



MY BRAVE LADDIE.

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Tap, tap, along the pavement, tap,
 He came, a little crutch,
 A pale-faced lad looked up at me,
 "I do not mind it much."
 He answered to my pitying look,
 "It might be worse you know,
 Some fellows have to stay in bed,
 While I quite fast can go.

"Oh, yes, I used to run about,
 Perhaps I may again;
 The doctor says it's wonderful
 I have so little pain;
 It hurts me now and then, of course,
 And ever since the fall;
 But I'm so very glad, you see,
 That I can walk at all."

Tap, tap, the little crutch went on,
 I saw the golden hair,
 The brown eyes wide and all aglow,
 The noble, manly air;
 And somehow tears a moment came,
 And made my vision dim,
 While still the laddie's cheerful words
 Were sweet as sweetest hymn.

"I am so very glad, you see,
 That I can walk at all."
 Why, that's the way for us to feel
 When troubles may befall.
 There's always blue sky somewhere, friend,
 Though clouds around you meet.
 And patience will the Master send,
 If sought at his dear feet.

BABY TEDDY'S PLAYMATE.

BY MARGARET AMOS.

It was a sunny spring day and mamma was busy house-cleaning. She brought Teddy his playthings and showed him how to toot on his tin horn, and make his "chou chou" cars go. She told him to be a good boy and play nicely, then she left him.

But Teddy very soon got tired playing alone, and went to find some one to play with. First he tried Mary, the maid. He pulled at her dress and said "tum, tum." But Mary wouldn't "tum." She was busy carrying the things out of mamma's

room and making it look so funny. She told Teddy they had no place for him to-day.

Teddy felt home-sick and went to look for somebody else. And he found somebody—a dear little baby standing in a pretty little door. "Tum, tum," said Teddy, holding out his hands.

Baby didn't "tum," but he smiled and held out his hands, too.

So Teddy thought he would coax him, and off he trotted for his "chou chou" cars and a cookie.

When he came back baby had got his "chou chou" cars, too! Then he offered him the cookie. Baby didn't take it, but offered Teddy his cookie.

"I will find him and make him tum," said Teddy to himself. So he went behind the little door, but baby had gone! When he came back baby was there again!

Then Teddy felt cross, and slapped baby hard. He thought him mean because he wouldn't "tum." Baby slapped back and made Teddy's hand smart so badly that he cried. Mamma came to see what was wrong.

"Bad, bad," cried Teddy, pointing to the other wee baby.

"It's Teddy makes the baby bad. If Teddy is good, baby will be good too," said mamma laughing. "Teddy must learn that when he smiles his playmates smile, but when he is cross he is apt to get hurt."

HELP ONE ANOTHER.

A thimble, a needle, and a piece of thread were all lying on a lady's work-table together. Now the needle had rather a hasty temper, and could give sharp pricks when it pleased, and this morning it was out of sorts; so it tried to pick a quarrel with the thimble, and said, spitefully, "You gave me some hard knocks yesterday, and I wish that you would be more gentle in future." "It is true I do push you hard sometimes," answered the thimble "but you know it only when you do not do your work properly, and our mistress makes me keep you up to it." "Pray don't you two quarrel," said the thread, wishing to be peacemaker. "You mind your own business!" retorted the needle. "My business is your business," said the thread, "for you are no use without me, and I am none without you." "That's just it," said the thimble. "A great deal of nonsense is talked in this world about being independent; but my own opinion is that people should try to help one another, for from the highest to the lowest we are all very dependent on the good services of our neighbours for something or other every day of our lives."—*Little Folks' Magazine.*

Though you did well yesterday, do not let that interfere with the better of to-day.