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### The Emigrant's Wife.

AN EASTER STORY.

BY M. B. WILLIAMS.

way, in one of the Southern states, was gorgeous this Easter eve with its floral decorations. The girls belonging to the congregation had been at work from early morning, and with vines and evergreens from the adjacent forest, and a profusion of flowers from the gardens in town, they had succeeded in turning their pretty little church into a bower of fragrance and beauty

girls," with an admiring glance around, "I don't believe the city around, "I don't believe the city churches can make a prettier show. But we've worked for it; my stars."

Interest it, you know, and you are the only one who has any in bloom. You see we have left the font untouched until tomorrow, and you and

The little Episcopal church of Ello-way, in one of the Southern states, actually impious. The heart of them, indeed! Isn't it Easter, and ought we not to rejoice at the resurrection, and show that we rejoice?"

"Certainly, I am the last to deny that, but why bound our rejoicings by church decorations? Can a few flowers and wreaths express fitly and

fully our great gladness?"

"Goodness knows what you want,"
laughed Clara. "When you mount
one of your crockets and canter off, fragrance and beauty.

"Well, at last we've finished,"
Clara Grant said, as she descended the ladder, after adjusting the mottoes over the central arch, "and I declare, like on it you know, and you are the lilies on it, you know, and you are the



Her arm was gently touched.

how we have worked! No one can I must be here at least an hour besay we are not zealous in church

"Not in church decorations, certainly," Alice Newton said, with a She was a sweet-faced, thoughtful-looking girl about eighteen. "What between a desire to surpass other churches and be complimented on our taste, besides our natural love for pretty things. think we are making a very creditable exhibition, very creditable, indeed."

"That's just like you. Alice," Clara Grant grumbled; "you're always taking a wrong view of things. Why do you attribute these decorations to such mean motives? Why don't you go down to the heart of them?"

"Well, what is the heart of all this?" with a sweep of her hand towards the wreaths, and crosses.

You ought to be ashamed to pretend ignorance," Clara cried wrathtend ignorance." Clara cried wrathfully; you are in one of your perverse moods, and I declare you are make it beautiful." Mrs. Newton said.

fore the services begin to arrange

"Very well, I shall have five or six sheaves of lovely white lilies in bloom tomorrow, and some white violets—they will be quite as suitable as the lilies for the font."

Easter morning dawned—an ideal Easter, so fresh and bright and beautiful it was!

Dressing in haste, Alice ran down to the garden and filled a large basket with white, golden-hearted lilies, with the dew still on their silken

"You are in a great hurry," her mother said, as she hastily rose from the breakfast table.

"Yes, Clara and I have to decorate the christening font before services begin. You know it must be all white, and there were no white

"Yes, I think so," Alice ing over the flowers loving lilies are the most sugge that can be used in ch tions, particularly for a are as pure and sweet a tnat are brought there to

Alice walked leisurely church, knowing that sh time for the work which her. She paused to adm scape a moment, when gently touched. Turnin saw a little girl about thin, sallow face, but we eyes that were fixed hu lilies in her gasket.

"Please, ma'am," the quick, excited tones, beautiful flowers lilies?"

"Why, yes," she said ing the basket that the examine them; "but who come from, my child, to never seen a lily?"

"No, I never saw drawing in her breatly."

drawing in her breath ecstatic sigh. "Mother so much about them I soon as I saw them. O beautiful, and don't sweet?"

She clasped her has splendid eyes, full of wonder, were riveted of But suddenly the expreto one of profound gr
"Oh, if mother could once more! Poor mo
The tears ran down she spoke, and she win

with her checked apro "Where is your rasked. "You are a str "Yes'm; we come all Kansas in a wagon. I Alabama, and mother, a big blizzard that be house. She longed to old home so papa sold been travelling, oh! I many weeks. Mother yesterday, and we store and papa sold a solution of the store and papa solution. town, and papa got a she's very low," with "but I reckon if she lilles it would do her s was always wanting but we lived away f

but we lived away frand we were too poor

"Sick, poor and a signates." Alice, as signates." Alice, as signates." Alice, as signates.

"Take me to your said. "What is your in "Christine—Christin I am so glad mother lilies," clapping her hing with delight.

"Yes, she shall has she wants."

As they walked to

As they walked to skirts of the town th simple, pitiful tale. once been in good ci her mother, from Ch was an educated wor ily in Alabama had Misfortune came to poverty and sickness

"There's the wag papa," Christine pointing to a can grant wagon, and a the tongue, with his

hands. "And oh! I forgot he sent me for, a mouthful for breakf running to him, "I f but I'll run back fo taken up with some has brought for mot

"Is that you, Chrisaid, raising his hea thin and worn, and vacant look of one were leagues away; that neither face nor of a common labore well as those of his coarse homespun,

"Never mind a child, a mouthful. but your mother w you'd better make "Yes, papa, right a good lady come t