

The things were put on, and they sat down in silence at the table, and presently the bird began to chirp at her, as it always had, to attract her attention. "To shame her husband" for having spoken so, she turned to the bird, "and for the first time in her life spoke to it in a most violent and angry tone." In less than five minutes "there was a fluttering in the cage." She sprang to the cage—"but the bird was dead."

When I was at New Orleans, winter before last, Mrs. Hendricks, the wife of the late vice-president of the United States, came there. And she said that she once killed a mocking bird in the same way. It annoyed her by loud singing. To stop it she spoke in a violent tone, and pretended to throw something at it, and within five minutes it was dead.—*Our Dumb Animals.*

#### Wanted—A Boy.

A jolly boy.  
A boy full of vim.  
A boy who is square.  
A boy who scorns a lie.  
A boy who hates deceit.  
A boy who despises slang.  
A boy who can say "No."  
A boy who is above-board.  
A boy who saves his pennies.  
A boy who will never smoke.  
A boy with shoes always black.  
A boy with some "stick to it."  
A boy who takes to the bath-tub.  
A boy who is proud of his big sister.  
A boy who has forgotten how to whine.  
A boy who thinks hard work no disgrace.  
A boy who does chores without grumbling.  
A boy who stands at the head of his class.  
A boy who believes that an education is worth while.  
A boy who is a stranger to the street-corners at night.  
A boy who plays with all his might—during playing-hours.  
A boy who listens not to unclean stories from anyone.  
A boy who thinks his mother above all mothers is the model.  
A boy who does not know more than all the rest of the house.  
A boy who does not think it inconsistent to mix playing and praying.  
A boy who does not wait to be called a second time in the morning.  
A boy whose absence from Sunday-school sets everybody wondering what has happened.

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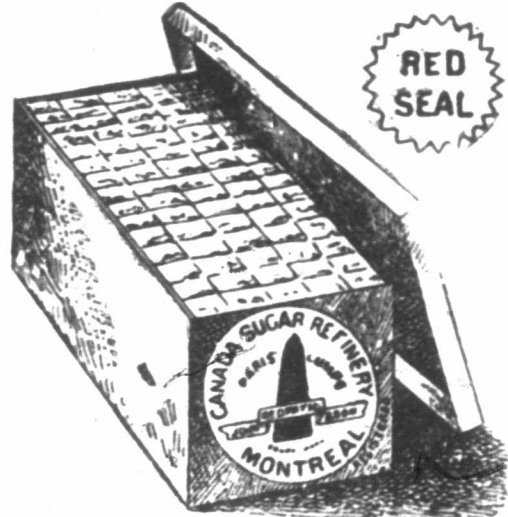
#### Found Faithful.

"Mamma, mamma, please come quick, and see here!" Eddie called softly, as if he was afraid he might spoil all the wonder if he made a noise. "Mamma, that dog has been taking care of the horse and everything all the time the man was in the store! Don't you think he must be a very wise dog?" "Yes, Eddie; I think he has come to teach you and me a lesson for Advent." "Oh, mamma! a dog?" "Yes, dear. We can learn many good lessons from the dumb animals. This dog's master gave him a work to do while he was away, and when he came back, he found him faithful and true. Doggy might have run off to play with other dogs." "Yes, I saw one little fellow come and look at him," said Eddie. "Or he might have gone to sleep. Now, our Great Master has given us each a work to do here on earth. By and by He will come again to see if we have done it well. We must try to be found faithful when Jesus comes. We must not grow idle or careless or sleepy; but try each day to be better and stronger." Just then the man held up his whip and said, "Drive on, Tip." Tip shook the reins, and the horse went on. Eddie clapped his hands with delight. But I think he will not forget the Advent lesson which Tip taught.—*Shepherd's Arms.*

—It is not the gift, but the giving, which is most precious and helpful. It is not the succor, but the sympathy and intelligence and gentle humanity with which it is offered, that cheers the very soul of the poor and the weary and the dying.

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