

ponds, and among the great round hills, and along the desolate shore, where the waves came sobbing in, as if they had a story to tell of him that might break your heart to hear could you but understand their mighty voice. At last, just at the sunset, they found him deep in the heart of the great wood between Plymouth and Kingston, ten long miles from the home he had left so bravely and so merrily upon the morning of that terrible Dark Day. How had those little feet carried him so far, and how had he missed all the friendly roofs that would have sheltered him, the kind hearts that would have cared for and protected him, and how, in the darkness and the terror involving him, had he made his way through miles of tangled forest to the lonely spot where he was found? There he lay, under a great pine-tree, his pretty curls tangled with the brown needles, his dark eyes close shut, his little listless hands folded upon his breast, and the smile of heaven upon his parted lips.

I am so glad that it was the father himself who found him, and who, treading cautiously toward him, and bending fearfully above him, dreading to find him too sound asleep for earthly waking, caught the first glance of those slowly opening eyes, the first glad flash of consciousness and recognition.

"Oh, Daddy!" shouted the little man, springing to his father's arms, "I'm so glad you've come! The night was so dark and long, and I couldn't find my fortune."

Ah! the prayer that the father prayed, kneeling there in the solemn wood, his darling clasped close, close to his heart, his wet face upraised to the God who had given him back the treasure so nearly lost for ever, must have been a prayer of such praise as the angels sing before the Great White Throne, full of joy and gratitude not to be put in words!

And so Daddy's Man was carried home in triumph to comfort that poor mother, whose illness must have fled before the great joy of his return; and we will hope that, when next the little hero went forth to seek his fortune, it was with better success.

And if you would know his name when he grew too old to be called Daddy's Man, and all the rest that may be said of him, go to dear Pilgrim Plymouth, and ask the first old man you meet for the story of the Dark Day. He will give it you in all its details, and many a charming legend besides, or I am no true prophet. And so good-bye.—*Our Young Folks.*

DRAWING-ROOM ILLUSIONS.

THE ORIENTAL BALL TRICK.

This trick is particularly effective. Procure three balls of wood, the size of billiard balls, each having a small hole drilled completely through it, the hole the size of an ordinary black-lead pencil.

Procure also two pieces of white tape, each ten feet long. Double each tape exactly in half, so that they become only five feet long. Insert the folded end into one of the balls; pull it through about an inch; then open the doubled tape, which, of course, then becomes a loop; into which loop insert about an inch of the folded end of the other piece of tape; then carefully draw the first tape back into the ball, and it will be found that the joint of the two tapes in the ball is not only very firm, but completely hidden. Then thread the other ends of one tape into one of the other balls, and slide the ball along the tape until it reaches the first ball. Do the same with the ball on the other tape. Thus all the balls will be threaded on the tape, the centre ball containing all the tape connections. All this is prepared beforehand. When the trick is performed show the three balls on the tapes, and ask two persons to hold the ends of the tapes, allowing the balls to swing loosely in the centre. Show that there is no trick about it by sliding the two outer balls to and fro upon the tape. To make it more wonderful (but really to accomplish the trick) ask each one person to drop one end of their respective tapes, so that the balls may be tied on. Make a single tie of the two lengths, and give each person an end, but not the end he held before. Now request the assistants to pull gradually, and as the tapes become strained strike two or three smart blows with the hand, or a stick, upon the balls, and they will fall to the ground uninjured, while, to the astonishment of every one, the tapes remain unbroken. The tape used should be of the best linen, and about three-quarters of an inch wide.

THE DANCING SKELETON.

This is calculated to excite much astonishment if well arranged beforehand.

Get a piece of board about the size of a large school-slate, and have it painted black. The paint should be what is known as a dead colour, without gloss or brightness. Sketch out the figure of a skeleton on a piece of card-board, and arrange it after the manner of the dancing sailors and other card-board figures exposed for sale in