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VOLUME IV.]

TORONTO, JUNE 22, 1889.

[No. 13.

THE SHEEP-WASHING.

HORATIUS B. HASTINGS.

WHEN I was about ten years old I spent several months with some friends in Connecticut who kept a flock of sheep, and I became very much interested in them.

I had been told that every spring, as the warm weather came on, the thick, soft covering of wool which had kept the sheep warm during the winter, was taken off and sold to be made into clothing for boys and girls; but that the wool was so dirty after being worn all winter by the sheep, that it must be waahed before it could be used: and it was so much essier to wash it before it was taken off the sheep than after, that the farmers generally took them to a stream or pond, and washed them before shearing.

So when I heard that they were going to "wash the sheep," I asked eagerly if I couldn't help.

"Ob, yes, I guess so," said Uncle Francis.

So I put on some old clothes and went out to the barnyard, where the sheep were crowded together and bleating loudly. They

were to be washed in a pond near; so we drove them down the road till we came to the bars opening into the pasture which bordered on the pond. I ran ahead and let down the bars, and the sheep jumped over them into the pasture. Then we went

through the pasture and into the woods on the other side, until we came to the sheeppen on the banks of the pond.

This pen was large enough to hold the entire flock, but not large enough to give them much room to run around in; and the

fence which surrounded it ran down into the water, lest the sheep should try to escape; for, like some boys, they did not much like to be washed.

There was one sheep that had always been a pet; and when, after several others had been washed, they came to "Billy," as he was called, I begged leave to help.

So Uncle Francis took hold of Billy's fleece on one side and I took hold on the other, and we went down into the water with Billy between us. He struggled a little, but we held him firmly, rubbed his fleece and squeezed out the dirty water; and when we let him go he was the cleanest sheep in the flock.

A little while afterward the sheep were sheared. It was a warm summer day, and I thought the sheep must be glad to get rid of such a load of wool. While the wool was being cut off they remained very quiet, not making any noise until they were sheared, when they ran, bleating, about the yard.

As little thieves, being let in at a window, will

set open gates for greater thieves to come in at, even so, if we accustom ourselves to commit little sins, and let them reign in us, they will make us the fitter for greater offences to get the advantage of us, and to take hold on us.

MAMMA'S RETURN.

THREE little waiting children, Eagerly watching the door; Harry and Charlie and baby Hazel eyes two, blue eyes four.

Three little noisy children, Roguish and full of play; At every scand—" Hush! listen! Isn't somebody coming this way?"

"I do believe that is mamma!" " No, it's only the umbrella man!" "I don't believe she's ever coming: She'll stay just as long as she can!"

A sound of steps on the pathway, And eagerly rush all three; "It's mamma! It's mamma! Come, Charlie, Come baby, come Harry, let's see!"

"O mamma, we're so glad to see you! We're tired as we can be! We love you a thousand millions! Anything in that bundle for me?"

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HAPPY DAYS.

TORONTO, JUNE 22, 1889.

ENOUGH FOR ME.

WHAT do you do without a mother to tell all your troubles to?" asked a child who had a mother of one who had not; her mother was dead.

"Mother told me whom to go to before she died," answered the little orphan; "I go to the Lord Jesus; he was my mother's friend, and he's mine."

"Jesus Christ is up in the sky; he is away off, and has a great many things to attend to in heaven. It is not likely he can stop to mind you."

"I do not know anything about that," said the orphan; "all I know is, 'he possible worlds.'"

says he will, and that's enough for me." What a beautiful answer was that. And what was enough for this child, is enough for us all.

Are you tired of carrying about the heavy load of sin? "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." But I am not worthy of his forgiving love. Never mind that. "He says he will, and that's enough for me." Take the Lord Jesus Christ at his word, for the forgiveness of our sine, and for peace to our "My peace I give unto you," he says. Will he? Oh! his peace is very precious. Will he give us his peace? "He says he will, and that's enough for me." Trust him, his word never fails.

OILING UP.

THE best supplement of religion is common sense. After having resolved to fulfil the highest possibilities of our nature, the wisest course lies in attempting to reach the mental and physical conditions which render noble living possible.

A serene old lady, whose daily living was like noble music, was once asked by a moody young girl how she could exercise self-command without one apparent failure.

"My dear," said she, "the first secret of decent living is in the help and support we receive from above; the second lies in taking care of ourselves. When I find I am more than usually sensitive to the worries of life, I take half an hour alone and read a pleasant book, or even take a nap. If the 'chariotwheels jar in the gates,' I say to myself: 'Come, come, Martha! We must stop to oil up." When I was a girl I had a quarrel with my best friend, and all because I had been up half the night before, and didn't know enough to take a nap before finding fault with her!"

" But I should grow selfish if I watched my moods in that way," said her little friend, discouraged.

"O bless you, it must be done with discretion! Regard your mind and body as delicate and complicated machines which must be kept in order. You wouldn't expect your watch to keep time if a breadcrumb had lodged anong the wheels; why should you demand gentleness and patience of this human mechanism if you don't exert yourself to see that it is kept in repair? I once had a fit of the deepest indigo blues, which yielded to an orange, eaten in a bright little room. The orange was so sweet, and the sunlight so dazzling, that I couldn't resist the conviction gradually stealing in on me that this is ind . the 'best of all JENNIE AND HER BROTHERS.

JENNIE had been to Mrs. Jones' with a message for mamma. She liked to go to Mrs. Jones', for she was such a kind, A motherly woman.

After Jennie had delivered the message, Mrs. Jones said: "Wait a minute, Jennie. Do you like cherries?" All the while she was filling a dainty little basket, which, when filled, she handed to the little girl, saying as she did so, "There, when it is emptied, bring it back and you shall have some more."

Jennie's eyes glistened as she thanked her kind friend. Such a treat, and all her own, too! She would go into the summerhouse at the end of the garden and have a feast all by herself. Her mouth fairly watered for a taste of them; and yet they looked so beautiful and waxy as they lay in the basket, with here and there a green leaf peeping out, that she hated to disturb them. And then something else came into her mind. Wouldn't Tommy and Joe like Tommy and Joe were to have some? Jennie's brothers.

"But, they are mine," argued Jennie to herself; "Mrs. Jones gave them to me Besides, there will be such a few when they are divided, and Tommy and Joe will never know."

As if to refute such an insinuation, who should arrive upon the scene but these same

"Hallo! Jennie, what you got in the basket; cherries?"

Jennie walked straight ahead and pretended not to hear. "Do unto others as you would that they should do to you," said something inside. "Supposing Tommy and Joe had cherries, would they treat you so meanly?" Jennie knew that they would not, and even if they would, that was no excuse for her.

She wheeled about and said: "Yes, cherries; come, we will show them to mamma first-they look so pretty-and tell her what Mrs. Jones said, and then we will go into the summer-house and divide them."

Mamma admired and tasted, and then Jennie divided them into four piles, one for each of them and one for Mary Ann. Mary Ann was the cook. They tied them together in bunches. When they gave Mary Ann hers, "Bless your hearts," she said. "to think of me; wait till I give you each a cookie to eat with them."

Then they went back to the summerhouse and had a little picnic, and Jennie always believed in the golden rule after that

KATIE'S PART.

"What have you done, dear children,"
.The mother gently said,

As she kissed her white-robed babes at night,

And tucked them up in bed—
"What have you done through all this day
To help some one along the way?"

Then each one told of some kind deed—
A loving word just speken,
Some sacrifice for other's wants,
Or gift of friendly token.
But when 'twas Katie's turn to speak,
A tear-drop glistened on her cheek.

"I cannot think of anything
So very good to-day,"
She sadiy said; "only I helped

A chicken find its way
Back to its mother—that was all.
But it was lost, and ob, so small!

"Twas naughty when it ran away;
But dear mamma, I know
It felt so sorry, for it tried
The right way back to go.
You told us once we ought to seek
To save the lost ones and the weak.

"The little chicken looked distressed,
And how it cried, poor thing!
It was so glad to cuddle up
Under its mother's wing.
And I was happy when I found
"Twas there with her all safe and sound."

The children hid their smiles beneath
The bed's white coverlet;
But the mother kissed her Katie
Just where the cheek was wet.
"Your part," she said, "you too have done;
God is well pleased, my little one."

THE LOST BOYS.

HARFIE and Percy were two little boys that lived in a large city just across the river from New York. Can you tell its name?

Though only five and three years old, they sometimes did very strange things, and once gave their mother a great fright.

After breakfast one morning, they were playing on the wide stone walk in front of their house, but they kept getting a little farther off, first to see this sight and then that, until they were many blocks away.

Their mother was so busy in the house she did not miss them until about ten o'clock, when she looked all over the large house, and called up and down the street, but she could not find them. She then went to the police station, and told the man

in charge, of her missing boys, their ages, and how they were dressed.

But though many of the men with brass buttons and clubs were hunting for the little runaways—eleven, twelve, one, two, three, four and five o'cleck went vy, and they could learn nothing about them. The father, and mother, and brothers, and sisters were almost wild with fears. What if some gypsies had carried them off, or they had been stolen, like little Charlie Ross, or they had gone to the river, and were drowned! But I cannot tell you how very badly they felt, and the many fears they had during this long, and day, that seemed like weeks or even months to them, it was so awful.

About five o'clock, as the mother stopped walking the floor and went to look out of the window, who should she see coming up the steps, whistling as happy as could be, but little Harfie.

"But where is dear little brother?" asked the mother, as she clasped Harfie in her arms.

"I don't know, mamma; I havn't seen him this good while; he wouldn't come with me. But I'll find him if you don't cry so," said Harfie, for the first time thinking something very bad had been done.

The mother and Harfie started at once, and as he led the way through street after street, and alley after alley, the mother felt sure she would never find her baby boy. At last they met a stout, bustling Irishwoman, who said, "Indade, ma'am, have you lost a boy? I met one not long since, crying like his heart would break, but I couldn't git him to come in, the poor little dear!"

"Here's where we played all day, mamma," said Harfie, stopping in front of a long, dingy-looking feedstore, "and I left him here." But the mother learned of the clerk that he had been gone some two hours, going from there towards the river.

"Oh—h!" thought the mother, as she stood looking at the blue river, "if my baby is drowned!" Just then a dirty, ragged little boy stepped up to her, and said, "Pat and Mike has just gone to the station with a boy they found, it's right down this street four blocks, ma'am."

You cannot know how happy these words made the mother feel, and how good this dirty, ragged little boy looked to her, and after giving him some pennies, and thanking him, she went as fast as she could to the station. But they had just sent him home in charge of the boys who found him.

house, and called up and down the street, but she could not find them. She then and his mother reached Lome, but they went to the police station, and told the man could see a crowd of boys around the steps,

and hear them quarrel over the reward for a half block away.

"Here's your boy, ma'am. I found him!" came from some twenty boys at once.

But the first thing the mother did was to take little Percy in her arms and kiss him; then she gave Pat and Mike each a dollar, and all the boys went off. You never saw such tired, dirty little fellows in all your life as the mother bathed and put to bed that night, and as they saw how pale she looked, and heard her cry as she held and kissed them, and told them how sad she had been all day, they said, "Don't cry so, mamma; we won't never do so any more."

And I am glad to tell you they never

CHILDHOOD'S DREAM.

ROSEBUD lay in her trundl--bed,
With her small hands folded above her
head.

And fixed her innocent eyes on me, While a thoughtful shadow came over their glee.

"Mamma," said she, "when I go to sleep,
I pray to the Father my soul to keep;
And he comes and carries it far away
To the beautiful home where his angels

I gather red roses and lilies so white;
I sing with the angels all through the long

And when, in the morning, I awake from my sleep,

He gives back the soul I gave him to keep, And I only remember, like beautiful dreams,

The garlands of lilies, the wonderful streams."

BOYS AND GIRLS, SIT ERECT.

One of the worst habits young people form is that of leaning forward too much while at work or study. It is much less tiresome and more healthy to sit or stand erect. The round-shouldered, hollow-chested, and almost deformed persons one meets every day could have avoided all the bad results from which they now suffer had they always kept the body erect, the chest full, and the shoulders thrown back. A simple rule is, that if the head is not thrown forward, but is held erect, the shoulders will drop back to their natural position, giving the lungs full play. The injury done by carelessness in this respect is by compressing the lnugs, preventing their full and natural action, resulting in lung diseases, usually consumption. Sit erect, boys and girls, and look the world in the face.



Quou!

PLEA FOR THE CHILDREN.

WE plead for the little children, who have opened their baby eyes

In the far-off lands of darkness where the shadow of death yet lies:

But not to be nurtured for heaven, not to be taught in the way.

Not to be watched o'er and guided, lest their tiny feet should stray.

Ah, no! It is idol worship their stammering lips are taught;

To cruel, false gods only are their gifts and offerings brought.

And what can we children offer, who dwell in this Christian land?

Is there no work for the Master in reach of each little hand?

O surely a hundred tapers which even small fingers can clasp

May lighten as much of the darkness as a lamp in a stronger grasp;

And then, as the line grows longer, so many tapers, though small,

May kindle a brighter shining than a lamp would, after all.

Small hands may gather rich treasure, and even infant lips can pray;

Employ, then, the little fingers—let the children learn the way.

So the light shall be quicker kindled, and the darkness the sooner shall flee;

Many "little ones" learn of the Saviour both here and "far over the sea."

OUCH!

CARLO has got more than he bargained for. He finds what comes of meddling with what does not belong to him. He has been trying a basket full of lobsters, and has got his toes pinched for his pains. I wonder if little folks ever do that sort of thing.

THE PANSY.

THERE is a fable told about a king's garden, in which all at once, the trees and flowers began to pine and make complaint.

The oak was sad, because it could not yield flowers; the roseind was sad because it could not bear fruit; the vine was sad because it had to cling to the wall, and could cast no shadow.

"I am of the least use in the world," said the oak.

"I might as well die, since I yield no fruit," said the rosebud.

"What good can I do in the world?" said the vine.

Then the king saw a little pansy, which all this time held up its glad, fresh face, while all the rest were sad.

And the king said, "What makes you so glad, while all the rest pine and complain?"

"I thought," said the pansy, "that you wanted me here, because here you planted me; so I made up my mind to be as good a little pansy as I could be."

There are people, dear children, like the oak, the rosebud, and the vine. They look with envy upon those who are called to more important positions in life. They are guidance of an Almighty hand.

unhappy because God has not called ther to a higher sphere. They will do nothin just because they cannot do all that other do. Reader, go to work where God ha placed you, and in time he may say to you "Come up higher."

WANTED-A GRANDMOTHER.

I've the dearest of papas, and the aweetes' of mammas,

And a darling little birdie that the finest songs cau sing;

And a cunning dog and cat, but I've wanted something else

Ever since the time I knew enough to wish for anything.

And that's a silver-haired, dear old lady, who to all

The children, whether rich or poor, says pleasantly, "My dear;"

Who can lots of stories tell, and a lot of rhymes repeat,

And never is too busy all the news I bring to hear.

Oh, how lovely it would be in the summertime to see

Her sitting in the garden when the sky was bright and blue;

Or in winter by the fire, humming hymn tunes very softly,

While knitting scarlet stockings for—I guess you can guess who!

It really don't seem right that I never should have one,

When almost all the girls I know have; two, and some have three;

So if there should be any dear old grandmother a-wanting

A loving little granddaughter, why let her come to me.

A HIGHER HAND.

A LITTLE boy sat in front of his father, and held the reins that controlled a restive Unknown to the boy the reins passed around him and were also in his father's hand. He saw occasion to pull thom. With artless simplicity the child looked around, saying; "Father, I thought I was driving; but I am not, am I?" Thus it is often with men who think that they are shaping a destiny which a higher hand than theirs is really fashioning. They do their own will, but they also do the will of A stronger hand guides 'them; a mightier power holds the helm of their vessel, and saves from rock and wreck. Happy are they who quietly yield to the