

"Back of the wheat is the snowy flour,
Back of the flour the mill,
Back of the mill is the wind and the shower,
The sun and the Father's will."

When the oven is hot, the child must bring his cake. Does he not want to yet? Then the oven will cool and will not bake it.

Let him choose which he will do. If he choose to wait his own time, one experience will probably be enough.

The unwise mother might either urge, or keep the oven hot; but this would not as truly help the child to live with others as to let him learn the lesson that he must not only do his part in life, but do it at the right time.



The Story of A Lin

By Dr. Jessie A. McBean

A Lin, a little Chinese boy, came to our hospital nearly three years ago. He was not able to walk—one foot was very badly diseased. He had never seen a foreigner before, and was terrified when I examined his foot, and when I said he would have to stay in the hospital and have his foot operated on, he cried for a whole day. His father stayed with him overnight, but because they were very poor, he could not stay longer and had to go home and work or the rest of the family would not have anything to eat. A Lin was very lonely and sad for a few days, but Dr. Ue, the Chinese doctor, was very kind to him, gave him books to look at, nice things to eat, and told him about Jesus, and he gradually became happy.

We operated on his foot, and every day when we did the dressings, poor little A Lin had a hard time. He was afraid of the pain and would cry and kick us and beat us with his hands. You see he had never been taught to be a good or obedient boy. I wish you could have seen him when Dr. Ue was talking with him, and telling him boys and girls had to learn to be brave and good. He would open his eyes wide and look at her and say: "Yes, do you really mean that?"

A Lin's father used to come to see him every few weeks, then every few months, and then for a whole year, he did not come. A short time ago, we heard he was dead.

A Lin had to have many operations on his foot, but now he is able to walk quite well, and is attending our boys' school. Miss Reid and Miss Dulmage of our mission are giving the money to keep him at school. We hope by and by he will be able to do some work and earn money enough to keep himself.

Shortly after he came to us, Dr. Ue began to teach him to read and to sing. He learned very quickly, and would lie in bed and sing so happily. He loved the Bible stories Dr. Ue told him, and soon came to know and love Jesus. When his father visited him, he would tell him about Jesus, and urge him not to worship idols, but the true God. He talked with the other patients about Jesus.

A Lin is getting to be a big boy now, and is sometimes not as good as we would like to see him. But when I think of the poor naughty little boy with no one to take care for him, who came to us three years ago, and see now a big, strong school boy, who will, I hope, make a good man, my heart is full of joy. A Lin has no home now, but the one with us that you boys and girls are helping to give him. Are you not glad that you were able to help this poor sick boy? Please pray that he may grow to be a good man.

Kongmoon, South China



I'll Tie Your Shoestrings

"It is hard work for you to get down to do that, mother; let me tie your shoestrings for you."

The little fellow dropped on his knees at his mother's feet and patiently tied the strings for her, chatting all the time as he worked. It was not easy for him. His fingers were not used to it and went about their task clumsily; but the heart was in the work, and mother knew it.

"Thank you, my little man. It seems good to have a boy that can do such things for me, and that is willing to do them."

It did not matter to that mother that the strings soon came loose and had to be tied by her own more deft fingers. That was not a difficult task after she had proven the love of her boy, for it was the spirit, and not really the work, that counted.