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## Our Boys and Girls.

#### THE FUSSING PLACE.

I have to go to the Fussing Place
When I'm very bad,
And mother has such a sorry face,
And her eyes look sad.
But she says, in just the firmest tone,
"The boy that fusses must stay alone,"
When I have been bad.

At first I pretend not to care,
And I hum a tune
And walk off quick with my head in the

air, But pretty soon

I begin to hate the Fussing Place, And to be there seems a great disgrace, So I stop my tune.

And then I think of mother's eyes,
With that sorry look

With that sorry look,
And soon I think it is time to surprise
Her over her book.

So I hunt up a smile and put it on (For I can't come out till the frowns are gone),

How happy she'll look!

The Fussing Place? Ah, it's where you're sent

When you are naughty and mean,
And there you must stay till you're
good again

And fit to be seen.

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Or seated on one of the kitchen chairs, And, oh, you feel mean!

But it doesn't matter much where it is, This old Fussing Place,

For the very spot that seems so bad, When you're in disgrace

Is nice enough when you're loving and true;

So it's not where you are, but how you do

That makes it a Fussing Place!

—Youth's Companion.

### HOW FAST FRUIT GREW.

"Grandpa," shouted a litle boy, bounding into a sunshiny porch where an old white-haired man sat reading his paper, "grandpa, I'm seven years old today, and I've got on trousers, and I'm going to begin school."

"Why! why!" said the old gentleman, laying down his paper, "how many things are happening all together!"

Grandpa was about as far from the end of his life as Fritz was from his beginning, and there seemed a wide difference between the bent, white head and feeble gait of the one and the shining bright curls that nodded at the bounding steps of the other. Yet grandpa and Fritz were great chums, and loved and understood each other perfectly.

"And now, grandpa, measure me up against your wall," continued our new school-boy, "so that I can tell you just how much I have grown by the beginning of another term."

So grandpa took out his pencil and while Fritz stood with his back to the wall, very stiff and straight, grandpa put his spectacle-case on the boy's head to get the exact level, and to mark him off on the clean, white paint, writing his name and age and the day of the month and year.

"But stop, Fritz!" sai dgrandpa, as he was running away; "I have only measured one-third of you."

Fritz looked puzzled.

"Is your body all of you?" asked

grandpa.
"No, sir; I s'pect I've got a mind,

too," answered Fritz, but he spoke doubtfully.

"Yes, a mind to do your sums with, and heart to love God and his creatures with. Don't you see that I have only measured one-third of you? Come, and I'll measure your mind. How much arithmetic do you know? As far as multiplication? Good! And you are in the second reader? Very well! Now, write your name down in my notebook and put these facts down, so that I may take the measure of your reading, writing and arithmetic."

Fritz, highly amused, took the pencil and wrote a very clumsy hand, "Frederick Jones—multiplication and second reader."

"But what about my heart?" the little boy asked presently.

Grandpa looked very grave, and was silent for a minute; then he said, "Did you please your mother by getting down in time for prayers this morning?"

"No, sir."

"Did you look for little sister Lucy's doll that she lost yesterday?"

"No, sir."

"Did you carry Mrs. Parsons the honey she told you to ask your mother for, to help her cough?"

"Why, grandpa, I forgot all about it."

The old man did not say a word, but he began to write in his notebook; and Fritz, looking over his shoulder, managed to spell out these words: "He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"

A year passed away, and again we find Fritz at his grandpa's knees. Grandpa's step is slower, and his words weaker, his eyesight dimmer. Fritz is somewhat changed, too; his curls are shorter and his trousers are longer, his shoulders are broader, and when he backs up to the wall, behold, he is away above last year's mark. He reads in a fourth reader now, and knows something of fractions, and when he writes his name, the letters do not tumble down and sprawl around as they did last year.

"And how about the other measure?"

asks grandpa.

Fritz is silent; but the old man puts his arm around him and says tenderly, "I heard mamma say yesterday that Fritz was her greatest comfort. Lucy cried when she found Fritz's holiday was over, and old Dame Parsons said she would be lost without that boy's helping hand."

Again grandpa wrote in his little book, and, though the writing was very shaky, Fritz could read it plainly this time: "If ye fulfil the law, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself,' ye do well."

"Now, Fritz, boy," he said, "that's the best growing you've done this year."—
Recorder.

#### **唐 序 序**

#### Blackberries that Were Not for Sale.

I spent nearly all of last summer in the country, and one day, when the blackberry season was at its height, I was riding with a party of friends over the beautiful country roads, when we came to an old pasture, in which there were a great many blackberry bushes. Near the road, in the shade of a tree, sat a bare-footed, tired-looking boy of about twelve years. His brown hands were stained with juice from the berries he had been gathering, and torn by the briers on the bushes. He was fanning his flushed face with his old straw hat when we drove up. By his side was a tin pail, filled with six or seven quarts of very nice blackberries. Then he had a pail containing about a



## Travellers and Tourists

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Its effects are marvellous.

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Relief is almost instantaneous.

Does not leave the Bowels in a constipated condition.

quart of the finest wild blackberries I ever saw. Some of the ladies in the party were very fond of blackberries, and one of them said to the boy:

"Would you sell us a quart of your berries, my boy?"

"Yes, ma'am; I 'd sell you a quart of these," replied the boy, pointing to the large pail.

"Oh, but those in the other pail are so much finer. I would be willing to pay more for those than for the others."

The boy shook his head and said:

"I wouldn't want to sell those, ma'am.

"I would be willing to give you twelve cents a quart for them, and you know that very good berries are selling for only seven cents in the village."

Again the boy shook his head, and this time he said:

"I couldn't sell these even for twenty cents a quart; but you may have a quart of the others for five cents."

Slightly piqued, and a little curious to know why the boy so persistently refused to sell the large berries, the lady asked:

"Why will you not sell the other berries?"

"Because ma'am I—I—well be

'Because, ma'am, I—I—well, because they are for my mother."

"For your mother?"

"Yes, ma'am. You see, it is like this: My mother is sick. She has been sick for a long time, and she hardly has an appetite for anything. She has been sick for three or four days, and she has taken a notion she would like to have some blackberries, and the doctor said that she might have some, and

so, when I was gathering berries today, I put every fine, big one I could find in this little pail for my mother. That is why I would not sell them."

"That is a very good reason, a beautiful reason, why you should not sell them," replied the lady, warmly, with a voice that was not quite steady, for she had lost her own dearly-beloved mother. Then she added:

"You may put a quart of the other berries in this little basket I happen to have with me."

When the little boy handed up the basket the lady gave him a shining half-dollar, saying as she did so:

"Don't mind anything about the change my boy. Keep it all, and get something nice for your mother with it, and tell her I said that I was glad she has such a loving and thoughtful little boy. I hope that you will always feel that you would like the very best of everything for mother."—J. L. Harbour, in Morning Watch.

