

# LITTLE FOLKS

## Always Growing.

What do you do in the ground, little seed,

Under the rain and snow,  
Hidden away from the bright blue sky,  
And lost to the madcap sparrow's eye?  
'Why, do you not know?  
I grow.'

What do you do in the nest, little bird,  
When the bough springs to and fro?  
How do you pass the time away  
From dawn to dusk of the summer day?  
'What, do you not know?  
I grow.'

What do you do in the pond, little fish,  
With scales that glisten so?  
In and out of the water-grass,  
Never at rest, I see you pass.  
'Why, do you not know?  
I grow.'

What do you do in the cradle, my boy,  
With chubby cheeks all aglow?  
What do you do when your toys are put  
Away, and your wise little eyes are  
shut?  
'Ho! do you not know?  
I grow.'

Always growing! by night and day  
No idle moments we see;  
Whether at work or cheerful play,  
Let us be able to say,  
In the goodness of God  
We grow.

—'Our Little People.'

### Norna.

Once there was a little girl called Norna, sometimes very good, sometimes rather cross, looking quite pretty in a sun-bonnet and aged seven years and some odd days. Norna had a grandmother who sometimes thought that she might behave better, but who all the time was very fond of her, as is the way of grandmothers. Norna got tremendously excited one day when she knew her grandmother was going to take her a long railway journey to Scotland; and at the appointed time, with much anticipation and a half-ticket, she found herself seated in a railway carriage with her grandmother right opposite. Before the train started, an old blind lady came to the carriage door on the arm of an attendant and was safely guided inside. Very carefully she felt her way until she was able to sit down on the cushion. Norna looked at her rather hard, fascinated by her sightless eyes for she thought it could not be rude to stare at people; and as Norna looked, into her own little heart there came great pity for the blind lady and a great thankfulness to God because she herself could see.

Norna lived in Liverpool, and at some times of the year Liverpool is a very nice place to get away from. So once

the train was clear of the city Norna's spirits rose, and she grew so glad that she quite forgot the blind lady. Mile after hurried mile the train sped, and before long the engine was painfully climbing the hill country in the Lake District. In the half-mist the hills lay around like drowsy lions, and Norna's grandmother was so delighted that she called out aloud, 'Norna, dear, do look at those magnificent hills.' 'Hush, grannie,' said Norna at once, 'hush. And she spoke as though she meant it. Grannies are not used to be ordered to hush by their granddaughters. A minute or two afterwards Norna explained herself. She came and whispered in her grandmother's ear, 'You see, grannie dear, that poor blind lady in the other corner cannot see; and I was afraid that if she heard us talking about the beautiful hills it would hurt her more than ever to think that she is blind.'

Norna's grandmother understood; and she had no thought of anything but praising her, for it is always splendid when small children are considerate of other folk. Jesus Christ especially likes them to be considerate of those who are old, or lame, or ill, or infirm, or blind. What about you? One day I saw an old blind man hobbling along the pavement, when out of school came a lot of noisy boys rushing like a menagerie let loose.

They did not mean to be unkind, but they ran right into the old blind man and almost knocked him over. This was inconsiderate, and you must never act in that way. Indeed, if ever you see a blind person who is halting because he does not know exactly where to tread next, be sure to go to him whether you can tell him anything or lead him anywhere or do anything for him. Try hard to be considerate, not only to blind people, but also to all others who have a call upon the pity of Christ and the sympathy of little children.—'Christian World.'

### The Snow Man.

(Celia E. Standish, in the 'Youth's Companion'.)

He was a beautiful snow man! Will and Carl and Bob had worked on him all one forenoon. He stood close to the parlor window with his back to it, and he was so tall that his head reached up to the middle of the lower pane. He had no hands nor feet, for the boys were only very little boys, and hands and feet are hard to make; but he had ears and a very large nose and mouth, and two staring black eyes. These eyes were not the same size, because Bob went twice to the cellar for coal to make them with, and being the smallest of the boys, he forgot how large



—'S. S. Messenger.'

### A DISPUTED WAY.

Which do you Think Will Back Down First?