

perhaps Jack says, 'Oh,' and perhaps he says nothing at all. It is not likely that he says 'Thank you.' We fear his mother is used to it, however. Most mothers are.

How many boys and girls think of saying, 'Thank you,' for the hours mother spends mending their torn clothes, or for her care for them when they are sick, or for any of the little sacrifices she is making all the time? If they want any help on their lessons, mother gives it as a matter of course, and they usually forget that it is anything for which to thank her. They take it for granted that whatever they want mother will give them, if she possibly can. And so she will, but her willingness and her love and her unselfishness are no excuse for their being ungrateful and discourteous.

Start this very day to say 'Thank you,' whenever mother does you a kindness. Perhaps you will be surprised to learn how many chances there are in a day to use those two little words. And you will be even more surprised to see how much it means to mother that you do not forget them.—'Happy Hours.'

Praying in the Morning.

Cousin Lois, in 'Christian Intelligencer.')

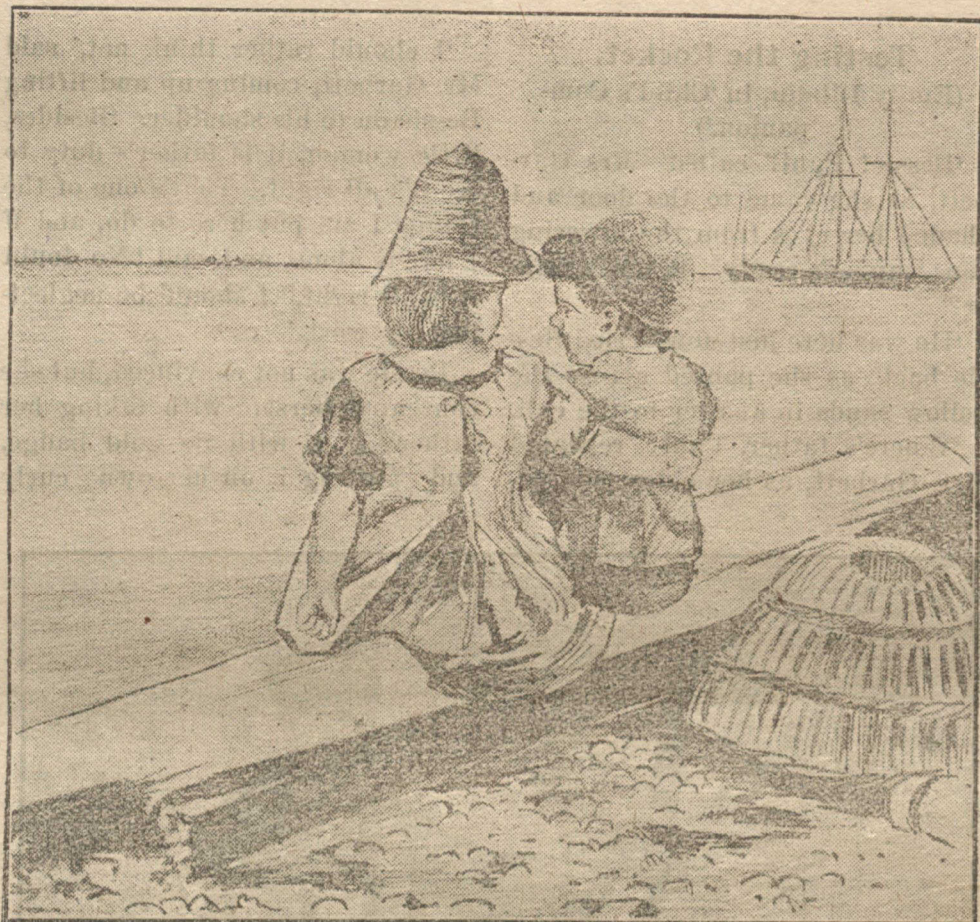
Someone told me once of a child that she was in the habit of praying at night because she wanted God to take care of her then, but who said to one of her playmates she did not say her prayers in the morning because she thought she could keep herself good all day. Was ever a little girl able to do that? And which should we most desire, to be kept from sin, or to be kept from danger?

Certainly we are all helpless when we are unconscious. Either sleeping or waking we are exposed to a thousand dangers from which God only can deliver us. When a child awakens after a night's rest, what is more fitting than for him to utter the nursery prayer:

Now I wake and see the light,
'Tis God who kept me through the night;
To Him I lift my voice and pray
That he would keep me through the day.

There is another little prayer that says:

Let me both diligently work
And duly pray;



A Mystery.

A-sailing and a-sailing,
A-sailing far away,
This morn I saw my father's boat
Go sailing down the bay.

He said, 'My little Gretchen,
I'll fetch a gift for you;
It does not weigh a single hair,
And not a soul can view.

'It is not caught with net or line,
And yet it is to me

Worth all the store of shining fish
That travel through the sea.'

Now supper-time is bringing
The hour that I love best;
When all the boats come sailing
home
And father's with the rest.

I think I've guessed the secret,
Perhaps it's only this:
The treasure father holds so dear
Is nothing but a kiss.

—American Paper.

Let me be kind in word and deed
Just for to-day.

That is a beautiful prayer for any one to offer. We cannot expect to do right, even for an hour, unless the Lord helps us.

Miss Elizabeth Tobey, the Evangelist, tells this story. She was holding a meeting for children some years ago and asked all those who would give themselves to Christ to stand up. Three children from one family arose, a boy and his two sisters. 'Now,' said Miss Tobey, 'if you are going to serve Christ you must pray every morning that the Lord will help you, for you cannot do it alone.'

The boy went home and asked his mother to teach him how to pray in the morning. The mother had perhaps been so busy that she had neglected to show her children the need for morning prayer. Yet she was glad to help her son when

he made his request, and from that time on he prayed in the morning. The boy, although bright in some respects, was a dull scholar, but to the surprise of his friends he suddenly began to improve, and gained considerable praise for doing well in school.

'There's a little secret about that, mother,' said he. 'I ask Jesus every morning to help me with my lessons—and he does.'

Recently Miss Tobey visited the town where the boy, now grown to be a lad of fifteen, is living. She was told that his scholarship was so good that he stood at the head of a class of fifty. His Bible, worn by faithful study and carefully marked was shown to her, and she knew that when he began to pray for God's blessing upon his work he began to study diligently the Word of God. David said: 'Evening and morning and at noon will I pray, and cry aloud; and he shall hear my voice.' It is not enough simply to say a prayer at night.