

Happy Days

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THE CRY-BOY.

A LITTLE boy had a habit, when anything went wrong with him, to wrinkle up his face and make most dismal howling. I suppose he thought it was crying, but it wasn't, for people don't have to try to cry; it just comes of itself. One day some one asked him if he thought he was crying, and he said, "Yes, but I can't make any tears come on my face." That is because there was no need of tears. They know when they are needed, and always come in time and without trying. If there are no tears, there is nothing to cry about, you may be sure.

CATS' WHISKERS.

EVERY one must have observed what are usually called the "whiskers" on a cat's upper lip; but few perhaps dream that they serve any valuable end. Yet it is true that the use of these in a state of nature is very important. They are organs of touch. They are attached to a bed of close glands under



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the skin, and each of these long hairs is connected with the nerve of the lip. The slightest contact of these whiskers with any surrounding object is thus felt most distinctly by the animal, although the hairs themselves are insensible.

These whiskers stand out on each side of the tiger and lion as well as in the common cat, so that, from point to point, they are equal to the width of the animal's body. If we imagine, therefore, one of these animals stealing through a cover of wood, in an imperfect light, we shall at once see the use of his whiskers. They indicate to him, through the nicest feeling, any obstacle which may present itself to the passage of his body, they prevent the rustle of boughs and leaves, which would give warning to his prey, if he were to attempt to pass through too close a bush, and thus, in conjunction with the soft cushions of his feet, and the fur upon which he treads (the retractile claws