True Beauty.

ch are the eyes most beautiful? blue, or black, or gray?

they blue, or black, or gray?

they drooping and pensive, and just a bit

parkling and bright and gay?

the eyes that are fairest of all to me
the lighted with kindness, and quick to

the sorrows of others, and ready to fill the weak and the helpless, the aged and ill.

which is the mouth most beautiful? t pouting, or smiling and sweet; the swely silent and serious, with a smile that is faint and fleet?

The mouth that is faint and fleet?
The mouth that is fairest of all I know speaks kindly always to high and low;
No impure words find expression there,
and tis often used in hymn and prayer.

which are the hands most beautiful? which are the hands most beautiful?
The they plump, and dimpled, and fair?
Italim, and taper, and lily white?
The loveliest hands of all around
In charity's works are often found;
In helping mother they never shirk,
And are never ashamed of honest works.

which are the feet most beautiful? which are the feet most beauty wide, natrow, large or small?
Wide, natrow, large or small?
The they slim or dimpled, or richly clad, they slim or not at all?
The problem or not at all? Or poorly, or not at all?
The feet that are following paths of right
Are fairest of all in the Master's sight,
They are oft on arrange of masser. They are oft on errands of mercy sent,
And though thorny the path, they are
still content still content.

all may still be beautiful,
Though Nature her gifts withhold.
There is a beauty for all, both great and small,
and alike for the young and old.
If kindness but fill thought, word and act,
Old time will a wonderful change transact,
and the plainest, the soonest may reach

the goal, for the only true beauty is beauty of soul.

DDDIN'

An Edinburgh Story,

. RY .

GRANT STEVENSON, A.R.S.A.

CHAPTER I .- (Continued.)

His mother saw that if she did not accept but gift she would deprive him of a pleasure, but made him feel of considerable importance by saying. "Ye've made mair than me the day, laddie."

Jo was asked to

day, laddie."

As the picture advanced, Jo was asked to bring, one by one, the boys who had been playing at marbles, in order to finish the froup; and the news spread through the school of the wonderful house where they could get their "pictur's ta'en an' a shillin' for atsaidin'," and Jo got alarmed when several of the boys said they would go too; and when, in the middle of the sitting, the bell rang, "That's Wugsy Broon an' Flannel Harrison alot o' thum."

Mr. Fraser was astonished at Jo exclaiming, "In alot o' thum."

Mr. Fraser laughed at the names, and asked to what he meant.

Jo what he meant.

them to stand: but ye'll no' has thum, wulln't ye no', Mr. Fraser?"

No. I don't require any more."
That's rare. Wull I gang oot an' welt

them?" Wouldn't you be afraid, if there are so many!"

hany ;" said Jo, in a tone of the great contempt; "there's no yin o' them wad thand except it was Flannel. I've never tried him yet. But then," he added, by way of application, "he's only been a week at oor wells."

Will ye please, sir," said the girl, coming the studio, "there's a lot o' laddies at door asking if ye want them to stand."

Litelye," said Jo excitedly. "Wull I

telt ye," same "
light oot to thum?"
light on. Alice,
many

limber of the state of the stat

dow do you know you can fight the

again.
"Beous I've dune it. Haven't I, Tam?"
"Beous I've dune it. Haven't I, Tam?"
"Ay," replied the boy addressed; "y
mind when ye bluided my nose?"
"But why do you fight?" Mr. Frase

"But why do you be asked.

"Oh, I dinna ken. Sometimes the big yins on, an' we wad be ca'ed 'cooardy' if sets us on, an' we wad be ca'ed 'cooardy' if sets us on, an' we wad be ca'ed 'cooardy' if sets us on, an' we wad be ca'ed 'cooardy' if sets us on, an' we wad be ca'ed 'cooardy' if sets us on the set of it is the set of it is

game. He's never offered to the state of the see if there's an answer."
Mr. Fraser opened the letter, and smiled as

he read—

FOUNTAINBRIDGE SCHOOL.

DEAR SIR,—I should esteem it a favour if you would kindly refra. In from encouraging my boys to play truant. About a third of the fourth class is absent, and I am informed that they are with you.—Yours respectfully, they are with you.—Yours respectfully,

Mr. Fraser in reply briefly explained the circumstances, and arranged to have the few ramaining sittings on Saturdays, so that Jo and his companions would not be kept from achool.

During the sittings Mrs. Fraser occa During the sittings Mrs. Fraser occasionally sat in the studio to hear Jo's quaint, old-fashioned remarks, and hear him sing from a wonderfully extensive repertoire; for in this, as well as his conversation, he showed a natural freedom as far removed from forwardness as it was from awkward bashfulness; he never lost sight of the respect due, and sang school. ness as it was from awkward bash never lost sight of the respect due, and sang never lost sight of the model was having a rest. when asked while the model was having a rest.

when asked while the model was having a rest.

"Do you ever get palmies?" said Mrs.

Fraser on one of these occasions.

"Ay, sometimes; I got thum twice this week, yince for haein' dirty hands."

"Can you not keep your hands out of sight when they're dirty?" Mrs. Fraser asked jocularly.

jocularly.
"Na," replied Jo in a serious tone: "he's aye on the lookout when ye hand up yer

e. And what was the other occasion? "And what was the other occasion?"
"I was awa' frae the school an' I hadna a
line"; and Jo blushed and looked so sad,
Mrs. Fraser saw there was some unhappy circumstance he did not wish to tell, and changed cumstance he did not wish to tell, and changed the subject, at the same time determining to call on his mother and see if she could do any-thing for one who occupied so much of his thoughts. Alice had told her that every time thing for one Alice had told her that every time thoughts. Alice had told he wasn't hungry, he had dinner he pretended he wasn't hungry, in order to take part of it home.

Jo's mother was a pale-faced, quiet woman, Jo's mother was a pale-faced, necessary expression beyond her years,

with a careworn expression beyond her years, with a careworn expression beyond her years, and she was in a flutter of excitement when Mrs. Fraser called and explained who she was.

"I'm ashamed to ask ye in, mum; but, ye see, I've to tak' in washing an' work hard to mak' things meet."

"Have you not a husband? To talke of

"Have you not a husband? Jo talks a great deal about you, but never mentions his father."

"Ay, he's a guid laddie, Jo, an' I dinna ien what I wad dae withoot 'um; he's a great comfort and help to me. Yes, mum, I great a husband, but Jo maybe winna care to lave a husband, but Jo maybe winna care to hear a husband, but Jo maybe winna care to hear a husband, but Jo maybe wait o' his ken have a husband, but Jo maybe winns care to speak aboot 'um, for he spends maist o' his wages in the public hoose, an' disna seem to think I need ony siller: an' that's no' the warst o't, for when he is in the hoose he warst o't, for when he is in the hoose he hardly ever speaks to me, and never wi' kindhardly ever speaks to me, and never wi' kindwishin' for a kind word an' never get it: I wishin' for a kind word an' never get it: I wad forgie him a' the misery he's caused me mess. It's an awfu' thing, mum, to live wishin' for a kind word an' never get it: I wad for gie him a' the misery he's caused me if he wad jist speak kindly to me yince, as he used to dae when we were mairried. Na, Jo's used to dae when we were mairried. Na, Jo's used to dae when we were mairried. Na, Jo's used to dae when we were mairried. Na, Jo's used to dae when we were mairried. Na, Jo's used to dae when we were mairried. Na, Jo's used to the ither mornio', he wasna able to gang to the ither mornio', he wasna able to gang to his wark wi' drink, an' Jo gaed doon to the stables an' telt the men. They yokit the stables an' illed the cairts alang wi' her ain, an' Jo drave a' the day, an' if they their ain, an' Jo drave a' their piece he wad hadna gi'en 'um a bit o' th but he said to me, 'Mother, I wad have had my hands blistered wi' palmies afore I wad let them ken my faither was drunk.' Ay, though a time I wadma ken what to dae if it wasna for Jo, an' the way he cheers me; an' wasna for Jo, an' the way he cheers me; an' fun often sorry to see him keepin' Maggie I'm often sorry to see him keepin' Maggie I'm often sorry to see him keepin' Ay, there when ither laddies are oot playin'. Ay, there were was such a thochtful laddie, although I never was such a thochtful laddie, although I say't: he never gangs to your hoose without never was such a thochtiul laddle, although I say't; he never gangs to your hoose withoot bringing me a bit o' the denner you're sae kind as gie 'um, an' I'm sure we're mair obleged to you than I can tell."

The poor woman was on her weak side when telling of Jo and as her voice was trembling.

The poor woman was on ner weak strembling, talking of Jo, and as her voice was trembling, talking of Jo, and as her voice was trembling, talking of Jo, and as her voice was trembling.

Mrs. Fraser with womanly tact changed the Mrs. Fraser with womanly to give her work which airs. Fraser with womanny tact enanged the subject by arranging to give her work which would pay her better than washing, and at

sation in order to see Jo's face light up the same time allow her more leisure, and left with a shower of blessings, which would be heard if earnestness could carry them.

CHAPTER II.

On the Saturday after Joe had driven the cart, he was surprised when his father gave him a sixpence, and though he only said a Here," both Joe and his mother knew what it was for, and the latter felt that it was only because he was ashamed that he did not say it was for, and the latter felt that it was only because he was ashamed that he did not say more, and she was also delighted in more than a pecuniary sense at receiving more than she had been in the habit of getting, hoping that he was beginning to mend, as no doubt he intended doing. But with one like him there is no half-way; he trusted in himself to be more moderate, and in two nights was as bad as ever.

ever. What faults he had were caused by drink. What faults he had were caused by drink. It made him thoughtlessly selfish towards his wife, but among his companious he was well liked; he was good-natured and jocular, and song a good song, and it was partly owing to the latter qualification that he was in demand at the public-house at night. When they were married, his wife and he were the smartest couple in the neighbourhood, and his nights were principally spent at home. his nights were principally spent at home, playing his fiddle. He was considered a temperate man, and felt that he could trust himself not to go to excess; at first he took a little for company's sake, but now he took it for the love of the drink.

the love of the drink.

They had no books at home, and many a night he had gone out with the idea of having a smoke and a talk with his companions, or perhaps to have one glass, and found himself sitting in the public-house till the hour for closing. This was some years ago, but now had got past making resolutions, and want

perhaps to have one glass, and found himself sitting in the public-house till the hour for closing. This was some years ago, but now he had got past making resolutions, and went as a matter of course.

Sometimes when a thought of reform had come into his head, he felt he would be ashamed to tell his companions he was going to "pull up," but he never got that length; and often his wife, thinking of his cheery disposition in their earlier days and the qualities position in their earlier days and the qualities which made him agreeable in company, wondered if Jo would inherit his father's bad as well as his good qualities, but she trusted in his affectionate nature and good sense keeping him from drink, and she knew from their "cracks" at night, while his father was out, that Jo felt keenly the misery brought to them by drink.

by drink.

Jo called occasionally at Mr. Fraser's after
the picture was finished to see if he was rethe picture was other work, and sometimes quired for any other work, and sometimes with work his mother had done. On Hallowwith work his mother had done. On Hallow-e'en, however, Alice was frightened on open-ing the front door to see three little hoys in a strange get-up starting to sing, "Please to help the guisars," and was about to close the door on them when one said, "It me, Alice, "Puddin' va ken."

door on them when one sur—Puddin', ye ken."

Alice astonished the guests in the diningroom by announcing in her usual abrupt way,
"That's Puddin' an' twa ither laddies, wi'
their faces a' black." And she was "more
their faces a' black." also said to a neighbour next

their faces a' black." And she was "more than surprised," she said to a neighbour next day, "when Mrs. Fraser lauched an' telt me to bring them in, dirtyin' a' my lobby wi their feet. The maister gie'd them sometheir feet. The maister gie'd them something, an' Mrs. Fraser filled their pouches wi aiples an' oranges, an' the leddies an' gentlemen lauched like onything at the droll sangs Puddin' sang. He's a funny laddie, an' I like 'um weel enough, but laddies have aye sic dirty boots."

With the summer, Mr. and Mrs. Fraser With the summer, Mr. and Mrs. Fraser went to the country for several months, and it was nearly a year before they saw anything of Jo. She was crossing the lobby, when she heard Alice saying in an angry tone, "We heard Alice saying in an angry to come back dinna want ony; an' ye're no' to come back here wi' yer dirty feet. Look at the mess ye've made o' my steps. It's that laddie ye'de made o' my steps. It's that laddie ye'de made o' my steps. It's that laddie and retiring to the kitchen, leaving her to deal with him.

He was disappearing, crestfallen, when Mrs.

He was disappearing, crestfallen, when Mrs. raser called him back.

He was disappearing, crestfallen, when Mrs. Fraser called him back.

"I'm awfu' sorry for dirtyin' the steps," he began, "but I couldna help it, the roads is that dirty. I've started in business, an' that is my pairtner," turning to a boy much taller is my pairtner," turning to a boy much taller than himself, who was looking in at the gate; "au' I've jist come to see if ye wad tak' something frae us, for when young folk starts in business, ouy encouragement helps to mak' them persevere."

"But what are you doing?" said Mrs. Fraser, smiling at the idea of a boy of twelve starting in business.

starting in business.
"I'm sellin' briquettes. Wull ye tak' some,

to encourage us?"

Jo was delighted with the order he got,

Jo was delighted out the stock he had on

which nearly cleared out the stock as which nearly cleared out the stock he had on which nearly cleared out the stock he had on a barrow. His hands and face were about as black as a sweep's, and when the order was completed, and Mrs. Fraser gave the two a piece of bread each, even Jo seemed struck by the blackness of his hands, shown by contrast

with the white bread, and said apologetically, nd at the same time with an evident pride in eing able to use the word "business"

being able to use the word "business"

"Excuse my hands, mum, but when felk's

"Excuse my hands, mum, but when felk's

in business they canna be aye washin theirsel."

Jo asked and obtained permission to call
back to see if more were required; and Mrs.

Fraser was surprised when a few weeks had
elapsed that she had not heard of him, and
elapsed that she had not heard of him, and

Fraser was surprised when a few weeks had elapsed that she had not heard of him, and the solution was only arrived at when one morning Alice went to her mistress in tears, and on being asked what was wrong, said, solbing, "It's that laddie Puddia"."

"What has he been doing?"

"He hasna been daein' naething—it's me; an' I didua mean to be ill to 'um, either, if he wadna dirty my door, but I gaed alang the noo to the dairy, an' he was jist gaun in afore me, an' when he saw me he turned aboot an' hurried awa', an' the look he gie'd me gaed to my very heart, an' I couldna gang finto the shop. I wish he would come back the stoo, an' he could dirty my doorsteps if he liked."

Alice was consoled when Mrs. Fraser said she would call at Jo's home and arrange for him to come in the mornings before the steps were washed; and Jo and Alice again became the best of friends now that the only object of enmity between them was removed, and knowing that a boy working in the open air is always that a boy working in the open air

enmity between them was removed, and knowing that a boy working in the open air is always hungry she invariably had a tacty bit for him

(To be continued.)

Worth While.

'Tis easy enough to be pleasant
When life flows along like a song,
But the man worth while is the one who will

when everything goes dead wrong;
For the test of the heart is trouble,
And it always comes with the years,
And the smile that is worth the praises of

earth,
Is the smile that shines through tears

It is easy enough to be prudent
When nothing tempts you to stray;
When without or within no voice of sin
Is luring your soul away;
But it's only a negative virtue
Until it is tried with fire,
And the life that is worth the honour of earth,
Is the one that resists desire. It is easy enough to be prudent

By the cynic, the sad, the fallen, Who had no strength for the strife The world's highway is cumbered to day;

They make up the item of life.

But the virtue that conquers passion,

And the sorrow that hides in a smile, It is these that are worth the homage of

For we find them both once in a while.

PRAYER HINTS.

HAVE something special to pray for each

Pray as though you meant to have an answer, no matter what may happen.

Think before you pray, what you mean ask for. You would not ask a fayour of any one until you thought beforehand what you needed. So study first then pray God to supply them. So study first your needs;

You may pass a day comfortably without prayer, but a day begun with prayer will prove a far better one. God will make up to you in the same way before the day ends

to you in the same way before the day ends the time spent in prayer at the beginning. Prayer in the morning fastens the whole day to God. To start a day without prayer is to begin it without God. In doing that you take upon yourself a most fearful responsibility.—Sunday-School Visitor.

A CHRISTIAN Hindu was dying, and his heathen comrades came around him and tried to comfort him by reading some of the pages of their theology, but he waved his hand as much as to say, "I don't want the pages of their theology, but he waved his hand as much as to say, "I don't want to hear it." Then they called in a heathen priest, and he said, "If you will only recite the Numtra, it will deliver you from recite the Numtra, it will deliver you from hell." He waved his hand as much as to say, "I don't want to hear that." Then they said, "Call on Juggernaut." He shook his head as much as to say, "I can't do th t." Then they thought perhaps he was too weary to speak, and they said, "Now, if you can't say 'Juggernaut,' think of that god. He shook his head again, as much as to say, "No, no, no." Then they bent down to his pillow, and they said, "In what will you trust?" His face lighted up with the very glories of the celestial sphere as he cried out, rallying all his energies, "Jesus!"