

"A GATHERING OF LAVENDER."

By ANNIE E. HOLDSWORTH.

(Copyright, 1898, by Annie E. Holdsworth.) The postman coming down the road could see Miss Caroline in the garden picking lavender...

and the child is lame and helpless, I have acted for the best." She led them into the parlor and took off their bonnets, and settled them in their chairs, enjoying the surprise that made them dumb...

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SHE WAS A TALL, THIN OLD WOMAN, WHO LOOKED NOT UNLIKE A SPRIG OF FADED LAVENDER.

The poor woman was still stunned by the disappointment. Her thoughts trembled like her limbs; she tottered about the subject. Life had been difficult enough before. How could she hope to meet the additional expense of the crippled child?...

"Neither of us ought to be here," sobbed Miss Caroline. "Jane, you ought not to have come. How could I live without you?" "I couldn't live without you," said Miss Jane, and they wept together.

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