# Children's Department.

DICK AND HIS FRIENDS.

(Written for The Church Guardian.)

(CONTINUED.)

If we did but realize what an influence each one of us may possess for good surely many of our lives would be very different. Those opportunities of bene fitting others, which are constantly pre senting themselves, would not pass by as unheeded as they do pass. Miss Mont fort was one of those loving and faithful servants of our Great Master, who, for His dear sake, gladly seek out day by day those of whom He said: "Whatsoever ye in another column by Allison & Co. do unto the least of these ye do it unto me." She saw in Dick one of those who might be gathered into the fold of the Great Shepherd, or who might go astray on the crowded highways of the world. She saw, in the boy's bright, young face, the possibilities of an honest, manly life, and more, of that higher life, in which he might serve faithfully and manfully in the army of the Great King.

The young lady and the "factory boy' had a long talk together, sitting on the garden bench, in the shadow of the great beech-tree. Dick told his short story simply and truthfully,-there had been very little to mark his few years; he had been less exposed to vicious influences then some perhaps but until his meeting.

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Terms Cash. than some, perhaps, but until his meeting with Mr. Selkirk, he could remember no words addressed to him, that would lead him to think of any other life than that of Boarding and Day School for the factory "hands" at Bolton. "If your mother had lived," said Miss Montfort, "it would, I think, have been different. I have an idea that she was a loving, gentle mother; can't you remember her be," said Dick, with a wistful look in his 25 and 27 Tobin Street, Halifax, N. S. eyes, "but I was only a little fellow when she died, and I can scarce remember her at all." "And this is the book Mr. Sel kirk gave you. You would like to learn to read it well, would you not?" "Yes, ma'am," said Dick earnestly, "I would be very glad to work for anyone who would teach me." The boy had been accustomed to an equivalent for help of any kind. Miss Montford smiled. "You will learn after awhile," she said gently, "that there are many who will gladly help you without expecting any return, and you will find yourself, by-and-bye, that the best pleasure we can have in this life is doing good to others. I think I know who will be very glad to teach you; poor Willie is an excellent reader, and full of patience and kindness; he would be just

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be kind to him, and patient with his helplessness, will you not?" "I will, indeed," said Dick; "it would be hard if a strong, healthy boy like me couldn't help a poor lad like Willie." "Well, ROLLESTON HOUSE, we shall see," said Miss Montfort, kindly; "I do no tdoubt that you want to do what is right. Come up to Mr. Montford's house this afternoon, and I will let you Sister and Seccessor to Miss Stubbs, (now know about your work."

The young lady went away, and left Dick full of hope, and feeling, more than ever, the truth of Mr. Selkirk's words, that there was One above who would never leave him nor forsake him."

(To be continued.)

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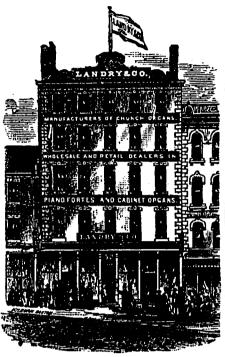
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