#### A BED-TIME SONG.

Sway to and fro in the twilight gray, This is the ferry for Shadow-town; It always sails at the end of the day, Just as the darkness is closing down.

Rest, little head, on my shoulder, so; A sleepy kiss is the only fare; Drifting away from the world we go, You and I in the rocking-chair.

See, when the fire-logs glow and spark, Glitter the lights of the shadowland; The winter rain on the window-hark! Are ripples lapping upon its strand.

There, where the mirror is glancing dim. A lake lies shimmering, cool and still Blossoms are waving above its brim-Those over there on the window-sill.

Rock slow, more slow, in the dusky light, Silently lower the anchor down. Dear little passenger, say "Good-night." We've reached the harbor of Shadowtown.

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# Thappy Days.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 22, 1904

## HOW TO KNOW A GOOD BOOK.

Books, like friends, either help to make us better or worse. We must read very carelessly, indeed, if what we read leaves no impression upon us. That is reading without receiving anything in return for the time we spend on it. To read a bad book is worse than not to read at all, because it leads us to bad thoughts and bad acts. A good book, like a good friend, helps us to think, speak, and act more nobly and with more edification and bene- her in little baby hands, admiring them

fit. We advise you to apply the following test to your reading.

A good book is one that leaves you further on than when you took it up. If, when you drop it, it drops you down in the same old spot with no finer outlook, no clearer vision, no stimulated desire for that which is better, it is in no sense a good book.

#### A PRETTY IDEA

Ray was four years old, and her mamma said she could give a party to all her little friends. She was a bright little girl, and after she and her little friends had played ring and eaten the party, and were thinking of playing ring again, she got them all quiet and said:

"There's a nice, 'ittle old lady in zis town and she's awful sick. My mamma took me visitin' yestay and I seen her my own sef. 'Taint far where she lives. Zis lady wants to see some'n awful putty, and she might get well zen. Ray glanced around and tossed back her yellow curls and added: "I wish she tould see some'n awful putty. I wish she tould see some'n putty on my bufday, 'deed I do."

"Cake is awful putty," said a little

girl guest. "'Tandy is awful putty, too," said a

little boy Ray shook her head. "She don't like zings to eat very much," she explained.

I dot & putty dolly," said Dodo. "I dot a putty basket," said Janie. "My toat is awful putty," said little

Willie Jones. "I dot awful putty ribbon at my neck," said Mamie.

" Mamma put my putty kilt suit on me

to-day," said Robbie. Then Ray glanced at her dainty feet.

"My slippers is awful putty, too," she said, ecstatically. "'Taint far from here where she lives. Let's ask mamma if we can't run down and show zat old lady all ze putty zings we got, sure 'nough. Then maybe she might get well."

"I dot my putty red ball wis me," said Fred.

"I dot my monkey man," screamed Tommy.

"Everybody has dot some'n putty, I dess," said Janie.

Mamma gave her permission for all the little girls and boys to go to see the old lady who was sick, provided they entered her room very quietly. This the little girls and boys promised to do, and mamma and nurse went along to take care of everybody.

The little old lady who was sick was just as pleased as she could be when the reason of the children's coming was explained to her; and she looked at each "awful putty" thing that was held out to

all, the slippers and the toat and the bo ful ribbons and the basket and the doll and everything. And she sank back among her pillows after examining the last the "awful putty things," and gave little laugh, and this is what she said:

" Well, well, I have seen a pretty

sight this day.

But as she spoke the words the little old hady was not thinking of the slipper or the doll or the ball or the basket or th ribbons or even of the toat; she was think ing of the pretty faces of the dear little children who wanted her to get well Janie was right when she said, "Every body has dot some'n putty, I dess."

### ASHAMED TO BE GOOD.

Little May Burnet was a very little girl But though the was "such a mite," as the all called her, she was old enough to know the difference between right and wrong "Mamma," she asked one day, "what is it to be a Christian?"

Mamma answered her as anothe mother told her little girk, "It is to live as Jesus would live, and behave as Jesu would behave, if he were a little child an lived at our house."

But May was not a Christian. Wh not? Certainly it was not because had not been told what it meant, for he good mother often talked with her, ar tried to teach her the right way, and often prayed with her. But May had a wicke little heart; she was a very contrary an wayward child. Her teacher had much trouble with her at school, and her parent were often grieved by her behavior home; her little cousins could not get alo with her, and she was avoided by all the children in the neighborhood.

Once she was very sick for a long time and when she was getting better she sai one day, " Mamma, I've half a mind begin school again good, only I'm kind a shamed to. They'll all laugh at me at say how I've changed, and I don't wai 'em to notice it."

"Why, May," said mamma, "I am su prised! Ashamed to be good, when ye have never thought of such a thing being ashamed of your naughty ways!

It was no wonder that mother was st prised. What do you think of it, lit reader? Which are you ashamed doing, wrong or right?

We heard of a young man the other d who became a Christian, and right aw went to all his friends to tell them t good news that he had begun to love Jes He was ashamed of his sin, but

ashamed of doing right.

"Ashamed of Jesus! that dear Friends On whom my hopes of heaven depend No; when I blush, be this my shame, That I no more revere his name."