MR. HIGGINBOTHAM'S CATASTROPHE.

139

SUBJECTS FOR COMPOSITION.

1. The Valley, as viewed by the Great Stone Face.

2. The Story of Midas.

3. "If I were rich ____ "

4. My Favourite Hero in History.

5. What the Great Stone Face saw. (The return of Mr. Gathergold, and of General Blood-and-Thunder, and the visit of Old Stony Phiz and of the poet.)

6. The Poet's Visit (as described by the poet himself).

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94. Morristown. This and other names of places occurring in the story are fictitious.

Shaker. The religious sect known as Shakers, originated in England, but is now found only in certain parts of the United States.

96. importuned. Persistently urged.

long nines were cigars of a poor quality.

· pigtail and lady's twist, were different kinds of cheap chewing tobacco.

fig tobacco. Tobacco in small pieces.

97. Spanish wrappers. Imported cigars.

The President's Message. Delivered by the President to Congress. Naturally every one would be anxious to get a report of it as quickly as possible.

98. bitters. A bitter beer. Any liquor in which bitter herbs have been steeped.

99. Ethiopian. A negro. Literally, a native of Ethiopia, which, in ancient geography, was a large country in Africa, sc ith of Egypt.

100. slitting-mill. A mill in which pieces of iron are slit into narrow strips.

101. girdled trees. Trees killed by having been gnawed by rodents, such as rabbits.

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