



UNWELCOME VISITORS.

The Chinese are often a great pest to the captains of sea-going vessels, from their habit of swarming over the decks and often pilfering and carrying off whatever they can lay their hands on. Sometimes, too, they are regular pirates, who will board a vessel, take possession of it by force, and kill or capture its officers and crew. A very effective way of dispersing these is to attach the hose to the steam pump and drive them overboard. If they prove very refractory hot water can be used, of which they have a great horror. Our picture shows the way in which the officers of Lord Brassey's yacht, the *Sunbeam*, got rid of their unwelcome visitors.

WHAT DOES UNSELFISH MEAN?

Three little children were sitting in the room one evening while their mother was busy ironing—Johnny, and Fred, and Louise. Johnny was nine years old, and he read aloud to his little brother and sister. Whenever they came to any hard word that they could not understand, their mother would tell them what it meant.

Louise held up her hand for attention. "I'd like to have mother tell us what 'unselfish' means. Maybe I know, but I want her to tell it her way," said the child.

"I will illustrate it by a little story when Johnny is through reading, and I am done ironing," said their mother.

Then after awhile she told this story:

"Once upon a time there were three little children, and their mother told them that she would give each one a penny for every six eggs he brought into the house. The oldest child brought in six or eight eggs a day, but the younger ones couldn't find any. The nests were all low down in quiet places, easily reached.

"The eldest of the three little ones thought of a plan that pleased him exceedingly, and he put it into execution.

"He would peep into the other nests slyly, and if there were no eggs in them he would take those out of his nests and put them in theirs, and let his little brother and sister think that they had been laid there.

"That is what one calls an unselfish act. He was glad to give up his own pleasure to make his little brother and sister happy, though I believe his delight was greater than theirs. You

should all seek to be unselfish—study the comfort and happiness of others before your own. If there is anything good or enjoyable, try and help someone else to get it. Never fear but you will be happy enough. An unselfish person is rarely unhappy."

Just here the mother's eyes fell on Johnny. Little fellow! he was appearing unspcakably full of some kind of emotion. His hands were thrust down into his pockets, and he looked right into the grate, just as though he thought the red blazes were something wonderfully new and beautiful. His face was red, too, but then the reflection of the glowing fire might have made that. He twisted his head around uneasily when his mother's eye fell upon him.

"That boy in the story was our blessed little brother Johnny, wasn't it, mother? Say, wasn't it, Fred? Say, all of you. Oh! oh! I thought my hen pitted me and laid lots of eggs just to please me, and I there it was our Johnny all the time!" and Louise flew to the little hero, and pulled his head about, and hugged him, and kissed him, and tickled him, and then he sat looking just as ashamed as though he had stolen somebody's hens' eggs and been caught at it.

"Oh, who told you that, ma?" said he, looking down modestly, "I didn't want 'em to know if ever—"

"Oh, maybe a little bird sang it to me," said the glad mother, laughing.

"Nobody can do anything that our mother won't find out," said Fred, laying his hand on Johnny's shoulder.

"Now we know what unselfish means, don't we?" said Louise, "and I mean to try and be just as unselfish as ever I can"; and here she flew at her little brother Johnny, and began fuzzing up his hair, and patting his cheeks, and all the

while proud of the shy, kind brother, who had set such a sweet example of unselfishness before them.

POLITENESS IN JAPAN.

Rarely will such polite boys be met outside of Japan. A gentleman passes in a *jinrik-i-sha*; off goes every cap—no, not cap, for we are supposing this to be before foreigners brought caps to Japan. A scarf wound around the head is a Japanese cap; this is entirely removed, and the politest of bows given. A Japanese bow, who can describe it? Down goes the head, over goes the body, with hands on the knees, until an American boy would think that the little Jap had turned into a veritable jack-knife, and was shutting up to go into some giant's pocket.

This politeness is found in every class, for in walking through the fields a common laborer will take off his head scarf and greet you with a bow.

Especially are the school-boys polite. When the teacher enters in the morning he will find the boys all formed in a line. They will give him a succession of low bows, and bid him many polite good-mornings.

"WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY."

This is a very old proverb, and a very true one. Sometimes we forget it though, and say "I can't" before we have really tried at all. Some years ago a few kind people made up their minds to try to get hold of all the chimney-sweeps in Dublin and give them an education. One day a little fellow came who was asked if he knew his letters.

"O yes," he answered.

"Can you spell?"

"Oh yes."

"Can you read?"

"Oh, yes."

"What books did you learn from?"

"Please, sir, I never had a book."

"Then who was your schoolmaster?"

"I never went to school at all."

The gentleman stared, for it seemed very strange that a boy should be able to read and spell, and yet never had a master.

"Then how ever did you learn?" he asked.

The little boy smiled, and linked his arm in that of a sweep somewhat older than himself.

"Please, sir, Jim taught me the letters over shop doors as we went to our work, and now I know all the words by heart; and if you'd kindly let us have some books to read, and teach us to do sums and writing, we'd be very thankful."

Can't you fancy what good pupils those two boys became, and how they delighted in reading in books instead of making their necks ache by peering up at the shops?