LITTLE MAUDE:

'TIS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE. One lovely spring day, two children, Maude and Frank, were seated under an arbor in a beautiful garden. A waiter covered with tempting

luxuries was on the little table before them. It was Maude's tenth birthday, and her mother had invited her cousin Frank to spend it with her. She had also provided this nice feast, as she knew her little daughter liked very much to

"play party." At a short distance from them stood a little boy leaning against the white paling which ran in front of the garden. He was a pitiable looking object, thin, pale and ragged. With sad, wistful eyes he gazed earnestly upon the scene before him. Little Willie, for that was the boy's name, though very hungry, was not thinking of himself, but of his sick mother. He was wondering how he could earn money enough to buy an orange like those the children had, and just such a nice looking piece of cake, for the sick mother he loved so dearly.

Willie's father had died a few months before, and the small sums which Willie earned by doing errands, and the little his mother received for such plain sewing as she had been able to do, were their only means of subsistence.

For the last fortnight his mother had been too unwell to work, and he had not earned as much as usual, consequently they had been unable to procure sufficient food to keep them from being very hungry.

It had never occurred to Willie that he might beg, but now, as he stood looking at those happy children, he thought of asking for some of their luncheon, but could not summon courage, though he silently prayed that God would put it into their hearts to give him of their abundance. When Willie left in the morning his mother

"I hope Mr. Jenks will have an errand for you to do to-day, as you must need food, for you've eaten neither supper or breakfast. But don't be discouraged, dear child; the Lord will provide. He will never forsake the widow and fatherless. He who feedeth the raven and the sparrow, will care for us."

"I think," replied the boy cheerfully, "I shall certainly get a job to-day, from both Mr. Jenks and Mr. Rand. If I get five cents from Mr. Jenks, I shall come home before going to Mr. Rand's, and bring you a loaf of bread; then you'll feel better, won't you, mother?"

"Thank you, dear boy, you're always thinking of me; 'twill make your walk much longer, and you are not so strong as you used to be. But," she added, with a sigh, "perhaps you had better do so, as I feel very faint. For your sake I must try to keep up my strength."

Poor Willie had been to both of his employers, and neither needed his services. With a sad heart and weary feet he was retracing his steps, when the children's merry voices attracted his

Upon raising his eyes and seeing Willie, Frank exclaimed.

"What are you doing there? Get away, you ugly beggar-boy! I'd like to know what right you have to look over the fence at us. We shall not give you any of our good things, so you may just go away.'

Though Frank was really a handsome boy, his face had a most sour, disagreeable expression

Little Willie's heart was too full to bear being so rudely addressed. The blood rushed up to his face, and with streaming eyes he turned quickly away.

"I wonder," thought he, "if that boy knows how wicked it is to speak so. I hope God won't make him as poor as he has me. He didn't know I had a sick mother at home who is dying for want of food, or he wouldn't have spoken so. I mustn't feel angry with him, though I'm so sorry he didn't want to give me just one orange."

"O Frank," exclaimed Maude, in a sad, reproachful tone, "how could you speak so crossly to the boy? I'm sure it doesn't do us any harm to have him look at us as long as he wants to. Perhaps he is hungry, too. I've read of children who have not enough to eat. I wonder if he is, poor fellow !"

Quick as thought, she snatched her portion of the white, frosted cake, oranges and little oyster crackers, and hastily putting them into a little basket, hanging on her arm, which she had brought out to fill with flowers, rushed after the unhappy outcast, screaming,

"Little boy! little boy! wait a minute." Willie turned, and saw this beautiful child running towards him. She was very fair, with soft blue eyes, over which dropped long shining lashes. Dark curls hung over her snowy white shoulders. 'Twas such a sight as our heavenly Father loves to behold, when that little one, with a heart full of love, offered her basket to the unfortunate child.

"I'm sorry, little boy," said she, "that Frank spoke so to you. I guess you are hungry, and have brought these for you."

Willie's face brightened as he took the basket, and said.

"O, I thank you a thousand times. I was wishing God would put it into your hearts to give me some. I did not want it for myself, but for my mother who is very sick, and faint for want of food."

"But are'nt you hungry, too," asked little Maude.

"Yes," replied the boy, "but I don't care for that. O how glad mother will be. The oranges will be so nice for her to take when she coughs You are real kind. I shall run all the way.'

After once more thanking his benefactress with looks, as well as words, he hurried away, but not until she had slipped a gold dollar from her pocket into his hand, saying, "'tis mine to do as I please with, and I want you to take it to your

"Maude," said her cousin, as she returned, "I do believe you are the queerest girl that ever lived. Now you've got no luncheon. Aunt has gone out, and you know nurse won't give you

any more."
"Well, I don't care," replied the happy little girl, "I feel just as if I'd eaten it all myself.

The little boy was so hungry, and his mother is sick and hungry too. I wish you could have seen how delighted he looked."

"Of course you have a right to do what you please with your own things," said Frank, in a surly tone, as he turned away and slowly walked down the path feeling rather uncomfortable. His little cousin's conduct was a more severe reproof to him than any words could have been.

When the children returned to the house, Mrs. Clifford said, "I'm ready now, Maude to go with you into the city to buy the doll, and this afternoon I'll help you dress it, as I promised."

"I can't buy it," replied Maude, "I've spent

'Can't buy it! spent your dollar!" exclaimed

"Yes mamma, you know uncle James said I might do as I pleased with it, because it is my birthday."

"You had a right to spend it," replied her mother, but as you have been wanting a wax doll mother, but as you have been wanting a wax doll mon. For sale low by STEEVES BROS "You had a right to spend it," replied her mother, but as you have been wanting a wax doll for so long a time, and seemed to anticipate so much pleasure in dressing it this afternoon, I am surprised to hear anything could tempt you to give up the 'little lady' you had selected."

"O mamma, I didn't get anything else instead. Nothing would please me so much. That doll at

Patridge's is such a beauty, with black eyes, that can open or shut, and such cunning little curls.' "Well Maude," replied her mother, "I mus say, I don't understand. You say you admire the doll as much as ever, and have chosen noth ing else instead. How then can you have spen the money ?"

"I gave it to a little boy," replied Maude, who said his mother was sick and hungry." Mrs. Clifford looked pleased, kissed her little

daughter, and said. "I am glad you are willing to deny yourself in order to relieve the wants of others. I wish knew where to find the boy, so that I could call

and see if his mother is really suffering.2 At this moment, Bridget, who had just entered

he room, said, "Sure, ma'am, if it is the little boy that Miss Maude gave the basket to this morning ye's after finding, I can tell ye's where he lives. He fetched the basket back just now, and I asked him where he lived. Tis No. 45 Margin Street. His name is Willie Carlow.

"Thank you, Bridget," replied Mrs. Clifford then turning to Maude she said, "instead of going to buy the doll, if you and Frank would like it, we will call on Mrs. Carlow, and see if she needs anything."

"O yes, mamma, do go," said little Maude. Seeing that Frank said nothing, Mrs. Clifford remarked, that if he would prefer riding to the city with Jim, who was going to get some groceries, he might do so.

As Frank agreed to this arrangement, Mrs. Clifford and Maude set out on their errand of mercy, taking with them a little basket of deli-

cacies for the invalid. Maude was fully repaid for giving up the doll, when she saw the heartfelt gratitude of poor Willie, and heard his mother say as she bade her good by, "Whoso giveth a cup of cold water only, to one of these little ones, shall in no wise lose his reward."

Little Maude told her mother that night that she had never spent so happy a birthday. Mrs. Clifford replied,

"Tis because you have thought more of others than of yourself. I hope you will always realize that 'tis more blessed to give than to receive: and remember the text you learned last Sunday, He that hath pity upon the poor, lendeth unto the Lord, and that which he hath given will be

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