

# OUR YOUNG FOLKS

We know not the authorship of the following beautiful waif, or where it first appeared:

## LITTLE CHATTERBOX.

They call me "Little Chatterbox"—  
My name is little May;  
I have to talk so much, because  
I have so much to say.

And oh! I have so many friends—  
So many! and you see  
I can't help loving them, because  
They every one love me.

I love papa and my mama—  
I love my sisters, too:  
And if you're very, very good,  
I guess that I'll love you.

But I love God the best of all—  
He keeps me all the night;  
And when the morning comes again,  
He wakes me with the light.

I think it is so nice to live:  
And yet if I should die,  
The Lord would send his angels down  
To take me to the sky.

## TOO CERTAIN.

"Father, I'm tired of reading the Bible. I have read it so often that I know everything in it."

"Everything, my son? Do you think that you could not find one chapter that would contain something you had never noticed?"

"Yes, father, I think so. I am sure I know all that is in the historical parts of the Bible."

"Well, let me try you. When were a large number of men fed with a few loaves of bread, and a supply left when they had done eating?"

"Why, father, surely I remember Christ's feeding several thousand persons, at two different times, with a few loaves and fishes."

"Very well; these are two instances. Now, tell me a third."

"There is no other in the Bible."

"You are perfectly sure of that, are you? Suppose you reflect a little before you answer again."

"Yes, father, I have thought, and I am certain there is no other miracle of that kind mentioned in the Bible."

"Well, my son, open your Bible at the fourth chapter of the fourth book of Kings."

"Fourth book of Kings! Father, there is no such book."

"Hand me the Bible. What does this title say?"

"It is 'The second book of the Kings, commonly called the fourth book of the Kings'."

"Well, there is one thing learned by the boy that knew the Bible so well. Now turn to the fourth chapter and read the forty-second verse."

Here it is, sir: "And there came a man from Baal-salisha, and brought the man of God."

"Who was the man of God?"

"I must look. It was the prophet Elisha."

"Now proceed."

"And brought the man of God bread of the first fruits, twenty loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husks thereof. And he said, Give unto the people, that they may eat. And his servant said, What! should I set this before an hundred men? He said again, Give the people, that they may eat; for thus saith the Lord, They shall eat and shall leave thereof. So he sat it before them, and they did eat, and left thereof, according to the word of the Lord."

"That will do for this time, my son. I have never wished to make the reading of the scriptures tedious by requiring you to read

them constantly, without giving you other books to read; but I wanted to convince you how mistaken young people are apt to be in their ideas of their own knowledge. There are thousands of children (yes, and of men and women too) who would read with great interest, many passages of the Bible, if they found them in a fresh and beautiful volume which they believed to contain nothing but what is published for the first time. Remember this, and let me advise you to read the four books of Kings, and to make a list of all the passages you will find there which, like the one you have just read, are as new as if you had never heard nor read them."—*Biblical Recorder.*

## SERMON FROM A PAIR OF BOOTS.

There lived, forty years ago, in Berlin, a shoemaker who had a habit of speaking harshly to all his neighbors who did not feel exactly as he did about religion. The old pastor of the parish in which the shoemaker lived heard of this, and felt that he must give him a lesson.

He did it in this way: He sent for the shoemaker one morning, and when he came in said to him:

"Master, take my measure for a pair of boots."

"With pleasure, your reverence," answered the shoemaker; "please take off your boot."

The clergyman did so, and the shoemaker measured his foot from toe to heel, and over the instep, noted all down in his pocket-book, and prepared to leave the room.

But as he was putting up the measure the pastor said to him; "Master, my son also requires a pair of boots."

"I will make them with pleasure, your reverence. Can I take the young man's measure?"

"It is not necessary," said the pastor, "the lad is fourteen, but you can make my boots and his from the same last."

"Your reverence, that will never do," said the shoemaker, with a smile of surprise.

"I tell you sir, to make my son's on the same last."

"No, your reverence; I can not do it."

"It must be—on the same last."

"But, your reverence, it is not possible, if the boots are to fit," said the shoemaker, thinking to himself that the old pastor's wits were leaving him.

"Ah, then, master shoemaker," said the clergyman, "every pair of boots must be made on their own last, if they are to fit, and yet you think that God is to form all Christians exactly according to your own last, of the same measure and growth in religion as yourself. That will not do either."

The shoemaker was abashed. Then he said:

"I thank your reverence for this sermon, and I will try and remember it, and to judge my neighbors less harshly in the future."—*Children's Friend.*

## THE CHILD TEACHER.

A missionary in India, among many instances of success in the mission schools, relates the following: A little girl was taught in the school, and became impressed with the truth. The mother carried her away some two hundred miles into the interior; she, herself, having forsaken Christianity, and fallen into idolatry. She wished her little girl to marry a heathen. But that girl had been taught the name of Jesus. She loved that name. She was taken

against her will into the jungle. Fever seized upon her, and she died. Just before her departure, she called her mother, and said, "Mother, I am going to die.

There are two things I want to say to you before I die. First, I am going to Jesus;" and putting her arms, wasted by fever to a skeleton, round the neck of her poor sorrowing mother, she said: "Oh, forgive me! I cannot die till I have told you that you are living in sin. You know that Christ alone can save you, and you are a heathen." The child then passed away. A week or two after that, a carriage was driven up to my house, a woman got out of it richly dressed, and covered with jewelry. She said, "I have come two hundred miles to confess my sin. I have come all the way to thank you for giving my child the saving truth, and to confess to you that I have been a sinner above all sinners; but I am resolved to repent." That woman was thus saved by the lessons given to her child.

## TWO CLASSES OF OBSERVERS.

There are two distinct classes of acute observers—those who see clearly through the profoundest mysteries, and those who see mysteries in the clearest things. Perhaps the latter case is the more numerous. The invalid, whose diet consists of the richest and most unwholesome viands, has been heard to wonder at the strange providence which has allotted to him painful days and sleepless nights. The man who is not diligent in his business, meditates on the unfathomable decree which has assigned to him a life of poverty and disappointment. The proud mother, who has exposed her delicate little ones to the changeable weather with insufficient clothing, that white skin and dimples might be admired, wonders at the incomprehensible bereavement, over which she mourns. Life is full of such mysteries.—*Presbyterian Banner.*

—A little boy entered a fish-market, the other day, and seeing for the first time a pile of lobsters lying on the counter, looked intently at them for some time, when he exclaimed, "Them's the biggest grasshoppers I've ever seen."

## 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 without 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 entire 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 regulations 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 .....  
..... is an orphan, sound in body and mind, and without estate. H.... father died 18...., h.... mother died in 18.... I, being h...., hereby make application for h.... admission into the Orphan Asylum at Oxford, and I also relinquish and convey to the officers thereof, the entire management and control of said orphan till the ..... day of .....  
18...., (that being the day on which ..... will be fourteen years of age,) in order that ..... may be trained and educated according to the regulations prescribed by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

Approved by.....  
W. M. of..... Lodge.

## 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 required 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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