

A FOURPENNY TURKEY.

He was a bouncing big turkey; and they had hung him up by the feet, so that, his nose almost touched the footpath just outside the poulterer's shop. A little girl was standing watching. You could see that she was hungry little girl; and, worse than that, she was cold, too, for her shawl had to do for hood and almost everything else. No one was looking, so she put out a little red hand, and gave the great turkey a push; and he, swung to and fro, almost making the great hook creak, he was so heavy.

"What a splendid big turkey!"

The poor little girl turned round, and there was another little girl looking at the turkey too. She was out walking with her dolls, and had on a cloak with red fur all around the edges; and she had a real muff, white, with little black spots all over it.

"Good morning, miss," said the tradesman. You see he knew the little girl with the muff perfectly well.

"That's a big turkey, Mr. Martin."

"Yes," said the poor little girl, timidly; "he's the biggest I ever saw in my life. He must be splendid to eat."

"Pooh!" said the little girl with the muff; "he isn't any bigger than the one my papa brought home for Christmas Day to-morrow, I know."

"Could I have a leg if I come for it to-morrow?" asked the poor little girl, softly.

"What, haven't you a whole turkey?"

"Never had one in my life," said the poor little girl.

"Then you shall have this one," said the little lady with the muff.

"Mr. Martin, I've got some money in my money-box at home, and my papa said I could do just as I wanted with it, and I'm going to buy the turkey for this little girl."

The poor little girl's eyes grew,

so very large you wouldn't have known them. "I shall love you always, so much, so very, very much; and I'll go home for Foxy to help me. Foxy is my brother, and I know we can carry him."

I haven't room to tell you all about it; but the poor little girl got her turkey, and papa his bill.

"What's this," said he—"another turkey, weighing eighteen pounds, price eighteen shillings?"

"That's all right," said the little girl who had the muff. "I bought him, and gave him to a poor little girl who never ate one; and the money is in my box."

The money-box was opened, and there were four big pennies in it.

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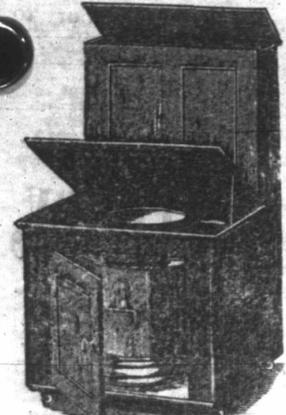
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