



JESUS AT JACOB'S WELL.

## AN UNHAPPY FAMILY.

ONE day Puss found the door of Jimmy Wren's room open. (You see it wasn't Jenny Wren this time.) Puss liked to get into that room! She was almost sure of finding something for her supper. For Jimmy was very fond of pets. Birds and squirrels and ground mice and bugs and beetles, all were to be found in his room at some time. Just now Jimmy was training a whole family of rats and mice.

Careless boy, to leave the door open! He forgot that mamma said the next time Puss caught any of his pets she would have to say that he could not tame any more in the house. She said this to make Jimmy more careful.

Well, Puss walked in at that open door, and then there was trouble!

The happy family felt very unhappy right away, and so did Jimmy, for he remembered too late what his mother had said.

"I shouldn't think you'd care so much about rats!" said Jimmy.

"Perhaps not," said mamma; "but I do care about my boy learning to look after the comfort of his pets."

## WEBSTER'S READY WIT.

MORE or less sportive artifice enters into the parry and-thrust of lawyers' combats in court. Fancy the drollery of a man like Webster playing upon the word "doctor." *Harper's Magazine* says:

Daniel Webster, when in full practice, was employed to defend the will of Roger Perkins, of Hopkinton. A physician made affidavit that the testator was struck with death when he signed his will.

Webster subjected his testimony to a most thorough examination, showing, by quoting medical authorities that doctors disagree as to the precise moment when a

dying man is struck (with death, some affirming that it is at the commencement of the disease, others at its climax, and others still affirming that we begin to die as soon as we are born.

"I should like to know," said Mr. Sullivan, the opposing counsel, "what doctor maintains that theory?"

"Dr. Watts," said Mr. Webster, with great gravity:

"The moment we begin to live  
We all begin to die."

The reply convulsed the court and audience with laughter.

## WHERE IT IS SAFE.

"AUNTIE," said little Alice, "when people put their money into a bank, do they worry about it because they're afraid it isn't safe?"

Her aunt replied: "That depends upon the character of the bank. If the officers who manage it are reliable men, those who place their money there have no reason to fear for its safety."

"I thought so," said Alice. "And, auntie, I was thinking about my soul—whether it is safe; and I've given it to Jesus, and I feel as if it must be safe there, and I needn't worry about it. He will take care of it, won't he?"

"Yes, dear, it is perfectly safe in the hands of Jesus," replied her auntie.

## HIS DESCENDANT.

TEACHER. "Now, Johnny, you understand the difference between ancestors and descendants, do you not? The one comes before and the other after us." Johnny: "Yeth'em. My ma ith a dethendant." Teacher. "Not at all. You've got it just wrong." Johnny. "No'me. She'th al-wayth comin' after me."

## THE MERCIFUL PRINCE.

HUNDREDS and hundreds of years ago, in a far-away country, there lived a little prince. He was a very kind and loving boy, and always felt pity for suffering.

One day he was playing with his cousin in the grounds of the palace, when a flock of wild swans flew over their heads. His cousin shot his arrow and wounded one of the swans, and it fell at the little prince's feet. The prince drew the arrow from the bird's body, and nursed and saved its life.

The years passed by and the boy-prince became a man, but he kept the same tender, merciful heart. He left his beautiful palace and his friends and went about helping the suffering. Once he came to a flock of sheep that were being driven along a dusty road. There was one poor little lamb that was wounded and bleeding, and he took it up in his arms and carried it.

This good prince lived far away in India. He did so many beautiful things that after he died people honoured him. His loving life ought to be an example to us.

## THE RATS.

THERE are a great many different kinds of rats. Many years ago a man used to be about the English palaces who was called the king's rat-catcher. He wore a scarlet livery embroidered with gold coloured silk. On it were figures of rats and mice nibbling at wheat sheaves.

Rats are biting animals. They are apt to kill each other. Once a dozen rats were placed in a box and the lid fastened down. When the box was opened only three were found. The rest had been eaten up and nothing was left of them but their tails.

There is a story told that once a number of rats were tamed and trained to perform a great many wonderful feats. They were dressed up in miniature human clothing in which they acted the parts of fine ladies and gentlemen. The performance was generally concluded by the hanging of a cat in effigy, around which the rats marched.—*Selected.*

## HOW TO SUCCEED.

THE fact that success is mainly due to hard work has been expressed in many different ways, but one of the best was that recently employed by a very successful "drummer," or commercial traveller. He was talking with a companion, a rather lazy fellow, when the latter exclaimed:

"I declare, Jack, I can't understand why you always succeed in selling so many more goods than I do!"

"I'll tell you why it is," replied Jack; "but," he added, "it's a trade secret, and you mustn't give it away."

"Of course I wouldn't do such a thing!" was the answer.

"Well, then," said Jack, impressively "I succeed because, when I'm after business, I wear out the soles of my shoes more than the seat of my trousers."