By Margaret E. Sangster. This is to you like any other day?

ing lit with stars, And in high heaven a glimpse of golden bars. Set down for those who shall go home that way.

To me this is a day so set apart By memory and sorrow that I sit With eyes that brim at the mere thought of it,

heart.

-Harper's Bazar.

Miser's Son.

BY A. B.

A little, shabby garret room, lighted by a couple of dull panes in the roof and containing just a bed, a box with a jug and a basin on it, another box and a rough shelf in the corner, holding a few books. That was all.

something else, for a dark-haired boy of 16 was crouching on the bed, elbows on knees, deep in thought and utterly regardless that the tallow candle, which feebly lighted the room, was sputtering its last in the tin candlestick. The boy was good-lookexcellent abilities.

Why, then, did his face wear that Every one has his troubles, and it might calm his troubled heart. Gilbert Shene's was a real one. He is the only, unloved son of a harsh, miserly father. That attic is over the well-stocked shop of "Shene, Ironmonger," in the prosperous country town of Downwater. Shene is one of the richest tradesmen in the place, every one knows, and none better than

his son Gilbert. Gilbert has had a fair education in a commercial school in the town, thanks to the interest taken in him by the clergyman, the doctor and one or two others who have known him all his life; but at the age of 14 his father declared he was not to live in idleness any longer, so he placed him in his own shop to be an errand boy and general drudge, and, instead of permitting him any longer to remain in the small house outside the town the little garret in the roof to be watching the destruction of his propcleared of the rubbish which had erty.

His meals were prepared for him by the old housekeeper, who lived four to the blazing window. stories below him. A less thoughtful boy than Gilbert might have been satisfied with these arrangements, as giving him more liberty than he could have had with his father, but Gilbert was bitterly disappointed. He had hoped to have been allowed to remain at school a few years longer, and then, if he continued to have a taste he had lately shown for his own profession, Dr. Strutt, the busy medical man of Downwater, had promised grim old shop in the market-place

desired to consider it his abode.

to help him on in the world. For Gilbert wanted to be a doctor work, and found a far deeper interin the joints of iron bedsteads or the cessful. construction of tin teakettles.

However, that was at an end, for both Gilbert's friends-Mr. Statham, father's arms. the clergyman, and Mr. Strutt-had father's wishes for the present. He to the ground. They carried him and could still study for the medical profession in his leisure hours, and the next day Dr. Strutt pronounced Shene good doctor promised to keep an eye to be struck with the fever. on him. And such an eye as it was! such a cheerful, twinkling, happy eye, that when it was on him Gilbert could but feel contented.

So Gilbert had lived for two years, working hard, and still, as he said, nothing but a shop boy. Meantime his father had married again-a gay young woman. Gilbert hardly ever saw her, but a year after he used to other. meet, in his short daily walks, a baby, in a brilliant scarlet cloak, whom the maid once held out to him as his lit- know each other better and to be more tle sister. Gilbert looked carefully at the tiny thing, and would have passed on, but the baby smiled at him and made a plunge at the wayside flower he had gathered; so Gilbert-not a bad the child the flower. And that was all his acquaintance with his tiny sister, Grace.

The next thing he heard was that his stepmother had sickened and died of a low fever, then prevalent in Downwater. The boy hardly had known her by sight, so he only felt sorry for the motherless child left so early by its best guardian. What affected him much more was the fever which raged everywhere-not that he feared it, but he longed to be able to study it and find out whether it was not possible to stay these visitations by science and skill.

Day by day the dull routine of the shop became more distasteful to him, and his father showed no signs of any intention to meet his son's wishes. So this night that Gilbert was sitting, head on hands, in the wretched little attic which he had occupied without complaining for two years he was maturing a plan.

He could bear his life no longer; he would give it up; write a letter to his chance; it was God's guiding. father, explaining why he had left, the way of furthering his ares. wish lived to be proud of him in his new are to have smoking cars.

over again: "Duty to parents," Rose dawn, white noon, and even- "Honor your father," and Gilbert's heart hardened at the thought. He would have liked a kindly pressure from Dr. Strutt's hand; but that little man would either be at the bedside of some sick sufferer or snatching a few hours of well-earned sleep-so Gilbert put that idea aside, too.

Then he got up, tied his little possessions in a bundle, wrote his letter, crept quietly in the darkness, passed And all the loneliness it brought my the great rooms filled with gaunt iron beds, tin boxes, chests, baths and such like matter, by which the Shene family had their wealth, and made his way out of the side door into the street. Free at last! But a little pang still crossed Gilbert's heart.

Was he right thus to leave the old man? True, he had shown him little love, but he was his father. Should he wait till to-morrow, meet him face to face, and then once more ask for freedom and permission to follow his

own bent? Gilbert hesitated and walked on a few steps. His guardian angel may have trembled at that moment, but he turned at last. He would not Not quite all, either; the room held shrink away as if he was ashamed of himself-he would wail till the morrow and leave openly, fairly.

He was too unsettled, however, to go back to bed, and, the moon stealing out, Gilbert gladly followed a fancy which led him out of the town toward his father's house, his birthplace. He ing, with a strong, healthy frame and would take a look at it now, when before he should see it again. So, downcast, almost dogged, expression? still and calm as everything would be,

Thus thinking, he sauntered on, till a turn in the road brought him within sight of his old home. And what was it that he saw that startled him out of his thoughts about himself? He saw a glare, a gleam, a burst of dark smoke rising from its walls-the place was on fire.

Gilbert gave a great cry, which roused the dwellers in some dozen houses dotted about, and then he rushed to the door and beat frantically on that and on the closed shutters. Someone, dazed and half stupid, opened to him; then more smoke, more glare-the staircase was impassable.

Gilbert dashed back into the road, with a cry for ladders. He knew there were servants sleeping upstairs.

It was his father he had roused at where Gilbert had been born and first, and the old man now leaned, which Shene still occupied, he caused all but stupefied, against a wall near,

All at once life came back to him, gathered there, and, meager preparaas it were; an expression of terror tions having been made, the boy was came over his face; he flew to Gilbert and, seizing him by the arm, pointed

"My baby! my baby!" he gasped. Gilbert had forgotten the little one. He shook his father off.

"Which window?" he asked, shortly. The wretched man pointed to one from which dense clouds of smoke were issuing.

The baby was the darling of his heart-his one treasure. That Gilbert knew, and also that she was to be his heiress; and that the riches of the

were to go to her. Now, however, she was nothing but -not from any foolish desire to rise in the pretty baby who had smiled at the world, but he really liked the him and who was in peril of her life. So he nerved himself for the service est in studying the movements and of danger, made his way through adjustment of the human frame than smoke and flame and came back suc-

"Take care-she is all but suffocated," he said, as he put her in her

But stern Jacob Shene handed his the baby to a neighbor's house, and

Gilbert thought no more of his new | mercy.' plans. At Dr. Strutt's suggestion he sat up nightly with his father, who was violently delirious and required dollars."-Detroit Free Press. much attention.

Baby Grace went to Mrs. Strutt, who, only having eight of her own, found it easy to make room for an-

In the dark hours of those long nights Gilbert, and his father grew to tolerant of each other.

When the delirium passed Shene was restless and wretched, and Gilbert did his best to comfort him, reading to him, and, by Dr. Strutt's advice, tellfellow at heart-smiled, too, and gave ing him bits of news to divert his

mind. One day the old man seemed more wretched than usual, and at last he broke into the half request, half-command:

"Gilbert, you won't ever leave me?" looked at the wan face, pinched and liking." shrunk, and answered:

"Not if you want me, father." It was a great sacrifice, but Gilbert made it.

The next moment the lad's face flushed with joy, for his father said

"Then you shall be a doctor; you his walking toward his old home and so much resting upon it. A moment's further delay and the little one would have been suffocated. It was not

After this all went well. Gilbert was and start this very night for London, altogether released from the shop and where he had a cousin, a young chem- allowed to take such steps as should ist, who, perhaps, would put him in best fit him for a surgeon. His father

to be a doctor. He would start alone, profession, and to glory in the brass unadvised; for to go to Mr. Statham plate which announced that Gilbert would be to hear the old arguments was a duly qualified assistant of good Dr. Strutt. And when Jacob Shene died, better than all the wealth accruing from that old shop-though Gilbert had that, too-was the charge of the pretty little sister who had been committed to his guardianship by the old man on his deathbed.

"I leave her to you," he said; "you saved her life; after that I can trust her altogether to you."-New York

BIG DAMAGES.

The Old Man Was Bound to Have Satis

faction. A small, wiry, middle-aged man came charging down the road in a high state of excitement. He stopped in front of the Possum Ridge school house, jerked off his hat and coat and threw them down in the road, straightened himself to his full height and shouted:

"Whoop-e-ee! I'm little but I'm pizen, an' I'm achin to chaw somebody up. Do you hear me in thar, you little spindle-shanked gander?"

The young teacher of the school came to the door and looked out. "Why, Mr. Riley," he said, "is that

"It air. It's all me, an' I'm all here. Whoop-e-ee!" "What's the matter with you?" "I'm hungry for blood. Come out here an I'll chaw you up so quick

that you won't know what's gone wrong with you. Dodgast you, I'll eat you at one bite." "Why do you want to chew me up:

What harm have I done you?" "You've gone an' wrecked my darter's life, dadblame you. You've tampered with her affections an' won her heart an' then won't marry her.' "Mr. Riley, I have never made love to your daughter and I have never tampered with her affections." "You have. You went to meetin'

with her three times." "Well, what does that signify?" "It signifies you got to take a lickin', marry the gal or pay damages."

"But I never agreed to marry her. Mr. Riley. I never mentioned the subject to her in my life. I never vogue are whaleboned to enable them even hinted at such a thing." "That don't matter. You went with ing to slim figures only.

her three times, and after that she naturally 'lowed you meant to marry "Well, I can't marry her, and I am

"If you don't marry her, dodgast you, you'll do one of them other two

sorry if she is disappointed."

things. You'll pay damages or be chawed up." "I don't want to fight you, Mr. Riley."

want. I'm goin' to climb on you, an' etc., introducing, perhaps, a contrastlittle but I'm pizen, an' when i git my smart silk underskirt, a dressy blous either a lickin' or damages.' "I won't pay any damages."

"Then look out fer me, fer I'm goin' to light on you, an' when I git through with you nobody won t know you from a mess of sausage meat. Whoop-e-ee! Here I come."

'Hold on a minute. I don't want to have any trouble with you. Can't we come to an understanding some

"It's either a lickin' or damages." "How much damages do you want?" "I want lots of it, I kin tell you that right now. That gal is my own flesh

an' blood, an' when I look at her an' see how you've broke her heart an' wrecked her life my dander rises an' my blood biles. Dadblame your to put on a very nice skirt, and in this onery skin, I ought to lick you; but way various economies can be effectrecommended compliance with his treasure to another and fell, fainting. if you'll put up money enough I'll let you off."

"How much do you demand?" "Its goin' to take a pile of it, fer, by Grannys, I ain't goin' to show you no

"Well, how much?" "I won't take a cent less than two

A Case for Scissors.

In a certain village in Kent there lives an old lady known as "Talkative modern stays. She calls her counter-Sal." The parson showed too much blast "Le Corset: Etude Physiologilinen at his wrist for her liking, so que et Pratique," and points out the one day, meeting him in a lane, she miseries and the dangers arising from said:

you mind my cutting about an inch cuirass, which she is not the first to off your waistbands, as I think it condemn. Not that Mme. Gachesvery unbecoming to a clerical man." she took from her pocket a pair of of it in principle, but maintains that

Having finished, the parson said: "Now, madame, there is something about you that I should like to see

about an Inch shorter." "Then," said the good dame, band-Gilbert waited a moment, then ing him the scissors, "cut it to your

"Come, then, good woman," said the parson, "put out your tongue."-

Fireproof Dwellings for Russia.

Spare Moments.

Mr. Porokhovstchikow, who some time ago published an important work dealing exhaustively with the saved my baby; naught is too good system to be adopted for the sanitafor you. I shan't forget that night," tion of St. Petersburg and Moscow, And Gilbert never forgot that night has recently been among the rural either. Such a chance as it seemed, population, advising the adoption of makers should be done away with and incombustible wood for village dwell- others with normal waists substituted ings. He has built in the environs of for them, Furthermore, war must be Moscow a fireproof "village," which made on modern skirts or petticoats, a government official has been sent to which are far too long, and not only report upon. If the result of the experiment proves satisfactory there will be a great future for the fireproof wood in the villages of Russia.

The Philadelphia street railways



NOTES OF INTEREST ON NUMEROUS FEMININE TOPICS.

A Favorite Postmistress-When Charles I. was King-Plastrons, Guimpes and Cra-Against Corsets-Etc., Etc.

A Favorite Postmistress.

Mrs. T. R. R. Cobb, of Atlanta, has been appointed postmistress of the Georgia House of Representatives. She is the widow of Thomas R. R. Cobb, or controversy. who was a favorite writer and speaker, and the announcement of her selecby the members.

When Charles I. was King.

The new gilt spike ornament that finishes the ends of velvet and ribbon ties is the revival of a fashion popular in the time of Charles I., of England. Their introduction this season is traceable to the costume exhibition of all ages at the Paris Exposition. The pretty filigree points instantly attracted notice, and were promptly adopted by fashion.

Plastrons, Guimpes and Cravats. Plastrons, guimpes and cravats are playing an important part on the dress

of the present. Plastrons are waistcoats and should be made by a tailor. They are made in cloth, silk, satin or velvet, either plain or figured, but the most elegant are made of white ribbed silk. They have pretty buttons in front, as close together as it is possible to have them, or simply concealed by a lace jabot.

The guimpe is a chemisette made of lace insertions and fine muslin or soft

Neckscarfs or cravats are made of lace, crape or liberty silk edged with lace. They should be very long, the longer the better. The black silk corselets which are now so much in to keep their shape. They are becom-

Economical Dressing.

An economical plan where means are limited is to choose a color for the season and to keep to tones of that one only. For instance, if a blonde chooses navy blue for the winter, she will have her hats, jackets, en-touteas, dresses and petticoats in harmonizing tones of the same color; also fiannel "Don't make no difference what you and silk skirts, neckties, waistbands. chestnut brown for dresses, coats and hats, with a rich apricot, orange or pomegranate for a contrast in dress forms a stock at the front. linings, underskirts, vests and blouses. Olive green goes well with pale shades of turquoise or sky blue, also with and a purple or dahlia will tone perfectly with dead shades of pink, so that it is possible to get a great deal of variety in a small wardrobe by changing the accessories about. One set of stockings will do for all the different toilets. A smart blouse and toque can be worn with a morning dress to smarten it up on a day when though fine overhead, it is too muddy ed, and a smart appearance can be obtained at less expense.-Washington

A Crusade Against Corsets. Our Paris correspondent writes: Agitation over various matters affecting women is again becoming rife. Mme, Gaches-Sarrante, a lady doctor. is to the fore with a book, in which she ably attacks tight lacing and the undue compression of the female form "Excuse me, parson, but would by the fashionable breastplate or Sarrante would have the corset done "Certainly," said the parson, and away with altogether. She approves scissors and cut them to her satisfac- the modern stays should be modified so as not to produce compression and its attendant ills.

Another lady comes forward with more sweeping suggestions as to feminine apparel. She not only insists on the abolition of the corset, but also of tight collars and of clothes that fit like a glove. Women, she contends, must return to the ample and flowing robes of ancient Greece and Rome. In place of the stays she advocates a health belt or "ceinture hygienique." which she deems necessary as a prop or support of the flexible female form. In order to insure the making of a proper girdle of this sort the lady in question urges that the dummies or into the market.-New York Tribune. 'manuequins' now used by dressimpede movement, but cause fatigue when they have to be held up on a wet day.-London Telegraph.

The Modern Woman. An observant writer has this to say London Globe.

with reference to the modern woman

"How young the well-dressed women of 45 or 50 look, how free from care and responsibility! There is no single detached word in our language large enough to express the complex impression made by these straying matrons of high fashion. The immediate sense of wealth, of habitual selfindulgence, of custom to command the unmistakable expectation of being obsequiously waited upon, which vats-Economical Dressing-A Crusade brings a head walter as surely as a familiar whistle calls a dog-all this is intensely amusing, and to the woman devoid of footman and lady's maid makes an interesting study. Environment has certainly made grand dames of these ladies, without doubt

"And the maidens, typical highclass young women of the last of the tion was received with loud applause century, what a strange development they are from the circumstances, the traditions and the opinions of their grandmothers! Straight, athletic, and undisturbed by crowds, or pushing half-discourteous men, how loudly they laugh, how distinctly and freely they talk, of the season, of dress, of the coming wedding, or the last broken engagement! How brown they are especially their hands, brilliant with dazzling rings, and how rough and unkempt their hair! What curious, fanciful clothes they wear, and what wonderful combs and buckles! And if she chances to lunch next a trio of these very independent young girls no elderly woman will fail to be surprised at what they eat, while they laugh and chaff each other like schoolboys and restlessly put up their hands to press uncertain combs into their loose rolls of fluffy hair. They are fine specimens of physical health, with firm shoulders and quite astonishing, muscular arms, but they are not fascinating, nor does the new alert, commanding manner charm."-New York Sun.

Fashion in Furs.

For jackets Persian lamb is the choice of the hour for those who cannot afford the seal, that is confessedly the most beautiful of furs. Persian lamb is like seal in that it is durable, becoming and lends itself to close fitting and graceful lines.

Marten has returned to the place that it occupied years ago in public favor. It is admirably adapted to the high collar and wide rolling revers that give such an air of luxurious comfort to an otherwise simple costume. Sable fox, which is merely fox dyed in imitation of sable, and mink also are greatly liked for scarfs and small neckwear. The proper furs for "half"

mourning are chinchilla and ermine. A fascinating chinchilla blouse is edged and belted with a band of gold when I do I'll make the fur fly. I'm ing shade, such as old rose, for a and green galon, which appears also as waistbands on the small bishop hands on you you'll think a half dozen and millinery trimmings. A good sleeves. The collar is extremely high, cyclones have got hold of you. It's scheme for a brunette is a golden or and the revers are so full as to be almost ruffly. The galon enriches the throat, likewise outside the collar, and

A close fitting broadtail coat has an odd arrangement of black cloth appliqued over green velvet and emcertain shades of peach and yellow, broidered with green and gold. It forms a modified Spanish girdle effect, with upper edge battlemented. The coat is lined with green satin, which shows in the double revers. Large buttons of onyx are used for the fastening, which is at one side.

A luxurious Newmarket of pulled mink in sharply defined stripes covers the gown completely, and is absolutely simple in its lines. The collar is of below the waistband. Such a garment his pay. would be grotesque on a small woman, but on a tall, stately figure is superb. by a gold buckle.

coat of mink, with brown velvet scal- some of its officers its funds may be loped yoke, deepening at the sides into a bolero effect. The velvet is richly embroidered with different shades of brown and gold colored silks. The greatest mosquito producing States of sleeves are bell and the muff is bag

A still more striking novelty is of devoted to the cultivation of orchids. chinchilla, and is quite indescribable Between mosquitoes, orchids and octoin shape. It suggests a graduated puses New Jersey is hard to get away, cape with sleeves more than anything | with. else, and the fronts are turned back in huge revers from a vestlike arrangement of ermine. The must is of to perfect the sweet pea, but it is to a fancy design, in scalloped ruffles, the English florist that the world is and the black velvet picture hat has a indebted for this dainty and exquisiteband of chinchilla bordering the crown ly sweet flower. It is native to Sicily, and the inner edge of the brim, with but the English and American article an ermine head catching the two great | is so much superior to the original that

ostrich plumes. The prices of these confections recognize it. range from \$350 to \$3,500. Furriers say that the high cost of furs is due largely to the wish of the extremely rich, who would rather pay higher prices than allow their favorite furs to ment from the State reformatory at be "vulgarized" by even comparative Jeffersonville, Ind., that 75 per cent. cheapness. In point of fact, they say, of the negroes received there have it has been the best season for trapping in ten years, and immense numbers of fine skins have been brought victed were the result of that habit,

Shameful Treatment of Children.

An advertisement has appeared in a



The man who wrote Modern Women Are Declining possibly had his own reasons for saying so.

The only cloud on the horizon is the possibility of a resumption of the twentieth-century debate.

The Gould family has the reputation of being shrewd, But Boni de Castellane has proved to be a mighty poor investment.

A church choir quarreled and refused to go to church in Kansas, whereupon the congregation arose and sang "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow."

The school board of Deadwood, S.

D., has adopted a new system in regard to the books used by pupils, who will now be required to pay a small rental fee for the use of such volumes as they require. The Figaro states that a recrudescence of Royalism in Paris is immi-

nent. It might be dangerous if there were any Pretender worth while. But fertunately for the Republic there In no country in the world are infectious diseases so frequently mortal as in Russia. Children especially suf-

fer, and diphtheria, measles, scarlatina

and smallpox literally decimate vil-

lages and country towns. Efforts are being made to abolish what is called "the free zone," a strip of territory sixty miles wide on the Mexican border, into which foreign goods are admitted at much less than the usual duty.

The progress of the century is illustrated by the fact that New Zealand on January 1 will put in operation universal penny postage, placing that once savage country in this respect in the forefront of civilized nations.

In Brazil, public schools are under the control of a board of men similar to American school trustees and an affiliated board of women, who have supervision over the health and morals of teachers and pupils.

While brutal crimes occur more frequently in some parts of the country than in others, there is no State in the Union that is wholly free from them. Lynching, whether North or South, does not reduce the number of them. It is said that the telephone has al-

most entirely dissipated the friendly habit of borrowing tea, coffee, baking powder, etc., that has so long existed between neighboring families. Instead of calling on the neighbor, the grocer is called up.

Most royal marriages are unhappy. But that is expected. So it is unusual for the fact to become anything more than a matter of common report. Hence the "separation" agreed on between a granddaughter of Queen Victoria and her husband is peculiar.

Five years ago an Ohio nurseryman sold a bill of fruit trees to a farmer in West Virginia who would never pay for them. This year the trees bore the deep shawl pattern, and sleeves fruit bountifully. The nurseryman atare "small bishop," with ruffle effect tached the fruit on the trees and got

Since the Alvord embezzlement a A turban of Persian panne in wood Milwaukee bank has introduced the brown tones has a brim of mink, and innovation of locking the tellers and a side pour of the panne is fastened other employes who handle money in their cages until after banking hours. A novelty in fur coats is an Empire If it will now put a ball and chain on reasonably safe.

> New Jersey is not only one of the the Union, but she also possesses the most extensive hothouses in the world,

The American florist has done much the Sicilian would hardly be able to

The evil effects of the cocaine habit are becoming more obvious, week by week. Recently there came a statebeen addicted to the habit, and that the crimes for which they were con-

A prominent manufacturer of artificial limbs says: "By looking over books which comprise the history of ocal paper, in which a lady expresses many thousand cripples we arrive at her desire for a servant who will be the conclusion that dismemberment expected "to cook and dress children." plays no part whatever in shortening four-and-twenty blackbirds life." These records go back to 1853, baked in a pie are not to be compared since which time but 25 per cent. of with this new dish. "Children dress- his patrons have died. Amputations ed a la mode" will now have a new seem rather to enhance vitality and significance in the fashion papers .- make the life of the subject longer and freer from disease.