

THE HONEST BEGGAR BOY.

From the German. A poor boy about ten years ago, entered the workshop of a rich merchant, Samuel Richer in Danzig, and asked the book-keeper for alms.

"You will get nothing here," grumbled the man, without raising his head from his book. "No off!"

Weeping bitterly, the boy glided towards the door, at the moment that Herr Richer entered.

"What is the matter here?" he asked, turning to the book-keeper. "The boy has just been told that he will get nothing here."

"A worthless beggar boy," was the man's answer, and he scarcely looked up from his work.

In the meanwhile, Herr Richer glanced toward the boy, and remarked that, when close to the door, he picked up something from the ground.

"Ha, my little lad, what is that you picked up?" he cried.

"The weeping boy turned and showed him a needle."

"And what will you do with it?" asked the other.

"My jacket has holes in it," was the answer. "I will sew up the big ones."

Herr Richer was pleased with the reply and still more with the boy's innocent, handsome face.

"But are you not ashamed," he said in a kind though serious tone, "you are so young and hearty--to beg? Can you not work?"

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