

Why? Because God had heard the little prayer, and sent down to the conscience stricken, perplexed young heart his own gift of forgiveness and peace, and with this blessed gift had come also the most perfect faith that his petition for Ted would be answered.

Mike was happy again. He amused himself throwing pebbles into the stream, while his bright imagination dwelt on the time when he and Ted would be together.

But a fresh thought presently began to disturb him, he knew that Ted would get well, that though the earthly doctors had failed, the heavenly Doctor would cure his brother; but his father and mother did not know this, and perhaps that had told Ted those solemn and dreadful words that he would never be better any more. Well! what then?

The words to Ted would be solemn, but not dreadful; he would think of the little Eileen whom he would soon see again, he would think of the dear Saviour whom he loved, and who loved him.

"For there are lambs within the fold
Of God's beloved Son,
And Jesus Christ with tender care
Does in his arms most gently bear
The helpless little ones."

Jesus would surely bear this "helpless little one" safe to heaven, and Mike knew that Ted would not be at all afraid to die.

But this satisfaction in the prospect of death did not meet Mike's present wishes; he wanted Ted to long to return to him, to look forward to many more plays with him, to many years in which Mike would endeavor to atone for that last, and week they spent together; and he thought if Ted only knew of his prayer, only knew that his case had been put into the hands of the Good Doctor, Jesus, and that his recovery was certain, he would think no more of death.

But how should he let him know this?

Would his mother tell him? No, his mother was quite sure Ted would die. Would Nora. There were two things against his making Nora his messenger. In the first place he never saw her, in the next he could not trust her to remember the right words.

No; the only way, the only chance would be to see his brother himself. How could he manage this? All day long that strong oak door was locked. He could not pass it to where his brother was lying. Suppose he went boldly and demanded to be let in? But no; father, mother, uncle, nurse, would all be cruel, all bid him keep away. Ignorant of his message and of his words they would keep him apart from his brother, and Ted would know nothing of his prayer and of his strong belief.

Mike thought, and thought, and the more he thought the more he fidgetted and the more anxious he became, until at last he had persuaded himself that it was necessary for Ted's well being for him to see him, and bid him put away these thoughts of death.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

BIRTH.

ADCOCK—On Friday the 4th December, 1891, at the Parsonage, Fitch Bay, Q., the wife of the Rev. W. A. Adcock of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

DEAN—EISAN—Married on the 19 ult., at St. Stephen's Parish Church, Ship Harbour, N.S., by the Rev. R. A. Heath, Rector, Charles Edward Dean, to Isabell Eisan, both of Ship Harbour, N.S.

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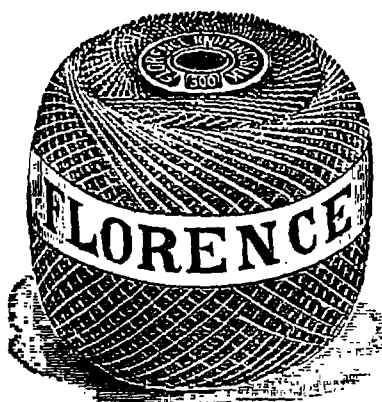
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