

"Oh, madam, you are too good; but—"

"Hush," Daisy entreated. "Leave everything to me. They have gone to dress for dinner, and you will not be disturbed."

Something in that soft, yet decided manner inspired the poor girl with confidence. The colour began to steal back into her lips, and she drew a long breath.

As Daisy surmised, all the ladies of the household had repaired to their rooms, and she encountered no one on her way to her chamber.

It was the work of a few moments to unlock a little desk, and take out one golden sovereign. Sovereigns were not too plentiful with Daisy, but she did not pause to ask herself whether ten shillings would not do as well? Nor did she even stop to think it hard that she should be relieving one whom Gertrude Sandon had helped to make poor. Her mind was fixed upon immediate relief, and nothing else.

When she returned to the schoolroom the dressmaker was trying to set about her work again. Daisy poured some eau-de-Cologne on a handkerchief, and insisted that Miss Leeson should hold it to her face, and get refreshed.

"I have only a little while before dinner," said Daisy, speaking quickly, "but I must tell you that I overheard all that passed between you and Miss Sandon. Take this money now, and get what is necessary for your mother and yourself."

"You are too kind," Miss Leeson sobbed. "We have suffered terribly; I wish I could tell you—"

"Another time," Daisy answered. "You will be here to-morrow. My cousins have engaged you for several days?"

"Yes; there is a great deal to be done. I can never thank you enough, madam. May I ask your name?"

"I am Daisy Garnett, the Doctor's niece," replied Daisy, simply. "And now I must run away to dress; so good-night, and God bless you."

Aunt Cecily would have said that day that Michaelmas Daisy was worthy of her name. She had cheered and lifted a weary heart in its distress; and her parting blessing seemed to Anne Leeson like an answered prayer.

At dinner Gertrude Sandon looked as radiant as usual; Daisy thought that her cheeks and eyes were even brighter than ever, and she appeared to have an unceasing flow of spirits. When they returned to the drawing-room, however, her liveliness seemed to flag; she shivered a little, crept into a seat near the fire, and was evidently anxious to be let alone.

"Darling, you have caught cold," said Maud.

"No, no," Gertrude answered; "I'm only tired. Do go and sing a duet with Rhoda, dearest. I am longing for music."

Maud flew to the piano, Rhoda rose, and Miss Daughton instantly offered to play the accompaniment. When all three were thoroughly occupied, Gertrude allowed herself to be natural once more.

She quite forgot Daisy's presence; her head sank wearily on the sofa cushion, and all the sparkle died out of her face. At that moment a stranger might have taken her for a woman of thirty instead of a girl of nineteen.

"Please read this, Miss Sandon," whispered Daisy, stealing to her side, and slipping a little note into the listless hand.

Gertrude started, and flashed a haughty look at the speaker. But Daisy went back to her seat without another word.

The duet was fortunately a lengthy affair; and, after a furtive glance towards the piano, Miss Sandon unfolded and read the note. It was written in a firm hand, and ran thus:—

"I was an involuntary listener while you were talking to Miss Leeson this afternoon. Forgive me if I seem rude and meddlesome; but pray tell me when and where I may speak to you."

Miss Sandon reflected for a second or two, and Daisy saw her tiny foot beating an angry tattoo upon the carpet. Then, feeling that there was no time to be lost, she produced a gold pencil, and scribbled a reply.

A little crumpled ball of paper fell at Daisy's feet. She picked it up hastily, and managed to decipher these words:—

"To-night, in my room, at half-past ten."

(To be continued.)

TAKE CARE OF BROKEN BREAD.

By RUTH LAMB.



IT is a terrible thing to want bread, a sinful thing to waste it. I am often sorry when I see good bread thrown away by little children whose wants are almost too readily supplied, and who, when the immediate need is satisfied, will throw the greater portion of the slice away, perhaps from the cottage door into the street.

I was one day passing along a little street in Manchester when, just before me, I saw a turbaned Oriental gentleman stoop and, with a gesture of positive reverence, lift a cast-away crust from the pavement and place it inside some garden railings, that it might not be trodden under foot. This action might have taught a lesson to any observer.

I learned one, when a girl, from my mother and grandmother, who told me a great deal about the state of things in this country in the early years of this century, owing to a succession of bad harvests.

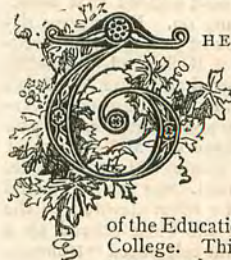
Bread was not only extremely scarce and dear, but the corn was sprouted, and consequently the loaf was, in almost every case, like a mere shell of crust with a mass like a dumpling in the middle, sticky to touch and almost as heavy as lead. My mother told how my grandfather refused fabulous prices for some sound old barley which he possessed in order

to have wholesome bread, if crown, for his family, and how the bread used to be baked in night-ovens, in order that by being left in a long time the loaves might be gradually dried and more digestible.

The greatest nobles in the land banished bread from their dinner tables, so that by every means in their power the consumption might be lessened and scarcity relieved. It is said that Nelson, coming home for a brief respite after some of his great victories, and knowing nothing of this rule, asked for bread at a grand dinner, but was told by a servant why it was absent. He laughingly replied that, after fighting his country's battles, it was hard she would not find him bread—soft bread being always a special treat to seamen who have long been confined to hard biscuits.

My mother told me also that she should never forget the pains taken in her father's fields to get a few sheaves of corn dry enough to thrash and grind, or the delight and joy with which they partook of the first cakes made from good sound flour as they thanked the "Lord of the Harvest" for a renewal of His good gifts in the shape of sound bread.

CAMBRIDGE SYSTEM OF INSTRUCTION BY CORRESPONDENCE.



THE Cambridge system of instruction by correspondence has been affiliated to Newnham College, and the appointment of the lecturers is now subject to the approval

of the Educational Committee of the College. This step has been taken to ensure the stability of the scheme

apart from all accidental conditions. The correspondence classes have been in existence for ten years, and during that time the total number of entries has been 1,773. Though the majority of the students have been preparing for the higher local examination, in which the amount of success obtained has been very satisfactory, yet the greater number of the classes are also open to students not preparing for any examination, but desirous of pursuing a definite course of study. These classes provide instruction in the subjects of all the groups of the higher local examinations, and are especially useful in preparing for Group A, which the authorities of Newnham College require students to have passed before they come into residence. The fee is three guineas for one year's course in each subject of Group A. For each of the other classes the fee is four guineas. An entrance fee of five shillings is charged to each student when she first sends in her name as a member of any class or classes. This fee will not be charged at any subsequent entry. Application for admission to the classes should be made between October 1st and 14th to the Hon. Sec., Mrs. Peile, Trumpington, Cambridge. There is a lending library at Cambridge in connection with the classes. The rules and lists of books can be obtained from Miss Julia Kennedy, The Elms, Cambridge.

There is no reduction of fees to teachers, but the Teachers' Education Loan Committee will make grants of money, on loan without interest, to correspondence students, provided that they fulfil the conditions of the committee. Application for a loan should be made as soon as possible after October 1st to Mrs. Peile, when further information may be obtained.