KEZIAH COFFIN

by

Joseph C. Lincoln

Author of Cy Whittaker's Place, Cap'n Eri, Etc.

Illustrations by Ellsworth Young

Copyright, 1919, by D. Appleton & Company

16

SYNOPSIS.

Mrs. Keziah Coffin, widowed widow, arranging to move from Trumet to Boston, to live with her married son, Joe. Ezra Pepper, widower, office manager, Keziah's neighbor, and Keziah's admirer, Capt. Obe Snow, of the Boston steamer, offer to drive her to Orleans, where she can take the train to Trumet. Keziah takes charge of Mrs. Snow's boarding house during her absence. Keziah's departure causes great excitement among the members of the parish. Every reason is given for her sudden departure except the real one, which is, of course, the one assumed by Ellen Hammond, beauty of a marriageable age, and Keziah's young friend, and Ezra, engaged to be married to the girl. Ezra's surprise at the news, however, is soon forgotten when he picks up a letter addressed to Keziah, which he thinks he can open and read before he has to deliver it, and which he decides he ought to open in order to find out to whom it is addressed. He is interrupted by the appearance of Keziah herself. He hands her the letter, but, when she opens it, she says she wishes he had read it, for she has forgotten the name of the person to whom it is addressed. Ezra, however, is sorry he did not read it, for he thinks it would be better if he could tell Keziah that the letter was addressed to Ellen. Keziah is shocked at the news that Ezra and Ellen are engaged, and Ezra, realizing that he has made a mistake in not reading the letter, is sorry that