

will like to have a letter from me, and to receive tidings of the doll you sent last year across the sea. It was given as a reward to our best scholar, Pearl, and has been a help to her in many ways, making her life this year much pleasanter than it would otherwise have been. Soon after receiving it, she was ill with a heavy cold, and the doll was in bed with her most of the time. When she recovered she tried to make the doll's dresses like her own for the girls in the school, and in this way she has learned to sew very neatly. The next time she goes home for a vacation she will be able to teach her little sister how to sew, too, and you know that this will be a great advantage.

We are very thankful to you and to all the Aspenville children who have shown so much interest in our Japanese boys and girls, and we hope that you pray for them every day that they may become Christian children, loving the Saviour who came into the world that he might take us to be with him in heaven. Yours affectionately.

PEARL'S TEACHER.

Margaret was in an ecstasy of pleasure when this letter arrived? She ran about the house showing it to one member of the family after another, and then, finding this insufficient, she went out to find some of her girl friends and show it to them.

The next day she was the happy recipient of many gifts, all either useful or beautiful, but nothing pleased her more than her Christmas letter. Afterward whenever she counted over her Christmas presents, as children have a way of doing, she always ended the list in this way—'and then, you know, there was my letter from Japan.'

### A Winter Sunbeam.

O sunbeam, O sunbeam!  
I would be a sunbeam too!  
When the winter chill  
Hushes lark and rill;  
When the thunder-showers  
Bow the weeping flowers;  
When the shadows creep,  
Cold, and dark, and deep;  
We would follow, swift and bright,  
Blending all our love and light,  
Chasing winter, grim and hoary,  
Shining all the tears away;  
Turning all the gloom to glory,  
All the darkness into day.  
—Frances Ridley Havergal.

### How Toggles Thought It Out.

A TRUE INCIDENT.

(By Frederick Hall, in 'Sunday-School Times'.)

Toggles's Sunday-school teacher had told him something he did not understand very well. As nearly as he could remember, she had said that some man had said that the whole world was like two great heaps, one of the happy things and the other of the unhappy things, and every time we took something from the unhappy heap, and put it on the happy heap, we made the whole world pleasanter and better. Then she had told them a story about how the man who said that had made the world happier by giving a penny to a little girl who had lost hers and was crying about it. Toggles thought it very unlikely that he should ever do a thing like that, because, even if he should meet such a little girl, the chances were he wouldn't have any penny, and so he didn't know just what the teacher meant. If he had been at home with his own Sunday-school teacher, he might have asked; but, being at grandpa's on a visit, and having a new teacher, he just kept very quiet, and put the whole matter carefully away into the back of his head, to keep until he had time to think it over.

The time came the next afternoon, when he was out by the barn, digging in the load of new, fresh sand that grandpa had had dumped there on purpose for him. He made two great piles, as nearly of a size as he could, and the one by his left foot he called the happy pile, and then he would take a big trowel full of sand from the right-hand pile, and let it sift down on to the left-foot pile, and rejoice to see the unhappy heap grow smaller, and the happy heap grow bigger. And all the time he was thinking how to tell it to Mabel, who was Toggles's little sister, and who hadn't been to Sunday-school because she had torn a great hole in one of her new shoes, and the shoemaker had not fixed it yet.

It was while he was very busy there that mamma called him to come into the house. Grandpa had come back with the waggon, and was all ready to take him to the big factory where they made the kind of milk Toggles had seen the men squirt out of the cows into the

thick, sticky milk that Toggles's mamma bought in cans at the grocery store. It was something Toggles was very much interested in, and he had asked so many questions about it that grandpa had promised to take him to see it done.

They were just ready to start, and grandpa had just said 'Get up!' to Dobbin, when Mabel, in her stocking feet, came running to the door.

'I want to go, too,' she called.

'Oh, no!' said mamma, 'you have not any shoes to put on. Why, what would the men in the big factory say if they were to see a little girl without any shoes?' I

'I want to go,' repeated Mabel. 'I want to see them make the thick, sticky milk.'

'No,' said mamma, 'you can go some other time.'

And then Mabel began to cry, for she was littler than Toggles, and, all of a sudden Toggles thought of his two heaps.

'I can go some other time,' he said. 'Mabel can wear my shoes.'

And, sitting down on the steps, he began to unbutton them as fast as ever he could.

Grandpa and mamma did not say anything, while Mabel, with tear-stained cheeks, but as radiant as a little cherub, was pulling on the shoes Toggles had just taken off, but they looked at each other, and there were tears in mamma's eyes.

'Good-by,' called Mabel, as grandpa gathered up the reins. 'I wish you were going, too.'

'Oh! never mind,' answered Toggles, 'I can go some other time.'

And then, hurrying back to his piles, he fell to digging so hard that, long before grandpa and Mabel returned, the unhappy heap was gone, and only the great round happy heap remained.

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