

SUNBEAM

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No. 2.

TRYING THE ICE.

These two little girls and their brother have come out to see if the pond will bear.

There, all across the field, you can see their tracks right up to the fence, which they managed to get over, until they reached the ice. And now the little brother is cautiously trying if the ice will bear his weight, and if it is not strong enough his sisters, no doubt, will hold him tight enough to prevent an accident. 24

JENNIE'S FUNNY SCRAPES.

Jennie Stanton liked hunting for hens' nests in all the nooks and crannies within climbing distance. One particular quest of hers ended in a ludicrous plight.

In her father's barn was a trap-door; beneath the barn was the stable, and under the trap-door the cow was tied.

Our little girl was skipping along, never noticing the door had been left up, when down she fell, right on the cow's neck. The cow jumped and kicked, Jennie screamed, but held on to the bossie's horns, until her mother ran and took her away, a very frightened little girl.

She was not hurt, but was very careful after that when she went into the barn.

Last summer she was visiting on a farm where there were nine little pigs. They had a large lot to run in, but some way

crawled through the wall and went into the swamp. Jennie, with a friend, went out for barberries.

They were picking busily when all at

to run, but she was too frightened to realize the cause of the sudden noise; when lo! she found herself stretched on the ground. She had fallen over a stump,

her barberries were scattered, and the pigs making the air ring with their retreating cries. She saw them all running away, and then it was time to laugh at how the pigs frightened her.

A TEASE.

When I was a boy I was often in the woods. There I saw the squirrels play among the branches of the trees, sometimes running up and sometimes down, and sometimes leaping from a branch of one tree across to a branch of another tree. Once I saw a squirrel make a long leap. It missed its hold, and instead of getting across to the next tree it fell all the way down to the ground.

Sometimes when I have been in the woods I have seen certain birds tease the squirrels. They would fly around them, and at them, and peck them. The squirrels tried to run away, but the birds flew after them to annoy them. They were like some boys and girls I have seen who are always teasing somebody else. It is a bad fault, and children who do it,



TRYING THE ICE.

once those nine pigs started up from the nest of leaves where they had been asleep. One squealed and the others joined in the chorus. Jennie added her voice and tried

nobody loves the

Give God your heart; for he asks it, and it is his due.