#### Why was She so Happy.

I was calling on a friend the other evening, and just as I stepped into the sitting room I heard her say to her little daughter: "It is your bed time, dear; my little girl must go to bed early, and then she will be bright for her lessons to-morrow."

The little girl was sitting in her papa's easy chair, holding in her lap a very large doll. As I sat down, I saw she was very busy brushing its hair and smoothing its clothes, looking it over very carefully, to see that everything was just as it should be.

"What a dear little dollie! How pretty her hair is, and how becoming she is dressed," I said.

The little girl was pleased that I should notice her baby, and began to tell me all about her.

"Not to-n ight, little one," I said. "Didn't I hear mamma say it was her little girl's bed time?'

The mother very quietly began talking to me, while the little girl went on fixing dollie for a few moments, however; then the little maiden slid very slowly out of the big chair, gave her mamma three long, sweet kisses, with a pleasant good-night for us all, and with dollie hugged tightly in her arms went soberly away up stairs. But in a few moments we heard her singing a soft lullaby to her baby. Very likely the little girl could not have told what made her feel like singing, but I know. It was because, instead of fretting and pouting over not being | 456 GERRARD ST. EAST, TORONTO. allowed to sit up longer, she had cheerfully obeyed her mother's wishes.

#### The Little Children that are Gone.

Why do they come, these little ones that enter our homes by the gateway of suffering, and that linger with us a few months, uttering no words, smiling in a mysterious silence, yet speaking eloquently all the time of the purity and sweetness of heaven? Why must they open the tenderest fountains of our natures only to leave them so soon, choked with the bitter tears of loss? It is impossible wholly to answer such questions of the tortured heart; but one can say, in general, that these little temporary wanderers from a celestial home, come and go because of the great love of God. It is an inestimable blessing to have been the parent of a child that has the stamp of heaven upon its brow, to hold it in one's arms, to minister to it, to gaze fondly down into the little upturned face, and to rejoice in the unsullied beauty of its smiles, and then to give it back to God at His call, with the thought that in heaven, as upon earth, it is still our own child, a member of the household. still to be counted always as one of the children whom God hath given us. Such a love chastens and sanctifies the hearts of the father and mother, carries them out beyond time and sense, and gives them a hold upon the unseen. As things of great value always cost, it is worth all the sorrow to have known this holy affection, and to have this treasure in heaven.

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