

they are as likely to be on foot as on horseback.

This particular knight was about ten years old—slender, straight, open-eyed. Quickly he spied the damsel in distress; swiftly he came to her aid.

"What is the matter?" I heard him say.

Alas! the matter was that the bundle she held had "burst," and its contents were open to view. Probably the small maid expected a hearty scolding for carelessness. And, indeed, whoever put that soiled shirt and collar in her care might reasonably have been vexed.

A new piece of wrapping paper proved too frail. Must the child get her scolding? No wonder she had sobbed so mournfully.

But the boy was not daunted. He tucked the "burst" bundle under his own arm.

"I'll carry it to the laundry for you," he said in the kindest voice, and off the two trudged together.

Soon afterward I met the small girl again. She was comforted and serene.

"Was the boy your brother?" I asked.

She shook her head.

"Did you know him?"

Another shake.

"A real gentleman," said I; "a genuine nineteenth century knight. Bless him!"

#### MAKING THE BEST OF IT.

When grandma came into the nursery, writes L. E. Chittenden, in the *Outlook*, she saw Ted staring out of the window with a scowl on his forehead. Mary Esther was lying stretched out on the floor, drumming her heels up and down, and Dick was pulling the cat's tail.

"What's the trouble, Teddy?" she asked, sitting down in her chair and beginning her knitting.

"Oh, this rain is such a bother!" said Ted. "I was going over to John's to make a bird-house, and I took my tools over last night to have 'em there, and now I can't go because I've got a cold, and it rains."

"I saw a carpenter making a mud house the other morning without tools," began grandma; and the

three children came over and clustered around her chair.

"And that wasn't all," she went on; "he had no arms, and he made it with his head."

"He acted very oddly, too," said grandma, lifting Dick upon her lap. "First, he rubbed his floor in, and he sang a funny little song as he did it. Then he went off for more mud. When he got back, he walked in every direction but the right one, and I thought he had lost his way; but I really think he wanted to make me stop watching him, for he finally got there, and he went on building, always singing his queer little song. After his pile of mud was large enough, he pressed his head against one end until he had bored a little round room in it. I thought it must be hard work, but he always sang, and seemed determined to make the best of it."

"Where is his house?" asked Dick.

"Out in the roof of the back porch," said grandma; so they all scampered off to find it.

"Oh, yes!" said Ted, pointing up in one corner. "There it is. It's a mud dauber's nest."

"It's a wops's," said Dick.

"Well, a mud dauber is a wasp," said Ted, laughing. "That's built better than I could do with tools," went on Ted. "I believe I'll make the best of it, too."

So, when grandma saw them again, Ted was mending Mary Esther's doll's head, which had waited a long time for its glue medicine; Mary Esther was sewing on her doll's quilt, and Dick was rubbing up the nickel parts of their bicycle; and they sang so hard and worked so steadily that when the dinner-bell rang they were surprised to find the rain all stopped and the sun shining.

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