

"what are you doing up at this hour? go to bed again, and don't make such a noise or you will disturb the neighbors."

"Doing up so early? Why don't you always tell me I should be up with the sun?" He smiled as he said this; the last holiday some time previous was the only time he had been up so early during the summer.

"What do you want?"

"Buz wants to go down the river with us, and I was thinking perhaps uncle would take him, what do you think?"

"Well, don't disturb me now, and I will tell you at breakfast." He had to be satisfied with this, and travelled off to inform Reg of the result of his mission.

At the breakfast table it was decided that if his uncle was agreeable, Reggy should accompany him, which arrangement sent the little fellow in a perfect fever of delight.

"Don't think too much about it, Reg," said his grandmother, "perhaps Uncle Horace won't let you go, after all."

The youngster's face lengthened so at this suggestion as to cause a general laugh around the table. "O I'll coax him," he replied hopefully, after thinking a moment, "you will too; won't you, mother?"

"We will see when he comes."

Mr. Morel soon after came in, to see that all the arrangements were complete.

"The carriage will be here in about an hour," he said, looking at his watch; "you might all come down to the pier; it is such a lovely morning; I will send a barouche and you can take a drive after the steamer leaves; there will be plenty of room for all. Phil can ride on the box with the driver."

"Yes," said Phil, "that's all right, and won't I get Cabbie to let me trot the donkeys." He added in an under tone to his brother, "Don't you wish you was me, Buz?"

"Stop one moment Horace," said Mrs. Blair, observing the disconsolate expression on Reggy's face as her brother was leaving without anything having been said about the youngster.

"Well, what is the trouble now?"

"Reggy is very anxious to go down the river with you, do you think you could take him?"

"I hardly know what to say," rejoined Mr. Morel, rather taken