For a delicious

### Koys and Kirls %++++++++++++++++++++++++

#### Boyhood.

Boyhood.

I rather guess my pants are tored,
My shoes are muddy too;
And if my mamma ands it out
There'll be a great to-do.
But I had to make mud pies;
And don't think it very bad
To tear my pants a-riding
My little pony Gad,
'Cause he was getting frisky
And I'se afraid he'd run away,
Unless I broke him over
And taught him how to play.
I think I'll rub the mud off my shoes
So mamma will not see,
And put my handkerchief in the hole
I tored upon my knee,
And then I'll pick some flowers—
She thinks they are very sweet—
And then she'll never notice
The mud upon my feet. 

### An Afternoon's Amusement.

How slowly the hours passed. Only 3 o'clock, and it seemed days to Harry since morning!

His mother held the balloon by string about a yard long, which was fastened to it. "You hold on to the string," she told Harry, "while I get

a good-sized piece out of a newspaper and, then she took the balloon and tied the paper to the end of the string and let go. Harry thought, of course, it would go up to the ceiling; but no, down it came until the paper rested on

Then mother tore off some of the paper to make it lighter and let it go again. It was going up this time, surely; no, down it came and again rested on the floor. Some more paper was torn off and this time it did not go to the floor, but sailed about the room as the little currents of air

Harry watched it. It hovered over the bed and then moved away again.

brought him his supper and the lights were lit and the long afternoon had



In the Orchard.

although he was much better, he had to lie in bed from morning till night. Mother had read to him and told him stories and he had looked at pictures, but now there seemed nothing else

to do. Two big tears slowly found their way out from under the eyelids which were shut tight to keep them back; for Harry was not a very little boy and would have scorned to cry had he been strong and well. Now he felt so

weak and tired. Just then mother came up to the bed and somehow her bright smile charged Harry up wonderfully. She has both hands behind her, and Harry wendered what she had for him. You can never guess," she said.

It round and lighter than air, and eight red."

is—no, it can't be, but I can guess it, I know!" exclaimed

hen, above mother's shoulder w it-a bright red toy balloon. what am I to do with it?" he

some paper. Harry watched her. She tore quite

on the floor.

moved it.

It would be so quiet for several minutes and Harry would wonder if it would again come toward the bed; and soon back it would come.

Before Harry knew it, his mother passed.—Selected.



Items of Interest.

A Swiss watchmaker has invented an electric watch which will run for fifteen years without being wound.

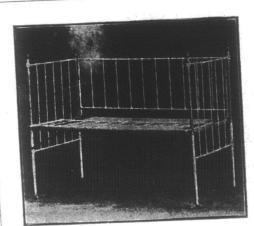
The ink plant of New Granada is a curiosity. The juice of it can be used as ink without any preparation. At first the writing is red, but after a

few hours it changes to black. Kissing under the mistletoe is an old English custom. The plant was held in high reverence by the Druids, who used a golden sickle with which to cut it, and afterward divided it among the people as a charm to protect them against disease and sorcery

The cotton handkerchiefs provided for French soldiers have printed upon them a number of sanitary precepts to be observed on the march and during a campaign, and are further decorated with medallions containing pictures of officers of all grades, the different uniforms being so distinctly portrayed that a French private can tell at a glance to what grade any

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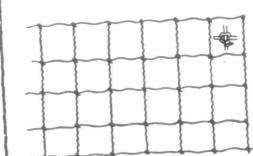
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