

Children's Department.

"What Next."

Bairnies three were at my knee. Their evening prayer to say, Golden heads were all a gleam With the sunset's ray. One, the fairest of them all, Whispered, half perplexed, In the midst of childish prayer—"Mother dear, what next?"

"Tell me, mother, what to say, I forgot to-night," So I whispered soft and low—"Safe till morning light." Then the sunlight bade "Good-bye." Baby's prayer was said, And my darlings sweetly slept In each cozy bed.

Years have come, and years have gone, And I, too, perplexed, Whispered oft to heaven's gate, "Father, dear, what next? Wilt thou keep me all the way, Be it day or night? Came the answer sweet and clear—"Safe till morning light."

Brotherly Love.

Nothing moves the heart of the loving sister of undemonstrative brothers so much as the unexpected exhibition of brotherly love. Many a sister, whose brothers are all that she could ask for, in manliness, courage and purity, would be almost glad to exchange places, for a little while, with the sister in the following account whose brother not only loved her, but was willing that all the world should know and feel that love.

A noble case of brotherly love came under my observation to-day, while in one of the great greenhouses of the city. A little, middle-aged negro with a face like ebony was overseeing the making of a large bouquet, which the young lady in attendance was skilfully constructing of white carnations, daisies, etc.

"Now put some roses in," he said. "The roses are much more expensive," remarked the clerk. "It does not matter about the cost, she always liked roses," said the little



Willie Tillbrook Son of

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of McKeesport, Pa., had a Scrofula bunch under one ear which the physician lanced and then it became a running sore, and was followed by erysipelas. Mrs. Tillbrook gave him

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the sore healed up, he became perfectly well and is now a lively, robust boy. Other parents whose children suffer from impure blood should profit by this example.

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man, and going to the cold closet, he selected Jacqueminot, Marechal Niel, and Niphotos buds, with a reckless disregard of cost. Then, following me to the door as I was leaving, he spoke lovingly of the flowers that they could get in the South, everywhere, without paying for them; of how the flowers grew in their yard, and how he used to see his sister out every morning handling and looking them over. "But she is down with typhoid fever now, and I am on the railway, and every time I come to the city, the first thing she says is, 'O, bring me some flowers!' And two great, crystal tears looked over the rims of the little man's eyes, and a great white soul, full of brotherly love, shone out through the black face, and my heart cried out, "Oh, happy sister, to have such a brother!"

Reggie's Repentance.

"Reggie, boy," said Mr. Hutton, one morning, as he packed his black bag and bustled round, preparing to start for town, "I want you to water the ferns by the chestnut tree for me; they need it badly, and I can't stop to see to another thing."

"Yes, father," answered Reggie. But the response was mumbled in a half-injured tone of voice that revealed but too plainly the unwillingness of his heart.

Mr. Hutton, however, appeared not to notice it, for he said, "There's a good boy! don't forget," and a moment later the door slammed and he was gone.

"What a shame!" pouted Reggie to himself, with a very ugly face. "There's Harry White and Ben Elliott just gone down to the brook with their boats. They can go out to play first thing, but I've got to go dragging cans of water down to those bothering old ferns. I wouldn't mind if father had let me have the hose, but it's such a way to the chestnut tree."

It was Saturday, and a whole holiday, so Reggie would have had plenty of time for work and play too; but unfortunately he was not fond of doing anything for other people—not even for the loving father who did so much for him.

He dared not altogether disobey, but, with clouded brow and lagging feet, commenced his unwelcome task. And oh! how heavy the can of water was. It seemed quite twice as heavy, and the distance to the fern bank twice as far as if he had been helped by a cheerful, buoyant spirit.

Two cansful—three—why they seemed to go no way! What did anybody want such a stupid big rock-work for and so many ferns all alike? He remembered hearing his sister Agnes say that she had emptied thirteen cans of water on that one portion of the garden one evening after a hot day! Well, he wasn't going to fetch thirteen cans, nor ten neither! He should just get one more—that would be four—and then go out to play; his arms ached "like anything."

Reggie sprinkled that last can of water over all the ferns that had not yet received any, just damping the surface of the earth—scarcely that—and then scampered off to join the boys, who were sailing a miniature fleet on Popham's brook.

But he did not enjoy the fun so much as he had expected. The sun was intensely hot, and the thought of those poor thirsty ferns and the dear father who had trusted him kept coming across his mind and spoiling it all. "How late father is!" said Reggie's little brother, some hours after "He

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