

Story of Dr. Chalmers.

Dr. Chalmers came home one evening on horseback, and as he could not find the man who look charge of the horse, nor the key of the stable, he led the horse into the garden and left it on one of the walks. When his sister, who had been from home, returned and learned that the horse had been left in the garden she cried, "The flowers and vegetable beds will be destroyed," to which the doctor answered that he had left the animal on the garden walk, and it was too sagacious to injure the garden products. To settle the point the brother and sister adjourned to the garden, and found ruthless devastation. "Well," said the doctor, "I could not have imagined that horses were such senseless animals."

Making the Best of Troubles

The average dictionary defines an optimist as one who believes that all things are for the best. One day a man wielding a hammer struck his thumb instead of the nail he had intended to hit, and a friend, happening along a while after, said, "That is too bad!" "No, it isn't; it's a fortunate happening," said the man. "It has taught me the value of that thumb as I never knew it before. There are just two hundred and fifty-seven things I have tried to do without that thumb, and found it impossible. Will you please open my pen-knife for me? Thank you! That makes the two hundred and fifty-eight." That man was an optimist. A man fell out of a window on the sixteenth story of a building, and as he shot by each window on his way down, he called out, "All right so far!" He was not borrowing trouble. He was an optimist. Mrs. Wiggs, of the Cabbage Patch, said, "Never open your umbrella until it begins to rain." She, like the man just mentioned, did not believe in anticipating evil.

Other People's Good Times.

"There's lots of good times in the world," said one who had grown weary of his neighbor's continual complaining. "If you haven't any of your own, why don't you enjoy yourself just standin' round and watchin' other folks'?"

Heartily enjoying other people's good times is a sign of a healthy and generous nature always; but to enjoy watching them when he has none of his own, to enter into them without envy or bitterness is a more rare and beautiful thing. But it is a possible thing, and it works its own swift and great reward, for no one can bring sympathetic eyes and heart to the brightness and cheer about him, and not be brightened and cheered by it himself. "The hardest day has its glimpses of beauty in cloud and sky, its golden sunset to be looked at, or strain of music to be heard somewhere; and always there are sweet faces and happy laughter of children on the street," said one whose days were crowded with care. "I've learned to notice such things as they pass, and take in every bit of gladness that comes in my way; it brightens the dull hours wonderfully." There are always good times somewhere about us, and the honest effort to rejoice in another's joy makes it always in great measure our own.—Forward.

The new minister said to one of the stewards: "I discover that Brother Bob Skinner is very liberal in his views of theology." "Yes," remarked the steward, "the brother is much more liberal in his views than in his contributions."

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