essential of his take-life-as-you-find-it

When the first boy's boots, coat and waistcoat had been removed he stood in view of his fellows on a platform illuminated by a motley and heterogeneous array of oil lamps, he fulfilled the Major's prophecy and howled.

But the lecturer forthwith popped a nightgown over his head and hustled him into the hed awaiting him.

him into the bed awaiting him. Amazement strangled the howl at its birth.

"Now," said the lecturer, turning her pretty bright face on the abashed and giggling audience, "you will all, I am sure, be sorry to learn that this poor little boy in the bed has broken both arms and one leg; and has, moreover, got a great wide cut all down one side of his cheek."

"Oh, I say!" a girl in the front row blurted in an audible whisper. "If moth-er didn't always tell us Tommy Bastick

'ud come to no good."

Tommy Bastick sat up. His face was solemn. His round eyes were fixed like two notes of horror on the lecturer's face. But the lecturer, turning, fell up-on him forthwith. "Good gracious!" she cried, "you must not sit up with all those broken bones of yours!"

Whereat Tommy lay suddenly supine, and with a last despairing glance toward his mother in the second row gave himself up to his fate. The lecturer deftly changed the sheets and blankets of the sufferer's bed without disturbing any of his injured members, letting draughts blow upon him, or disclosing the fact that he was wearing corduroys beneath his bed-gown. Then she unrolled him out of one night-shirt and into another, by an expedient so simple yet so simple yet. by an expedient so simple yet so cunning that Tommy did not experience the slightest pain in any of his wounded limbs, nor, indeed, was he aware that the first garment had been removed be-fore the lecturer, smiling in his face, was buttoning the collar of the second underneath his chin.

After these mysteries of the sick toilette had been exemplified, Tommy was whipped out of the bed and bandaged.



"Led by the Major they Thundered Their Approval

One broken leg was bound to an um-brella, the other was slung to a hoopstick, an arm was splinted between folded newspapers, a wrist was "tourniqueted" by a catapult, while his head swathed neatly in an "Esmarch" was a picture to behold. The audience gazed with widening eyes. "Now who'd ever a'

thought things could be done so mortal easy, same as nobody wouldn't a' thought a person could have fresh sheets put on their bed without givin' 'em their death o' cold."

When, presently, Tommy bandaged and bound was laid in the centre of a blanket, and two broom-handles being roll-

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