

ed about it too, in s heart and blighted life. was a common-place farr ler living the hotel.

"He's no beauty," T. B., informed us, and Granny twits Aunt Lily with it. But Aunt Lily says she'd marry him if he was as ugly as a gorilla because it is his soul she loves. I dunno nawthing about his soul, but he's got the dough and he's going to educate me. Aunt Lily told him she wouldn't have him if he didn't. I'm going to live with 'em, too. Say, won't I be glad to get away from Granny's tongue and Dorinda's poetry? It makes me feel young again."

"How on earth will that woman ever keep a house, ma'am?" said Salome. "I

pity that poor man."
"He is very well able to keep a servant." I said, "and I have always had a suspicion that Aunt Lily is not by any means as die-away as her looks, Salome. The woman who arranged that supper table must have something of what you call 'gumption.' Anyhow, everybody is so well satisfied that it seems a pity

to carp."

"Oh, I like the creature and I wish her well, ma'am," Salome rejoined, with a toss of her head. "And I'm glad poor T. B. is to have his chance. But say what you will, ma'am, George Black is marrying into a queer lot, and that is my final opinion, ma'am."

Aunt Lily meant to give up keeping

a diary, so she informed me.

"I shall not need it," she said. "I can pour out my soul to my husband. I have put the past and all its sadness behind me. Will you help me select my bridal suit, Mrs. Bruce? I did want to be wedded in a sky-blue gown—the tint of God's own heaven, Mrs. Bruce. But George says he would like a plain dark suit better and I believe that a wife should reverence and obey her husband. I am no new woman, Mrs. Bruce, and I believe in the sacredness of the conjugal tie. The secret of life is devotion, Mrs. Bruce."

"I'm very glad you are taking T. B. with you," I said.
"I could not dream of leaving him behind, Mrs. Bruce. My heart is knit to his. I trust that in my home his surroundings will be more uplifting than they have hitherto been. In an atmosphere of calm and joy I feel sure that

he will develop, Mrs. Bruce."

The next week Aunt Lily and T. B. went to the new atmosphere of calm and joy and we departed regretfully As we drove from the Tansy Patch. away in the still evening we heard "Paw" fiddling gloriously on his stoop; and as we turned the corner of the road and passed the house Granny shook her stick at us with a parting malediction.

"May yer potatoes always be rotten," she shrieked.

But-"Paw's" fiddle followed us further than Granny's howls, and our memories of our Tansy Patch neighbors were not unpleasant ones.

"When all is said and done, ma'am," was Salome's summing up, lunatics were interesting."

THE END.

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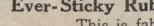
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