



RABBIT AND YOUNG ONES.

"LUCK."

The boy who's always wishing
That this or that might be,
But never tries his mettle,
Is the boy that's bound to see
His plans all come to failure,
His hopes end in defeat;
For that's what comes when wishing
And working fail to meet.

The boy who wishes this thing
Or that thing with a will
That spurs him on to action,
And keeps him trying still
When efforts meet with failure,
Will some day surely win;
For he works out what he wishes,
And that's where "luck" comes in.

The "luck" that I believe in
Is that which comes with work,
And no one ever finds it
Who's content to wish and shirk.
The men the world calls lucky
Will tell you, every one,
That success comes not by wishing,
But by hard work bravely done.

—Selected.

RABBIT AND YOUNG ONES.

The commonest little animal that one sees out in the fields and woods of the country is the rabbit. This is the common sort, but there are other kinds which are often kept as pets. These are very pretty, with thick, soft fur, and sometimes have very attractive colouring on their backs.

In the evening, before it grows dark, the rabbits come out by hundreds and crop the short grass and play about together until the night comes on, when they go into their holes again.

WHO STOPPED THE TRAIN ?

"Ting-a-ling-a-ling." The rope attached to the bell moved through the long train of cars. The engineer turned off the steam, the brakes were put on, the train moved slower and slower and then stopped.

Some of the ladies were frightened. They wondered why the train had stopped away out there on the prairie. The gentlemen put down their newspapers and looked out of the windows, and then went to the door to see what it meant. But there was nothing on the track. The train seemed to be all right.

The young brakeman ran down the track for a good distance, but the track was all in good order. Then one of them went into the baggage car, and then he found out why the train had stopped.

There was a monkey in the baggage car. He had come from India in a ship, and was on his way to California to a gentleman who had bought him. In his old home in the forests of India he used to twine his tail around the limb of a tree and rock and swing. He sat on a trunk in the baggage car and thought what a stupid place America was. He wished he had a tree to swing on. Pretty soon he saw the bell-rope, and he jumped up, twined his tail around it and swung back

and forth; and that was what made the bell ring and stop the train.

When the brakeman came into the car, the monkey was just getting up for a second swing. The brakeman laughed; but he did not scold the funny little bell-ringer. He only shortened his rope, so that the monkey could not go very far from the trunk.

THE SPIDERS.

The last of the four little things which King Solomon said were "exceeding wise" is the spider. Of this little insect he tells us: "The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' places."—Prov. 30. 28.

There are many ways in which spiders show wisdom, as you all must have noticed, if you have watched them at their work. When one has work to do she takes both of those little hands that reach out in front of her head, and she seems to have no idea of working with one hand—half working and half playing. She works, and then she rests; and then she is so patient and persevering in building up the web and drawing the lines tight that we may well learn from her to take hold with both hands, and not stop until our work is finished.

This lesson of patience and perseverance a spider is said to have taught King Bruce, of Scotland, one day when he was sad and discouraged. He was hiding in a hut from his enemies, who were hunting him, and he saw a spider trying to get from one beam to another. It tried six times, and fell every time. Bruce remembered that he had tried six times to save Scotland, and had been defeated every time. Then he watched the spider the seventh time, and saw it slowly and carefully fasten its thread to the beam and draw itself across. He resolved to persevere as the spider had done, and went out to take up his work again.

A BACKSLIDER.

The minister's little girl and her playmate were talking of serious things. "Do you know what a backslider is?" she questioned.

"Yes; it's a person that used to be a Christian and isn't," said the playmate promptly.

"But what do you s'pose makes them call them backsliders?" asked the minister's little girl.

"Oh, that's easy. You see, when people are good, they go to church and sit up in front. When they get a little tired of being good, they slip back a seat, and keep on until they get clear back to the door. After a while they slip clear out, and never come to church at all."

It is a pity that this is not always clear in the minds of those who are going through the process.