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BROTHER AND SISTER.

WHAT a pretty picture this brother and sister make. How fond of each other they are, and how careful of his little sister the brave brother is. This is as it ought to be. While nothing is more beautiful than family affection, nothing is more hateful than to see those who ought to love one another quarrelling and wrangling.

LITTLE AFRICAN BABIES.

In some parts of West Africa as soon as a baby is born the nurse takes it by its feet, lifts it up and gives it a good shaking, to make it stand straight! I wonder what your mother would have said if any one had done that to her babies? The African baby does not stay in bed long; it has to begin life very soon, and is left to itself a great deal; for its mother goes back to her work before it is many days old, and the little mite is left on a mat on the floor, to kick and scream or laugh and crow just as it likes. If the mother goes out to work in the fields, the baby gets a little change,



BROTHER AND SISTER.

for it has to go with her, in case anything should happen to it while she was away; so she ties it to her back while she does her digging or whatever she has to do. I wonder

which is most uncomfortable, the mother or the baby? The mother, I expect, for I think it must make her back ache, unless African backs are much stronger than Canadian ones. One bad thing that happens to the baby because of this is that its legs generally get bent.

BIRDS.

The nightingale is a pretty little brown bird, which builds its nest near the ground, carefully hidden away among thick leaves. It generally sings at night, and that is the reason it is called nightingale. Its song is very beautiful. Sometimes they are caught and caged like the canary, so that people may hear their beautiful song.

The chimney swallow builds its nest in some deserted chimney. It builds the outside of mud or clay, and the inside is lined with soft grass or threads. As the weather gets cool here they fly to the south, where it is

warmer; for they are only summer friends, and do not like our cold winds and frosts and snows at all. They come back in spring.