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CHILDREN'S CORNER

OUT OF THE SKY.

Ho! birdie, come and play! Ho! birdie, do stav Just one little minute! You've been to the sky, Away up so high, And know all that's in it; You've pierced with your flight It's wonderful light-What makes it so blue Now tell me, oh do. Little birdie!"

The bird stopped awhile To rest on a stile, With mosses upon it; And ere very long, He poured forth a song As sweet as a sonnet. But never a word My waiting ear heard, Why the sky was so blue, Though he told all he knew— Stupid birdie!

I went in to look For the facts in a book, All told to a letter : Yet somehow it seemed Though maybe I dreamed-The bird told it better, Oh, never a word My willing ear heard, Why the sky was so blue, Yet be told me quite true-Knowing birdie!

FLAXIE-SHE "HAD TO."

-M. M. D., in St. Nicholas for October.

Flaxie's mamma stood by the table, rolling out doughnuts. Flaxie stood near, drumming on the table with both hands, as if it were a piano, throwing back her head and screaming as loud as she could scream.

"There, that will do," said mamma; "I am tired of the noise."

Flaxie stopped singing; but her little feelings were hurt, and she said in a grieved tone, "Where's my papa? he loves me, but you don't."

With that he stuck both thumbs into a piece of dough.

"See, mamma, you cut a cross-eyed doughnut !"

She called it "cross-eyed" because the hole was not quite in the middle. Mrs. Allen laughed at the funny idea. "O, Flaxie," said she, " must I tie those wee, wee hands?"

It was very hard doing the Saturday' baking with the little chatterbox at her elbow: but Dora, the kitchen maid, had gone to see her sick mother. At twelve she was coming back, and at three Mrs. Allen and her husband and Aunt Jane Abbot were going to ride. Aunt Jane came at two, with dear little Nellie. "Dodo," said Mrs. Allen to Dora, " you must watch these children every minute, for Flaxie is uncommonly full of mischief to-day.

"Yes'm," said Dodo; and she took the children into the nursery, resolved to do her best. In a few minutes Flaxie rushed into the parlor where her mother and aunt were seated, and shut the door hard. But both ladies heard a wailing in the nursery. "What's that noise in there?" asked mamma.

"Nellie's a ky-in."

"What for?"

'I striked her !" "Why, Flaxie, what made you?"

"Oh, I had to, 'cause she would'nt give me the book."

"When Flaxie did wrong, she generally said, "I had to."

"Was'nt Flaxie a raughty, naughty girl?"

"Yes'm," said, the child, dropping her pretty little tow head; but she was'nt sorry a bit; you would know that by the funny quirk around her mouth. Mamma said she would have to be punished. For the first time she snipped the little pink and white hands. It was a great surprise to Miss as if that settled it. "Because I was Flaxie Frizzle, and almost broke her heart.

"Oh, I feel orfly," Dora heard her say. And, by and by, she crept under the kitchen table to the big dog Fowler, and said she, "Doggie, kiss baby; baby feel very bad!"

Fowler licked her face, and a look of tender pity came into his brown eyes. It comforted Flaxie. He loved baby, and baby loved him; oh, so much better than Kitty Gray, the cat, "'cause Kitty Gray had pins in her feet." "Oh, I feel orfly," she moaned again, and stole out at the side door while Dodo was singing to Oellie. She thought she would go into the stable and tell the | Wherefore crocodiles' teares signific mooly cow how her heart ached. But such tears as are feigned and spent only she forgot it when she saw her with intent to deceive or do harm."father's horse standing at the front Agriculturist.

gate, harnessed to the carriage. He was called Whiz, because he traveled so fast. I don't believe there was a horse in town that could toss his head and fly over the road at such a rate as Whiz; and nobody dare drive him but Mr.

"Oh, oh," thought Flaxie; "guess I'll tell hossy what my mammy did to

And she danced up to the carriage and set her little foot on the low step. "Who up, hossy! Let me get in. My mamma snipped my hannies; make

baby feel orfly." Hossy turned around, looking very 'pyesant." After that it din't take two seconds for Flaxie to climb in and take the reins, calling out:

"Dap! Dap!" Now, if Whiz had only been hitched! But as he wasn't what could he do but go? As Flaxie would say, he "had to Rattle-bang into the street; pellmell into the midst of wagon-wheels; whiz around the corner. Just think of it! And nobody to guide him but the baby! Was she afraid? Oh, no! She kept jerking the reins and calling, "Dap! Dap!" She was now having her own way, and she liked it; and Whiz. if she had been a fly, was having his own way, and liked it, too.

Mamma was the first to discover what had happened. She and papa and Aunt Jane were in the front entry talking about the new wall paper.

"Why, where's the horse?" cried Mrs. Allen, opening the door. "Where's the baby?" cried Dora at the same moment. She had searched, the barn and back-yard and front yard, and could not find her. Then you may know there was a time. Dora wrung her hands and screamed: "The horse has run off with the baby! Oh, catch the precious, precious baby!" But mamma, who loved Flaxie far better than Dora could, did not shed one tear. She only said calmly to her husband:

"Tell me, Charles, what shall we And he answered, looking very pale,

"If I only knew which way to go!" "Get another horse and go somewhere," said Aunt Jane.

dilliere in ba horse in this town cap overtake Whiz," said papa; but he ran to the livery-stable as fast as he could do. Mamma and Aunt Jane could not keep still. Mamma went up the street and Aunt Jane went down. Somewhere they supposed there was a broken carriage; somewhere there was a crushed and bleeding baby. Where, oh where? But no; that dear, good, high-minded Whiz had turned around long ago and was going home. He knew better than to hurt one silky hair of Flaxie Frizzle's head. Mrs. Allen bad hardly gotlas far as the post-office, when he dashed

calling out, "O mamma! mamma!" By the time Mrs. Allen had rushed home Whiz was in the carriage-yard as quiet as a lamb. Dora ran for Aunt Jane; the stable-boy ran for papa; and one of the neighbours fired a gun. But mamma caught Flaxie to her heart, and as soon as he could speak for crying asked the sweet little naughty, trypatience darling what made her run

by her; and Flaxie dropped the reins,

"Oh, yided away! Didn't yun!" said baby, with a sweet smile, for she had forgotten all about the snipping.

"But we don't allow you to climb into the carriage. It was naughty, naughty!"

"Well, I had to," said Flaxie, coolly, playin' I was your naughtly little goorl. and that's because !'--Congregationalist;

CROCODILE TEARS.—As long ago as the time of Herodotus (four hundred years before Christ) there existed a fabulous legend as to the crocodiles ability to snare unwary travellers by certain cries. and that it also shed tears. Shakespeare refers to the cries when he says:

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