

with hunger and weariness. It had been forsaken by its heathen mother. The little toddy-bird in the tree over its head was more feeling than she, for it was flying back and forth to its curious nest, carefully feeding its young. But the child's attention was arrested at the sight of the sunbeam dancing on the glossy plumage of a parrot, and clapped its little hands and laughed. The sunbeam saw it, and went away with a happier heart.

The little sunbeam then tried what good it could do on the ocean. So it shone brighter than ever, and the waves sparkled in its light. A young lady on board a vessel, who had left her home and friends to go and teach the poor heathen children about their Father in heaven, saw it, and was comforted. So the sunbeam went away. It had done its errand there.

"Mother," said a poor pale sick boy, "please to open the shutter, and let in that stray sunbeam which has come to cheer me with its presence." The sunbeam heard the words, and did its best to cheer him.

He now entered a home where poverty dwelt, and comforted the heart of the lone one who was wearily using her needle. Her heart was drooping, but when she caught sight of the sunbeam, hope revived, for she thought "God gives his light to this little sunbeam, and he surely will not leave me in darkness."

He next found his way into a beautiful and costly mansion, where wealth and luxury dwelt. "There can be nothing but happiness here," said the sunbeam, and it was about to withdraw, when it was drawn back by a low mean. Within there lay a suffering invalid, and, though surrounded by all the luxuries that life could enjoy, she was not happy. She felt that she was going to die. The sunbeam fell across her couch. She thought of the verse, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." She cast herself on Christ. Her burden fell.

Thus it went on from day to day doing what it could, and never again was heard to ask, "Of what use am I?"—*The Appeal*.

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TO HIM THAT KNOWETH TO DO GOOD AND DOETH IT NOT, TO HIM IT IS SIN. James iv., 17.