

SUNSHINE-SHADDER

city soon to visit a big store to adjust a money matter, and as for the round clear bargain in the cup, time will tell."

In answer Peter blinked his eyes and whisked very significantly about Maria's skirt as she set the teacup down and reached for the cream jug.

A few days after the discovery of the pocket-book the stage from Sunshine-Shadder drew up to Kinglyville depot just in time to permit its passengers to board the train bound for the city.

Among the passengers to alight at the city depot next morning a small, slight woman in a neat-fitting black serge suit was noticeable. A black chip walking hat rested on her mass of brown, white-threaded hair, while the cream lace scarf knotted at her throat gave a touch of color to the pale, wistful face of Maria Dale.

There were three others on board from Sunshine-Shadder that morning, and all three wondered what had prompted Maria to visit the city.

The rain of the week had subsided and the sun shone brightly as she boarded a car and a little later alighted opposite a large departmental store on whose plate glass windows the gold letters of "James" glittered in the sunlight.

It was her first visit to the city and the noise, bustle and strangeness, combined with the ever-present thought of the object of her journey, drove the stray gleams of sunlight from her heart as she hesitatingly entered the store.