

The Family and the Farm.

"Somebody."

There's a meddlesome "Somebody" going about And playing his pranks, but we can't find him out; He's up stairs and down stairs from morning till night, And always in mischief, but never in sight.

The rogues I have read of in song or in tale Are caught at the end and conducted to jail; But "Somebody's" tracks are all covered so well, He has never yet seen the inside of a cell.

Our young folks at home, at all seasons and times, Are rehearsing the roll of "Somebody's" crimes; Or, far as their feet and their tongues can well run, Come to tell the last mischief the sly scamp has done.

"Somebody" has taken my knife," one will say, "Somebody" has carried my pencil away, "Somebody" has gone and thrown down all the blocks,"

"Somebody" ate up all the cakes in the box," It is "Somebody" breaks all the pitchers and plates, And hides the boys' sleds, and runs off with their skates, And turns on the water, and tumbles the beds, And steals all the pins, and melts all the dolls' heads.

One night a dull sound like the thump of a head Announced that one youngster was out of his bed, And he said, half-asleep, when asked what it meant, "Somebody" is pushing me out of the tent."

Now, if these high crimes of "Somebody" don't cease, We must summon in the detective police; And they, in their wisdom, at once will make known, The culprit belongs to no house but our own.

Then, should it turn out after all to be true, That our young folks themselves are "Somebody" too, How queer it would look, if we saw them all go Marched off to the Station House, six in a row!

—Our Young Folks.

What a Rainy Day Taught.

BY MRS. H. A. HORAT.

[Concluded.]

"You had better take the case of medicines, Hester, you may need them;" adding, as I closed the door, "those powders and pills are wonderful for helping children."

I found my little visitor impatient to be gone, and hurrying out into the fast falling rain, and walking rapidly, reached, in a few moments, the little cottage.

As we walked along, I learned that the name of my little companion was Lillie Davis, and that the baby was Frank, and that she had another brother, who had been left in charge of the baby while Lillie was absent, whose name was Willie. We found Willie at his post, by Franklin's cradle, as we entered.

"Does he open his eyes? Is he any worse?" eagerly asked the little sister, as she led me to the side of the little sufferer. "Willie," I heard her say to the brother, as I bent over the sick child, "I know this lady can make Frankie better; I feel it in my heart."

I soon saw that little Frankie was having a pretty severe attack of spasmodic croup, and selecting from my case of medicines the most approved remedies for such attacks, proceeded to administer a tiny powder. This was followed by others every ten minutes until nausea was produced, and the little fellow began to breathe more comfortably; then bathing and rubbing him, and wrapping him up warmly, he soon fell asleep, evidently greatly relieved.

I had been undergoing a somewhat vigilant scrutiny all this time, and now that I had fully realized their anticipations, and Frankie was better, their words of grateful acknowledgment were not sparingly bestowed. And now I began to inquire into the history of these little motherless ones.

Their father was an industrious mechanic, and although poor had determined to keep his little family with him in a home of their own, however humble, rather than put them in some public institution where he should be necessarily separated from them. He had intended to hire some one to help his little girl, but the times had been hard, and what with low wages, and the payment of the additional expense incurred by his wife's sickness and death, he had not been able to make any better arrangement for the children than to leave them in Lillie's care. As I learned from day to day more of the character of this family, and became better acquainted with their wants, I saw the prospect of earnest systematic work opening before me; and the question came up as to whether I was willing to undertake it.

These children needed such oversight and care as their father could not give; indeed, such as a woman only could give. Would I then question with myself since there was no one else to do it; devote a portion of each day to instructing these children.

I resolved that I would do it with His help who was promised: "My grace is sufficient for thee," and I did it.

Many years have passed since that morning, Lillie and I spent a couple of hours together each day for two years. Then her father brought them home, a good-kind woman to be their mother.

I have had but little leisure in my life since then. My life-work has been accumulating ever since. Lillie loved to tell others of my efforts for herself and her brothers, and partly through her I have had many to help and comfort. Just as soon as I had finished my allotted work in the Davis family, I found another, whose situation was somewhat similar. And with all this I have attended to the duties of my profession—teaching.

Many years have passed as I said. I am an old woman. Lillie is a blessing to many, and a great comfort to me. Willie has for years been a prop to numbers in this town—a prosperous merchant, dispensing of his substance to the needy with a liberal hand. And Frankie, after completing a successful college course, became an ambassador for Christ, and still stands as a watchman upon the walls of Zion. Aunt Lillie has fallen asleep in the Lord long ago. She finished her labors of love and went home to rest.

And now, as I recall the past, I find that my heart is warmer and younger than when I was a moping, discontented girl. Loving ones are all around me. And the consolation of knowing that I have accomplished some little good fills me with gladness.

People wonder, and ask me, with so many cares pressing upon me, how I can be so cheerful and young, they say: Think of my being young, and my hair all frosted over with the snow of nearly sixty winters. But I will tell you, children, just how it is—I have had no time to fret and worry about trifles since that rainy morning. My head, and heart, and hands, have been fully occupied ever since.

I was enabled to relieve little Frankie that morning, but the lessons which I learned then, and afterwards, by Frankie's cradle, have been of great profit to me. This one case have I had since then, and this one work—to do whatever

I could to comfort and increase the happiness of others, remembering that blessed word, "Cast thy bread upon the waters, and thou shalt find it after many days."

Recipes.

TOMATO SALAD.—Take ripe tomatoes, slice them, thin, chop, two onions, fine, sprinkle over the tomatoes, then add pepper, salt, vinegar, and oil.

PLUM JAM.—Skin and stone your plums, allowing pound for pound, if the fruit is very tart, use loaf sugar pulverized, boil for half hour in half pint of water.

GUMBO.—Boil a fowl until almost tender, then cut a quart of green okra, one quart of ripe tomatoes, season with pepper and salt, and one pint of onions, add parsley, and boil until the whole is boiled perfectly tender, in about two quarts of water.

A BOILED FUDGING.—Two cups of flour, half cup of molasses, large teaspoonful of lard, one cup of currants, or chopped raisins, a little salt, one cup of milk, teaspoon of baking powder; boil in cloth or steam; to be eaten with rich sauce.

FRUIT CAKE.—Soak two cups of dried apples over night; in the morning stew them in two cups of molasses until about half done; when cold mix in two cups of flour, half cup of butter, two eggs, and half teaspoonful of soda; bake slowly, and you will find this very nice and cheap.

SIMPLE CURE FOR RHEUMATISM.—The Call furnishes the following as a sure cure for this painful disease. "Boil a small potful of potatoes and bathe the part affected with the water in which the potatoes are boiled, as hot as can be applied, immediately before going to bed. The pains will be removed, or at least alleviated by the next morning. Some of the most obstinate rheumatic pains have lately been cured by one application of this novel and simple remedy."

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