

GRANDMOTHER'S EASTER HYMN.

By Mrs. Fidelity Braden.

VERY year she softly sang it, bending 'bove the lilies there, With the sunlight dancing, glancing, resting on her silvery hair...

Long she's sung with myriad angels, round the shining throne above, Seeing to the risen Saviour, whom she ever knew to love...

THE MESSAGE OF THE LILIES

By I. McRoss.

"AY, yes, Mis' Barr, of course we must have the church decorated Easter; we always do. Mis' Perkins, the minister's wife that was here before you came, was a master hand to fix up the church. I'd be proper glad to let you have some of my plants, only I know just how they'd look when they'd come home; every body'd be a-helpin' themselves to slips an' pickin' off the flowers. You can have that wanderin'-jew, though; it wandered off'n the shelf onto the floor, an' I broke it up some. Sister Wilder'll prob'ly let you have 'em if you'll go an' git 'em an' bring 'em home ag'in. They're all covered with red spiders an' all manner of creepies, so it won't hurt 'em to go most anywhere."

She's never been to church since and she and Phil never made up. "What has become of Philip Eustis?" "He went off out west somewhere. The old Squire died a few years ago, an' late years 'Livia doesn't go hardly anywhere."



"I HAVE COME TO ASK YOUR FORGIVENESS."

the happiness that comes from doing and giving. Olivia gave no sign of interest, and Mrs. Barr did not have the courage to pursue such a one-sided conversation. She looked toward the large bay window filled with blooming plants; conspicuous among them was a tier of Easter lilies, a mass of snowy, fragrant bloom.

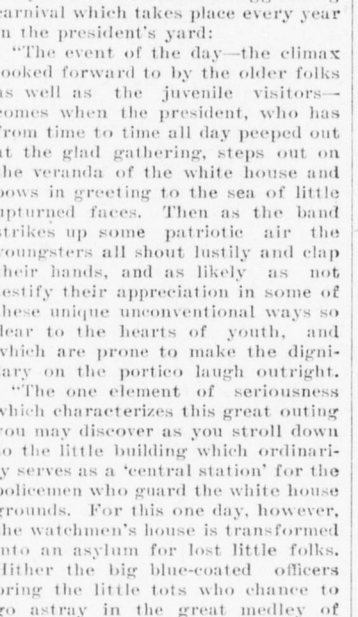
telling their story. She threw down her book and sprang angrily to her feet. "Consider the lilies! Consider the lilies!" she cried. "It seems to me I am considering them whether I want to or not! I'll try repeating the words a hundred times; they say that is the way to lay such haunts!"



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clashed in his arms a pot of her choicest lilies; she could see him as he touched the flowers with his lips, laid his thin cheeks against them, and hugged them in an ecstasy of enjoyment. She thought, too, of Auntie Cooper, bedridden for many years, and of how the tears had run down the old woman's cheeks as she clasped the lilies in her arms.

"My forgiveness, Phil!" she exclaimed; and the old name sounded good from her lips. "It is I who should ask yours, for it was I who did the wrong, not you. I had shut you out; I had determined to forget you, and I had almost succeeded. And all these days my heart has been hardened against the good. I have been selfish, so selfish. But it is over now; the flowers, Phil, my Easter lilies, they made me see and understand. I have asked God to forgive me, too?"



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There is a striking analogy in the fact that Bermuda, the home of the Easter lily, was called, on its discovery, "the Isle of Devils."

DISTRESS IN HAWAII. An Englishman Claims that Annexation Has Been a Bad Thing for the Islanders. London, March 22.—The Saturday Review, continuing its anti-American campaign, publishes a long communication from Alfred Stead, son of William T. Stead, the editor, picturing the alleged deplorable condition of Hawaii as a result of annexation to the United States.

GEN. MILES' CASE. President Roosevelt Will Probably Retire Head of Army. The General Talks Too Much—The President is Said to be Tired of Army Quarrels and Talks With His Advisers as to Course to be Pursued. Washington, March 22.—The statements made Thursday by Gen. Miles before the senate committee on military affairs, one of which was that if the bill introduced by Senator Hawley at the instance of the war department for the organization of a general staff for the army should become a law he would decline to hold his commission, were discussed by the president yesterday with a number of his callers. There is little doubt that these statements will ultimately lead to Gen. Miles' retirement by the president. In discussing the matter with his callers, among whom were senators and representatives, the president took the position that the lieutenant-general of the army should entertain toward his superiors the same respect that he would expect and demand from his subordinates.