KATE ASHWOOD.

CHAHTER TEXYS .- (Continued.)

Maria's excitement did Kate good, and prevented her from dwelling too much on her own sorrows; and then letters came frequently from Mrs. Merton, telling of her little ones, and how they were beginning to talk, and that she had taught them to cay 'grandpapa,' and 'Aunt Kate.' She regretted so much being at such a distance from her family. She had not even seen Edward, because when he had been at Warrenstown she was in the north of Scotland. She spoke of her husband, of his kindness to her, and of his enduring affection; she said he was very tond of the children, and that he was teaching them to dig with their tmy spades, for he was passionately fond of gardening. She also mentioned baving met Mr. Hernan and his wife .-He was, as the reader may remember, her first love; and she had not met him since he had been quartered at Shepstone, wuen her mother had-judiciously, as she thought at the timeinterfered to prevent their becoming too intimate. She said she could not have believed then that in years to come they should have encountered each other with feelings of such total indiffer-

She had been staying at a country house at some distance from her home, and come of the neighbours were invited to dinner to meet her and Mr. Merton. What was her surprise when she heard the servant announce the names of Mr. and Lady Fancy Herman! Mr. Hernan did not recognise her till during dinner-time. He bappened to be beside her, though he had taken nnother lady in to dinner. He spoke to Fanny Merton as to a perfect stranger, and their conversation turned on the north of, Eagland. Mr. Hernan accidentally mentioned that he had been quartered at Shepstone, to which she replied that she had known him when there. This startled him, and turning on her an inquring look, he said,
Is it possible?—Misa Ashwood! Formerly Miss Ashwood, replied Fanny; 'but now Mrs Merton. You may remember Mr. Merton of Brushwood, who lived near our place, Warrenstown.' Mr. Hernan spoke in his tern of his wife, and asked Eanny to allow bim to intrduce her to her in the course of the evening, and hoped there might be a friendship between

Mrs. Merton mentioned also in her letter that Lady Fanny was wery agreeable, and expeared thing of the kind. But Mr. Leicester was not feet enjoyment of the communion which should sider her bushand perfection. All these details interested the Ashwood family. Have not the most triding incidents appertaining to those we love an immense importance an our eyes? It was curious thus to encounter a former lover under such unromantic circumstances, and to find that all traces of romance were completely obliterated.

Kate was becoming stronger. The climate of Pau was of benefit to her, and-she was often amused with some of the people she met. Mrs. Palmer discovered that she had been in love-for three years with a Mr. @Brien and she told all her acquaintance so. Kate therefore became en object of interest to sojourners at Pau. There was an old French countess who used to visit her, and she would say, " Have you been engaged to Mr. O'Brien for three years? How extrawonderful.' And then another shrug of the shoulders, and her astonishment evaporated; but she went to tell her friends of the interesting af poor loved him, and blessed him as he passed ;fair, and it soon became public property. Kate the relieved the orphan, and made the 'widow's was annoyed. She did not like being made a heart to sing for joy? public character; but still it could not be helped, and as she scarcely ever went any where, it did not signify so very much. When she first went to Pau, she was obliged to remain very quiet, and stay within doors. Afterwards, as the season advanced, she was to be seen often walking about; but she never went to baks or public assemblies of any kind. She used to remain quietly with her father, while Maria went out with the ever ready Mrs. Palmer, who delighted in her, and indeed liked the amusement of taking out young ladies wherever she went.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

While Kate, her father, and Maria were at Pau, Mary Ashwood's little baby was born-a son. Charles was delighted, and wrote of it to his family in the greatest glee. He described each leature in its wee lace accurately. Its eyes, of course, were like its own darling mother's. Its nose was-well, we don't know exto which she at once consented.

charles wrote that mary was received him with open arms; - faces to be met with there, neither more much trouble to stand out, my good fellow.

never would allow at to be taken out of her sight | Wer his daughter. -sice loved it authoriums to it with such intense | Kate and Fitz-Fames returned as soon as posheir to a kingdom.

CATHOLIC

Mr. Leicester put a £50 note into its tiny and told it to be like its father and mother. What a kind good soul he was! He delighted in doing kind acts to others; this he considered to be the luxury of wealth, and it gave him intense pleasure. How Mary's eloquent eyes thanked him on these occasions! She told him how her and Charles's grateful love for &im would never cease. Mr. Leicester told her to be quiet and not talk such nonsense, or that he would be quite angry with her. Whenever he came, he always had the basy brought down to kim. He said he loved children, and so he did; but Mary Ashwood's child was especially dear to him. Es seemed to have transferred her completely in his affections from the position of lady-love to that of daughter. Every thing that interested her he took delight in. Charles also he appeared to regard in the light of-we won't say son-in-law, for that always conveys the idea of a scrt of step child, but of his own son; and he felt glad to have to his declining years two youngepeople ready end anxious to please him, who; he felt sure, would mind him and tend in his lasticays.

He had but one sister in the world, and she was marked to a colonel in India. She had three obildren-two daughters and a sen. Mrs. Deleger stad often wished to return to Ireland to see her brother; but the colonel was devotedly attached to his profession. He held an important military post, from which he derived a large income; and be preferred remeining in India. Some friends of his told him he was very foolish not to return home and look after his interests; for that Mr. Leicester was not a relation whom it would be prudent to slight.-But the colonel always replied to these suggestions, that 'a bird in the hand was worth two in the bush?' and that he would rather have his present income certain than run the olance of and luxury. When they had money in abunlosing it for possible future advantages. Mr. dance Mr. Ashwood was cold and reserved with Leicester loved him the better for not coming to see him. He was a shrewd and far seeing man. and would have despised him bad he done any broken down the barriers that impeded the perone to pass over his family. He made this will (which he never altered) about the time Charles Ashwood's baby was born, leaving the bulk of his property to his sister and her children in perpetuity; and the remainder to Charles, his wife, and children. This was a very comfortable provision; and if not eactly wealth, as some people read that word, it was at least quite sufficient to make them extremely happy and well off .-But we are anticipating and hurrying on mat-

Mr. Leicester lived many years to enjoy his money; and he saw Mary's children clustering around her-merry, happy children-ere death summoned him.away. He spent his life well and happily, doing good to all around him; an ornament to Christianity by the lustre of his virtues. It is true that of education he had but little .-ordinary! Three years! It is really most He was stupid and heavy in society, and had a peculiarity of telling the same story over and over again; but he was good and virtuous. The

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

And now for the other personages in our little story. Towards spring Fitz-James, having got his mines into perfect working-order, considered himself at liberty to go to Pau and marry his this long engagement. So many weddings have. however, been already mentioned in this story, that it is needless to give any description of the nuptials, save that they were performed in the orthodox manner. Fitz-James, as we know, was a Catholic, and Kate Ashwood a Protestant; so the marriage was celebrated according the rites of both churches.

How delighted they were may well be con. would be useless; they can well be imagined .- with. actly; but some said it was a fine Grecian, He had loved Kate for three years and a half, while others declined giving any positive opinion, and had suffered deep anxieties throughout the preferring to wait till it was somewhat more de- courtship. He often felt during those three veloped. The mouth was of perfect form, as it years that success was next to impossible. He fair one; for the palm of beauty, if applied colall know, is the correct line of beauty. So seemed to be snatched as if by a miracle from

that, in fact, he was becoming quite jealous; she the could not but appreciate his long-tried love nor less, as in any other county in the British

effection. It was named Charles, after its fa- sible to Shanganahah. Fitz-James had a pleasther and grandfather; and there was as much ant surprise prepared for her; he had had the oy about the birth of that child as if it were place nicely arranged; the gardens were put into ters. order; the house repaired, and in part newly fornished. Wealth Ead poured in on him during fingers the day of the christening, and kissed at, the few months of Kate's absence. Houses and tures wanted the regularity which her sister's homesteads were in course of erection for the possessed. tenantry, who came forth to meet her dressed in their best; and they cheered the newly-married pair. Arches were erected at the entrance to Shanganahah.

Kate begged Fitz-James to drive her by the mines ere she entered Shanganahah Castle. She were springing up for the eminers. Few would have thought they were in the midst of poor Ireland. The micers gave a hearty cheer in their turn for the bride and bridegroom; and harpessing themselves to the carriage, they drew it to the castle. Ertz-James thanked them earnestly for the kind reception they had given him and his bride; and a good feeling was cemented between himself and those around him.

Little now remains to be told. Edward, for whom our-sympathy has been at times aroused, never saw his ardent wishes accomplished. He died in the West Indies shortly after his arrival. Mr. Ashwood lived to be an old man, and had the pleasure of seeing his grandchildren growing up around bim, virtuous and happy. Mana never married, but remained with her father as long as he lived. The Powers did not return to Power Court, but leved partly in England and partly on the Continent. The Ashwoods have never revisited Warrenstown, save for the perpose ef managing-she property; and at such times they stayed with Fanny Merton at Brushwood .-Warrenstown House still remains, looking as gloomy and dilapidated and deserted as when we first introduced our readers to the history of as former ismates. But though our friends never returned to their former wealth, all were satisfied and contented, and perhaps felt more real happines in their moderate independence than they had enjoyed whilst in the midst of wealth his family, and selfish. The trials he had undergone had purified him from all worldliness, and

THE END.

LIFE IN THE CLOISTER;

FAITHFUL AND TRUE.

By the Author of " The World and the Cloister," &c , &c , &h.

CHAFTER I .- AN ENGLISH HOME.

Some eight years since, before the commence- duty. ment of the panic occasioned by the disastrous cotton famine, which has shaken the greatest of our commercial towns to its centre, there lived in the pretty suburb of Bowden, in the environs of Manchester, a gentleman named Craig, with his two daughters, Lilian and Marion.

Scotch by extraction, and his family had always been members of the Episcopal Church; as to diverging off into a species of practical atheism; the particular creed of Archibald Craig being, now, he added, I just ask you if it is not lovely bride. Kate was as beautiful and loving as he was wont facetiously to express himself, to enough to drive a man mad, at the very moment

> Mr. Craig was one of the merchant princes of first, his daughters were true Lancashire witches,

A word, though, en passant.

HRONICLE.

It is not often that we meet with a face which can be termed correctly beautiful, yet such wa that of Lilian, the eldest of Mr. Craig's daugh-

Marion, the youngest sister, also had uncommon pretensions to physical beauty, but her fea-

Shall we describe these two young women whose fortunes form the sybject of this narrative. We think not-such descriptions are hackneyed, so the reader will please merely imagine the countenances of these two sisters very unlike as to features, and yet like as to expression; the was delighted with all she-caw; rows of houses elder, Lilian, with her dezzlingly-fair complexion, dark eyes and hair, somewhat stately as to figure and outward bearing; and her sister, sweet Marioc Craig, with sunny locks and violet eyes, her figure more petite than that of her sister, full of all the guileless abandon of a young and innocent woman, ker countenance the very soul of animation and good temper. Such were these young ladies of Bowden in the year 1856. But we have to speak of the mental endowment of these girls more than of their natural graces. They were the admiration of all Manchester; the belies of the last London season, their hands were sought in marriage by wealthy men; nay, it was rumored that the stately Lilian inight bave had a coroner had she ckosen to accept it; but the wilful maiden chose to remain still plain Lulian Craig, to her father's intense displeasure.

Beautiful, amiable, and good, what could Mr. Craig desire more? Alas, alas! there is a skeleton in every house; these poor young ed the poor perplexed old gentleman, leaning his ladies formed the source of domestic unhappiness to the rich millocrat.

Let us peep in at him as he sits in the library in that stately home at Bowden; he is all alone;

the two wilful, wayward girls, on whom all his hopes have rested, have both left him in · Was ever a man so deceived? was ever a

father so troubled? This comes of having a couple of daughters, forsooth-both of them to fly in my face in this way."

Mr. Craig got up and paced up and down the room; his books had no charms that night, and he was still bewailing his hard lot in having two such perverse daughters, when the sound of car- own.' riage wheels struck upon his ear, and a very old iend, a wealthy mill-owner like himself, by name John Gilmour, was shown into the room.

"Glad to see you; 'pon my honor never was I better pleased to see you in my life,' said Mr. Craig, seizing his friend by the hand, and warn. ly shaking it. 'I want your advice; those girls of mine are the greatest trouble to me, now that I had thought all trouble was over with them. I have ordered them both out of the room; their conduct is undutiful to the last degree.'

'Lilian and Marion a trouble to you!' excla med his friend; why surely you jest, Craig. I have always thought them models of filial

'Filial duty !- a fig for such duty as my precious daughters show to me,' answered the enraged father. 'Tell me, Gilmour, it it is not enough to drive any man in his senses mad .-First, you are aware Miss Lilian chose to refuse the offer of Lord Strathmore, as if it were no This gentleman, as his name will denote, was honor for the daughter of a poor commoner to be raised out of her own rank in life; and at last it turn out, when I insist upon knowing why his own religious belief, he could not be said to she has chosen so pertinaciously to refuse anhave possessed any, save a few speculative opin. other eligible offer, that she has chosen, without ions of his own; holding, indeed, the greatest consulting me at all about the matter, to want to fundamental doctrines of Christianity, but then marry that poor artist, Herbert Leslie, forsooth, that they are all about to begin.'

' My dear fellow,' said Mr. Gilmour, leaning the cotton district. The Laurels, as the man- his head on his hand, and looking very grave, 'a sion was termed in which he resided, was one of man's troubles may only be said to begin when the handsomest and best kept for miles around; his children are fair grown up, and the question his horses were of the finest breed; his carriages of a settlement for life comes on the tapis. Lisuneuceptionable; and lastly, though by no means ten to an old family man, Craig, with five sons the least, for they ought to have been mentioned and seven daughters, all of whom Providence has willed should 'grow up like olive plants ceived when the knot was at length tied. To or, to speak to the point, two of the loveliest around his table, as the Psalmist hath it; listen attempt to describe the feelings of Fitz-James young women one might ever chance to meet to me, Craig,' he added, placing his folded hands on the table, and assuming a still more serious expression of countenance, and believe me when Surely this term of Lancashire witches, taken I tell you, it is now, when I look around on all in the sense in which it is generally used, is not a these young men and women, that I feel the full weight of the fearful, nay, the awful nature of all know, is the correct line of beauty. So accurate that any superior virtue, scarce none disagreed as to the loveliness of the infant. the arms of the destroying angel—Death. Beg- Lancashire above the female sex in the other rich man, Craig; I should advise you to submit, know weat it is to feel an impulse of anger. Mr. Leicester requested permission to stand gary and ruin had threatened him, till he could counties of England; on an average, we fancy, let her have Herbert; my young people are go-

'I pity you, Gilmour; from my very soul I pity you,' said Craig, suddenly pausing in his walk up and down the apartment, a practice Mr. Craig always indulged in when he was at all disturbed. 'I shan't follow your example, Gilmour. These good-for-nothing girls break my rest, and I'll break their bearts, but what I'll break their present resolutions.

'So much for Lilian, my good fellow,' responded Gilmour, shrugging his shoulders; 'but what about my friend Marion; she is my goddaughter? I have a right, you know, to give advice in that quarter, so out with it, gossiphow has Marion offended you !'

'She is worse than her sister, Gilmour ; infinitely werse,' exclaimed Craig, striking his clenched fist violently on the table as he spoke. She is for ever whining, and fretting, and pentering me out of my life to let her take herselfs off into a convent, of all places in the world. In don't admire such funcies, and never did. She : goes into no convent I can tell her.3 ' A convent,' replied Gilmour, musingly; ' why-

when was she seized with that fancy ??

'Oh, the blessed effects of a convent education, to be sure. I allowed my poor wife to send both the girls to some one of these Notre Dame convents at Canley Heath, close to London-You known the place - it ranks rather highamongst the houses of their institute; and this is the precious fruit of my folly. I declare I'm driven mad with their whims aed fancies. In don't admire, I never did, the practice of giving . stepinothers to grown-up daughters; but I & really begin to think that a little wholesome subordination of that kind would have done both :of them good. What shall I do Gilmour ?' addhead on his hand, and looking anxiously at his friend.

'Let them go their own gait man; that is my advice,' replied Gilmour .. 'Herbert Leslie is poor at present, it is true, but he may rise in his profession, and he is an excellent young man, after all; and as to my pretty godchild, Marion, . . why, let her be happy in her own way, and go to Banley, if she wishes to do so.'

'Friend Gilmour,' replied Mr. Craig, with more vehemence than he had hitherto spoken,it is the old story, the way with almost the whole world - I have asked your advice, and it does not please me, so I mean to follow my

Bless me, man, I think you have lost your senses,' exclaimed Gilmour somewhat irritated at the rudeness of his old friend; but shake hands, Crarg,' he said, extending his hand as he spoke; 'and dou't follow my advice unless itseems good to you; I only say what I should do... had I willul lasses.'

' Well, don't go away, Gilmoor,' said Craiglet's talk about business matters. It will do me good to banish the girls from my mind for 2... little while; and I'll find some way to punish them both later. Ah, by the way, I have it ;", he said, pausing for a moment, as if a happy ideashad occurred to him. Tuey are both anxious

'I thought you had decided on dismissing these refractory girls from your mind for the present, interrupted Gilmonr, laughing. 'I was just going to ask if there was any change in the cotton market.'

'All in good time; but I was about to say, replied the angry father, 'if you'll let me speak without interrupting me, that Lilian has been plaguing me to take her to London, and so has. Mariou. I told them I would do so; but I see through their plan. Leslie has returned to his family, who are residing at Brixton, I believe. I may say, en passant, that they are all as poor as who has not a cent to bless himself with. There church mice; then, of course, Miss Marion would only be about an hour's walk from the Heath .-Well, my young ladies, instead of going to Lonas ever; and she welcomed Fitz. James cordially. injure no man; but, on the contrary, help when he thinks his troubles as a father are about don, then, I'll punish you both by starting you off this neighbor whenever it was in his power so to to cease by his child's settlement in life, to find Lytham. That sober, quiet little watering-place shall sober you both into your senses and obedieace to your father's will, or I'll know the reason why before I have done with you. - Now to the state of the cotton market, he hurriedly added, as if afraid that his friend should again espouse the cause of the rebellions damsels.

. Mr. Craig was naturally as quick tempered as . his easy-going friend was the reverse. Mr. Craig gloried when there was a dispute between hunself and Mr. Gilmour, which happened not unfrequently to be the case, in being able to show that he had the power as well as the will to punish those who offended him.

We doubt if there be anything more annoying to hasty persons than an unwise recapitulation of veloped. The mount was of periods than an unwise recapitulation of was exactly shaped like Cupid's bow, which, as had been on the very threshold of eternity, and lectively, can by no rule of justice be given, or the responsibility I incurred when I became a real er fancied grievances to these who, perhaps said to be, the distinctive mark of the ladies of husband and a father. But, however, you're a by nature rather than any superior virtue, scarce Oscott had been the alma mater of each of Mir. Leicester requested permission to stand sail and matter of each of godfather, and Kate was asked to be godmother, barely endure his miseries. Now now different from what we have seen of its maids and matrons ing a widely different road to that I had marked these two men; they had grown up from Soywas his nosition! He was at last married to the during a residence of some years amongst them, out; but they must make a kirk or a mill of it, bood together, had benome bosom irrends, locatwhich she at once consenieu.

Charles wrote that Mary was recovering well, girl of his choice—his beloved Kate. Mr. that there are about the same number of pretty Craig. I must yield—can't stand out; too ed themselves in the same county, engaged in the same county in the same county is the the same branch of commerce, and had continued