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TE I WERE YOU

If I a little girl could be, Well just like you,

With lips as rosy, cheeks as fair, Such eyes of Mue and shining hair,

What do you think I'd do? I'd wear so bright and sweet a smile I'd be so loving all the while,

I'd be so helpful with my hand, So quick and gentle to command,

You soon would see That every one would turn to say:

"Tis good to meet that child to-day." Yes, yes, my bird, that's what I'd do If I were you.

Or, if I chanced to be a boy, Like some I know;

With crisp curls sparkling in the sun, And eyes all beaming bright with fun-

Ah, if I could be so,

I'd strive and strive, with all my might,

To be so true, so brave, polite, That in me each one might behold A hero—as in days of old.

'Twould be a joy To hear one, looking at me say: "My cheer and comfort all the day." Yes, if I were a boy, I know I would be so.

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THE PAINTING OF THE FRESCOES.

By Mrs. Berylean Jones. (All rights reserved.) Chapter VI.—Continued.

"Methinks there is some mystery about the man," he thought. "I must strive to gain his confidence. I saw with joy how devout in his prayers he was before he commenced to paint. He is more ready to say sharp words with his tongue than methinks he adtogether means in his heart. Some sorrow or some sin has weighed down his soul, which is now striving to be free; and he knoweth more of Breage and of Pengersek than he chooseth to show. Did not Mistress Marjorie say she believed that he slept in the Giant's Cave? How knew a strange friar of that hidden spot?

All these thoughts passed through his brain rapidly, whilst he was still showing his visitors the three remaining frescoes. He had pointed out to them St. Hilary and St. Corentine, and was just pointing to the Archbishop on the easternmost wall of the next window when the sound of hoarse shouts and cries outside. mingled with the lashing of horses and the roll of heavy wheels, disturbed them.

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The vicar, who had been living in hourly expectation of the arrival of the altar slab, immediately exclaimed responded: in a joyful tone:

"It is the altar!" and went to the doorway which looked out over the

A rude waggon with heavy wheels, and drawn by six horses, had just stopped in the roadway; while the men who accompanied it were still shouting to the steaming horses, and trying to get the waggon as near as might be possible to the churchyard

"It is the slab of steatite from Caerthillian," said the first man when he saw the portly figure of the vicar at the gateway. "Master Richard Fregare bade me say, father, that he grieved to have made so long delay, but thrice the stone broke when it was nearly complete, and it has been difficult to procure a block of sufficient size."

"It is here now," said Sir John Ude smiling with that rare expression which seems to light up a whole countenance with brightness; and he went near to the waggon to look at the longed-for treasure.

It was, indeed, a beautiful piece of stone, cut out of that rare rock known as steatite, which is now very difficult to procure; in the fourteenth century. however, there were large quarries of steatite at Caerthillian, close to what

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we now call Kynance Cove, near the Lizard. The five crosses were carved well and deep in the polished slab, and the vicar gazed at it fondly.

"How can we take it to its place?"

"There are workmen in the church," answered the squire, who had followed the priest out to the gate, "an I I will also help, Sir Vicar, if I may; we are quite enough; twelve men should carry the marble and place it.

And so it came to pass that Brother Huberd descended from his platform, and after gazing for a moment at the beautiful, earnest face he had depicted upon the wall to represent the saint yearning to find his Saviour, he turned to see the stalwart company of men bearing the altar slab towards the door.

There was John Pengersek in his dainty doublet and hose; there was the tall, stout vicar, with his cassock tucked up, showing his shapely legs clad in coarse, black hosen; there were there workmen in their different garbs, and the "labourers who had accompanied the waggon from Llandewednack in their smock frocks or "taberds."

At the entrance to the church they paused, and the vicar began to chant in the old Gregorian tone, belonging to the Psalm:

"Lætatus sum in his, quœ dicta sunt mihi."

And immediately the other voices

"In domum Domini ibimus."

Brother Huberd watched them with a wistful look on his wasted face, and as they bore the stone that was to be the throne of the Most High in that village church for generations to come over the threshold of the sanctuary and up the steps towards its resting-place, and as the last words of their Psalm rang out, he could not help joining with folded hands in the last words:

"Sieut erat in principio, et nanc, ct semper, et in sæcula sæculorum.

John Ude's voice alone was heard in the dead stillness:

"Introibo ad Altare Dei."

And they all said quietly:

"Ad Deum qui lætificat juventutem

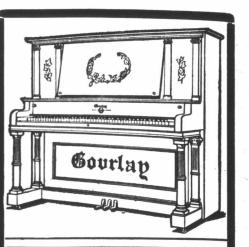
And then in perfect silence they lifted the white altar slab into its place, and when it was fitly settled. all the men knelt down, and the good priest said a little prayer in the Cornsh tongue, and finished with:

"Dominus vobiscum."

It was a very hearty: "Et cum spiritu tuo." that was given in reply, and they silently passed down again, some locking at the tiles on the floor, some at the gorgeously coloured windows, and some at the paintings on he walls.

But Sir John Ude knelt on before the new altar. It was a day he had longed for. The great work of his life was nearing completion. The reredos above him, in its exquisite proportions, seemed almost to overshadow the kneeling figure. Carved in the centre sat the Holy Mother J. M. SPENCE, Managing Director. with her Child, and kneeling before

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