

with this young lady at this hour of the day?

'O Uncle Ted!' shouted Dick, throwing himself at that person. 'I was almost lost. I didn't know sure what car to take, and we've been here hours, and Goody is afraid her mother'll be scared, and it's been horrid all round.'

'Young man, it's always horrid in the end to do what isn't right, and you two young ones probably ran off by yourselves this afternoon, and now you're paying for it. But come along with me, and I'll see this time if I can set you right again.'

Little Mr. By-and-By.

Little Mr. By-and-By,
You will mark him by his cry,
And the way he loiters when
Called again and yet again.
Glum if he must leave his play
Though all time be holiday.

Little Mr. By-and-by,
Eyes cast down and mouth awry!
In the mountains of the moon
He is known as Pretty Soon;
And he's cousin to Don't Care.
As no doubt you're well aware.

Little Mr. By-and-By
Always has a fretful 'Why?'
When he's asked to come or go;
Like his sister—Susan Slow.
Hope we'll never—you nor I—
Be like Mr. By-and-By.

—Clinton Scollard, in 'St. Nicholas.'

Bobby and the Little Dresden Maid.

They travelled thousands of miles, each of them, to meet in a New England dining room.

Bobby came from Africa, in company with three hundred of his feathered relatives and friends, spending many dreary weeks of homesickness and seasickness on a sailing vessel. But he was a baby when he came away, and it is not likely he remembered anything about his home among the cocoanut and palm trees. However, sometimes when he has been naughty enough to be punished he grumbles to himself in a low unintelligible jargon, which Aunt Maria declares to be his original African language.

He is not often naughty, but is, as a rule, a jolly, happy, little

chatterbox, making fun for the family from morning till night. He begins his chatter early in the morning, as soon as any one enters the dining room. 'Good morning! Haven't you had your breakfast?' 'Why, good morning, Bobby! Haven't you had your breakfast?'

'No,' he replies, promptly and gruffly, in a deep bass voice. But when his seed cup is filled, he says, 'Thank you! Thank you!' in a high, shrill tone of delight.

He dresses in a coat of gray feathers, with coat tails of brilliant red, is very pretty and loves to be admired. He is friendly with all the family, calling each one by name, and never makes a mistake.

'Molly! Molly!' he cries in a voice so like Aunt Maria's that Molly rushes in replying, 'Yes, mamma, here I am,' only to be greeted by a laugh from Bobby. Aunt Maria is quite as likely to be cheated and to think that Molly or Uncle Jim called her.

When Mistress Fluff enters the room, crying 'Meow,' Bobby instantly remarks, 'Hello, Kits, what's the matter? What you want?'

But if poor old Bruce, the dog, dares to show the tip of his nose inside the dining room door, he receives orders, 'Go out and lie down!' And many a time he is awakened from a comfortable nap under the chestnut tree by a shrill whistle and a call, 'Come, Bruce!' Thinking his master has come home, he gives himself a shake and bounds across the yard to find no one, and to hear the derisive laughter from Bobby's cage.

The Little Dresden Maid did not arrive until many years after Bobby had become a member of the household. She came home from Germany and took up her abode on a corner of the dining room mantel. She came in the evening after Bobby had been carefully covered for the night with a gay patchwork cover. In the morning, after he had eaten his breakfast, he took his usual morning walk, up one side of the cage, across the perch, up and down, across and over again, finally stopping in the highest perch. And then his bright round eyes caught a glimpse of something new on the corner of the shelf, almost touching the wires of his house. He sidled

up to that corner of the cage, cocked his head on one side, and looked long and lovingly.

'How-d'ye-do! Glad to see you!' said Bobby. 'Come and take a walk, dear!'

This meant that he wanted to have the door of his cage opened. Then out he walked, climbed up near the Little Dresden Maid, and resumed his conversation.

Every day since the Little Dresden Maid became Bobby's neighbor she has received a call from him. She stands and smiles and looks so pretty, while he chatters in his sweetest tones!

'How d'ye do? Glad to see you! Don't you love me? You're a darling. Haven't you had your breakfast?'

But when he is heard to say 'Shake hands,' to the Little Dresden Maid, some one goes to the rescue for fear a sudden clutch of his strong claw might pull the tiny figure off and shatter not only the china image, but a very pretty friendship.—'Tribune.'

'Little Boys Make Men.'

Some people laugh and wonder
What little boys can do
To help the missionary thunder
Roll all the big world through.
I'd have them look behind them,
When they were small, and then
I'd like just to remind them
That little boys make men.

The bud becomes a flower;
The acorn grows a tree;
The minutes make the hour,—
'Tis just the same with me.
I'm small, but I'm growing
As quickly as I can,
And a missionary boy like me
Is bound to make a missionary
man.—Exchange.

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