

ELEANOR H. PORTER

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PREFACE

Which Explains Things. Father calls me Mary, Mother calls Well, I just guess! me Marie. Everybody else calls me Mary Marle. The rest of my name is Anderson.

is, Sarah says I'm that. (Sarah is my ing exciting to look forward to. For old nurse.) She says she read it once really, you know, when you come right -that the children of unlikes were al- down to it, there aren't many girls that ways a cross-current and a contradic- have got the chance I've got. tion. And my father and mother are unlikes, and I'm the children. That write it into a book. Oh, yes, I know is, I'm the child. I'm all there is. And now I'm going to be a bigger crosscurrent and contradiction than ever, for I'm going to live half the time with Mother and the other half with Father.

know. I'm terribly excited over it. None of the other girls have got a divorce in their families, and I always did like to be different. Besides, it ought to be awfully interesting, more so than just living along, common, with your father and mother in the same house all the time-especially if it's been anything like my house with my father and mother in it!

That's why I've decided to make a book of it-that is, it really will be a book, only I shall have to call it a diary, on account of Father, you know. Won't it be funny when I don't have to do things on account of Father? And I won't, of course, the six months I'm Hving with Mother in Boston. But, off, my!-the six months I'm living here with him whew! But, then, I can stand it. I may even like it—some. Anyhow, it'll be different. And

some. Anyhow, it'll be different. Well, about making this into a book.
As I started to say, he wouldn't let me. I know he wouldn't. He says me I know he wouldn't. He says nover are a silly waste of time, if not absolutely wicked But. & diary oh, he loves diaries. He keeps one man.

school, came home, ate my dinner, father and mother that are getting played one hour over to Carrie Hey rendy to be divorced, from what it after her mother, and Father wanted purse noves did apprend to the plane one would have been underent, tiving with a to disagree about things.

The idea again, of calling my mother a net! But of calling my mother a net. wood's, practiced on the piano one would have been living with the loving. to call me Abigail Jane after his But Father just worshiped his father, sighed. But she didn't look mad-not hour, studied another hour. Talked happy-ever-after kind. Nurse Sarah mother; and they wouldn't either one and they were atways together like the way she does when I ask why with Mother upstairs in her room about says it's a shame and a pity, and that give in to the other. Mother was stell Grandma being sick so much; she can take her teeth-out and most the sunset and the snow on the trees. it's the children that always suiter, and nervous, and cried a lot those and so when he died my father Ate my supper. Was talked to by But I'm not suffering-not a mite. I'm days, and she used to sob out that it was nearly beside himself, and that's Father down in the library about impust enjoying it. It's so exciting they thought they were going to name one reason they were so anxious he proving myself and taking care not to Of course if I was going to lose her darling little baby that awful Abi-should go to that meeting in Boston. It right out loud. You don't have to six months, then with Father consent to it-never. Then Father never thought of its putting his mind quick look of hers over her shoulder say some things right out in plain So I still have them both. And, would say in his cold, stern way on a wife!

I shall call it a diary. Oh, yes, I shall feetly all right, like that-that-what- Viela. The child is a human beingcall it a diary-till I take it to be do-you-call-it powder? - sedlitzer, or not a fiddle in an orchestra!" the printer that I've left it to him too glasses, and that looks Just like water crazy. Then somebody suggested make the spelling right, and put in all till you put them together. And then, "Mary." And Father said, very well. those thresome. Hitle commas and oh, my! such a fuss and fizz and splut they might call me Mary; and Mother periods and question marks that every ter! Well, it's that way with Father said certainly she would consent to body seems to make such a fuss about. and Mother. It'll be lots easter to take Mary, only she should pronounce If I write the story part, I can't be ex- them separate, I know. For now I can Marie. And so it was settled. Father whole lot of foolish little dots and between them.

is if anybody who was reading the cared for that part! The story's

stories. I've written lots of I mean; not a long one like this scoing to be, of course. And it'll stead of reading it-only when you're living a story you can't peek over to the back to see how it's all coming out. I shan't like that part. Still, it may be all the more exciting, after all, not to know what's coming.

I like love stories the best. Father's got oh, lots of books in the library, have chapters, and this is a diary, I with their eyes. That is, most of their and I've read stacks of them, even some of the stopid old histories and I can write it down as a chapter, for And it one wanted to go to walk. blographies. I had to read them when there wasn't anything else to read. done being a diary. But there weren't many love stories. Mother's got a few, though-levely ones-and some books of poetry, on the little shelf in her room. But I read all those ages ago.

That's why I'm so thrilled over this new one-the one I'm living I mean. to the somber old room. For of course this will be a love story. There'll be my love story in two or know, and I'd like to do it, but I can to have in. We don't have a round table then, without waiting a minute. He showed her the stars, too, through three years, when I grow up, and I'm beginning with my being born, of with a red cloth and a lamp on it, and He'd never happened to notice a girl his telescope; but she hadn't a mite of while I'm waiting there's Father's and course, and Narse Sarsta says the sun children round it playing games and he wanted before, you see. But use for them, an' let him see it good

Mother's. Nurse Sarab says that when you're the stars were out. She remembers reading and mending And it's lots and Nurse said there was nothing to with my own ears—that his eyes, when divorced you're tree just like you were particularly about the stars, for Father Jollier where they do have them. before you were married, and that was in the observatory, and couldn't Nurse says my father and mother ready for her, connectimes they marry again. That be disturbed. (We never disturb ought never to have been married. There wasn't anybody to go to the her life for breakfast an nuncheon and made me think right away; what If Father when he's there, you know, That's what I heard her tell our wedding. Grandma Anderson was dinner, anyway, an' all the time be-

married again? And I should be there to see it, and the courting, and all! Wouldn't that be some love story?

And only think how all the girls would envy me-and they just living flong their humdrum, everyday exist-I'm thirteen years old, and I'm a ence with fathers and mothers already cross-current and a contradiction. That | married and living together, and noth-

And so that's why I've decided to



And So That's Why I've Decided to Voll eyer feel file a given worm crawling on the ground? It's not a pleasant reging at all.

light-minded and frivolous. (He either one, it would be different. But gail Jane, they were very much mis They thought it might take his mind Sarah loves to talk. (As if I didn't meant like Mother, only he didn't say I'm not, for I am to live with Mother taken; that she would never give her off himself. Nurse said. But they

words, you know.) Then I went to bed." really, when you come right down to "Very well, then, you needn't. But w words are spelt, every five min months, and not try to be them both all me Marie. And right away every nor fussing over putting in a at once, with maybe only five minutes body else began to call me Mary

And I think I shall love both Father | ever since. for the girls, too-little short he's out among folks. All the girls are having it, until stidlenly one day it e so exciting to be living a story in Mary always. And you see, he named father and, one for their mother to me Mary-

part of the story, and this is only the mothers dich t live to rooms at or Preface. I'm going to begin it to mor posite carls of the boart. Their fathers:

musm't forget that it's a diary. But did. it's going to be a novel, after it's got or to a party, or to play some game.

## CHAPTER I

wasn't shining at all. It was night and doing things, and fathers and mothers he'd found one now all right; an' plain. She told him-I heard her

he came out to breakfast. And he was | meant. late to that, for he stopped to write

about those old stars just when we big ears, sure enough!" want him to pay attention to somesaid right off afterward that she didn't about them, too. You see, I'd just deabout things she says

Well, as I was saying, Father didn't meals.) And then Nurse told him.

laughed and gave her funny little loy it, too. shrug to her shoulders.

"Yes, what did he say, indeed?" she dazed, then muttered: 'Well, well, upon my soul! Yes, to be sure!" Then he came in to see me.

I don't know, of course, what he thought of me, but I guess he didn't think much of me, from what Nurse said. Of course I was very, very small and I never yet saw a little bit of a baby that was pretty, or looked as if it was much account. So maybe you couldn't really blame him, Nurse said he looked at me, mut-

tered. "Well, well, upon my soul!" again, and seemed really quite interested till they started to put me in his arms. Then he threw up both hands, backed off, and cried, "Oh, no, no, no!" He furned to Mother and hoped she

He was much more interested in his new star than he was in his new to Fither that she didn't see why, when there were so many, many stars. a paltry one or two more need to be fande such a fuss about. And I don't, home in about a month, MATTHEWAY DECEMBER

But Father just groaned, and shook

was about the first thing that showed one reason why Father got caught in I wanted to know. "The sun shines this morning. 1 And maybe that is so. For of course how teetotally utterly they were going the matrimonial net like that. (Those

Then I shall give it its true something like that. Anyhow, it's that And that's the way it went. Nurse name a novel. And I'm going to tell white powder that you mix in two said, until everybody was just about pected to be bothered with looking up | be Mary six months, then Marie six eniled one Mary and Mother called Marle And time's the way it's been

and Mother better separate, too. Of Of course, when you stop to think course I love Mother, and I know I'd of it, It's seri of queer and funny just adore Father if he'd let me-he's though naturally t didn't think of it. so tall and fine and splendid, when growing up with it as I did, and always simply crazy over him. And I am, too, occurred to me that none of the other Only, at home-well, it's hard to be girls inid two names, one for their call them by \_1 began to notice other But I mustn't tell that here. That's things then too. Their fathers and row-the real story-Chapter One. and mothers seemed to like each other. But, there-I mustn't call it a and to talk together, and to have little "chapter" out foud. Diaries don't lokes and happies receiber and tartuig

lored and say, 70h, very well, it you "See," And then both met de it what ver it was That is, I never saw the A Little Slim Sighteen-Year-Old Girl other girls tathers and mothers do that The sun was slowly setting in the way; and I've seen quite a lot of them

daughter until the next morning when got I asked her why, and what she Grandpa was dead, so of course he thin else, now-somethin' alive, that

"Oh, la! Did you hear that?" she down something he had found out demanded, with the quick look over St. Paul. and she was so mad she ers an rocks and grass an trees. about one of the consternations in the her shoulder that she always gives when she's talking about Father and chance of seeing the bride till Father was! He just laughed an' caught her He's always finding out something Mother. "Well, little pitchers do have brought her home.

thing else. And, eh, I forgot to say didnt know what that meant! I'm no be that had captured him. (I told that I know it is "constellation," and child to be kept in the dark concern- her I wished she wouldn't speak of not "consternation." But I used to ing things I ought to know. And I my mother as if she was some kind of call them that when I was a little girl, told her so, sweetly and pleasantly. a hunter out after game; but she only and Mother said it was a good name but with firmness and dignity. I made chuckled and said that's about what for them, anyway, for they were a con- her tell me what she meant, and I it amounted to in some cases.) The sternation to her all right. Gh, she made her tell me a lot of other things | very idea! mean that, and that I must forget she cided to write the book, so I wanted the affair, and Nurse Sarah heard s said it. Mother's always saying that to know everything she could tell me. lot of their talk. Some thought she

I didn't tell her about the book, of was an astronomer like him. Some course. I know too much to tell se- thought she was very rich, and may know until after breakfast that he had crets to Nurse Sarah! But I showed be famous. Everybody declared she a little daughter. (We never tell him my excitement and interest plainly; must know a fot, anyway, and be disturbing, exciting things just before and when she saw how glad I was to wonderfully wise and intellectual; and hear everything she could tell, she they said she was probably tall and I asked what he said, and Nurse talked a lot, and really seemed to en- wore glasses, and would be thirty

You see, she was here when Mother first came as a bride, so she knows stayed to take care of Father's mother, gasted everybody was to see herold now-'most sixty.

totally different.

But this is the story.

Father went to Boston to attend a Nurse says-not a mite. big meeting of astronomers from all "But how did Father act?" I dewas feeling pretty well, then he got over the world, and they had banquets manded. "Wasn't he displeased and all right, He said yes, yes, to be sure out of the room just as quick as he and receptions where beautiful ladies scandalized and shocked, and everycould. And Nurse said that was the went in their pretty evening dresses, thing?" end of it, so far as paying any more and my mother was one of them. (Her Nurse shrugged, her shoulders and days, and Nurse said she guessed my | Then she said; father saw a lot of my mother during "Do? What does any old fooldaughter. We were both born the that time. Anyhow, he was invited to beggin' your pardon an' no offense your ma would look so grieved an' sor same night, you see, and that star was their home, and he stayed another four meant, Miss Mary Marie-but what ry an' go off an' cry, an' maybe not lots more consequence than I was days after the meetings were over, does any man do what's got bejuggled come down to dinner, at all. But, then, that's Father all over. And The next thing they knew here at the with a pretty face, an' his senses comthat's one of the things, L think, that house, Grandma Anderson had a tele- pletely took away from him by a chit bothers Mother. I heard her say once to Miss Madge Desmond, and would He acted as if he was bewifthed. He they please send him some things he followed her around the house like But of course she saw how things was wanted, and he was going on a wed. a riog-when he wasn't leadin' her to ding trip and would bring his bride something new; an' he never took his

It was just as sudden as that. And as much as to say: 'Now ain't she the But Father just grouned, and shook his head, and threw up his hands, and tooked so fired. And that's all he said astonished them more. Futher was almost thirty years old at that time, and the enough. It's enough to make you he'd never cared a thing for girls nor he'd never cared a thing for girls nor like that!"

"My father did that?" I gasped. And, really, you know, I just couldn't believe my ears. And you wouldn't believe my ears. And you wouldn't believe my ears and you know father. "Why. that's all he says

it's enough. It's enough to make you feel so small and plean and insignificant as if you were just a little green worm crawling on the ground. Did he was a hopeless old bachelor and he was a hopeless old bachelor and was a hopeless, or course, that wouldn't ever marry. He was bound wouldn't ever marry. He was bound to start a start of the course of the was a hopeless old bachelor and was a hopeless. cellent and instructive discipline for me to do it, too—set down the weather and what I did every day.

The weather and what I did every day.

The weather and what I did every day.

The weather and what I did every reading that would make wouldn't it? Like this:

"The sun shipes the man was a professor in our college here, was a professor in our college here, and was a professor in our college here, where his father had been president. His father had been president. His father had just died a few months before, and Nurse said that that was about the first thing that showed was a professor in our college here, where his father had been president.

Well, now, about the name. Of cause of a comet he'd discovered He was a professor in our college here, where his father had been president.

Well now, about the first talk about the first thing that showed was a professor in our college here, where hi

So far as his doing it right up quick Just as if I was going to write my it, I'd father take them separate that neither shall I give my consent to my like that was concerned. Nurse said whole story. And I did. And I'm gonovel like that! Not much I am. But way, Why, separate they're just per-daughter's being named that absurd that wasn't so surprising. For all the ing to tell it here in her own words. way up, if Father wanted anything he just as well as I can remember itinsisted on having it, and having it bad grammar and all. So please re-



With Yellow, Curly Hair,

west, easting golden begans of light in- too for I've teen at the other girls right away then. He never want houses a but for a bank time. You see | ed to wait a minute he found a girt he That's the way it ought to begin, I don't stay at home much, only when I wanted, he wanted her right away wild; an' she went crazy over them, do but to make the best of it and get they laughed was all the stars she

couldn't go, and there weren't any brothers or sisters, only Aunt Jane in wouldn't come on. So there was no

Nurse said they wondered and won-"Little pitchers," indeed! As if I dered what kind of a woman it could

The whole town was excited over years old, at least. But nobody guessed anywhere near what she really was.

Nurse Sarah said she should never reforted. "He frowned looked kind of everything. She was Father's nurse | forget the night she came, and how when he was a little boy; then she she looked, and how utterly flabber Grandina Anderson, who was an in- little slim eighteen-year-old girl with valid for a great many years and who | yellow, curly hair and the merriest didn't die till just after I was born, laughing eyes they had ever seen, Then she took care of me. So she's (Don't I know? Don't I just love always been in the family ever since | Mother's eyes when they sparkle and she was a young girl. She's awfully twinkle when we're off together some-First I found out how they happened | Mother was so excited the day she to marry-Father and Mother, I'm came, and went laughing and danctalking about now-only Nurse says | ing all over the house, exclaiming over she can't see yet how they did happen | everything. (I can't imagine that so to marry, just the same, they're so tee- well. Mother moves so quietly now, everywhere, and is so tired, 'most all the time.) - But she wasn't thred then.

attention to me was concerned for father was one of the astronomers; raised her eyebrows—the way she does her. But he always began right away Nurse said.) The meetings lasted four when she feels particularly superior. to talk of the comet; an' ten to one

eyes off her face except to look at us.

never saw him act like that!"
"No, I guess you didn't," laughed Nurse Sarah with a shrilg, "And neither did nnybody clse for long."
"But how long did it last?" I asked.

Nurse Sarah shrugged her shoulders

"Oh, la! child, what a little quesof her hair off and I can't; and things like that. (As if I didn't know.) What does she take me for-a ohild?) She didn't even look displeased-Nurse know that, too!) She just threw that and settled back contentedly in her chair. I knew then I should get the member that I am not making all those mistakes. It's Nurse Sarah.

I guess, though, that I'd better put it into a new chapter. This one is yards long already. How do they tell when to begin and end chapters? I'm thinking it's going to be some job. writing this book-diary, I mean. But I shall love it, I know, And this is a real story-not like those made-up things I've always written for the girls nt school.

## CHAPTER II

Nurse Sarah's Story. And this is Nurse Sarah's story.

As I said, I'm going to tell it straight through as near as I can in her own words. And I can remember most of it, I think, for I paid very close attention.

"Well, yes, Miss Mary Marie, things did begin to change right there an' then, an' so you could notice it. We saw it, though maybe your pa an' me ab' dignified. didn't at the first.

caune, it was vacation time; an' he could give her all the time she wanted. An' she wanted it all. An' she took if. An' he was just as glad to give It us she was to take it. An' so from mornin' till night they was together. traigsh' all over the house un' garden, na' trumpin off through the woods and up on the mountain every other day with their lunch.

"You see she was city-bred, an' not used to woods an' flowers growing wanted; an' that she'd had stars all Pather or Mother, or both of them And so he didnt even know he had | Eridget one day. So the first chance | sick, so of course she couldn't go, and | tween; an' she'd rather have some

she could love an' live with an' touch fessors. An' she began to go out an' play with, like she could the flow- lot with them skutin' an' sleigh

"Angry? Your pa? Not much he 'round the waist an' kissed her, an' suid she herself was the brightest star. of all. Then they ran off hand in hand. like two kids, too. All through those first few weeks your pa was just a great big baby with a new plaything. Then when college began he turned all at once into a full-grown man. An' just naturally your ma didn't know what to make of it.

"He couldn't explore the attic an" rig up in the old clothes there any more, nor romp through the garden. nor go lunchin' in the woods, nor none of the things she wanted him to do. He didn't have time. An' what made things worse, one of them comet-tails was qomin' up in the sky, an' your pa didn't take-no rest for watchin' for it, an' then studyin) of it when it got

"An your ma-poor little thing! 1 couldn't think of anything but a doll that was thrown in the corner because somebody'd got tired of her. She was lonesome, an' no mistake. Anybody'c be sorry for her, to see her mopin round the house, nothin' to do. Oh. she read, an' sewed with them bright colored silks an' worsteds; but 'course there wasn't no real work for her to do. There was good help in the kitchen times in the woods?) And Nurse said an' I took what care of your grand ma was needed; an' she always gave her orders through me, so I practical ly run the house, an' there wasa's anything there for her to do.

"An' so your ma just had to mope it out alone. Oh, I don't mean your pawas unkind. He was always nice an polite, when he was in the house an' I'm sure he meant to treat her of course she was lonesome, and he was sorry. Twas too had be wa so busy. An' he kissed her an' patted he didn't disappear into the observa tory within the next five minutes. Then

"Well then, one day things got so bad your grandma took a hand. She was up an' around the house, though she kept mostly to her own rooms. Besides, I told her-some Twas no more than my duty, as I looked at it. She just worshiped your If she didn't for herself! An' oh, a pa, an' naturally she'd want things right for him. So one day she told me o tell her son's wife to come to her in her room. "An' I did, an' she came. Poor lit-

tle thing! I couldn't help beln' sor- two blazin' stars. So I know how she for her. She didn't know a thing must have looked while she was in the of what was wanted of her, an' she library. An' I must say she give it was so glad an' happy to come. You to him good an' plain, straight from see, she was lonesome, I suppose. - the shoulder. She told him she was

son? sae cried. 'Oh, I'm so glad? talk to his wife tike that; an' didn't Then she made it worse by runnin' up he have any more regard for her honor the stairs an' bouncin' into the room | an' decency than to accuse her of runlike a rubber ball, an' cryin': 'Now, rin' after any man living-much less what shall I do, read to you, or sing a dozen of them! An' then she told to you, or shall we play games? I'd him a lot of what his mother had said love to do any of them!' Just like to her, an' she said sue had been merethat, she said it. I heard her. Then ly tryin' to carry out those instruc-I went out, of course, an' left them, tions. She was tryin' to make her But I heard 'most everything that husband an' her husband's wife an' was said just the same, for I was right in the next room dustin,' and college folks, so she could help him the door wasn't quite shut.

"First your grandmother said real polite she was always polite but in that he thanked her, of course, but a cold little voice that made even me shiver in the other room, that she did not desire to be read to or sung to, and that she did not wish to play games. She had called her daughterin-law in to have a serious talk with her. Then she told her, still very polite, that she was noisy an' childish, an' undignified, an' that it was not only silly, but very wrong for her to expect to have her husband's entire attention; that he had his own work an' it was a very important one. He was going to be president of the college some day, like his father before him; an' it was her place to help him in every way she could-help him to be popular an' well-liked by all the college people an' students; an' he couldn't be that if she insisted all the time on keepin' him to herself, or lookin' sour an' cross if she couldn't have him:

"Of course that ain't all she said but I remember this part particular on account of what happened afterward. You see your ma-she felt awful bad. She cried a little, an' sighed a lot, an' said she'd try, she really would try to help her husband menths she stayed in her room a lot. in every way she could; an' she an' we didn't see much of her. The wouldn't ask him another once, not by an' by you came, an'-well, I guess once, to stay with her. An' she that's all-too much, you little chatter wouldn't look sour an' cross, either. box!" She'd promise she wouldn't. An' she'd try, she'd try, oh, so hard, to be proper

"She got up then an' went out of "You see, the first month after she the room so quiet an' still-you wouldn't know she was movin'. But I heard her daished her story, only she shrugged the fin her room cryin' half an hour her shoulders again, and looked back later, when I stopped a minute at her first one way, then another. As for door to see if she was there. An she was.

"But she wasn't cryin' by night. Not much she was! She'd washed her face an dressed herself up as pretty as the as could be san' she never so much as could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a could be san' she never so much to a cou as could be, an' she never so much told to me, in her own words. as looked as if she wanted her husband to stay with her, when he stid right after supper that he guessed he'd go out to the observatory. An' twas that way right along after that. why they got married in the first place. I know, 'cause I watched. You see, I knew what she'd said she'd do. Well. she did it.

"Then, pretty quick after that, she began to get acquainted in the town. Folks called, an' there was parties an' receptions where she met folks, an' they began to come here to the house, specially them students, an' two or

three of them young, unmarried po an' snowshoein'.

"Like it? Of course she like in Who wouldn't? Why, child, you here saw such a fuss as they made on your madn them days. She was at the rage; an' of course she liked i What woman wouldn't, that was my lonesome like your ma had? But some other folks didn't like it. An' yes pa was one of them. This time two him that made the trouble. I know cause I heard what he sald one day to her in the library.

"Yes, I guess I was in the next room that day, too-er-dustin', probable Anyway, I heard him tell your ma good



That Day, Too-or-Dustin',"

an' plain what he thought of her gallivantin' 'round from mornin' till night with them young students an' professors, an' havin' them here, too, such a lot, "till the house was fairly overrun with them. He said he was shocked an' scandalized, an' didn't she have any regard for his honor an' deceney. vhote lot more.

"Cry? No, your ma didn't ery this time. I met her in the hall place of the ware white as a sheet, an' her eyes was like "'Me? Want me?-Mother Ander shocked an' scandalized that he could husband's home popular with the

to be president, if he wanted to be. But he answered back, cold an' chilly, he didn't care for any more of that kind of assistance; an' if she would give a little more time to her home an' her housekeepin', as she ought to hewould be considerable better plased. An' she said, very well, she would see that he had no further cause to complain. An the next minute I met her in the hall, as I just said, her head high and her eyes blazin'.

"An' things did change then, a lot, I'll own. Right away she began to refuse to go out with the students an' young professors, an' she sent down word she wasn't to home when they called. And pretty quick, of course, they stopped comin'.

"Housekeepin'? Attend to that? Well, y-yes, she did try to at first, a little; but of course your grandma had always given the orders-through me, I mean; an' there really wasn't anything your me could do An I told her so, plain. Her ways were new an' different an' queer, an' we liked ours better, anyway. So she lidn't bother us much that way very long. Besides, she wasn't feelin ver well, anyway, an' for the next feet

## CHAPTER III

The Break is Made. And that's the way Nurse Samb her calling me "chatterbox -she always calls me that when she's been

doing all the talking. As near as I can remember, I have of course I know I didn't get it right all the time, and I know I've left out quite a lot. But, anyway, it's told a whole lot more than I could have told and it brings my story right up to the point where I was born; and I've already told about naming me, and what a time they had over that.

Of course what's happened since. up to now, I don't know all about, for I was only a child for the first fee years Now I'm alm, st a young lady, "standing with reluctant feet where (Continued next week)