It was Mr. Gilchrist who dared her

"Hush! He may be the father of your

But she only towered the higher, and

man, may the blight of heaven strike

them as it has struck me this day.

Here I fled the house. I was shaking

as if this awful denunciation had fall-

door closed behind me a different cry

called me back. Mr. Gilchrist was ly-

ing lifeless on the floor, and Philemon

the patient, tender Philemon, had tak-

en Agatha to his breast and was sooth-

ing her there as if the words she had showered upon him had been blessings

instead of the most fearful curses

which had ever left the lips of mortal

The next letter was in Agatha's handwriting. It was dated some months later and was stained and

crumpled more than any others in the

whole packet. Could Philemon once

have told why? Were these blotted lines the result of his tears falling fast

upon them, tears of 40 years ago, when

he and she were young and love had

been doubtful? Was the sheet so yel-

lowed and so seamed because it had

peen worn on his breast and folded and unfolded so often? Philemon, thou art

in thy grave, sleeping sweetly at last by the side of her thou so idolized, but

these marks of feeling still remain in-

dissolubly connected with the words

DEAR PHILEMON-You are gone for

day and a night only, but it seems a

lengthened absence to me, meriting

tittle letter. You have been so good to

ne, Philemon, ever since that dreadful

hour following our marriage I feel that

I am beginning to love you and that

God did not deal with me so harshly

when he cast me into your arms. Yes-

terday I tried to tell you this when you

almost kissed me at parting, but I was

afraid it was a momentary sentimen-

tality and so kept still. But today such

a warm wellspring of joy rises in my

heart when I think that tomorrow the

house will be bright again and that in

place of the empty wall opposite me at

table I shall see your kindly and for-

bearing face! I know that the heart I

had thought impregnable has begun to

yield and that daily gentleness and s

boundless consideration from one who

had excus- for bitter thoughts and re-

thought impossible a few short months

Oh, I am so happy, Philemon, so hap-

py to love where it is now my duty to

love, and if it were not for that dread-

ful memory of a father dying with

harsh words in his ears and the knowl-

edge that you, my husband, yet not my

husband, are bearing ever about with

you echoes of words that in another

nature would have turned tenderness

into gall I could be merry also and

sing as I go about the house, making it

pleasant and comfortable against you

speedy return. As it is, I can but lay

my hand softly on my heart as its beat

ings grow too impetuous and say: "God bless my absent Philemon and help

him to forgive me! I forgive him and

into partnership in the shipbuilding business, John's uncle having left him

a legacy of several thousand dollars.

I hope they will do well. James, they

say, is to all appearance perfectly cheerful, is full of business and this

relieves me from too much worry in his regard. God certainly knew what

kind of a husband I needed. May you find yourself equally blessed in your

Another letter to Philemon a year

DEAR PHILEMON-Hasten home, Philemon; I do not like these absences. am just now too weak and fearful.

Since we knew the great hope before

us I have looked often in your face

for a sign that you remembered what this hope cannot but recall to my

shuddering memory. Philemon, Phile mon, was I mad? When I think what

I said in my rage and then feel the little life stirring about my heart, I wonder that God did not strike me dead rather than bestow upon me the great-

est blessing that can come to woman. Philemon, Philemon, if anything should happen the child! I think of it by day, I think of it by night. I know

you think of it, too, though you show

make such great plans for the future. Will God remember my words or will he forget? It seems as if my reason

DEAR JOHN-Thank you for words

me such a cheerful counte

hung upon this question.

from John Zabel:

A note this time in answer

wife.

That you may see that these are not the weak outpourings of a lonely woman, I will here write that I heard today that John and James Zabel have gone

love him as I never thought I could."

nation is doing what all of us

that gave them birth.

fiery anger. Philemon said nothing.

children. Don't curse"-

their father as"-

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imbs tremble, faint feelings, Leucorrhoea, painful periods, or any Female
Diseases, quickly cured by our FAMOUS PRESCRIPTION.
YOUNG MEN led into evil habits,
not knowing the harm, and who are
suffering from the vices and errors of
youth, and troubled with Nervous Debilty, Loss of Mernory, Bashfulness,
Confusion of Ideas, Headache, Dizziness, Palpitation of the Heart, Weak
Back, Dark Circles Around the Eyes,
Fimples on the Face, Loss of Sleep. Back, Dark Circles Around the Eyes, Fimples on the Face, Loss of Sleep, Fired Feelings in the Morning, Evil-forbodings, Dull, Stupid, Aversion to Society, No Ambition, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Dreams and Night Losses, De-posits in the Urine, Frequent Urina-tion sometimes accommanied with posits in the Urine, Frequent Urination, sometimes accompanied with slight burning, Kidney Troubles, or Diseases of the Genito Urinary Organs can here find a safe, honest and speedy cure. Charges reasonable, especially to the poor. CURES GUAR-INTEED.

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and wartby growths. We cure these and wartby growths. We cure these amony troubled with too frequent gracuations of the bladder, often accompanied by a slight smarting or burning sensation, and weakening of the system in a manner the patient cannot account for. On examination of the urinary deposits a ropy sediment will often be found, and sometimes particles of albumen, and color he of a thin milkish hue, again changing to a dark, torpid appearance. There are men who die of this difficulty ignorant of the cause, which is the second stage of seminal weakness. The doctors will guarantee a perfect cure in all such cases, and healthy restoration of the genito-urinary organs.

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The Mystery of Agatha Webb.

BY ANNA KATHARINE GREEN.

er having heard of this crime. You could not know on what false grounds I had been separated from James."

I had started to escape, but stopped just beyond the threshold of the door as she uttered these words. Philemon was not as ignorant as she supposed. This was evident from his attitude and

"Agatha," he began, but at this first word, and before he could clasp the hands held helplessly out before her, she gave a great cry, and, staggering back, eyed both her father and himself in a frenzy of indignation that was all the more uncontrollable from the superhuman effort which she hitherto made to suppress it. "You, too!" she shrieked. "You, too, and I have just sworn to love, honor and obey you! Love you! Honor you, the unconscionable wretch who"-

But here Mr. Gilchrist rose, weak, tottering, quivering with something more than anger. He approached his

daughter and laid his finger on her lips.
"Be quiet!" he said. "Philemon is
not to blame. A month ago he came to
see me and prayed that, as a relief to
his mind, I would tell him why you had separated yourself from James. He had always thought the match had fallen through on account of some foolish quarrel or incompatibility, but late ly he had feared there was something more than he suspected in this break, something that he should know. So I told him why you had dismissed James, and, whether he knew James better than we did or whether he had seen something in his long acquaintance with these brothers which influenced his judgment, he said at once: "This cannot be true of James. It is not in his nature to defraud any man, but John-I might believe it of John. Isn't there some complication here? I had never thought of John and did not see how John could be mixed up with an affair I had supposed to be a secret between James and myself, but when Philemon laid the matter before James he did not deny that John was guilty, but asked that you be not told before your marriage. He knew that you were engaged to a good man, a man that your father approved, a man that could and would make you happy. He did not want to be the means of a second break, and besides-and this, I think, was at the bottom of the stand he took, for James Zabel was always the proudest man I ever knew-he never could bear, he said, to-give to one like Agatha a name which he knew and she knew was not entirely free from reproach. It would stand in the way of his happiness and ultimately of hers. His brother's dishonor was his. So, while he loved you still, his only prayer was that after you were safely married and Phileme your affection he should tell you that the man you once regarded so favorably was not unworthy of that regard. To obey him Pillemon has kept silent, while I-Agatha, what are you doing?

Are you mad, my child?" She looked so for the moment. Tearing off the ring she had worn but an hour, she flung it on the floor. Then she threw her arms high up over her head and burst out in an awful voice: "Curses on the father! Curses on the husband who have combined to make me rue the day I was born! The father I cannot disown, but the husband"-

Mrs. D. B. Glark

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which could have come from nobody else. My child is dead. Could I expect anything different? If I did, God has rebuked me.

Philemon thinks only of me. We understand arch other propositions. derstand each other perfectly, now that our greatest suffering comes in each other's pain. My load I can bear.

sudden taking off of our firstborn as a sign that certain words uttered by her on her marriage day, unhappily known to you and, as I take it, to James also, have been remembered by the right-eous God above us. This is a weakness which I cannot combat. Can you, who alone of all the world beside know both it and its cause, help me by a renewed friendship, whose cheerful and her heauty from being simply majestic became appalling. "Children!" she cried. "If ever I bear children to this her forget? If so, come like old neighbors and dine with us on our wedding day. If God sees that we have buried the past and are ready to forgive each other the faults of our youth, perhaps He will further spare this good woman. May they die as my hopes have died, or, if they live, may they bruise his heart as mine is bruised and curse I think she will be able to bear it. She henceforth stir the deepest recesses of her heart. en on my own head. But before the

> our sixth and our dearest, and the reproach of its first look had to be met by me alone. Oh, why did I leave you and come to this great Boston, where I have no friends but Mrs. Sutherland Did I think I could break the spell of fate or Providence by giving birth to

our old age. It is borne in upon me like fate that never will a child prosper of my breast or survive the clasp of my arms. If it is to live, it must be reared by others. Some woman who has not brought down the curse of heaven upon her by her own blasphe mies must nourish the tender frame and receive the blessing of its growing love. Neither I nor you can hope to see recognition in our babe's eye

child lest I should blight it. He is so sturdy, Philemon, so different from all the other five.

iand has just been in with her 5 weeks' old infant. His father is away, too, and has not yet seen his boy, and this is their first after ten years of marriage. Oh, that I had such confidence as she in a future of endless delight in this babe!

out this— Come and see me, John, and tell James our house is open to him. We have all done wrong, and are caught in one web of misfortune. Let it make us friends again.

Below this in Philemon's hand:

My wife is superstitious. Strong and capable as she is, she has felt that this

INFANTS' CHILDREN

After this a gap of years. One, two,

than that if I would save this child to

Philemon! Come to me, Philemon! To be Continued

natural character may gradually make has great strength except where a little child is concerned. That alone can

three, four, five children were laid away to rest in Porchester churchyard, then Philemon and she came to Sutherlandtown, but not till after the certain event had occurred, best made known by this last letter to Philemon:

DEAREST HUSBAND-Our babe is born,

Tac Simile Signature of Che Hitteter. my last darling among strangers?
I shall have to do something more

Before it can turn upon us with love it will close in its last sleep, and we will be left desolate. What shall we do, then, with this little son? To whose guardianship can we intrust it? Do you know a man good enough or a woman sufficiently tender? I do not, but if God wills that our little Frederick should live he will raise up some one by the pang of possible separation already tearing my heart. I believe that he will raise up some one.

Meanwhile I did not dare to kiss the

I open this to add that Mrs. Suther-

The next letter opens with a cry;

There is nothing that sounds better,
When I lie in bed at night,
Than to hear the rain a-pelting
When I know the farm is right,

Than to hear the lukewarm splashes
That would fairly sprout a stone,
And I get up in the morning
Just to see how things have grown.

I don't go much for thunderstorms;
They're apt to lodge the grain.
My taste is for the steady,
Pouring, downright, all day rain
That spoils the small potatoes
Because it makes them grow
Till they nudge and say, "Roll overi"
And bulge out of the row.

I own I like to idle
When I do it for a shower
That earns more in a second
Than I can in an hour,
For it's good to sit and listen
To the seeds a pushing through,
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