

"Have Duryea & Nevis changed their minds and sent me the first prize?" he inquired, with a laugh somewhat bitter.

"I hate Duryea & Nevis," burst forth his irrepressible little friend.

"Hoity-toity!" voiced Roscoe, "you couldn't hate anybody."

"I do them!" vociferated Shirley spicily. "I've left them, and I'm glad. I wouldn't go back and work for them for \$100 a week."

"Why?"

"Because they wronged you. Mr. Woods decided on your novel as winning the first prize. Mr. Duryea has a relative who tries to write. He insisted on giving him the prize. Mr. Woods simply resigned. He said he wouldn't stay with a firm that used such tactics. He has a better position with Doans & Co., took your manuscript with him, showed it to Mr. Doane, and you'll get a letter in the morning offering you \$2,000 for the novel and asking you to write two more a year. There! I oughtn't to have given away business secrets, but I just couldn't help coming and telling you."

Roscoe had to drop to a chair, too, at this bewildering shock. It chanced to be near that in which Shirley was seated. There were real tears in his eyes now. He groped for her hand. She surrendered it willingly.

"Shirley," he uttered brokenly, "it doesn't seem true—\$2,000, a start in life; oh, my dear! my dear! share it with me."

"You mean?"

"As the real first prize of all—my wife."

TODAY IN ILLINOIS HISTORY

Feb. 21, 1824.—Meeting of the citizens of Randolph county favorable to a convention was held at the courthouse in the town of Kaskaskia, on Saturday, Feb. 21. Capt. Stace McDonough was appointed chairman and James Morrison, secretary. Sidney Breeze, Esq., explained the object of the meeting and made some

pertinent remarks on the important question before the people. On motion, a committee of five persons was appointed by the chairman to draft an address to the people of Illinois, expressive of the sense of this meeting with regard to the question of a convention.

•••••
• WILL LEAD WOMEN IN BIG •
• VOTE PLEA •
•••••



KATHARINE
MOREY

More than 1,000 women seeking the vote are preparing to mobilize at Washington, under the leadership of Miss Morey of Boston, to demonstrate the greatest plea for suffrage ever staged at the capital. The women will come from all over the country, beginning March 1, and will represent all ranks of life.

Delicately flavored tea is packed and compressed by the bare feet of Chinese damsels.