

HAPPY DAYS

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MOSES AND AARON BEFORE PHARAOH.

And the Lord spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, Shew a miracle for you: then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and cast it before Pharaoh, and it shall become a serpent. And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the Lord had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh,

THE LITTLE QUEEN.

Elsie was five years old, so mamma gave her a birthday party, and invited four little neighbours. Brothers Jack and Will were invited too, of course, and the seven little folks had a very merry time.

Before they began the games auntie made Elsie sit in a big chair for a throne, put a gilt paper crown on her head, a gilt covered rod in her hand, and introduced her to her little friends as Queen Elsie.

DOES ANY ONE KNOW HIM?

Out of the street, after ringing a bell or two,
Into the house, with a rush and a yell or two,
Kitchenward, lured by some savoury smell or two—
Dinner inspires him with joy,
Off goes his hat, with a dexterous fling to it
Off goes the cat with a mischievous string to it;



MOSES AND AARON BEFORE PHARAOH

and before his servants, and it became a serpent. Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods. And he hardened Pharaoh's heart, that he hearkened not unto them; as the Lord had said.—Exodus 7. 8-13.

Katie, four years old, asks a favour of her father. He says: "By-and-bye." She waits a while and then says: "Papa, can't I have it on the front side of by-and-bye."

Will and Jack appeared with high paper caps on their heads, and toy swords over their shoulders, and stood beside Queen Elsie's throne—the big chair—and declared themselves her loyal knights. The other children came and bowed to her.

Elsie did not quite know what to make of it, for she was very shy. She liked it better after she stepped down from the throne, took off her crown, laid down her sceptre, and was plain Elsie Brown, playing games with her brothers and little friends.

Many a poor little real queen would be glad to be only just an ordinary little girl, free to run about and play just as you do.

Upstarts the baby because he will sing to it—
Any one know such a boy?

Wild with his comrades as any Comanche is; [he is
Rough as a steer on a far western ranch
Surely of mischief the root and the branch
he is,

Yet there's pure gold in alloy.
Tender and true at the heart's core though
small he is;

Brave and chivalric, whatever befall, he is;
Mother's own torment and blessing through
all he is—

Any one know such a boy?