

KINDNESS.

A LITTLE kindness may make a friend of a stranger. Whoever wants a friend may surely have one, for there is no one who cannot find some person who needs his help.

Be on the watch for opportunities. Perhaps you come into your own dear church and find some stranger there, waiting for a seat. Cannot you welcome him with a cordial smile, and ask him to sit with you? Or the stranger may be at school, a new scholar who does not know you or your ways. Speak kindly to him without delay; ask him to join your games, tell him how the lessons are recited and marked, introduce him to others.

And, again, at home, some shy visitors may come. Find out what they like, coax them to talk with you, and do not be discouraged if they are slow in responding. Shyness is not to be overcome all at once, but it will break down by and by, and your bashful acquaintance will become your merry playfellow, and very likely your warm friend.

How much good a little thought, a little

kindness, may do you cannot tell. But each of us touches other lives and influences them. Each town borders on other towns; each city is joined in fellowship with other cities. The world is one great neighborhood, and all its inhabitants are neighbors, and more than neighbors—brethren.

DON'T MENTION THE BRIERS.

I ONCE met a little fellow on the road carrying a basket of blackberries, and said to him, "Sammy, where did you get such berries?"

"Over there, sir, in the briers."

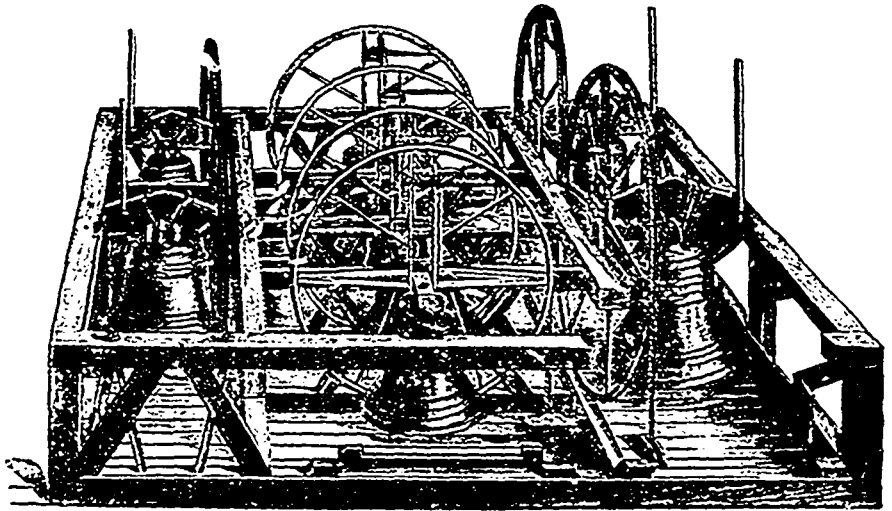
"Won't your mother be glad to see you come home with a basketful of such nice ripe fruit?"

"Yes, sir," said Sammy. "she always seems glad when I show her the berries, and I don't tell her anything about the briers in my feet."

I rode on. But Sammy's remarks had given me a lesson, and I resolved that, henceforth in my daily life, I would try to think of the berries, and say nothing about the briers.—Selected.

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