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THE DAILY JOURNAL. WILMINGTON, N. C. MADALINE, the Little French Singer. BY F. H. STAUFFER.

A little girl sat in a garden in Paris. Her hands were folded idly in her lap. Her hair shone like gold in the sunlight. Her dress was plain and neat, with a small diamond pin, which held the fine cambric handkerchief carefully thrown around her neck to protect it from the morning air...

So! You have even thought of that! Well, how much will it take? I have never asked. A great sum, Madaline--more than I can ever raise. Let us not talk about it. It makes me feel sad.

Madaline shaded her eyes with her hands a minute. Something was flashing through her busy little brain. "Lionel," she said, "I have often thought of you--especially since that shocking accident. You have always been kind to me. You have done me some favors."

"That is to be a secret," she replied. "I will put it to a good use. I have no hope of that. I would like to oblige my little girl very much, he said kindly, although his face grew sadder; but at present I cannot. My mind and money must be directed into another channel. Things have not been going right, and it will require much watchfulness and more economy to save me from a serious loss."

"I will go and see him this afternoon," she said to herself; and then she sang a verse of the little song that had attracted the attention of the composer. She went to his house in the afternoon, and met Lionel at the garden gate the next morning, as she had promised she would. And every day thereafter for a week she went to the professor's to practice.

"Excuse me, pa," she said. He was not looking at her just then, or he would have wondered why her face grew so red. "I have a notice of a new musical production at the theatre a carriage called for her at the house of the professor, and left her there again. It did not take her long to perform her part, and it came in early on the programme. Hence, she had not been from home long enough to have made her absence a subject of remark."

"Madaline, what does this mean?" he asked. "Forgive me, pa! I shall sing no more in public. They paid me five hundred francs a night. Five hundred francs! Yes. Three nights--fifteen hundred francs. To-morrow I shall give them to Lionel the cripple. He wants to go to the Academy of the Deaf."

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