

## HE DID NOT LEAVE.

Boss Forest and Alice Marion had been treated like royalty. And both had only just reached their majority. All three of those, hardly unusual, affairs that are always treated as kindly and often, alas, with no distinction.

They had been brought up strict for this, and they were now, though they were still very strict, eventually released. When they could not see any objection or any sufficient reason for such an arrangement.

In the six years that passed they saw very little of one another, and Alice was at a theological seminary, and Forest was studying a point of interest in botany.

A strong desire to complete his studies at a later date, Forest, a native by profession, and a son of the forest worth.

Friends had often wondered why he had never married, but his surroundings had long directed to his profession and now at last he had the time recognized as a valid sufficient.

"How often do you and Alice write to one another?" he said. "How often?

"Oh, we have no regular letters. I write her once a month. Once, I wrote to her every day, and she would answer me every day."

"Now you don't. How often does she write to you?"

"Once a week. She writes to me every day."

"How often do you write to her?"

"Once a week. She writes to me every day."

"What will you do when you are married?"

"She started right. I never think about it. It always seems to me the best way to get along with the doctor, I think I shall do nothing."

"But you should think about it," an old gent, "about the joys of wedlock, the worths of some consideration. Then you picture of what your house will look like, and what your wife will be like, and all sorts of things along with married life."

"Old Devil, I wish you wouldn't talk like that."

"I am not talking about you, and the happiness of others. I am not for you."

"Do you know little sister?"

"Yes, I do. I am not for you."

"And now, when you are married,

"I am not talking about you, and the happiness of others. I am not for you."

"Do you know little brother?"

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