

# THE SUNBEAM

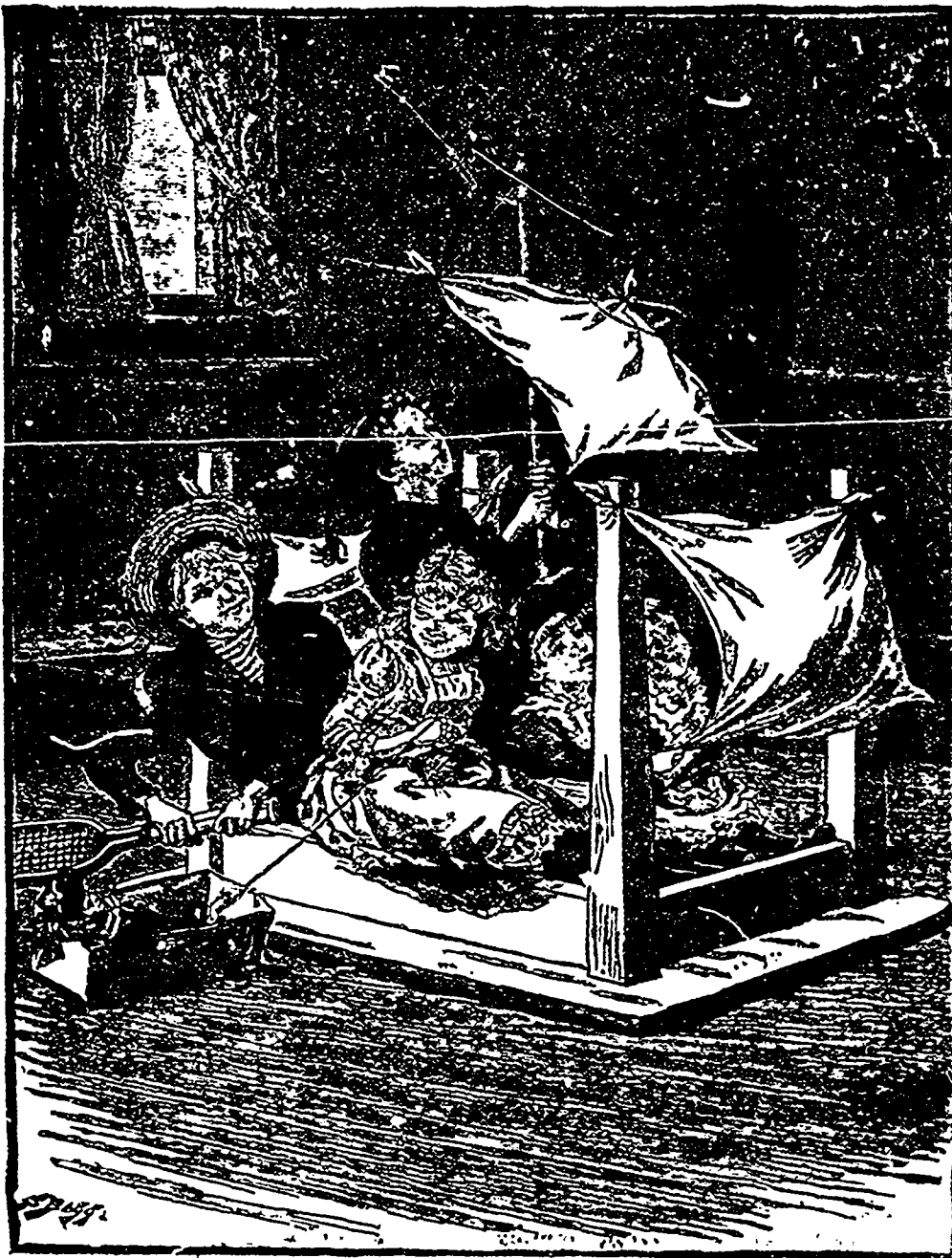
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## THE BOAT RIDE.

WHAT a jolly time these little folks seem to be having! They have made a boat of the table, and think they will take their playthings and go visiting. Their faces show that they are happy. You see they have used the legs of the table for a fore-mast and mizzen-mast, and with a pole and grandpa's cane they have made another for the main-mast, the cane answering for the main-top-mast. The boy with the cap on must be the captain, and he has undertaken to guide the ship safely across the great imaginary waters. The others must think him a safe captain, for they do not seem afraid that he will allow the ship to sink. Each one is satisfied with his part, and so they do not quarrel about who shall be captain, or who shall hold the rudder or who shall hold the rope which is fastened to dolly's little boat to bar her safely across. And because they are not selfish they are happy. If one of them should become selfish, in just a little while all the pleasure would be spoiled. Children, it is



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selfishness that makes so many unhappy people. Selfish people are not happy themselves, and they make others unhappy by their ways. When we try to make

others happy we make ourselves so, though unconsciously. Hear the merry little crew:

We've started for England;  
Our sails are all set,  
And all the conditions  
For voyaging are met.

We've main-sail and top-sail,  
A rudder and oar,  
A four-cornered vessel,  
And masts on all four.

A crew and a captain,  
Three passengers gay,  
And thus well appointed  
We will sail away.

The ship is quite crowded,  
Just room for our toes;  
No possible space is left  
For friends or for foes.

A little square dory  
We draw alongside,  
And baby within it  
Floats on with the tide.

So we're sailing away—  
May write you again  
When we reach the far port  
Across the wide main.