

LITTLE FOLKS

The Blind Reader.

(S.S. Messenger.)

'Bertha and Will, guess what I saw when I came home from the store,' said Lily, as she came into the house.

'You saw a man with a monkey,' said Will, who thought that the only interesting sight worth mentioning was that of having seen a monkey. He would walk a mile at any time to see a monkey climb up

'Oh, I know, it was a blind man who had a dog for a guide, and who collected money from the passers-by,' said Bertha.

'But what about the book? What about the book, what use could a blind man have for such a thing? It would be of no value to him, because, as a blind man cannot see, he can not read, and books are for reading,' rejoined Will.

'Well, the man was blind, that is

man reading with his fingers,' said Bertha, and away they went to see the interesting sight. They had only gone a few blocks when they really found a blind man sitting on a folding stool, with a book on his lap. The little wise dog was sitting before him, too, holding a basket in his mouth to receive anything which charitably disposed persons might feel prompted to give him. Bertha had a penny in her pocket and at once deposited it in the basket, while Lily looked sadly at the blind man as he passed his fingers over the words of his book and pronounced them. It was a Bible which he was reading. When he heard the children talk to each other, though they only spoke in a whisper, he asked them what particular passage he should read to them. They told him to turn to the thirteenth chapter of first Corinthians, and he quickly turned to the place and read the whole chapter without halting. Will was still doubting, and whispered to his sisters: 'He knows that chapter by heart,' But although Will whispered ever so faintly, the blind man after all heard him, and he asked him to mention anything he desired him to read. Will thought a little, and then asked him to read the story where the prophet Elisha prayed the Lord to smite the Syrians with blindness. He at once turned to the place and read the whole circumstance as related in the Bible.

The children now came very near and examined the book. They found that the pages were full of raised letters, and that by practice the blind man could tell all the words in the book by passing over them with the tips of his fingers.

We should be grateful to our heavenly Father for the good eyesight which we have, and then also thank him for having put into the minds of men to invent something, by which also those can learn to read the blessed Bible, who have been so unfortunate as to lose their eyesight.

Who Was It?

'When a little boy I once saw a little spotted turtle, sunning itself in the water. I lifted the stick in my hand to kill it, for though I had never killed any creature yet I had



a verandah post. Several times he had already strayed away following a monkey, and his folks had to be on the look-out, in case any of that sort of street shows came along that he did not follow it as it went up the avenue or into one of the side streets.

'No, you are only half right. I saw a man, but he had no monkey. He had a book and a dog with him. The dog was a wise animal, for he collected money for his master, and then showed him the way he should go,' returned Lily.

true. And do you believe it? He read with his fingers,' said Lily.

'What, he read with his fingers? You need not think that you can "guy" Bertha and me in that style. Surely you do not want us to believe that,' said Will.

'Well, whether you believe it or not, it is true nevertheless, and if you do not believe me, come with me, and I will show you,' replied Lily, somewhat hurt, because her veracity was doubted.

'Well, let us go, anyhow, it will be an interesting thing to see a