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and book.

After tea they walked in the gardenthe sweet, old-fashioned, rose-scented gar-den, and the June Rose explained to him the program for the season.

"I've found out her idea. She wants to give the town a bicycle. And she means to pay for it by her boarders. Not out of the profits, mind you, she isn't going to charge herself with the expenses; she is going to turn over to the town every cent we pay her. She says, 'Lor, child! What with all this garden sauce, and the well, and the apples, and the corn, it won't cost anything to keep the com, it won't cost anything to keep you.' What troubles her is the meat question. Meat in the country is dear, and not always to be had even at that. no you must tell her to-night that you Sever eat beefsteak for breakfast, but prefer just coffee and a 'biscuit.' Then we must manage to be away a great deal at dinner-time bicycling, you know."

"Together?" interrupted the young man joyfully.

"And then we can come home to an early tea"—the June Rose ignored his allusion to companionship—"and have cold ham and sardines. You see she will get on beautifully,"

"She," murmured Grahame

"Yes, she. It's no matter about us. am determined the town shall have that bicycle—I mean, those bicycles, for she wants two. Then we must arrange to stay till very late in the season—"

"I will," assented Grahame eagerly "And then, when we get ready to go, we must present her with our bicycles!."

At this culmination the June Rose looked triumphan ly at the new boar er, if she had achieved a master diplomacy.

"Well, really-

"Yes, real y. We can assure her that they are in good condition, and I'm sure she will not mind their being secondhand, she admires them so. Papa is going to give me a new bicycle for Christmas anyway, and I'm perfectly sure you will never be satisfied with a '96 when you see what improvements a '97 will have; so you see we might as well be generous with the old ones."

"Perhaps she would want a '97, too," murmured Grahame feebly.

"Oh, not I'm quite sure she would be satisfied. And if you shouldn't want to give yours away, surely you would let her have it very cheap under the cir-cumstances?"

"Certainly, certainly!" "Then it's a bargain," and the June Rose tripped away—to ask Hiram about something.

And the next evening they walked a little in the garden. Grahame had generously lent Hiram his bicycle, and had been astonished to see him mount it with ease and ride away.

"I wish young Lochinvar would ride back to the West," he thought, and he added to the June Rose:

"They're not so innocent as you think, Hiram knows all about a bicycle.

"Hiram? Of course Hiram knows. The only reason he hasn't his own bicycle is because he was generous and left it to his younger brother when he came East.'

"Well, you needn't be so sarcastic. I haven't any younger prother to leave mine with."

"No, you are to leave yours with Miss Matilda. Even if Hiram can ride, the town can't. Miss Matilda wants the town to ride."

An amused fancy kindled Grahame's imagination. He projected a cartoon for some comic weekly, representing a town on a bicycle. Yes, he was getting rural material for literary purposes; only, as he thought with another inward smile, he was getting it, not from the country

people, but from a city visitor. How-ever, he conquered his smile and asked: "Do you think the experiment is succeeding?"

"Succeeding? Of course it's succeeding. I hope you don't mind very much about the beefsteak?"

"No, I don't mind very much so far. Hiram is probably used to cultivating literature on a little oatmeal, and you seem to be as much of a June rose as ever. Only I'm a little afraid of turning myself into a Grahame 'biscuit' be-

fore the season is over." (Continued on Page 56)