

worth of tickets from the baker when he calls. 'The two dollars will just make up the sum I need, and you will have a little small change in case of accidents when I am gone. I think you will only require to take the cars going ; you can easily walk back.'

## II.

As soon as her mother was gone, Clara set about tidying up the house and making preparations for dinner. Then she sat down with some needlework until Phil and Archie returned home, bright and hungry, for the noon-day meal. The morning's experiences at school, questions propounded and answered regarding mother's present whereabouts and prospective movements, together with the anticipations connected with the proposed change of residence, supplied the frugal meal with an enlivening accompaniment of small talk. At length, the two urchins, having finished their dinner, departed to enjoy a game of baseball or something in the school yard, so as to get their spirits up for the sums and spelling of the afternoon ; and Clara, losing no time in order that she might be back before the baker called, set out on her travels with the important bill. The wind had sprung up at noon, the warm dry wind of the Indian summer ; and it whirled in great gusts, sending clouds of dust over everything, and banking up the withered leaves in every corner. In the car Clara met her next-door neighbor, a girl about three or four years older than herself, who was going into the busy part of the town on the delectable errand of buying herself a new hat. She pressingly invited our young friend to accompany her, which, on the impulse of the moment, Clara joyfully agreed to do ; then recollecting that her own errand would be better attended to if she did not allow herself to be distracted by other things, and above all, adverting to the probability of her