

"FORGETTING."

Lily and Frisk had had a fine romp, and Frisk had run after the ball all over the drawing-room—in and out of the chairs, under the sofa, and behind the great jar.

At last she gave a very big throw, and down came the ball with a very big bump!

But, woeful to tell, it did not come on the floor as before, but crashed right on to mother's little table, and into the middle of a plate of biscuits.

Down came the biscuits, and down came the plate, and when Frisk saw the bits on the floor and heard his mistress coming into the room, he began to think that Lily and he had been up to mischief.

He began to beg; while Lily put her little white finger in her red lips, and her eyes filled with tears.

"Frisky's sorry, mo'ver!" she exclaimed at last; then there was a moment's hesitation, and she added slowly, "but—it wasn't Frisky did it—'cause I frew it!"

Mother came forward and led Lily very gently into the other room, Frisky following with lowered tail and dejected attitude. When they reached the dining-room, Lily's mother took her on her knee and smoothed her hair softly for a moment. She never scolded anyone for a breakage, and yet Lily had been disobedient. How could she make her understand both things?

"Lily, darling," she said at last, "do you remember what I said about playing with balls in the drawing-room?"

"I for'dot," said Lily, looking very sorrowful.

"Yes, that was it, and 'forgetting' often makes people do what is naughty. Lily is quite as sorry as mother about the broken plate; but being sorry cannot mend it?"

Lily threw her arms round her mother's neck and hid her face there. How she wished she had not forgotten!

At last her mother gave her a forgiving kiss and then rose up and went back into the drawing-room.

Frisk wagged his tail and superintended the picking up of the pieces, feeling quite sure that all was right again. And Lily thought how nice it

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was that mother had not 'forgotten' to forgive her.

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—No man has any right to complain that he does not see God when he knows that he is not pure in heart. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

THE "MUST" OF TEMPTATION.

Among the excuses which persons give for not becoming Christians is the fear that they will not be able to hold out. The standard of Christian living either seems to them too high and difficult, or confidence in their resolution to measure up to it is too weak. They say they do not want to make an attempt only to fail; to begin only to give up. So fearful are they that temptation will be too much for them, the allurements of sin too strong, that they think it better to live on in sin.

That is certainly consistent; but it is not rational or manly. It is not rational to refuse to battle against temptations because you feel that you will succumb to some of them; it is not manly to flee when duty says fight. Armies have been cut to pieces when they might have saved themselves by flight. But honour was dearer to them than life, and they accepted death. They could not win; they scorned to surrender; they could and would die. They did not have to give up, and they did not.

No man or woman has to yield to temptation, no matter how seductive or how strong or how sudden it may be. A teacher who observed a boy secretly breaking a rule of the school, said to him: "It is a great temptation, I know; but you don't have to yield to it." There is no "must" attached to the choice of sin. The must is on the other side. The law of God which is the law of Right and the law of Life says "Thou shalt not." "My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not." You must resist. There is no "must" in surrender. That is wholly unnecessary; it is defiance of authority and violation of law.

God understands perfectly our perverted nature. Christ was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. He knows how fiercely we are

assailed and how many of us lose courage and surrender. He does not command us to resist without knowing that we can resist. There is no such

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