

ever; there was every reason to hope that the future would realise her dream.

Meanwhile she was terribly restless and studied reluctantly, with many lapses into laziness. Geraldine watched her with inquisitive eyes, and drew her own conclusions. Over the tea-cups she conveyed a slip of paper to Dye, and gazed at her with an amused expression while she read it.

"I should like to go to her!" Dye said, looking up eagerly. "Can't it be managed? Must we be always shut up like little toddlekins in a nursery?"

"We need not hope that Madame will let us consult a fortune-teller," Geraldine replied. "I beg her pardon—a lady impressionist. I believe Madame thinks it's wicked to want to know what's coming. So does Angelique, I'm sure."

"It doesn't matter what Angelique thinks!" Dye's red mouth took a curve of scorn. "Anyone can predict her future. She is cut out for a humble companion or a governess."

"Poor dear!" said Geraldine with a mocking expression in her pretty light-blue eyes. "If that's all, it isn't really worth while for her to go. But we should like to learn the high destiny that awaits our charming selves. Hurrah! I have an idea, Dye."

"Oh, but your ideas don't come to anything," the other muttered.

"This will. It shall take shape this very evening. I shall write to Mrs. Pearson, and ask her to invite us to dinner on Saturday. She will be sure to

want us to stay all night; I know her good-natured ways."

"But when——" Dye began.

"Do wait a moment. The carriage will be sent for us about two. I shall tell the coachman to drive us straight to the lady impressionist's lodgings and leave us there. When we have done with her we can walk back to Mrs. Pearson's. She will make a little pretence of scolding us, of course, but who would care for that?"

"The lady impressionist lodges in the High Street—yes, that plan will do very well," Dye said thoughtfully. "It will take us about ten minutes to walk back to Mrs. Pearson's, and by that time it will be dark."

"Dark deeds are screened by darkness," said Geraldine, with a keen enjoyment of the situation. "No one who meets us will recognise us, and the tale will never get to Madame's ears. Mrs. Pearson will not betray a girl's secret. I do like secrets!" she added ecstatically. "Life would be positively too uninteresting without them."

"Oh, I don't care for secrets," replied Dye. "They are rather troublesome things, I think. But I want to see this fortune-telling woman, and I sha'n't rest till I do."

"You are absolutely devoid of romance," said Geraldine. "It's not the fortune-teller that attracts me: it's the adventure and the dash of mystery. You would be much nicer, Dye, and people would get fonder of you, if you were not so awfully prosaic."

"What big words you use!" retorted Dye scornfully. "I don't give myself sentimental airs, and pretend to find out hidden beauties in common persons and things. That's just what Angelique Ray does: it is her way of trying to attract attention and make friends."

"It's a way which hasn't succeeded with you," Geraldine said coolly. "For you are certainly not her friend."

A look of passionate contempt darkened Dye's handsome face and marred its beauty.

"No," she answered in a clear cold voice. "She will never make a friend of me."

The words came back to her afterwards with a sting in them. We do not know what we do when we speak words, nor do we dream of the cruel force with which they may return. Words of comfort or words of blessing are never lost when we cast them forth upon the air. Some day, when we least expect them, they may revisit us with healing on their wings, soothing some hour of bitter pain, warming the heart which the world has chilled. It would have been well for Dye if she had learnt to speak kind words instead of scornful ones. Even Geraldine had some foreshadowing of this, as she rose and turned away.

"What a hard girl Dye is!" she thought. "But nobody could expect much softness from Lady Winstoke's daughter."

(To be continued.)

KNITTED BABY-SHOE.

Directions.—Single Berlin wool in two delicate colours is used for this combined shoe and sock. Our pattern was carried out in ivory-white and pale blue. Each shoe is knitted like a stocking from the top downwards, round and round.

Cast on 70 stitches in blue wool.

1st Row.—Plain.

2nd, 3rd and 4th Rows.—Purl.

5th Row.—Plain.

Now take the white wool.

6th Row.—*Make 1 by bringing wool in front of needle, knit 3, slip 1, knit 2 together, pass slipped stitch over, knit 3, make 1, knit 1 and repeat from *.

7th Row.—Plain.

Repeat 6th and 7th rows three times.

Then knit a plain row in which the 4th and 5th stitches are knitted together.

Knit 9 plain rows.

In knitting last row cast off 2 stitches.

Now take the blue wool.

1 plain row.

2 rows purl.

*Make 2 by putting wool twice round needle, purl 2 together twice, repeat from *.

28th Row.—Knit 1, purl 3.

29th Row.—Purl.

30th Row.—Plain, casting off 2 stitches.

Now use white wool.

1 plain, then 3 purl, 1 plain for 25 rows.

Now take off 24 stitches on to one needle and continue the pattern on these for 24 rows, working backwards and forwards, and always taking off the first stitch in row without knitting it.

The remaining 32 stitches are worked later on for the heel.

Now cast on 56 stitches on a needle with blue wool.
 Knit 1 plain row, 1 purl, 1 plain.
 *Make 2, purl 2 together twice, repeat from *.
 Knit 1, purl 3. Knit 1 row. Purl 1 row.
 Cast off 12 stitches, knit 32 with the 32 white stitches left for heel, knit 12 remaining stitches and in returning cast them off.
 This forms the strap.
 Knit for heel on the 32 stitches left on 3 plain rows, always slipping first stitch of each row.
 Then knit 3 rows of 2 plain and 2 purl and then 3 plain rows.
 Here the pattern shows as in illustration.
 After the third pattern the heel is finished.



To turn the heel.—Slip 1, purl 18 stitches, slip 1, knit 1, pass slip-stitch over, turn, slip first stitch, purl 7, purl 2 together, purl 1, turn, slip first stitch, knit 2 together, knit 7, slip 1, knit 1, pass slip-stitch over, knit 1, turn, and thus continue taking from the sides two more stitches each time till all the side-stitches are taken in.

This ought to leave 10 stitches.

Then take up on left side the 12 chain-stitches, purl back, take up 12 stitches on the right, and divide your stitches on two needles, making 17 on each.

At each third row a stitch is cast off at beginning of the first and end of the second needle until you have 2 on each needle.

At each row with the last coloured stitch a stitch of the white tongue must be knitted in.

When all the tongue is knitted in, 4 check rows must be finished.

Now knit, taking in the white stitches remaining on the needle, for 4 checks.

At each third row begin taking off as in a stocking.

After each casting off, 2 rows (later on only 1 row) are knitted.

When you have reduced to 16 stitches, knit off on wrong side.

Lastly the blue border is knitted round instep.

In front cast on 16 stitches and at each side 14.

Purl 1 row. Knit 1 row. Purl 1 row.

Knit 1 row. Purl 1 row. Cast off.

Always slip 1 stitch in the corners.

Run narrow blue ribbon through the strap and the band round the leg, and finish off with bows, buttons or bells as in sketch.