

April 20, 1899.]

"I know a prescription much better than your doctor's," said a strange lady sitting by.

"What is it?" asked Will's mother.

"Call him, and let me try it," said the stranger.

"Will, O Will, come here a minute, my son!" called his mother.

Will got up slowly, leaving his bucket and spade in the sand. "They are just going to tease me about not playing," he grumbled to himself. "I wish everybody would let me alone."

But they didn't say a word to him about playing.

"Will," said the strange lady, if you are not too busy, I wish you would help me a little."

Will pricked up his ears. It had been a long time since he had been allowed to help anybody but himself.

"Do you see that little yellow cottage away off there?" asked the lady. "It is about a mile up the beach. There is a lame boy in that cottage, and I want to send him an orange. Will you take it?"

"Yes, ma'am, certainly," said the small boy.

"And, Will," she continued, "if you can do anything to amuse or cheer him, it would be a good thing, you know. He can't get out of the house by himself, but he might with you to help him."

Will was done moping now. He forgot all about himself in doing things for lame Lucien. The strange lady's prescription worked wonders. If you ever feel dull, little readers, I advise you to try it.

—Reputation is the label of character. But the label on a man—as on a bottle—is not an infallible proof of what is within.

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