

CHILD'S PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN

By Dr. A. E. McDonald
My Mother! Mother!
Dance to me a little child
O'er the hills and valleys...

THE BULLY OF THE VILLAGE

TOM TEMPLE'S CAREER

By Horatio Alger, Jr.
Author of "Only an Irish Boy," etc.

CHAPTER VII.

A ROW AND A RESCUE.

What shall we do this afternoon?

asked James, as they rose from the dinner-table.

"Suppose we go out rowing?"

said Edwin.

"I should like that," said Tom.

"Can you row?" asked James.

"I can keep up my side of the boat,"

said Tom.

"Very well, we'll go, then,"

said James. "Come along, fellows."

Half a mile from the lawyer's house

was a river, narrow but with a swift

current. Thither the boys directed

their steps. Under a tree a round-

bottomed boat of fair size was

packed.

"The boat belongs to me,"

said James, complacently. "It was a

birthday present."

"It looks like a good one. Let us

get in," said Tom.

They unlocked the boat and pushed

off.

"You can steer," said James, "and

Edwin and I will row."

"Just as you please," said Tom.

"You own the boat."

He would have preferred to row,

but was willing to wait till one of

the boys got tired, and yielded the

oar.

He seated himself therefore in the

end of the boat, and steered.

"I am not used to the river, said

Tom, and you must tell me if I steer

wrong."

They had the current in their favor,

and the boat went merrily onward,

easily impelled by the two boys, who

were evidently pleased with their

speed.

"It'll be rather different rowing

back," said Tom.

"Oh, we can manage it," said James,

with an air of consequence. "We are

used to rowing."

"The current will be against you."

"We can manage," said James, con-

fidently.

A little later they were started by

a load smeller. A boy of six had

tumbled into the river while playing

on the bank, and though it was

shallow, and though it was

Tom was the first to perceive his

danger of drowning.

"Down to the shore, quick," he

shouted. "A boy is drowning."

He turned the rudder, and James

and his cousin mechanically obeyed.

Tom reached over and grasped the

urchin by his arm, and deposited him

in the bottom of the boat.

It was a young Irish boy, dirty-

faced and in rags, and dripping, of

course, from his recent immersion.

James surveyed him with evident

disgust.

"The dirty brat will wet the boat,

and make it unfit for us to stay in,"

he said.

"Do you want me to pitch him into

the water again?" asked Tom, coolly.

"No," said James, slowly. "Of course

I don't want him to drown, but I don't

enjoy taking in one of the lower order

as a passenger. We had better put

him on shore."

"So I think," said Edwin. "The little

beggar will be better off there."

"I don't think so," said Tom. "Do

you see how the little chap is shiver-

ing. He'll catch his death of

cold if he doesn't change his clothes

soon. What is your name, my little

boy?"

"Jimmy Grady," said the boy, with

his teeth chattering. "He got your

his command. There was something

in our hero's look when he was

around that showed he was not to

be trifled with. James thought of his

encounter the day before, and he was

no means sure that Tom would not

carry out his threat.

"Will you do it or not?" demanded

Tom.

"If you're so very anxious, I'll do it,"

said James, backing down. "You

make more fuss about the little chap

than he deserves."

"His life is worth as much to him as

ours to us," said Tom, resuming his

seat. "When I have restored him to

his home, I will go up or down, as you

choose, and I will have restored him to

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choose, and I will have restored him to

that my son was instrumental in pre-

serving the life of a fellow-being."

Mary and Tom contested their con-

versation, while Imogene grew more

excited with her cousin, till she had

the ill-breeding to say, in an ill-temper-

ed tone, "Will you do it or not?"

demanded Tom.

"If you're so very anxious, I'll do it,"

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