

thought all these things over, Miss. I'm not an unreasonable man."

"What can I do?" said Lily, hopelessly. "I wish you would let me help you in some way."

"I don't see what you can do, Miss, thanking you all the same," said the man, civilly. "We've got just enough bread and tea in the house to keep body and soul together, and I guess we can last out."

"But your wife and two little ones, Mr. T——? Don't let anything stand in the way of my helping *them*. Don't you *see* that I want to help you all I can?"

"Oh, *you're* all right, Miss. I've no quarrel with you, and I'm sure *you're* kind-hearted. What do you *want* to do now?"

Thus appealed to, Lily was nonplussed. To offer this self-respecting man money was out of the question. She felt she had never been placed in such a difficult position before. At last a bright thought struck her.

"Look here, Mr. T——, I know you'll laugh, but two years ago I took a course of lessons at Boston in a cooking school. Now, I'm going to make you a dinner—so there!"

He made a gesture of impatience, but she overruled him. "I shall be back shortly," she said. Here was work to do in good earnest, and she