

Children's Department.

A Question.

If you will kindly tell me, please,
What animal I am,
I shall be very thankful—
I'm grandma's "blessed lamb."

My brother Archie says "that kid"
Upsets our whole big house;
And when I tease my grandpa,
I'm just his "little mouse."

I give Aunt Bess a letter, and
She says, "Thank you, my deer."
And then I'm papa's "monkey,"
Which certainly is queer.

And Uncle Charlie says I'm stubborn
As a "good-sized mule."
My mamma calls me her "sweet
heart."

When I've been good at school.

Now, this is all confusing
To a man who is so wee,
I call myself just "Teddy;"
Pray, what would you call me?
—The Queen.

Mildred's Morning Glories.

"It is strange why my morning-glories do not blossom, after I have taken so much pains with them." And the little girl that said this looked again at the slender vines, with an expression of discontent upon her face. As her mother did not reply, she went on, "You know, mamma, that I planted the seeds very early in the spring, and I have been careful to train the vines, as well as to give them water when it has been dry. I can see only one little bud on the largest vine, and I think there ought to be blossoms upon it by this time."

The little girl's voice also revealed the impatience that she felt, and again she began to look among the vines that seemed so slow in growing.

"But remember, Mildred, that we had a long spell of cold weather, after you transplanted the morning-glories, which undoubtedly retarded their growth," Mrs. Marston, Mildred's mother, replied.

Exhaustion

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IBERVILLE, Que., Can., Feb. 20, 1895.

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"But you know I covered them even in the day time, to shield them from the cold wind," Mildred went on.

"Yet they felt the effects of the cold in spite of all your efforts, and they missed the gentle sunlight upon them also. Such delicate flowers need the sunlight, even though protected from the wind and cold," Mrs. Marston said in reply.

Mildred said nothing more, yet the impatient expression remained upon her face, as she looked at the vines slowly creeping up the long strings that had been arranged with so much care.

A few warmer days came on and a great change began to take place in the general appearance of the morning-glories. They went up the strings very fast, and leaves and buds came thickly out upon the faithful little vines.

One morning two bright blossoms appeared, touched with their delicate colors: the next there were six, and in less than a week a score of them graced the vines.

"Oh, mamma, how beautiful they are!" Mildred exclaimed while viewing the bright beauties shining with the morning dew.

"Yes, they are beautiful," was the quick answer. "Now you can see what a few days of bright sunlight will do."

"They have grown more in the last week than in the whole month before," Mildred continued.

"Yes, apparently they have; yet they needed the care and training that you gave them, and when the warm days came, they were all prepared to develop just as you have seen them do. You can learn from the beautiful morning-glories some useful lessons. One is that proper care and training are always needed to produce good results, and another is, that nature is ever true to God's laws and will surely do its part after we have performed ours. But the best lesson is that we should be patient, trusting in God to bring the good results we have toiled to gain."

This was the summing up of the matter by Mildred's mother, and the little girl wore a thoughtful face every morning afterward when she went to admire her sweet morning-glories.

The Whole Story

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A Lesson in Provoking.

"Please—don't, Marion. Now, Marion Benson, you are too bad, and I can't stand it another minute."

"Girls!" called Mrs. Benson from her room, and the two little girls came in. They were twins, and looked so much alike that even their father had sometimes to look twice before he knew which was Margery and which Marion.

"Mother, Marion doesn't give me a minute's peace. I wanted to finish painting a picture to show father to-night, and she keeps teasing me so, and shaking the table till I expect to spoil it every minute."

"It's too fine to stay indoors," broke in Margery. "I want her to come out to the orchard; it isn't healthy to sit in the house so much."

"But you shouldn't take that way of asking her," said mother gravely. "This teasing habit of yours is a very bad one, and makes a great deal of trouble."

The mischief died out of Marion's eyes, and she looked ashamed.

"But, Margery," mother went on, "nothing should make you speak to your sister as you did just now."

"She does provoke me so," murmured Margery.

Mrs. Benson was silent for a moment. These little quarrels between

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the sisters were becoming too frequent, and she had been wondering how she could put a stop to them.

"Then, Margery," she said at last, "why don't you try provoking her?"

"Why, Mother Benson! Haven't you always taught us never to fight back, and always to 'do unto others,' and all that, ever since we were little children?"

Margery was astonished, and Marion looked interested.

"Bring me my Bible, dear," was the only reply.

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