

are no singers worth listening to, and I wouldn't to the end of the drive for the best supper Delmonico will ever cook. A man seems to think that any human creature *would* do anything for something good to eat. He—Most human creature *will*. She—I *shall* stay at home, and you *shall* have your opera and your supper all to yourself. He—Well, if you *will* stay at home, you *shall*; and if you *won't* have the supper, you *shan't*. But my trip will be dull without you. I *shall* be bored to death, that is, unless your friend Mrs. Dashatt Mann *should* go to town to-morrow, as she said she thought that she *would*; then, perhaps, we shall meet at the opera, and she and her nieces *will* sup with me. She (to herself) My dear friend Mrs. Dashatt Mann! And so that woman *will* be at her old tricks with my husband again. But she *shall* find that I am mistress of this situation, in spite of her big black eyes and her big white shoulders. (To him). John, why *should* you waste yourself upon those ugly, giggling girls? To be sure, *she's* a fine woman enough; that is, if you *will* buy your beauty by the pound, but they! He—O, think what I *will* about that, I must take them, for politeness' sake; and, indeed; although the lady is a matron, it wouldn't be quite proper to take her alone—*would it?* what *should* you say?

She—Well, not exactly, perhaps. But it don't much matter; she can take care of herself, I should think. She's no chicken; she'll never see thirty-five again. But it's too bad you *should* be bored with her niece—and since you're bent on having me go with you—and—after all, I *should* like to hear Ronconi—and—you shan't be going about with those cackling girls—well, John, dear, I'll go.

The author of this further says: Association and early habit cause many people, who are far from well-educated, and who are entirely unconscious as to their speech, to be unerring in their use of this idiom, which in my judgment, is one of the finest in the language.

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