

a strong and united family. Like a band of soldiers—

"Your scattered forces now unite,  
For life's a battle-field;  
Together muster for the fight,  
Beneath one common shield."

To the same effect is the following fable, taken from the writings of Anianus, published in London as long ago as 1708:

"There was once upon a time a party of bulls that formed a league to keep and feed together, and to help one another in the event of their being attacked by a common enemy.

"If their enemy (the lion) could have met with any of them singly, he would easily have done his work; but so long as the bulls stuck to their confederacy, there was no chance of his dealing with them. Sad to relate, however, they fell to quarrelling at last among themselves. Of course, here was the lion's opportunity, and he was not slow in taking advantage of it, and with great ease he first killed and then ate the foolish bulls one after the other."

This fable shows us the advantage, the necessity, and the safety of being united; and that quarrelling and division bring ruin.

**The Lost Kitties.**

Partly because little Effie had not been very well lately, but chiefly because she was such a general favorite at the Chestnuts, her own dear comfortable home, it happened that her dolls were many in number and her set of tea things the prettiest that could be found.

When anybody came to see her mamma there was sure to be a nice little parcel ready for Effie, and the best of it was that all this kindness did not spoil her. She never seemed to think because she was made such a pet of, that she could do and say just what she liked. She knew very well that if people were to love her she must be a good girl.

As Effie grew older she found there were little troubles to put up with, and sometimes a disappointment tried her temper very much. Nothing, perhaps, made her so sorry as when her two kittens, Mopsie and Weetie, were lost.

Everything was all right, she was quite sure, when she went to bed the night before, for she had seen them safely in the basket in the kitchen, with the mother cat purring beside them, looking quite proud of the pussies. But next morning the bad news came.

"Oh, Miss Effie," said Jane, "I have been looking everywhere, and I can't find the kitties!"

Search was made, not without some very big tears making Effie's blue eyes misty; there was the empty basket, sure enough, and the cat mewing about in a very disconsolate manner, but no kittens.

"Mamma, oh mamma, what shall I do without my Mopsie and Weetie?"

"Cheer up, little woman; perhaps they will be found yet."

So Effie tried ever so hard to put a bright face on it and hope for the best.

Charlie, the greengrocer's boy, who used to come for orders every morning, was full of mischief, and not too particular what he did for fun.

We can be very cruel without meaning to be so.

So early that morning, while Jane had gone into the larder, leaving Charlie at the kitchen door, he caught sight of the basket, and in a moment, while the old-puss looked on with as-

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tonishment, he had put the little kitties into his big pockets.

And while Effie was crying over their loss at the Chestnuts, Charlie, still going his round in the neighborhood, was stroking the soft furry creatures and admiring their soft and tiny feet.

The milkman fortunately caught sight of him, and asked him where he got the kittens from. Charlie, nothing abashed, said they belonged to the Chestnuts, and he was only keeping them for a little fun, and would return them before the day was over. When the milkman rang the bell as usual, a few minutes afterwards, Effie ran to the door with Jane, for she liked this man.

"What's the matter, little missy, this morning?"

"Why I've lost my darling Mopsie and Weetie! And they did like your milk so, too!"

"Never mind; perhaps they shall have a drop more."

So saying, the kind man produced the missing kittens from inside his coat, and Effie, dancing with glee and thankfulness, kissed her pets again and again.

Then she carried them to the dining-room and poured out a special saucer of milk, which Mopsie and Weetie greatly enjoyed, watched by their happy mother and their loving mistress.

**Spring.**

If I were to ask which season you liked the best, I am sure the most hands would be held up for spring. Who does not love to see the buds swelling, and the green things under the hedges shooting up? Is not that something to make our hearts forget there ever was such a thing as winter?

We have no thought for anything but opening flowers and sunshine and brightness returning. Let us give a closer look at the hedges, long so bare and dry, and in some warm corner we shall catch sight of a little spray, quite green. We pluck it and carry it home in triumph, to show that it is no mistake. The spring really is coming. Did you ever think how long that little bit of green had been getting ready? We speak of the leaves "bursting," as if it were something sudden, but Nature does not do her work in a hurry like that.

Last summer, long before the leaves fell, the tiny germ of this year's leaf was formed. You might have seen it, if you had looked close enough. True, it got no more forward, it was like a babe asleep in its cradle; but its mother tree was at work all the while, drawing in nourishment from the ground preparing the sap to feed it, and the green to colour it, and making general provision for its future.

At last came some warm rain, and some sunshine, and these were all that were wanting to bring forth the infant leaf from its hiding-place. Their part was the finishing stroke, but all the rest had been going on long before, underneath, and out of sight. And this is what is always going on in Nature—preparation for something that is coming next. Not only in Nature; it is just a picture how God is always getting things ready for us in His Providence in our lives. He "prepared" a sacrifice for our sins (Hebrews x. 5). He "prepares" good and happy things for us, and for all who love Him now (1 Corinthians ii. 9). He "pre-

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Heaven for us at the last (Matthew xxv. 34).

—Grace has moments which never return; nothing is more uncertain than the return of holy impulses once rejected; a salvation deferred almost always fails; to begin to-day is to prudently assure one's self of success; yet sinners prefer the uncertain hope of a grace to come, to a present salvation offered to them.

—Emerson has said that the condition which high friendship demands is ability to do without it. The same may be said with regard to general society. He who is best able to use it and value it is also able to do without it.

- Wheat, white
- Wheat, sprin
- Wheat, red w
- Wheat, goose
- Barley .....
- Oats .....
- Peas .....
- Hay, timoth
- Hay, clover.
- Straw .....
- Straw, loose
- Rye .....

- Dressed hog
- Beef, fore...
- Beef, hind ..
- Mutton .....
- Lamb .....
- Veal .....
- Beef, sirloin
- Beef, round.
- Mutton, legs

- Butter, pour
- lb. ....
- Butter, tubs,
- Butter, farm
- Eggs, fresh,
- Chickens, s
- Turkeys, pe
- Ducks, per
- Geese, each.

- Potatoes, pe
- Carrots, per
- Onions, per
- Turnips, Sw
- Cabbage, per
- Celery, per
- Apples, per

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