GOING TO SCHOOL.

BN ANNA HOLYOKE.

Eddie is leading his little sister Anna to school. Anna has never been to school before, and wonders what school is like. The sun shines and bright dew is on the grass. Birds are singing in the trees. See that tall tree that bends so gracefully over the road behind them. That is an elm. The elm is a very grand and graceful tree. Red raspberry bushes grow by the side of the road close to the fence. I think I see some ripe berries; but the children must not stop for them now. They must go to school. "Duty first, pleasure afterwards."

By and by they come to a brook. which gurgles merrily along over the stones. Anna sees something bright and pretty at the bottom of the brook. What is it? Smooth shining little, pebbles,-red, white, black, yellow, and green. O, how pretty they would be to play with! she thinks. She lets go her brother's hand and runs to get some of

"Take care! take care, Anna," says Eddie, running after her quickly and taking her hand again. "You must not go there, Anna; you will fall into the

"I want some pretty stones," said Anna, pointing to the brook.

"No," said Eddie, "We must go to school. See these flowers!" And Eddie gives her a pretty blue flower, and they walk on to school together, hand in hand. Eddie is very kind to his little sister and takes good care of her.

Now they come to three very large elm-trees that stretch their beautiful green arms quite over the road, so that the children are passing under a beautiful arch of leaves and branches. Far below them, down the bank, gurgles the little brook, and through an opening in the woods beyond they see a dimblue mountain. And here is the house where they are to go to school. It is a dark-colored, old-fashioned house. Their kind teacher comes out to meet them, and asks them to go up stairs to her room. In this old house the staircase was narrow and dark; and little Anna is afraid.

Children, are you afraid of the dark? We are just as safe in the dark as in the light; for God is with us to take care of us all the time.

Some naughty little girls had frightened poor little Anna, when she was a very little child, by telling her frightened stories. Now when she looked up the staircase it seemed to her dark and gloomy; and when her kind teacher takes her hand to try to lead her up stairs she tries to pull away from her and says: "I don't want to go up stairs. I don't want to go to school. I want to go home and see my mother." And then she begins to cry and struggle to get away. But her kind teacher firmly but gently takes her in her arms and carries her up stairs to a bright, cheerful room, where the morning sunlight comes in at the window. She gives little Anna a book full of pretty pictures to look at, and the little girl's tears are soon dried, and all her fears and troubles forgotten. The book is Eddie's Arithmetic; and as Anna looks at the rows of bird's and squirrels and pretty things in the book, she begins to think that arithmetic must be a very pleasant study, and wishes she were old enough to study it too, and find out what all those rows of birds and squirrels, keys and balls are for. And then she listens to the pretty story that Eddie is reading aloud, and feels contented and happy, and thinks going to school is very pleasant after all.

Anna was very happy as they walked home from school an hour or two later, stopping to gather and eat a few herries by the way; and she told her mother that she liked to go to schoel. She did not cry the next day nor the next, nor ever after, when she went up the dark stairs to the school. But she soon learned to read, and was very happy in reading little stories herself. You see dear children, that it is silly to cry and fret, for we do not know what is best for us. What you fear and dread may make you very happy in the end; and what you want might be very bad for

And mothers, be very patient and sympathetic, though firm with your little ones. Are not you, too, seme- | Christian."

times inclined to fret, and to wish for what you have not, instead of rejoicing in the blessings within your reach? and as you go through life, you, too. will come to some cark places where your timid heart will shrink back, and cry for some other path. Ah! we know not what is best for us.

Christ leads us through no darker rooms Than he went through before; And he that to his Kingdom comes Must enter by that door.'

It will be light enough by and bye, if we follow Christ; for he will make plain to us the hidden things, and cause light to shine upon things which now appear dark and mysterious.

DOWN CELLAR.

BY HELEN C. THORNE.

Jamie had been a naughty boy. He wouldn't study the pretty story, in his nice, new reader, and he would set traps for the flies and throw paper balls at the girls. His teacher spoke to him twice, but it didn't do any good, for his "forgettery' was running at full power and ground his memory all out. The third reader class were on the floor listening to the lesson. while Miss Elden read it, when with a crash that made them all jump, down went Jamie's slate on his desk, kiling a fly, and from that to the floor.

"Why Jamie!" said his teacher sadly, you know I never speak more than twice about idleness. Come here."

Jamie stuck a knuckle in each eye, screwed down the corners of his mouth, and edged his way down the aisle.

"Boys, what shall I do with bim? Think soberly and tell me. He has been naughty boy and must be punished."

Jamie from behind his khuckles, looked anxiously from one to another. He begun to wish the flies had kept away; they needn't have come on his desk at all; at any rate Bob Mills needn't have let him take his slate, and then he wouldn't have had to be punished. Bob Mills ought to be punished too. Jamie took one fist down from his face and opened his mouth to tell the teacher that it was all Bob's fault, when two or three hands came up.

"Well?" said Miss Elden. " Put him down cellar!" "O-ho-ho-ho!" cried Jamie. "I don't want to. I sint a-going!" but he went and sat down on a stair alone, because he couldn't help it. And there he staved while the other boys went out at recess time. He could seet eir shadows through the half open door as they passed out, and he heard their merry shouts. "O. dear!" he thought, nobody don't care nothin' 'bout me. I'm all 'lone. I think it's mean! Just 'cause I killed a fly!' Here Jamie's conscience gave him a tweak. He knew that wasn't why he had been sent down cellar. "Well," he went on, "how'd I know my-no Bob's-slate was a-goin' to tumble down? I couldn't help it's makin' a noise. She needn't a sent me down here just 'cause my-no, Bob's-slate-" Another tweak from conscience. Then he thought how poor sick mamma would look for her poor little boy; and how she would ask to see his "merit" ticket, and how he'd have to tell her that he'd been down in the school house cellar. 'cause-'cause-: and how sorry sh'd look; and how'd she'd hold out her thin white hand to him, and hold his fat. brown one, while he told her about Bob's slate. "O mamma, I've been naughty again!" he sobbed right out, wnile the tears began to flow again; but this time they were sorry tears. And so, when he felt a soft hand on his forehead, and heard his teacher speak to him, he just hid his face in his poor, little mud stained pockethandkerchief and burst out, "Please-I

you the letter just as he wrote it:-"Deer. Ant. jenny. mAma sAid i. mite. rite. to. You. cos. mebby. Youd.Like. toe. noe. that. i. wAs. Well. And. lAst. sAturdA. i. Was. seven. YcArs. old. mister. ross. GAve. me. two, rAbbits. And. mAmA GAve. me. A. BAntAm. ruster. And. hen, i. Go. to. skool. now. i. Aint. Goin. down. sullAar. some. more. i. shall. lern. to reed. FAst. and. be. a doctor. mAn. sos. to. git. mAmA. well. cAnt. rite. no. more. now.

guess-I'm better-now." And he was

better," and he's been better ever since,

to Annt Jenny a few days after his cellar

from Your. lovin. jAmie." Aunt Jenny was very much pleased with this letter from Jamie, and wrote him a very kind letter in reply, and gave him good advice as to his future conduct. Jamie now attends to his lessons, and does not waste time in killing flies.

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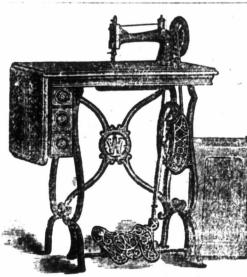
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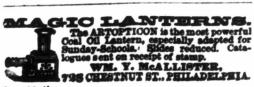
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