



THE LITTLE GLEANER.

"May I follow your reapers, master,
And glean in your fields to-day?
The sickles are cutting the golden grain—
Let the little gleaner stay;

"For my mother is old and feeble,
And she cannot earn our bread;
And Billy is simple, you know, master,
And father has long been dead;

"And I saw your fields of waving corn,
Yellow as shining gold,
And knew you would let the maiden come
To glean from its wealth untold.

"I'll fill my sacks with the scattered grain,
And bind me some pretty sheaves
Of the nodding stalks, that the reapers drop
Amid the glistening leaves."

So the master said to the maiden young,
"Go glean in my fields to-day,
And gather whatever the reapers leave,
And carry it all away."

And at evening the gleaner maiden,
With her sack of golden grain,
And a little sheaf on her shoulder laid,
To the master came again;

And she said, in her low, sweet accents,
"May the Lord be kind to thee
In the day of thy need, oh, noble master,
As thy heart has been to me,"

And then in the dewy evening time,
And bearing her burden bright—
The sack of grain and the golden sheaf—
Came the gleaner home that night

And the mother opened the Bible,
And read her the story true
Of the beautiful Ruth, the gleaner fair
(The tale that is ever new),

Who gleaned in the fields of Bethlehem
In the barley harvest time,
And the honor of her noble kinsman showed—
All told in the Book Divine.

And from Ruth and her noble kinsman
Did David's line descend,
And from thence came our Saviour, Jesus
Christ,
Whose kingdom has no end.

May the lord bless our gleaner maiden,
And fill her with heavenly love,
And gather her in at the Harvest Time
With the golden sheaves above.

BOBBY.

Bobby was to stay with Bridget. That was decided upon, and all Bobby's tears and entreaties were useless. So he contented himself by sitting on the top stair, and stamping as hard as he could with his chubby foot. His shrill screams, ending in doleful howls, soon reached mamma's sick chamber, and the nurse, seeing how restless it made her, went down into the kitchen to tell Bridget to carry Bobby away.

"Och, Bobby, darlint, coom down an' hev some merlasses and brid, that's a dear by," said Bridget's voice at the foot of the stairs.

At the words 'merlasses and brid,' Bobby's head, with its tumbled hair, was lifted for a moment, but he made no answer. Bridget waited a moment.

"Bobby, yer naughty by; if you don't coom down now, yer shan't hev anny," and Bridget slammed the dining-room door.

Bobby wiped his eyes with his clean pink frock, and forgot all about the pic-nic at the thoughts of bread and molasses.

"I dess I'll go down," said he softly, and he crept down into the kitchen where Bridget was putting the pies into the oven.

"Gimme my bread and merlasses, Biddy," said he.

"When you can say plaze, and not before, Robert Prescott," said Bridget, severely.

Now Bobby hated to say please, and he went round the table poking his fat finger into the newly-covered pies to see which was mince and which was apple. At last the thoughts of the nice bread and molasses conquered Bobby, and he said, "Bridget Maloney, please gimme what I want."

She handed down the thick slice of bread she had prepared some time before, and seating Bobby in his chair at the table,

she ran out to speak to her cousin, John Carson, the butcher boy, who was driving by.

Bobby, left to himself, was in high glee. He managed to slip down from his chair, and taking a large iron spoon from the table, he dipped alternately from the jars which held the apple and mince for the pies, until each jar contained about equal parts of each preparation.

Tiring of this, he caught sight of the dish of eggs on the table. Alas! for the eggs. One after another was rolled across the clean white floor until the whole dozen were smashed.

Another ten minutes passed, and Bridget did not return. Bobby climbed to the mantel and took down the match safe. "I dess I'll twy and light one," said he, as he rubbed his tiny hand across the card of matches.

One moment more, and the dear child's thin frock was all ablaze, and Bridget, rushing in, uttered a piercing shriek and caught him in the folds of her shawl.

Bobby was terribly burned, and as he lay day after day in his crib, suffering so much, he said over and over he would never meddle with the things mamma had forbidden him to touch.

Mamma was now quite recovered from her illness, and would come and sit for hours by her little boy's bed-side, telling him stories from that dearest and best of books, our Holy Bible, and trying to show him how grieved the blessed Jesus is when any of His little ones are naughty and disobedient.

Bobby, gazing at his pretty mamma from his crib, would ask her to kiss him and then whisper softly, "I se so sorry, mamma. Ask Jesus to help Bobby to be a dood boy, and mind you"

TRUTHFUL AND OBEIENT.

"Charley! Charley!"

Clear and sweet the voice rang out over the common.

"That's mother," cried one of the boys, instantly throwing down his bat, and picking up his cap and jacket.

"Don't go yet!" "Have it out!" "Just finish the game!" cried the players, in noisy chorus.

"I must go, right off, this minute—I told mother I'd come whenever she called."

"Make believe you didn't hear," they exclaimed.

"But I did hear."

"She'll never know you did not."

"But I know it, and"—

"Let him go," said a bystander. "You can do nothing with him. He is tied to his mother's apron strings."

"Yes," said Charley, "and there is where every boy ought to be tied; and in a hard knot, too."

"But I wouldn't be such a baby to run the minute she called," cried one.

"I don't call it babyish to keep one's word," said the obedient boy, a beautiful light glowing in his eyes. "I call it manly for a fellow to keep his word with his mother; and if he doesn't keep his word to her, you see if he keeps it to any one else.—Zion's Advocate.

A plate of apples was being passed to some children, when a little girl took a fine large red one. "How greedy you are to take the biggest!" said a companion; "I meant to have had that myself."

CHILDREN DOING GOOD.

I am sure you will find out ways of showing kindness if you look for them. One strong lad I saw the other day carrying a heavy basket up a hill for a little tired girl. Another dear lad I met leading a blind man who had lost his faithful dog.

An old lady, sitting in her arm chair by the fire, once said, "My dear little grand-daughter, there, is hands, feet and eyes to me."

"How so?"
"Why, she runs about so nimbly to do the work of the house, she brings me so willingly whatever I want, and when she has done she sits down and reads to me so nicely a chapter in the Bible."

One day a little girl came home from school quite happy to think that she had been useful. For there was a school-fellow there in great trouble about the death of a baby brother.

"And I put my cheek against hers," said her companion "and I cried, too, because I was sorry for her; and after a little while she left off crying, and said I had done her good."

"THE LITTLE FOXES THAT SPOIL THE VINES!"

One little fox is "By-and-by." If you track him you come to his hole—Never.

Another little fox is "I Can't." You had better set on him an active, plucky little thing, "I Can" by name. It does wonders.

A third little fox is, "No Use in Trying." He has spoiled more vines, and hindered the growth of more fruit, than many a worse looking enemy.

A fourth little fox is "I Forgot." He is very provoking. He is a great cheat. He slips through your fingers like time. He is seldom caught up with.

Fifth little fox is "Don't Care." O, the mischief it has done!

Sixth little fox is "No Matter." It is matter whether your life is spoiled by small faults.—Good News.

Let us pray God that He would root out of our hearts everything of our own planting, and set out there, with His own hands, the tree of life, bearing all manner of fruits.—Fenelon.

BOYS AND GIRLS.

We have on hand about a dozen boys and girls, small and sprightly, just such as childless couples might properly adopt. Persons wishing to adopt children are invited to come and see them, or correspond with us.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR A BOY.

My residence is in.....

..... County, and my occupation

is.....

My family consists of.....

..... I wish to employ a

boy..... years of age, and (Here give description and qualities desired.)

He will be required to.....

and allowed to..... I

will furnish.....

and pay him..... a month.

A. B.

Recommended by.....

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR THE ADMISSION OF HALF ORPHANS.

..... N. C.,
....., 1877.

This is to certify that.....

..... is a half orphan,

sound in body and mind, and with-

out any estate. H.... father died

in 18.... I being h.... mother,

hereby make application for h....

admission to the Orphan Asylum at

Oxford, and I also relinquish and

convey to the officers thereof the en-

tire management and control of said

orphan till the day of

....., (that being the day on which

.... will be fourteen years of age,) in

order that may be trained

and educated according to the regu-

lations prescribed by the Grand

Lodge of North Carolina. I also

promise not to annoy the Orphan

Asylum, and not to encourage the

said orphan to leave without the

approval of the Superintendent.

.....

Approved by.....

W. M. of.....

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR THE ADMISSION OF ORPHANS.

..... N. C.,

....., 1877.

This is to certify that.....

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in body and mind, and without es-

tate. H.... father died 18....,

h.... mother died in 18.... I,

being h...., hereby

make application for h.... admission

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the officers thereof, the entire man-

agement and control of said orphan

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.... will be fourteen years of age,) in

order that may be trained

and educated according to the regu-

lations prescribed by the Grand

Lodge of North Carolina.

.....

Approved by.....

W. M. of.....

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR A GIRL.

Our residence is in.....

..... County, and our occupation

is.....

Our family consists

of..... We wish

to employ a girl..... years of age,

and (Here give description and

qualities desired). She will be re-

quired to and allowed

to She will spend

her evenings in and

will sleep in We

will furnish..... and will

pay..... a month.

A. B.,

Mrs. A. B.

Recommended by.....

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Orphans' Friend.

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