

"Hetty," said Anthony, one day, when things had gone on like this for some time, "don't you think it is time she was going home?"

"What! Primula?" cried Hetty surprised. "Why, no; she does not think of it; nor we, neither!"

"She is sometimes in the way," said Anthony, moodily.

"I never saw you so unkind," said Hetty. "Poor little Primula, whom everybody loves!"

"You and I are not the same to each other since she came."

"Oh, Anthony!"

"We never have any private talks together now. You never speak as you used, because Primula is present, and she does not understand you."

"I have noticed that," said Hetty; "but I thought you did not. I believed it was not my fault. You often talk to Primula about the things that please her. I thought it seemed to amuse you, and so I was content."

Anthony lifted Hetty's little brown hand off the table, and kissed it; then he turned away without another word, and went out of the house.

The kitchen was a pleasant enough place that evening, with firelight twinkling on the lattice-windows; coppers glinting on the walls; Hetty making cakes at a long table; Anthony smoking in a chimney-corner; while Primula moved about with a sort of frolicsome grace of her own, teasing Hetty and prattling to Anthony, playing tricks on the cat, and provoking old Sib, by taking liberties with the bellows to make sparks fly up the chimney. She stole some dough from Hetty, and kneaded it into a grotesque looking face, glancing roguishly at Anthony, while she shaped eyes and nose and mouth.

"What are you doing, you foolish kitten?" said Anthony, taking the pipe from his lips.

"Making a model from your carving, sir," and Primula displayed her handiwork.

"Bake it," said Anthony, "and let me eat it; and who knows but it may fill me with inspiration."

Primula laughed gaily, and proceeded to obey; and Hetty looked over her shoulder to enjoy the ridiculous scene which followed.

"It was a sweet face certainly," said Anthony. And Primula clapped her hands with glee at the joke.

Anthony put away his pipe and seemed ready for more play. It was no wonder, Hetty had said, that he seemed to like Primula's nonsense.

By this time Primula had learned to find Smokeford a pleasant place. Her beautiful face became well known as she passed through the streets to and from her work. Young artisans and shop-keepers began to look out of their open doors at the hour of her passing, and idle gentlemen riding about the town did not fail to take note of her. Her companions were jealous, her mistress was dissatisfied with the progress of her work, and the head of the little apprentice was nearly turned with vanity.

One night Hetty, going into her bed room, found Primula at the glass fastening a handsome pair of gold ear-rings in her ears.

"Oh, Prim!" cried Hetty in amazement. "Why, where did you get anything so costly?"

"From a friend," said Primula, smiling, and shaking her head so that the ear-rings flashed in her ears. "From some one who likes me very much."

"Oh, Primula!"

"How cross you are, Hetty; you needn't envy me," said Primula, rubbing one of her treasures caressingly against her sleeve. "I'll lend them to you any time you like."

"You know I am not envious, cousin. You know I mean that it was wrong for you to take them."

"Why?" pouted Primula; "they were not stolen. The person who gave them is a gentleman, and has plenty of money to buy what he likes."

"Oh, you silly child! You are a baby! Don't you know that you ought not to take jewellery from any gentleman?"

"You are unkind, unkind!" sobbed Primula, with the tears rolling down the creamy satin-smooth cheeks that Hetty liked to kiss and pinch. "Why do you get so angry and call me names? I will go home to Moor-edge and not annoy you any more."

"Nonsense, Prim! I won't call you baby unless you deserve it. Do you know the address of the gentleman who gave these to you? You must send them back at once."

Primula knew the address, but vowed she would keep her property. He bought them, he gave them to her and there was nothing wrong about it. Hetty gave up talking to her and went to bed, and Primula cried herself to sleep with the treasures under her pillow.

The next day Hetty, in some distress, consulted Anthony about Primula's earrings. Anthony was greatly disturbed about the matter.

"I will talk to her," he said: "leave her to me, and I will make her give them back." And he spent an hour alone with her, breaking down her stubborn childish will. At the end of that time he returned to Hetty, flushed and triumphant—looking as if he had been routing an army, and bearing in his hand a little box containing the ear-rings and a piece of paper on which Primula had scrawled some words. The present went back to its donor, and Primula was sulky for a week.

One evening when the spring was coming round again, Anthony called as usual for Primula, but found that she had left the work-room early, as if for home. Arrived at the old book shop he learned that she had not returned there since leaving as usual, in the morning for her work.

"She has gone for a walk with some of her companions," suggested Hetty.

"She went alone," replied Anthony; and he thought of the ear-rings. "I must go and look for her."

Outside the town of Smokeford there were some pleasant downs, where, in fine weather, the townspeople loved to turn out for an evening walk. It was too early in the season as yet for such strollers; and yet Anthony, when he had gone a little way on the grass could descry two figures moving slowly along in the twilight. These were Primula and the gentleman who had given her the ear-rings; a person whom Anthony had been watching very closely for some time past, whom he had often perceived following upon Primula's steps, and whom, for his own part, he detested and despised.

"Primula!" he said, walking up to the young girl and ignoring her companion. "Come home! It is too late for you to come here unprotected."

(To be continued.)

ODDITIES.

A Chinaman thus describes a trial in our courts: "One man is silent, another talks all the time, and twelve wise men condemn the man who has not said a word."

Canon Kingsley has found much health and comfort among his brother canons of Colorado.

A lady asked a sailor whom she met why a ship was called "she." The son of Neptune replied that it was "because the rigging cost more than the hull."

A Chicago lady sent an order to Rome to a celebrated sculptor for "one marble finger of Apollon in his close, to cost not more nor \$1000."

The editor of a Western paper opposes cremation. Having taken a long look into the future, he does not relish the probability of being burned twice.

BEFORE BEGINNING.—A parson once prefaced his sermon with, "My friends, let us say a few words before we begin." This is about equal to the chap who took a short nap before he went to sleep.

The acme of refined impudence—giving a young lady a bouquet to deliver to another one.

When your pocket-book gets empty and everybody knows it, you can put all your friends in it and it won't "bulge out" worth a cent.

A Connecticut man, whose son was ill, appealed to the physician: "Do bring him out of it right away, doctor; do break up the fever at once, even if you charge as much as if he went through a whole course of fever."

"What is heaven's best gift to man?" asked a young lady the other night, smiling sweetly on a pleasant-looking clerk. "A hoos!" replied the young man, with great prudence.

A young lady at the post-office got to putting on airs yesterday about stamps. The clerk gave her some green ones. She asked him if he didn't have any pink; her stationery was pink, and she wanted stamps to match.

The Indiana judges stand no nonsense from the bar. A lawyer there, lately, in the course of his argument, used the word disparagement. "Stop using Latin words," said the judge, "or sit down." The poor lawyer, undertaking to explain, was ruthlessly fined twenty dollars for contempt.

"For twenty long years," says a New Jersey paper, "the wolf stood at this poor widow's door." To keep a wolf standing that long is nothing less than cruelty to animals, and the attention of Mr. Bergh is called to the circumstance.

A gentleman at a dance remarked to his partner, a witty young lady, that the "room was too close—he must go out and get some air." After an absence of half an hour he returned, when she asked him if he had been to the grave-yard, as his breath smelled of beer!

"Dear George," said an Indianapolis young woman, "I am willing to marry you if we have to live on bread and water." "Well," said the enthusiastic George, "you furnish the bread, and I'll skirmish around and find the water."

An Irishman, speaking of the rapacity of the clergy in exacting their tithes, said, "Only let a farmer be ever so poor, they won't fail to make him pay their full tenths, whether he can do so or not; nay, they would, instead of a tenth, like a twentieth, if the law permitted them."

A citizen of a country town, noted for his dishonesty, was lately taken very ill, and becoming alarmed, sent for a clergyman, who came to see him, and laid down the divine law to him with great faithfulness and emphasis. The sick man was much affected, and said, "Well, parson, I think you're right; and I've made up my mind that if I get well I shall in the future live principally honest."

A critic thus alludes to the merits of a rising young artist: "He possesses some merit as an artist, but it is hard to say whether it lies in landscape or marine painting; you never can tell his cows from his ships, except when they have their tails exalted, when the absence of spars betrays their character. Even then they may be mistaken for schooners scudding under bare poles."

A deaf old lady, who had brought an action for damages against a neighbour, was being examined, when the judge suggested a compromise, and instructed counsel to ask what she would take to settle the matter. "His honour wants to know what you will take?" asked the learned counsel, bawling as loud as ever he could in the old lady's ear. "I thank his honour kindly," answered the ancient dame; "and if it's no inconvenience to him, I'll take a little warm ale!"

Ladies have very efficient methods of managing their affairs. For example: At a great temperance meeting recently held in Bangor, Maine, and under the direction of ladies, notice was given that speeches were limited to five minutes. A clergyman, becoming interested in his own remarks, forgot the passage of time, and spoke ten minutes, unheeding the quiet efforts of the ladies to head him off. At last one of them took a watch from the table, stepped to his side, and held it up before him, amidst the tremendous applause of the audience. The hint was taken.

A fascinating young lady having asked a gentleman of a poetic turn of mind to honour her scrap-book with two lines of poetry, he made the following entry:

LINES BY A FRIEND.

Laconic funeral oration by an Arkansas poker-player: "Gentlemen, my partner never killed a man unless he had a reason for it, and when he stocked the cards it was done in the prettiest way you ever see. I'll shoot the man that says he hasn't gone to heaven."

An old character among his Scotch country parishioners at Arbricht died as he had lived, a curious mixture of benevolence and folly. The lawyer who drew his will, after writing down several legacies of five hundred pounds to one person, a thousand to another, and so on, at last said, "But, Mr. —, I don't believe you have all that money to leave." "Oh," was the reply, "I ken that as well as you, but I just want to show them my good will."

A verdant at a Troy hotel left his young wife in his room Sunday evening and went down to ask the clerk what time he lighted up. "Well," said the accommodating clerk, with a smile, "we usually light up at nine o'clock, but to accommodate you I'll light up immediately." He then sent a bell boy to the room of the verdant to light the gas. The young man from the country was profuse in his thanks, and wouldn't go back to his wife until the clerk accepted a cigar.

One very severe winter when distress was terribly prevalent a soup-kitchen was opened in a destitute neighbourhood, the lady patronesses themselves, for the sake of economy, taking it in turn to superintend the supply of the soup. The faces of the applicants became in time so familiar to their benefactresses that one day, when a little girl who was in the habit of taking only one plate asked for three, the lady in charge said, "Three penny plates to-day, my dear? How is that?"

"If you please, ma'am," replied the child, with a suspicion of pride in her tone, "we have some friends coming to dinner to-day."

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

JULY 29.—A motion in the French Assembly, yesterday, for dissolution was defeated by a vote of 374 to 832.

It is stated that Germany, England and Italy have formed an alliance to guard the Spanish frontier.

The Secretary of State has offered to act as arbitrator between the British Columbia and Dominion Governments.

The German squadron will visit the coast of Spain with the hope of effecting a happy change in Spanish affairs.

Pringle, the agent of the People's Insurance Company of Philadelphia at New York, is supposed to have absconded to Europe with a quarter of a million of dollars.

Tilton was brought before Judge Riley yesterday, to answer to a charge of libel, preferred against him by Mr. Gaynor. The case was held over by mutual consent until next Monday.

At the band competition yesterday at Toronto, the prize for File and Drum Bands was taken by the Dufferin Band, O-hawa, and that for Volunteer Bands by the Grand Trunk Brigade.

Mr. Carpenter's story, published this morning, is decidedly favourable to Tilton. The Brooklyn *Argus* states that Mr. Beecher has requested Moulton to go before the committee and state all he knows.

JULY 30.—Springbok won the Saratoga Cup. The Carlist claim a great victory over the Republicans; losses heavy.

Hon. John Hamilton has been elected President of the Lumbermen's Association.

Nine Comanche Indians have been killed by American soldiers in an encounter with them.

The Victoria Rifle Club of Hamilton have again won the championship for small bore shooting.

A Committee of the French Assembly have reported favourably on the proposition for a recess.

It is reported that France will react with the Northern Powers in the recognition of the Spanish Republic.

There has been a strike of flax mill operators at Belfast. The strikers are making threatening demonstrations.

Mrs. Woodhull says she has the power to make Beecher go forward and do the duty for humanity from which he shrinks.

It was decided at the Lumbermen's Convention that manufacturers of lumber should shut down their mills or curtail their operations, to relieve the market.

JULY 31.—*Le Temps* says that two million dollars, being proceeds of the new Carlist loan, were forwarded to Spain yesterday.

It was intimated in some journals that the presence of a German squadron in Spanish waters might cause the Spanish Navy to declare in favour of the Carlists.

A Madrid journal complains that the Carlists have been allowed to purchase arms and warlike stores in France; also that although the demand of the Spanish Government that Savalls should be delivered up to them for crimes committed by him was refused, he was not prevented from returning to Spanish territory.

Gambetta made a speech in the Assembly complaining that that body, while assuming constituent powers, had resisted every attempt to establish a recognized form of government. He favoured the Republic, argued against prorogation, and urged the raising of the state of siege. A motion to declare the state of siege as no longer in force was made and lost. The Government being interpellated, declared that it would use every means to make its powers respected. A motion to adjourn to the 30th November was then put and carried by a large majority.

AUG. 1.—The police are searching the houses of Bonapartists at Paris.

The Governor-General has been enthusiastically received at Saint Ste. Marie.

The yacht "Cloud" won the Prince of Wales Challenge Cup at Halifax this day.

The Reuter and Havas, Lafitte & Co. Telegraph Companies have been amalgamated.

Dr. Kenealy has been deprived of his Benchership by the Benchers of Gray's Inn.

The Northern Colonization Railway from Aymer to Ottawa is to be pushed forward at once.

Serious complications are reported to have arisen between Germany and France in regard to Spanish affairs.

It is said that the Beecher Committee are to arrest a large number of persons for conspiracy against Beecher.

Mrs. Tilton, in her statement before the Investigation Committee, denied the statement of her husband, that she had received improper caresses from Beecher.

There was a violent scene in the French Assembly this day, one of the members giving another the lie. The President, unable to restore order, suspended the sitting.

AUG. 3.—The Spanish Government has despatched 12,000 troops to Cuba.

The British Mediterranean Squadron has received orders to go to Barcelona.

A body found at Niagara is supposed to be that of one of the unfortunate crew of the "Foam."

The Public Worship Regulation Bill has passed its third reading in the British House of Commons.

Admiral Thomasset, of the French Navy, is at Quebec—the first event of the kind since the conquest in 1759.

It is said that the Catholic Bishops of Germany have protested against the Legislative power interfering in matters ecclesiastical.

An insane theological student attempted to assassinate Bishop Whipple in his Cathedral at Faribault, Minnesota, on Sunday.

The lumber trade at St. John, N.B., continues inactive, and Mr. Gibson, one of the leading operators, has shut down four large mills.

At the Saratoga races to-day Madge won the first race, Fadla-deen being second, and Botany Bay third. Springbok won the second race, and Limestone the third.

The anniversary of emancipation in the West Indies in connection with the abolition of slavery in the United States was observed with considerable *clat* at Hamilton to-day.

AUG. 4.—It was rumoured in London that France had concluded a postal arrangement with the Carlists.

It was rumoured in Quebec that Mr. Oulmet intended that the Provincial Parliament should be summoned soon, and that he would attempt to vindicate his administration.

The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs stated in the House of Commons that England had no intention of taking part in an armed intervention in Spain; nor was there any reason to suppose that any such intervention was intended.

Tilton, acting on the advice of counsel, refuses to have anything more to do with the Committee of Investigation, and will bring his case before a court of justice. Frank Moulton is in New York, and professes his willingness to give his testimony before the committee.

There was a rumour that the German Government sent a note to Versailles protesting against the assistance given to the Carlists, and declaring that unless France remained neutral in the Spanish question Germany would ask the other powers to interfere, but it was contradicted.