

be lonely enough next winter," said Phil, heaving up a big sigh.

"Yes, it will be hard for ye," said bonny Jeanie, turning on him a look of soft and deep sympathy. For it was Jeanie's conviction that Phil was broken-hearted on account of May's change of mind, since she had heard much from Jim in moments of confidence concerning May's attachment to Phil, in which, as we know, he firmly believed. "And we shall be going to Scotland, and leaving my poor Maggie all alone. But you will see to her grave by times, Mr. Phil, won't ye?"

A sudden inspiration came to Phil. He turned his dark eyes on the pretty pleading blue ones, and said—

"Stay and do it yourself, Jeanie. Stay as my wife, and make it less lonely for me."

She started and blushed. "Me, Mr. Phil? Oh, no; ye can't mean it! Your heart is gone to May, and I cannot be second."

"No, Jeanie, it is not so. You are first, indeed. I liked and admired May as a sister, and we were good friends. But it was Jim she really cared for all the time in the deep of her heart, though we laughed and joked together. I saw it long ago; and, oh Jeanie——"