

school it's day after day, and day after day. And it's one figure after another on your slate, one line after another in your lessons."

"Well," said Robert, "what would there be for us to do, if it wasn't one thing and then another? Would you like to get through, and then have nothing more to do?"

"Ho!" said Will; "I really didn't think of that. No, I don't think it would suit me to be all through with everything."

"I think," said father, "it is well for us sometimes to remember how few of the great things in the world are done by just one person or through a single great effort. They come of the united force of a hundred or thousands of men, and, from all these, through the adding of one day's effort to another. So now, having preached my little sermon, we go to dinner."

"And after I've finished this wood pile we'll have our game of ball," said Will.

"There will be one pitch and then another," said father.

"One bite and then another," said Robert, with a smile at his brother as they were at the table.

"Yes," said Will, laughing. "I shouldn't like to take it all in a lump."

**The Mother Hen.**

A fat mother hen was one day strutting on the green, with her chickens running merrily about her, pecking and peeping, as happy as any family could well be. Suddenly she caught sight of a dark spot in the sky. What a cry of terror came from her little throat. How the frightened chicks rushed in an instant under her wings! How bristling and fierce the old hen looked! What was the matter? Ah! it was a hawk in the air, out getting his breakfast, and ready to dive at some unwary chicken. But every chick is safe and snug under its mother's wings. The hungry hawk was loth to go. "I will die before you shall seize one of my little ones," the old hen seemed to say in every feather of her body and every look of her eye. The hawk soon saw it was no use, and in a few moments flew away. She then gave a note of joy and triumph, and out hopped the chickens from their secure hiding place—some hesitating, as if not quite over their fright; others, more bold, stepped confidently off. Ah! they knew those warm and friendly wings were ready at a moment's notice to shelter them again.

**Sit up Straight.**

Nothing is more abominable in a young person than the habit of stooping, and, except when caused by malformation or actual weakness, nothing is more inexcusable. A slouchy, stooping habit of carriage always suggests laziness, and often stealth and dishonesty. Carry your head erect, expand your chest, throw back your shoulders, or you will never possess grace or a commanding presence.

The Creator "made man upright." Round shoulders and bow-shaped spines may be avoided by watchfulness during youth, and an erect figure retained in maturity without an effort.

If you bend over too much in your studies, get a lower seat. Saw the legs off an old chair, and then sit down so low that your chin will come just above the table; make the hind legs a little shorter than the fore legs, and then read and write with your arms on the table, and it will take out some of the crook from your back.

—Opportunities wear the humblest dress; they hide themselves behind the simplest disguises; there is nothing in them that arouses our interest or awakens our suspicions; for the most part we pass them by as the most commonplace things in our environment. This is the subtle and dangerous test which they apply to us. If they came with their value disclosed by the splendour of their attire, there would be no test of character in the manner in which we met them.

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