CHILDREN'S CORNER.

KEEP STILL.

Some big folks forget that they once. were little, and want children to act just like men and women.

Little Robbie was sent into the country to his aunt once when his dear mamma was ill. Everybody was careful to see, his clothes, and his stout boots, and his warm stockings put into the big bag his papa was to take for him. But no one thought of Dick, his headless rocking-horse, of his drummer boy, cr his fife and trumpet, and they were far more to Robbie than all his clothes or shoes were.

This aunt's house was very neat; you could not find a speck of dirt in it, not a bit of paper, nor a chicken's feather on the lawn. No flowers were allowed in there except those which Aunt Phebe put up, stiff and straight, in her parlor

The dear little boy hunted round for a big stick to ride, in place of Dick, and having found one, galloped joyfully into the sitting-room to show his aunt what a horseman he was.

"O, Rob!" she cried out, "carry that old stick into the shed, and do keep

"That isn't a old stick." said Rob, in surprise. "That's a hoss, auntie!"

"I don't wonder your mother's sick," said auntie, "if you were so noisy all the time at home. You must keep still here, Rob, or you'll make me crazy."

So the good child put away "Dick," and got the big dinner bell, and went up stairs and down, and out on the piazza, which he called the deck, calling on the passengers to pay their fares.

"Now, Rob, you will craze me!" said his aunt, "Give me the bell, and sit down on the lowest step of the piazza and keep still."

So Rob folded his dear little hands on his lap; he fixed his eyes on the stepping-stone before the door, and drew a long sigh. After a little, he said, "O, auntie dear, I do pity stones

"Pity stones?" what for, Robbie?" "'Cause they have to keep so still all

their lives. I'm so glad I ain't a stone!" "There's no danger of your turning into a stone, Rob; you don't keep still long enough.

"O, dear, how stones must ache, keepin' still always. I ache now, just in this little speck of time. I'm glad I ain't a fence, nor a tree, nor a rag baby that can't move till somebody pulls you! O, auntie, my head aches, and my hands and feet are cold, and my eyes are crooked, keepin' still such a long time!"

"Your mouth is all right, little boy," said the lady. "That hasn't kept still at all."

Then grandma came in, and asked what was the matter; and Rob said, "I'm all hard. I've been sittin' such a

awful long time." "One minute," said Aunt Phebe. "O, auntie, its an hour, a awful long hour, and I'm all asleep but my head!

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Can't I get up I say?" "Yes," said grandma. "You may come up in my room and make a train of cars with the chairs,"

"Won't you be crazy, grandma;" "No, my dear, noise does not trouble me much. But it is a good plan for little boys to elearn to be still, so that they will not trouble those who are not well. To-morrow morning I wish you would fold your hands and sit still one minute, and again in the afternoon. We will call that your lesson in silence. By-and-by you can sit still two, three, and five minutes, to please those who do

not like a noise.' "Yes, grandma dear, I will; but I hope mamma will soon be well, I'm so from home) "does you hear? Yes; tired keeping still," said the dear little | me hear, all right." boy. - Watchman.

THREE SUNBEAMS.

BY SIGMA.

Three little sunbeams started out from behind a cloud one day to seek their fortunes. Playing along on their way, each thought of his future. Said

"I will seek the waves of some river or sea, and will spend my life in playing with the ripples, and frolicking with the fishes, and when I am weary and night comes on, I will go to sleep in the saffron heart of the water lilly. I will take light wherever I go, and all shall bless me. Happiness is the fortune I seek."

Another said— "I will be high, high up, where all shall climb to reach me. I shall fly to the peak of some lofty mountain top or I will grace the palace home of a king, and perhaps rest upon the coronet of gems worn by his beautiful queen. I will be admired. Poets shall sing mv beauty, and all shall speak of me. Fame

is the fortune I seek.' But the third sighed, saying nothing;

yet she thought sadly to herself-"Ah me! I am but a little beam of sunshine, what can I do? I too would love to play upon the ocean, or rest in the lilly bed, or light the home of a help me," said the mother, smiling. king; yet wherever I may go, I will, at least be content. I will love all things

and peace shall be my fortune." Down upon a bank of a beautiful river a group of merry children stoed with rods and lines. Happy little fish-

"How fortunate," thought a little sunbeam, "now I shall have joy indeed. But soon they complained of the sunlight.

"We can catch nothing here," said they, "let us go farther down, into the shade of the trees.'

A snowy winged sail-boat came gliding across the water. On it were seated two lovers. The lady's curls were like gold, her eyes bluer than the sparkling depths below.

"Ah, she will see me," said the sunbeam, dancing lightly from ripple to ripple, watching her reflection in the water, thinking nothing in the world could be more lovely than herself. But the fair lady raised her hands to her eyes, exclaming—

"How pleasant, were it not for the sunlight; let us hasten to the shade." And once more the sunbeam was left sorrowful and humiliated. She sank down, down, upon the hard rocky bed of the river. None loved to admire her; she was forsaken and despised; and she wished herself once more among the

clouds with her laughing sisters. In the luxurious apartment of a magnificent palace a little sunbeam had found its way, lightening up frescoed ceiling and gleaming marble. Soon the energetic voice of the houseke per is

"Annette, close the shutters and draw the curtains. It is strange that you are so careless; that sunlight will fade this crimson to white."

Poor little sunbeam, shut out to shine upon hard walk and rough pavement. But what of the one who said, "I will be content."

Up on the mountain side she had fount a bit of moss shivering in the cold and shadow.

"Let me warm you," whispered the sunbeam, sending a cheering ray into the heart of the moss, which lifted up its head and grew warm and happy all day. Darting on, she shone into a narrow alley where sunlight rarely found its way, and slipping in through a hole in a neat but tattered curtain, found herself —in a basin of soup and water. Not a poetical home for our little sunbeam.— Do you remember her motto?

Three little children were receiving their daily bath, for in this humble lodging neatness and order were not thought to be incompatible with poverty. But little sunbeam's wonderful arrival caused sudden suspension of operations.

Such shouts of joy as sounded within those attic walls I am sure had never been heard there before. Cries of "See, see, rainbows, Oh, look, quick!" And when an old pipe-stem had been procured and the bubbles began dancing and chasing each other about the room I think it safe to say that no happier children could have been found in that or any other city.

And it was only when exhausted by excess of happiness they had fallen into restful slumber, that sunbeam softly withdrew. And soon fading away in the arms of twilight, she thought of her brief life and the happiness she had given and said-

"Poor simple little sunbeam that I am: I have not only found my own fortune, but those of my sisters also. I have had love and admiration; and I am at peace with all the world, and am content."—Morning Star.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT !- "Give me a Bible, too," asked a dear little child of three, as she saw each one at family prayer with an open Bible.

Then, not heeding what others read she talked to Jesus in her own sweet baby way. "Jesus, bless Fannie!" (a sister away

After a moment-

"Jesus, bless the boys." Then as if hearing the answer, in a most confident tone, "All right, all right."

What a precious illustration of the child's trust which the Master loves and looks for in his true followers.

"This is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will be heareth us: and if we know that he heareth us whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him."-1 John v: 14-15.—Times of Refreshing.

How to be Useful.—I will tell you how a little child can be useful.

He can pick up a pin from the floor. He can play with his little sister. He can tell mamma when the baby

He can reach the stool that she may put her foot on it. He can hold the cotton when she

He can teach a little child his letters. And he can make his mother happy by being a good boy.—Presbyterian.

Do NOT WAIT .- "I wish I was a big woman to help you, mother, said a little

"Bring mother's thimble; that will Just as if God meant for little children to wait until they grow up before helping their parents! No, no! God gave them two nimble feet on purpose to take steps for mother, and eight fingers and two thumbs on purpose to

bring and carry for her.

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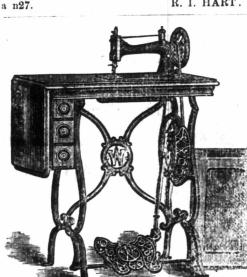
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