

"It is a sin to steal a pin"; and "See a pin and pick it up"—and so forth.

Experience had provided her with lessons too, and she was never tired of reminding Rudd that nothing is ever so bad as we expect it will be. That nothing also is ever so good as we expect, she probably knew too, but being an excellent nurse she did not urge that upon him. Such disenchanting truths can be reserved for one's own acquisition in the school of the world; it is the lenitives with which the instructors of childhood are concerned.

But Sarah was not wholly didactic: she had her moments of levity too; nurses' levity. She and Rudd had tremendous giggling struggles over the ancient and perilous problem contained in the lines:—

"Adam and Eve and Pinch-me
Went down to the river to bathe:
Adam and Eve were drowned,
But who do you think was saved?"

On every fine day Rudd and Sarah walked by the sea, which was reached by descending a steep hill.

On very special occasions they went on the pier. Rudd was now and then permitted to fish from it while Sarah sewed. His bait was wet dough from the kitchen, which was placed on two hooks suspended from each end of a stiff wire attached to a weight. He never caught anything, but it was exciting to be at the end of so important a piece of string.