CHILDREN'S CORNER

BY SUSIE M. DAY.

D. I. F., S., U., V.

"If I could only remember to be good when the time comes. It's easy enough now when I'm by myself, but by and by Harry will say something teasing. and I'll get real vexed and forget all about how good I was going to be. Dear me! if one could only feel Sunday-ish all the week. I am always so good Sundays. I get to feeling quite heavenly-minded in Chuch and Sundayschool; but Mondays and Tuesdays and all the rest of the week-days do it's wicked; but I do believe one reason that it is easy to be good Sunday is because it is quiet and calm, and nobody is in a hurry, and people look nice and clean, and I can wear nice gloves. Monday is such a sudden come down. I feel as if I had been on a high hill and fallen down with a bump. One's old things looks ever so much worse Mondays than they do Saturdays Oh dear! this is a weary world. I almost wish I could have some big trials and bear them grandly and beautifully. I know it would be easier. One can't work one's self up into a lofty frame of mind because one's gloves are soiled. Mother says I must pray to be helped. Well. I do; but I could pray a great deal easier to be helped to go and be burned at the stake, singing hymns and with a rapt, angelic look on my face, than to be helped to feel amiable when I walk with Edith, and she looks so refined and ladylike, and I like an awkward dowdy.

"I suppose there never was a girl who had so many faults. And yet I sometimes think I'm a pretty fine girl and have high thoughts about being a power for good, and making people think as if they were in a purer atmosphere, and all that. The trouble is I don't seem to begin yet to be a power. I wonder if I ought to be real good myself first. I suppose "powers" never

"There's Mike weeding my flower bed. Mother says faults are like weeds. I notice Mike doesn't pull them all up at once. He could'nt get hold of them. That's just my trouble. I wonder, if I worked at just one fault every day, if I could pull it up? I'll think of just one fault every morning in the week, and pray hard over it, and then we'll see. I wonder if I've got enough faults to go

says I'm cross (impatient sounds better). Thats for Tuesday. Yes and mother says I find too much fault with things and people; and, Oh, dear! I think I have enough. I suppose I am selish—everybody is, 'most (except mother). But I do have generous impulses. I gave my new parasol to a poor sewing-girl and now I have to carry mother's. And she goes without, dosn't she? I hadn't thought of that before. I guess it won't do me any harm to put in selfishness for Thursday. I want two more Well, yesterday I declared Minnie Stoddard looked in her book in botany class, and I said Josie was stingy. I guess that was being uncharitable. I like faults to have long names; they seem more worth while getting rid of. Now only one more. Elizabeth Sarah Johnson, you know what that ought to be very well. You're vain! you're vain! and as long as there is nobody here you needn't deny it. Who thinks she had lovely hair, with 'glints of gold,' and arched eyebrows? Don't try to humbug me. Your sixth and most contemptiable fault is vanity. Discontent, Impatient, Fault-finding, Selfishness, Uncharitableness, Vanity. Elizabeth Sarah, that is a fine list. D., I., F., S., U., V. I'll remember them that way.' Bessie descended slowly from her

lofty seat on the gatepost and walked slowly into the house. "Cousin May, you promised to paint

a text for me.' "Yes I remember. What have you chosen?"

"I've changed my mind. I don't want a text. I want this instead." "D., I., F., S., U., V. What does the child mean? Diffuse? No, that is not it. Dear, what is this word. Are you sure you have spelled it right?"

"Yes, it's all right. Don't put any flowers and vines round the letters. Just make them ugly and plain, and

"You odd little puss,

So the letters were painted and hung up over Bessie's bureau, and no one could guess what they meant. Harry said he guessed she belonged to a "secret society. Some foolish thing! Just like girls, trying to do what boys do."

He was a little surprised that his sister only smiled and did not answer in her hot impatient way, and it set such blessed angels." And through him to thinking.

Only Jesus and Bessie knew what the letters meant. Many and many a time a look up at them and from them to Him saved her, till the faults grew smaller and smaller, and by and by they withered away almost out of sight, and Bessie said, thankfully:

"The Sunday joy goes all through the week new."-The Independent.

A TRUE STORY BY MARY H. VILLARS

Joe Barnes had been trying for nearly six months to overcome his appetite for rum, and his friends thought he had succeeded, when suddenly he was overtaken by temptation and fell, and, like all other drunkards, when he returned to his cup he sunk deeper into sin than before. All the efforts of his friends seemed vain. The pastor visited him and urged him to try again, but while he was ready to acknowledge his wrong doing, he did not seem to have the will to try to overcome. "It's no use, sir; I've tried it for six months, and just when I thought myself safe I fell, and try one's goodness awfully. I suppose here I am, worse than before. My

wife has lost all confidence in me, and my children only look on me as a poor drunkard. No, sir, it's no use; you may just as well let me go down at once, the sooner it is over the better." The class leader and Sunday-school superintendent visited him with no better success. To all their pleading he returned the same hopeless answer. "It's no use, sir; I can't reform.'

Some four months previous he had taken charge of a class in Sunday school, composed of a half dozen little girls, of about ten years of age. He had proved quite successful as a teacher and had won their affection, and their little hearts were very grieved at his fall. One day as they were together talking about it, one of their number proposed that they go and ask him to come back to their school and teach them. After some little hesitancy they agreed to go.

Providence favored them, and they found Barnes in his carpenter shop and, in a measure, sober. He looked surprised when he saw his visitors, but he invited them in and gave them seats on his work bench. Annie Stevens, the girl who had first proposed the visit, had been chosen as chief speaker, and

she began with some little trembling: "Mr Barnes, we came to see if you wouldn't please come and teach our class next Sabbath." And then almost frightened at the sound of her own voice, she stopped short, at a loss what to say next. The poor inebriate's face flushed painfully, and he said in sur-prise, "Me?" "Yes, you!" Barnes shook his head? "Oh, no; you don't want such a fellow as me to teach you. Don't you know that I haven't been sober for nearly a month?" "Yes. sir. we know it; but you are going to quit that now;" and little Annie's voice grew steadier. "Am I? How do you "Well I know I'm discontented. | know that?" and the man spoke with | Messrs Helphenstine & Bentley; That's one for Monday, Then Harry half a sneer. Oh, we just know you will," and the little voices were raised eagerly as the girls slid down from their seat on the work bench and gathered around him. "Please say you'll come." "But, children, I cannot:" and the man's voice was very husky; "just as like as not, I shall be drunk as a beast before night. But they would not take "No," for an answer, and finally he promised to "think about it," and they went away. The little heaven-sent messengers had touched a chord in his heart which others by their reasonings and pleadings had failed to reach, and when they were gone Joe Barnes sat there, thinking about their faith in himself and wondering why they had come. Finally he got up, put on his coat and after locking his door he went

to his home. Silently he passed by his wife and children and locked himself in his bedroom. There he went and prayed for strength to overcome the demon appetite, and to make himself worthy of the confidence of those dear little girls, wno had so eloquently pleaded for his reform. For three days he resisted the temptation to drink; on the fourth, for want of stimulants and loss of appetite for food he was confined to his bed. His physician urged him to take just a little brandy and water. He shook his head. No he would rather die than take it. When Sabbath came he was still too sick to sit up, but when the next came around he presented himself very pale and weak at the Superintendent's desk, and asked if he could again have his class, and it was again given him. In the afternoon he was in the class

room, and when he rose to ask the forgiveness of the church for his wander- quired, in price from ings he told the story of the little workers. Said he, it didn't trouble me much when the preacher came, for I thought that it was his business to look after such as I. When the class leader came his words didn't touch my heart, though I knew he earnestly desired to see me a sober man. But when those little girls came, and climbed on my work bench and began to beg me to come back, and said they knew I would reform, I thought "surely God has sent them," and it just broke my heart, and I went, home and on my knees, promised God that by his help I would conquer and would make myself fit to teach God's grace he did conquer, and when visiting the place three years after I found him still sober and an earnest worker in the temperance cause as well

as in the church, Little folks are apt to think they cannot do anything to make people better but these little ones did do what older and wiser heads had failed to do; they succeeded in getting this poor, tempted

WHAT SOME LITTLE GIRLS DID. enslaved man to forsake his sins and again turn unto God. Will not our girls and boys of the cold water army do likewise?—Central Ch. Advocate.

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