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MAIN STREET

ALBEMARLE, N. C.

agined himself lying down in the gorge with his arms and legs broken as a result of rolling over the rugged rocks. He knew how glad he would be if someone would rescue him from a place like that. As he stood there undecided as to what to with eager eyes, looked for his son. do, the lamb gave a pitiful cry.

"I will save you," said the boy. He started down the mountain side, falling sometimes ten feet, yet did not have enough barbarous blood flowing through his veins to let this helpless, little lamb suffer and die, just for the need of a helping hand.

While the boy was down in the gorge, the sheep grew tired of waiting and started home, with the big shepherd dog following them. The sheep got home just as the sun was hiding behind the western hills.

The boy's father came out as usual to help his son with the sheep, but, to his surprise, he found the boy was not there. He drove the sheep into the barn, but was worrying

about the boy all the time.

He went back to the house and told his wife that their son had not come home with the sheep, at which words she broke down in tears. The old man went out on the porch and,

Hours passed, and the boy did not return. Growing very restless and uneasy about his son, the father lighted his lantern and started toward the field where the boy had been grazing the sheep. In a heavy downpour of rain, the old man walked for hours, not hearing or seeing anything which resembled his son. Once hearing a faint noise he stopred, but it was the call of a cuckcoo, who perhaps was telling her playmates to listen to the bedtime stories of an older bird. The disheartened father was proceeding on his way when suddenly he was halted by a cry which he knew came from a boy. He listened. The cry became weaker, and then ceased for a moment. The rescuer had not gone

very much farther when he noticed one place where there were a great many sheep tracks. He stopped and looked around for a moment. About this time someone cried, "Daddy." The old man, recognizing his son, untied the lasso which he carried at his side, dropped it down to the boy, and with all his strength lifted him back to the path. When he came near the top of the mountain, the old man noticed something under the boy's arm and when the child reached the top his father said, "Son, why were you down there?"

Holding the lamb in his arms, the child replied, "Daddy, here is the reason why I was down there. Where are the other sheep?"

"They are at home, by boy."

"Then let us go."

They started home, the boy telling how he had fallen over the rocks while going down after the lamb and how he had struggled to bring the lamb back up the mountain.

The old man, listening to every

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