very earnestly for a few moments. He wished her to fly with him on the next night, and he would have a priest, and then, ever after, their life would be happy. What comfortable reasoning! She agreed; there was just enough spice of romance in running away, to fill her bosom with delightfully conflicting emotions.

The next morning Bianca had a fine great bunch of white lilies for her handsome lover, when he should come along below in his boat. Of course he was duly grateful for the unusual present, and bestowed his sweetest smile upon her in return; and if his companion ground his teeth and turned away to hide his jealousy, poor Bianca could not help it, even if she did feel sorry for him.

The night came at last; and as Bianca stepped into her lover's boat, supported by his arm, she heaved a little sigh at what she was doing, that made her lover feel it necessary to comfort her; and he did so in singing to her the tenderest ditty in his repertory.

They found the priest prepared to make them one, in the darksome old church, illuminated by the candles of a single sconce. Modesty and maidenly reserve prevented little Bianca from looking into her lover's face until the ceremony was completed, and she must respond to the nuptial kiss. Alas! as she was about to do so, she fell fainting into her husband's arms, crying bitterly, but yet half joyfully, "A knavery!"

Her husband took her agitation very calmly, as if he had been prepared for it, merely remarking to the priest, "A knavery, yes; but a very honest one!" Then the two chuckled a little, as at a good joke; and soon after, the lady recovering from her swoon, the happy pair left the church, while the husband soothed his wife's agitation in the selfsame tones in which he had addressed her so many evenings at the garden gate.

The handsome lover received neither kiss, nor smile, nor flower, from the maiden at the window next morning; and his plain companion was hard-hearted enough to smile at his upward glance of expectation.

A shocking affair — the electric battery.