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She slipped out of the nursery and down the stairs. She found her coat and put on her mittens. She forgot her fur and muff and overshoes. She went quickly out the back door and skipped across the yard. The snow came up above her shoe tops, but she did not stop for that. She crossed to the Donahue yard and faced Della and the five surprised littler Donahues.

"I want to do it, too," she said. "What do you call it?"

"We're making angels," explained the twins, who looked so much alike that they might have been counted as one.

"Dast you?" cried Mary.

"Does your aunts know?" demanded Della.

"Yes, I dast," said Missy. She did not answer Della's question.

"All right," said Della, relieved. "If you dast, then it's all right."

"There ain't much room left," said Mary. "Our yard's most full."

"Never mind," returned Missy, "we will fill your yard. Then we'll go over

little Donahues did not feel like playing. At supper time Mrs. Donahue ran over to the back door of the big house. She came back looking serious.

"The poor little lady!" she said. "It's a bad cold with a fever, the doctor says. She is getting worse all the time now, and it's clear out of her head she is. She keeps talking about the angels—all the time the angels, and her aunts are sure she is going to die. 'Oh, Aunt,' she says, 'see the beautiful angels. The whole yard is full of angels. Go to the window, Aunt, and see them.'"

"Then poor Aunt Jane goes to the window and says there ain't any there, and the poor child cries and says they must be there. Aunt Agnes runs out of the room crying, and Missy's father is nearly crazy, and all the time the little dear keeps talking about the angels."

Della listened, and when her mother had told her story, Della ran out of the back door. Before the others had missed her she came running back. She burst into the sitting room.



The First Plunge of the Season.

and fill ours. A whole yard full of angels!" she cried in delight.

The Donahue yard was filled with angels, and the Donahues and Missy had crossed into the other yard before Missy was discovered.

It was Bridget, the cook at the big house who saw her. She ran out and caught Missy and hurried her into the house. "Sure, and it'll be the death of you," she cried, "blessed lamb, that ain't used to sticking your nose out of doors!"

The Donahues went slowly home.

Fresh snow fell that night and the next morning no angels were to be seen. But the Donahues were out snowballing each other. They looked longingly at the windows of the big house. "Do you suppose she will come today?" asked Mary.

Della shook her head. "I'm afraid she shouldn't a dast yesterday," she said.

Whilst they waited a sleigh dashed up to the door of the next house. The man who went up to the door carried a small case.

"The doctor," gasped Della.

Later a lady followed and the children saw her white cap at the window where Missy used to sit. Missy's father did not go to his office that day, and the

"I went over," she said, "and told them all about it, and how the snow came in the night and covered them up. They thought it was real angels she was seeing, and that she was dying; but I told them how it was, how she came and said that she dast, and how we made angels, and she has gone to sleep now and is going to get well. And the old doctor talked real cross to Missy's papa and the aunts and said they ought to have more sense, and when she is well again he says they must let her play outdoors a little while every day, so she will get strong like us, and Missy's father says he will."

Della had to stop to get her breath. "Play with us outdoors?" cried Mary.

"In the snow?" demanded the twins.

"Della nodded. "And she can snowball with us," she said.

"And build a snow man," added Mary.

"And make angels," cried the twins.

Biddy and Hea Brood.

Biddy, the old hen had not been seen around the house for several days. Little Carrie missed her, for it was her special duty to feed old Biddy, and she won-

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