

WILLIE'S SUCCESS.

Two youths applied for a clerk's place. The older had some experience, and was a gentleman's son. The other was the only son of a poor widow. Though the elder lad came well recommended, the merchant decided in favour of the widow's son. Why was that?

The two youths came together at the hour appointed, and the merchant was on his own doorstep at the same time. Just then, a poor shivering child crossed the street, her foot slipped, and she fell into the half-melted snow. The elder boy laughed rudely at her while the water dripped from her thin, ragged clothes. The child began to cry bitterly, and searched for the four pennies she had lost.

Willie, the youngest boy, hastened to her side, and helped her to look for them. Three were found in the snow; the other was probably in the little puddle beside the curb stone. Willie bravely rolled up his coat sleeve and plunged his hand down to find the missing penny. After groping in the mud some time, he said, "I'm afraid it can't be found, little girl."

"Then I can't get the bread," sobbed the child, "and mother and the children will have no supper."

"There is a penny," said Willie, taking one from a little purse which contained but very few more; and then he washed his hand in the snow, and dried it on his handker-

chief. The other youth looked on with contempt, and said aloud, "It's plain enough you are a fool."

The gentleman had observed all, and scarcely asked the rude boy a question; but after some conversation with Willie, he said he would be willing to take him for a time on trial. At the end of his month of trial he had grown so much in favour that the engagement was renewed for a year.

Now, shall I tell you the secret of Willie's success? It was his kindness. The merchant knew that the lad who would be kind to a poor little ragged child must have good principles, and was likely to make a good clerk—and so it proved.—Children's Magazine.

OUR HAND IS CHRIST'S.

A little girl lay near death; she had been brought low by a sad and painful disease. Not long before, her step had been as light, and her heart as joyous and gay, as any of her companions; but her body was racked with pain; the icy hand of death had touched her, and she was about to go into eternity.

"Does my little one feel sad at the thought of death?" asked her father, as he watched the look of pain on her face.

"No, dear papa," said she, smiling; "my hand is all the while in the hand of Jesus, and he will not let it go."

Precious faith! "Jesus will not let it go." He loveth his own, and will not leave them. No power can pluck them out of his hand.

Dear reader, does Jesus hold you by the hand? If he does not, it is only because you refuse to trust Him.

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