There comes a respite for Eve-not illness for herself, as she has been half expecting, but for another. The week after her meeting in the lane with Tolver, Sam, who was ailing for some days before, falls ill of malignant scarlet fever; and on the twenty-second of July, which day was to have seen Eve a bride, he lies in extremity. There are several more cases now in the neighborhood, all of the same virulent nature. The cottage on the hillside is almost deserted when the news is known, for the people are becoming terrified at the ravages made by the destroyer, which has carried off several victims since the little daughter of the town-clerk fell a first prey to it.

Farmer Gerard fears nothing: but if he comes to the cottage he cannot attend to his business, on account of the danger of spreading the infection amongst his men and their families, so he stays away, very unwillingly, and contents himself with sending them a good nurse from the hospital in the town. No gift could be more welcome than the services of the strong skilled woman to relieve the two watchers, almost worn out with what they have already gone through. Everything looks brighter from the day she came, for a nin while. The boy wants for nothing that love or money can procure.

Mr. Gerard sends daily every delicacy that his land affords, and many another that he gets from the town; and besides these other baskets arrived mysteriously from time to time, a low knock at the door intimating a caller, but, when the door is opened, no one is there—only a basket stands on the steps, with no name or address, and within are found hot-house fruit and a sick appetite or relieve a weary frame. and changes her tone Mrs. Thirkeld pretends to think that these anonymous gifts come from some rich person in the neighborhood who has heard of their troubles and pities and wishes to help; and all the while she knows that they are from no one but Tolver Gerard.

Notwithstanding all the attentions lavished upon him, the patient makes but little headway against the disease. It seems to have a fast hold of him; at nights he is violently delirious, and it takes all the strength of Eve and the nurse together at such times to keep him from doing himself an injury; all the day he tosses and moans in pain and weariness. He rarely seems to when the delirium is on him Mrs. share of the nursing bravely, to Eve's fear, for she thinks that her mother is doing too much, and will take the fever in consequence; and thus her anxieties are doubled.

Several times the farmer steals up to the cottage after dark, when no one is abroad to see him and to fancy him a sort of infection afterwards, and Eve or Mrs. Thirkeld speaks to him from an upper window. They will not open the door to him, the doctor having declared it a particularly contagious spocies of fever, and impressed upon them the importance of complete isolation; so it is in vain that Farmer Gerard stoutly protests against the restriction. The second of these stolen visits is made on the twenty-second day of the month.

"Do you remember what to-day is. my dear, or was to have been?" he inquires of Eve at her bed-room window. having apprised her of his arrival by a gentle knock at the door, agreed upon beforehand.

Eve tells him soberly that she does. She is very quiet and sad. She longed for something to intervene between her fate, and something has intervened: and a new fear and sorrow hang over her life.

"Ah, well," sighs the farmer. " we can never tell one day what may happen the next! And how's the poor little chap to-night?"

"No better," she answers. "Worse, if anything.' "Poor boy, poor boy! You must be

all broken up! Now, if you were to let me in to sit up with him just forone night, I'd have a bath and change all my clothes before I went near a soul in the morning." "You are very kind," she almost sobs.

feeling sorrowfully and passionately that she has blamed him too much, that he is kinder than she deserves; "but I must not-I dare not. You might take it yourself."

"Oh, I'm not afraid-it's those that are afraid that take it!"

She will not be parsuaded, however, and the farmer has to go away at last, grumbling and pitying and sympathizing all in the same sentence. "He's the best friend we've got !" the

widow declares emphatically, when Eve tells her of his anxiety to help them. "He is a very good friend," Eve is fain to admit.

The next morning, when a low signal at the door apprises them of an arrival which they have learned to expect, Eve runs quickly to answer it, hoping to catch a glimpse of the bearer of the mysterious basket. The basket is standing on the step with its wonted sir of having come there of its own accord, but somebody is beside it to dev a girl dressed in fresh monraing, with a round; pleasant isce and kind brown eyes. Eve knows her slightly. She is the miller's eldest daughter, Lottie Hill: whose sister was one of the first to

take the fever.
Oh!! sicinms Eve, in surprise at heat; but then she wishes her "Good moving," and instantly side, "But do you know we have got the fever here? des not be posing

The girl similes as she speaks, but the tears suddenly fill her eyes. Eve looks down at her mourning dress.

"Your sister—is she Nobody told us." she finishes, reading her answer in the face before her.

"No? I dare say those whom you see would not tell you bad news just now; you have enough trouble of your own." "When was it?" inquired Eve, her

own eyes brimming in sympathy. "Saturday week. She was buried on Monday; the doctor advised it. Since then all our time has been occupied with Molly; but she has taken the turn at last, and you see you need not be

afraid to let me in. Eve draws her in as she speaks, and into the little parlor; and there the two girls mingle their tears. They have hardly excharged half a dozen sentences up to now, but mutual grief brings them together at once and makes them

"Mother sent me," Lottie savs pres ently, when she is calmer again; -he savs we who have the fever ought to help one another all we can, if only to avoid calling in the assistance of those who have not got it. How is your brother?"

Eve tells her sorrowfully that there is no improvement: and they compare note; together of the progress of the disease in their families, and Eve confiches to her her fear of her mother's taking it

"And what about yourself?" inquires

·Oh, I don't mind about myself! don't suppose anything will happen to

Lottie Hill opens her eyes a little at Fire - tone. Nobocly in the neigh-I of magines but that Eve is granter a the good match where about to ma-Those who seem or greened anything of Tolver's frequent journeys up to the cottage on the hill side put it down as a mere flirtation, and assume, as a mutter of course, that she must needs prefor the solid advantages of a marriago with his well todo father. What version has reached Miss Hill Eve cannot flowers, and other luxuries to tempt tell, but she sees her look of surprise

"Those who are not frightened are not so apt to take it. Ithink," she all s "Not that mother is frightened I don't mean that; she thinks of nothing but Sam - but the anxiety and the watching are weakening for her."

"I had it some years ago," Lottie tills her; "there is no danger for me You must let me take my turn at sitting up; I have had a great deal of experience of

"The very reason for your needing rest now -not more sitting up, Eve

She remains firm on that point, despite Miss Hill's persuasion; but she takes her upstairs to see the patient, know them, and seldom speaks except at her request, since the doctor gave Thirkeld hears up well and takes her the after they have come out of the room again that Eve guesses she thinks the worst.

"What does he seem like to you?" she whispers, as they descend the narrow flight of stairs. "Like any other scatlet-fever patient,

dear." Eve feels the evasion in the reply "Like your sister," she says fearfully

-"the -the one that died?" "It must run a certain course in every one, you know. It is the same kind as Hers; but then so was Molly's,

and Molly is getting on now." She has brought a jug of some delicate preparation of milk that her sister can take when everything else fails.

"But there is something better than that waiting for you there, if I don't mistake, she says as the front door is opened and the basket standing there You would never guess who it was that pathy for the sorrowing ones all around met him in Manchester, where I went still is disclosed.

"Oh, I forgot it !" says Eve, going out and bringing it in. "Miss Hill, do you know—did you see the person who him. He was very anxious to know than he ever did before, and Eve likes not hear of even an engagement bebrought this?"

She tries to speak indifferently, but the color rushes up all over her face. "It was standing here alone when I

came." Lottie answers. "I knocked, Mr. Gerard stays away, we all know, and you opened the door and found me, with the best of motives, and then his and it together." "Then it was your knock I heard? I stopping me to ask after you!"

thought it was the knock that always But she does not show any great diswe failed to hear it."

promising to call again.

be just yet; she is so very weak."

sees two heads-human heads-one ing her opinion.

the cottage. sations curiously mingled. Their condeath is over the house. Eve calls her fusion is not lessened when time passes very gently, striving to hide the truth on and Lottie says not one word of her until the boy's face shall tell it her. companion in her walk there. She has But she seems to guess at once. They come to stay the night, whether they have never called her up before, and are willing or not, and is very anxious perhaps that in itself is enough. She to sit up alone, that they may all have does not cry, but hurries on a few a good rest for once; but Eve shares, things in silence, her pale face, worn had the chief of it for the past two ing. They go into the room together, nights. Sam is very ill; his mother and together stand at his bedside while for awhile and leave him to the others. fainter. He opens his eyes at last. Eve hates herself for thinking of any one or anything but him at such a time; here!"

lane only on the chance of a glimpse of herself, or of some stray news of them: but he would not be by any means the first who went in search of one thing consider that Tolver is almost brokenhearted for her sake. Still, why did Lottie come by the lane? The road is boy ways breaking in upon the feminine by far the most direct way from the mill to the cottage She must have had some reason f r coming by the bread and butter cut to satisfy a ravenlane. Her silence about it may be our appetite; nobody suggests, half caused by the knowledge of some previous love affair between Tolver and Eve: but vet nobody can think it was anything serious since she is now engaged to his father. That silence might be caused by something elso—a consciousness of a feeling towards Tolver warmer than her feelings towards ordinary persons.

Once having tortured herself into this conclusion. Eve is restlessly wretched. She had trouble enough before, with her own loveless marriage coming fast upon her delayed only by the danger of one of the two dear ones for whom she has struggled and sacrificed herself - without the miserable pangs of jealousy being added to it. Such shameful pangs, too! She ought to be thankful at the possible prospect of Tolver's being finally consoled; but, argue with herself as she will, the thought of another loving him of drawing him by that love to love her a un is gall and work wood to her

They have a very trying time with their charge, but still at intervals, Eve's errant thoughts fly away from the sick room and the floshed tossing face non the pillows to a green summer lane and a young man lying on the ground with his face hidden among the iong grass, and then return to busy themselves with the round pleasant face opposite to her, with its kind soft eves and wistful look of recent grief. Lottie proves herself a capital nurse; and the boy, now the fever is running high, knows no difference between her

The next night the nurse takes ler turn; the night after. Lottie and Eve have arranged to share another vigil. Lottie is to come at sundown as before. Towards that time Eve is at her window looking over the lane, catching the fading light on some mending. She is not watching, she save to herself oh. no! She must get the piece of darning finished, and it is lighter up stairs

Presently, past the gap in the tall hedge, the two heads are seen again the one in tweed, the other, lower down. in black. Two minutes more, and a black robed form is visible at the top of hand that does not appear Evidently heart beating painfully Lottie enters, heart carelessly:

were speaking to somebody else."

I was speaking to, Eve "

·Shouldn't I?"-indifferently.

him to speak to me, coming, as I do, straight from a house full of infection. son runs the risk of undoing it all by

comes when this basket is left. The pleasure at Tolver's rebellion against they must have knocked before, and the quarantine, and Eve knows now that she must come that way on pur- he were a young man, and he has aids in opening Eve's eyes to the fallacy The two girls part warmly, Lottie pose to meet him. She thinks that Lottie Hill must be somewhat selfish. ing every kindness on them meanwhile, Lottie's continual blushes. "He and Telephone. "Mother will come when she can There are plenty of ways of avoiding and never saying a word of his own Mr. Gerard had settled it between leave Molly," she says, "but that won't him. if she wished it; and she ought to disappointment, or hinting, now they themselves, I believe but neither Tolver be anxious to avoid any uninfected per-About half-past eight that evening, son, not to mention the man she can just as it was beginning to get dusk, blush for as she blushed for Tolver is her turn now. Eve. released from the sick-room for a Gerard just now. But selfishness seems space, is standing at her bed-room win- to have no abiding-place in that kind dow, looking wistfully across at the en- fresh face—only sweet girlish wisdom trance to the long green lane down looks out of the brown eyes; there is which she went her last walk with Tol- only tender thoughtfulness in the set of knowledge of, and which Eve therefore ver not so many nights since, when she the round firm lips. Eve defers form- puts down to the Hills, though a fleet-

with a tweed cap on and the other in She has little more opportunity of something black-appear above a gap concerning herself with Tolver and her in the line of high green hedge. The new friend. Before they have been cap is Tolver's—she knows it well even with Sam two hours they are obliged to in the dusk—and she has a shrewd call the nurse up to him, and for the guess at what face is to be seen under rest of the night they all three have he returns; "but I don't want you to the other head-gear. She waits and their hands full with him. Mrs. Thirwatches with quickened pulses. They keld has fallen asleep, unconscious of have disappeared in a moment; but what is passing; but when, towards soon afterwards Lottie Hill emerges dawn. Sam becomes calm and seems to jous to have you settled at Fairfield, from the lane alone and comes over to slumber, the nurse says that his mother had better be called. They know then Eve goes down to the door with sen- what is coming, and that the shadow of He'd have made a first-rate farmer. We the watch with her, the nurse having with watching and anxiety, all quiver- self." can hardly be persuaded to lie down the fluttering breath comes fainter and "Mother!"-"Here, my darling-I am

but a thought will sometimes flit across
But they never know whether he her brain, and she will look over at Lot- heard and recognized her. The next

No doubt Tolver was lingering in the and two widow and ner daugnter are left to be all in all to each other.

Chapter VIII. The harvest is over; November winds and found another. Yet can she be are whistling through the bare fields. cruel enough not to wish him to be and Eve's wedding has not been sponen comforted? On the other hand, the of again. She little thought what a very idea is absurd when she comes to Honethener respite here was to be, and at what cost! The cottage is so quiet without the boisterous boy-voice and order, there seems nothing to de. nothing to live for Nobody wants piles of coavingly, gooseberry jam for tea; nobody wants a torn jacket mended, or a cut bandaged. It is in the common things of every-day life that they miss their lost one so sadly. Mrs Thirkeld did not take the fever,

but she pined and fretted so that Eve feared the worst at one time. There was one remedy, and Eve applied it, thereby placing herself entirely at Mr. Gerard's mercy. The doctor said that change of air and scene was the only thing for her, and Eve used money recklessly from their dwindling store to save her mother's life. , She took her to the seaside -not to the place where they were to have gone all together, with Eve as bride, but farther north, to a rough sea and a bracing climate where no sad or bitter memories linked themselves with every spot. Mr. Gerard offered the use of his cheque-book freely, but Eve preferred not to touch has money until they should have none of their own. That time must come, she knows, there is nothing else to look to now that they have used their little capital, even if she would have drawn back from the compact now that there was no longer Sam's future to live for and save for , but, while they are alone, they will be independent

treat Mrs Hill and Molly, the convalescent, a pale, thin, overgrown girl stand?" of sixteen. Lottle does not come, she can not be spared from home during her mother's absence, and sometimes Eve will wonder wistfully if she is very often with Tolver. There is no one to watch them now if they choose to walk in the lane, no longer green, and talk, ostensibly, perhaps, of common friends and local events.

Whatever Lottle may become to Tolver in the future, she must always remain Eves friend. The ties of gratitude, and affection, and mutual grief break, rather do they overpower jeal, said anything to you. I don't mean, ousy Eve is learning a lesson that she adds hastily, that I was auxious to Sam Golfry Carting Co. most find hard to rejoice in the prossistency out. I think I have told Sam Golfry Carting Co. loved one, even though it come through often longed to tell you this too, only, or at house 8 Thompson street. Large on small the lane, a hand from which is extended another. And, if it keeps her very in the circumstances, and everything the lane, a hand from which is extended another and, it is expensed to be supposed to meet another pale and wistful eyed, what wonder? being so uncertain too — Dear Eve, Fire. Employer's Liability. Plate glass-The soul generally grows at the ex- you are not vexed with me, I hope?" Tolver is not afraid of catching the fe-pense of the body. And she loves Lotver Eve descends to the door, her tie Hill—she can say it with all her smile "Of course not! There needed

quiry after Sam. She says nothing mother to the station and saw them off me. about her friend in the lane, with the on their journey, bidding Eve farewell tweed cap; but when the lamp is with another of his bluff fatherly kisses lighted, and they sit down to support o- upon her cheek. He meets them on gether before going up stairs for the their return and greets her in like mannight, Eve sees that Lottie's face is un- ner He is kinder than ever and much Eve. duly flushed. When Sam's symptoms quieter. There has been mourning in have been discussed, and the doctor's the village many lost their dear ones last report has been repeated. Eve says that summer with the fever Tryphie Hill and poor Sam were among the first attempt explanations. "How could "That must have been you I saw in victims; after that the fever reached the road just before I came down to such a height that people looked round open the door to you. But then you in terror on one another, wondering if to tell you, it was Gregory Skene I was they should meet again after the speaking of have you ever heard that "Oh, yes" Lottie blushes all over greeting at noon or eve. It has had name before?" Eve mutely shakes her her round face, and Eve crimsons too, a sobering effect upon most, and those head. "I couldn't understand it, for not in sympathy, but in sudden sharp who are left with their family circle un- out of our own family there was no one auger and pain. "I was speaking to - broken rejoice temperately, in sym- to tell you. More than a year ago I them.

So one day when they have been together to see Sam's grave, and have found on it a beautiful cross of white flowers which the farmer denies all ing thought of another possible person sends the nervous blood to her cheek for a minute, she tells him frankly that, if he still wishes it, she will marry him

as soon after Christmas as he likes. "That's very kind of you, my dear," hurry for a little while, if-if-you but you musn't do it just to please me, so soon after— Poor little chap! some day." He stops to mop his face with his large handkerchief, though the be hot. "When you feel quite right about that," he resumes, "you comethe sooner the better, as far as I'm concerned. But don't force it on your-

"Oh, you are very good!" Eve says sadly. "You have been so good to us always. But I don't think I can ever And dear Sam-we shan't forget him because of the change in our life; and so-whenever you like. Mr. Gerard."

so why should he turnk it strange it she can hardly restrain her tears?

"Very well," he answers. "You and your mother come to spend Christmas her, dark, dreary, hopeless. at Fairfield—shall that be a settled thing? - and we will fix the day among us then.

She acquiesces, and they go home together. As they pass the mill, they see Lottie Hill standing in the vard in earnest conversation with a man, who stands with a gun under one arm and the other hand thrust in the pocket of his rough shooting coat. His back is to them, but there is no mistaking him. It is Tolver Gerard.

The days pass on quietly from November into December. There are not many preparations to make -- they were nearly all made early in the summer.

Eve seldom goes to the mill. They often ask her, but she has a secret dread of meeting Tolver there. She pays her rare visits at hours when she knows he is likely to be occupied on the farm, and gets Lottie to come oftener to the cottage instead. When she comes one day in December with an invitation from her mother for Mrs. Thirkeld and Eve to spend ('hristmas with them. Eve tells her of their pre-engagement, and also of what is to be decided upon on that day.

·Do you think it very soon?" she inquires of her friend, with that wistful look from out large dark-ringed eyes look from out large dark-ringed eyes that goes to more than one heart. MAZON & MAMINICO though she never guesses it. "Mother feels it so lonely here without Sam I want to get her away to something fresh. And, since it is to be -

There she breaks off and falls into Payne's unconscious melancholy reverie, with bent head catching the wintry sunlight as she sits in the window Lottie contemplates her in silence until presently she seems to revive.

"And now I have told you this, Lottie," she goes on, "I want something in Two of the Hills join them in the re-, return. I want the confidence not to be all on one side. Do you under-

She tries to speak gaily Lottie blushes to the tips of her ears, and, in suite of all her brave resolves, Eve's heart sinks at the sight. She has almost brought herself to believe that she and find consolation for his sorrows in her love. But, oh, how hard a thing it is to look on at!

"Well, Lottie? she questions presently, as the other does not speak

"I don't quite understand," Lottie says then, raising her head and looking formed during that said time four months very pretty in her confusion. "I didn't Furniture Moved, Packed and ago are too strong for jealousy to know you knew; I can't think who has

no telling either; I have known it all with her affectionate kiss and instant in- Furmer Gerard drove Eve and her along almost as well as if you had told

Lottie looks puzzled again. "Some one must have been talking."

she says. "Was it Molly?" "I have seen you with him," declares

"Did you think Tolver and I --- " Lottie begins to recover herself and to you, when Well, I see you don't know, after all, and I have everything on a visit to some friends. We-I sup-The farmer save nothing about mar- pose we fell in love with each other alhow your little brother was getting on; him better than she ever did, though tween us, because he was poor, and his but I think it was very imprudent of her feelings are in no way altered or mother was a widow and he had the weakened. But she does not forget her family to keep, so there wasn't much duty to him, and that he has been very prospect of things improving with him; patient and exceedingly kind. She but I was willing to wait, and we neiwould like to claim a full year of free- ther of us ever meant to have anybody dom-she could make the money last so else. You know, I have money of my long, with care; but she determines, own, if only father would let me have with a final wrench from self and its it; but he was angry, because he-he suggestions, to give ungrudgingly if she wanted just what you imagined was the is going to give at all. It is not as if case, Eve"—with a fresh blush, which waited six months very patiently, heap- of being guided to any conclusion by are at home again, at fixing another nor I would have anything to say to it, day. He has been very generous—it You see, I had already met Greg when that came on the carpet, and Tol-

"He never told me about it," Eve observes involuntarily.

Lottie looks at her with a sudden smile, which fades away at the expression which crosses the other's face as she recollects herself.

"No, dear, there was nothing to tell." she says gently. "Tolver and I have known each other ever since we were little children together, and we could never be more than brother and sister; it would seem against nature to us. We go against your feelings. There's no used to tell each other everything until about up to that time. Idian't tell him know what I mean, my dear. I'm anx- about Greg then, and he did not tell me about you until the fever came, and Sam was ill, and he thought you would take it, and—and then he told me all -though, of course, I had heard a should all have been proud of him good deal before in the way of gossip. I kept him acquainted with the state of your health, and about poor little weather is quite wintry and he can not Sam-and how things were going on altogether."

Eve sits in silent amazement. Then those meetings in the lane—that imprudence which she so bitterly condemned-were all on her own account. Soon after that Lottie goes and Eve

sits idle, staring into the fire, not knowing whether she is relieved to find that, after all, Tolver and Lottie are not lovers, and never will be; or sorry, because in that fact she also receives her sentence. Tolver will certainly go away now when she is received that the receives are now now when she is received that the receives her sentence. Tolver will certainly go away now when she is received that the receives her sentence. Tolver will certainly go away now when she is received that the received the received that the received the received the received that the received the r feel different about about anything, that, after all, Tolver and Lottie are The farmer was looking at her oddly. away now, when she is married; there Address, SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO. (inc.), whicago. Ill noting the pleasant charm and moment he is gone, with hardly a sigh; He was half crying himself just now, is nothing to keep him in Nutfield, since

enere is no love for him at nome." will go away, and she will never see him again. Her life stretches before

(To b continued)

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