

LITERARY.

"TAKE THEM AS YOU FIND THEM!"—(For Music.)

In all the busy times of life,  
While jesting one another,  
We vainly mark each speak, each fault,  
We find one in the other;  
But let us look for qualities  
That kindle admiration,  
And shut our eyes to those dark spots  
That will not bear narration;  
Think of the virtues men may see,  
When interests do not blind them,  
Who have resolved, with all their friends,  
To take them as they find them.

I do not mean the cannibals,  
Nor other foreign nations,  
Who perhaps at times might have a taste  
For intimate relations;  
Perhaps it would be well if they  
Would leave their hideous dances,  
Nor doubt in other things 'twere well  
To mitigate their fancies;  
But those who know as well as we  
What laws and rules should bind them,  
Perhaps it were as well, with them,  
To take them as you find them.

I mean that other kind of folks,  
In common styled the neighbor,  
Who, if you try advice on them,  
Don't estimate your labour;  
The Blacks, and Whites, and Smiths,  
and Browns,  
And Tompkins and Greens,  
Who in this moving world of ours  
Are ever on the scenes;  
They do not want your lectures,  
They cast your rules behind them,  
So for the future it were best  
To take them as we find them.

G. H. H.

Grey and Gold.

CHAPTER III.

Continued.

Katie was soon dismissed by her aunt to arrange her possessions in the apartment allowed her for that purpose; she was glad of even a little space to call her own, where she feel free if only for a few minutes, and lingered lovingly over the few gifts that had been bestowed on her, wondering when she might venture to carry down one of these precious volumes, which were not laid in their appointed places without more than one heavy tear falling, as she thought of Temple House and the merry companions now so far away. She was, however, soon brought back to present realities by a peremptory call from her aunt to accompany her in her usual mid-day saunter.

Katie hurriedly brushed away all signs of tears, and ran down stairs, and for an hour she paced backward and forward by the old lady's side, on the sunny side of the high road. The flagged pathway was burning beneath the fierce summer heat; the slow pace, irritated the girl's active nerves, while the sunshine beat upon her head, and made the blood throb painfully in her veins. Hardly any one was out of doors; and the funeral march over, Katie re-entered the House with aching head and weary limbs.

The rest of the day crept by with leaden feet; two ancient ladies paid Miss Rycroft a visit; but neither their appearance nor their conversation interested Katie; and she was glad when the heat abated, and the sun began to sink westward indicating that one weary day was drawing to its close. She would have fain gone out then for a breath of the freshening air, and a glimpse

of the river and the trees; but, too shy to ask permission, she sat on, wishing her aunt would propose it, till the sunset glow had faded, and the broad band of blue sky visible overhead deepened into purple, then faded into gray, and the stars looked peacefully forth from its clear depths.

"Must all my life at Cardham be like to-day?" thought poor Katie, despairingly; for youth is impatient of suffering, and she was yet too untried in life's changes to know how time deadens the acutest feelings, and habit renders at least endurable the most irksome of lots.

A few days saw Katie's life fall into a definite routine, far more monotonous than that of the preceding years. Various small duties were appointed her; and these, with attendance to her aunt, reading to her, and accompanying her on the daily promenade, which was a daily torture to Katie, with her own solitary "constitutional," and as much study as she was able to achieve, filled up the days, which gradually swelled into weeks and months. It was truly a grey, passionless, aimless existence for a girl just on the threshold

of life, the age at which sensation is the keenest, hope the brightest, energy the greatest, the time which, passing so fleetly, is so golden an opportunity for storing the heart and mind with all kinds of fair reminiscences wherewith to refresh the spirit amid those darker days of later years when, weary with the burden of the heat of the day, memory turns so gladly to rest amid the cool shadows and fancies which cluster round the spring time of life.

Very keenly did Katie sometimes feel all this when the old chords of longing were struck by the stirring travellers' tales of sunny lands, or the accounts of noble deeds of enterprise or philanthropy which reached her quiet nook through the medium of the few books she had time to read.

One of Miss Rycroft's peculiarities was an extreme dislike to seeing Katie engrossed in a book, she called it unsociable; and loss of time; and the only opportunity Katie had of reading to herself was the very short season before her aunt's appearance in the morning. Of companionship of her own age Katie had none, as Miss Rycroft disapproved of girlish friendships or any of those parochial works of mercy in which most young ladies take more or less share; so that beyond a very occasional visit to Dr. Hawkston's, who was always a warm friend to the young girl, and one or two neighboring families, her life was a most solitary one. Not really unhappy, but lacking all colour of brightness; still and grey, as befitted one who, like her aunt, was standing on the brink of the dark river, expectant of the Master's call, and to whom the echoes of the battle of life were fading away in the distance—but far too dreamy and unreal for the youthful neophyte who needed bracing and training for the strife of coming years.

But Katie was as fond of day-dreaming as ever; and during her lonely rambles—now her one great pleasure—her thoughts roamed free, as of old, and in fancy she drew bright pictures of what might be, would Dame Fortune but turn her wonderful wheel, and give her too a chance of life—real life, action, movement, enjoyment, affection, it might be sorrow; (but rather that than this cold stagnation, this mere existence;) life such as she read of, with its freedom, its poetry, its noble aims, its struggles, its successes, Katie, herself sensitive and enthusiastic, easily touched by anything noble, in ferment or action, had at first been tempted to confide some of her fancies to her aunt, but they received so cold a response, and elicited such condemnation of so undisciplined a state of feeling, that she shrunk from any further demonstration of her feelings, and only dreamed of the more earnestly.

The months crept slowly on in this manner, and the second summer was waning fast. She had not quitted Cardham even for a day since her first arrival.

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Stock of this Company, at the rate of ten per cent. per annum, for the half year ending 30th June, 1881, and a Bonus of One per cent., will be payable at the Banking House in Duckworth Street, on and after THURSDAY, the 15th inst., during the usual hours of business.

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(By order of the Board)  
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Manager

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