

THE ANGELS WE MEET TO-DAY.

Two ladies were going along a city street. One of them stopped and spoke a word or two to a dull, tired-looking woman who had a fretful-looking baby on one arm and a basket on the other, in which she had a few bananas and apples and some cheap candy for sale.

"Why, Helen," said the other lady, "what made you stop and speak to that woman? What did you say to her?"

"Why, Helen, how could you be so familiar with that shop girl? What were you saying to her?"

"Oh, not much of anything. It was just a word or two by the way. I thought that she looked tired and a little ill, and she said that she did have a severe headache. Did you notice how she brightened up when I gave her the violets?"

A word by the way! A kindly deed by the way! How many burdens would be



Abraham and the Angels.

"Oh! nothing much. It was just a word or two by the way; that was all. She looked so tired and discouraged, and I stopped to give her a few pennies and say a word or two to her."

A few minutes later the two ladies were in one of the great stores of the city, where they made some purchases, and while they waited for their change the lady who had spoken to the apple woman entered into conversation with a sales-girl, and gave her half of a bunch of violets.

When the two ladies were on the street, one of them said:

lightened, how many heavy hearts would be gladdened, how much weariness would be forgotten, how many smiles would take the place of frowns, how much more beautiful and how infinitely better the world would be if every man and woman, every boy and girl, lost no opportunity of speaking a kindly word or doing a good deed by the way! Try it for a single day, and see if it is not one of the happiest days of your lives. It must be so, because it will have the mark of God's approval upon it. He takes heed of every good thing said or done in his name.