

**RAINY DAYS, AND  
HOW TO  
MEET THEM**

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Rainy Days, and How to Meet Them by Emma Marshall

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**EMMA MARSHALL**

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"Francis was about to ascend the stairs without another word, when his wife came down. She threw her arms round him, and burst into tears. He knew what she meant; there was no need to speak."—See PAGE 53.

*Rainy Days,*  
AND  
*How to Meet Them.*

BY  
EMMA MARSHALL,  
*Author of "Lessons of Life," "Rose Bryant," &c., &c.*

"LEARN TO LABOUR, AND TO WAIT."



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# RAINY DAYS:

AND

## HOW TO MEET THEM.

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### CHAPTER I.

#### TROUBLE IN KENTMERE.

KENTMERE is a quiet country town, such as you may have passed through many times, if you are old enough to remember the days of gaily-painted coaches, with four horses, or sober post-chaises, as a means of locomotion. The rattle of these vehicles into Kentmere, and the ten minutes' stop to "change," at the door of the Angel or the Star Hotel, was the grand event of the day in those times. Now, the Railway has come within three miles of the town, but there seems no sufficient inducement to bring the "iron horse" into Kentmere itself; so it goes on in its own sleepy way; and an

omnibus, running to meet two trains daily, is found enough for its needs, as far as passenger traffic is concerned.

Kentmere has its Town-hall and Market-house, its old Parish Church and its new District Church, its High Street, with a line of shops, interspersed with inns and public-houses; its smaller and narrower streets diverging from this, and its more distinguished quarter, where professional men, as they are called, retired and unretired, live within sight of distant woods and pleasant fields; and of the little stream or river, which gives the place its name. But rather out of the centre of the town itself stands a single manufactory, with its one tall chimney and its line of brick wall, pierced with its many windows—the Silk Mills of Messrs. Cock and Pearson. They have been established many years, and in days gone by, several pretty little fortunes have been made out of them. But that day is past; for a long time, fewer and fewer hands have been employed, and the business has sensibly declined. Now, on the bright spring day on which this little story opens,