

Happy Days

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TEMPTATION.

THE cat would very much like to get at the bird; but I don't think the lady will let it.

CHARLIE'S SURPRISE.

"I AM very much afraid," said Charlie's mother, "that my little boy is lazy; he will not take the trouble to learn anything thoroughly."

(Charlie hung his head a minute; then, lifting up his eyes, he said brightly, "Never mind, mamma; I'll surprise you some day;" and he ran off to look for his Uncle Ned that he might begin right away to get ready this surprise for his mother.

"Come, Charlie," said his school-friend Brant, the next day, "last night's frost must have unbuttoned the chestnuts' overcoats for us finely: we can just get quarts of nuts if we hurry before the others gather them all."

"All right," said Charlie, starting off with a bound; but he came to a sudden halt. "I can't go," he said; "I promised to do some work for an hour every morning for two weeks."

"Ho! who made you promise?"

"I promised myself," said Charlie.

"Yourself," laughed Brant. "Oh, well, you can let yourself off, can't you?"

"No," said Charlie, stoutly, "that would be breaking my promise. Go ahead, Brant, I'll follow you in an hour."

"Yes," grumbled Brant, "when the nuts are all gathered."



TEMPTATION.

Perhaps I must not tell how Charlie spent that hour every morning; but, when his mother's birthday came there was a delightful surprise ready for her in the shape of a little picture painted by Charlie with great care and patience.

"Now," said mamma, "I hope my little boy will keep on in this new path, so that

he may never hear those terrible words; Thou wicked and slothful servant!" but may come to stand one day among those who shall hear the blessed sound of 'Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.'"

FOUR LITTLE MARYS

THEY all live in the same house, they all have the same room; and the fact is, they are all in the same body. But they do not think the same thoughts or want to do the same things. In the morning the rising-bell rings. "We must get up," says Mary Loving. She always wants to please her mother, and she has not told anybody, but she has promised Jesus she would try to serve him. "I don't want to get up," says Mary Lazy. "Oh, never mind the bell!" says Mary Selfish. "I won't get up," says Mary Wilful. So they all lie together awhile longer. Then the mother calls. "Yes'm," says Mary Loving. "Oh, I hate to get up!" say the other three. But they all agree that they must mind mamma, and slowly arise. "We must put in a new shoe-string," says Mary

Loving. "Oh, knot the old one!" says Mary Lazy. "No; we must have a new shoe-string," says Mary Loving. So the rest let her put it in. Mary Wilful will not stop to sew a button on their dress; and Mary Lazy thinks the hair will do, if it isn't quite smooth. Did you ever meet these little girls?