### Nettie's Trial.

BY MARY PRESTON.

From New York Ledger:

"Not many hours," Stephen tho't; from the fitting room directly." and he was right. Before the day dawned, Henry Raymond had had such grief been of any availlay beside him.

will made when Mrs. Raymond be wants you to get finished by to-morlieved her husband must be dead. row afternoon," said she, indiffer-But the little maiden's wealth did ently. "She says you understand not give her the deep happiness Mrs. Goldcoin's figure. Of course, she felt when Stephen pleaded for you'll have to work all night, but forgiveness for his want of faith, she's willing to pay you extra." and she once more felt his kiss upon Bess opened her dark gray eyes her lips and his words of love greet- wide. ed her ears.

### Bess Trefoil's Reward. Enrico told me-"

BY AMY RANDOLPH.

morning. the sun glistened on a mind my wearing the cherry-colored mantle of newly fallen snow, the merino? My crushed raspberry wind whistled merrily around the street-corners, and Flora Trefoil made haste to button her well worn jacket and fasten on her black telt had been looking forward to this hat with the gold-green cock's sleigh-ride, and in her heart she plume.

"How I do hate to work," murmured she, with a pout of her rosered "How I wish I were rich, like that swarthy-complexioned little Cuban heiress, who orders such lots ness of dresses of Madame! I say, Bess,' to the pale cousin, who was helping Mrs. Trefoil to clear away the dishes, "do make haste. Do you want to be fined for being late?"

"I shall not be late," said Bess. "I can walk very fast when once we are out. But Aunty Nan has a headache this morning, and I can't leave her with all this to do!"

"Aunty Nan is always having headaches," said Flora. "I sav, bess, if we go on that big sleigh-ride to-night, what shall you wear? The red merino? Charley Coatsworth likes red! He said so, last week."

ing a little. "Aunty Nan, I'll bring her," scornfully added Flora. "You up some buns for tea, and a pound of crackers I'm ready now, Fora.

At Madame Enrico's place, times were unusually busy. Several brilliant balls were to take place just before Lent, and Madame's customers were people who seemed to believe that nothing in the dressmaking line was impossible. Flora and Bess Trefoil were among her best hands; and, just as the little errand-girl sighting up the rooms, the fat French-womar waddled in where Flora sat.

"Miss Trefoil," said she, "here is an order from Mrs. Goldcoin. She wants an olive-plush gown, by tomorrow afternoon, without fail, and | new hat picturesquely trimmed with if I don't take the job, she'll go with it to that odious Miss Mainwaring on Union Square. I must get it done. Your cousin is fitting her upstairs now, and you must take the gown home to make."

"To-night! Oh," cried Flora, remembering the projected sleighride. "I couldn't possibly!"

"It must be done," said Madame Enrico, knitting her her black eyebrows. "In an emergency like this. I expect my young women to help me-if they intend to retain their places. Of course, I will pay you in proportion," she added encouragingly.

"But I had an engagement-"

"Your engagement must wait," said the modiste, authoritively. "Here is the skirt and the paternplate. The bodice will be sent down

Flora could have burst into tears, gone beyond earthly justice or ven- but she was not yet at her wit' end geance, and Nettie carried out -and when the two cousins joined Marion's last wish, that her hus- each other at the little side exit band should rest in death in the where the "hands" went out on their cemetery where his wife and child way home, she gave the parcel into Bess's astonished hands.

Nettie was Marion's heiress, by a "Here's something that Madame

"I thought the gown was to be given to you," said she. "Madame

"Oh, no," said Flora, uttering the ready lie without blanching, "it's you, this time. And, since you It was a clear, frosty February can't go on the sleigh-ride, do you cashmire is really getting too shabby to be decent."

> Bess was silent .. For weeks she dearly loved Charles Cotesworth, who was to have been her cavalier. The big tears sparkled into her eyes; her lower lip quivered. Flora watched her with furtive intent-

> "It'll suit you, exactly," said she. You are such a money-worshiping little miser."

> "I am not a miser," retorted Bess. But I do like to help Aunty Nan a little, and to pay Cousin Thankful Morse's ward at the Old Ladies'

> "One can't support all the old people in creation," Flora said, "Aunt Nan isn't our real relation

"But she brought us up and cared for us when we were little

"And she don't need half the "I don't know," said Eess, color- things you are always getting fo spoil everybody, Bess."

Cousin Thankful Morse had com over from the Home, by the aid d a stout crutch, to see the girls start on their sleighing expedition; she sat by the fire, drinking a cup of tea and munching toast.

"La me!" cried she. "Bess not going! And arter settin' such a deal o' store by it! Well, I declare, it's too bad."

Bess sat quietly down to work at the olive-plush dress with its shimmering draperies of rich olive satin and yelvet passementerie trimmings; while Flora attired berself in the red merino, and adjusted a fur, that she had borrowed from Madame Enrico's head trimmer for the occasion.

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