## The Giant Who Wanted to Work.

In a little Scotch kitchen, with rafters above,
And the wide, open fireplace that grandmothers love,
The kettle was making a terrible din ; Would you guess that a glant was prisoned within?

No one knew what he said; no one heeded the nolse;
People don't when they live in a house full of boys ;
And with grandma asleep and James on the settle,
Small wonder they heard not the volce In the kettle.
I'm a giant imprisoned !" the cry came again.
" I have strength for the work of a million of men.
Your ships I will carry ; your carriages draw ;"
(Jamie looked in surprise, but no giant he saw.)
I can print all your books, and your cloth I could weave:
Your grain I will grind, if you'll but give me leave :
Great welghts I can lift, as you quickly will see,
Only give me more room. Come, my lad, set me free."
Just then grandma awoke, and she cried :
Have you nothing to do but hear teakettles sing?
But he answered her gently, and told her his plan-
More room, for the giant to do all he can.
Just a dream? No, indeed ! You will own it was not,
When I tell you the name of the lad was James Watt.
"Twas the giant who's working for you and for me,
Aren't you glad that he listened, and then set him free?
-Selected.

## Smiles.

Walter Scott liked to tell the story of his meeting an Irish beggar in the street, who importuned him for a sixpence. Not having one, Scott gave him a shilling, adding with a laugh: "Now, remember, you owe me sixpence." "Osh, sure enough," said the beggar, " and God grant you may live till I pay you !"
The Earl of Yarmouth and Miss Thaw dined with a Pittsburg family a week before their wedding. The hostess's little girl sat opposite the earl, and stared solemnly. "Are you an English lord really and truly, sir ?" she said at last. "Yes," he answered, laughing. "really and truly," "I never saw an English lord before," she said. "I've always wanted to." " And now you're satisfied, aren't you ?"' said the young man, gaily, "No I'm not satisfied," the little girl returned; "I'm disappointed."
The attacks of absent-mindedness which sometimes come over one lead one to do queer things. The following, given in Harper's Bazar, is an fllustration: "The other day a man came out of his house, walked to the edge of the pavement, threw his right leg into the air with a vaulting movement, and fell sprawling to the ground. A friend who came along in time to witness this singular performance sald to him: 'Why, friend, what do you mean by suoh a performance ?' The man got up, brushing the dirt from his garments and rubbing his bruises, while he said: ' Well, I thought I was getting on my wheel. I forgot that I didn't have the wheel with me."

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