# AS GOOD AS GOLD.

a friend of his-or if we are not, what market-place in the weekly course of are we? 'Od send, if I've not been ready, and even anxious, to say a few his friend, who has, I should like to friendly words; but the Mayor invariknow? Didn't he come here without a ably gazed stormfully past him, like sound shoe to his voot? Didn't I keep him here-help him to a living? Didn't I help him to money, or whatever he bed manner of perplexity at all appease said "Name your own price." I'd have fellow at one time, I liked him so well. ed thereon; and when to the familiar And now he's defied me! But d- him, I'll have a tussle with him now-at fair buying and selling, mind-at fair buy- letters, Henchard was stung into biting and selling! And if I can't overbid such a stripling as he, then I'm not worth a varden. We'll show that we know our business as well as one house. If at breakfast or dinner Elizhere and there."

His friends of the Corporation did not. specially respond. Henchard was less popular now then he has been when, nearly two years before, they had voted him to the chief magistracy on account of his amazing energy. While they had collectively profited by this quality of the corn-factor's, they had been made to wince individually on across the highway. more than one occasion. So he went out of the hald and down the street alone.

Reaching home he seemed to recollect something with a sour satisfaction. He called Elizabeth-Jane. Seeing how he booked when she entered she appeared two she railied. alarmed.

"Nothing to find fault with,' he said, him talking to you two or three times -he danced with 'ee at the rejoicings, it as a picture, a vision a vista of past no blame to you. But just hearken: Have you made him any foolish promsnaff at all?"

"No. I have promised him nothing." "Good. All's well that ends well. I particularly wish you not to see him again./f

"Very well, sir." 'You promise?"

She hesitated for a moment and

then said, "Yes, if you much wish it." "I do. He's an enemy to our house."

wrote in heavy hand to Farfrae thus: "Sir-I make request that henceforth you and my stepdaughter be as strangers to each other. She on her part has promised to welcome no more addresses from you; and I trust there- heat of my feelings. They were writfore, you will not attempt to force them upon her.

H. Henchard." One would almost have supposed Henchard to have had policy to see that no better modus vivendi could be arrived at with Farfrae than by encouraging him to become his son-in-law. But such a scheme for buying over a rival had nothing to recommend it to the Mayor's headstrong faculties. With all domestic finesse of that kind he was hopelessly at variance. Loving a man or hating him, his diplomacy was as wrongheaded as a buttalo's; and his I request you to return to me any wife had not ventured to suggest the such you may have, particularly the course which she, for many reasons, letters written in the first abandonwould have welcomed gladly.

Meanwhile, Donald Farfrae had open- "For the handsome sum you fored the gates of commerce on his own warded to me as a plaster to the wound, account at a spot on Dummerford Hill I heartily thank you." -as far as possible from Henchard's "I am now on my way to Bristol, to stores, and with every intention of see my only relative. She is rich, and keeping chear of his former friend and I hope will do something for me. I shall employer's customers. There was, it return through Casterbridge and Budseemed to the younger man, room for mouth, where I shall take the steamboth of them and to spare. The town | boat. Can you meet me with the letters was small, but the corn and hay-trade and other trifles? I shall be in the was proportionately large, and with his | coach that changes horses at the Stag native sagacity he saw honest oppor- Hotel at half-past five Wednesday eventunity for a share of it. So determined | ing; I shall be wearing a Paisley shawl was he to do nothing which should seem | with a red centre, and thus may easlike trade-antagonism to the Mayor lly be found. I should prefer this plan that he refused his first customer-a of receiving them to having them sent. large farmer of good repute-because Henchard and this man had dealt together within the preceding three months.

"He was once my friend," said Farfrae, "and it's not for me to take business from him. I am sorry to disap- should be left in a position to carry point you, but I cannot hurt the trade out that marriage with thee, I ought of a man who's been so kind to me."

In spite of this praiseworthy course the Scotchman's trade increased. Whe- mind, was, of course, the death of Mrs. ther it were that his northern energy | Henchard. was an overmastering force among the easy-going Wessex worthies, or whe- letters, and put the parcel aside till the ther it was sheer luck, the fact re- day she had appointed; this plan of remained that whatever he touched he turning them by hand being apparently prospered in. Like Jacob in Padan- a little ruse of the young lady's for aram, he would no sooner humbly lim- exchanging a word or two with him on it himself to the ringstraked-and-spot- past times. He would have preferred prevail.

But most probably luck had little to opposite the coach-office. do with it. Character is Fate, said Novalis, and Farfrae's character was was late. Henchard crossed over to it just the reverse of Henchard's, who while the horses was being changed; might not inaptly be described as Faust but there was no Lucetta inside or out. has been described-as a vehement, Concluding that something had hapgloomy being, who had quitted the pened to modify her arrangements, he ways of vulgar men without light to gave the matter up and went home, guide him on a better way.

Farfrae duly received the request to discontinue attentions to Elizabethattachment was stiffled down.

Farfrae was compelled, in sheer self- desk. She had directed it in these defence, to close with Henchard in mortal commercial combat. He could no longer parry the fierce attacks of the opened till Elizabeth-Jane's weddinglatter by simple avoidance. As soon day." as their war of prices began everybody the end. It was, in some degree, Nor- ter night. To learn to take the unithern insight matched against South- verse seriously there is no quicker way cudgel-and Henchard's weapon was one which, if it did not deal ruin at the first or second stroke, left him afterwards well-night at his antagonist's

mercy.

"Well, he's a friend of mine, and I'm farmers which thronged about the their business. Donald was always one who had endured and tost on his account, and could in no sense forgive the wrong; nor did Farfrae's snubwanted? I stuck out for no terms-I him. The large farmers, corn-merchants, millers, auctioneers, and others had each an official stall in the cornshared my last crust with that young market room, with their name paintseries of "Henchard," "Everdene," "Darton," and so on, was added one inscribed "Farfrae," in staring new terness; like Bellerophon, he wandered away from the crowd, cankered in soul. From that day Donald Farfrae's name was seldom mentioned in Henchard's abeth-Jane's mother inadvertently alluded to her favorite's movements, the girl would implore her by a look to be silent; and her husband would say, 'What—are you, too, my enemy?"

#### CHAPTER XVIII.

There came a shock which had been foreseen for some time by Elizabeth, as the box-passenger foresees the approaching jerk from some channel

Her mother was ill-too unwell to leave her room. Henchard, who treated her kindly, except in moments of irritation, sent at once for the richest, busiest doctor, whom he supposed to be the best. Bedtime came, and they burnt a light all night. In a day or

Elizabeth, who had been staying up, did not appear at breakfast on the second morning, and Henchard sat down observing her concern. "Only I want alone. He was startled to see a letto caution you, my dear. That man ter for him from Jersey in a writing Farfrae-it is about him. I've seen he knew too well, and had expected least to behold again. He took it up in his hands and looked at and came home with 'ee. Now, now, enactments; and then he read it as an unimportant finale to conjecture.

The writer said that she at length perceived ho wimpossible it would be ise? Gone the least bit beyond sniff and for any further communications to proceed between them now that his remarriage had taken place. That such reunion had been the only straightforward course open to him she was bound to admit. "On calm reflection, therefore," she went on, "I quite forgive you for landing me in such a dilemma, remembering that you concealed nothing before our ill-advised acquaintance; and that you really did set before me in your grim way the fact of there being a certain risk in loving you, slight as it seemed to be after When she had gone he sat down, and eighteen years of silence on your wife's part. I thus look upon the whole as a misfortune of mine, and not a fault of

> "So that, Michael, I must ask you to overlook those letters with which I pestered you day after day in the ten whilst I thought your conduct to me cruel; but now I know more particulars of the position you were in I see how inconsiderate my reproaches

> "Now you will, I am sure, perceive that the one condition which will make any future happiness psosible tor me, is that the past connection between our lives be kept secret outside this sle. Speak of it I know you will not; and I can trust you not to write of it. One safeguard more remains to be mentioned-that no writings of mine, or trifling articles belonging to me, should he left in your possession through neglect or forgetfulness. To this end may ment of feeling.

I remain still, yours ever, "Lucetta."

Henchard breathed heavily. thing-better you had not known me Upon my heart and soul if ever I to do it-I ought to do it, indeed!" The contingency that he had in his

As requested, he sealed up Lucetta's thus far, he went at dusk and stood

The evening was chilly, and the coach

not without a sense of relief. Meanwhile Mrs. Henchard was weakbening visibly. She could not go out so slight that the request was almost much thinking which seemed to distress superfluous. Yet he had felt a con- her, she said she wanted to write somecogitation he decided that it would be with pen and paper, and at her rethen-for the young girl's own sake no writing for a short time, folded her paless than his own. Thus the incipient per carefully, called Elizabeth-Jane to A time came when, avoid collision refusing assistance, sealed up the with his former friend as he might, sheet, directed it, and locked it in her

> Words :-"Mr. Michael Henchard. Not to be

The latter sat up with her mother was interested, and some few guessed to the utmost of her strength night afern doggedness-the dirk against the than to watch-to be a "waker," as the country-people call it. Between the hours at which the last toss-pot went by and the first sparrow shook himself. the silence in Casterbridge- barring the rare sound of the watchman-was Almost every Saturday they encoun- broken in Elizabeth's ear only by the tered each other amid the crowd of timepiece in the bed-room ticking fran-

tically against the clock on the stairs; ticking harder and harder till it seemed to clang like a gong; and all this while the subtle-souled girl asking herself why she was born, why sitting in a room, and blinking at the candle; why things around her had taken the shape they wore in preference to every other possible shape. Why they stared but it will be very necessary for the at her so helplessly, as if waiting for the touch of some wand that should release them from terrestrial constraint; what that chaos called consciousness, which spun in her at this is not our intention to state here the moment like a top, tended to, and began in. Her eyes fell together; she was awake, vet she was asleep.

Without preface, and as the continuation of a scene already progressing in her mind, Mrs. Henchard said, "You remember the note sent to you and Mr. Farfrae—asking you to meet some one in Dummerford Barton-and that you thought it was a trick to make foo's of you?"

"Yes." "It was not to make fools of youit was done to bring you together Twas I did it."

"Why?" said Elizabeth, with a "I-wanted you to marry Mr. Far-

"Oh, mother!" Elizabeth-Jane bent quite into her own lap. But as her mother did not go on, she said, "What reason ?"

"Well, I had a reason. Twill out one day. I wish it could have been in my time! But there—nothing is as you wish

t. Henchard hates him.' "Perhaps they'll be friends again," murmured the girl.

"I don't know-I don't know." After this her mother was silent, and dozed; and she spoke on the subject no more. Some little time later on, Farfrae was morning, when he observed that the blinds were all down. He rang the bell full note and a small one; and then he was informed that Mrs. Henchard was dead-just dead-that very hour.

At the town-pump there were gathered a few old inhabitants, who came there for water whenever they had, as at present, spare time to fetch it, because it was purer from that original fount than from their own wells, Mrs. Cuxsom, who had been standing there tor an indefinite time with her pitcher, was describing the incidents of Mrs. Henchard's death, as she had learnt them from the nurse.

"And she was as white as marblestone," said Mrs. Cuxsom. "And likewise such a thoughtful woman, tooah, poor soul-so thoughtful that a minded every little thing that wanted gone ,and my last breath's blowed, look in the top drawer o' the chest in the back room by the window, and you'll find all my coffin clothes; a piece of flannel, that's to put under me, and the little piece is to put under my head; and my new stockings for my feet—they are folded alongside, and all my other things. And there's four ounce pennies, the heaviest I could find, a-tied up in bits of linen, for weights -two for my right eye and two for my left," she said. "And when you've used 'em, and my eyes don't open no more, bury the pennies, good souls, and don't ye go spending 'em for I shouldn't like it. And open the windows as soon as I am carried out, and make it as cheerful as you can for my Elizabeth-Jane."

"Ah, poor heart!" the ounce pennies in the garden. But if ye'll believe words, that man Christopher Coney, went and dug 'em up, and spent 'em at the King o' Prussia. "Faith," he said, "why should death deprive life of fourpence? Death's not of such good report that we should respect 'en to that extent," says he." "'Twas a cannibal deed!" deprecat-

ed her listeners. "Gad, then, I won't quite hae it," said Solomon Longways. "I say it today, and 'tis a Sunday morning, and I wouldn't speak wrongfully for a silver sixpence at such a time. I don't is sound doxology; and I wouldn't sell skellintons-leastwise respectable skellintons-to be varnished for 'natomies, except I were out o' work. But money is scarce, and throats get dry. Why should death deprive life of fourpence? I say there was no treason in

"Well, poor soul; she's helpless to hinder that or anything now," answered Mother Cuxsom. "And all her shining keys will be took from her, and her cupboards opened; and things a didn't wish seen, anybody will see; and her little wishes and ways will be as

(To Be Continued.)

# RUSSIA WANTS DOCTORS.

#### There is Only One Doctor to Every Six Thousand Inhabitants There.

There is already some complaint in this country of many of the professions ted exceptions of trade, than the ring- not to see her; but deeming that there being overcrowded although this counstraked-and-spotted would multiply and could be no great harm in acquiescing try is comparatively young. The supply of doctors is frequently said to be overstocked, but this may be doubted when one considers the great West with its small proportion of medical men to the population. However, if such is the case, there is hope for any struggling young physician who may have looked in vain for a profitable practice in this vicinity. Russia wants in some way manifest it. When a par-Jane. His acts of that kind had been of doors any more. One day, after doctors and wants them badly. The percentage of medical men to the population there is very small-about one siderable interest in her, and after some thing. A desk was put upon her bed to every 6,000 inhabitants. In one province there are only three medical men as well to enact no Romeo part just quest she was left alone. She remained to a population of 155,000. It is probably due to this cause the death rate in Russia is the highest in Europe. bring a taper and wax, and then, still Here, then, is a chance for young doctors who fail to find a field for their skill. Russians will be very glad to have their services and to pay well for them.

# THE GREATEST ZOO.

The Zoological Gardens of the South African Republic are the largest in the world. They consist of about 20 farms in the Lebombo region, guarded by a whole tribe of Kaffirs. Within this area there is, perhaps, every species of wild animal to be found in South Africa. This region is guarded by a special resolution of the Volksraad.

# THE HOME.

PREPARING THE FEAST.

It is said that the very sound of these words causes our mouths to water, housewife to be systematic in her preparations for this event if we would have the dinner a perfect success. It proper methods of serving an elaborate dinner in the most approved style, but A word from her mother roused her. to offer suggestions to help the enthusiastic young housekeeper to enjoy to the utmost the delightful responsibility of preparing and presiding over the dinner which is to be served on this day.

This is the day when the best that is in us and about us is brought forward and made the most of. The true Thanksgiving spirit should prevade the home atmosphere, the family, so far as possible, in all its branches should be brought together, the treasured old blue china and antique teaspoons set forth, and the various precious little down her head so much that she looked heirlooms made to serve their different purposes.

As much as possible of the dinner should be prepared before Thanksgiving day. The mince meat should be prepared the week before it is wanted, as it becomes more thoroughly seasonheat them before serving. While mak- gossip on their part as much as posing the mince pies make enough crust sible. passing Henchard's house on a Sunday for the pumpkin and all other pies and place this prepared crust in the cellar, and it will be ready to roll out quickso softly that it only sounded a single ly the next morning, when every moment will count.

Have the suet for the pudding chopped the day before and the hard sauce made for it and put in a cool place. The cranberry sauce and that for the before any edibles are served. If there pies can also be prepared and ready for are girls or boys in the house, get them use beforehand. The nuts may be to cut branches of red and gold leaves, cracked the night before, and last, but if such a thing still exists. Chrysanby no means least, the turkey should themums are usually beautiful and in-

morning, first, the pies to be baked, ter of the table is very effective. And but as the crust is all ready to be rolled out and the cranberries and stewed served in a dignified manner-not bangpumpkin prepared this task can be ed on in the fashion which certain readily disposed of. Then, when the country maids think adds to the friendturkey is in the oven, the pudding and ly feeling of a family dinner. scalloped oysters may be prepared for the steamer and oven respectively. Then ending. "Yes," says she, "when I'm the steamer and oven respect and mashed for the potato croquettes, if they are desired, and the other vegetables prepared early, so that they may be ready says a well-known hairdresser, "is not when it is time to cook them.

A little forethought and method in preparing such a dinner will usually save hours of work.

### AN ELABORATE APRON.

An apron suitable for dressy occasions may be made very elaborate. Fancy vigorous strokes lengthwise of the tends toward a thick, creamy satin hair." which would be quite an irresistible material for the apron, and its richness would make a plain style preferable to any fussy arrangement. Of satinabout Princess of Wales, for instance, and her twenty-two inches wide you will want | daughters make a selection of mater-"Well, and Martha did it, and buried three-quarters of a yard for the skirt lials and styles from samples and watersome bands, a little V-shaped pecket and and patterns the royal order is given, a small, plain bodice, which, by the way, is merely a square press with the full- figures. ness drawn into the waist, on the upper part of the band, whilst the gathers from the skirt are stroked in beneath the lower edge of the said waist-band.

For trimming, have a band an inch wide, outlining the three sides of the bib, and three others two inches in depth going right around the skirt of see harm in it. To respect the dead the apron, while a very short one across the top of the pocket should be and specially prepared kennels a numof the same width as those on the ber of dogs which were just old enbodice. Now then for a display of sti- ough to care for themselves. tchery. Iron on these bands a floral border, of which you can buy a transfer impression by the yard or packet pation to which its entire attention was for a few cents, and this you must work directed as often as possible. Upon one in delicate washing silks, carrying out the natural shades of the blossoms you select. Trails of Virginia creeper would on its hind legs when required to do make a very suitable pattern, the so, another he required to bark at comleaves in hues of crimson, green, yellow and russet brown, with dark veinings, or pale pink dog roses, with tiny sprigs of blue and pink forget-me-nots structor had anything to do with the meandering in and out, would make dogs, who spent most of the time, when another pleasant scheme of color.

As the value and beauty of this apron depend on the fineness of the work on the borders, do not adopt the outline the dogs were killed and their brains stitch, but rather fill up your flowers and leaves thoroughly, using much discretion and taste in the blending of your shades; if, however, you deem this bark, that portion of the brain which too troublesome a task, you can mod- controls the organs of speech had enify your labor by selecting instead of the floral design, a conventional pattern which might be worked in coral trained to run, the portion controlling stitch, not outline, as that would be the muscles of the legs predominated; too thin, but the coral stitch on sprays, scrolls and leaves works up very rapidly and effectively. Carry out the design in tones of soft and dark green.

# CAPABLE OR INCAPABLE.

Every child is certainly born with an aptitude for something—a talent, as circumstances are at all favorable, will be broken or at least held in check. know that he is misplacing his energies. could success be attained is not con- evil over all our acts and thoughts. ducive to either his welfare or happisuccess there is little satisfaction.

Too many parents permit their chil- and the habit deeply intrenched? dren to grow up incapable of taking | If we will remember the experiment care of themselves. Of such poor inca- with the dogs, we shall perceive that pables there are thousands, and whose there is another way in which we can fault is it? In other countries the trades | work, a way which promises better reare not looked down upon as they are sults. If the brain can be developed here, and children, no matter how in one direction, it can be in another. wealthy their parents may be, are So that it is possible, by continued and trained for some trade. Ill fortune is diligent application in another, and as apt to come to any and everyone and far as possible opposite direction, to then the knowledge of some means of counteract the influence already estabsupport will not come amiss.

It is not always that a boy is adapt-lable habit,

ed for the trade in which his father has become successful; still, whole families of boys go blindly into the same, simply from a foolish carelessness or from the desire to earn money early in life. Unless necessity compels this should never happen if one's future is counted for aught.

#### CHILDREN'S GOSSIP.

Most children, unless constantly reprimanded for so doing, have a habit of carrying home all bits of gossip they may hear. Unfortunately many mothers encourage it by permitting their children to do so, or in listening to them. If the little ones were told that mother does not care to hear what Mrs. So-and-So said disagreeable about Mr. Jones and Mrs, Blank and that gossin was rude and vulgar," they would not be so ready to carry information from house to house. Many a child who would otherwise be sweet is a perfect nuisance to its mother's friends and neighbors. It listens to conversation which is not meant for its ears and when it finds that it has ready listeners in its parents' fragments of gossip. frequently augmented, alas! are repeated as soon as home is reached.

A child's training reflects upon the parents, and whether good or bad is for them to attend. Children who cannot be trusted are most disagreeable to have about. The little one is no longer a child when he listens at every door and evinces by his eager curiosity that he must find out much that is not his business. Parents, if they must ed after standing several days, and it say disagreeable things about their should be made into pies the day be- neighbors, should not do so in the presfore they are used and the pies kept ence of little ones if they care to have in a cold place until it is time to re- them well bred, and should discourage

#### THE THANKSGIVING TABLE.

The table should be spread with snowy napery, the glass and silver polished in the last degree of cleanliness and brilliancy, and every detail perfect be cleaned and stuffed the day before. expensive at this time of year, and a This will leave for Thanksgiving low bowl of them in yellow in the ceneverything must be hot, piping hot, and

#### WAY TO BRUSH THE HAIR.

"The proper way to brush the hair," to brush it lengthwise, but to hold the ends of the hair, if it is long enough, and simply scrub the scalp with the brush. This process promotes the circulation of the blood, and excites the oil glands to action. After the hair has been thoroughly brushed in this way, it should be then finished with a few

# DON'T ATTEND BARGAIN SALES.

The royal family never shops. The part, and another three-quarters to cut | color drawings. From these pictures while the fitting is done on dummies expressly made to conform to the royal

# POWER OF HABIT.

#### An Interesting Experiment on Three Dogs -What Habit Really 1s.

By way of experiment a certain investigator recently placed in seperate

For each dog he chose a single occuhe placed the task of standing erect upmand, another to run around its kennel, and so on. No one save their innot receiving their "lesson," in sleep. At the end of a given number of months subjected to rigid examination.

In the dog which had been trained to larged more than the rest; in the dogs in every case that portion of the brain was found to be most developed through the agency of which the special act required of the dog had been perform-

If for no other reason, the above experiment is interesting because it helps us to see what habit really is, how it some would call it, and early in life, if is formed, and better still, how it may

Mechanical repetition enabled the dogs to become proficient in some one ent notices such a talent it is his duty act. Continually working in a certain to educate his child in it. There is direction and dwelling upon a given line nothing harder than for a man to of thought will develop the brain in a correspondingly uneven manner, until little by little a strong and almost in-To have longings for another art or vincible habit is formed, which casts trade and to feel that in that only its predominating influence for good or

Of course it is possible by a supreme ness. It is only where there is love effort of the will to overcome the tenfor the profession chosen as well as dency to certain actions and lines of an ambition to become proficient in it thought. For some persons this may that success will attend; and without be the best way to put an evil habit to rout. But what if the will is weak

lished in the brain by a given undesir-