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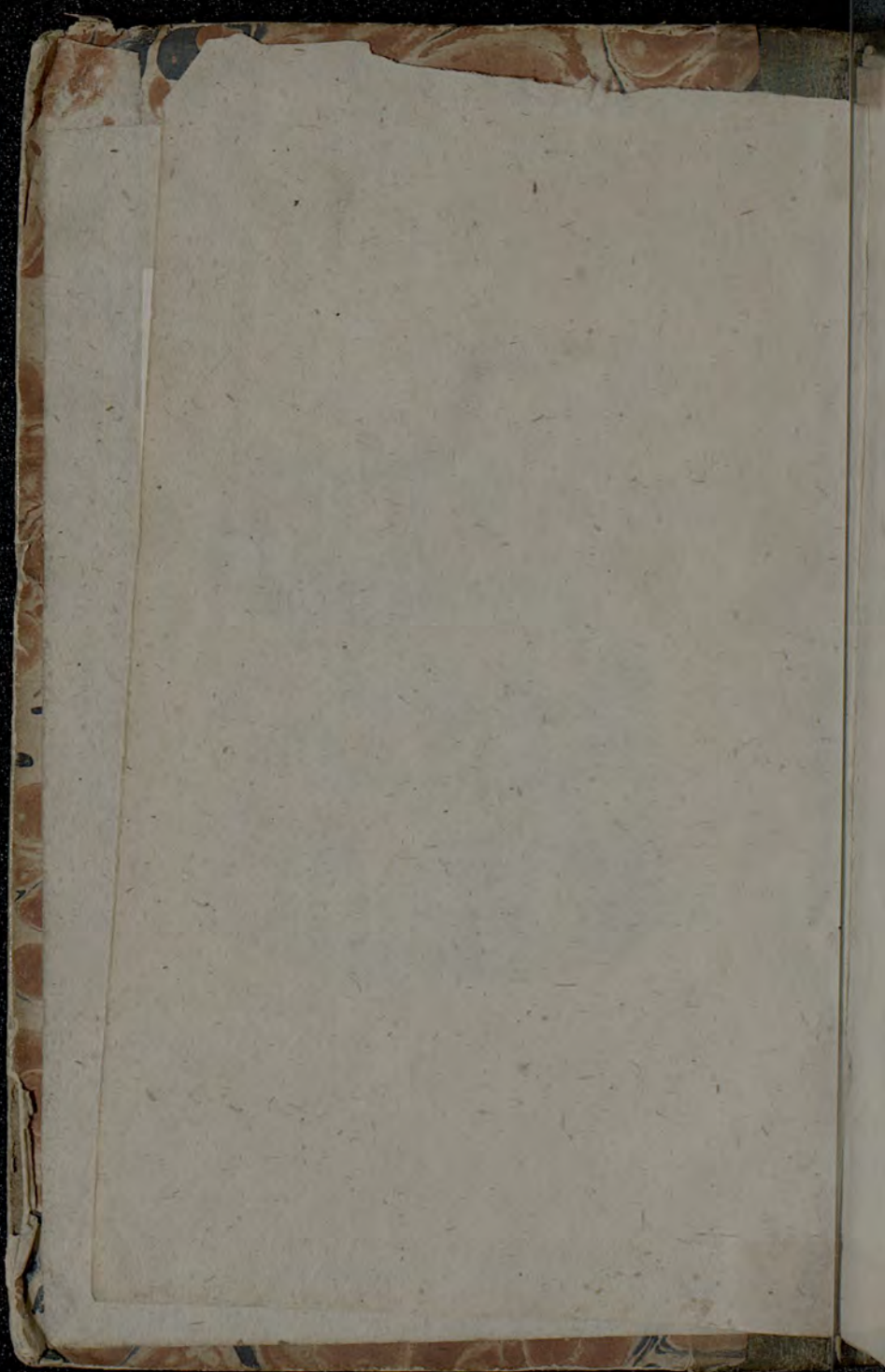
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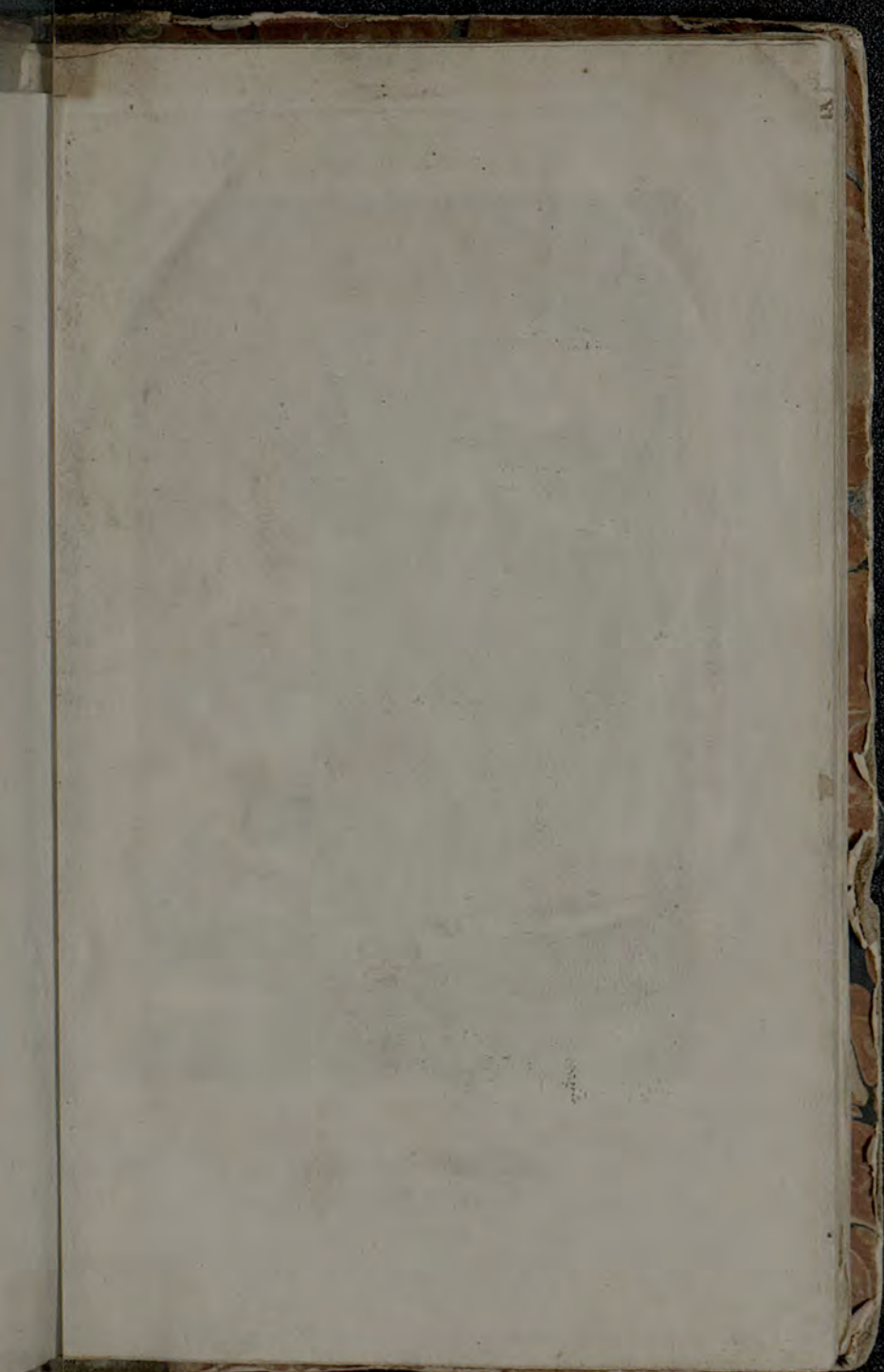


3 out of 5 engravings  
present -











*Tale - 1<sup>st</sup>*



*The Child's true friend.  
London, Pub. June 4. 1808, by Tabart & C. New Bond St.*



*Margaretta Wood Becket*  
THE  
*to her Niece*  
CHILD'S TRUE FRIEND.  
*Margaretta Wood Becket*

SERIES OF EXAMPLES

FOR THE PROPER BEHAVIOUR

OF

CHILDREN.

WITH FIVE BEAUTIFUL ENGRAVINGS.

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LONDON:

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OF ALL BOOKSELLERS.

1809.



CHILD OF THE WILDERNESS

THE HISTORY OF

THE LIFE OF

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W. Marchant, Printer, 3, Greville-Street, Holborn.



## INTRODUCTION.

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*THE* endeavours of any individual to instil into the juvenile mind early principles of morality and rectitude, cannot but be kindly received by those who have to fulfil the important task of educating children.

*A* right system of education does not so much consist in teaching youth the arts of drawing, dancing, and music, as in the cultivation of those qualities of the mind which are most capable to procure them happiness, in whatever sphere of life they may be placed.

Reading, writing, drawing, music, and dancing, it is true, are ac-



*complishments fit to adorn the mind, and complete the more important part of education ;—but patience, forbearance, obedience, industry, generosity, frankness, and kindness of heart, are qualities much more essential to our happiness than any exterior accomplishments we may possess.*

*Such will be found to be the opinion of the Author of the following Tales, who has brought the above qualities in direct contact with the vices prevalent in youth, that they may see how much the former ought to be prized, and the latter adequately detested.*



THE  
CHILD'S TRUE FRIEND.

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TALE I.

---

*What pleasures we often lose by not des-  
serving to enjoy them!*

ONE summer's afternoon, three dear girls, Sophy, Lucy, and Emma, were walking towards the village, half a mile from their papa's house: they had been good children, and their mamma, who loved to encourage them to become industrious, had given them leave to go and fetch Rose,



the parson's daughter, and her brother Henry, to drink tea with them in the garden, when their brother Edward was to be there, on his return from school.

"How kind of mamma," said Emma, "to let us play and take a nice walk, while she is making our frocks at home:—how wrong it would be not to mind and do what she tells us."

"Yes," continued Lucy, "and papa too is very kind; he teaches us to read and to write, and when we have been very good, takes us in the chaise with him and mamma."

"For my part," said Sophy, who being older, and in her thirteenth



teenth year, was the most reasonable of the three, "I think we should not only be very naughty, but very foolish; for if we were idle and disobedient, we should grow up dunces, and ill-tempered children, whom every body would dislike."

Thus prating, they arrived at the worthy clergyman's door, and found Mr. Lovegood in his garden, teaching his little boy Henry how to read well, while Rose sat dejected by, on a stool, crying.

"Dear me!" exclaimed Emma, after the sisters had paid their respects to the worthy curate, "what is the matter, Rose? why are you crying? we come to ask  
your



your papa and mamma to let you and Henry drink tea with us, and brother Edward is to come from school !”

Rose, unable to answer, wept with increasing bitterness, and gave an imploring look to her papa, who mildly, but firmly, desired her to dry her tears, and go to her mamma, who was in the house. Rose, hanging down her head, as all little girls do, who, by being naughty, have offended their parents, slowly and sorrowfully obeyed her father's request.

“I hope, sir,” said Sophy, looking after Rose with an air of compassion, “that you will permit us to beg your forgiveness for Rose?”

“My



“My dear Miss Sophy,” answered the good father, “I am very sorry that I cannot let my little girl go with you, but she has been too faulty; and much against my inclination, I must deprive her of pleasure, to make her feel how inexcusable her fault is.— Henry, who, I am happy to say, has been a very good boy, may return with you, my dears.”

“Thank you, papa,” said Henry, climbing on his father’s knees, and kissing him, “but do let Rose go; I am sure she is very sorry, and will never displease you so much again.”

Mr. Lovegood kissed the charming little suppliant with transport,  
but



but told him that he could not suffer Rose to go that afternoon;—but if the young ladies would come when she was a good girl, he would most readily consent to let her go and be happy with them.

Sophy expressing her concern for Rose, and praising the affection her brother shewed, took leave, promising if her papa and mamma would permit, to return the next day, in the hopes that Rose would have atoned for her fault.

As the sisters returned, Emma said she thought Mr. Lovegood ill-natured to disappoint them so. Lucy, who felt her sister was wrong, but did not know the true manner of putting her right,  
sharply



sharply reprimanded her. Sophy, gently begging Lucy to desist, took Emma by the hand, and addressed her thus: "You know, my dear Emma, how tenderly your papa loves you—how happy he is to give you pleasure, and how loath to punish you; but if you had so far forgotten yourself as to be disobedient, do you think he would suffer you to go out and spend the afternoon with your playmates? And do you suppose he would run the risk of spoiling his little girl, whom he loves so dearly, to please silly children, who call him ill-natured, because he applies a timely correction to rid his little girl



girl of faults that might otherwise grow up with her, and make her wretched and unhappy all the rest of her days? Mr. Lovegood is like papa, the best of fathers, and knows what is proper."

Emma, after this admonition, which was delivered in the kindest manner, was somewhat more reconciled to her disappointment, and owned she was wrong to call Mr. Lovegood ill-natured.

When they had nearly reached home, they were met by their brother Edward, who, running up and kissing them, asked whether Henry and Rose were coming? Sophy, lamenting his disappointment,



ment, informed him of the reason they could not come, and praised the affectionate denial of Henry.

"I am sorry," said Edward, "he does not come; but I must own he was right to stay at home, and console his poor sister.—But let us take a walk till tea-time."

"Aye, do!" cried Lucy and Emma, in one breath. But Sophy reminded them that their mamma and papa expected they would immediately return with their young friends, and would be uneasy at their staying longer; they therefore returned hastily home, and told their papa and mamma all that had passed.



Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, the parents of this lovely family, approved of Mr. Lovegood's firmness, but promised that in a day or two not only Rose and Henry should be invited, but some more girls and boys to have a dance, on the grass plot, while Thomas the gardener should play on the fiddle, which he could very well do, having employed a great deal of his leisure hours in learning to play on that instrument. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson's children were his favorites, for though they were allowed to walk about the two gardens, they never touched any flower or fruit without asking his leave first; and on that day he  
not



not only furnished them with plenty of fruit, to supply their feast, but also flowers to give to their young guests. Sophy, being (as we said before) the eldest, was chosen mistress of the ceremonies; and her mother and father, ever ready to conduce to the pleasures of their children, when they were worthy of them, took them, in the afternoon, to the parsonage-house, to invite Mr. and Mrs. Lovegood to bring their children to this grand ball.

When they entered the parlour, Rose, whose tears were now dried up, and who sat reading by her father's side, flew to Sophy, and announced, with joy, that her fa-



ther and mother had forgiven her, and that she had since done every thing in her power to atone for her fault; which she owned, with her eyes cast to the ground, was a great one, for it was a *falsehood*.

Henry was delighted to see his friend Edward, who, though much older, would play with him for hours, without ever assuming over him any kind of improper authority, which is frequently the case with boys badly educated.

Mr. and Mrs. Simpson related the object of their visit, and readily obtained the consent of the worthy parson, and his wife, to bring their children to the ball.

The two days preparatory to  
the



the ball did not appear tedious to the young folks, for they applied to their lessons with encreasing ardour, and in their hours of recreation made preparations for the approaching festival. How great would have been the punishment inflicted on those children, who, for some fault, could not have been suffered to enjoy all the pleasures such a day was to afford !

Sophy helped the house-keeper to make jellies, cakes, and syllabubs, for the occasion, beside superintending the little occupations of her younger sisters: indeed examples of Sophy's industry were to be seen in every department of the house-keeping. The good  
B 3                      mother,



mother, proud of her daughter, who already began to aid her in domestic concerns, and well acquainted with her good sense, active industry, and kind disposition, suffered her to regulate the whole arrangements of that day; wisely judging that the early habit of acting for themselves proves of great use to young people.

Sophy did credit to her mother's discernment, for every thing was done as it ought to be; nothing was forgotten; and in the afternoon of the ball, she dressed herself and her sisters, and led them to her mamma, who praised her as she deserved, and kissed all her children with maternal delight.

Indeed



Indeed three better or prettier girls the village could not produce. At five o'clock, the young party, with Mr. and Mrs. Lovegood, were assembled. Tea was prepared in the garden, and Sophy had the honour to take her mamma's place, and preside at the tea-table; while Lucy and Edward handed the cakes, and bread and butter; and every body said they never eat better cakes.

"They are Sophy's making, I assure you, young ladies," said the pleased mother, "and I am not a little proud of her skill; but the next will be still better, for we cannot do things perfectly well without some practice."

Sophy



Sophy received the praises of her mother, and of the company, with heartfelt joy: and exerted herself to make her young friends happy. No one was forgotten, and all were at their ease, by the equal attention they received.— After tea, Sophy led her companions to the grass plot, where the fiddler waited for the little party to strike up. After providing all her friends with partners, she took her youngest sister, and the merry little group tript it away, with all the gaily of their happy age. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, however, took care that they should not overheat or weary themselves; nor would they suffer them to drink any thing that



that was too cold, for refreshments. In short, like tender and good parents, they were watchful that nothing should be done likely to prove injurious to this merry little party. At nine o'clock the ball ended, to give way to the supper; and here Sophy's skill was again justly praised; nor was her good-humour, and eagerness to entertain and oblige her friends, less admired. Every little visitor wished to resemble her, and went away at once gratified and instructed, by the good sense and amiable manners which they saw in this truly excellent family. Rose promised Mr. and Mrs. Lovegood to do all she could to resemble Sophy.



phy, and we understand since, has kept her word.

Mr. and Mrs. Simpson sent their children to bed happy and grateful, and enjoyed the fruits of their watchful and affectionate cares.

Sophy became the able assistant of her mother, the kind friend and instructress of her brother and sisters, who, in return, were doatingly fond of her; and she grew up an amiable and accomplished young lady; which all little girls, who love and obey their good parents, cannot fail to become.

END OF TALE I.

TALE



## TALE II.

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*Carelessness often begets harm to those we  
love.*

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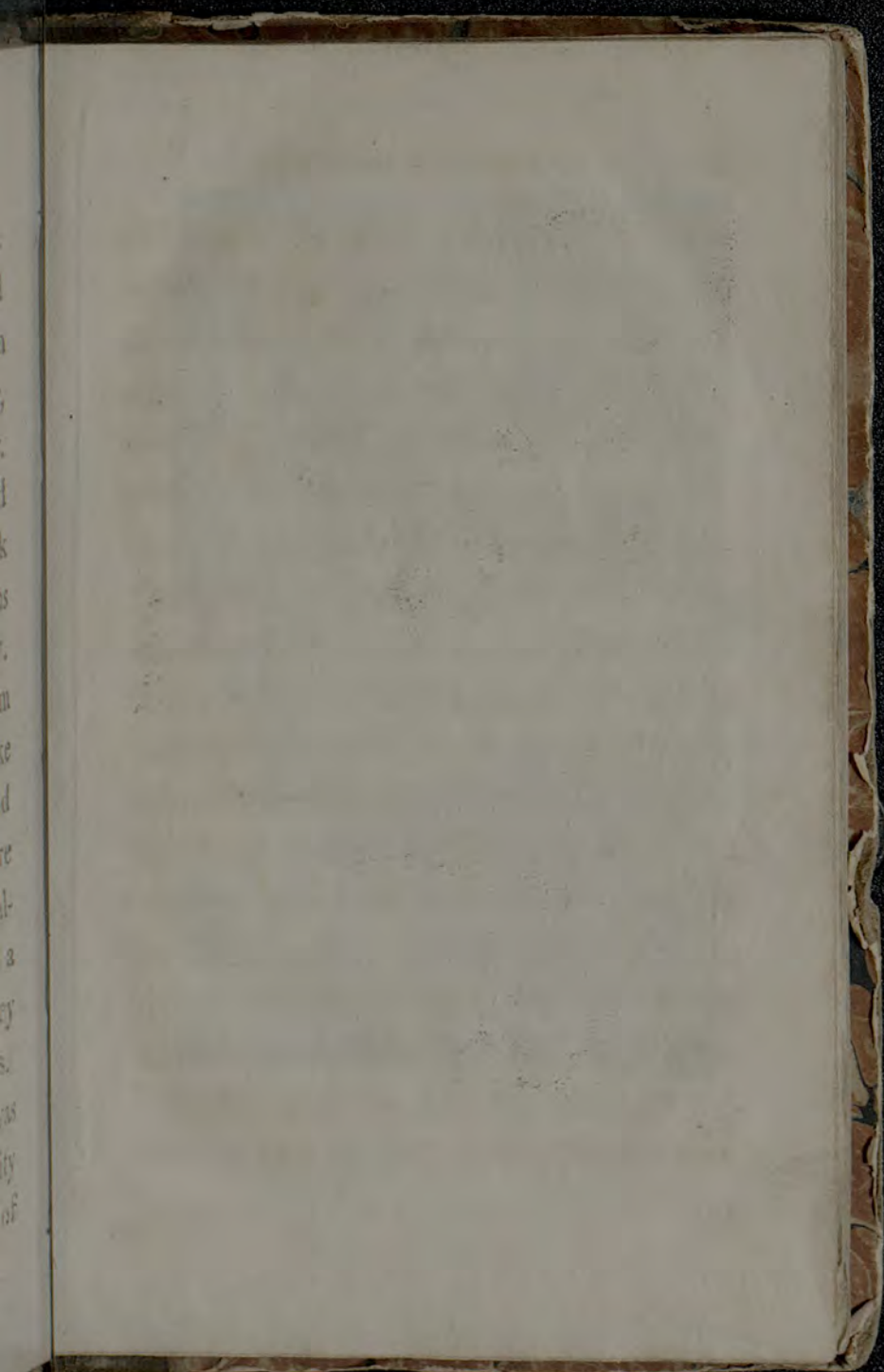
HELEN and Maria were sisters, and both in general very good girls, for they had a kind papa and mamma, who taught them always to tell the truth, and instructed them in reading, writing, summing,—in short, all that little children, who would not grow up dunces, and be idle, love to be taught. Helen was a year older than Maria, and, as all sisters should, they loved each other dearly.



dearly. If Maria had forgotten how to spell a word, Helen would kindly teach her; and if Helen wanted her book, or any thing, Maria would fly to bring it to her. They were no less fondly attached to their papa and mamma, who took such care of their health, and pains to make them good and happy. But though they were seldom naughty, they had little faults, like other children, and occasionally did wrong. However, as they were never obstinate, or sulky, and always told the truth, and shewed a real contrition for their faults, they never incurred severe punishments.

Helen, though the eldest, was the most heedless; for the vivacity  
of







*Tale-2d*



*London, Pub. June 4-1806, by Tabart & Co*



of her disposition, which her parents were fearful of too seriously checking, as her temper was remarkably timid, often made her do things without stopping to consider whether they were foolish or not.

One afternoon, when there happened to be company with their mamma, the sisters were playing in the garden. Maria had a beautiful little china dog in her hand, which her aunt had that day given her, and willingly lent it to her sister, begging her to take care of it. Helen, who did not in the least doubt her own carefulness, promised so to do, and for some time kept her word: but in the fulness of her spirits, she unluckily began to dance  
c and



and catch the dog in her hand, so that, in a few seconds, it fell upon the gravel, and broke in a thousand pieces. "Oh, Helen!" cried Maria, "what have you done?"

Helen burst into tears, while Maria began to pick up the fragments of the dog. Helen stood and looked, with mournful contrition, on the scattered bits of china.

"How angry my aunt will be," said Helen; "she had this dog when she was a child: and it was only yesterday I broke one of her best china cups.—Dear, dear, how shall I dare tell her?"

Just as she finished these words, her mamma and aunt, with some more ladies, came to walk in the garden;



garden; and Helen, trembling, stood behind her sister, who quietly continued to pick up the pieces of broken china.

“What are you doing there, Maria?” said her mamma, who had weak eyes, and could not see well.

Maria, who was kindly concerned for her sister, had not the courage to speak; but her aunt, who had very sharp eyes, and unfortunately was not as patient and good-tempered as their mamma, immediately perceived the accident, and angrily said to Maria: “So, miss, you have broken your dog! I thought one careless girl was enough in a family, and took you, though the



youngest, to be the most careful; but I find I was mistaken. Yesterday your sister spoiled me a set of Dresden china, and to-day you break the pretty little dog, which I had kept ever since I was your age. Indeed, sister," continued Miss Snap, turning to Helen's mother, "you spoil your children; there is no bearing their carelessness, and I trust you will punish Maria severely."

The good mother, who was firm, but never violent with her children, begged Miss Snap to be pacified; and turning to Maria, whom she knew in general to be careful, mildly asked her, if she had broken it? Maria, who generously had  
heard



heard herself blamed, without attempting to defend herself, (though Helen was twenty times on the point of rushing forward, and declaring the truth, which the fear of her aunt, however, prevented her from doing,) was now terribly confused. She could not bear to accuse her sister; neither could she endure to tell a falsehood, and therefore stood in silent embarrassment.

The aunt, who thought her silence proceeded from sulkiness, and contempt of her authority, was no longer mistress of her passion, and gave the innocent and generous Maria a box on the ear; accompanying this improper action with a severe lecture on sulkiness.



Mrs. Mervan, her sister, hurt and vexed as she was, had the good sense to avoid any further quarrel; and went to take Maria away. But Helen, greatly shocked for her sister, and ashamed of her culpable silence, rushed forward, and bursting into tears, exclaimed,—“It was not Maria who broke the dog; it was I: she told me to take care of it, but I was a careless naughty girl, and let it fall. Do not, aunt, be angry with Maria; it is I who am to blame for being careless, and letting my dear sister be reproved and punished for my fault.”

“Nay, dear aunt,” said Maria, in tears, “Helen did not mean to break



break the dog ; she was so sorry and afraid of offending you, I am sure you and mamma will forgive her."

"I am very naughty, indeed," sobbed Helen, "but I did not mean for Maria to be scolded, and beat : pray aunt, do not be angry with Maria !"

"Every one present, even the violent-tempered Miss Snap, was affected by the tenderness of the two sisters, who wept on each other's necks ; and the company, admiring the generous affection of the one, and the sincere repentance of the other, interceded for Helen's pardon.

The excellent mother, pressing her children to her bosom, with  
tears



tears of maternal tenderness, said to them, in a mild, but expressive tone: "To you, my dear Maria, I have only to recommend the same affection, and self-command over your feelings, which you have now shewn. Your sister deserves your affection, and in your place, I am sure, would almost have done the same."

Helen wept, and kissing her sister, said: "Yes, that I would."—"I hope, my dear Helen," continued the good mother, "that this will teach you the necessity of being careful: since your carelessness is not only hurtful to yourself, but every body who is concerned with you. But, above all, my dear girls, when



when you have done wrong, let who will be present, never fear to speak the truth; for even were I obliged to punish you, I should justly love and praise you for being sincere: and children who tell the truth are always believed, and very seldom deserve severe punishments. Go and promise your aunt to be more careful, and resolve to keep your word."

Helen, led by her sister, went and apologised to her aunt; who promised Maria another dog, and that she would give Helen a new wax-doll, as soon as her mamma assured her she was grown careful. Helen, who tenderly loved her parents, and saw how unhappy her care-



carelessness made her, resolved to amend; and encouraged by the praises of her delighted friends, and the pleasure it gave her to make them happy, in a twelve-month's time she conquered her bad habits, and became as careful as any girl of her age. Maria grew up, with her sister, to be an accomplished and happy woman, and they made their good papa and mamma the proudest and happiest of parents.

END OF TALE II.



### TALE III.

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*Idleness is the mother of most vices.*

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How happy are little girls who are not sent away from their papa and mamma, to go amongst strangers ! How grateful they ought to be when their parents not only work day and night to feed and clothe them, but take the additional labour of teaching them to read and work, and every thing, in short, that good little girls love to be taught ! Who could believe that any little girl, who had so good and kind a papa.  
and



and mamma, would be idle, and averse to learn what is to make them good and happy? None of my little readers, I dare say, know of any such; but truth obliges me to own there are some (a very few, we will hope,) that are so foolishly naughty.

That my little readers may see how unhappy such children are, I will tell them the story of an idle girl, who, however, happily for herself and her parents, was afterwards reformed.

"I wish our Fanny was fonder of her books," said Mrs. Smith to her husband, one afternoon, as they sat at tea; "it grieves me to see that



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*Tale - 3<sup>d</sup>*



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that all the pains you take are thrown away. We must, I fear, at last, send her to school, for she loves nothing but play."

"My dear," answered Mr. Smith, shaking his head, "if she is idle at home, where we try every gentle means to make her mind her learning, and pay every attention to her education which a parent's anxiety can suggest, I fear she will not become industrious in a school, where the attention of three or four people is divided among fifty or sixty children, and where they have so little interest in their welfare. The year she spent with her grand-mamma quite ruined her; and, since, her delicate health has

D                      made



made us too fearful of taking the proper means to correct her; but, my love, we must not yet despair, for idleness is her only fault."

Fond, partial father, not to perceive that idleness is the source of a thousand faults! But Fanny was an only child, had very delicate health, and was consequently spoiled by her parents, and still more by her grand-mother; so that all the pains they bestowed on her education were lost: and though she loved her papa and mamma, was good-tempered and obliging, she had not the resolution to get rid of the inveterate habit of idleness. She would read her lessons, it is true; but like a parrot, which repeats what it hears, without understanding



ing its meaning. She had masters to teach her music and drawing, of which she learned just enough to draw a flower, or play a country dance. If she sat down to work, which was not more than once in a month, it was to net or embroider; for plain work, which is the most necessary for little girls to know, was her aversion. Her mamma, who loved her tenderly, but who, like her husband, wanted proper firmness, lamented the idleness of her dear Fanny, but *would not tease the poor child, who would else fall ill, or mope herself to death, if she were forced to work.* How unfortunate it is for little girls, when their parents, from mistaken tenderness,



do not exert a proper authority, and oblige them to be industrious when they are young, that they may grow up to love to instruct themselves ! and how bitterly they repent their injudicious indulgence, when the evil cannot be remedied !

As Fanny grew older, her indolence encreased ; she could not endure the fatigue of walking, the sun was too hot in summer, the wind too cold in winter ; she generally sat with her hands before her, staring for two or three hours at a chimney-stack, or a tree ; and being naturally delicate, fell into a weak state of health : nay, for want of proper exercise, her growth was stunted, and she grew awry ;  
her



her temper, beside, as her health declined, daily altered, and she became a fretful, peevish girl, who tormented herself, and every body else around her. The unhappy parents, almost heart-broken, too late saw their folly, and wept over their wretched child.

Thus passed the time miserably on all sides, till Fanny had attained her fourteenth year; when one afternoon, as she was stretched on the sofa, with a violent head-ache, while her anxious parents watched by her side, thinking her asleep, Mrs. Smith said to her husband, "I shall break my heart if we lose her; though, as it is, I am broken-hearted to see her health and temper destroyed, and her life rendered



miserable by the fatal habit of idleness, which, foolish mother that I was, I suffered her to indulge."

"Poor child! she little knows the grief she occasioned us," answered the father, wiping his eyes, "but it is our own faults; we have ruined her by too much indulgence, and if she do not leave us inconsolable for her loss, she will break our hearts by seeing her avoided for her fretful temper, and despised for her ignorance. Foolish, baneful indulgence! it has ruined our peace for ever."

Fanny, who was not asleep, heard this affecting conversation, and, for the first time in her life, felt shocked and ashamed of her idleness. She found, by what she had just heard,



heard, how tenderly her parents loved her, and shuddered to think she had hitherto so ill repaid their cares, and made them so unhappy. —Forgetting her head-ache, she sprang from the sofa, and falling at their feet, with tears of bitter and sincere repentance, asked them to forgive her, and promised to regain the time she had lost, and to recover her strength by taking proper exercise. She was tenderly caressed by her delighted parents, who blessed the fortunate accident which awakened their child to a sense of duty, and true happiness. They fervently exhorted her to persevere in the laudable resolution she had formed. Fanny was at an age when resolution and enthusiasm

can



can almost do any thing; and without repeating fine promises, which often mean nothing, immediately set about cultivating her neglected talents, and taking the proper means to grow strong and healthy. — She rose betimes in the morning; walked before breakfast; practised her music three hours a day; applied diligently to her French and drawing; and learned how to make all her clothes, as well as her papa's shirts and cravats. She always bore in mind the conversation which took place between her parents, when she was on the sofa, and the solemn promise she made them to become the object of their dearest delight. What pleasure she found in being always occupied! Her cheer-



cheerfulness returned; she had never time to be out of temper, and she daily acquired strength. In four years she surprised all her friends and acquaintance by the wonderful progress she had made, and the astonishing alteration there was in her person and manners. She had grown a fine tall girl, was active, always employed, either at her needle, her music, or some useful occupation:— she was as gay as the lark, and never seen fretful or peevish. Every body admired her for her talents and sweetness of disposition. Her attention and tenderness for her parents were unremitting; and whenever she was praised for any talent, or the goodness of her temper, she always said;



said:—"It is to my dear honoured parents I am indebted for all I know: they taught me to be good and happy." Thus, from an idle, useless, ill-tempered girl, she became an industrious, active, and amiable young woman, and is now universally admired.

I hope my little readers will take warning, if they are inclined to be idle; and not lose their health, and make every body unhappy, before they feel the necessity of being industrious and active.

END OF TALE III.

TALE



## TALE IV.

*Disobedience in children is sure to end in  
sorrow.*

"I DON'T care, miss," said Clara Winton, to her eldest sister Augusta, as they walked in their aunt's garden; I will do as I like, and say what I like; and you may tell my aunt, if you please."

"Indeed, Clara," answered Augusta, mildly, "when our mamma returns, she will not know you again. Pray, my dear sister, be good, and do not make us all unhappy."

"And



“And so, miss, you pretend to say that my aunt don’t know what is right, and that mamma knows better than her? Very well—I’ll tell her; I will, miss,” said Clara, with a threatening gesture of her head.

“Clara,” replied Augusta, still keeping her temper, “I did not mention my aunt’s name: it does not become either you or me to make comparisons between our aunt and our mamma: my aunt is very kind, and loves us; therefore we owe her affection and respect; but we ought to remember what mamma told us.”

“And, pray, miss, what was that, if your memory is so good as to remember for six months together,” continued Clara, fractiously.

“Never



"Never to be obstinate and snappish to each other," answered Augusta.

"I am sure, miss, I am not obstinate: it is you that are snappish," interrupted Clara, pouting.

"Oh, Clara, recollect yourself," expostulated Augusta; "you know you ought not to have eaten those green apples you picked up under the trees; and when Susan told you mildly it was wrong, you should not have been snappish to her: mamma particularly forbids us to be so toward the servants."

Clara began immediately to cry, and told her sister she should go to her aunt, and tell her how she was teased by Augusta.

Augusta calmly followed her;

E

and



and meeting Mrs. Cremor, Clara made her complaint with tears in her eyes.

Augusta then informed the aunt of all that had passed.

"I am afraid, Augusta," said Mrs. Cremor, who, though a very good meaning woman, unfortunately loved to spoil children, "you have been too severe with the poor child: you know she cannot bear to be spoken to harshly."

"Indeed, dear aunt," continued Augusta, respectfully, "you cannot think how unhappy she makes herself, and every body else, by being so fractious and ill-tempered: all the servants dislike and complain of her, and what is more to be lamented



lamented than all, her temper daily grows worse."

"Pshaw!" interrupted Mrs. Cremor, impatiently, "it does not become you, miss, to come and preach to me in this manner about your sister. Go and dress yourself: I intend to take you with me to a ball."

"I thank you, dear aunt," answered Augusta, "but mamma desired me never to go to a public ball in her absence, and I cannot disobey her; though I am very much obliged to my dear aunt for her kindness."

"Disobey, indeed, miss! am I not in your mamma's place? But do as you will: I shall take my



Clara ; she will be glad enough to go."

Augusta, however, resolved to take an opportunity to speak to Clara, to persuade her not to disobey her parent's particular commands.

Clara presently came triumphantly to shew her sister the sugar-plumbs her foolish aunt had given her, and to inform her she was going to the ball. Augusta, who really loved her sister, represented to her how wrong it was thus to disobey her mamma. "Beside," added she, "you know, Clara, that papa and mamma are expected every day now, and if they should come while you are at the ball, how sorry you would be ! and how grieved they



they would be, to find you not only out, but gone to a ball, which you know they would not permit you to do if they were here."

"Never you mind, miss," answered Clara, "if any body is blamed, it will be my aunt; and if they do come, can't I see them to-morrow, or when I come from the ball."

I am sure my little readers will feel shocked, as Augusta was, at this naughty little girl's obstinacy, and will long for her good mother to come and take her from a person so incapable of governing her as the well-meaning, but too indulgent aunt was.

At eight o'clock, when all good little girls ought to be eating their



supper, and preparing to go to bed, Clara and her unthinking aunt, set off in a coach to the ball.

Half an hour after their departure, as Augusta was eating her supper, a loud rap was heard at the door: she started from her seat, flew down, and in an instant found herself in the arms of her dear papa and mamma.

I need not tell my little readers how joyful the meeting was on all sides. Mr. and Mrs. Winton had been obliged to absent themselves to go and settle some business of consequence; and as Mrs. Cremor, who was the sister of Mrs. Winton, had always expressed great affection for her nieces, she appeared to them the most proper person to confide  
their



their children to, during their absence. Augusta was no longer a child, and her good sense and amiable disposition made them less uneasy at this absence than they otherwise would have been. Clara, who was only seven years old when her mamma left her, was a good-tempered child, but Mrs. Cremor had completely spoiled her, and by over-indulgence had made her the naughty girl we have described.

"Where is my dear little Clara, and your aunt?" asked Mrs. Winton: "Clara, no doubt, is in bed; how I long to see her! Lead me to your aunt."

Augusta, much embarrassed, led them up stairs, unable to utter a word. When they came into the  
empty



empty drawing-room, Mrs. Winton repeated her inquiry, and Augusta, with an aching heart, said, "My aunt is out, dear mamma."

"I am very sorry," answered Mrs. Winton; "but take me to Clara, that I may kiss the dear-child."

"Clara is gone with my aunt," answered Augusta.

"Gone with your aunt!" said Mrs. Winton, much surprised, "and at this time of night? Where are they gone?"

"To a ball, dear mamma."

"A ball! Is my sister mad, to take a child to a ball at this time of night? And how happened you to be at home?"

"Because—because, mamma, I thought



thought—I knew you would not like me to go.”

“Excellent girl!—But, my dear Augusta,” said Mrs. Winton, kissing her, “why did you not persuade Clara to stay at home?”

Augusta, unwilling to make her mamma angry with her sister, was silent.

“Ah! your silence tells me all: she would not listen to your advice.”

“I am afraid,” said Mr. Winton, “that our Clara has been spoiled in our absence. Tell me, Augusta, is this not the case?”

“I hope she will be good now you and mamma are returned,” replied Augusta.

The good parents sent a servant



to inform Mrs. Cremor of their arrival, and to beg she would return with the messenger; resolved, though very much fatigued, to sit up till their sister returned: and as Augusta had been so good a girl, they permitted her to sit up an hour beyond her usual time of going to bed.

At half past ten o'clock, a violent rap announced the arrival of Mrs. Cremor. Augusta was just wishing her papa and mamma good-night, and Mr. and Mrs. Winton were anxiously waiting for Clara's entrance into the room, when they were shocked to see their little girl come into the room crying—her face red with passion, her frock torn, her ornaments destroyed,  
and



and her aunt's three-guinea fan, which she had lent her for the occasion, broken almost to pieces.

"My dear sister," said Mrs. Cremor, "I am very sorry to bring you Clara in this condition, but the poor child was so angry at being taken from the ball suddenly, that she fell into a violent passion, and tore her clothes as you see."

Clara, awed by the presence of her parents, whom she well knew never suffered her to cry and be in a passion, gave over sobbing, and stood with downcast eyes, feeling a mixture of shame and sullenness.

"I am very sorry, Clara," said Mrs. Winton, coldly, and without anger, "to hear you are grown so naughty



naughty a girl; but I hope I shall soon make you good again. I hoped to have kissed you before you went to bed; but I cannot now, for you are far from deserving such kindness. Do not let me hear any more crying, and go with your sister to bed, miss."

Clara, who knew she had no chance of conquering her mother, quietly walked up stairs to bed, and sullenly suffered Augusta to undress her.

Mrs. Cremor endeavoured to convince her sister that she was too severe to the poor child; but it was in vain: the grieved parents, who were sensible of her kind intentions, however ignorant she was of the right way of shewing that kindness,



kindness, forbore to reproach her; but resolved immediately to take their children to their country-seat in Wales, that Clara might be entirely out of her aunt's reach. What is it that good parents would not do for the welfare of their children! The next morning, Mrs. Winton, who wished to govern by gentleness, took Clara into her room, and pointing out to her how naughty she had been, promised to forgive her, if she would, in future, be good and obedient. "I do not," said the tender mother, "expect that you will immediately throw off all the bad habits you have acquired during our absence, but I do expect that you will do your best to correct yourself of

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them,



them, and that you will listen to the advice of your friends; and when you are told by them that the thing you are doing is wrong, that you will desist immediately."

Clara promised her mamma she would do all she desired her; but she found it is more easy to promise than to do the thing in reality.

In a few days, Mr. and Mrs. Winton, taking an affectionate leave of their sister, who was very grieved to part with her favourite Clara, went down to their country-seat.

Clara, who disliked very much to quit her too-indulgent aunt, had not sufficient command of her temper not to shew her dissatisfaction in her looks, though fear made her  
stifle



stifle the expressions of discontent which were every moment ready to escape her.

Mrs. Winton observed what passed in her mind, and by cheerful conversation, and kind little attentions, hoped to dispel her ill-humour; but these were lost on Clara, who grew more sullen and silent as they advanced into the country.

"Clara," said Mrs. Winton, with firmness, "you are sulky and out of temper, I see, because you are going with your best friends, who are resolved to make you a good girl. I have tried by every gentle means to make you recollect yourself; for the last time I warn you of it; for if you do not presently



come to yourself, and behave as you ought to do, I shall be obliged to punish you severely."

It is a sad thing when mammas are obliged to threaten their little girls to make them good.

Clara, seeing that her sulkiness could not alter her mother's prudent conduct, and knowing that however loath to punish, when it was necessary, she was not to be moved from her purpose, with the best grace she could, asked her mother's pardon, and gradually recovered her good temper.

"Now I love my dear little Clara," said Mrs. Winton, kissing her: "she is a good girl, and every body will love her."

This judicious praise confirmed  
Clara



Clara in her good resolutions, and she behaved very well all the rest of the way.

Augusta, on her part, was not wanting in every kind attention to engage the confidence of her little sister, and make her cheerful.—She often took her on her lap, and made her observe the various objects which generally amuse children: she sung to her, told her pretty stories, and at length quite won her good will, and made her as merry as herself. Mr. and Mrs. Winton saw the affectionate cares of Augusta with unspeakable delight, and with no less pleasure observed they had an excellent effect upon Clara; who no longer having a too indulgent aunt to humour her



whims, was sensible of the real kindness of her sister.

When they arrived, Mrs. Winton informed her children that she expected a very amiable and accomplished young woman from London, who would assist her in their education; and told Clara she hoped she would be a very good girl by the time Miss Laurence came, (which would be in five months;) because, if she was not good, Miss Laurence could not stay with her, and teach her French, and other accomplishments. Clara, who really felt ashamed of her past misconduct, and wished to be beloved, resolved to surprise her mamma, and every body, by shewing how good she could be. She  
minded



mind what was said to her. If she felt cross and peevish, she would run into the garden, and jump herself into good humour; and she applied herself diligently to every branch of her learning. In short, the reformation of Clara, which was gradual and lasting, gave her happy parents and sister the greatest delight:—she was their idol, and found herself much happier than when her aunt suffered her to do just as she pleased, and to be troublesome to every body. She found every one willing to oblige her in reasonable requests, because she spoke so mildly, and was ever ready to oblige them in return. Every body admired her for her good humour, and lively spirits, and all her playfellows



playfellows loved her for her good nature.

“Do you think, mamma,” said Clara, on the morning of the day when the governess was expected, “that I am good now, and that our governess will love me?”

The delighted mother caught the sweet girl in her arms; and her tender caresses were the most pleasing answer she could make, and to Clara the most sure proof that she was now deserving of them.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, a chaise drove up to the park door: Clara and Augusta were anxiously looking to see if a carriage were in sight, when they saw a young woman, simply but tastily dressed, with a very prepossessing countenance,



nance, step out of a chaise. Augusta flew to the gate, followed by Clara and opened it. "It is our governess!" exclaimed Clara, joyfully running to kiss the stranger, "how glad I am you are come;—and so is Augusta." How different would have been her feelings at that moment had she not diligently set about ridding herself of her faults!

Augusta begging Miss Laurence, who kissed the little girl, to excuse her sister's abruptness, led her by the hand into the house, to Mr. and Mrs. Winton, who very kindly received her.

Miss Laurence was no less pleased with her pupils than they were with their governess. Her manners were gentle and lively,  
and



and she was very fond of good children; so that they were soon on the most friendly terms with her.

To make an end of my story, I shall finish it by assuring my little readers, that Augusta and Clara are now grown up amiable and accomplished young women. They often go and see their good aunt, without the fear of being spoiled by her; and she even acknowledges that she does not understand the right way of bringing up children; and that if they had continued with her, she might have done Clara a great deal of harm, though it was certainly quite contrary to her wishes.

END OF TALE IV.

TALE



## TALE V.

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*Real kindness and generosity of heart are  
sure to procure happiness.*

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HITHERTO, my little readers, I have endeavoured to shew you the evil consequences which seldom fail to arise from those bad habits or faults which children wrongly brought up are liable to possess, in a greater or less degree. I might easily have given you more striking examples of the evil tendency of those errors, which frequently end in our misery and sometimes even  
in



in an untimely and agonising death; but I flatter myself that you do not require these shocking proofs of the fatal consequences of grown-up bad habits, to make you careful of avoiding falling into them. I, therefore, shall be silent on these; and immediately pass from my other little tales, to one which will shew you, though but in a trifling degree, how much you may add to your own happiness, by possessing those qualities fit to render you amiable and praiseworthy:

“I wish I had a good papa and mamma, like you, to love and take care of me,” said little Rosetta Clinton, to her schoolfellow, Emily Sidney, a young girl, fourteen years  
old



old, one afternoon, as they were walking in the garden:—but my dear papa is gone a long, long way off, and mamma died when I was a very little girl.”

“Poor little dear,” said Emily, affectionately kissing her; “you are so good a girl that I wish, with all my heart, you were my sister, but your papa will come back, and then he will come and see you, and when you are older take you home.”

“You may go to-morrow to stay a whole month with your papa and mamma,” continued Rosetta, half crying, “and Maria, and Sophy, and all of them but me, will go to their papas and mammas. Oh that I too had a papa and mamma!—Our

G

governess



governess is very good, to be sure ; but she is not fond of children, and when I am left all alone, I shall not have a soul to speak to."

Here the poor little creature wept bitterly.

I am sure my tender-hearted little readers, who know the blessing of having a good papa and mamma, to caress and take care of them, will cry with her.

"Do not cry, my dear Rosetta," said Emily, "when mamma comes to fetch me, I will beg her to ask our governess to let you go with us, and mymamma shall be your mamma. Though this is the first time I have been to school, and I have only been away from papa and mamma three months, I feel as if I had left  
them



them for years. I shall be so happy when the twelvemonth is over; for then I shall go home for good and all. Come, my dear, dry up your tears, and we will run a race together."

The mild little girl, gratefully kissing the amiable Emily, wiped her eyes, and resuming her cheerfulness, which the approaching departure of all her schoolfellows, and the sense of her forlorn condition naturally excited in a child of great sensibility, ran with her kind companion round the garden.

They were interrupted in their amusement by a girl, who came out of breath to tell Rosetta the postman had brought a letter from the East Indies, where her papa was.



"I saw it myself," said she, "as I was coming down stairs: it is sealed with black—I am afraid your papa is ill, or perhaps dead."

"How can you alarm one so foolishly?" interrupted Emily, in a mild, but reproachful tone, while she supported the trembling Rosetta, who burst into a flood of tears; "people often seal their letters with black, from thoughtlessness, or because they have no red sealing wax at hand: beside, in any case, that abrupt manner of telling one is very wrong, and sometimes dangerous."

"Oh, my poor papa! my poor papa!" sobbed the afflicted Rosetta, "I shall never see him again."

Emily



Emily endeavoured to pacify her, but the little girl, who was in her ninth year, and who perfectly recollected and tenderly loved her father, wept with increasing violence. Though yielding and gentle in general, she would not be withheld, but ran in tears to Mrs. Seldon, the governess, and begged to be informed if her papa was dead.

Mrs. Seldon, greatly shocked to find that the poor little orphan had been thus abruptly made acquainted with her misfortunes, did her utmost to soothe her, but thought, as she was prepared for the worst, that to give her false hopes would be cruel. Indeed, as for hopes there were none, and the poor little



creature was greatly to be pitied:— She had no relations, and her father, a merchant in embarrassed circumstances, had gone abroad to better his fortune: He had only been able to leave a bare sufficiency to maintain his child for two years; intending, however, if he did not by that time return, to remit money to the governess.

Mrs. Seldon had now received the most painful intelligence that Rosetta's father, along with many more, had perished in the defence of one of the English settlements, where he was, which was attacked in the night by a band of barbarians. This news was sent by a friend of Rosetta's father, residing in that part of the world; who, knowing



knowing he had a little girl at Mrs. Seldon's boarding school, for whom he had often expressed, in this gentleman's presence, the greatest fondness, wrote to Mrs. Seldon to inform her of this fatal circumstance; at the same time letting her know that he would take upon himself to pay for Rosetta's schooling, till she was grown up, and properly disposed of.

Mrs. Seldon was, in most respects an excellent woman, but she was not fond of *young* children; and Rosetta was the only one she received at so early an age, to oblige Mr. Clinton, who had been her deceased husband's friend.

However, humanity prevailed over every personal consideration,  
and



and she resolved to educate the little orphan in the best manner she could, and to enable her to get her bread in a reputable manner.

Poor little Rosetta found a kind consoler in Emily, who would not leave her alone, and begged Mrs. Seldon to let her sleep in her bed. Rosetta cried herself to sleep, and did not wake till late the next morning. Emily was then sitting by her bed-side, anxiously watching her.

This amiable young lady had, from the first, attached herself to Rosetta, who was little noticed by the other girls, except when they wanted her to run of their errands, and the grateful child fondly loved her.



her. She would often talk with Emily of her dear papa, whose absence she had regretted with a constancy uncommon at her age; but her sensibility was extreme, and her disposition of a serious cast.

Emily's parents were very rich, and she was their only child. Never was child more beloved, and parents more tenderly revered. Her vivacity, joined to great sweetness of temper, was charming: she was frank of heart, and obliging to all around her: she possessed a perseverance in doing right rarely to be seen at her age; and never yielded to what she thought wrong. In short, she was the idol of her parents and acquaintance.

When the poor orphan opened  
her



her eyes, and saw Emily sitting by her, she threw her arms round her neck, and burst into tears: "Oh my papa, my dear papa!" cried she again, sobbing with violence.

"My dear Rosetta," said Emily, tenderly. "your papa was a good man, and is, no doubt, happy: your crying cannot restore him to you, but will make you ill, and your friends very uneasy. Be always a good girl, and think of him with affection, but do not make yourself and every body around you miserable. I will beg mamma to take you home with us: I am sure she will not refuse me:—or, if Mrs. Seldon should object to your going, I will stay with you."

Rosetta, who felt the reason of  
Emily's



Emily's remonstrances, and feared to make her unhappy, endeavoured to compose herself, and gratefully received the kind attentions of her amiable consoler. She ate her breakfast, though without appetite, and, at the desire of her governess, walked in the garden.

Emily waited impatiently for the arrival of her papa and mamma, who came in their coach about two o'clock. After the first salutation and joyful embraces were over, Emily, taking her parents apart, made a petition for Rosetta, with all the persuasive eloquence of feeling; relating the melancholy situation of the little orphan, with which Mrs. Seldon, who was very partial



partial to Emily, had made her acquainted.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney, charmed with the benevolence and amiable conduct of their daughter, asked to see Rosetta, and promised to take her with them, if the governess consented. Emily joyfully ran for her little favourite, whom she found sitting in a corner of the garden, alone and sad.

"My dear Rosetta," said Emily, taking her by the hand, "come with me. I have great hopes you will go home with us : do not fret so, my love ; you will certainly be ill if you do."

Thus soothing the little sufferer, Emily led her into the parlour, where Mr. and Mrs. Sidney were speaking



speaking to the governess of Rosetta; and hearing she was so sweet a tempered and good child, they had generously resolved to take care of her.

"Come, Rosetta," said Mrs. Seldon to her, as she entered the room, "and thank this good lady and gentleman, who will kindly replace the parents you have lost. Will you go home with them, and be as good a girl as you have ever been?"

Emily's parents were charmed with the sweet and ingenuous countenance of the little girl; and her timid silence, and downcast eyes, which beamed with intelligence and sensibility, interested them greatly in her favour. Besides, she

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was



was beloved by their darling Emily, who was the pride and delight of their hearts. They took the interesting orphan in their arms, and tenderly kissing her, told her that they would be her papa and mamma, and that Emily should be her sister. Rosetta promised her kind protectors to love them dearly; "but I can never forget my dear papa," said she, while tears bedewed her expressive blue eyes.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney already felt deeply interested for their charming little adopted daughter, and even looked to the time when she would grow up an accomplished and industrious girl, who would be the friend and companion of their Emily.

When



When Rosetta's clothes were nicely packed up, a care which Emily took upon herself, they bid the worthy Mrs. Seldon good day, promising to send back Emily, but to keep Rosetta at home till she was four or five years older.

Rosetta's grief was diverted by the kind attention of her friends, and the variety of objects which offered themselves to their view, during a long ride to town. The school was twelve miles from London. Mr. Sidney's house was in an airy street, leading toward Hyde-park, and she had a delightful little garden to it. Rosetta, who had never been in London before, was greatly surprised and amused to see such fine houses, well-paved

H 2 streets,



streets, and so many carriages and people; and her curious remarks on these were very agreeable to her auditors.

When they were arrived, Mrs. Sidney desired Emily to shew her sister her room, which was large enough for them both, and they were to sleep together, until the upholsterer prepared another bed for Rosetta: every thing here was neat, and tastily arranged; the chairs were made of straw, and a pretty mahogany table, and chest of drawers, served Emily to keep her things in order, and to work at; for she learned to make her clothes, and every sort of needle-work which is necessary for good housewives to know. Her chamber



ber too was hung with pretty drawings, all of her own doing, and which Rosetta found great pleasure in looking at. In short, every thing shewed that the young mistress of the apartment was neat, orderly, industrious, and tasty. Emily never left her clothes on chairs, or forgot to fold up her things before she went to-bed: her drawers were always kept in good order, and she was no less careful to have clean hands, and to see that her stockings were not splashed, or her frock soiled. My little readers, whom I trust and believe are as tidy and diligent as Emily, must feel the pleasure of being neat, industrious, and orderly. She was never at a loss to find what



she wanted;—every thing had its proper place, and she never mislaid her things. Her work-bag too was always at hand, her housewife was never empty of thread or needles, and her thimbles and scissars were never missing. While less careful children would be seeking their scattered implements to work, Emily would have half-finished what she was about.

Rosetta was not quite so tidy as Emily, but she was so docile, and anxious to please her kind friends and her dear Emily, that she soon cured herself of trifling habits of negligence, which, had they not been corrected in time, would have become a very serious misfortune to her, as nothing is so disgusting



as to see little girls slovenly :—they are always despised, and if they grow up so, every body ridicules, and nobody respects them.

The charming little girl daily gained on the affection of her adopted parents; and feeling herself beloved, and no longer a forlorn orphan, gradually acquired the vivacity of her age, and was the delight and life of the whole house.

A trifling circumstance, which I will relate, because I am sure it will give my little readers pleasure, rivetted Rosetta in the hearts of her benefactors.

Before Emily returned to school, Mrs. Sidney promised she should go with Rosetta to a private dance, given by one of her young friends.

Emily,



Emily, my little readers, danced very well; but her parents very properly made dancing but a slight part of her education: they wished her to be graceful and active, but they by no means liked for their daughter to dance in the style of an opera-dancer, or to make herself conspicuous in public, which teaches young folks to be vain, and fond of dissipation. Emily never went to public balls, but her indulgent parents never refused to let her go to those private dances where moderate exercise and early hours were observed.

Rosetta, who could join in country dances, and who was very fond of this amusement, waited for the happy evening with the most eager expectation,



expectation, and dreamed every night of balls and dancing.

At length the wished-for day came:—Rosetta rose an hour earlier than usual; and leaving Emily asleep, softly crept out of bed, dressed herself, and opening her drawers, began to examine some part of the dress which had been got ready for the occasion. While she was admiring, with childish satisfaction, the sprigged frock worked by Emily, now trying on her new white kid shoes, and then carefully putting them again in the drawer, Emily woke, and complained of a violent head-ache: Rosetta left her clothes, forgot the ball, and flew to her with the most anxious affection.

“Do



"Do not be uneasy, my dear Rosetta," said Emily, calmly, "I shall get up, and I dare say, after breakfast, my head-ache will be gone."

Accordingly Emily, who was very patient under pain, and never wished to make her friends too uneasy on her account, though she would have preferred just then lying in bed, rose, and, to conceal the great pain she felt, began to talk of the ball, and by her cheerfulness made Rosetta more easy. At breakfast, when the adopted sisters went to kiss their kind parents, a duty which they never forgot, Mrs. Sidney remarked that Emily looked very pale, and that her forehead burned. Not wishing, however,



however, though uneasy herself, to make her husband and daughter so, thinking it might be nothing of consequence, she was silent. However, the tender mother anxiously watched her darling Emily, and seeing that she forced herself to eat, asked her if any thing ailed her?

"Oh, dear!" cried Rosetta, "Emily had a bad head-ache when she awoke, but she would get up, and it got quite well, for she has been talking and laughing with me ever since."

"Tell me, child," said Mr. Sidney, no less anxious than her mother, "has your head-ache left you?"

"No, papa," answered Emily, "but



"but I dare say it will soon be better."

"She has certainly caught cold," said Mrs. Sidney; "her pulse is not right. If this head-ache does not leave her before night, we must send to Dr. Earling, that he may prescribe something for her. I am very sorry, my love," continued the kind mother, "but it will not be prudent for you to go out to-night, especially to a dance: we must send Rosetta alone."

"Aye, do," said Emily; "I am sure I would not have her disappointed: as for me, I shall be quite as happy at home with you."

"No," cried Rosetta, throwing her arms round Emily's neck, "I could take no pleasure without my dear



dear sister; and when I thought she was ill at home, while I was dancing, I should be very unhappy."

"But, indeed, my dear Rosetta, it will give me greater pleasure to know that you are taking an amusement of which you are so fond, than for you to stay with me," said Emily, affectionately kissing her. But Rosetta had lost all inclination to dance, and when she was pressed to go, she begged so earnestly that she might stay with her dear Emily, that her request was granted.

Emily was, indeed, very unwell, and the Doctor ordered her to take physic, and go to bed early. Rosetta never left her a moment: she would give her every thing with her own hands, and the affection-



ate little girl, when Mrs. Sidney, fearful for her health, for her constitution was somewhat delicate, put Rosetta to sleep in her own room, that Emily might not be disturbed in the night, wept with sorrow that she was not allowed to remain with her beloved sister. Mrs. Sidney had a bed made in her daughter's room, and a lamp placed in the chimney, that she might watch by her all night.

Rosetta was very restless during the night; and dreaming that Emily had become very ill indeed, the affectionate little creature awoke with the fright, and unable to endure the agitation of her spirits with patience, she rose softly, at the dawn of light, and went, in  
her



her night-gown, to Emily's room, which was the next to Mrs. Sidney's. The tender mother, fatigued with watching, had fallen in a slumber, after she found that Emily had gone into a sound sleep. The door had been left a-jar, because it was summer, and Emily was so feverish that a close room would have been very bad for her. Rosetta, fearful of disturbing her mamma and sister, walked softly toward Emily, and knelt by her bed side. Mrs. Sidney fortunately woke a few moments after Rosetta's entrance, and rising softly to look whether Emily was still asleep, was much surprised and greatly affected, to see her adopted child, whose back was turned to her, kneeling



and watching the invalid with anxious affection. She took Rosetta in her arms, and pressing her to her bosom, told her Emily was better. She then put Rosetta in her own bed, desiring her to compose herself to sleep.

Emily awoke much better the next morning, and when Rosetta told her mamma the reason of her coming as she did, Mrs. Sidney, praising her affection, gently reasoned with her on the folly of being affected by dreams, and on the impropriety of rising in the middle of night, and begged her never again to endanger her health, by doing so. Rosetta promised faithfully she never would.

Emily, when she was told of the affectionate



affectionate anxiety of her dear Rosetta, felt the pure joy which good girls, *who see the happy consequences of being kind of heart*, must always feel. In a few days she was perfectly recovered, and to recompense the little Rosetta for the generous sacrifice she had made to her friend, of her favourite amusement, as well as to give pleasure to the amiable Emily, Mrs. Sidney allowed them to invite their young friends, before Emily returned to school, and have a little ball. How joyfully Rosetta prepared for the happy occasion! and how delightful were her reflections while she danced! Emily partook of her happiness, and their young friends declared it was the most

1 3                      pleasant



pleasant evening they had ever spent.

Emily returned to school, leaving her adopted sister to console her excellent parents. The parting was painful to all, and particularly to the little Rosetta, but the prospect of soon going to see her sister at her school, and shewing how good and industrious she had become, made Rosetta bear her loss with fortitude.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney, who considered the little orphan as their own child, both in affection and justice, as they had undertaken the care of her, treated her as such. When Emily left school, which she did in her sixteenth year, Mrs. Sidney resolved not to separate  
Rosetta



Rosetta from her. Emily, who was accomplished, well-informed, and of the most gentle temper, became, with her mamma, the joint instructress of Rosetta, who daily improved under their care, and made them proud of, and delighted with their task. Her affection and gratitude were unbounded; nor did she ever cease to respect and love the worthy Mrs. Seldon, to whom she had certainly great obligations.

Rosetta, in a short space of time, became a very accomplished young girl.

I have now to inform my little readers of an event which I have taken care should come rather suddenly upon them, in order that the agreeable



agreeable surprise it will give them should increase their satisfaction on finishing this little tale.

One afternoon, as Emily and Rosetta were repeating a duet before Mrs. Sidney, who was very fond of music, they were interrupted by a voice proceeding from the anti-chamber, quickly exclaiming, "Where is she?—Where is my dear child?—Where is my Rosetta?" and immediately after, a gentleman rushed into the room, accompanied by Mr. Sidney. Rosetta, on his appearance, fainted, for, in his features and voice, she discovered the stranger to be HER FATHER!! who, by a mistake, which I shall shortly explain, was said to have been killed by barbarians.



rians. With frantic joy he flew toward Rosetta, and having assisted to restore her to her suspended senses, he with rapture held her in his arms, his eyes fixed on her beautiful and reviving countenance, without being able to utter one syllable: tears, however, at last came to the relief of his overjoyed heart.

Nothing could have been more affecting than this scene of exquisite bliss; and all present were shedding involuntary tears.

As soon as Rosetta's father had recovered himself, his first thought was to express his gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Sidney for their most generous conduct toward his darling child. "The remainder of his life," he said, "should be devoted to a  
return



return of the obligations he owed them." He learned from Mrs. Seldon, where he flew on his arrival, how much he was beholden to this excellent family for the happiness he now enjoyed.

Emily was particularly affected by this scene, and Rosetta's father a hundred times bestowed on her his most sincere blessing.

I leave my little readers to imagine what must have been the state of Rosetta's feelings, for it would, perhaps, be too difficult a task for me to do them justice, by endeavouring to describe them.

Rosetta's father informed Mr. and Mrs. Sidney that the erroneous account of his death arose from the following particulars: When the barbarians



barbarians attacked the settlement, they killed a vast number, but they also took a few as prisoners, making them carry the booty of which they had plundered the place; and he happened to be one among these. Not having been heard of, it was naturally supposed by his friend, who had written to Mrs. Seldon, that he was among the number of the slain. He was kept among these people in slavery for several years, during which time he endured many hardships; but having found, at last, an opportunity of effecting his escape, he achieved his purpose without accident, after having found means to load himself and a horse with which he had provided himself to be more speedy  
in



in his flight, with a great deal of rich spoil which these barbarians had just brought home from one of their plundering excursions. He was now, thank God ! happily returned to his country, and with a sufficiency to enable him to live comfortably and happy with his dear Rosetta." At these words he once more pressed her to his paternal bosom.

The day was passed with heart-felt joy on all sides, arising from this happy occasion, and it was agreed that Rosetta's father should remain for some time at Mr. Sidney's house, until he should be able to settle to his comfort and advantage.

THE END.

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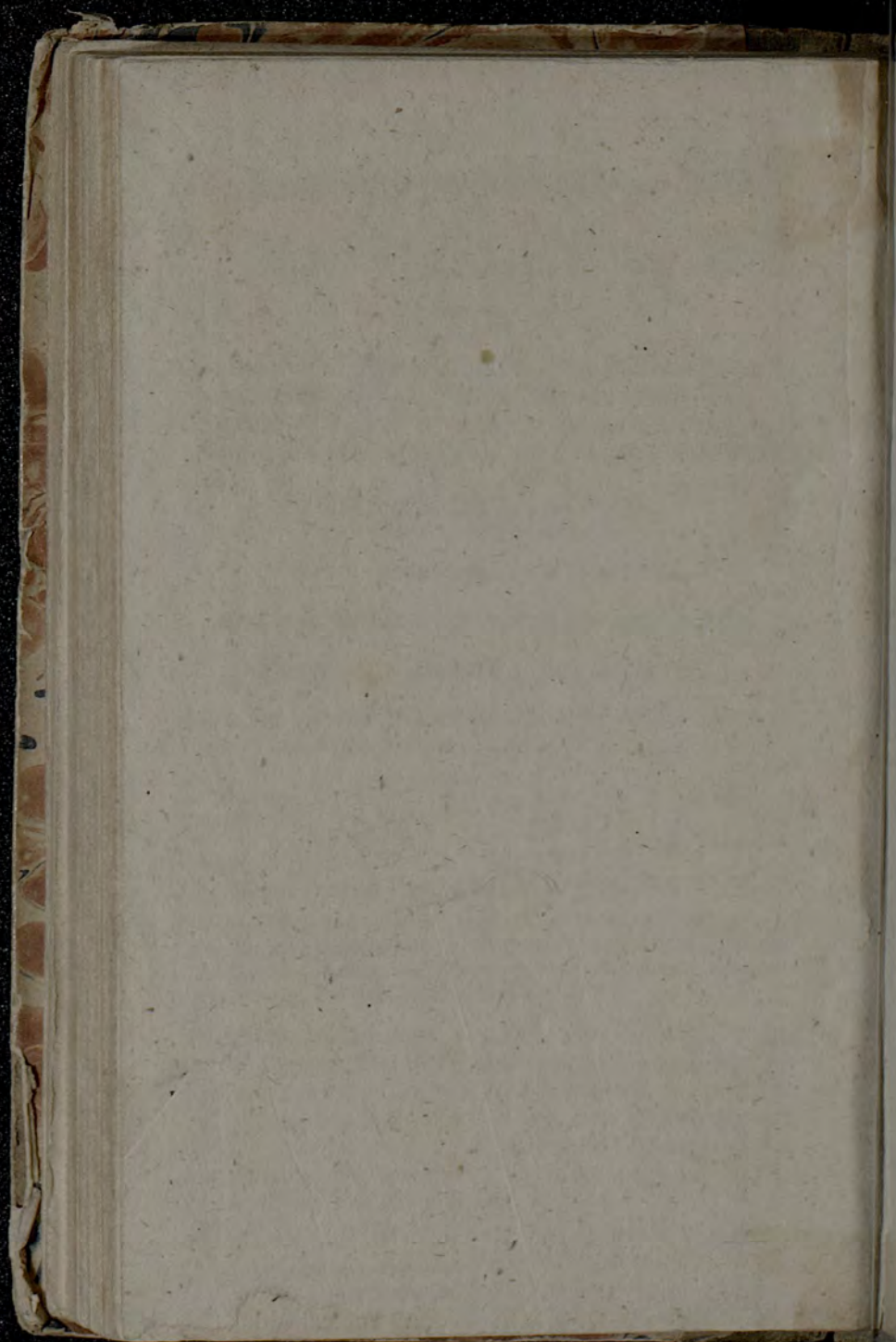
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