

A CHANCE WORD.

Myra Sydney was sitting in the window of her little parlor watching the slow rising of a storm over the opposite sky.

Many an autumn sun had she watched from her front windows; many a soft spring rain and whirling snow storm.

The room in which Miss Sydney sat expressed its owner's tastes, whether meant to do so or not.

There was something wistful in the face, which touched Myra Sydney. "It will be time wasted, I dare say," she said to herself.

Everything had a use. No trifles were allowed for unway guests in the shape of minute tables, Queen Anne or otherwise.

The clock struck seven. The black cloud had crept to the zenith, and now a strong gust of wind swept from beneath it.

"It's two girls with a parcel, Miss Myra," said Esther, the parlor-maid. "They'd like to speak with you, they say."

Miss Sydney went out into her little entry. The girls, about the same age, wore of the unmistakable shop girl type.

"Yes'm. My Snow said he wasn't sure which of the under-waists it was you took so he sent both kinds, and you will try them on, please?"

"Certainly. Are you to wait for them?"

"Yes'm."

Miss Sydney made what haste she could, but before she returned the rain was falling in torrents.

"She has," replied one of the girls, with an embarrassed giggle. "I'm pretty near by, and the horse car runs right in front of the door."

Miss Sydney glanced at the shoes—cheap, paper-soled boots, with a dusty velvet bow sewed on the toe of each, and the too, concluded that by all means, "Come in here, please," leading the way into the parlor.

The girl thrust the velvet bowed shoes which gaped for lack of buttons, out to the fire, and, half from embarrassment, held up a hand to shade her face.

"I wish you'd tell me how you do, ma'am."

"I will, though I'm not in the habit of talking quite so freely about my affairs, but I'll tell you, because it may give you an idea of how to manage better for yourself. In the first place I

kept to two or three colors. I have a black gown or two, and an olive brown, and this yellowish green that you see, and some lighter ones, white or pale yellow. Now, with any one of these the same bonnet will do.

"Why, yes, it does seem so," said Cary, drawing a long breath. "I'd like to do something different myself, but I don't suppose I'd know how."

"No'm, I'd thank you."

"That's what mother used to say. And Mark, he always liked me best in a white bib apron. To be sure he never saw me in city clothes," she stopped, blushing.

"I think in his place I should prefer you to be different," said Miss Sydney, decidedly. "Now, Cary, don't be offended, but what you girls aim at is to look like the ladies who come to the shop, isn't it? 'Stylish,' as you would say?"

"Yes, I suppose it is," admitted Cary. "Well, then, I must tell you the plain truth; you utterly fail in your attempt. No one would mistake a girl, dressed as you are at the moment, for a lady; nobody!—but—disregarding the deep flush on her companion's cheeks—"

"How nice!" she said, with a sigh of satisfaction. Her heart opened under the unthought kindness and comfort, and Miss Sydney had little difficulty in learning what she wished to know.

"Can you lay up anything out of that?" asked Miss Sydney.

"No, ma'am, not a cent; at least, I don't. There are some girls in the store that do, but they've got sick friends to save for."

"Now," said Miss Sydney, having thus felt her way, "to go back to the jacket question. As I told you, I can't at all afford to have one for every dress."

"I buy one jacket which will do with everything I wear."

"But that isn't a suit," said Cary, doubtfully.

"No; but it is absolutely necessary that everything should be a suit?"

"The girls at our store think so much of suits," she said, in a peevish tone of self defence.

"I know some people have a fancy for them, and they are very pretty sometimes. But don't you see that they must cost a great deal of money, and that working people, you and myself, for instance, ought to manage more carefully?"

"Do you work, ma'am?"

"To be sure I do. You look surprised. Ah, you think that because I have a little home of my own, and live in a pretty room, I must be a lady with nothing to do. That's a mistake of yours. I work nearly as many hours a day as you do, and even the greatest part of my own income, and I have to consult economy to keep my home and make it pleasant, and among the things which I can't afford to have are suits."

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"I will, though I'm not in the habit of talking quite so freely about my affairs, but I'll tell you, because it may give you an idea of how to manage better for yourself. In the first place I

got herself an apron like hers. Miss Sydney left the shop with a pleasant amusement at her heart. She meant to go often, to keep a little hold on Cary, but circumstances, took her off to Florida, soon afterward, and it was late in April when she returned.

"That girl from Snow & Asher's was here to see you about a week ago, ma'am," said Esther, the evening after her arrival. "I told her you were expected Tuesday, and she said she would come again to-day, for she wanted to see particular, as she was going away. There she is now."

"It is Mark, Miss Sydney," she said, by way of introduction. Later, when Mark had walked over to the window to see the view, she explained further in a rapid undertone: "He came down two months ago while you were away, ma'am. I came out to tell you, but you were gone, and—day after to-morrow I'm—going back with him to Gilmanston. I told him he must bring me out to-night, for I couldn't leave here without saying goodbye to you."

"You are going to be married?"

"Yes—with a happy look—to to-morrow morning. And oh, Miss Sydney, what do you think Mark says? He says if he'd found me looking like the rest of the girls at the store, with false hair, and jewelry and all that, he'd never in the world have asked me at all. And I did just look like that, you know. It was what you said that rainy night that made me change, and except for that nothing would have happened that has, and I shouldn't be the girl I am."

"Broad on the waters," thought Myra, as a little later she watched the lovers walk down the street. "Such a little crumb, and such wide waters, and yet it has come back! How impossible it seems, or would seem, if one did not have to believe that what we call chances and accidents, are God's opportunities, by which He allows us to lend a helping hand in His work, not quite understanding what we do, but knowing that guided by Him the smallest things end sometimes in great results."—[Sarah Coolidge in the Congregationalist.]

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kept to two or three colors. I have a black gown or two, and an olive brown, and this yellowish green that you see, and some lighter ones, white or pale yellow. Now, with any one of these the same bonnet will do. The one I am wearing now is black, with a little jet and pale yellow, and it goes perfectly well with all my dresses, and so does my black cashmere jacket, and my parasol and gloves, which are yellow also. Don't you see that there is an economy in this, and that if I had a purple dress and a blue one and a brown, I should want a different bonnet for each, and different gloves, and a different parasol?"

"Why, yes, it does seem so," said Cary, drawing a long breath. "I'd like to do something different myself, but I don't suppose I'd know how."

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As it is... The... A n... compl... charac... Sum... they p... on a ri... It is... that I... must... done... Do... be suit... for the... world... "In... Bonap... "ever... ture m... Great... Gre... Screen... The... not on... memory... discipli... his con... All t... been b... begins... almost... dars... triumph... Rich... butter... one of... very... one half... and five... served... Put t... brown... When c... of good... Cut the... fruit w... bake in... hour... Face... one p... quarter... currants... Mix the... then th... lastly th... PLAN... two cup... eggs, th... full of b... Icing... nine tes... HICK... butter... beaten... one-half... full of bu... ory nut... extract... PARD... sifted fl... tur... milk... in a litt... eggs, yo... one tea... well for... ate over... SEED... eight o... sugar... teaspoon... these a... other v... very lig... withnut... When r... split in... dren be... Rose... one cup... two cup... baking... lemon, o... all well... a pea, t... teaspoon... of cake... on until... in a lay... of your... layer o... used... VANI... powder... butter... milk, o... teaspoon... of flour... jelly ca... cold, th... pint of... full of... spoonfu... gar. F... in the c... milk, t... with th... the rest... constan... cool be... cake... vanilla... Pola... the mo... known... stant p... of scier... Nevill... movem... coverie... in the lo... 10 cent... marle... of Wilson... druggi... It se... of such... Buche... make s... Hop b... rich a... and c... cured... try th... r...