

CHAPTER XXVIII.

MYSTERY.

THE house of Yoder had undergone a change which seemed to have been wrought upon all the inmates, the old and the young, as a result of the storm in which the younger Yoder had been suddenly stricken down and then as suddenly restored to them.

The problem of the house on the farm had been solved by the application of the Golden Rule. Another event was about to happen which would form a new link, a new bond, in cementing the better relations begun between the old and the young, namely, the expected arrival of a child. There is the miracle of the birth, the miracle of the beginning, as there is the mystery of the ending of a human life. With what wonder the young mother is filled when she realizes that she is the instrument in the Creator's hand for the bringing forth of a new life. A sense of mystery possesses her. How she is startled by the cry of her first-born. How the mother-love for it grows with the growing intelligence of the child, and with its smiles of recognition. How the touch of the tiny, soft hand thrills the inmost being of the parent. Such an event changes all. *He* is a father, *she* a mother. Both