Titerature.

THE DOUCLAS HEIR.

CHAPTER X.

CHANGE OF OCCUPATION.

The'next day but one, while Brownie was trying her utmost to do her alloted task and get out of the factory an hour earlier, that she might slip down to the readingroom and finish that little French romance in which she had been so deeply interest. ed, Miss Walton came to her and told her, in her grim, curt way, that she was wanted true coin there. in the office.

Somewhat disturbed by this unexpect ed summons, she laid asde her work, removed her dainty white apron, then, with heightened color, but dignified mien, she nineteenth century, to have been settled bent her steps toward the room where she in the first place." had been received upon her arrival, and matter herself is reference enough for me," said Mr. Alcott, sotte voce.

which she had not entered since. Upon opening the door, she was sur-

"However," continued her employer, "I suppose Mrs. Coolidge would be betprised to lind sitting, in confidential com ter ples munication with Mr. Coolidge, Mr. Alcott, torily settled. What reference can you the gentleman whose acquaintance she give us, Miss Douglas ?" had made in the reading-room two even

arise an objection," replied Brownie, with a sad smile, then added: "I have only ings previous. She bowed slightly to him, and then one friend in the world to whom I feel at turned to Mr, Coolidge, who had arisen as liberty just now to refer you; he is in Philadelphia-Mr. Arthur Conrad." she entered, and now greeted her in court-

eous tones. lawyer of that city ?" exclaimed Mr. Al-"My father-in-law, Mr. Alcott, Miss cott, with great interest. Douglas," he said, by way of introduction, and Brownie now understood his start of life, and I think I may trust him to speak a good word for me to you." surprise when she gave him her address.

'That will be sufficient, Miss Douglas,' "Be seated, Miss Douglas, please," her said the old man with a smile. "Arthur employer continued, placing a chair for Conrad was a classmate of mine years and years ago; he was a splendid fellow, too. "She sat down and folded her little bands know all about him, and if he knows all in her lap. Both gentlemen noticed her about you, we shall not quarrel over fur-

ther references." lady-like and self-possessed demeanor "I will write to him this afternoon," "Miss Douglas, Mr. Alcott has done shall probably bear in a day or two from him. Then, as and inwardly commented upon it. this is a mere matter of form, shall we nothing but rehearse your accomplishconsider that you are engaged to us, and ments since his meeting with you night for the salary 1 have named ?" "Yes, sir; and I thank you for your

before last," said Mr. Coolidge, with an affable smile. Brownie bowed again, the delicate tint you have shown to me an utter stranger. I told you, I believe, that, as we salled on Monday, I wished to close your account to night. That does not look much like affable smile.

deepening in her cheek at this compliment. "If what he says is true," the gentle-

placed in my hands." Brownie arose as she spoke, and he saw this factory is no place for you."

Brownie blushed a vivid crimson now. Was she to be turned away on account of her little knowledge ?

"One cannot always control one's cin cumstances, sir," she said, quietly.

Conrad, and surely he had plenty of time te answer this letter of inquiry: "True; I understand you, Miss Doug-Tas. But it may be in the power of others of October. to control them for you in a measure. to control them for you in a measure. Now I have a proposal to make to you. If fundeed I should like it very much, "Indeed I should like it very much,

sir."

should be disappointed after all? As she was removing her apron and "Very well. My family contemplate going abroad in about one week; the putting her table in order, and thinking steamer sails the tenth, I believe. We have been trying for several weeks to Walton hastening toward her, a smile of find some person competent to superin satisfaction gleaming upon her face. tend the education of my two younger daughters, and act as a sort of compan for several of the other girls to hear. " Mr ion and interpreter for them during their travels. Now, will you accept this posi-tion and accompany us to Europe ?"

How long do

old country, and an extra hundred will well to her companions, and with her eyes bright as stars, her cheeks like roses from her own fashionable darling. "Well, cail it five hundred and expen- the excitement of the moment, the lovely "Well, call it nye hundred and expendent of the extrement of the monoton maginable ses, then," said Mr. Coolidge. "Excuse me, gentlemen, but I had not from the room, leaving the irate overseer tures are perfect; she has the loveliest thought of the salary which I should re- boiling with rage over the unknown ceive. I was upon the point of saying sound, she had heard, and the girls laughthat you know nothing about me person- ing at her expense. ay. 1 expected you would require re-ferences," Brownie said, with dignity. "Ha! ha! 1 told you sho "Ha! ha! I told you she could rattle like Wilbur."

"Make it five, William," interrupted life. † Au revoir, Mademoiselle Walton.

Area will be plenty of little knick-knacks and a charming little courtesy to the over-

that she will want to bring away from the seer, she nodded her head in kindly fare-

Mr. Alcott' adding : "With those harum. Jc ne vous ferai pas de reproches."

ed to have that matter satisfac-

"That is where I feared there might

"What! Arthur Conrad, Esq., the noted

"Yes, sir. He has known me all his

I assure you I will do my utmost to prove

myself worthy of the trust you have

pected that he would certainly let her

know at once upon hearing from Mr.

Saturday night came, and it was the 8th

On Monday the family would sail for

" Miss Douglas," she said, loud enough

She very demurely untied the thread

next occupant will enjoy it as much as I

"Perhaps you don't mind it, but

"Ahem ! you're going to leave, then,

mortify

forehand.

all parties.

change.

some hesitation :

e none to much."

"Beally, Miss Douglas," said the for- ing to love.

with hope.

Coolidges.

grew very pale.

smile.

All her bright hopes crumbled to dust.

mer, "you have shown yourself wiser than I in this matter. That is a question which ought, according to the etiquette of the CHAPTER XI. BROWNIE AT THE COOLIDGE MANSION "The very fact of her speaking of the

Mr. Coolidge glanced up with a smile of welcome, as Brownie, more beautiful than ever with the excitement of her little encounter with Miss Walton, entered the office.

me, sir," she said, simply. "Yes, Miss Douglas, as we sail on Monday, I thought best to close your account her neck and wrists." with the firm to night."

"You have heard from Mr. Conrad, She so longed to go abroad with the think of sending her away now. Papa is bewitched with her, and I do believe

Coolidges. Mr. Coolidge shook his head. No, Miss D. uglas, I have not. 1 wrote immediately, but, receiving no reply, after watting three days, I telegraphed, and his olerk returned word to-day that "No discound for the state of the s he had left town for a week." "Pshaw! Isabel, how extremely

interfere with your own prospects."

and nothing remained for her but to plod mise I will take care that Wilbur does worked a perfect cure.

not see much of her, nor any other ternoon," wearily along day by day. probably Then, as fully. "Of course, it is settled that I am aball we arily along day by day. "I am very sorry," she said, regret abroad," said Mrs. Coolidge, resolutely. not to go with you." She had no notion of allowing any "Why not ?" he asked, quickly, adding. one to interfere with her son's or daugh You jump at conclusions, do you not? I told you, I believe, that, as we sailed on ter's interests in life.

" If you can only put that resolution That does not look much like in force she may prove very useful to not going, does it ?" us, after all. Her accent is every bit She had forgotten his words, and her face lighted a trifle at this, but she asked: must conface that her music is parfectly. must confess that her music is perfectly "But would you be justified, sir, in takman continued, "and I have no doubt it is, since he is amply qualified to judge, is since he is a more than it is a sensitive upon that point. I never met a guages, which will be quite an item ; it

more from Mr. Coolidge. more from Mr. Coolidge. stance over as lightly as possible,' re-stance over as lightly as manused stance over as lightly as man

very valuable as an interpreter in our She colored vividly red at his words. shopping and sight-seeing expeditions They seemed to her almost like an insinuation that all was not right with her. abroad. But to turn to more agreeable "I only desire that you and Mrs. Cool. things. I want you, Isabel, to do your idge should be entirely satisfied," she utmost to make a brilliant match while we are in Europe. With your father's purse, your face, figure, and appearance, I think you ought to win somobody worth having.

', I hope 1 may, mamma; I should to seek her, and acquaint her what if she aires concerning herself. What if she should be disappointed after all? really enjoy being 'lady' somebody,' and the vain girl got up and sailed over me that there has been nothing in your life, morally speaking, which would debar to the full-length mirror to survey her-

very sobberly of those things she saw Miss Walton hastening toward her, a smile of in the future to write to Mr Conrad." which looked back at her. She was Anything in her life, morally speaking. tall, and had a queenly carriage. Her A little smile of scorn curled her red Coolidge wishes you to come to the office lips, and the color leaped again to her complexion was very fair, and she had flaxen hair, which was dressed in the height of style. Her eyes were pale

"I think you are worrying about |"Let us go out to the stable, then nothing," she said, in reply to her and take a farewell look at them, prodaughter. "I'm sure I can't see any- posed Wilbur, cunningly. "Not I, thank you ? I've no notio thing so very beautiful about Miss stable if any one should call. You can

"Where are your eyes, mamma?" go if you choose, and I will wait for "Her fea- you in the drawing room." The young man gladly availed himself complexion and color I have ever seen of the permission, laughing meanwhile

in any face ; her hands and feet are at in his sleeve that his artifice had suc- On and after MONDAY, June 2nd, the ing at ner expense. ing at ne enough to suit a fastidious young man girl.

Hat ha! I told you she could rattle ferences," Brownie said, with dignity. Mr. Coolidge teaned back in his chair and laughed beartily, while Mr. Alcott beamed satisfaction at her over his gold-howed spectacles. He recognized the back in the room, yet feeling sad at heart that she what she said, Miss Walton?" as the art that she bowed spectacles. He recognized the was to lose the friend whom she was learn. of her charms," remarked Mrs. Coolidge remembrance of that lovely face, which

> are afraid she may attract others, and upon him. "She is the loveliest girl I have ever "She may; who knows?" replied met, and I will see more of her; Isabel and the maternal to the contrary not-

the envious girl. "Well, if you really think there is withstanding," was his mental resolve, danger, I will try and persuade your as he paced absently back and forth in father to get rid of her even now. But the stable, wholly unconscious of his I am of the opinion that you have exag- stated object in visiting the place. gerated her good looks ; I see nothing so At the end of a half hour he returnvery noticeable about her, and I'm sure ed to the house, hoping to catch another "Miss Walton said you wished to see she dresses plainly enough to suit every- glimpse of the object of his musings;

body. She does not wear a single orna- but Viola mentioned that she had gone ment-nothing but those soft ruches at to her room for the night. He heaved a sigh of regret, and then

"Her dress is all right, but hers is a turned to make himself agreeable to "You have heard from Mr. Conrad, the dress is a fight, but here dress some callers who had dropped in to bid granted, while her face became radiant to set it off. She would look lovely in the family farewell and wish them a anything. But it would never do to prosperous voyage to the old country.

> (To be continued) -----

fered for many years with a painful running sore upon one of his legs, which

good fit every time or no sale. GENT'S FURNISHING GOODS.

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ing abroad ?" Brownie asked, after a few moments spent in thought, and greatly surprised at this offer. her neighborhood. 'A year, at least; probably longer, if She understood it, and she knew that

the girls and their mother enjoy it. Miss Walton had said it aloud purposely "How old are your daughters, Mr. Coolto attract attention to her, and idge ?" "Viola is sixteen, Alma is fourteen.

She had seemed to possess an especial spite against her ever since Mr. Coolidge had given his command in that authoritahave another who is twenty, but I believe she considers her education completed; although I think she said something about tive way of his that she should give her a studying the languages a little more while pleasant seat and teach her to wire hats. she is abroad.

She had never before been ordered to "Have the young ladies completed any course as yet?" Brownie asked, wishing galled her excessively to think that she must submit to do it for this chit of a gırl to know something of their attainments as she called Brownie in speaking of the

before deciding. "No I regret to say they have not.-"No I regret to say they have not.— Their mother was unwilling they should But Brownie never winced at all. She attend any public institution, so they have knew she was mistress of the situation. had private teachers, and I am afraid they have not improved their advantages as from her waist, piled her hats evenly, sat they should have done." her chair up close to the table, and then turning innocently to Miss Walton said :

"Indeed they have not !" exclaimed Mr. Alcott, excitedly. "They have be-haved shamefully about it, and are a work in, Miss Walton, and 1 hope the couple of ignoramuses." Brownie Jaughed as he said this, then

have. asked "And do you think sir, that I am cap are you ?" demanded the woman, someable of instructing them, if older and wiser teacher's have failed ?" what puzzled by the young girl's collected manner, yet feeling a sort of grim satis-"Young lady, when you were reading faction that she was going away. French to me the other evening, I was no "Yes; you said Mr. Coolidge wished to settle with me, did you not?" mpressed wholly by your pronunciation No, there was a ring of decision in your tones, there was a look of character and "That was what I said, Miss Douglas;

always intend to speak loud enough to be firmness in your face, that told me you would not fail to make a first-class teacher heard," she snapped. Then she added, with a sneer such the old gentleman, with emphasis. "Your very youthfulness may help you

to win where the others have failed. And as I told you, it is not altogether an in structress that we want, but a refined and genial companion, and an interpreter also none of the family are able to converse fluently in foreign languages," said

Mr. Coolidge. Sixteen and fourteen !

They were trying ages-just the time when girls loved fun and frolic better than anything else in the world.

Was she competent to take charge them and direct their studies ? She had deemed herself as scarcely more than a child until her aunt died since then she seemed to have added to years to her life, and hardly four weeks

had elapsed. It was a hard question to decide. She longed to accept the position, she longed to go abroad and visit those old countries so fraught with interest, poetry, and romance, and where her sunt had lived and suffered so much. Then the opportunity for storing her own mind, and improving her accentrand accomplish-ments, would be a rich one. I but the re-sponsibility! Would it be right for her

to assume it? Would she be able to in fluence these young girls aright? "Mr. Coolidge," she said, when she had thought of all these things, "I will tell

you frankly that I would like this position, which you are so kind to offer me more than I can express; but I am only eighteen years of age myself, and I do not really feel like deciding whether I am competent to direct the education of your going a servant—well, maybe I am. I go to our proud-spirited little Douglas. daughters or not. The other duties, I as instructress in French and German to think I could fulfill satisfactorily."

course of study ?" asked Mr. Alcott.

"You'll do then," said the old man, her friend so insulted. with a contented nod of his head

beautiful girl.

ample of my own teachers, as far as I can believe in her at all; she's just been pull-

you will do, and I feel confident that you young ladies, with whom the fair stranger will prove faithful to your trust. Shall had been a tavorite, murmured, indig

"Shame, shame, I say, upon those who miration.

the fact of a lady of her culture and re- them. [lumph! French and German!] finement being reduced to the necessity of working in a straw factory for a dollar " Cela est d'un bon natural. Mademoiselle become entangled before they know it."

never as been considered any credit to anybody to be called to 'settle' right in a balf, the amount of her earnings for the middle of the season, and you hain't three weeks and two days. been here but three weeks. Pretty faces after counting it; then, with a bow, she manly truth, no touch of heroism in his don't amount to much." Brownie could not resist firing her little withdrew, a strange feeling of pride and soul. show nie could not rests in the set independence in her heart that for three would have read him thus critically, ye saw that several of the girls were regard- weeks she had supported herself by the Brownie did at a glance, when, descend ing her suspiciously, and listening eagerly labor of her own hands. to the conversation. True, it would take about forteen of it "Yes, Miss Walton," she said, in her to pay for her board and washing, leaving clear, sweet tones, "I know it would not be pleasant to have to settle for having plus. But if she could do this at the expecting some such message as this for several days. I suppose I sail for Europe with Mr. Coolidge and his family on Monday. This created quite a sensation, as she a year, and she smiled to think how large knew it would, and would never have the sum looked to her now, besides her and look of admiration as his eyes for spoken it so publicly, had not Miss Wal- expenses and the opportunity of a year ton's insulting speech driven her to it. She could not be disgraced before these She had been quite a trayeler in her

vou.

She could not be disgraced before these young girls. She did not consider it gen erous ever to boast of prosperity in the presence of others less fortunate. She had been quite a traveler in her own country, having spent her long vaca-tions in visiting different points of inter-est with Miss Mehetabel, so that she was "To Europe! You!" ejsculated the well prepared to speak of Columbia's fair astonished dame, her face flushing an scenes, and compare them with the older angry crimson, as she saw how her spite if not grander views of other countries. was turned against herself. Brownie arrived at the Coolidge man-"Yes, and I am anticipating the trip

very much.' "Um-1 suppose, then, you go as a ser- did not feel particularly drawn toward vant-perhaps as a nursery maid," snapp- either Mrs. Coolidge or her eldest daughed the woman, vindictively. "Mr. Coolidge has no young children

" Have you ever completed a regular serenely, as she brushed the threads from although somewhat holdenish, yet she felt her dress.

assured that they had kind hearts, and course of study ?" asked Mr. Alcott. her dress. assured "Yes sir, a thorough course. I gradu-ated from the high school before I was than any of us can read English, I can them. promised herself some pleasure with sizteen, and I have since taken a two years' classical course," replied Brownie. hand in the contest, and indignant to see to the drawing room, and the girls being like, serve twice seven years for the

"French, indeed! I don't believe she could do, desired to hear her play and He was very much interested in the knows a word of French any more than I sing. do. It's only a high-sounding story she

"My principal reason for hesitating is, has made up. Whoever heard of a girl that I have never had any experience in teaching, and could only follow the ex- straw factory? I tell you, girls, I don't

"You are very truthful and frank, at and nobody but me has been keen enough

ngly. * I should not presume to accept this me break over the rules to teach her, and the break over the rules to teach her break over the rules to te

position, sir, by placing myself in a false I, for one, am glad she's got to go."

"I think with my father in law, that "I think with my father in law, that "I think with my father in law, that

we consider the bargain closed ?" asked nantly: her employer, giving her a glance of ad- "Sham

He was more and more astonished at hate a pretty face; you never can trust matron, complacently.

Coolidge wishes you to come to the view of "There is nothing, there has been noth- delicate. Her manners, when she became at once the cynosure of all eyes in ing in my life which any one could ques chose, were quite fascinating, and she had been quite a favorite in society for "I knew it," he answered; "and now a year; but she lacked the character I have a request to make, and that is, that you will allow me to send my carand freshness with which Brownie's

riage for you this evening. There remains only about a day and a half before plete, "Is it not time for Wilbur to come we sail, and my family would like to become somewhat acquainted with you bemamma ?' she asked, as satisfied with

the survey of herself, she turned from Brownie shrank from this ordeal, but the glass. "Yes : he ought to have been here an she knew it must come sooner or later. do anything contrary to the rules, and it and the quicker it was over the better for

hour ago," answered Mrs. Coolidge. glancing at her watch. "Very well, sir," she answered. "At what time shall I send for you ?" Scarce were the words uttered when

"An hour will give me ample time to the door-bell gave forth a clamorous make all needful preparations for the peal; another moment, and there was a manly step on the stair, a deep, rich "It is five o'clock now. Then at six voice called "Mother, Isabel," then the recisely the carriage shall call for you. We dine at half past, when you will meet door swung open, and the only son and my family. Now, about this account; it heir was received with open arms and

is not a very large one, Miss Douglas," he said, smiling, and turning to the books. Wilbur Coolidge was an excee Wilbur Coolidge was an exceedingly After a moment, he continued, with

handsome young man of twenty-two years, with a face that challenged all "Allow me to give you a check on account. You may wish to make some purchases before leaving New York." poetry—a face that girl's judge instant-ly and always admire. He had a frank Brownie drew herself up like a little "If you will please pay me what I have

clear eye of deepest blue, brown hair earned, sir, it will be all I require, thank tinged with gold, a smiling mouth, from "Whew!" was the gentleman's internal comment; "our pretty employee has some spirit." He ran his eye quickly over the figures, trust-there was something wanting

which made one feel that he lacked depth, that there was no great chryalry "Thank you; that is correct," she said, in his nature, no grand treasure of

There were few women who independence in her heart that for three would have read him thus critically, yet ing the stairs arm in arm with his sister Isabel, they met face to face, and she

was obliged to present him to her. "My brother, Miss Douglas," she done anything wrong. But I have been very outset, she had no fear of the future said, briefly and coldly, and with a

Miss Douglas greeted him with quiet oliteness, and passed on; but not be ore she had caught his stare of surprise noment rested on her face, then swept her dainty form from head to foot. "And who is Miss Douglas ?" he ask ed, after they had passed beyond her

hearing, "Oh, she is a young person who

grandpa came across in one of the public libraries, and persuaded papa to secure as governess to the girls," Miss Isabel sion in season to be introduced to the answered, with a yawn.

family before dinner was served. She "Governess ! Young person, indeed Why, if I ever saw the mark of the true er. They were evidently worldlings, and and cultured lady in any one, I do in

received her with an air of supe iority her," he replied. with enthusiasm. "Nonsense, Wilbur! I hope you do not allow your head to be turned b The younger girls, Viola ynd Alma, every pretty face you chance to meet." "Not I," and the young man tossed his head, with a gay laugh. "But this

Miss Douglas is something more than pretty. Here is a face which, if a man

anxious to know what the new governess sake of making its owner his wife." This was said partly to tease his ister, for he well knew her weak points

She gratified them, playing and singing yet, it must be confessed, he had been for an hour, then tempting them from the piano, she made herself so sweet and startled by Brownie's wondrous beauty engaging that they were charmed with "Pshaw! Wilbur, I shall get entirely her, while even Mrs. Coolidge and Miss Isabel relaxed their haughtiness someout of patience with you if you run on

and nobody but me has been keen enough all events," remarked Mr. Coolidge, smil. ngly. "I should not presume to accent this "I should not presume to accent this most disastrous to the poor girl's pros-"If only Wilbur will not lose his senses

pects, for she will post her off without any ceremony,' The frown upon Isabel (coolidge's

brow as she said this was anything but discuss Brownie's merits. "Never fear, dear; Wilbur knows we attractive. would never tolerate a wife for him unless The young man saw at once that it

put on so many fine airs. I always did she was his equal in society,;' replied the would not do to betray too much interest in the beautiful governess, and he "But you know that sometimes young determined to govern himself according. men fall in love with a pretty face, and ly, so, with another light laugh, he said

2

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