

Happy Days

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THE PLAYMATES.

We often hear of people who are like cat and dog, that is, that they are all the time fighting. But the cat and dog in the picture seem to be very good friends, and to get on very well together. There are not many dogs who would let a cat take the liberties with it that this one does.

"I CAN'T."

How often we hear children say, "I can't." When faced with a difficult lesson, they say, "I can't learn it," even before they try. Yet if you try hard, not by halves, but with all your might, whether you succeed or not, you will know that at least you have done your best. But don't begin at the outset by saying, "I can't."

Perhaps on a half-holiday, when you have that delicious book you want to finish, that hat to make for Monday, or that game of cricket on the green in prospect, if your mother asks you to mind the baby, or take Tommy for a walk, or help fold up the linen she is mending. She does not positively order you, or, of course, you would have to

obey at once; but she tells you her wishes, sometimes very reluctantly, for she does not like spoiling your half-holiday any more than you do losing it. You say, "I can't." Is that true?

"Well," you confess, "I suppose I could, if only —"



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pleasure if you would please him, and none who thus serve him ever lose their reward.

Think of the great Apostle Paul. He never said, "I can't." He said he could do all things through Christ who strengthened him. Yes, through Christ you can do many things you thought you never could do. He gives power to be self-denying, patient, faithful in little things. He can give you strength when you have done wrong to confess it, and when you have injured another to make it up, and so beg the pardon of those you have offended—all difficult things to do alone, but to those who ask for the Holy Spirit's help, he will give strength, and you will soon find how real and great it is. And "I can't" will not be heard any more from you.

A LITTLE CHILD'S FAITH.

A SWEET little girl of three years was very much alarmed at thunder and lightning. One day her mamma laid her in her crib for a nap, and soon after a

thunder shower came up. Knowing the fears of her little one, she looked into the room, thinking she might be asleep. To her surprise she was awake; and when asked why she did not call mamma, replied, "Jesus could take care of me; and that's better than all the folks." What a lesson of trust was this! Might not children of an older growth profit by it?

Only you don't like giving up your half-holiday, you don't like denying yourself. Well, I do not say you like it, but if you are really trying to follow the example of the Lord Jesus Christ, you will remember that he pleased not himself, and you must exercise self-denial and give up your own