

Very Greedy. A lady missionary in Raratonga, one of the South Pacific islands, has what she calls a boarding-school, fifteen boys gathered from different heathen villages, living under her care. She says that the boys have fairly well, are quite happy and never seem to wish to go home. But they have three great faults; they are very greedy, tell lies and are very deceitful. Their greediness is very marked. They can never see food without wanting to eat it, even though it belongs to some one else, and they seem unable to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. The youngest boy can invent and tell a falsehood in a moment, and he does so without hesitation. We hope that our boys in Christian lands will more and more learn to hate and avoid the three "great faults" of these heathen boys.

BORROWING TROUBLE.

Once upon a time there was a man and woman who planned to go and spend the day at a house of a friend some miles away from their own! So, one pleasant morning, they started out to make the visit; but before they had gone far the woman remembered a very old bridge they had to cross, which was said to be not very safe, and she immediately began to worry about it.

"What shall we do about that bridge?" said she to her husband. "I shall never dare to go over it, and we can't get across the river in any other way."

"Oh," said the man, "I forgot that bridge; it is a bad place. Suppose it should fall into the water and we be drowned?"

"Or even," said the wife, "suppose you should step on a rotten plank and break your leg; what would become of me and the baby?"

"I don't know," replied the man, "what would become of us; I couldn't work and we should all starve to death."

So they went on worrying and worrying till they got to the bridge, when, lo and behold! they saw that since they had been there last a new bridge had been built, and they crossed over it in safety, and found that they might have spared themselves all their anxiety.

Now, that is just what the proverb means — "Never cross a bridge till you come to it." Never waste your worrying on what you think may possibly be going to happen. — *Sel.*

A LITTLE INDIAN GIRL'S SELF-DENIAL.

A little native girl in Tinnevely had an allowance of one "pie," a coin worth only *one-twelfth* of a penny, every week for sweetmeats. You would not think this a very large allowance, and no doubt the little girl had to save up for several weeks before she could buy even a tiny packet of "goodies." One day she made up her mind to save her money for something else, and for forty-eight weeks the little coin was quietly laid aside; even her father and mother did not know the reason why. But Jesus knew that this dear child was saving up her scanty pocket-money for Him, and when she brought the forty-eight "pies" as her gift to the funds of the Native Church, we may be sure that He accepted it as a gift to Himself. How heavy our missionary-boxes would be if we were all as self-denying as this little brown girl! — *The Children's World.*

ARE YOU SAFE?

Two little girls were playing with their dolls in a corner of the nursery, and singing as they played:

"Safe in the arms of Jesus,
Safe on his gentle breast,
There by his love o'ershadowed,
Sweetly my soul shall rest."

Mother was busy writing, only stopping now and then to listen to the little ones' talk, unobserved by them.

"Sister, how do you know you are safe?" said Nellie, the younger of the two.

"Because I am holding Jesus with both my hands—tight!" promptly replied sister.

"Ah, that's not safe," said the other child. "Suppose Satan came along and cut your two hands off!"

Little sister looked very troubled for a few moments, dropped poor dolly, and thought seriously. Suddenly her face shone with joy, and she cried out:

"Oh, I forgot! I forgot! Jesus is holding me with his two hands, and Satan can't cut him off; so I'm safe!"