpled three ties in dressing and started down to dinner with tan shoes on, and when I finally entered the drawing room to find the family awaiting me I remembered that I had forgotten to brush my hair and was conscious that it was all standing out at the back. It eemed that, flustered and disheveled, I was making a very poor showing in comparison with the ımmac-

"I am very glad to see you," said Mrs. Torrington cordially. "It's a stick. special pleasure, as we understood you weren't"—Maria glanced sharp-ly at her mother, and the kindly woman stopped, flushed and added: "As we were afraid you weren't coming. The train must have been late. But come."

I shall never forget the dinner that followed. It seemed as though there was a pall over the little company, or rather over all but Brooks. He is a clever fellow, I admit, and seeming to realise that the rest of us were embarrassed and the brunt of the conversation.

Once our host ventured to inthat I had come after all, where-

Mrs. Torrington started to observe that perhaps it was on acin turn silenced. While Maria kapt ed me had I not known her.

this surprise on the part of you and you frequently." out of hearing of the mother, the said, fixing her eyes on Brooks, stay right here in New York, to

brother, the father and the shining who was still fumbling his stick "I think we had cause to be sur-

embarrassing."

stoutly. that another engagement prevents long and careful thinking."

"Jove!" I broke into a hearty asked.

first! "Why, Maria," I said, "it was shall" catch the last train out I determin- suffering. ed to try and postpone the matter. So I wrote two notes—one accept- you do, I shall never speak to ing, the other declining the invitation. I took them both down "Rather life, then, town next day, and as the attorney

consented to my postponing the meeting I mailed the acceptance." There was instant, to give place to a settled you. look of displeasure. "And I wired "I to Dick Brooks."

o Dick Brooks."

I laughed quietly.
"What are you laughing at?"

fact, the scheme pather appealed to she asked.

fallen at her heels.

"Glad to see you.—glad to see you," I repeated, as I followed Hobson into the hall and up the stairs to my room.

Glad to see Dick Brooks! Glad

"Glad to see you.—glad to see and thoughtful, an unusual mood for him. I could see that he had an important piece of engineering on hand and tried to block his schemes, but despite my subtle bad grace. to see the man with whom I had schemes, but despite my subtle bad grace.
been racing for two years for the fair prize below! When the serfair prize below! When the serand show him the trout

> recital of the difficulties of securing | silence. funds for a certain deserving hospi- I was up early next morning at about the place.

> "Maria," I heard Brooks say in a to catch a train. .
> more earnest tone than I had I had been awake at dawn. Ex-

tick. was playing.

For a moment all of us must Having brought myself to a

Brooks-has just asked me to As I folded up my riding clothes marry him."

"Asked for the thousandth time," muttered Brooks. His clean shavhaving it known that he is atten- till I was speeding to her. Once our host ventured to inform me how surprised he was to be me and how pleased he was that I had come after all, where

count of golf that I had been de- Maria Torrington went on with a tents, sank into a chair and, tossing tained that afternoon, and she was coolness that would have astound- the paper from me, repeated the in turn silenced. While Maria kept a close watch on her parents and I across the bay in the teeth of a cross the cross t

pressing down my back hair and adjusting my awry tie Brooks rattled away, apparently charming-ly unconscious.

But at length it was over, and

But at length it was over, and

But at length it was over, and Blank's kind invitation to become his wife. Why had I ever consented to risk all on a mere throw of dice? Why had I tried to win by a gamble what other men worked, waited and suffered for years to obtain?

ST. JOHN DAILY SUN.

IS A NEWSPAPER Mr. Torrington cornered my clever over her repeatedly, and even then rival over coffee and cigars, while I she had laughed and given me di-Harkinson, who had been out of rival over coffee and cigars, while I slipped away, and, though it was late in October and a stiff breeze late in October was blowing from the sea across the bleak meadows, crackling cheer-lessly through the dying leaves of lessly through the dying lessly through the dying leaves of lessly through the dying less and the dying less and the dying less are discountered to the dying less and the dying less are dying lessly through the dying less and dying less are dying lessly through the dying less and dying less are discountered to the dying less and dying lessly through the dying less are dying lessly through the dying le the trees, I succeeded in inducing deemed it wise to use a brake. So one minute of his triumph. I

and bowed. your family," I said, once we were "I like you both very much," she some foreign city. Far better to

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note from your mother on Thurs-day asking me down for Sunday. us?"

Standard Her eyes back to like by my life in dull office drudgery?

Why should I, with a solid income

become his fare. Loath to believe my eyes, I sought the station glad to have you, as you know, but this time it is just a little "There is an old saying about mar-lucky was I in getting the wrong lucky was I in getting the wrong lu "But I accepted," I maintained riage being a lottery. I propose to increase the chances. If you two I sprang from my chair and toutly.

"Your note said plainly, I regret the scheme that I have got up after snatch of a song. A bag, half

crease my perplexity. Here I, having been formally asked to spend Sunday at a house and hav
"What are you swearing about? What are you swearing about? I don't see anything particularly the other a refusal. They will be "No. This afternoon I shall over the floor. amusing."

put in plain envelopes, mixed up, directed and mailed. The one of you who receives the refusal

had been met at the station and carried off in comfort. Over this unusual condition of affairs I puzzled my brain on the drive out to Torrington's. The discomfort of my position was heightened by the increasing darkneess, for the rickety horse made no very good speed, "You shall not," she cried. "If

> "Rather life, then," said I. Brooks bowed his assent to my There was a long silence, and

"You mean you got them mixed and sent the wrong one," she said.
A half smile lighted her face for an "You'll agree to my plan, won't then Maria looked from one to the "You'll agree to my plan, won't "There is nothing else that we

me, for of late things had not "Brooks must be puzzled over been going so smoothly as I could have desired. It had seemed at She resented this inference as to times as though Brooks was drawour mutual relations by turning sharply, and, carrying herself with exaggerated erectness, she entered the house, with me following crestly good. The plan was not so Brooks was puzzled—so extreme-ly puzzled that he hardly said a he felt that he had the advantage word at breakfast, but was quiet of me and in entering into such a

"It is agreed then?" said she. For a time I chafed in the library Brooks and I bowed. The three under Mrs. Torrington's verbose of us walked back to the house in

tal, and at length, unable to bear my rooms in town. I had calcuthe restraint longer, rather abrupt- lated everything to a nicety. The ly exeused myself to take a stroll postman would reach the house at 8.10 o'clock. The train for Elm-My steps carried me in the dale left at 9 o'clock. Provided the direction of the pond, down the contents of the note that I expected drive, over a stretch of lawn, were satisfactory I would just have through a grove, till I was halted time to breakfast and reach the at the sigh, of two hats protruding ferry. Should the note prove to over the top of a bush a few yards be wrong I certainly would not need any breakfast and much less

deemed him capable of assuming, citement had driven sleep from my "I have waited now for a year for eyes, and the dragging hours gave an answer. Sometimes my hopes me more than ample opportunity have been raised—raised only to to figure out my chances. I resee you shower kindness on that volved over and over again in my mind the history of my acquaint-I whistled to the collie that had ance with Maria Torrington. been bounding along near by, and when Maria Torrington and her on incidents in it in which luck companion stepped hurriedly into had played a part, and I found view I cried, "Hello!" such a balance in my favor that I Brooks looked foolish and re- was almost convinced that it was plied, "Hello!" Then he began useless for me to worry over the stirring the dead leaves with his outcome of the game of chance I

have looked foolish, for as Maria, state of comparative confidence, I her face crimson, stared blankly at began to pack a couple of bags full a distant tree top I leaned over of clothes, for I had made up my and fell to patting the shaggy dog. mind to make a long stay at the The silence was broken by the Torrington house while I was about girl. She had completely recovered her composure and, fixing her eyes on me, said, "Harry, as you have doubtless heard, Dick—Mr.

I thought of the gollops we were to have, and broke into song, and as I sang I forgot all about the note hampered by some secret which could not be his he proceeded to make the best of things and to bear tip of his chin to where the hair worked away as cheerily as though divided. A man seldom objects to it were but the matter of an hour

that I had come after all, whereupon his daughter interrupted and
effectually silenced him by asking
whether I had been playing much
golf of late,
Mrs. Torrington started to ob-"And you have also asked me," an instant I comprehended its confatal words:

Maria to take a walk on the ver- I was not surprised at this caprice | would take the very next steamer-

No! After all it would but add "Yes," I said stupidly; "asked to the satisfaction of my rival to have me eating my heart out in

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work and become famous, to bring "I think we had cause to be surprised," she said coldly.

"Cause?" I cried. "I received a so I called her eyes back to me by day asking me down for Sunday. I accepted."

"No," she replied, after a moment of thoughtful silence, "I've tried that brooked no contradiction, and very hard to, but I can't. A plan of the sale of a potty name of a potty

packed for the journey, caught my eye, and in a frenzy of joy I kicked it and sent the contents flying A knock at the door interrupted the celebration of my good fortune. It was the hallboy with a telegram. I opened the dispatch and read:

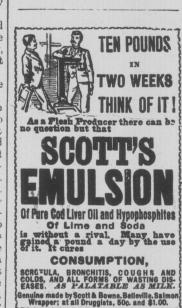
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-New York Sun.

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