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Children's Record.

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THE RECORD'S SOLILOQUY.

HARK! Listen! Can you not hear your RECORD speaking? I fancy I hear it talking to itself on this wise as it goes on its last visit for the year.

"My meetings with the young people for the year have come to an end. Very pleasant they have been. Many long journeys have I taken to get to some of my young friends. Sometimes I have been whirled along for hundreds, thousands, of miles in the train, and then perhaps had a long ride in an express wagon or on horseback, before I could reach them. In all kinds of weather too I travelled, day and night as well, but whenever I got out of the bag in which I had travelled, and brushed myself up and went to Sunday school, I got such a hearty welcome that it made me forget all the knocking about that I had by the way.

"I have been in a great variety of homes from the Atlantic to the Pacific, some rich and some poor, some in the busy city and others on the lonely prairie, some in the sounding forest and some by the sounding sea, and have been so kindly received that I want to go to them again next year.

"I want to thank them too on this my last visit for the year, not only for their hearty welcome, but for the lessons they have taught me. One of these lessons, which will make me more contented, is, that place makes little difference with young peoples' happiness. I have seen bright and happy faces looking at me and reading me, in the poor homes and in the rich, in the country and in the city, and I have come to the conclusion that when

young people are happy it is because happiness lives in them and shines out through them, no matter where they are or what kind of clothes they wear.

"Another thing I have learned about young people, from looking at their faces and listening to their voices on my monthly rounds, is, that the happiest ones are those that are thinking of others and trying to help them.

"In the homes, I always noticed that those who tried to help their parents and brothers and sisters had the brightest smiles. In the Sabbath Schools I thought that the scholars who were most attentive to their teacher looked the most cheerful.

"In the Mission Bands I noticed a curious thing, that those who spent their cents on themselves did not seem so happy and contented as those who had denied themselves some pleasures and given their savings to feed some hungry one or to send word to the heathen about Jesus. At first this seemed strange. Surely the young people who had had the pleasure should be the happiest. But no, it was always those who tried to make others glad.

"Another thing I noticed in my visits, that the happiest young people in all my wide circle of friends are those who are trying to follow Christ. Others of my acquaintance would like to be Christians but they think that it will make life sad and they want to enjoy themselves. I feel very sorry for them and have been trying to show them their mistake and I hope that some of them tried and found that what I am telling them is true.

"But I must not stay here talking to myself or my young friends will begin to think that I have forgotten them or got lost by the way,"

"May God bless them all, making them good and true and noble men and women."