New Year's Hymn.

O year that lies before us, What shall thy record be, As thy short months roll o er us, And swift thy moments flee? Now thou art fair and spotless As childhood's obening bour, Thy bud so pure and stainless, Say I what shall be thy flower?

Thou bring'st new hope to cheer us, New visions fair and Bright, New Visions inc. and conquests,
Of higher aims and conquests,
And purer, clearer light.;
New strength for fresh endeavour,
New purpose; firth and high,
Now dreams of holy pleasures
Which walt as in the sky.

So, year by year, in mercy,
To die it hath been given,
To dimb from our bast fatheres.
Up one step heardy beaven;
To strive each year we journey.
Upon our pilgrim, way.
That each new fair to morrow.
Be better than to day.

Lord, grant to grace to serve thes In serving each and all: Our hearts keep warm and trustful; Erotect us lost we fall; And if this year's last incoments . On earth warms not see, We know no harm will reach us, For we shall to with theo.

In Prison and Out.

By the Author of "The Man Trap."

Chapter I .- To Beg I am Ashamed.

, " (1) O N -

Chipter T.—To Be I am Ashamed.

The small back room, which was the liome of family, was not much larger than a prison-cell, and, in point of cleanliness and light and ventilation; was far inferior to it. There was a fair-sized sash-window; but more than half, the panels were broken, and the place of glass supplied by paper, or rags so worn as to be useless for any other purpose. Besides this, the next row of houses in this thick knot of dwelling-places was built soldse; as to shut out even a slimpse of the sky from the rooms on the ground floor of a house four stories high. The whole street had been originally built for tenants of a batter class:

But from some reason or other, it had fallen into the occupation of the poorest, and each

but Iron some reason or other, it had fallen into the occupation of the poorest, and each room yas countried shiffleient accommodation for a benitrate failily.

This small, dark, back room had been intended look a kilchen. Close against the withdow stood the dust buy, anto which was emptical all the waste of the house, when it was not east out into the street. For every there was very little waste of food to great was the row was very little waste of food to great was very little waste of the street. was not cast out into the street. Fortimately there was very little waste of food; for every scrap that could be caten was greedily devouged; except in very extraordinarity good times. It was forthurate: for the first-bin was seldon looked after, as the timates of the crowded dwelling know little, and cared less, for saidtary laws.

for smittary laws.

Even the floor, hard-working woman, who stand beet a truggling for yell's to pay the rent of this dark, unwholesome den as a home for herself and her children, hardly gave a thought to the tainted air they breathed, whether the window was open or shut. She sighed how and then for better light, and the wool frishness of free air, but derived the same and the for better light, and the

whicher the window was open or shut. She sighed how and then for better light, and the soul freshness of free air; but darkness and a sickly atmosphere scened to be the natural lot of all about her, and she was not given to multimar. She had grown so weary with the long and monotonous lastle of life, that she had no longer energy chough formintmer. It was Golfs will, she said to herself, buding something like peace in the belief. There was no troit will, she said to herself, buding something like peace in the belief. There was no troit at all.

Her husband had been dead for ten years, and she had had two little children to hamper all her efforts to lith hemself and them out of their poverty. She had often failed, to procure accessives, and she had had two little children for more successful as to be able to provide for more than their bareat was a small boiler in the kitchen, and the multer took in washing, with which every inch of their waking hours in the street; for there was a small boiler in the kitchen, and the multer took in washing, with which every inch of the small room was crowded. When the watcher was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too bed for them to be any the attreet was too led for them to be any the attreet was too led for them to be any the attreet was too led for them to be a my the attreet was too led for them to be a my the attreet was too led for them to be a my the attreet was too led for them to be a my the attreet was too led for them to be a my the attreet was too led for them to be a my the attreet was too led for them to the sum of the first head was a sum of the first head was a sum of the f crowded. When the weather was too bad for them to be any the atreets, they have on the common staircase or in the freshelpharting the seeing every form where, and of good also, swarming about them, and growing up amongst them as other children grow up in the passing in the pa

In the mother a mind there were still lingerin the mether a mind there were still lingering dim memories of a very underect childhool, and of better time the tenelect marriage. Sometimes there came to her, as there comes to all of us, sudden fleshes of light out of the misty past; and she asw ugain her cottage home down in the country, and the edlage achool she went to, and her first place as a young servant in the vicarage, where the clurgyman's wife had taken care she should keen in her acquaintance with the tailed. keep up her acquaintance with the Collects, and the Catechism. Most of the Collects, and nearly all the Catechism, had faded away and nearly all the Catechism, had faded away from her remembrance; but many a quiet Sinday afternoon she had talken to her children of the vicarage garden, where newers grow all the year round, and of the village green, where boys and gris could play anumlested and unnoticed; and how she are home to come to London for high wages, and had never seen it again. Then she tood them of the great houses where she had been in service until she met with their father, and gave up all the grandeur and luvury for love of him. And then her voice would falter a little as she talked to them of his death, and of all the troubles following-quickly one after

little as she talked to them of his death, and of all the troubles following-quickly one after another, till she was thankful to have even such a home as this.

The poor mother was ignorant; but her ignorance was light and knowledge compared with that of her children. They know nothing, and thought of nothing, beyond what they saw and heard about them. David could read a little, but Bess not at all. The thick knot of streets was swarming with entities of and it was not difficult to escape the notice of the school-inspector on his occasional visits, and it was not difficult to escape the notice of the school-inspector on his occasional visits, especially as Beas was thirteen and David nearly fourteen years of age. The boy had begun to earns few pence in the streets as soon as he could sell matches; and he was now getting a precarious and uncertain living for himself by "hob-jobbing," as he called it. The Sunday afterwoons and ovenings, when their mother's work stood still for a few short hours, were their holidays. She had no longer a Sunday gown to wear; but she never failed to put on her wedding ring, which on week days was carefully laid aside, lest it should get too much worn with her hard work. Bess and David felt that their mother was different from most other women in the street. different from most other women in the street different from most other women in the street. She did not drink or sweet or braw!; and all their little world knew she was houset. They were vaguely foud of ner good character; and David was beginning to feel for her a protecting tenderness he could not have put into words.

For a long time neither of them knew that she was suffering from the fatal and painful disease of cancer, which had thrust its deep roots into her very life. When he did knew it, David's heart burned within him to see her standing brayely at her washing tub. endur-

standing bravely at her washing tub, enduring her agony as patiently as she could. At last she was compelled to seek help from the parish; and the relieving officer, after visiting her, recommended out door relief. There was nor recommended out-door relief. There was no doubt what the end must be, and not much uncertainty as to how soon the end must come. Four-or-five-shillings a week would cost the parish less than taking the woman and her firl-even if the boy was left to take care of himself-into the house, and provide for her the recession and confort the recession and confort the recession. for her the necessaries and comforts the medi-

for her the necessaries and conforts the medical officer would certainly pronounce indupensable. He advised a carefully reckoned dole of four and eightpence a week.

Mrs. Fell was more than satisfied. Separation from her children would have been more bitter than death itself; but now she would have bloke and David with her as long as she could keep death at bay. The four shillings and eightpence would pay her rent, and leave almost fourpence a day for other expenses I If she could only drag on through the winter, and keep a home for Bess and David, whe would not murmur, however hard her pain was. She could bear worse anguish than she was. She could bear worse anguish than she had yet borne for their sakes.

But there was one enemy she had not thought of. The wasting caused by her malany produced a craving hunger, worse to endure, if possible, than the malany itself. It was no longer possible to cheat herself, as she had been used to do in former years, with nothing off hat hunger notific to hanced with a parting off her hunger until at changed into a dull faintness. The grawing rain showed itself-too plainly in the desperate clinching of

itself-too plainly in the desperate elinching of her teeth, and the wistful craving in her sunken eyes. Three-pence and three farthings a day—one penny and one farthing apiece—could do little towards maintaining a truco with this deadly for, who must surely conquer her before the winter could be ended.

"It's just as, if a wolf was gnawla' nie," she said to David one evaning, when he came in with a loof of bread and a spec of crossed tash from a said in the street; "hot as ever I see a wolf, save once when father was alive, and you was a baby, and, we all went to the and you was a baby, and, we all went to the Zoological Gardens for a holiday. It feels as if all the hunger I over had had hidden uself away semanbers; and heaped itself up, and is

all let bese on me now You children took your share first, for feer I'd eat it all out leave enough for you.

"It's all for you and Bess, mother," he answered: "I ate my supp r at the stail."

It did not say that he had no de his supper of a crust of mouldly bread he had found hying in the street, and was still as hungry as a growing lad generally is. Loke his mether, he was quite used to disregard the ergent claims of his appetite. But he sat down at the end of her ironing-board, and watched her by the feeble light of the caulle as she greedily devoured the food he had brought. It seemed had his eyes were opened to see her more clearly than he had ever done is nor, and her face was indelibly impressed upon his memory. For the first time, as it appeared to him, he noticed her thin, sanken checks; her scarty hair turning gray; her eager, bright eyes; and the suffering that filled her whole face. The texts dimned his sight for an instant, and a slight sharer ran through him, as he gazed intently on her.

"Mother," he said, I only took fourpence all day for running two creachs, for all I've been on the lookout sharp. Mother, I must

all day for running two createls, for all I've been on the lookout sharp. Mother, I must take to beggin."

"No, no: she answered, looking up for a

"No, no: she answered, looking up for a moment from the feed she was so eagerly

"I nust," he went on: "there's lots o' money to be got that way. They all anya so. I couldn't make myself look hungrer than I am; and I'll belt the truth as you're dynt' of a cancer, aye! and dynt of hunger—I know there'd be folks as would help us. I hate the thought of it as mu h as you; but it's better me than Bess. I the least 'nd be frightened,' he added, looking at his ragged slater for whose sake he had I sight many a battle, and borne many a beating in the streets.

"I never thought it 'ud come to beggin'," said his mother in a sorrowful, Liltering volce, "Nor me," continued David; "but there's hardly no work for such as me as slon't know nothink. I'd have chose to be a carpenter like father; but there's no chance of that. Don't you' cry mother you've done your beat for us, and it's my turn to do my test for you; and beggin's the bestar I can do." nust," he went on: "there's lots o'

beat for us, and it's my turn to do my test for you; and bergin's the best as I can do."

David felt it a bitter pass to come to. Untaught and ignorant as he was, he had his own dream offemblition to be a carpenter, and ealing wages like his father. He had gone now and then to a hight-school, and learned, after a fashion, to read and write a little; but rhere was no school where a ragged boy like him could learn any kind of handieralt by which his could earn a livelihood. If there had been such a place, how gradly would he have set himself to work! There was no one to blume, perhaps; but still he folt it to be a hard and latter lot to turn out as a beggar.

ter lot to turn out as a beggar.
"I'll do it," he said, after a long silence,-"If do to," he said, after a long silence,—
"not just round here, you know, mother; but
out in the country, where folks ain't ell in
such a hurry. I'll take care of the police,
and I'll be back again afore Sunday; and
you've got Bess with you, so you wen't be
lonesome. If I've luck, I'll try again next
week. There's kind rich folk as 'ud do somestant for you if that oals know, and I'll go week. There's kind rich loss as un do somethink for you, if they only knew; and I ll go and find em out. Don't you take on and fret, mother. It am't thievin, you know."

"I'll think about it in the night, Davy,"

"I'll think about it in the night, Davy," she answered soilly.

In the painful, wakeful hours of the night, the poor mother thought of her boy training the roads in his ragged clothing and with his aimost have feet, and stopping the passers by to ask for aims. It had been the aim of her long, laborious life to save lerself and her children from beggary. Oh, if this cruel malady had only spared her another two or three years; until David had been more of a man, and Bess a grown-up gul! She could have laid down to die than fully then, though now she had a terrible dread of dying. But, as far as she could see, there was nothing else to be done than to let David try his linek. There were good rick tows, as he said, if he There were good rich tooks, as he said, if he could only find them. Sue must let him go

could only find them. She must let him go and search for them.
"You may go," she raid in the making, after they had eaten to getter the form the month her to get had be relied to the south the night before; "and beat these on they built you never do to thank save bego." But's pand enough; but remember, both of yer, what I always said, 'Krep thy bunds from pickin and status." Them could have be to be the first them. stealin. Them shoot words to go by. And, Davy, come back as some as you can; for I libo hungrier for a signt of you much I are for be hungrier for a signt of you man I are for victions. Always the many part to be a first and faqueling with hunger, and if they answer 'Nu,' or shakes their heads, turn and at onco. and try some bediends. It has turn and at a conco. I have the a lurn, it is a turn for you go. Davy."

It so med a solemn thing to do. He felt that the desired and solemn thing to do.

half-clocked and could not speak a word as he bent down to kiss her tenderly. He put his arm around his spiter's neck, and kissed her

ten, and then, catching up his three liars out, he went to the floor trying to whother a charge tree time. Hapaused in the doorway, and holes hack on them.

"Good-loc, mother," he oried; "don't you feel after mo."

(To be continued)

GEMS.

While the use of tobacco—a virulent polsed—at first produces the usual effect of all similar poisons, disjust, nauses, deathly sickness, are using the powers of interest opposition to it, it is a matter of surprise, a limitiating fact, indicative of the depreciaopposition to it, it is a matter of surprise, a limitisting fact, indicative of the algebraich of our matter, that they young will persist in intense suffering that they may so reverse nature as to compel it to tolerate such an abominable poison week. It is as unnatural as it would be for the lamb to eat the lamb to the lamb to the lamb. pork, the foon hi cat grass, snow to fall in mid-summer, or water to run uphili. Onned summer, or water to run uplill. One of the most chirming lectures of the fact that it naturally louds to the isso of interior that it naturally louds to the isso of interior.

I would prefer that my son abould be safely locked up in prison, adopting a simple dat, forming correct habits and labouring for the good of the state and the well fare of society, disconnected with all crinis than to have him lounging around the human and sampling salogue and places. iquor and gambling saloons and places where the "vilo weed" is sold, for to the extent he should attronize them, his course will lead to corruption, immorality and ruin, encouraging the worst vices of our fallen human nature.

In the boy who despises education, Sab-In the boy who despises education, Sabbath schools and religious meetings, spending his Sabbaths in reaming in the forcels and tolds, robbing bird's nosts, killing the and tolds, robbing bird's nosts, killing the young and all within his reach, visiting truit trees and gardens for pillage, I think I see the gerin of the future man—or substitute—drunken, profigate, indolent, useless to the world and a diagram to humanity, destined to spend the last of life in prison, or explate his crimes on the gallows.

If vain young ladies would preserve the natural electricis, and beauty of their com-plexion, let them beware of drinking much ton, perticularly when strong, since mature is to darken and injure the extent of the skin. Tea contains tennin, highly of the skin. Tea contains tennin, highly astringent, very nearly resembling the properties of the bark used by the tanner, by which he gives solidity and dark colour to leather. If a lady uses much of this, per ticularly if strong, with luxurous foods, saturated with grease and the spaces, she need not be a represed if her skin becomes dark and drive, her from pounts with dark and dingy, her face pemply, with abundant "blackheads the jumples be coming a constant source of annoyance and chagrin.

THE SUPREME CURSE.

This saloon is the supreme curse of the nincteentl century, because the influence extends in an directions, and where extends in an directions, and where er it is felt, human many deposits in and morniscaperofelium. It is the difficult fish of our great cavination, whose every tents le crusses to donth. It pollots postula t degrades manhood, it makes a possible murderer of every victus, it fills the stress with mant and wretchedness, it enoids to overflowing our juds, and is a crowds to overflowing our juds, and is a leading factor in populating means asy tams, aims houses, and power while, it becomes the interior, it of her control to integraty. But we want makes a se-coming out and cut what makes a seestimated the national rane of the age, is its effect upon the guild's. The eight, more imposent suffer than guilty. The wife, the practing children, and the unborn child, each bear the mark of the creek makes its together of the grad in which makes its together a crime of measureless proportions.

The supremacy of the saloon affords a most improved a mariated of the post tony of the shore ration becoming morally micellational by a real materially before to exam, and where maintains in subly used to quell at apprention which would deal it mortal blows Arens.