

me, and asked me if I'd try the cooking. We don't often have company, only just now and then. I've been kitchenmaid three years, and learned a good deal, and mistress will rise my wage to twelve pounds, and if I give satisfaction——"

"Which you're sure to do."

"How do you know that?"

"Oh, I am sure of it! Well, go on."

"If I give satisfaction, at the end of six months my wage will be raised to fourteen—which is what *Jemima Anne* gets as house and parlourmaid."

"Does *Jemima Anne* know this?"

"No; I haven't breathed a word to any one," said *Jessie*. "And I wouldn't have told you now, as it's no concern of yours, but that you are so interested in my bank book. I shall be able to race yours now."

"That's fine!" exclaimed *Tom*.

"It won't be so very long, at this rate, before I have five pounds in the bank, and they begin to lay."

"Nor I, neither," said *Tom*; "that's finer still."

Both walked on in silence on the road to *Nowhere-in-Particular*. Presently *Tom* said,—

"Look at this, *Jess*. At this rate, in a few years I shall have twenty-five pounds saved."

"And so will I," said *Jessie*.

"Then," said *Tom*, "when you have saved twenty-five pounds, and I have saved twenty-five pounds, then that will be fifty pounds between us. Why, *Jessie*, what'll be the good then of having *two* books? Don't you think we'd best put them together and keep only *one*?"

Then *Tom* stood still and laughed.

"What is the joke, *Tom*?"

"Lawk!" said he, "you said, and so did I, that we were on the road to *Nowhere-in-Particular*, and here we are marching straight on to *Matrimony*."

THE END.



MISSIONARY GLEANINGS.

Buying Missionaries.

MOSHESH, a Basuto chief, sent a man down south with a hundred cattle wherewith to buy missionaries, because he had heard that they brought peace to the tribe they lived with. The man met a party of French Protestant missionaries travelling north, who took this as an indication of God's will as to their destination. They settled in the land; and, when *Moshesh* died in 1878, he died a Christian.

A School Treat in India.

THIS is how they managed their school treat at *Ranchi, Chota Nagpur*. The boys and girls marched out into the jungle very early in the morning, and amused themselves with running about after jackals and other animals. At nine o'clock they came back to a large grove of mango trees, where their dinner of curry rice was being cooked in rows of earthen pots. For plates they had leaves, and for knives and forks they used their fingers; and of course they sat cross-legged on the ground. Then came sports. Besides those which English children have,

the *Ranchi* children had two special games of their own. The boys play with a curious short bow, which has two strings, kept apart by a little piece of bamboo, and a little cloth pocket between the two strings. With this they shoot little pellets of mud. So they had shooting contests at a tin bird nailed to a tree. The girls have races with *gharas*, a kind of pitcher, filled with water, on their heads. The prize went to the girl who came in first without spilling the water. Some of them got drenched, of course, and one girl dropped her pitcher close to the judges, and gave them a good wetting.

The Kings with Red Hats.

IN *Asaba, Bishop Hill* tells us, you may see walking about men wearing red hats that seem to be nearly two feet high. They are called "kings." There are about four hundred of them. *Asaba* is not a very large place, and naturally there are not kingdoms enough to go round. What, then, does the title mean? It is given to any man who has presented a slave for sacrifice to the heathen gods,