

Jessie's Penny.

How rich little Jessie felt when her father called her to him one Saturday evening, and put into her hand the first penny she had ever possessed.

After hearing the hymns and Scripture lessons, which the children had prepared for her, she said, "Now, my dear girls, I am going to talk to you awhile, this afternoon, about missionaries—good men, who often give up their happy English homes, and quiet life, to go to all parts of the world, on purpose to tell the heathen of Jesus Christ, who, you all know, came into our world, and lived, and died, to save every one, even little children, and poor black people, who do not know God."

The class was soon deeply interested in what their kind teacher told them about the missionaries, and how hard they worked for the good of the heathen. The time for closing school had nearly come, when she said, "Dear children, you can all do something for Christ, who has done so much for you, and something also for those who are in distant lands, and do not know the Saviour. You cannot, it is true, go over the great sea and teach them yourselves, but you can, by your prayers and your pence, help others to go. You know the missionaries have to be supported, and Bibles and other good books have to be bought, and nothing can be done without money. So my dear little girls, instead of spending your money on sweets, or other things which are soon gone, why not deny yourselves and save your pennies and half-pence towards helping to send a good man to teach the heathen?"

will bless you, and make you as happy as little Jessie, who gave to Him.

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A Story of Queen Victoria.

Mr. A. T. Story vouches for the truth of the following incident of the Queen's childhood, which he narrates in the London Quiver. She was at the time about seven or eight years of age, and her heart was set on a

certain doll which she had seen in a shop window. She had to wait, however, until she could save the price, six shillings, out of her pocket money. At last the day came and the coveted doll was paid for and received. The story proceeds as follows:

“And now, with the precious treasure upon her arm, the little lady bade the shopkeeper good afternoon, and was about to step from the door when a poor, miserable-looking object of a man met her eye. He was standing but a couple of feet away, and seemed as though he were going to speak to her, attracted doubtless by the innocent kindness of her expression, and the tenderness of her blue eyes. But though his lips moved, no sound came from them.

“He stood aside to let her pass—a mute agonized appeal in his sunken cheeks and quivering chin.

“Did you wish to speak to me?” asked the little lady, staying her steps.

“Encouraged by her winning voice, the poor tramp—for such he was—said, in trembling accents:

“I am very hungry. I would not ask for help if I were not ready to sink with hunger.”

“He looked famine from his eyes. “I am sorry; I have no money or else—”

“His lips trembled forth a humble ‘Thank you, lady,’ then he shuffled on his way, hunger impersonate.

“Stay!” murmured the little owner of the new doll. There was a quiver in her childish voice and a moisture in her eyes as she spoke. ‘Wait a minute, please.’

“She stepped back into the shop, approached the lady behind the counter, and said:

“Oh, please, do you mind taking the doll back and keeping it for me a few days longer?”

“Certainly I will,” replied the shopkeeper; ‘and you wish me to return you the money?’

“Yes, if you please.”

“This was done, and the little lady, hurrying out of the shop, placed the whole of the money in the hands of the starving man.

“He was like one thunderstruck. Never had bounty rained upon him in such profusion before.

“The object of her bounty murmured in a low tone, though loud enough to reach her ear:

“If the Almighty made you a queen, it would not be more than your goodness deserves!”

“Then he hobbled away to satisfy his hunger.”

—Cheerfulness is the daughter of employment.

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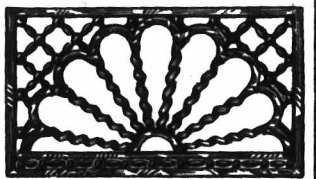
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