

to buy his cough mixture, and his cough is nearly killing him. Here are needles and pins, Lady Marjory, and bodkins four a penny, and scissors—aren't they nice, bright scissors? They are only sixpence a pair, and little pinoushions for fourpence and threepence. What will you buy? I do hope you'll want to buy lots."

Lady Marjory Fitzhugh was one of the kindest old ladies in existence, and when she had recovered from the shock of having a large basket nearly thrust into her face, and could take in Ronald's very rapid utterance, she did make an excellent purchase. Ronald shoved the contents of the basket into her lap, and in the end ran back to Solomon with five beautiful silver shillings clasped tightly in his little hand.

"Didn't I say as the bright and bonny face would do it?" exclaimed the old man, tears springing to his eyes. "Oh, dear little master, if I only had you with me to help sell my wares every day!"

"If you didn't live so far away as Conton I would do it," said Ronald. "I could be with you for two or three hours a day; I shouldn't mind it at all; in fact I would rather like it. I find my play-hours dull since father went away, and it would be very entertaining going about with you, Solomon, and I know father wouldn't mind it, for it would be helping you to buy your cough mixture and things. You will buy some cough mixture now out of your five shillings, and can't you get a bed in the village to night, and I'll meet you just here at three o'clock to-morrow and we'll go round with the basket together? Oh, do you say yes, dear Solomon, for I'd like it just awfully!"

Old Solomon did not find it difficult to say yes; indeed he would have found it impossible to say no. He knew well that with Ronald by his side he would probably make quite a harvest out of his basket, and alas! he knew also only too well that without this bright and attractive little personage he would most probably fail to sell any of his small goods.

Accordingly he yielded to the very strong temptation offered to him, and trusting that no one at Summerleigh would discover Ronald's kind intention towards him, he arranged to meet the little fellow the next day at the entrance to the back avenue.

[To be continued.]

—C—O—

TWO ENDS.

When a small boy, I was carrying a not very large ladder, when there was a crash. An unlucky movement had brought the rear end of the ladder against a window. My father, instead of scolding me, made me stop, and said very quietly:—

"Look here, my son, there is one thing I wish you to remember, that is every ladder has two ends."

I have never forgotten it, though many years have gone. Do we not carry things besides ladders that have two ends? When I see a

young man getting "fast" habits, I think he sees only one end of the ladder, the one pointing towards pleasure, and that he does not know that the other is wounding his parents' heart.

Ah! yes, every ladder has two ends, and it is a thing to be remembered in more ways than one. —*Pacific Advocate*

—C—O—

ALWAYS AT HOME.

It has been said that it was a precious characteristic of the olden times that the father was always to be found at home. He abode in the circle of his family, and was a priest of God at his own fireside. During the day he was diligently about his calling, but at evening he was found with his own. He brought up with the mother his children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, and himself pointed the way to a better life by his own example. But where now, it is asked, and not impertinently, are the fathers in the evening? Is it not true that at least one-fourth, or twenty-five per cent., spend their evenings somewhere else than at home? The modern theory is that a man must spend some of his leisure hours away from home. That quiet though perhaps bright and intelligent circle is not lively and diversified enough. He must be in society, wherever that may lead him. With society we have no quarrels; it is what it is, according to what we make it. The fact cannot be concealed or gainsayed, however, that the father who seeks his enjoyment away from his wife and children thereby deprives his family of its best friend, and the home of its orderly discipline. The fathers who thus, by their example, say, "It is more pleasant away from home, and I find no reason for staying there," must expect to see the half or full grown sons and daughters inclining in the same way, or at least their own way, for the mother cannot furnish the conservative principle, promulgate the home laws and execute them herself. She necessarily becomes disheartened, and in her despair often partakes of the general demoralization. —*Church Messenger.*

WHEN men, weary with the world's battle, return to the shelter of their own home, they need the kindness, the refinement, the high cultivation, the usefulness, the gentle piety which woman as she was meant to be knows how to afford him. The cultivation of a woman's mind cannot be carried too high, but it must be a cultivation proper to her—to her constitution, her marked gifts, her work in the world. Woman is equal to man—equal by being herself, and not a pale copy of him.

—C—O—

We little dream of the conflict Fought in each human soul, And earth knows of her heroes Upon God's honor roll.

Eben E. R. Oxford.

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