OUR BOYS AND GIRLS. FLORABEL STERLING.

BY PHILIP DEANE.

No one ever bore the trial of poverty no one ever here the trial of poverty and toil with more patience and resig-nation than pretty, lovable Florabel Sterling.

Though she was but fifteen her tender

Though she was but inteen her tender fingers were forced to ply the needle for long, wearying hours at the dressmaking establishment of Mme. King, who paid her only a discouraging pit-

who paid her only a discouraging pit-tance for her services.

One December evening the madame discharged her through the influence of an unscrupulous workwoman who was jealous of Florabel for some reason or other which the young girl could not

understand.
"What will become of poor uncle and me now?" Florabel asked herself bitterly, as she made her pitiful way homeward from Mme. King's. "Uncle is so sick and this small amount of money I have will barely pay for his She reached the humble home, and

She reached the humble home, and after climbing two flights of stairs, stood before the entrance to the room occupied by herself and uncle.

She opened the door and stepped in softly lest she should disturb the sick man lying on his bed of pain in one corner of the room.

Matthew Sterling opened his eyes at the year, instant, she closed the door the very instant she closed the door

"How do you feei, uncle dear?" The sick man turned his eyes loving-upon her as he replied in a faint

she was some one else. She never dreamed that every word he uttered was prompted by a clear mind."

"No, Florabel, I am not your uncle," he repeated: "Years—ago—1—1—" Whatever he intended to say died way on his ashen lips, for his voice as whally gone. was wholly gone.

With a feeble attempt to embrace the weeping girl, and a longing glance of love, Matthew Sterling fell back upon

Florabel felt exceedingly nervous and

I must go home, Mrs. Grant," she

"I must go home, Mrs. Grant," she said, a little timidly.

"I beg of you to come with me," pleaded the other, piteously. "Come and let me set my tortured mind at rest. Since I first beheld you to-day, I have lived in one hope, and if that hope be crushed, my life will go on as wretehedly as hefore. Oh do come!" ly as before. Oh, do come!'

Something in her voice touched the iri's heart and she consented. A little later Mrs. Grant paused before a modest cottage, situated on a quiet street. Florabel followed her into a neatly furnished sitting-room, there to learn one of the strangest of

"I will be brief and to the point."

'said Mrs. Grant when they were seated,
"Years ago I was employed as governess in the home of a wealthy merchant
and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Burnside, who, to this day, even, reside on Fifth Avenue. They had two children, both girls, one twelve years old, and my pupil; another a tot of three. Della, my pupil, was a lovely girl, but I had enjoyed her companionship nearly three months when she died after a short illness. I was all alone in the world, and Mrs. Burnside kindly pressed me to make my home at the mansion until I should get another engagement. I gladly did so, and turned my attention to the other child, who took to me readily énough. I had been accustomed to take a stroll in Central Park pretty

much every afternoon, and one day the little one went with me. I shall never forget that day while I live, for in some ou upon her as he replied in a faint idee:

"The pain has all left me, my Florel."

"Then you must be growing better!"

"Then you must be growing better!"

"Then you have falle freetting for to be found. How I faced her parents "Then you must be growing better! cried Florabel, joyfully, forgetting for the moment her late misfortune of being thrown out of employment.

"No, love, I am not growing better. You should know the truth. I am dy-You should know the truth. I am dying."

No, no, uncle, it cannot be so, sobbed Florabel her mournful blue eyes filling with tears. "Let me get you some more medicine. Oh, surely you will g ow better then."

"Listen to me, Florabel. Though it is hard for us to part, I know, I must leave you. A strange feeling has been mith me for the last hour, and I feared I should die before you came home. leave you. A strange feeling has been with me for the last hour, and I feared I should die before you came home. Come nearer to me, for I have a story to tell you—a story I should have told you long 'ere this, but I could not brave the task to do so."

The invalid's voice was almost insuffice was almost insuffice was provided influences, my anguish is almost unbearable. When I beheld you to-day, a great hope took root in my heart, for in your eyes I saw those of the lost one. Her name was Florabel. Is that

want to leave you. Let me kiss you,

mother dear."
Then, with the happy Mrs. Grant looking on in the background, mother and daughter sealed the bond of love that was never to break till death

So I leave you to imagine it.

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

Through life man is liable to error, and requires check, rebuke and counsel. He should be his own good spirit, hoverng over himself in moments of passion ing over numer in moments of passion, temptation and danger, and reminding himself that he owes a duty to his Maker, with which the opinions and consequences of the world have nothing to do.

The Dangers of the Careless. There is in human nature a fatal ten-dency to procrastinate, especially when that which we know we ought to do is something to which we are naturally disinclined. All men are naturally disinclined to do violence to themselves and force their pride and self-will to yield before the sway of Christ, but put on His yoke and carry His cross. Hence men put off and make excuses to them-selves and fancy that what is difficult to them to-day will be easy to them to-morrow. Oh, fatal mistake! Each day

The next day Florabel found herself accompanying Mrs. Grant to the Burnside mansion. To say that the girl felt strange and bewildered, would be but faintly describing her feelings. She leaving your bed; whether you shall rise when the time comes for faintly describing her feelings. She "He is dead!" moaned Florabel alaost in despair; "and I am left lone!"
"Heaven direct my future," she rayed, clinging to the few synchols.

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The several places in value because the several places in value to the control of the several places in value to the control of the value of the place of study there was quite a little star among the young and middle of the value of the

manhood are incompatible. Why all this anxiety about money? Why this constant fever, this pushing and driving in order to obtain it? Even because men form a false estimate of life and its elements. "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." He who would live, must stir up the divine fire that is in him, to consume selfishness, and to disparent.

Au Appeal and a Deflance, by Cardinal Deschamps. 40
Ceremonies of Low Mass. 40
Ceremonies of pense the light and heat to all around.

Money he may seek in moderation, as a means, not as an end; and in order to preserve his manhood, he must learn to practice self-denial and economy, and to be contented with small things; above all, he must remember that God has set honor upon his labor, by appointing man to live by labor; labor is truly honorable, and however mean the occupation may be, if honest, it is never disgraceful. Instead, therefore, of sinking manhood in the pursuit of Mammon, by creeping, crawling and bending to every one whom you may imagine can help you forward in the race of worldly advancement, stand erect, determine in the strength of God to be a Man, to buy the truth at whatever cost, and never sell it for any price; to labor at the strength of Sadies.

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