

ing of the world's progress. But her indefinite, rosy expectations were chilled when met by cold realities. She would have taken a place at teaching, but found herself not quite fitted for the highest places and not quite willing for any other.

"Secretary to an author or scientific worker" was one of Margery's aspirations.

"Very nice when such positions can be found, but they are rare, not in the open market, and hundreds on the eager watch for them."

"Would you be willing to be assistant in a dentist's office? The work is not hard."

It was a come-down, but better than to go back having accomplished nothing.

"You may leave your name for consideration among other applicants," she was told when applying for the place.

At the end of a long quest the young girl sat down and considered, thinking more deeply than ever in her life before. Then she arrived at the conclusion of the whole matter.

"It is a fine thing for a girl who has to do it, to whom it is really necessary to help herself or her friends, to go out and do battle with the world. I suppose I should find a place in time—possibly what I would like very well. But, Margery,"—in a voice of stern fault-finding—"here you are, a petitioner among thousands of others for a place, when there is a place seeking you. Your place is at home."

SWEET VIOLET.

It was morning in the King's garden. The birds poured forth their joyous melodies; buds and blossoms shed abroad their sweet perfume, and the glorious sunshine lighted up every nook and corner of the place. Surely all nature was striving to do the king honour.

Sweet Violet opened her blue eyes, and looked about her wonderingly. For long weeks she had bravely pushed her roots deeper and deeper into the soil, and had sent her leaves up higher and higher towards the light. Then her tiny bud had appeared, and now, after patient waiting, it had at last opened.

But upon what a life! Was it worth such striving, just to lie hidden away at the foot of a gorgeous Daffodil where no one would find out about her existence?

She had so longed to do some good in the world, but now, how could she?

The sun rose higher in the sky, but Sweet Violet could not even see his bright face, so completely was she hidden by the Daffodil's leaves. Soon, however, she heard excited voices about her, and listened attentively.

"Behold, the gardener comes," said the Tulip, near by. "He comes to choose the fairest of the fair, to deck the table of the king."

"How I should love to help in that great work," murmured Sweet Violet, and she smiled her brightest and gave forth her sweetest perfume, but all to no avail.

The gardener did not even look in the Daffodil's direction, and much less did he notice the tiny Violet.

Tears of disappointment sprang to

Sweet Violet's eyes, but she crowded them back bravely. Dear Mother Earth had told them all, when she sent them forth, that a work awaited them in the world; so, perhaps, she could do something yet. At any rate she would try.

All the long, hot summer day she endeavoured to be her sweetest, though there was no one to notice, and it was such a struggle to live; for the Daffodil absorbed all the richness of the soil.

At eventide the king's fair daughter walked among the flowers. She was not accompanied by her maidens as usual, and her beautiful face was very sad. The flowers did not recognize her at first.

Suddenly she paused by the Daffodil, for she noticed Sweet Violet's perfume.

"What can it be?" she said. "Surely, this Daffodil is not so sweet."

Pushing aside the Daffodil's leaves, she discovered happy Sweet Violet, and, kissing her gently, fastened her upon her breast.—Elsie Eusebia Spicer, in Young Churchman.

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