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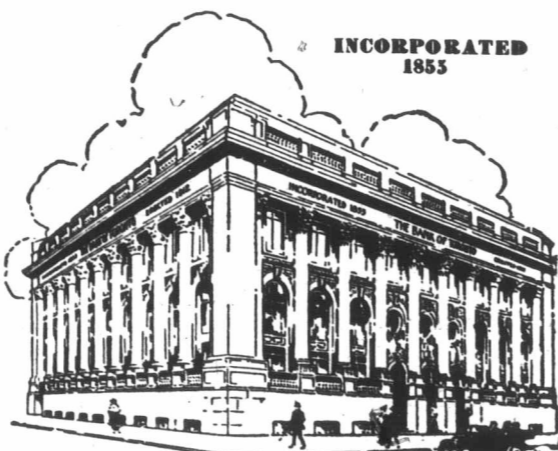
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would say, "Oh how lovely the sky looks without any clouds, I wish it were always like that."

But the poor old sun didn't think so because, you know, when we think he goes to bed at night he doesn't really, he just goes and shines on the other side of the world and wakes the little girlies up there, and when it's night where we are its morning where they are, so you see the poor old sun works very hard and the only time he really goes to sleep is when he hides behind the clouds, and when the clouds went out of the sky he couldn't even have a teeny, weeny nap, but had to keep on shining all the time.

You wouldn't like to have to keep awake for lots of nights and never go to sleep, would you?

And the poor, old sun got so tired that instead of shining nicely and gently he just burnt everything up, he was so angry; all the trees and flowers were dying and all the little brooks dried up and even the people on the earth said:—

"Oh! if we could only have some rain."

In the big cloud house Crystal Drop lived with his little brothers and sisters. He was only a tiny raindrop, but he had a great big heart, and it was full of love, and you know, darling, when people have big hearts they can do all sorts of brave and good things. Down on the earth lived a little flower called "Bluebell," little Crystal Drop's friend. He often used to go down and see her, but now he was shut up tight in the cloud house and couldn't get out. He and his brothers and sisters would listen to the birds flying past and hear them say: "Oh, the hot earth; all the trees and flowers are dying, where shall we go to hide from the sun, why, why doesn't it rain?"

Then all the raindrops began to cry, because they loved the trees and flowers, but Crystal Drop said:—

"We must get out."

And his brothers and sisters said sadly: "The walls are so thick, the door is so strong, we can never get out."

But Crystal Drop said sweetly:—

"Love will find a way."

Then he ran all through the cloud house looking for something to dig with and at last what do you think he found? Why, a Great, Big, long, sharp icicle hidden in a corner. All the little raindrops cried with joy; then they carried it to the cloud door and began to dig a hole through it, but it was very thick and their poor little hands were sore and their shoulders ached, and some of them even sat down and cried; but Crystal Drop, who was thinking of Bluebell all the time, forgot to feel tired, and said to the others:—

"Let's all sing and then it won't be so hard." And this is what they sang:—

Dig, dig away,
In here we'll never stay;
We want to get outside and see
Our friends the flower, the leaf, the tree,
Dig, dig away.

And in another minute bang! bang! Open flew the door and out tumbled the little raindrops down, down to earth as fast as they could go. And when the other clouds saw the door of the cloud house open, they came back in the sky and let their little rain drops out, too.

What did little Crystal Drop do? Well, darling, he went straight down to Bluebell and washed her poor little dusty face and filled her cup with water, and she lifted up her head again and smiled at him, and so they were both quite, quite happy.

And what did the old sun do, you say?

Well, he just scuttled behind a big cloud, pulled it right over him, went fast off to sleep and snored so loudly that the people on the earth said, "Hark! what terrible thunder."

But it was only the old sun snoring because he was so sleepy.

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