

Happy Days

[VOLUME II.]

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PLAYING DOCTOR.

MASTER CHARLIE says he is going to be a doctor when he grows up. He begins to practice his sister's doll. He puts on his father's coat and top hat, and with a grave face feels the doll's pulse and orders gruel and medicine. The little girl obeys his orders, and between the two I hope they will soon have the doll well again.

THE SNAIL'S LESSON.

FREDDY sat on a wall in the garden with a book in his hand, at which he was looking with a very sad face.

"I'm sure I shall never learn it!" he cried in tones of despair.

The school-master had given all the boys a homely task, and Freddy had not had let the time pass away without touching a book till only a leaf was left, and he had his long poem to learn by heart.

Like most boys, he wished to get the prize, but he did not like the labour of working for it.

When an idle lad was Master Freddy, in his head he thought how that he was not so clever as the other boys, and that it was not much use trying.

He was thinking that very thing just



PLAYING DOCTOR.

now, when his eyes fell upon a snail crawling up the bottom of the wall on which he sat. "Surely," thought he, "that silly thing is not going to try to get to the top at that place!" Yet, slowly, as he watched it—very slowly—the snail came

nearer and nearer, until at length the summit was reached, and, as if in triumph, the old snail reared itself up and waved its horns, till Freddy laughed outright.

Then the thought flashed upon him—suppose the snail had said what he had, "It is of no use trying!" He would never have reached the top of the wall, that was certain.

"I won't be beaten by a snail!" cried he, and he set to work at once in downright earnest, and by the time the holidays came to an end he knew his poem by heart, and could recite it without a mistake.

Prize-day came, and the boys listened eagerly for the prize boys' names. Freddy's surprise can scarcely be imagined when he heard his own called out; but there was no mistake about it; he had won a prize.

—Selected.

SOME little boys and girls are always talking about what they will do when they are "grown up." It is better not to think so far ahead. God wants you to do something for him now, before you grow up. And the best way to begin is by being kind and obedient at home.