

CARITA.

"You do not love me, Carita?" The question was half-question, half-reproachful assertion; but as Maurice Vernon uttered it, the dark, liquid eyes of the girl to whom he addressed it filled with tears. They did not fall; they only clung to the long lashes, until, freighted with their weight, it seemed they must drop from them, but Carita forced them back.

realise the full force of the blow. Accompanying them was a package, containing her betrothal-ring and all his gifts. His notes and letters she had retained. And she asked Heaven to bless him! Had he made a prayer, would it not have been to call curses not blessings on her head?

WIT AND HUMOR. "So dark and yet so light," as the man said when he looked at his short ton of coal. The goat, it is well known, is fond of tobacco, but he freely gives away his tubs.

water so as to be seasick in unison with me, and I'm not his second wife either." He resumed—"Father," said the young man, as he leaned on his hoe, "they say the balance of trade is again us."

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Recognized It. A primary teacher, not a thousand miles from the "Hub," is describing the banana, and the children are to name it. Finally she steps to the board and draws the outline of the fruit. Up comes Johnnie's hand. "Well, Johnnie, what have I described?" "Cucumbers!" "O, no; the cucumber grows here, and I told you this fruit grows in the South; besides, is not the cucumber a vegetable?" Johnnie yields the point, and relapses into a brown study. Soon an idea strikes him, and up comes the hand again. "Are you sure you are right this time, Johnnie?" "Yes'm"—with self-assurance. "Well, what is it?" "Sausage!" is the triumphant rejoinder.

He had bade her good-night, one evening, a few weeks after the talk we have described between them, when, standing in the shadow of the street, he descried the figure of a man standing as if awaiting something. Walking a few steps, he turned back to look again. In that instant, Carita, in her white dress stepped out through the low French window of the drawing-room upon the balcony. As instantly the man vaulted over the low railing and stood beside her. The light fell upon his face. It was he whom she had promised to see no more. Maurice waited, to watch her repulse him; but no! He addressed to her a few low, hurried words, then they went together into the house. Maurice Vernon's brain reeled. He dared not follow, lest his jealous passion should overmaster him. Evidently the man had been awaiting the signal that she was alone. And this was the woman he had trusted—this was the woman to whom, in a few more weeks, he would have given his proud old name! All night he stayed out in the open air. In the early dawn he returned to his own hotel, and then sent her a few hurried lines, saying that if by noon she could send him an explanation of that which might be the evidence of his own senses would have led him to believe, all bonds between them would be broken. His messenger brought him her answer. "It is best," she wrote, "that we part. Good-bye, and may Heaven bless you!" Not until he read the few short words, which were so full of import, did he