

SOMEBODY ELSE MIGHT.

A lady was walking quietly along a city street not long ago, when a door flew open, and a boy shot out with a whoop like a wild Indian. Once on the pavement he danced a sort of double-shuffle all around the curbstone, and then raced the streets in great haste, for it was evident from the books under his arm that he was going to school. She was thinking what thoughtless, noisy creatures healthy boys are, when just before her she saw something yellow lying on the stones. Coming nearer, she fancied it a pine shaving and looked after the boy again. She saw him suddenly stop short in a crowd of people at a crossing and come back as fast as he had gone, so that just before she reached the shaving, he dived and picked up, not a shaving at all, but a long slimy banana skin. Flinging it into a refuse barrel, he only waited long enough to say, "Somebody might have slipped on it," and was off again.

It was a little thing to do, but that one glance of the boy's clear gray eyes made the lady's heart warm toward the noisy fellow. He had not slipped himself; he was far past the danger; and when one is in a hurry, it is a bother to go over the same ground twice; but the "somebody else" might slip. And so, for the sake of this unknown somebody, the hurrying boy came back, and it may be saved the life or limb of a feeble old man or a tender young child.

PUT SOME SALT IN IT.

"Mother, what makes you put salt in everything you cook? Everything you make, you put in a little salt." So spoke observing little Annie, as she stood looking on.

"Well, Annie, I'll make you a little loaf of bread without any salt, and see if you can find it out."

"Oh, mother! it doesn't taste a bit nice," said she, after she tasted the bread.

"Why not?" asked her mother.

"You didn't put any salt in it."

"Mother," said Annie a day or two afterward, "Jane Wells is the worst girl I ever saw: she slaps her little

brother Johnny, and pulls his hair, and acts really hateful. When I told her it was naughty to do so, she only spoke roughly to me, and hit again. Why won't she take my advice mother?" Perhaps you didn't put any salt in it. Season your words with grace, my child. Ask help of God in all you say and do, and your words, spoken in the spirit of Christ, will not fall to the ground. Don't forget to put salt in, or else it won't taste good."

NOW IS THE TIME.

"Not Yet," said a little boy, as he was busy with his trap and ball; "when I grow older then I will think about my soul."

The little boy grew to be a young man.

"Not yet," said the young man. "I am about to enter into trade. When I see my business prosper then I shall have more time than now."

And so he went on, saying, "Not yet"—putting off to some future time that which should have been first in his thoughts—until he was a grey-haired old man. He lived without God and died without any hope whatever.

OBEYING OUR GUIDE.

I went up a great mountain recently, 10,000 feet high. On my way there was pointed out to me a place where a friend of mine met with a severe accident a few years ago. My guide had also been his.

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"How did it happen?" said I. The reply was: "He did not obey his guide. He would go by a way against which I warned him."

Even so, thought I, must we obey our heavenly Guide, if we would journey safely. Faith is implicit reliance, and this implies unquestioning obedience. We must go only where our Saviour leads us. We are sure to stumble if we leave His side.

THE SOURCE OF ENJOYMENT.

Now let me tell you a secret—a secret worth knowing. This looking for enjoyment does not pay. From what I know of it I would as soon chase butterflies for a living, or bottle moonshine for cloudy nights. The only true way to be happy is to take the drops of happiness as God gives them to us every day of our lives. The boy must learn to be happy while he is plodding over his lessons; the apprentice while he is learning his trade; the merchant, while he is making his fortune. If he fails to learn this art he will be sure to miss his enjoyment when he gains what he sighed for.

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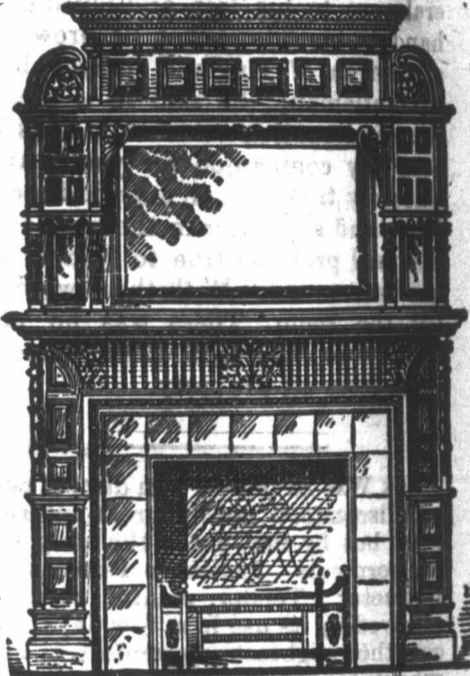
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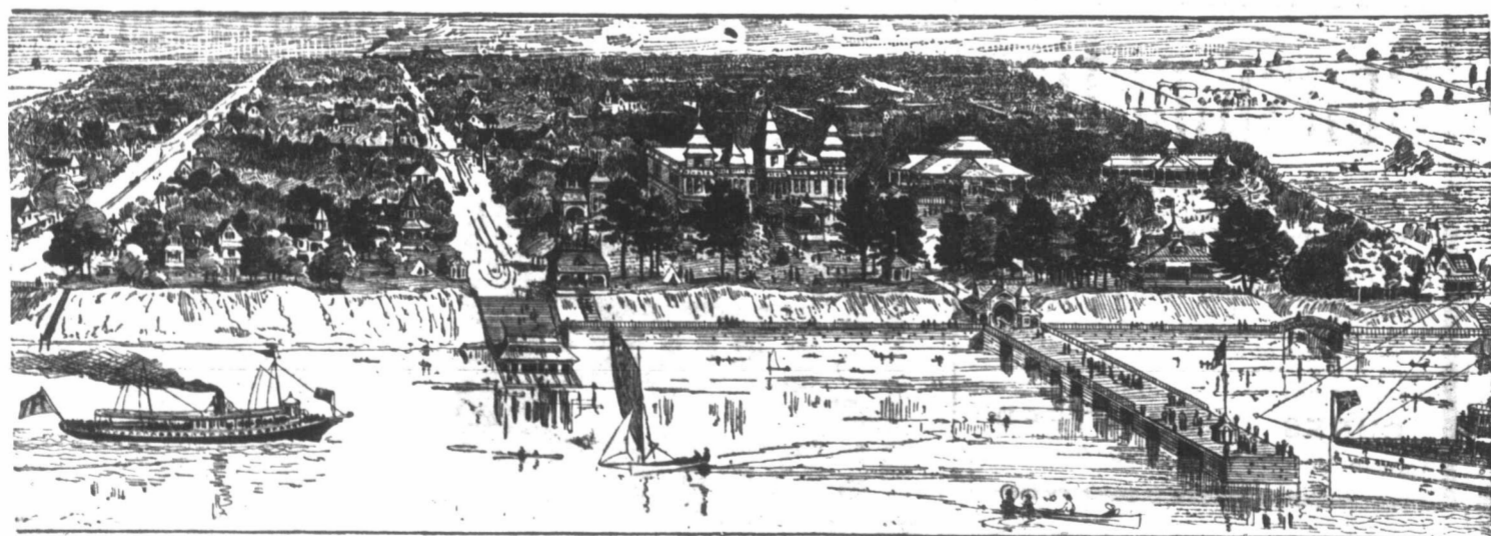
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