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coming with glad, welcome hearts.

an European trip.

She did not meet Hugh Egerton,

The principal of the high school

was named Elting; he was a grave,

scholarly man. After a time Mar-

lighted up when in her society.

Ralph Elting was not a lady's man.

tirely indifferent to the fair sex.

began to remark the change which

to all, but the knowledge did not

distress her as Hugh Egerton's love-

Elting's noble, kindly nature, and

One afternoon after school hours,

Mr. Elting invited Margaret to take

Elting's pride of family and name.

tion, until one bright summer day

me a king among men.'

in the old farm house.

complying with it.

hand, while Margaret said:

The next Wednesday was the day

that at one time had been so dreaded,

and after helping her mother with

met Hugh Egerton face to face.

morning song is a true sign.'

'Good morning, Miss Margaret.

your trip to Europe, Mr. Egerton?

'Yes, but the time passed too

tinued eagerly, 'that to-day is the

'The hall is in splendid order now,

and only needs a mistress, and 1

Drawing herself up haughtily,

'Mr. Egerton, 'I repeat what

once said-I will never become your

With a fierce look he turned and

'I have called,' said Egerton, in a

'Be seated, sir, please,' the old

farmer said, in a tone of grave

politeness. Here is the amount. It

you will count it I think you will

Hugh Egerton walked homeward

Before long the old farm house

which he had really no need of keep-

Margaret met his bold eyes.

payment of that mortgage."

find it correct.'

and my dear mother.'

When she paused Ralph drew her

reserved man.

not in vain?"

VOL. XII.--NO. 5.

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he old customers-(no objection to a

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BAFFLED.

It was summer time-that bright season when the flowers wake up and nod their arch faces right in the face of the sun; when the birds begin to rejoice and the fragrant balmy winds blow back and forth over the earth; and when happy little children all over the land laugh aloud

in the sunshine. But in striking contrast to the glowing beauty all around was the pinched form of a poor little barefooted girl who was walking up the garden path. The farm house door was open. The child gazed in with hungry eyes, but when Mrs. Halstead looked up and saw her she turned to go.

'Come back, my dear; you look as if you were hungry.'

As if fascinated the child drew near to the kind, motherly speaker. 'Oh, ma'am, please say it again!' 'Say what? Do you mean my

dear? 'Yes; that's what the pretty lady called her little girl when she came to our house. She said it ever so often, and oh! it sounded so nice.' 'Poor child,' said Mrs. Halstead, pityingly, 'did no one ever call you

so before? Where do you live?' 'I don't live anywhere now. I ran away from the poor house, and-oh -here she almost cried as she cast a longing look toward the bountifully sprend table -'I'm so hungry.' The eagerness with which the al-

most starved child devoured the food set before her brought tears to quick thought sprang suddenly into her mind. When the little one had finished eating she drew her to her, and IF YOU have any real estate for sale.

pushing the tangled hair back from

the broad forehead, the kind woman 'What is your name?'

'Margaret.' 'Margaret, you are alone and unhappy; I have no children; would you like to live with me?"

lustrous with a glad light. Oh, coming. Nebraska, N. B.-They will give close attention to all business entrusted 'Yes, if you wish. I had a little girl once, but she was taken away. and the father has always wanted me to adopt one in her place. So if

All kinds of repairing done on short Little Margaret nestled close to she could not express. When Margaret was dressed in the garments of giving him pain, which had made her little girl had worn Mrs. Hal- her dread this interview, which she Office-Corner of North and Eleventh stead led her to her husband, who had long recognized as inevitable, was approaching the house. Al!

> was quickly explained, and the old farmer said heartily: 'Perhaps, wife, the Lord has sent

> ber to make up for little Bessie. And thus it came to pass that the little waif that came to the farm house that summer day became known as sweet Margaret Halstead, the fairest maiden in all the country

around. Years passed, and each one had brought more trouble to good Farmer Halstead; and one afternoon, as his wife met him at the door, she noticed with alarm his white pained face. Coming in, he sank wearily

'It is no use, wife-the farm must go. Downley has lent us all the house out of charity shall refuse me. money he can spare, and there is no

other friend who can help me.' up the old home, but she said :

'Dear husband, don't despair; All kinds of repairing done on short notice. Our motto is, Good work and God's ways are not our ways.' tunity to estimate for you. La Shop on 13th St., one door west of Friedhof & tall and graceful, her cheeks glow- then?" ing; her eyes, great luminous wells of hazel light; out of their depths and was strong to do and dare for she exclaimed:

> those she loved. All was soon told.

That evening Margaret sat very ly out over the familiar scene she with a heavy heart toward home. feared they must leave before long, She felt she had done what was when a tap on the door broke the right, but she shuddered to think entered the house. There, awaiting silence. It was opened by Mrs. what base hands her dear father was his approach, was Mr. Halstead. Halstead, and a tall, fashionably in, and she knew that what he said dressed young man entered the room. | might only be too true, for times | tone of suppressed anger, 'for the A flush tinged Margaret's fair were still hard. cheek with a deeper rose as she

was soon told. 'I have heard,' he said to Mr. Halof it for two years.'

farmer's face. 'Really, Mr. Egerton, this is very splendid.' kind. I expected to pay off the

a little more time I may be able to save the farm. On what terms do you propose to make me this loan? 'Simply this,' replied Mr. Egerton. that with the money I furnish you, you shall cancel the present mortgage, and give me a new one, payable two years from this date.'

'I will accept your kind offer, Mr. Egerton; and if things go as I hope with me, I shall thank you, sir, to he end of my days." 'Very well; I am glad to help you Although polite and courteous, he

Mr. Halstead. I will have the papers made out as soon as possible for you gained the reputation of being ento sign. Good evening. 'Margaret, dear, are you not glad

with us?' asked her mother, as she

noticed her daughter's silence. 'Mother, I wish it had been any one but Mr. Egerton that had done us this kindness."

'Why, my daughter? Surely he is had, for she had recognized Mr. very nice young man." Margaret did not reply, and was the more she knew him the more soon moving quickly about her duties; but the flush that had arisen to her face at Mr. Egerton's entrance

did not entirely die away. Hugh Egerton was the son of th wealthiest gentleman in the village and although Margaret had never spoken much about him to her parents, she had seen a good deal of him, and whenever she had met him he had been markedly attentive. But the girl had intuitively telt that underneath the varnish of refinement his nature was essentially a coarse

The papers were signed and all went on as usual until one afternoon, good Mrs. Halstead's eyes, and a as Margaret was walking through a meadow, taking a short cut to the farm, a gentleman approached her. It was Hugh Egerton, and as he

> admiration upon the lovely, droup ing face before him. 'Miss Margaret,' he said; 'I was looking for you. I thought I might

lifted his hat, his eyes dwelt with

'Indeed, Mr. Egerton.' The girl' form seemed to grow taller as she looked up gravely into his face, for 'With you?' the hazel eves grew she knew and dreaded what was

She was not mistaken. He began,

meet you.'

never doubting what answer he 'Margaret, I am going to ask you to fill the proudest place in the counyou will be a good child you shall try-in other words to be my bride, and Mrs. Egerton of Egerton Hall. Involuntarily a smile sprang to Mrs. Halstead and looked up, her Margaret's lips. She had judged beautiful eyes full of the gratitude him rightly, and she saw what a veritable cox-comb he was, the fear

> lessened somewhat. Not noticing the expression on her face he People may think strange that I choose as my bride one of whose parents nothing is known; but you will not, my dear, when I tell you that when I first saw your pretty little child into your home, and now

face I made up my mind that you you begrudge me the happiness of should be my wife. Stop, Mr. Egerton, Say no more. I can not be your wife.

"Can not? What is there to for 'Because,' slowly replied Marga-

ret: 'I do not love you. The dark blood flew to his face. 'Not so fast, my lady. You must not think a girl taken from the alms You know I hold the mortgage on your father's farm. Let me tell you The tears sprang to his wife's if you are my wife when the time eyes; it was hard to think of giving expires I shall never ask a cent; if you are not I will demand the utmost farthing. I know a good deal about Mr. Halstead's business, and Just then a light form bounded I know there is not much chance slowly. I longed to return. De

into the room. It was Margaret, of his paying it. What will you do you know, Miss Margaret, he con-The last kindly feeling died out of day I was to have a final answer? Margaret's heart, as the baseness of He waited a little and as she did not beamed forth the pure, maiden soul, his motive in aiding her father flash- speak, went on: which could stoop to no mean act, ed upon her, and in indignant tones

'Marry you, Mr. Egerton! I would know you must have repeated your 'Why, father, mother, what is it?' die first. You have only confirmed hasty words. she asked, as she saw their emotion. what has already been my opinion of you.'

With a haughty stride Hugh Egersilently by the window looking sad- ton left her, and Margaret turned

So Margaret made up her mind to acknowledged his bow. His errand | become a teacher, and got a situation in the Lowell High School.

She found that her position was stead; 'that you wished to borrow a no sinecure-to instruct girls, some certain sum of money to-day and of them only a few years younger failed to do so, and having an than herself; but her beauty and that morning a sadder and perhaps amount of money I want to invest, I grace won them from the start, and a wiser man. have concluded to offer you the loan when they found how gently yet firmly she governed them, and how was the scene of great rejoicing, and A great hope sprang into the old interesting she made even the dryest Ralph Elting, to please Margaret, keep posted on frauds and swinstudies, they voted her 'perfectly gave up his position in the city,

Months passed. At the holidays ing, and buying a small place near mortgage last year, but the crops and vacations Margaret went home the Halstead farm, settled down COLUMBUS, NEB. | failed, and I feel that if only I have | to the old people, who looked for her | there with his foully loved bride.

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A Pair of Them.

The Omaha Republican relates the

as before he had heard of her becomfollowing: ing a teacher he had started off on Senator Van Wyck the other day related to us a conversation he had with Gen. Garfield, some points of which have interest in relation to the president's attitude toward 'sen-

garet began to notice how his indiffators in the present complications. erent, rather haughty face always Senator Van Wyck called to urge the importance of expedition in the matter of certain Nebraska appointments in the case of offices in which always held himself aloof, and had the public interest was suffering through delay. In the opposition which the senstor had encountered But before long even the teachers a question had been raised as to his competency to dictate one appointhad come over him. Margaret could ment in particular; and said he to not help seeing what was so patent the president, or in words to this

"I think this thing has gone far enough, and it might be as well settled here as anywhere, whether I am senator from Nebraska or not fervently she grew to love the proud. It I am, I assert the necessity of this appointment and insist on it being made; but if I am not senator, the sooner I throw up the commission

a drive. He drove rapidly for awhile but once outside of the city's bound-The president, while admitting in he checked the speed of the horsehis reply the force and justice of the and turning looked with tender senator's demand, added, or in words to this effect:

meaning into the sweet face beside him. Then almost abruptly, he said : "Senator, you see how it is your-'Miss Halstead, it may be sudden self, now. I am in the same gen--for we have not known each other eral position that you are. I do not long-but I must tell you that I love know, as yet, whether I am presiyou, with the love a man gives but dent or not. I am waiting, with once in a lifetime. Can I hope it is what patience I can, to find out. With you, I think this question Then Margaret told him that the might be as well settled here (he girl be was asking to be his wife had referred to the contest over the apbeen taken from an alms house out pointment of Robertson) as anywhere. I can do nothing until I her parents were. Her face blanchfind out whether I am president, or whether the executive duties have ed as she spoke, for she remembered Hugh Egerton's tone of contempt been devolved on somebody else. when he had alluded to her early If it turns out that this is the case, life, and she had heard of Ralph I don't see that I have any further business here, and we both might

as well resign and go home." Each appeared to see the point in close to him, and in tender, ardent the other's situation, and it may be fairly presumed that the president 'Margaret, what is a name? In will have the vote of the junior sengiving me your sweet self you make ator from Nebraska on any question involving the right and duty of the They were betrothed, and Margaret wrote of her happiness to her president to perform his constituparents; but she still kept ber positional executive duties according to

his own judgment and conscience.

she spoke the last good bye to her Getting Square with the Govfellow teachers, and the evening saw her once more with her dear parents Old Pungleup, the wholesale mer-Then she fold them for the first chant, was very much annoyed at time of Hugh Egerton's offer, and the manner in which his office,down the penalty he had fixed for not on Front street, was invaded by his daughters, whose titial affection im-'The cowardly rascal!' exclaimed pelled them to drop in every time Mr. Halstead. 'Now I see why he they were down town and wanted was so willing to lend me the money. to buy something, which was six

But Margaret, I hate to take your days in the week; so he at last posearnings in this way-' His mouth ted a sign. was playfully stopped by a small 'No Admission Except on Business, on the door of his private 'You took me, a poor, neglected sanctum, which had the effect of keeping out the feminine invasion

to a considerable extent. partly paying the debt I owe you All three of the Pungleup girls had beaux, however, and as old P-made it a point to fues round in the parlor a good deal in the evening much to the detriment of the festivities, they determined to the morning duties Margaret ran out into the garden to gather a few of get even on the old gentleman. And so the other evening, when Pungits floral treasures. She was singing merrily all to herself when she felt leup had got through reading his a touch on her arm. Looking upshe paper, and concluded to look in on the young people, he was astonished to behold on the parlor door a placard bearing the following in-

You seem very happy, if your 'No Admittance Except on Bus-'I am, thank you. Did you enjoy

> Old P-rubbed his spectacles, scratched his head, and repaired to the back parlor door, where the same legend stared him in the face. He rapped loudly, and, after striving to be heard over the rattle of voices inside, the door was opened a brief inch, and a sweet voice said : 'Private session of the Board.

Atter which Mr. P-abstract-

edly took in the mat, turned down

the hall gas, and went up to bed in

Come round in the morning.'

a brown study. For a month past the Express has been warning our readers to be prepared for the cloth pedlers that have been 'working' this part of the state. One unlucky farmer, however, who takes no county paper, has been roped in, and called on Jones the clothier, Saturday, to learn the worth of a certain piece of cloth. He had paid \$87 for it, and had what was represented to be sufficient for 4 suits. He is much richer in wisdom just now, for he has learned that he can buy four suits made up and of better material, for less money than the bare cloth cost him. We point a moral to adorn this tale, and it is this: Take your county paper and

Men show their character in nothing more clearly than by woat they

dlers .- Beatrice Express.