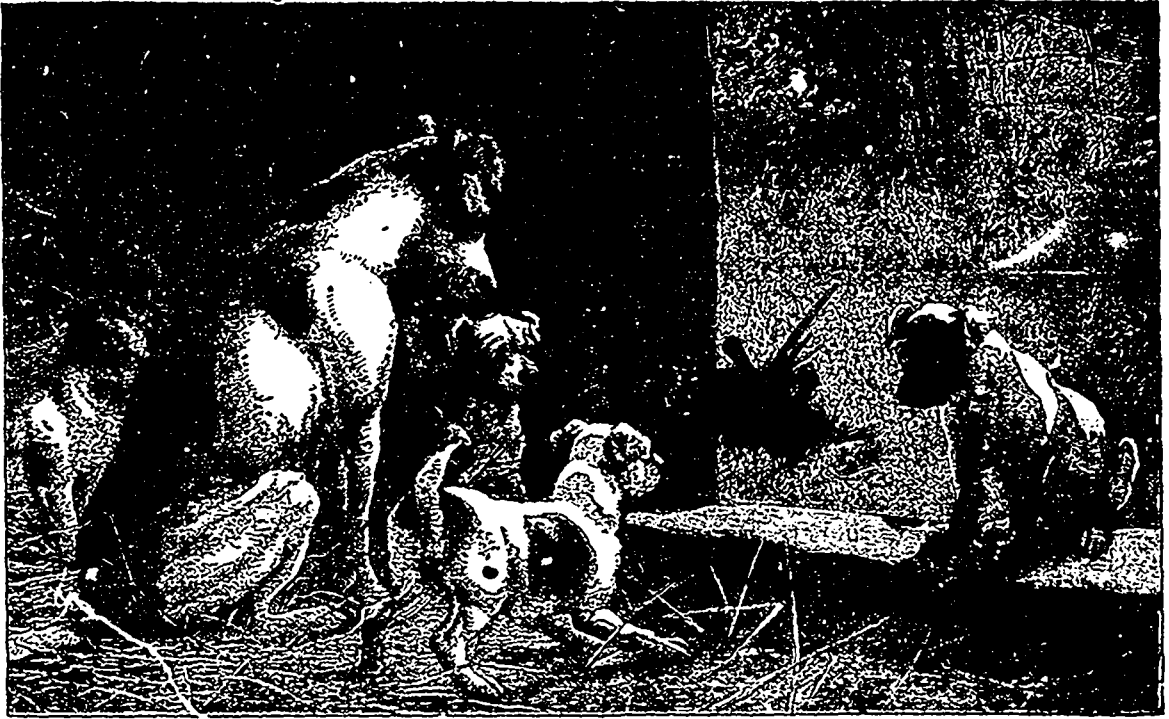


Young People's Department.



A DISGRACE TO THE FAMILY

POOR PUPPY.

YES, you see him—a disgrace to the family! They lived together happily enough—the mother and the three puppies. The mother would lie down with her nose on the ground and her eyes blinking, and half dozing, while three jolly little puppies played and frisked around her, and they were all very happy in their dog-like home. But one little fellow was not satisfied with the sports and good things which he had at home, so he went off to hunt for something better for himself. And he ran round, poor little ignorant puppy, sniffing here and there, and looking as if he thought it very fine to run away from home. But soon he got into trouble. See how wretched he looks! Poor little doggy, when will he ever get clean again? For you see he is covered from head to foot with tar. Some men had been using pitch in the large pot which you see outside the door, and he, full of curiosity, climbed up on it and looked in. He wanted to see the world and there was part of the world inside that iron pot. How funny it looks, all so smooth and black! Closer and closer to it he stretched his head, when suddenly he lost his balance and fell plump into it!

Frightened terribly, he slowly crawled out again, and then stole like a little thief back to his

mother and the little puppies he had left. Did he feel ashamed to go back home again? Well, he looks like it, doesn't he? He has no story to tell, for as soon as you look at him you see what is the matter. He has covered himself with tar, and so has covered himself with disgrace. At least so the mother and the other puppies think, for see how they look at him. Is the mother angry? Well, she looks more amused than angry, and she doesn't think of punishment because the poor little culprit looks as if he was punished enough. She is looking at him as much as to say, "Why, who is that poor little dirty black object that I see before me? Can it be that that is my own little puppy? If so, he sees his own fault. He will be careful how he leaves home again."

That is just as a wise mother should act. There is no use adding to a little one's trouble, when you can see that the trouble itself is black enough.

And then look at the other little puppies. They evidently think it is great fun, and they enjoy looking at the unfortunate little scapegrace, for they know that he has not been hurt, but he does look so funny all covered with the black tar.

And then, what is he to do, poor little chap? Tar is a very hard thing to get off. Some of it will stick to him till the hair itself falls off (and