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The Prayer of Life.

gay.

So many hurtful blooms my vision greet.

So many paths diverge to lure my feet

Far from Thy peaceful, sinless road astray

And when the morning can no longer stay, And songs are mute, and noontide's fervent ray Upon the weary track must fiercely beat, Lead me, O God!

Nor leave me when the eventide shall lay Upon life's happy fields its vapors gray— Clasp then my hand in Thine more close and sweet
Than Thou hast ever held; and, while The night is falling down the unknown way -(Henry J. Stockard, in Youths' Companion.

Select Ziterature.

Ellen Catherine's Boarding Out.

(MARY E. BAMFORD, IN 'THE ADVANCE.') kitchen was dark except for the stovelight. The bread had been a long while rising the that when the other two members of the eleven year-old brother, Sammy, had start- stand. d to church this evening, Horatia had been obliged to remain at home to bake the bread.

to be earning something. I can't go away, den to the shop to visit Mr. Crockett, as he because I must keep house for grandpa and | made or half-soled shoes. Sammy. Grandpa's been so good to Sammy and me these years since father and mother died; but grandpa's sixty five and it isn't fair and the months slipped by till she had been to expect him always to buy everything for with them more than a year. How pleased Sammy and me. I'd like to help support us. | they all were when she walked! How they I believe I could do what I thought of. I've listened to her first baby words! Was ever had some experience. When cousin Luella lived 'round here, I used to help her about erine said 'danpa' and 'Thammy' for 'Sam-

Horatia thoughtfully inspected a loaf. "Mrs. Walters and her two girls have three babics boarding there from that home in the city." she continued. "Mrs. Walters gets ten dollars apiece a month for board. ing them. Ten times three are thirty. If and Mrs Walters."

When, the next morning, Horatla asked her grandfather, Mr. Crockett looked loubtful. "Won't it be too much for you, Ratia?" he inquired. "I know my shoemakgot along and kept out of debt. You help a sight, anyhow.'

Neighborly Mrs. Walters, however, was mmediately favorable to Horatia's plan. Mrs. Walters knew Horatia's faithful ways, and liked to see a girl try to help herself. "Why, of course you could !' said Mrs. out children all the time. It has to, because there isn't room in the Home building for all side the lounge. the babies brought there. There are new ones every two or three days. Why Horatia, you're as reliable as any woman! And here I am, right near you, and any time you wanted me to see about the baby, I'd come right over, or you could run to me. I'll go own to the home with you to get a child." Mrs. Walters kept her promise and went

he three miles from the village to the city with Horatia. The Home was crowded. There were ninety-six babies. At first the matron was doubtful about allowing Horatia to take a child, but Mrs. Walters recommeuded Horatia highly, and promised to see the baby daily. Mrs. Walters's word went a good way with the matron.

So consent was given, and Mrs. Walters and Horatia were taken around by the matron to see such children as might go. The tron stopped a moment before one baby. "She's a year old," she said. "Her father and mother are dead. The baby's name is Ellen Catherine Travers, You wouldn't

think she was blind !" "Blind!" echoed Horatia, looking at Ellen Catherine's blue eyes that showed no trace of such calamity. "She's never seen anything, and she neve

will," said the matron: "She doesn't walk yet. I guess there are other babies that They went on. Other babies were pret-

tier, others had begun to talk, but Horatia's heart kept turning back to the little child who never had seen and never would see. "I believe I'd rather have her," said Hor-

"Well,' agreed Mrs. Walters, doubtfully, one does kind of feel for a blind baby." They went back to Ellen Catherine Travers and took her.

Not until Horatia was on the horsecars oing home did she become frightened over what she had undertaken. Supposing Ellen Catherine should have croup, or chicken-pox, or scarlet fever! Horatia looked at

Mrs. Walters, feeling that she was a refuge "If the least thing ever ails Ellen Catherne I'll run for Mrs Walters as fast as I can."

nervous Horatia tightened her arms around Ellen Catherine and burst forth.

other babies. She's blind." o protest that he never wanted to hold any old baby, anyhow, he only wanted to see it, shut his mouth again, and awe-atruck, fol-lowed Horatia into the house. A blind Ellen Catherine, I'll be glad enough to keep baby! Sammy rushed to summon his her." grandfather. Mr. Crockett came and took llen Catherine's tiny hand.

"Poor child!" he said. "Poor unid."
But Ellen Catherine clung to his fingers and laughed. "Why, she's making friends happy.

"If I was sure of making a little more wild dare keen her," he said. right away! exclaimed pleased Mr. Crock-ett. "You must be real careful of her,

"I'm going to be," responded Horatia, pale with responsibility. From that hour Ellen Catherine ruled the Crocketts. Whatever she could hear was sought for to amuse her. She crowed over a gray kitten, hearing it purr. One the state of the Home that the best of the Home that the state of

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1899. Mr. Crockett would not take charge of the money, so Horatia put it carefully away, using it with discretion when she or Sammy Horatia was proud indeed when she bought

> "Horatia's a real independent-feeling girl," said Mrs. Walters, approvingly. Some girls would settle back and think their grandfather owed them a living.
>
> One day the aunt of one of the orphan

babies that Mrs. Walters boarded came and took the little boy away. The aunt could support the child permanently now. Mrs. Walters could not have him any more. After the child had gone Mrs. Walters ran over to Horatia's. Her eyes were red from crying.

"I can't help it," she apologized; "I've had that baby to board more than a year, and he was a dear little fellow. I shall miss him dreesfully. You'll find out how hard it is when Ellen Catherine has to be taken back to the Home after you've kept her a while. She hasn't any relatives to claim her, though."

Horatia looked with dismay at Mrs. Walter's reddened eyes. When she had gone, Horatia turned to Ellen Catherine.

"Now," she said briskly, "I'm going to take warning ! Ellen Catherine, I could Horatia sat on a stool near the stove. The love you tremendously, but I won't, I'll take good, faithful care of you, but I'm going to do it for the money! If I love you, it would first time to day and the consequence was only make me feel dreadful some time." that when the other two members of the family, Grandfather Crockett and Horatia's Horatia, but the blind baby did not under-

Ellen Catherine proved to be a very pleasant, lovable child. She won her way straight By the stove-light Horatia could dimly view into the hearts of Sammy and Mr. Crockett. her three white loaves in their round tins Mr. Crockett's tiny, one roomed shoe shop on the stove hearth. She spoke aloud to was at one side of the Crockett's front garden, on the village street. Horatia some-"I'm seventeen," she said, "and I want times took Ellen Catherine across the gar-

The Home kept on boarding Ellen Catherine at the Crocketts, the baby thrived, erine said 'danpa' and 'Thammy' for 'Sam-

One afternoon Mrs. Walters came to Horatia's back door.

"There was a letter for you in the postoffice, so I brought it," said Mrs. Walters, soberly. "I mistrust it's like one I've got. Did you notice about that bank failure in Mcz. Walters recommended me, I wonder if the city? The funds of the Home have gone that Home would trust a baby to me to board here. I'd be ever so careful and we home feel dreadful. There are all those have a real good cow. Ten dollars a month would be something. I'll speak to grandpa written that they can't pay any more board written that they can't pay any more board for children. I'm to bring mine back to the Home at the end of the month, unless I can

adopt them, which I can't." Horatia had torn open her letter. It coning and repairing don't always bring in as erine was to be taken back to the Home at firmed Mrs. Walters' words. Ellen Cathuch money as might be useful; but we-ve the end of the month unless the Crocketts could adopt her. "It's just like my letter, isn't it ?" in-

quired Mrs. Walters. "Yes," said Horatia. "You can't afford to adopt her any more than I," said Mrs. Walters. Mrs. Walters went away, and Horatia oarding | tiptoed into the room where Ellen Catherine

lay sleeping. She dropped on her knees be-"Oh, you're just like my own little sister! she faltered. "And I haven't taken care of you just because I'd get ten dollars -not for a long time! It was wicked in me ever to say I'd care only for the money, you poor little blind thing! You're the dearest little blind sister that ever was! I wish we were well enough off so we could adopt you, Ellen Catherine? You'll go back to where people can't love you real

special among ninety babies, the way we do. And I shall miss you so!" Horatia put her head down beside Ellen Catherine and cried. How empty the home would be! Finally she rose and went and

washed her face. "I won't let grandpa and Sammy know I've been crying," she told herself. At the supper table Horatia calmly told

the news. No one would have supposed she had any feeling. "You're going to take Ellen Cath'rine back !" repeated Mr. Crockett, dismayed. 'Why what shall we ever do without her? I declare I'm sorry for that Home. All those children, and no money for them !"
Sammy looked at Horatia with startled reproachful eyes. Presently he slipped away. After a while Horatia found him in

the wood shed in the dark. "What are you doing?" asked Horatia. "Go'way !" answered Sammy, violently. "What are you crying about ?" question-

ed Horatia. "Go 'way !" indignantly wailed Sammy. "Ain't you ashamed of yourself, Ratia Crockett! There you've kept her as long as you can get ten dollars for her, and now, when gran'pa an' me like her, you-you just go and take her back to the Home-and you don't care, any more'n as if she was a bundle you was taking back to the grocery store! What did you bring her here for, Ratia Crockett, and let Gran'pa an' me love her, if you was going to take her away again ! And she-she-calls-me-"Tham-

my"-and-" Sammy broke into sobs. Horatia felt for the board before the coal bin, and sat down. "Sammy," she said, "listen to me. Don't thought the girl.

Sammy met Horatia at the Crockett gate.

"Let's see the baby," he demanded, but the baby," he demanded, but the baby, the demanded is the baby, the

ine. The ten dollars a month has been a Ellen Catherine and burst forth.

"Sammy Crockett, don't you touch her! You'd drop her or something! Don't you dare touch Ellen Catherine! She isn't like other babies. She's blind."

Ellen Catherine and burst forth.

real help. But you needn't think, Sammy Crockett, that you're the only person in this woodshed that loves Ellen Catherine! But we can't keep her. Grandpa doesn't make And Sammy--who had opened his mouth us and Eilen Catherine too. It wouldn't be right. Sammy, there are two weeks before the end of this month, and if you can think

ner."
"Honest?" asked Sammy.
"Honest," asserted Horatia.
The succeeding days were very soberones. Grandpa Crockett was plainly un-

money, we could dare keep her," he said.
"I don't know but we'd better risk it, "I didn't bring her here to burden you," said Horatia steadfastly. The last day of the month came. It did

not seem as if the Crocketts could part from

Horatia wrote and the evil day was post-poned a month. Sammy hunted for work. He found a few little jobs, but no permanent one. Horatia earned a little, baking bread for a woman, and the month went on discouragingly fast. Most people did not know that the Crocketts had ceased to get pay for

Ellen Catherine's board. tion of delegates from different churches of a large district was to be held in the village church the Crocketts attended. Different families took delegates home for lodgings and meals. Horatia knew her Grandfather would be very much pleased if they could take care of a delegate. The Crocketta' lit tle house had only four rooms, but a dele gate was invited. Horatia gave up her

room to the stranger. It was an exasperating time to Sammy. He had to sleep in the shoe-shop. The dele gate had to have the one, outre lamp for his room, and Sammy stumbled to bed in the dark every night. To be sure, Horatia would not have trusted Sammy with a lamp in the shoe-shop, anyway, for fear he might tip it over, but Sammy felt that the delegate was responsible for anybody's having to sleep in the shoe-shop, anyhow. The third night a cat walked on the shoe-shop's flat, tin roof and made isolated Sammy think she was burglars. The tin cracked and produced a sound like a man's tread. Trembling Sammy crept to the shoe-shop window and saw the cat jump down. He stumbled over a pair of shoes, stepped on a brad, and regained his bed.

"I wish we needn't have delegates," he grumbled. "I never heard a cat walk so oud. Everything's horrid, and I can't think how to keep Ellen Catherine, either." Sammy rocked his hurt toe. A thought "Why, I wouldn't be surprised if maybe

that delegate would know how we could keep Ellen Catherine !" The more Sammy thought of it the mo probable it seemed to him. What was the use of being a delegate, if a man didn't know "I'll ask him in the morning."

Early the next morning the delegate was walking in the Crocketts' little garden. He was utterly unconscious of the woe he had caused Sammy. He was in reality a goodhearted man, who was interested in the stranger family that entertained him. To him appeared Sammy, coming forth from "Opening shop so early?" questioned the

delegate. "No," answered Sammy. "I have to sleep in the shoe-shop this week." "Oh!" returned the delegate, smiling Perhaps he remembered how it was when he was a boy and his folks entertained dele-"Do you know how we can keep Ellen

Catherine ?" began Sammy. "Ellen Catherine ?" repeated the delegate. I thought she boarded with you." Sammy explained. "You see," Sammy finished his story, "we'll feel dreadful bad if we can't keep Ellen Catherine. We'll miss her so, an' we'll be lonesome," "Yes," said the delegate. 'Yes—I know. You'll be lonesome." He looked away. He

Once he had a little girl of his own, but she went away to the heavenly country that holds so many little children, and he had been left lonely, oh, so lonely ! "Well, Sammy," said he at last, "you'll

did know.

have to let me think about this. Even lelegates have to have time to think about No solution of the problem came from the lelegate's lips that day nor the next. Saturday, the final day of the convention came.

'Sammy," said the delegate, "please walk lown town with me." They went till they came to the f the three grocery stores of the place 'We'll go in," said the delegate. "It's Mr. Lewis's store," said Sammy.

"Yes," answered the delegate. known Mr. Lewis, a good many years, though I haven't stayed at his house now because he has so many other delegates staying there." They went past the counters to the little deak office.

"I've brought Sammy," said the delegate niling as though he knew Mr. ¡Lewis very "Sammy," said Mr. Lewis reproachfully, Sammy, was it fitting that this old friend of mine should have to come fifty miles from his home to make two fellow-townsme like you and me understand each other? When you came a month ago, Sammy, and asked me if I wanted a boy to work, I told you "No," but you didn't tell me about Ellen Catherine. Yet when this delegate appears you pour forth the whole story !

It looks like partiality, Sammy. You might have told me !" The delegate was smiling "Sammy," continued Mr. Lewis, "you nay work here week days and all day Saturdays. I'll pay you a dollar a week. I'll give you higher wages as you come to deserve them, and as long as you keep Ellen Catherine. But, if you're lazy, I'll discharge you, no matter how much you want

to keep Ellen Catherine " "I'll work," promised Sammy, eagerly. The delegate felt sure Sammy would. "You may sweep off the sidewalk now," said Mr. Lewis, and Sammy began.
"Won't we keep Ellen Catherine?" in quired Sammy at home that evening. 'May-

be I'll earn two dollars a week sometimes !" "We'll keep her," promised Mr. Crockett, smiling.

Horatia smiled, too. Another woman wanted bread baked. Horatia hoped for growing bread business. "I like delegates !" declared Sa

ing Ellen Catherine a hug as she sat on Mr. Crockett's knee. "Thammy !"

**Baking Powder** 

Made from pure Safeguards the food against alum.

NO. 32.

additional engine was attached to the train buyers takes the prod as the climb up the Hex river mountains began. The scenery of these mountains, and the horseshoe bends, along precipices, rado. In the distance on each side could be the value of the looking like tops seen the "koppies" assuming all shapes to seen, the former looking like tops believed the latter square and built and heights. These wastes are covered with once roamed about in large numbers, now show the natural skill and inventive genius of the koppies are some fertile fields, the tree that grows high and has a small diaprincipal products being kaffir corn and meter are planted in the ground in a circle, mealies. The mealie is like our Indian corn, bent to the centre and fastened. Then the palatable than our Indian meal when cool habitation. Passing through the scaled. The mealie is planted in rows, both by hand and drill, and left to South African Republic, a distance of 334 grow and mature. It is never cultivated, miles, one sees nothing but the same monhence the plant runs to stalk and not to ear. For two days and one night I rode over farming is noticed and the crops are more For two days and one night I rode over these wastes in the compartment cars of this country; at night furnished with a bed agricultural implements is sold here through consisting of one sheet doubled, one small pillow, and two blankets, made up on the seat, for which I paid 10s. (\$2.43.) The monotony of the ride was broken by occasional small herds of cattle, sheep, goats or East London and Durban, who have travel-

GREATEST DIAMOND MINES IN THE WORLD.

MINES IN THE WORLD.

Welcome all comers, and a residence of only "The city of Kimberley is 647 miles from a few years will admit to cirizenship. Cape Town—a ride of two days and one night. It has a population of 35,000 and public we were held five hours for the exampublic we have a single control of the five heads of the exampublic we have a single control of the exampublic we have night. It has a population of 35,000 and the greatest diamond mines of the world. The United States is represented here by a consular agent—Mr. Gardner F. Williams, who is the general manager of the mines, and the world it is said, by Hollanders, and proceeded to Pretoria, a distance of 77 miles. Pretoria is many of the most responsible positions are held by Americans. The company occupies 200,000 acres of land, employs 15,000 named and acres of land, employs 15,000 named and acres of land, employs 15,000 named and landsome public buildings, but quiet and month in the 'compounds' 25,000 pounds of mutton and 200,000 pounds of beef, turns by the Netherlands railway. I never rode out 220,000 karats of diamonds a month, over a better readbed or in more comfortable and mules, 12 stallions of the best breeds, and mules, 12 stallions of the best breeds, conveniences, and the dining cars reminded me of home. The cars are all of iron, even The shops connected with the mines for the manufacture and repair of machinery and I am told, are like a furnace; but no better supplies compare well with some of our railway equipment, as a whole, can be found large harvester factories or railroad shops.

I was not at all surprised to see American city—the only real city in South Africa, machinery here. The immense driving gear from the standpoint of an American. The of a pumping engine made in England had buildings would do credit to any city. The to be sent to Chicago to have the cogs cut. streets are wide, but the motive power of the The company is operating an ice plant sent street railways consists of horses and mules, from Chicago and has three more ordered, each with a capacity of five tons per day and 20,000 cubic feet of cold storage; and a complete dynamite plant, with an American to grant a concession. The horse care still run napage it, is on its way here from America.

The 150 miles of narrow-gauge railroad in roads is great.

cans, etc., as was once done. Outside of the compound and 10 feet from it is a barbed wire fence, 10 feet high, with 14 strands of wire. An underground passage leads to the mine shaft and the men are examined as they return from work. Within the compound I visited (there are three) amined as they return from work. Within the compound I visited (there are three) were 3,500 natives, and as it was Sanday they were all enjoying themselves, dancing, playing on musical instruments, beating drume, reading the Bible and the 'Pilgrim's Progress' in their own language, singing hymns, cooking, sewing, smoking hemp in cow horns, and gambling. Some were clothed and some not; some had their teeth filed to resemble a saw, others their head shaved except a fringe at the back; some were tattooed, and nearly all had holes through the lobe of their right ear to hold anything that might come to hand; I saw spoons, straws, feathers and stubs of cigars used in this manner. The natives are under contract for six months and receive from is. to 3s. (24 to 79 cents) per day. They are not allowed to leave the compounds during the time of contract. No liquor is furnished them. They are happy and contented, and the system is good for the native, the interest per town were contract for the compounds during the time of contract. No liquor is furnished them. They are happy and contented, and they are happy and and they are happy and and they are happy a

time of contract. No liquor is furnished them. They are happy and contented, and the system is good for the native, the industry and the country. I saw some who there are no mines, but the sugnificant or repair them—that it was cheaper to buy new ones.

Outside Manager it is meat and but dustry and the country. I saw some who there are no mines, but the sugnificant representations of the same than the same that it was cheaper to buy new ones. dustry and the country. I saw some who had been in the compound for years and had no desire to leave it. They are kept in a detention room one week before their contract expires, where they wear gloves made of two disks of leather, locked to their wrists; their clothes are taken from them and examined, and at the end of the week they leave without carrying any diamonds.

There are no mines, industries are growing ed by coolies from Is recently been farmed from the aloc plant. Iong and strong article on a range of hill the finest residences. They command an or country they leave without carrying any diamonds. "The diamond mine is the crater of an extinct volcano. What is now a level country or prairie was once a volcano. Cropping out on the surface appeared a blue rock, which was found to contain diamonds. The mouth of the crater is 312 feet below the surface. They dig 300 feet lower, so that the mine is now 612 feet deep. The rock is elevated to the surface by means of flude a prompt antido

Town to Kimberley and return will be found of especial interest, aside from the fact that to their color and purity, and I saw on his tables the output of one week, worth \$300,ormation. He says:

"The first afternoon, at Worcester, an deal in shape. A syndicate of di

a stunted bush, the food of the sheep that stones. The Kaffir huts are unique and only smaller in ear and grain, and when native flat grass is woven in and out beground and mixed with cold water is more tween them, making a water-tight and yet

cars. They are equipped with all modern buildings would do credit to any city. The

can rails, and every tie or sleeper is made of California redwood, which in this country is capital, and American ability has had a hand

nominal rents. Water and light are sup plied free, and there is a clubhouse, a library, reading roome, athletic grounds, a park, and vegetable gardens, with vines and fruits of all kinds in profusion. All the water used in and about the city flows through pipes made in the United States. I was pulled to Kimberley by an American locomotive, and there are several others now in use in Cape Colony.

"Among the features of the mines are the compounds' for the natives. On the four sides of a large square are erected one story buildings, of corrugated iron, opening to the centre of the square. They are divided into rooms which hold 20 people, who sleep in bunks three high. Within each compound is a store, which supplies the natives with all the clothes, food, etc., they need, at very reasonable prices. In the centre of the square is a large swimming pool, which is well patronized. Adjacent to the compound is a hospital, in which medical attendance, nurses, and food are furnished free to the sick or hjured. Extending over the whole enclosure, which cocupies several acres, is a wire netting to prevent the throwing over of diamonds enclosed in tin cans, etc., as was once done. Outside of the compound and 10 feet from it is a ATTRACTIONS AND INDUSTRIES OF PURBAN.

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the 'floors' or level ground, at 1 pying about 200 acres. Here it is left year to the action of the sun, rain winds, when it decomposes and falls a It is then taken to the crushing and DIAMOND MINES.

Now that the eyes of the world are fixed on South Africa, owing to the conflict between Great Britain and the Boers, the following statements by an American gentleman who recently made a tour from Cape Town to Kimberley and return will be found of especial interest, aside from the fact that

JOHANNESBURG, A BUSY, BUSTLING "Leaving Kimberley, a ride of 167 miles through tunnels, from 15 feet to 5000 feet brings one to the borders of the Orang above the see 'revel, reminded me of Colo- Free State. The land appears more fertile

ostriches, the latter coming up to the barbed wire fence to watch the train as it passed.

these cities, and the length of the present

par excellence the best wood for such a pur-The company sells its ice for half a cent per of managers, consulting engineers and superpound to all, while in Cape Town the charge intendents. Mr. J. C. Manion, the United pound to all, while in Cape Town the charge is four cents per pound. No corporation in the world does more for its employees. It has built the village of Kenilworth, covering 500 acres and occupied by 500 employees at nominal rents. Water and light are supplied free, and there is a clubhouse, a library reading recorns athlatic grounds.