

ideas of beautiful simplicity and perfect order on the exterior and interior of the humble establishment.

The grandmother was seated on the vine-shaded porch looking out over an old fashioned garden, which was in the most inviting condition. The poor old lady had become weak-minded with advancing years, and failed to recognize me when I took a seat beside her.

"My Mary has gone out," she said in a quavering voice, and I pray God to bring her back in safety. For they have all left me but my Mary. Sadie and Ella are married, and they don't come to see us often. They are cold to my Mary, for they say she spoiled their prospects in life. I don't know how she did. She has always been a good dear grandchild to me."

The garden gate now swung open, and a trim figure came up the path. I knew it at once to be that of "Mary's Little Maid." She wore a white dress, and her simple bonnet was trimmed with blue. She recognized me at once, and I soon had her folded to my heart.

After chatting for half an hour or so, the grandmother said : —

"Mary, give the lady some of our pretty flowers. I know you want them all for the Blessed Mother ; but she won't mind if such a nice lady has a few."

"Oh, no, Mary," I cried, as the girl arose promptly, "I remember your predilection of old for adorning the shrine of Our Lady with floral tributes ; but as I am a flower lover, and see several plants out yonder that are strange to me I would take it kindly if you would escort me around your garden and let me examine the plants closely."

"What is that story I hear, Mary, of your renouncing fine worldly prospects through a foolish caprice, and, by what seems really like selfishness, depriving your orphaned cousins of an opportunity of making advantageous settlements"

"It only means this, dear Miss Annie," she said, raising her sweet candid eyes to mine ; "I found that my relatives, though good-hearted, were so tainted with the corruption of the world that I was in danger of being led into temptation when with them. They gave me li-