



LET us never forget that an act of goodness is of itself an act of happiness. No reward coming after the event can compare with the sweet reward that went with it.—Naterlinck.

The Second Chance

(Copyrighted)

NELLIE L. McCLUNG

Author of "Sowing Seeds in Daffy"

(Continued from last week)

SHE read it over to the others, and everybody was well pleased with it.

After receiving suggestions from all, the following by-laws were recommended to govern the conduct of Aunt Kate in future:

1. Keep your nerves strung.
2. Don't screech at every little noise. It doesn't help none.

3. Don't make nobody wash when they have already done so.
4. Sleep at night, snore all you want to, we don't stay awake to listen to you.

5. Don't bust yourself to think of things for us to do. We keep the wood-box full long before we ever saw you, also water-pail and other errands.

6. Don't make remarks on freckles. We have them, and don't care, freckles is honorable. (This was Jimmy's contribution.)

7. Don't always say you won't live long, we don't mind, only Mrs. Jane Watson is picking it up from you. We don't like it, it ain't cheerful.
8. Don't interfere about bedtime. We don't with you.

9. Don't tell about children raised in idleness that turned out bad. It ain't cheerful, and besides we're not. Just then the cry was raised that she was coming, and the Magna Charta was hastily folded up, without receiving the signatures.

Aunt Kate, who was very observant, suspected at once that the children had been "up to something."

"What have you youngsters been up to now, while we were away?" she demanded.

There was a thick silence. Mrs. Watson asked the children to answer their Auntie.

Mary it was who braved the storm. "We're Loen drawing up a list of things for you," she said steadily.

Aunt Kate had seen signs of rebellion, and had got to the place where she was not surprised at anything they did.

"Give it here," she said.
"Wait till it's signed," Pearl said.

"It's a Magna Charta, Aunt Kate," she went on, "like they got King John to sign."

"I didn't hear about it. What was it?" she asked.

Pearl explained.
"Let me see it, anyway."

Pearl gave her the document, and she retired to her room with it to look it over.

"Say, Pearl," said Jimmy, "go in there and get out my catapult, will you? She may sign it and then cut up rough."

There was no more said about it for several days, but Aunt Kate was decidedly better, though she still declared she did not sleep at night, and Pearl was determined to convince her that she did. Aunt Kate was a pro-

found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"and besides that," Pearl said, "she found snorer. Pearl, who was the only one who had ever heard her, in trying to explain it to the other children, said that it was just like some one pulling a trunk across the room on a bare floor to see how they would like it in this corner, and then, when they got it over here, they don't like it a bit, so they pull it back again;

"Did you really hear the clock last night, Auntie?" Pearl asked with great politeness.

"Oh, it's very little you youngsters know about lying awake. When you get to the age of me and your mother, I tell you, it's different. I get thinkin', thinkin', thinkin', and my nerves get all unstrung."

"And you really heard the clock?" Pearl said. "My, but that is queer!"

"Nothin' queer about it, Pearl. What's queer about it, I'd like to know?"

"Because I stopped the clock," Pearl said, "just to see if you could hear it when it's stopped," and for once Aunt Kate, usually so ready of speech, could not think of anything to say.

Aunt Kate went to bed early the next night, leaving the children undisturbed to enjoy the pleasant hour as they had done before she came. The next morning she handed Pearl the sheet of brown paper, and below the list of recommendations there it was in bold writing:

"Kate W. Shenstone."

"See that, now," said Pearl triumphantly, as she showed it to the children, "what it does for you to know history!"

"Say," said Jim, "where could we get some of them things, what did you call them, Pearl?"

"I wouldn't go to any good, she wouldn't eat them," Billy said.



Across the Fields in a Farmer's Auto Buggy

This machine is a type of an automobile becoming quite common with American farmers in various parts of the United States. Ex-President Roosevelt may be seen in the car as it was used by a New York state farmer in showing him around the farm.

"Lampreys or lampwicks, or something like that," said Pearl, "that's not right. Don't talk like that. It ain't cheerful!"

CHAPTER IV

SOMETHING MORE THAN GESTURES

Wanting is—what?

Summer redundant,

Bluesness abundant.

Where is the blot?

—Robert Browning.

Pearlie Watson, the new caretaker of the Millford school, stood broom in hand at the back of the schoolroom and listened.

Pearlie's face was troubled. She had finished the sweeping of the other three rooms, and then, coming into Miss Morrison's room to sweep it, she found Maudie Ducker rehearsing her "piece" for the Medal Contest. Miss Morrison was instructing Maudie, and Mrs. Ducker would have told you that Maudie was doing "beautifully."

Every year the W. C. T. U. gave a silver medal for the best reciter, and for three consecutive years Miss Morrison had trained the winner; so Mrs. Ducker was naturally anxious to have Maudie trained by so successful an instructor. Miss Morrison had studied elocution and "gesturing." It was in gesturing that Maudie was being instructed when Pearlie came in with her broom.

It was a pathetic monologue that Miss Morrison had chosen for Maudie, supposed to be given by an old woman in a poorhouse. Her husband had died a drunkard and then, her only son, "as likely a lad as you ever saw," had also taken to "crooked ways and left her all alone." One day a man came to visit the poorhouse, and poor "old Nan," glad of any one to talk to, told all her story to the sympathetic stranger, asking him at last wouldn't he try to find and save her poor Jim, whom she had never ceased to pray for, and whom she still believed in and loved. Then she discovered the man to be in tears, and of course he turns out to be the longest Jim, and a happy scene follows.

It is a common theme among temperance reciters, but to Pearlie it was all new and terrible. She could not go on with her sweeping—she was bound to the spot by the story of poor old Nan and her woes.

Miss Morrison was giving Maudie instruction on the two lines:

"It is the old, sad, pitiful story, sir,
Of the devil's winding stair."

Neither of them had time to think of the meaning—they were so anxious about the gestures. Maudie did a long, waving sweep with three notches in it, more like a gordon braid pattern than a stair, but it was very pretty and graceful, and Miss Morrison was pleased.

"And men go down and down and down
To darkness and despair."

Maudie scalloped the air three times evenly to indicate the down grade.

"Tossing about like ships at sea
With helm and anchor lost"

Maudie certainly gave the ships a rough time of it with her willowy left arm. Miss Morrison said that to use her left arm to toss the ships would add variety.

"On and on thro' the surging waves,
Not caring to count the cost."

Maudie rose on the ball of her left foot and indicated "distance" with the proper Delarte stretch.

"It was dark when Pearl got home. 'Maudie Ducker has a lovely piece,' she began at once; 'but she spoils it—she makes a fool of it.'"

The family were just at supper, and her mother said reprovingly, "O Pearl! now, sure Miss Morrison is teaching her, and they do be sayin' she's won three medals herself."

"Well," Pearlie said, unconvinced, "them kind of carrin'-on may do fine for some piece, but she wouldn't bid their hearts just breakin' don't cut the finger right up in the air, and do the Dutch-roll, and kneel down and get up just for show—they're too stiff, for one thing. Ye can't listen to the