

draw them together. Soon Dayton shows her photographs of the various children he is educating, and the picture Birdie has sent him of their supposed children. He calls them "his kids", and Minette exclaims over his large family. He laughs and explains to her that he is a lonely old "batch", good for nothing but to care for the other fellow's kid. She is very sorry for him, and ~~wonders~~ wonders why he has never married. He explains to her ~~the~~ something of his life out in the great northwest, how he began as a boy around the cattle camps, in the days when the land was "unblazed" or surveyed, of the rough life in the new land, of how he acquired first one and then another head of cattle. Of his first brand ---The Double Bar B --- How he dreamed the time would come when like the king of biblical days he would say: "The cattle on a thousand hills are mine". That time has actually come. He had realized his boyish dream, and his brand is known all over the ^{cattle} world; but in the hard shuffle and scramble to make his brand a thing to reckon with in ~~the cattle country~~ the man from Canada has ^{missed} ~~forgot~~ what he now knows ^{to be} the greater things of life. ~~He has missed these. They have passed him by; now, when the flush of youth has passed, he finds himself longing for what he now knows is the greatest thing in life.~~

Minette asks him what that is, and he replies:

"Love."

She rises hurriedly, as Nora comes along the path, and the Man from Canada, in that impetuous and bashful way peculiar to the westerner, and the simple and great of heart, he takes out his card and awkwardly hands it to her. She reads:

John D. Dayton,