

integrity, that now distinguish him among the merchant-princes of the day. He may, or he may not have forgotten his early schoolmate, who took quite a different turn in life, and became a gospel preacher, and now writes this sketch of old times; but if his memory of the past is as good as mine, he will not fail to recall the chestnuts, and his run down hill.

Boys, there is a lesson in this for you, and I reckon that you will learn it, without the aid of a sermon to help you. Be honest and true. Do the right thing in matters that appear small, and form a *habit of integrity*. Not because this is the best policy, though we know it is: but be honest because God loves honesty, and it is right.—*Selected*.

#### JIM DICK; OR THE BEST REVENGE.

If you would learn to return good for evil, listen to a short account of Jim Dick, the Negro boy. It is given by the poet Southey:—

“When I was a little boy,” says he, “there was a black lad, who lived not far from my father’s house, by the name of Jim Dick. Myself and some of my play-fellows were one evening at our sports, when we began to annoy the poor black by calling him ‘negro,’ blackamore,’ and other illnames. The poor fellow seemed very much hurt at our conduct, and soon left us. It was not long after that I agreed with some of my young friends to go a skating; but I found, when the time came, that I had broken my skates, and that I could not go unless Jim Dick lent me his skates. I went to him and asked him for them. ‘O yes, you may have them and welcome,’ was his kind answer. When I went to return them, I found Jim sitting by the fire in the

kitchen, with his Bible before him, which he had been reading. I told him I had come ‘to bring the skates he had lent me, and that I was much obliged for the use of them. He looked at me as he took them into his hands, and with tears in his eyes he said to me, ‘Do not call me blackamore again.’ He spoke the words kindly and meekly, and then left the room. The words went to my heart, I burst into tears, and from that time I resolved I would never again be guilty of abusing a poor black.”

This little story may teach two lessons. First, that you should not hurt the feelings of any one. Do not call insulting names; it is foolish and vulgar. Do not make sport of the lame, and blind, or any afflicted person; it is cruel and mean. Do not undervalue any for the color of their skin, or the shape of their bodies, or the poverty of their condition, for we are as God made us, and ‘he that despiseth the poor reproacheth his Maker.’ Prov. xiv. 31.

We may learn from Jim Dick to show a meek and forgiving spirit. When he was called ill names by the boys, he did not stop and quarrel, but went away from their company. This was wise and proper. When the skates were taken back he was found with his Bible before him. It was in that book he had read the words, ‘He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.’ Prov. xvi. 32. ‘Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good.’ Rom. xii. 21. Jim, no doubt, also knew that the Saviour once said, ‘Love your enemies; bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully