

lightly and gaily along, at times humming the fragment of some pleasant air, and again mimicking the chirping of the birds, now seeking their nests. When about half way, happening to look into the woods on the left, she saw two dark objects moving among the shadows, and she knew that it was a bear and cub that she saw. She now commenced to run, and, to her relief, they did not follow. When she reached the house, she did not tell what had happened, but got her blazing pine-knot, and asked her neighbor's daughter, a young girl of her own age, to accompany her home, and stay with her over night. We, who have never been accustomed to danger, wonder at such a step as this, but Lucy was not to be daunted. The children could not be left, and the men were at work at some distance off, and were to encamp where they were that night; and then, after all, bears are afraid of fire, and Lucy had a large brand. Women were brave in those days, and so, without telling her companion anything that had occurred, she set out to return. The moon shone full upon the path, and they had gone more than half way before anything more than usual took place; but we can fancy that Lucy looked a little anxiously about her, and was not so talkative as usual. When they got a little past the place where she had seen the bear, Lucy told her companion what had occurred; and when she had just finished, a sullen growl, at a little distance on one side in the woods, arrested their attention, and immediately after the bear with her cub was pursuing them, and they were running as swiftly as fear could carry them. In a short time, considering the distance, the cabin was in sight. The bear was close upon them, but at last the house was reached, and they burst in, shutting the door after them, and immediately after they heard the bear growling for admittance. Lucy threw her brand of fire upon the fireplace, and soon she had a large fire, the light shining through the windows. The bear was at the door growling, and fearful they both were that it would spring upon

the door, and break the feeble wooden latch that fastened it; but Lucy remembered that the fire had already saved them, and she still hoped that it might be the means of saving them.

"Time was wearing on, it was getting late in the evening, and the bear still kept its post; a growl from it now and then, admonishing the trembling inmates that it was not so easily robbed of its prey. The wood was gone, and the fire was getting low, and Lucy had to bethink herself what plan next to resort to. She went to the beds, and took from them the straw, and threw it upon the fire, and for a short time longer the blaze was bright and high. But soon that was gone, and the growls of the angry bear grew louder and more frequent, and again they were in despair. Just as their courage was giving out, the growling ceased, and a noise of squeaking in the direction of the log pig-pen was heard, and on going to the window, they saw in the moonlight the foiled bear driving the pig; which had been fattening, before it, thinking, perhaps, that this would be some compensation for its previous disappointment. The bear troubled them no more, and thankful they must have been to their heavenly Father for preserving them from an untimely death."

Original.

THE WASP AND THE CATERPILLAR.

A FABLE.

BY M. S. R.

One bright morn in beauteous May,
When the sun his first bright ray
Had lately sent to bring the day,
And dress with glittering beams the dew
Which the night had, ere he fled,
From his sable wings outhed;
From his little house outflew
A youthful Wasp with color dight
Of shining gold. He ne'er did light,
Till, near a greenhouse door, he found
A tempting morsel on the ground;
A ripened peach, which luscious store
He loth had left the night before.
But once a dainty bite he'd ta'en,
And dropped his head to taste again,