A SOCIETY NOVEL.

the author of "Edith Lyle," "Mildred "Forrest House," "Chateau d'Or," etc.,

Thirteen years! Had they changed her past recognition? She hoped, she believed so, and yet, never in her life had Agnes Remington's heart beaten with so much terror and apprehension as when she presented grandfather to her.

A little anxious as to how her grand- alone.

looked earnestly at her.

Agnes' face was scarlet, as grandpa replied, after her. There was to be a party at Aiken-Maddy. You're sick, lady; talkin' about was all engaged in the matter, and after Neither the doctor nor Guy had been near "Maddy must have a piece sewed on, as charity. crazy folks makes you faint," grandpa added telling who were to be invited, added rather her, and Maddy had made herself believe she suggested." The neck was au fait, Guy "He seems very fond of his charity

gasped, bowing him to the door with a seen her, of course."

remorse, as he walked through the hall, or and asked if anything was the matter. know she watched him as he went slowly "Guy," the doctor continued, sitting too, and when they did meet, she could at liberty to pick.

her better nature prevailed over every feel strangely uncomfortable as he half that since bringing her there on the night other feeling, and, starting eagerly forward, divined what was coming next. she ran after the old man, who, surprised Latterly Guy had stopped telling the once called upon her; still, she thought

anxiously for her to speak. Maddy's inquiring eyes upon her, but of his mind but for the frequent visits to show him-a letter from Lucy Atherstone, Agnes managed at last to say:

one who prays for the madam !"

profusely within the borders.

hands shook as she passed to Grandpa Clyde need be married for these many teachings. Maddy did not know it, but it Markham the gift which would thrill poor years. She was very young yet; there was was these letters from Lucy which kept her crazy Joseph with a strange delight, time enough for her to think of marrying from loving Guy Remington. She could making him hold converse awhile with the when she was twenty-five, and in the mean- not for a moment associate him with herunseen presence which he called "she," while it would be splendid to have her at self when she so constantly thought of him

left Aikenside, which presented a most doctor had an idea of spoiling it, he had who wrote to her so confidently of Guy, forlorn and cheerless appearance to the not a doubt, particularly after the doctor's envying her in that she could so often see passers by, who were glad almost as the next remark. servants when, at the expiration of a week, "I have not seen Maddy since last betrothed was separated from him Guy came back and took up his olden life spring, you know. Is she very much im- many thousand miles. Little by little of solitude and loneliness, with nothing in proved?" particular to interest him, except his books "Yes, very much. There is no more was averse to the match, and had always and the letters he wrote to Lucy. Nothing stylish-looking girl to be seen on Broadway been; that she had in her mind an Engbut these and the doctor's picture—the one than Maddy Clyde," and Guy shook down lish lord, who would make her daughter designed expressly for him, and which his pantaloons a little awkwardly. troubled him greatly. Believing that he had fully intended it for the doctor, Guy be, and as childish in her manner?" the In her last letter to Maddy, however, Lucy felt as if it were, in a measure, stolen doctor asked; and Guy replied:

lived without her, and sometimes working kind. himself into a violent passion against the her remain with him in peace, and who, her grandfather say? He is very puritan. Feeling that Guy would be glad to see this now that she was gone, did not stop their | ical in his notions." sundry spiteful remarks as to what theatre anyhow. He considers that in the eager joy as she suffered him to retain her he intended doing with her relations. same block with the bottomless pit." only knew that he was lonely, that Lucy's letters then the doctor began again: seemed insipid, that even the doctor failed "Guy, you told me once you were educat- Guy began to exclaim against any one's forto interest him, as of old, and that his ing Maddy Clyde for me, and I tried to getting her, and also to express his pleasure bright young face which seemed to smile so oh, so much. Guy, laugh at me if you Maddy interrupted him with, "Oh, it's not trustfully upon him, just as Maddy had please. I cannot blame you if you do; but that; I've something to show you—somesmiled upon him when, in Madam --- 's the fact is, I believe I've loved Maddy Clyde thing which will make you very happy. parlor, he bade her good-bye. The doctor ever since she was so sick. At all events, had a letter from Lucy last night. When could not have that picture, he finally I love her now, and I was going down there she is twenty-five she will be her own decided "Hal ought to be satisfied with this very afternoon to tell her so. She's mistress, you know, and she means to be I not educating her for that very purpose?" the—the—" he said to himself; and, as a kind of atonement for what he deemed treachery to his showing that he, too, was keeping Maddy's intend to fail in filial obedience, but I have friend, he talked with him often of her, age, even to a day. 1. At first the doctor suspected him of began to talk earnestly: "I'll be candid the path.

one day to be.

CHAPTER XV.

THE HOLIDAYS. The summer vacation had been spent by "Then I am satisfied," the doctor "Engagements have been broken." entered the reception room where Guy sat and as the doctor was then absent from her the love which, whether she accepts or wished it, which he did not, he said to himtalking with the infirm old man she re- home, she did not meet him at all. Con- not, is hers." membered so well. He had grown older, sequently he had not seen her since she Guy had never felt a sharper pang than Lucy, and that was enough; so in a kind of shadow of the hall, where they would be thinner, poorer-looking, than when she saw left Aikenside for New York. But she was that which now thrilled through every abstracted manner, arising from the fact less observed by any one passing through it. sion, which, when she was better than she ally nervous for him, the doctor stood calmly: was now, used to remind her of the angels. before the little square glass in his back "You have my consent; but, Doc. better time, and so forth. This reminded Maddy His snowy hair was parted just the same office, trying to make himself look as well put it off till you see her at Aikenside. of the doctor, who, she said, had not been as ever, but the mild blue eyes were dimmer, as possible, for he was going that afternoon There's no chance at the cottage, with those to see her at all. and rested on her with no suspicious glance, to call upon Miss Clyde. He was glad she three old people. I wonder she don't go "He was coming this morning," Guy as, partially reassured, she glided across was not at Aikenside; he would rather wild. I'm sure I should." the threshold, and bowed civilly when Guy meet her at the cottage, and he hoped he Guy was growing rather savage about his call until you were at Aikenside. might be fortunate enough to find her something, but the doctor did not mind; have come to take you back with me, as we

father would acquit himself, Maddy sat by, The doctor was seriously in love. He ac- "And you'll manage it for me, Guy? evening, and I wish you to be present." wondering why Agnes appeared so ill at knowledged that now to himself, confessing, You know how. I don't. You'll contrive Maddy had never attended a big party ease, and why her grandfather started too; that with his love was mingled a spice for me to see her alone, and maybe say a in her life, and her eyes sparkled from mere sometimes at the sound of her voice, and of jealousy, lest Guy Remington should be word beforehand in my favor." expending more thought on Maddy Clyde "We've never met before to my know- than was consistant with the promised right. Don't forget, day after to-morrow ties with the pomps and vanities from ledge, young woman," he said once to husband of Lucy Atherstone. He wished night. The Cutlers will be there, and, by which he would shield his child, still remem-Agnes, "but you are mighty like somebody, so much to talk with Guy about her, and the way, Maria has grown to be a splendid bered that he was once young; that and your voice, when you talk low, keeps yet he dreaded it; for if the talk should girl. She fancied you once, you know. Old fifty years ago he, too, like Maddy, wanted makin' me jump as if I'd heard it summers confirm his suspicions there would be no Cutler is worth half a million." And Guy " to see the folly of it," and not take the hope for him. No girl in her right tore himself away from the doctor, who, mere word of older people that in every After that Agnes spoke in elevated tones, mind would perfer him to Guy Remington, now that the ice was broken, would liked festival scene there was a pitfall, strewn as if she thought him deaf, and the mysti- and with a little sigh the doctor was turning to have talked of Maddy for ever. fied look of wonder did not return to his away from the glass, when, as if to verify But Guy was not thus inclined, and in a hard to tell just where its boundary line face. Numerous were the charges he gave a familiar proverb, Guy himself drove up mood not extremely amiable, he threw commenced. Besides that, grandpa had to Agnes concerning Maddy, bidding her in a most dashing equipage, the silver- himself into his sleigh and went dashing faith in Guy, and so his consent was watchful of his child, and see that she tipped harness of his high-mettled steed down toward Honedale. For some unac- granted, and Maddy was soon on her way to

young yet, lady, and there may be a long entire half day he had tried to devsie some Guy did not know what ailed him. He to wear, and whispering to Maddy that life before you. God bless you, then, and means of getting Maddy up to Aikenside. only felt as if somebody had been meddling Guy had bought a blue silk for her, and prosper you in proportion as you are kind It was quite too bad for her to spend the with his plans, and had he been in the that Sarah Jones was at that moment fash-Mr. Guy for your goodness, only my likely to do. He knew she was lonely but as he was not he contended himself the previous summer. prayers, and them you have every day. there; that the bare floor and low, dark with driving like a second Jehu until he We all pray for you, lady, Joseph and all, walls affected her unpleasantly. He had reached Honedale, where a pair of soft though I doubt me he knows much the seen this in her face when he bade her brown eyes smiled up into his face, and a good-bye, for he had carried her down to little warm hand was clasped in his, as "Who, sir? What did you say?" and the cottage himself, and now he was going Maddy came out to the gate to meet him. hastily, as Agnes turned white as the dress indifferently, "I'm going down to Hone- that the former was sadly remiss in said, laughing at Maddy for being so old- pupil, upon my word. He scarcely leaves dale after Maddy. It's better for her to be his duty, inasmuch as he had not seen her maidish, and saying when he saw how her neighborhood at all," whispered old

feeling that she could not breathe a moment No, the doctor had not; he was just going and this did not tend to increase her amia- bareness of which she complained. there, he said in a tone so full of sad disap- bility. Why didn't he come now when he He did not hear her faint cry of bitter pointment, that Guy detected it at once, knew she was at home? Didn't he wish to Jessie began, but Guy put his hand over

down the walk, stopping often to admire down by his friend, "I remember once show him how little she cared! the fair blossoms which Maddy did not feel your making me your confident about Lucy. You remember it too?"

at her evident haste, waited a little doctor that he was educating Maddy for more of him, if possible, than of the doctor, It was rather difficult to do so with and the doctor might have fancied her out anxious to see him. She had something to New York, which Guy found it absolutely who had gradually come to be her regular "Does that crazy man like flowers—the necessary to make. Guy did not himself correspondent, and whom Maddy had understand the state of his own feelings learned to love with all the intensity of her "Yes, he used to, years ago," grandpa with regard to Maddy, but if compelled to girlhood. To her ardent imagination Lucy replied; and bending down, Agnes began explain them they would have been some- Atherstone was a little lower than the Guy." to pick and arrange into a most tasteful thing as follows: He fully expected to angels, and the pure, sweet thoughts conbouquet the blossoms and buds, growing so marry Lucy Atherstone; the possibility tained in every letter were doing almost as that he should not had never occurred to much toward molding her character as "Take them to him, will you?" and her him, but that was no reason why Maddy Grandpa Markham's prayers and constant and then to whisper blessings on the Aikenside as Lucy's friend. Nothing could as the husband of another, and that other be nicer, and Guy did not care to have this Lucy Atherstone. Not for worlds would Three days after this, a party of four little arrangement spoiled. But that the Maddy have wronged the gentle creature

month, and the many admiring glances cast property on her twenty-fifth birthday and Now that Maddy was away, Guy missed at our box proved pretty positively that be really her own mistress. She should her terribly, wondering how he had ever Maddy's beauty was not of the ordinary then feel at liberty to act for herself, and

"The opera!" the doctor exclaimed; of the time when she should come to Aikenmeddlesome neighbors who would not let "Maddy Clyde at the opera! What would side and meet her dear Maddy Clyde.

talk one whit, for the people marvelled "Yes, I know; and so is Maddy, too. wishing he would come; and when she more than ever, feeling confident now that She wrote and obtained his consent before saw him at the gate she ran out to meet he was educating his own wife, and making she'd go with me. He won't let her go to a him, her eyes and face sparkling with

the latter abandoned his suspicions, and answer will depend my future course with young man. You can't have our Sunshine, very embodiment, he thought, of helpless gave himself up to blissful dreams of what regard to Maddy: You are true to Lucy?" if you want her." might possibly be when Maddy should have Guy felt the blood prickling at the roots of become the brilliant woman she was sure his hair, but he answered truthfully, as he

> thought came over him that he would English girl across the sea." further the doctor's plans all that he possibly could.

before returning to her school in New York; or brother, I ask your permission to offer engagement might be broken, provided he living in a city?

him last, but in his wrinkled face there at home now for the Christmas holidays- nerve, but he would not prove false to the that he was calculating how long it would was the same benignant, heavenly expres- was down at the cottage, too; and, unusu- friend confiding in him, and he answered be before Lucy was 25, he began to talk

and grasping his arm as he arose he said: are to have a party day after to-morrow

"No -oh, no, I'm better now," Agnes with us a day or two beforehand. You've for so long. He had been in the habit of really distressed she seemed that he would Mrs. Cutler, the mother of Maria, who, calling every week, her grandmother said, provide her with something to relieve the Guy said, once fancied Dr. Holbrook, and

At Guy she was not particularly piqued. She did not take his attentions as a matter "He loved flowers," Agnes whispered, as "Yes, why?" Guy replied, beginning to of course, and did not take it very strange of her return from New York, he had not his face and hear his voice, while his Maddy had learned that Lucy's mother "My Lady;" and this was the secret of her "Well, is she as handsome as she used to so long deferring her daughter's marriage. had written with more than her usual spirit property, and this made him prize it all "I took her to the opera once, last that she should come into possession of her she launched out into joyful anticipations letter, Maddy had all the morning been hand, while she said, "I am so glad to see Here an interval of silence ensued, and you, Mr. Remington. I almost thought

greatest comfort was in looking at the make you think I didn't care; but I did, at finding her so glad to see him, when getting Maddy, as of course he will, for am old enough. She was sixteen last October, married in spite of her mother—she says let me see-" and drawing from her "Tenth day," Guy responded, thus bosom Lucy's letter, Maddy read, "'I do not

Low as Maddy's words were Guy heard just as Maddy did.

with Maddy, asking how she had spent her

rejoined, "but I persuaded him to defer

anticipation, as she looked appealingly to "Yes, yes, I'll manage it. I'll fix it her grandfather, who though classing paroverso thickly with roses that it was ofttimes her head, and said solemnly, "You are Guy was in the best of spirits. For an he would have been tempted to give it up. forth at once the pink dress which she was

see her? If not, she could be indifferent the little tattler's mouth, bidding her to knowing always just where she was standkeep the result of her peeking to herself.

And for once Jessie succeeded in doing so, although she several times set Maddy a box! As the size of the box was not object that no one cared to hear her. mentioned, Maddy had fully made up her mind to a shawl or scarf, and was proportionately disappointed when, as she was him. Indeed, he did not talk of her at all, during those five days, and was rather her room a small round box, scarcely large to lead her to the piano, sitting quite still enough to hold an apple, much less a small while he found what he wished her to scarf. The present proved to be a pair of play. plain but heavy bracelets, and a most exquisitely wrought chain of gold, to which was appended a beautiful pearl cross, the modulations. whole accompanied with the words "From

party dress. Maddy was fond of jewelleryand felt a flush of gratified pride, or vanity, mirror and remembered the time when, riding with the doctor, she had met Mrs. Agnes, with golden bracelets flashing on her arms, and wished she might one day wear something like them. The day had come sooner than she had anticipated, but Maddy was not so happy in possession of the coveted ornaments as she had thought she should be. It seemed to her that Guy ought not to have given them to her, that it was improper for her to keep them, and that both Mrs. Noah and Agnes thought so, too. She wished she knew exactly what was right; and then, remembering that Guy had said the doctor was expected early, she decided to ask his opinion on the subject and abide by it.

the party, affecting to despise the people dictating what she should play. in their immediate neighborhood; but her spirits rose at last; and when her toilet was completed, she shone resplendent in lace and diamonds and curls, managing to retain through all a certain simplicity dress appropriate to the hostess. beautiful as Agnes was, she felt in her jealous heart that there was about Maddy Clyde an attraction she did not possess. Guy saw it too, and while complimenting his pretty step-mother, kept his eyes fixed admiringly on Maddy, who started him into certain unpleasant remembrances by asking if the doctor had come yet.

"No-yes-there he is now," and Guy looked into the hall, where the doctor's object. I dare say old Mr. and Mrs. voice was heard inquiring for him.

"I want to see him a minute, alone, Money Musk." please. There's something I wish to ask him." And, unmindful of Agnes' darkened frown, or Guy's look of wonder, Maddy darted from the room, and ran hastily waiting for Guy, not for her.

always taking it for granted that when she "Yes, the tenth day," resumed the as soon as I am of age I shall marry him.' grown so tall, so womanly and beautiful, selves. So he would not hire music, or tired dear Guy's patience long enough, and or to see her thus, and the sight of her, -he wished all his guests to enjoy themwas old enough, the doctor would woo and doctor. "There are many years' difference Isn't it nice?" and returning the letter to almost took his breath way. And yet, as he have dancing as a rule. If any of the win the little girl who had come to him in between us, but if she feels at all as I do it's hiding place, Maddy scooped up in her stood with her hand in his, and surveyed young people wished to amuse themselves his capacity as Inspector, as Candidate No. she will not care, Guy;" and the doctor hand and ate a quantity of the snow beside her from head to foot, he felt that he would that way, they were welcome to do so, and acting a part in order to cover up some with you, and say that you have sometimes design of his own with regard to Maddy, and affected an indifference he did not feel; "I!" and Guy's face was crimson, while and affected an indifference he did not feel; "I!" and Guy's face was crimson, while the snowy ruffle was fastened high about followed Maddy into the cottage, where the her throat, and the cotton bands were on the subject by Miss Cutler, he replied, "Certainly: dance by all means if you believed himself sincere, managed to make "Yes, and I beg your pardon for it; but the window, shook his head doubtfully and ones were now shining. The doctor had wish to, and Maddy is willing to play." lunatic, who had been watching them from buttoned about her wrists, where golden "Certainly; dance by all means if you the doctor believe so too. Consequently, let me ask you one question, and upon its said, "Too young, for you, never forgotten Maddy as she was then, the

purity. The little sick girl, so dear to him "Hush, Uncle Joseph," Maddy whis- then, was growing away from him now; pered, softly, taking his arm and laying it and these adornings, which marked the around her neck. Mr. Remington don't budding woman, seemed to remove her "Yes, true as steel;" while the generous want me. He is engaged to a beautiful from him and place her nearer to Guy, whose bride should wear silk and jewels,

them, as well as the crazy man's reply, She was very glad to see him, she said, asking in the same breath why he had not the Remingtons and Maddy at the seaside, rejoined; "and as you have rather That was the first time the possibility been to the cottage, if she had not grown the latter coming to the cottage for a week assumed the position of Maddy's guardian had ever entered Guy's brain that his tall, and if he thought her improved with

> "One question at a time, if you please," self positively, Lucy loved him, he loved he said, drawing her a little more into the

Maddy did not wait for him to snswer. so eager was she to unburden her mind and know if she ought to keep the costly presents, at which she knew he was looking. "If he remembers his unpaid bill, he must consider me mighty mean," she thought; and then, with her usual frankness, she told him of the perplexity, and asked his opinion.

"It would displease Mr. Guy very much if I were to give them back," she said; but it is hardly right for me to accept them, is it?"

The doctor did not say she ought not to wear the ornaments, though he longed to tear them from her arms and throw them anywhere, he cared not where, so they freed her wholly from Guy. "They are very becoming," he said,

You would not look as well without them; so you had better wear them, tonight, and to-morrow, if you will grant me an interview, I will talk with you further." He said all this to gain the desired interview for which Guy was to prepare her. That he had not done so he felt

assured, but he could not be angry with did not "get too much taken in with the flashing in the wintry sunlight, and the countable reason, he was not now one bit Aikenside, which presented a gayer, busier. asking if they had talked privacy long wicked things on Broadway!" then, as he bright-hued lining of his fanciful robes interested in the party, and were it not appearance than she had seen there before. enough, and glancing rather curiously at that a few of the invitations were issued, Jessie was wild with delight, dragging Maddy's face. There was nothing in its expression to disturb him, and, offering her his arm, he led her back to the drawingrooms, where Agnes was smoothing down to Maddy. I've nothing to give you nor whole vacation at the cottage, as she seemed habit of swearing he would probably sworn; ioning it after a dress left there by Maddy receiving the guests, just descending the stairs. It was a brilliant scene which "Mother said plain white muslin was Aikenside presented that night, and amid more appropriate for a young girl, but it all Agnes bore herself like a queen; brother Guy said no; the blue silk would while Jessie, with her sunny face and be useful after the party; it was what you flowing hair, came in for a full share of needed; and so he bought it and paid two attention. But amid the gay throng there She was very glad to see him. The cot- dollars a yard, but it's a secret until you was none so fair or beautiful as Maddy, "Joseph, our unfortunate boy; Maddy side; the very first since Guy was its tage with its humble adornings did seem are called to try iton. Isn't Guy splendid?" who deported herself with as much ease must have told you; the one who's taken master. The neighbors had said that he lonely, and almost dreary, after the He was indeed splendid, Maddy thought, and grace as if she had all her life been such a shine to Jessie. He's crazy-like, was too proud to invite them, but they life and bustle of New York, and wondering why he was so kind to her, and accustomed to just such occasions as this. and from the corner where he sits so much, should say so no more. The house was to Maddy had cried more than once to think if it would be so when Lucy came. The At a distance the doctor watched her, I can hear him whispering by the hour, be thrown open in honor of Guy's birthday, how hard and wicked she must be growing dress fitted admirably, though Maddy telling several who she was, and once sometimes of folks he used to know, and and all who were at all desirable guests when her home had ceased to be the dear thought her grandfather would say it was resenting, by both look and manner, a then of you, whom he calls madam. He were to be bidden to the festival. First on old place she once loved so well. She had too low in the neck, but Sarah overruled remark made by Maria Cutler, to the says, for ten minutes on the stretch: 'God | the list was the doctor, who, remembering | been there five days, and not with standing the | her objections, assisted by Guy, who, when | effect that she was nobody but Mrs. bless the madam—the how averse Guy was to large parties, efforts of her grandparents to entertain her, the dress was complete and tried on for the Remington's governess, a poor girl whom madam!' that's because you are good to wondered at the proceedings. But Guy each day had seemed a week in its duration. last time, was called in by Jessie to see if Guy had taken a fancy to educate out of

> who had no particular objection to fancying him now, provided it could be reciprocal. But the doctor was only intent on Maddy, ing, just who was talking to her and just how far from her Guy was. He knew, too, when the latter was urging her to sing; to guessing what it was Guy had for her in and, managing to get nearer, heard her

> > "But I do; I wish it," Guy replied in that tone which people generally obeyed; and casting a half-frightened look at the sea

It was his favorite song, and one which brought out Maddy's voice in its various

"Oh, please, Mr. Remington, anything but that song. I cannot do it justice; Jessie was in ecstacies again. Clasping Maddy whispered, pleadingly, but Guy the ornaments on Maddy's neck and arms, answered resolutely, "You can." There she danced around her, declaring there was no appeal after this, but a resigned. never was anything more beautiful, or any. | obedient look, which made the doctor body so pretty as Maddy was in her gnash his teeth as he leaned upon the instrument. What right had Guy to command Maddy Clyde, and why should she or satisfaction, whichever one chooses to obey? and yet as the doctor glanced at Guy call it, as she glanced at herself in the he felt that, were he in Maddy's place, he should have done the same.

"No girl can resist Guy Remington," he thought. "I'm glad there's a Lucy Atherstone over the sea." And with a smile of encouragement for Maddy, who was pale with nervous timidity, he listened while her sweet, bird-like voice trembled for a moment with fear, and then gaining confidence from its own sound, filled the room with melody, and made those who had wandered off to other parts of the building hasten back to see who was singing.

Maria Cutler had presided at the piant earlier in the evening, as had one or two other young ladies, but to none of these had Guy paid half the attention he did to Maddy, staying constantly by her, holding At first Agnes had cared but little about her fan, turning the leaves of music, and

"There's devotion," tittered a miss in long ringlets; "but she really does play well," and she appealed to Maria Cutler, who answered, "Yes, she keeps good time, and I should think might play for a dance. I mean to ask her," and going up to Guy she said, "I wish to speak to-to Jessie's governess. Introduce me, please."

Guy waited till Maddy was through, and then gave the desired introduction. In a tone not wholly free from superciliousness, Miss Cutler said:

"Can you play a waltz or polka, Miss Clyde? We are aching to exercise our feet—that is, if Mr. Remington does not Deacon Crane will start for home instanter at the first note of anything as wicked as

When the party was first talked about, Agnes had proposed that it be a regular dancing party, with suitable music provided for it. But Guy, who knew how down to the hall where the doctor stood, such a thing would shock the puritanical prejudices of many of the people of Sommer-He had not expected to meet her thus, ville, who held dancing as a sin, said, "No

(To be continued).