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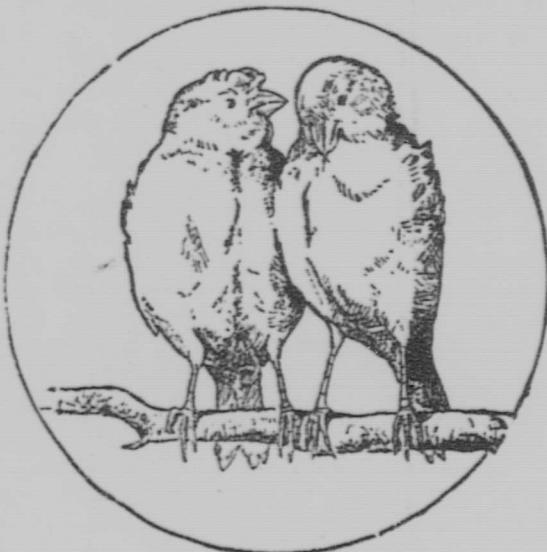
No. 3.

PERSISTENT PERCY.

Percy was a boy who stuck to things until he mastered them. He did not learn as quickly as some boys did, and this worried him sometimes; but he kept at it until he succeeded.

Percy was determined to learn to walk with stilts. All the other boys were walking around on them, and, although they were older than Percy, he wanted to do like them. So he set to work. The first thing was to make the stilts. He found some blocks in the pile of kindling wood, and two long sticks. He could use a hammer pretty well, and he knew where there were plenty of nails. Percy was allowed to play in the yard pretty much as he pleased. He was often busy for a long time "making things." So he did not tell any one about his plans, but just went to work. I wish you could have seen the pair of stilts he made all by himself. He enjoyed them the more because he made them for himself. It is a good thing for a boy to learn to do things, and to do them by himself.

When the stilts were made, and after they had been brought for mother to see, then began the work of learning to walk on them. It seemed so easy to the boys Percy had been watching. But it was not so easy when he tried it. The stilts would slip, or he would lose his balance, or something would happen before he could take more than one step. Percy had to get up against a wall, and start from there. He



A STORY WITHOUT WORDS.

would put his feet on the blocks and then straighten up his body, and put one foot forward, while he was still leaning against the wall. Then came the awful time when the other foot must go forward. That was the time when he fell, usually. It was two or three days before he could take that next big step.

How long do you think it took Percy to learn to walk? Why, about two weeks. Everybody around the house laughed at him, and told him he was too little, but Percy never said anything. He just kept on, sometimes working an hour or two at his stilt practice. At last he could walk a half-dozen steps, and after that it was only a question of time until he could walk around with the other boys.

He was persistent, and so he won the battle. It is the boy who keeps right on who succeeds in school, and who learns the many things boys can learn outside of school. Best of all, the persistent boy is learning something that will help him when he is a man. Then it will be that his persistence will be rewarded. It is a good rule never to stop until we have learned what we start out to learn. Persistence wins in every battle.—
Child's Gem.



"POLLY WOLLY BOO."

BY MAY G. MOSAR.

There were no two ways about it; Jack and Nan were quarrelling. The unhappy sounds reached even to Uncle Tom's room, where he was busily reading.

"Le' go, Nan; it's mine, I say!"

"Taint either, Jack Sawyer! I think you're real mean! I will have it!" screamed Nan.

And then came the unmistakable sounds of a push from Jack, and Nan set up a wail more from angry feelings than a hurt body.

Uncle Tom appeared suddenly in the doorway, and Nan rushed sobbing to him, while Jack stood defiantly in the middle of the floor, holding the new engine which had been the cause of this dreadful war in the nursery.

"Jack's real mean; he pushed me, and he won't let me play with the engine at all," wailed Nan.

Jack chimed in that Nan had had it all the morning, and mother said that he might have it this afternoon, and just as soon as he took it Nan was mad.

Uncle Tom picked up the two little quarrellers, and seated himself in the big rocking-chair, with one on each knee. "Now, chicks," he said, "you just listen while I tell you what mother and I did when we were children like you. We had a great time dividing our playthings so that each one was satisfied, and I suspect we sometimes

