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Guard well thy heart! rest not content With visions fair. Unwearied seek Fill thou hast found the true love sent By him who watcheth o'er the weak, Who heeds the suppliant's call.

Quard well thy heart! its throbbing life Protect with jealous care. Be not Dismayed, though bitter grow the strife, And dark contention mark thy lot, Fear not, He ruleth over all. —Ottawa Owl.

THE SLEIGH RIDE.

The afternoon is as bright as a glowing un shining upon the fresh snow of the night previous can make it. The air is mild, and yet the snow has not melted enough to spoil the sleighing, and Tom Prince and Kittie Maynard are enjoying what is known in

Felton as the "ten mile drive."

The "ten mile drive" is a long stretch of winding country roads, following which one circles three lakes, now frozen over; passes through the corners of three townships, and and of open, comes back to the village from which he started, pretty little Felton, nestled down among the hills like a wood pigeon upon her nest.

oon ner ness. Tom and Kittie had known each other from Tom and Kittie had known each other from childhood, and in the days of boy and girlhood, before they had gone away for what the farmers around about called their "edication," they had played at being lovers in the regulation country fashion. Since Tom had graduated from college, however, and Kittie had returned from boarding school, there had been a manifest difference of relations between them. It was perhaps that they did hear a manifest difference of relations between them. It was perhaps that they did
not wholly recognize each other in the matured and changed person each met, and that
it was harder to become acquainted with this
stranger who bore the name of an old friend
and showed so many of the old traits than it
would have been to begin a fresh friendship
with one who was really a total stranger.
They had grown shy of each other from
the very strangeness of the new sensation
which they felt in the presence of the other,
and two or three times already had Mistress
Kittle declined an invitation from Tom to
take this very "ten mile drive" upon which
they flad now embarked. Today, however,

take this very "ten mile drive" upon which they had now embarked. Today, however, the delightful softness of the weather, the brilliancy with which the sun shone, the sight of the span of trotters in which Tom took a very justifiable pride, and perhaps some seret inclination to try a touch of the old time flirtation, had made Kittle say yes when the had fully intended to say no, and once the server was no drawword had been spoken there was no draw-

ing back.
It could not be denied that Tom handled it could not be defined that for the reins well, and it is probable that the young man himself was not ignorant of that fact, it not being a strongly marked characteristic of enamored swains to be wholly un-

teristic of enamored swains to be wholly unaware of the situations in which they are
most likely to be pleasing to the eye of the
fair whose smiles they would win.
At least, whether he did or did not know
it, Tom undeniably did drive well, and he
also looked his best in the fur cap and fur
trimmed coat in which upon this especial day
he was arrayed. Kittie, of course, pretended
not to look at him at all, while as a matter
that she could not, have kept her eyes off t she could not have kept her eyes off

of fact she could not have kept her eyes on him if her life had depended upon it. She was well enough worth looking at her-self, it might be added, with her seal skins and the clear color in her cheeks. Tom thought she had never looked so pretty in her life, and it is not impossible that he was given yight in the matter. As the pair went uite right in the matter. As the pair went quite right in the matter. As the pair went simming along to the jingling of the sleigh bells which has so many a time been be-praised and be-rhymed, and which cannot become hackneyed or dull despite of it all, hey were a very attractive and charming young couple, and that one could safely maintain in the face of whatever contra-

They had not much to say at first. Tom They had not much to say at first. Tom was a good deal occupied with his horses, which had not been out for some days and were fresh accordingly, and as for Kittle, she had enough to do in watching Tom and pretending that she was utterly indifferent whether she were here in the sleigh with

hardly needed the rein to remind them that they had a deal of uphili pulling to do before they came to the top of the slope.

"It is strange how these old places bring up things," Tom said suddenly, as the sleigh glided more slowly. "Just then, when I looked up, the sight of the old hill, and the feeling of going up Ackley's as I've gone so often, brought up that time when Tim Lawton and May Manley were thrown out here. Don't you remember?" "Remember?" answered Kittie. "I shouldn't forget if I should live to be a thousand years old. I was never so frightened in my life." "Tom Prince!" om here to talk to "Of course I to "Of course

'It was just such a day as this," Tom went on, "and you know that"——
"Don't," Kittie broke in.

"Don't what?"

Don't talk of it till we get off this hill." "It is silly, of course," she answered, "but

happy in believing that things were all as he wished them?"

"Oh, of course; but it seemed a pity that he could not know."

"You think that he would fail to understand all this, and would be unhappy in another life because of the happiness he would have supposed himself to have lost in this?"

"It sounds a little immoral to put it in that way."

"But isn't that about what you mean?"

"But isn't that about what you mean?"
"Why, yes, I suppose it is. There seems a certain injustice in his not knowing that really his death was the best thing that could happen to him."

really his death was the best thing that could happen to him."

"And if the universe was managed in a feminine way." Tom said, smiling, "I suppose Tim would have been forced to have all this explained to him upon his entrance to another world so that ne might suffer as much as possible in the knowledge that even the joy that he believed he had was a sham, and that there was only baseness and sorrow beyond it all. The alternative does not seem to me so much to be desired."

"Of course not, the way you put it."

"And how would you put it?"

"I should say that he should be assured that he had had the best of life, and that so his death was not really the misfortune it had seemed to him."

"But does it seem to you probable that he

"But does it seem to you probable that he would believe 't without having it proved?"
"I don't know," she said doubtfully; "I had not thought of that."
Ton learned with the same allowed. not thought of that."

Tom laughed with the easy masculine assumption of superiority and flicked his whip at the bushes which crowded down to the

"It was horrid of her, anyway," Kitty said irrelevantly, after a moment of silence.
"Horrid of her?" Tom echoed.

"I suppose so; but that does not account for your feeling bound to break in just then when

"I do not see," Kittie again interrupted hastily, "why you should make so much out of so little, as if I had some deep laid scheme in mind every time I spoke of the view."

"Then you did not know what I was about to save."

to say? "Why, how in the world should I, Tom?"

"Then why don't you ask what it was?"
"Oh," Kittie retorted, tossing her pretty "Oh," Kittle reforted, tossing her pretty head, "do you suppose that I think everything you might have said to be of so great import-ance that it must be looked back to and care-fully called up if it does get interrupted?" "Very likely not; that is what I complain

could see why a girl need act so Just because she knows that"
"Don't abuse girls," Kittie broke in so hastily that for the life of her she could not think of anything in particular to say.
"Simply because she knows," Tom repeated, stoutly, "that"—
"But she doesn't know."
But it was of no use for Kittie to interrupt now; Tom had made up all his stubborn mind to finish his sentence, and finish it he did.
"Just because she knows that a fellow is in laye with her."

"Why not?"
"It is silly, of course," she answered, "but it makes me nervous."
"Then I will not say a word more about it, not even to remind you that the stone they struck on is the one we passed five minutes ago."
"Wasn't it horrible?" Kittie went on, inconsistently ignoring her own words. "To think of his being killed when he was having such a good time."
"I don't know," Tom replied soberly. "It has always seemed to me that it is much better to get out of life when one is happy than when one is sad."
"Yes; in one way, of course it is," she assented; "but to leave pleasant things must

when one is sad."

"Yes; in one way, of course it is," she assented; "but to leave pleasant things must be harder than to leave things that are not pleasant."

"We don't look at things so much from the standpoint of the person as from our own," was his answer. "Now you take it in Tim's case. Everybody said how hard it was for him to be cut off just when he was happy and when he thought May would marry him; but that is not the way in which to look at it, it seems to me.

"It is only fair to consider that if he had lived he would have found out that May was playing fast and loose with him all the time, and he would have found out that May was playing fast and loose with him all the time, and he would have found out that have meanned beso of his own brother, who had really taken he was a playing fast and loose with him all the time, and he would have found out that hat it was for him to go while he was simple from him to find the beastly meanned by the standard of the suffer hot only fair to condider that if he had broken the spell so compastely that Kittie could not get him to say half enough in the same like, although he talked for an hour or two in the same strain. From which it is to be argued that young women.—Henry Minniger in Boston Course.

viii, 18-Commentary by the Bev. D. Me

[Compiled from Lemm Heiper Quarterly by peamission of H. S. Hoffman, publisher, Philadelphia.]

According to the first three verses of this chapter, after bringing joy and peace to the poor women in Elmon's house, He went through all the cities and villages showing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God, the kingdom foretold by all the prophets, when the Lord shall again choose Jerusalem, coinfort Zion and restore Israel, never to be plucked up or scattered again (Zech. i, 17; ii, 10-12; Jer. xxiv, 6, 7); that through them He may establish His Messianic kingdom in all the world. He was accompanied by the twelve and certain women whom He had healed and who, now ministered unto Him. Returning, probably, to Capernaum, He healed one possessed with a blind and dumb demon. This drew forth from the Pharisees the accusation that He was possessed by the devil, and thus did these mighty works. demon. This drew forth from the find sees the accusation that He was possessed by the devil, and thus did these mighty works. Jesus in reply warned them of the sin that can never be forgiven, whether committed in this age or the age to come. He also foretold His death and resurrection and pointed them the accusing indepent. They receive not His to a coming judgment. They receive not His teaching, but determine to kill Him (Matt.

xii).4. "And when much people were gathered

teaching, but determine to kill Him (Matt. xii).

"Horrid of her?" Tom echoed.

"Yes, of May Manley."

"Oh, May; yes."

"But she got her reward."

They were silent again for a little time, and when he spoke again there was a new tone to Tom's voice.

"I suppose," he said, "that men never have any idea of what women really think of them."

"Why is it true of women any more than of men? Do women ever know what men think of them?"

"Yes," Tom answered decidedly; "women always know, only they generally refuse to own it to anybody else, and not infrequently they will not even own it to themselves."

"Id on to agree with you," Kitty returned, with an air which said far more than the mere words.

"Nonsense; of course you agree with me. The proposition is self evident. Now you know that here am I"——

"Isn't that blue sky just showing over the top of the hill just lovely?" Interrupted Kitty hurriedly.

"It is always so pretty to come up over this hill and see it come out over the lakes."

Tom laughed significantly.

"Thank you for proving my proposition," he said.

"I don't understand."

"Oh, no; of course not; and yet if you did not know what I was going to say why did you interrupt just then?"

"Oh, you did?"

"Oh what here and yen the killides a kery and were come to Him out of every it, the spake by a parable." Matthew says:

"The same day went Jesus out of the house and sat by the seaside; and great multitudes were gathered together, and were come to Him out of every it, the spake by a parable. "The same day went Jesus out of the house and sat by the seaside; and great multitudes were gathered together unto Him base by the seaside; and great multitudes were gathered together unto Him base by the seaside; and great multitudes were just, the seaside; and great multitudes were gathered together unto Him base by the seaside; and great multitudes were just, the sub of the seaside; and great multitudes were jus

Matt. xiii, 36; Mark iv, 10, we see that Jesus sent the multitudes away and went into the house, and that then He gave the explanation of this parable. That He was in the house when He interpreted the parable appears also from verses 19 and 20 of this chapter. It has been said that a parable is somewhat like a nut which keeps the kernel for the diligent, but from the indolent. Because they would not trouble themselves to see or hear He therefore so preaks that the unbe-

the diligent, but from the indocent. Decause they would not trouble themselves to see or hear He therefore so speaks that the unbelieving and indifferent may not see nor hear. 11. "Now the parable is this: The seed is the Word of God." Mark says: "The sower soweth the word." The business of every Christian in this whole age is to be a vessel in the hand of the great Sower with which the word."

The top of the hill was reached at this ment, and Tom relieved his feelings as far as he might by putting the research and Tom to for the fifth and to speak myself, of course; and how could I speak unless you stopped?"

The top of the hill was reached at this moment, and Tom relieved his feelings as far as he might by putting the horses at their full speak. The speak myself, and for merity, while Kittle watched her companion furtively, wondering what he would as yo do next, and a little straid beth. To the source is the farmed bether the seed of the word.

Christian in this whole age is to be a vessel in the hand of the great Sower with which the may scatter the seed of the word.

Christian in this whole age is to be a vessel in the hand of the great Sower with which the may scatter the seed of the word.

Christian in this whole age is to be a vessel in the hand of the great Sower with which the may scatter the seed of the word.

12. "Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil." We have now will fall till the kingdom comes. There is the hard beaten heart of the so called gospel hardened. He has gone to church all his life, perhaps is seldom absent on Sunday horning, but he is too weary in body to hear with profit, or, if not, the business of the week so so crowds in upon him that while apparently he is listening to the sermon he is in his mind going over yesterday's business transactions or anticipating those of to-morrow.

13. "They on the rock are they that hear; then cometh the devil." We have now will fall till the kingdom comes. There is the hard beat near to the so called gospel hardened. He has gone to church all his life, perhaps is seldom absent on Sunday horning, but he is too weary in body to hear with profit, or, if not, the business of the week so so crowds in upon him that while apparently he is itselved to the sor and will fall till the kingdom comes. There is the hear they that hear; then cometh the devil." We have now that hear; then cometh the devil." We have now the hear;

whether she were here in the sleigh with whether she were lere in the sleigh with the place of the most stupid book in her Aunt Priscillation aries. She was, besides, too blissfully content to care whether she said anything or not, and it was not until they got to Ackley's like it hat they began to talk at all. Ackley's like was a long steep stretch of nearly a mile, one of those tedious hills which make driving incertain parts of New England so like doing phance in the steepest portions of the paths of virtue. The span capered along for a little at the foot of the long grade, but they were the foot of the long grade, but they were the foot of the long grade, but they were the foot of the long grade, but they were the foot of the long grade, but they were the foot of the long grade, but they were the foot of the long the foot of the long foot of the long grade, but they were the foot of the would at the foot of the long for at the foot of the long foot —that is when the weather is fine and there are no difficulties in the way, no one opposing. Such may probably make a profession of faith in Christ, and for a time give joyful testimony, but as soon as there is anything to be endured for the word's sake (Mark iv, 17) immediately they are offended and fall away. It was not a saving faith, not an acceptance of Jesus to suffer with Him cheerfully in view of the reigning bye and bye, but only the re-ceiving of some gladsome truth about Him. These, like the other, give us no solid en-

now: Tom had made up all his stubborn mind to finish his sentence, and finish it he did.

"Just because she knows that a fellow is in love with her."

"Tom Prince!" cried Kittie, "did you bring me here to talk to me like that?"

"Of course I did," he answered; "and it would be just as well for you not to pretend that you didn't known it, too."

"I would never have come if"—

"If you hadn't known that I should say it sooner or later."

"Tom Prince, you are borrid!"

"Tom Prince, you are borrid!"

The horses just then required so much of The horses just then required so much of the state of the state of the state of the state of the word of God, even though it may seem to some a dangerous place. I Cor. the things to choke the word. We must stand on the sound of the control of the co





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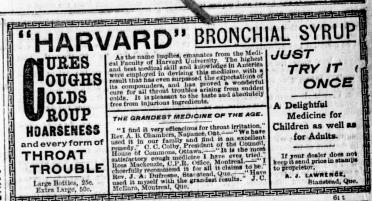
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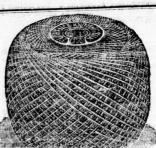
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