TO-MORROW.

To-morrow! Oh, To-morrow's
The day that I like best;
For though my sunset's clouded,
It's golden.farther west.
Observe the little sparrow!
Throughout the dark To-day
She sings of her To-morrow
And the egg she's going to lay

I hear a sad soul sighing
To leave "this vale of tears,"
But make no doubt he's lying
About a hundred years,
And feel no twinge of sorrow
When his ship puts to sea;
The ship that sails To-morrow
Sails soon enough for me.

For though my sun's declining
Behind yon hoary hill,
I know that it is shinling
Beyond the summit still;
And howsoe'er I sorrow
I know 'twill pass away—
God gives a glad To-morrow
For every sad To-day,
—Cy Warman, in N. Y. Sun.

My Strangest Case

BY GUY BOOTHBY.

Author of "Dr. Kikola," "The Beautiful White Devii," "Pharos, The Egyptian," Etc.

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CHAPTER III.—CONTINUED. She rested her clasped hands upon the table and looked pleadingly at me. 'And will you do so?

"I am considering the matter," I gaid, with the first feeling of reluctance I had experienced in the case. "I have promised to give them my decision this element." cision this afternoon.

"So they informed me and that is why I am here," she replied. "Oh, Mr. Fairfax, you don't know how I pity them! Surely if they could find this man his heart would be touched, and he would refund them a portion, at least, of what he took from them, and

what is legally theirs."
"I am afraid it is very doubtful whether he will," I said, "even in the event of his being found. Gentlemen of his description are not conspicuous for their pity, nor, as a rule, will they disgorge unless considerable pressure of an unpleasant description is brought

"Then that pressure must be brought to bear," she said, "and if I may say so, you are the only one who can do it. That is why I have called upon you this morning. I have come to plead with you, to implore you, if necessary, to take the matter up. I am not very rich, but I would willingly give all I have in What is he like?"

"A hundred, if you like," he returned. "You have only to ask them and I will do my best to answer."

"In the first place, I must have a description of this Mr. Gideon Hayle.

the world to help them."
"In that case you are one niece in a thousand, Miss Kitwater," I said, with "Your uncle is indeed fortunate in having such a champion.

She looked at me as if she were not quite certain whether I was joking or

"You will do this for them?"

What was I to say? What could I head. "Gideon Hayle is not the sort of man to allow himself to be photonothing to do with the matter, yet here I was, beginning to think it was hard upon me to have to disappoint her. My profession is not one calculated to render a man's heart over tender, but I must confess that in this case I was by no means as adamant as was usual by no means as adamant as was usual with me. As I have said, she was an unusually pretty girl, and had she not been kind enough to express her belief in my powers! After all, detectives, like other people, are only human.

"Your uncle and his companion have promised to call upon me this after-

promised to call upon me this afternoon," I said, "and when they do so, I think I may promise you that I will

endeavor to come to some arrange-ment with them."
"I thank you," she said; "for I think that means that you will try to help them. If you do, I feel confident that you will succeed. I hope you will for-give me for having called upon you as I have done, but, when I saw how disappointed they were after their interview with you yesterday, I made up my mind that I would endeavor to se you and to interest you on their behalf before they came again."

"You have certainly done so," I answered, as she rose to go. "If I take the case up, and believe me I am not

actly," she replied, blushing prettily. "I should like to feel that you did it for the reason that you believe in the justice of their cause, not merely because I tried to persuade you into it. That would not be fair, either to them or to you."

"Would it not be possible for it to be on account of both reasons?" I asked. "Let us hope so. And now good morning, Miss Kitwater. I trust your uncle will have good news for you when you see him again this

"I hope so, too," she answered, and then with a renewal of her thanks and a little bow she left the office.

I closed the door and went back to my seat, almost wondering at my own behavior. Here was I, a hard-headed man of the world, being drawn into an extraordinary piece of business, which I had most certain-ly decided to have nothing to do with, simply because a pretty girl had smiled upon me, and had asked me to do it. For I don't mind confessing

At this moment Confession that I had made up my mind to help ward in his chair, and placed his Kitwater and Codd in their search for the villain Hayle. The Trust feet was magical. His fit of impotent company would have to look else-rage died down as suddenly as it had where for assistance. And yet, as I sprung up, and immediately he be-amount would be quite sufficient, in had the best of reasons for knowing, came again the quiet, suave, smooth-that piece of business was likely to spoken individual who had first en-pening, to last for some considerable prove twice as remunerative as this tered my office. earch for the traitorous friend. Hap-

heard footsteps in the office outside, and next moment they were shown into my own sanctum. Codd came first, leading his friend by the hand, and as he did so he eyed me with a look of intense anxiety upon his face. Kitwater, on the other hand, was dignified, and as impressive as ever. If he were nervous, he certainly con-cealed it very well.

"Good afternoon, Mr. Fairfax," he said, as Codd led him to a seat. "Acto yesterday afternoon, we have come here to learn your decision come here to learn your decision not a flaw amongst them." which you promised to give us at four o'clock to-day. I trust you have good news for us."

"That depends upon how you take" I answered. "I have made up ny mind to help you on certain con-

"And those conditions?"

"Are that you pay my expenses and the sum of £500, to which another £500 is to be added if I am successful in helping you to recover the treasure of which you told me yesterday.
Is that a fair offer?"

"An exceedingly fair one," Kitwater replied, while little Codd nodded his replied, while little Codd nodded his head energetically to show that he appreciated it. "We had expected that you would charge more. Of course you understand that it may involve a chase round half the world before you can find him? He's as slippery as an eel, and, if he once gets to know that we are after him, he'll double and twist like a hare."

he'll double and twist like a hare."
"He'll not be the first man I have had to deal with who possessed these characteristics," I answered. "And I have generally succeeded in running them to earth at the end."

"Let's hope for all our sakes that you will be as successful in this case," he said. "And now, if I may ask the question, when will you be ready to begin your search? We shall both feel happier when we know you are on his track."
"I am ready as soon as you like,"

better for all parties concerned. Nothing is to be gained by delay, and f, as you say, the man has now been n England two months, he may soon thinking of getting out of it again if he has not done so already. But must answer me some questions

"Tall, thin, with brown hair, and a short, close-cropped beard; he carhimself erect, and looks

"You don't happen to have a photograph of him in your possession, I

"No," replied Kitwater, shaking his



HE HEAVED A HEAVY SIGH AND THEN ROSE TO DEPART.

graphed, and what's more you must remember that when we reached Nampoung, the station on the frontier of Burmah, we had scarcely a rag upon our backs. Any goods and at all sure that I shall not do so, they will owe it to your intercession."

That are that I shall not do so, they chattels we might once have possessed were in the hands of the Chister are the second seco nese. They had robbed us of everything, except what that arch thief,

Hayle, had already stolen from us."
As he said this, another look such as I had seen on the occasion of his

previous visit spread over his face.
"The robber, the thief," he hissed, almost trembling in his sudden excess of rage; "when I get hold of him he shall rue his treachery to the day of his death. Upwards of a quarter of a million of money he stole from us, and where is it now? Where is my sight, and where is Coddy's power of speech? All gone, and he is free. 'Vengeance is Mine,' saith the Lord, but I want to repay it myself.

Here he leant across the table and turned his sightless eyes upon me. "This is certainly a curious sort of missionary," I said to myself as I watched him. "He may be smitten I thanked him and place." on one cheek, but I scarcely fancy he would be content to turn the

At this moment Coddy leant for-

thing in this world.

"I must beg your pardon, Mr. Fair- Line Goor, again repeating the prompily, however, money is not every- fax," he said, in a totally different ise that I would communicate with voice to that in which he had just them so soon as I had anything to with the solution of the transfer hing in this world.

During the remainder of the day voice to that in which he had just them so soon as I had anything to spoken. "When I remember how we report. If I had only known then, I found myself looking forward with have been wronged, I am apt to for-that, at the very moment when they get myself. I trust you will forgive stepped into the street, the man

not one of them, for the clock upon ing of resentment for the man who my door, and evidently watching for

"What were you about to say?" "I was about to ask you the number and description of the stones of which he robbed you. You told me they numbered 93 in all, if I remem-

"Forty-eight rubies and 45 sap-phires," he replied without a mo-ment's hesitation. "The rubies were uncut and of various sizes, ranging perhaps from ten to eighty carats. cording to the arrangement we came to yesterday afternoon, we have

"You may be sure that was his intention in coming to England. But can hear nothing of him there."

"He may have disposed of some of them on the continent." I said. stones is so unusual that they would now one other question. Are you aware whether he has any friends or relatives in England?'

of one, Coddy?"

The little man shook his head, and then, taking the other's hand, tapped upon it with his fingers in the manner I have already described. "He says Hayle had a sister once,

of whom he was very fond." The tapping upon the hand continued and once more Kitwater translated: "She was a cripple, and lived in a small house off the Brompton road. Borneo; is not that so, little man? Codd nodded his head to show that

Kitwater had interpreted him correctly. I then made some inquiries as to the missing man's habits. So far the description I had had of him was commonplace in the extreme. "Do you know whether he shipped on board the Jemadar for England

under his own name, or under an as-"He booked his passage as George Bertram," Kitwater replied. know that is so, for we made in-

quiries at Rangoon."

I next noted the name and address of the vessel's owner, and resolved to that the day of retribution was come pay him a visit next morning. It for the followers of the goddess would be hard if I could not learn Kali, says the Boston Post. There from him something concerning Mr. were at that time at least 10,000 Hayle, and where he had gone on

"I think those are all the questions I want to ask you at present," I said, closing my note-book. "It would be as well perhaps for you to furnish me with your address, in order that I may communicate with you, should

it be necessary."
"At present," said Kitwater, "we are staying with my niece at the village of Bishopstowe in Surrey. My late many years, and he left his daughter a small property in the neighborhood. They tell me it is a pretty place, but, as you are aware, I unfortunately cannot see it, and my tunately cannot see it, and my friend Codd here cannot talk to me

He heaved a heavy sigh and then rose to depart.

"I must again express my grati-tude to you, Mr. Fairfax," he said, "for having consented to take up the case. I feel certain you will ultimately be successful. I will leave you to imagine with what anxiety we shall await any news you may

have to give us."
"I will communicate with you as soon as I have anything to report,"
I answered. "You may rely upon my doing my best to serve you. By member of the school board, "that we

the way, are you aware that you niece called upon me this morning?"
He gave a start of surprise.
"No, I certainly did not know it," he replied. "She said nothing to us of such an intention. I know that of such an intention. I know that desire to find Hayle. But since have seen her you probably know that?

"I think I do," I returned, for some reason almost abruptly.
"She is a good girl," said Kitwa-

ter, and then took from his pocket an envelope which he handed to me.
"By the way, I brought this with
me," he said, "in the hope that we
should be able to induce you to accede to our wishes. Inside you will find a £100 note, which should be sufficient to cover any preliminary expenses. If you need more, perhaps you will be kind enough to communicate with me at once, and it shall be sent you. A receipt can be forward-

I thanked him and placed the envelope upon the table. In my own mind I felt that it would be an easy matter to guess whence the sum had come, and for a reason that I could not then analyze, and therefore unable to describe, the thought irritated me.

tered my office.

"I must beg your pardon, Mr. Fair-the door, again repeating the promthey wanted me to find for them have with Kitwater and Codd that "I will do so willingly," I answered. and whom they hated so desperately, afternoon. If the two gentlemen had "You have certainly won the right was standing in a shop on the other saules, unpunetuality was certainly to be excused if you entertain a feel | side of the road, keeping an eye on | Paily News.

my mantelpiece had scarcely finished has treated you so shamefully. And their departure, how much trouble striking the hour of four, when I now to resume our conversation?" have been saved. But I did not know this until long afterwards, and then of course the information came too late to be of any service to us.

Next morning I was early at the office, being desirous of winding up another little matter before I turned my attention to the new affair. One of my subordinates had just returned from the continent whither I had sent him to keep an eye on a certain pseudo-French marquis with whom I expected to have dealings at no distant date. He reported that the gentleman in question had broken the bank at Monte Carlo, had staked and or a flaw amongst them."

"Has Hayle any knowledge of the value of precious stones?"

"There's not a keener judge in the east. He would be a cunning man who would succeed in taking him in fidently expected to be employed, came to an end. I could not say that I was altogether sorry.

"In that case he would, in all probability, know where to place them to the best advantage?"

"In that case he would, in all probability, know where to place them day, Turner, for St. Petersburg," I said, when he had finished his report to the best advantage?" and I had commented upon it. you remember Paulus Scevanovitch, we have tried Hatton Garden and who was concerned in that attempt to defraud the Parisian jewelers, Maurel & Co., two years ago?"

them on the continent." I said.
"However, we will soon clear that point up. The size of the larger man, with a bushy beard, the top of his little finger on the left be certain to attract attention. And missing, and a long white scar over

"The same," I answered. "I see you have not forgotten him. Well, I "So far as we know he has not a single relative in the world," Kitwater replied. "Have you ever heard "ments during the next three weeks." The office will arrange your expenses in the usual way, and you had better leave by the mail train. In all probability I shall see you off."
"Very good, sir," the man respond-

ed, and withdrew.

[To Be Continued.]

GODDESS OF SMALLPOX.

In Her Honor the Thugs of India, It Is Said, Commit Many Murders.

The divinity worshiped by the thugs of India is appropriately enough the goddess of smallpox. Thagi (or Thuggee), the only religion that preaches murder is not yet tinct. It appears, in fact, of late years to have been actually on the increase. In the Punjab there were two cases of murder by thugs as late as 1896, while in Central India the increase in the last three or four years is startling.

About 70 years have passed since thugs wandering unmolested over the surface of India, who earned a livelihood by murdering their fellow men. They lived in this way partly because it was their religion and partly cause they preferred murdering to

either working or begging.
As each thug killed, on an average, three men a year, some 30,000 people, mostly under British rule or protection vanished into the earth every Such figures seem incredible, and yet officials of the time say that are probably under the mark.

The thug would set out on his business with the quiet earnestness of one who is merely doing his duty, and would brutally murder 20 or 30 victims, not only with an easy conscience, but with the calm self-approval of a successful practitioner. Nor was he at all grasping in his dealings. The celebrated thug, Shumsherah, deposed that "eight annas (a shilling) is a very good remuneration for murdering a man. We often strangle a victim who is suspected of having two pice (three farthings)."

Why He Agreed.

"I think," said the old-fashioned ought to pay more attention to writ-

she is heart and soul with us in our desire to find Hayle. But since you member after the meeting, "what made you agree with me so enthusias-

"Why, you see," said the youth with hesitation, "I-I proposed to a girl last month, and she sent me her answer in writing, and—and, hang it, I don't know whether she said no or yes."-Washington Times.

Overheard,

Two men, we may assume that one was a Frenchman, were riding togethwas a Freenman, were roung togeth-er one day through Paris. One was exceedingly clever, while the other was correspondingly dull. As is some-times the case, the latter monopolized the conversation, and his talk was fast becoming unendurable when his co panion saw a man on the street far ahead yawning openly.

It is not probable that the dullard felt this needleprick of wit, but his

mpanion's exasperation must have found momentary relief.
"Look!" he exclaimed. "We are overheard!"—Short Stories.

A Case in Point.

Mrs. Manning-John, I believe you are the biggest liar in the world. The fact is, you don't care a fig for me, or you wouldn't try to deceive me all this time. There was a time when you said I was the best and sweetest woman on

Then why can't you believe the little fibs I tell you now?—Boston Tran-

A Great Want.

Why doesn't some genius invent a lass eye that can see?-Chicago



Mrs. Sophie Binns, President Young People's Christian Temperance Union, Fruitvale, Bal., Cured of Congestion and Inflammation of the Ovaries by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM: - Eighteen months ago I was a pretty sick woman. I had felt for some months that I gradually grew weaker, but finally I had such severe pains I could hardly stand it. I had taken cold during menstruation and this developed into congestion of the ovaries and inflammation, and I could not bear to walk or stand on my feet. The doctor recommended an operation which I would not hear of. One of my friends advised me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, so I gave it a trial. Can you imagine my feeling when within two months I felt considerably better, my general health was improved, and my pains had entirely disappeared. I kept taking it six weeks more and am now enjoying the best of health, thanks to you. Yours truly, Mrs. Sophie Binns." \$5000 FORFEIT IF THE ABOVE LETTER IS NOT GENUINE.

When women are troubled with irregular, suppressed or painful menstruation, weakness, leucorrhea, displacement or ulceration of the womb, that bearing-down feeling, inflammation of the ovaries, backache, bloating (or flatulence), general debility, indigestion, and nervous prostration, or are beset with such symptoms as dizziness, faintness, lassitude, excitability, irritability, nervousness, sleeplessness, melancholy, "allgone" and "want-to-be-left-alone" feelings, blues, and hopelessness, they should remember there is one tried and true remedy. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound at once removes such troubles. Refuse to buy any other medicine, for you need the best. Refuse to buy any other medicine, for you need the best.

A Nasty Practice.

A nasty Practice.

A nasty practice is what the Chicago Inter Ocean calls the pasting of repeated layers of wall paper, one upon another, thus covering up the filth and germs of disease that may be propagated in the very, absorbent and decaying mass of flour paste, paper, animal glue, colors, etc.

They give opinions of eminent health officers and sanitarians, urging that such practice should be stopped by legal enactment, and also take occasion to say that these sanitarians recommend Alabastine as a durable, pure and sanitary coating for walls.

The Inter Ocean says: "This is a very important question, and, as it costs nothing to avoid this danger, why take any chances?"

How much of the alarming spread of

chances?"

How much of the alarming spread of smallpox and other diseases may be due to unsanitary wall coverings?

Fear nothing so much as sin, and your moral heroism is complete.—C. Simmons.

A selfish success is a sad failure.-Ram's

Many words do not make much wisdom.

Ram's Horn.

A man may be judged by his judgments of others.—Ram's Horn.

Why travel a road that becomes worse every day?—Atchison Globe.

Everyone may see daily instances of people who complain from the mere habit of complaining.—Graves. True Enough.—"What do you mean by saying she just celebrated her wooden wedding?" "She married a blockhead."—Philadelphia Press.

"Hello, buddy!" exclaimed the sprouting blade of grass to the embryo leaflet. "Please don't shoot!" exclaimed the bud, in mock alarm.—Ohio State Journal.

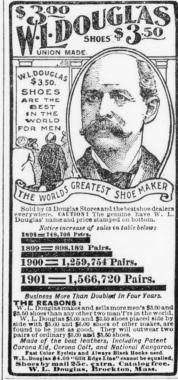
Briggs—"Kate used to say that Fred was as good as pie." Griggs—"She still thinks so; but she has a different way of saying it. She now says that Fred is crusty."— Boston Transcript.

Mr. Subbub—"Somehow or other I never succeed in raising flowers that come up to allose whose pictures are in your catalogue." Seedsman—"Oh, those pictures are ideal drawings. It would be absurd to suppose that nature could accomplish anything so beautiful."—Boston Transcript. "Yes," said his wife, petulafitly, "if I don't get the bonnet I want I'll keep you in hot water." "Then you'll find that I'm like an egg, and that hot water will harden me."—Philadelphia Record.

Philadeipnia record.

The other day some one asked Brother Dickey: "Do you know a candidate for office when you see him?" "Onpossible not to know him, suh," was the reply. "He most inginrully makes it convenient ter run ergin me in the big road en interdooce himself in the property of his hat en 'pologizin'!' -- Atlanta

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