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FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

FRANK'S LESSON.

How He Learned of the Dangers of Bad Associates.

One day Frank's father saw him playing with boys who were very rude and ill-mannered. He noticed that Frank was a little rude at home, too, sometimes, and now he knew the reason. He was sorry, but he did not say anything to Frank at the time.

One evening soon after he brought from the garden four nice rosy-cheeked apples, which he gave to Frank. Frank, after thanking him, took the apples and laid them on a plate. His father told him to put them in the storeroom for a few days that they might become mellow. Just as Frank was laying them aside, his father gave him a rotten apple and asked him to lay it on the plate beside the others.

Frank said that the bad apple would spoil all the others, but his father said: "Do you think so? Why should not the fresh apples make the spoiled one fresh?" He then went down street.

About a week afterward he told Frank to get the apples. But what a change!



"DIDN'T I TELL YOU?"

Instead of four rosy-cheeked apples and one bad one he saw five bad apples on the plate.

Frank was quite angry because his four nice apples were spoiled. "Father," said he, "did I not tell you the bad apple would spoil the good ones, and you would not listen to me?"

"Frank," said his father, "did I not tell you that playing with bad boys would make you bad also? But you would not listen to me."

Frank did not forget this lesson and was always careful afterward about the selection of his associates. — Toronto Mail and Empire

Glass Skates.

Cinderella's glass slipper bids fair to become something more than a myth, though the modern Cinderella will need no fairy godmother to furnish her with a coach in which to reach home swiftly. Her slippers will answer the purpose.

The modern Cinderella's glass slipper is a skate, of which the upper part resembles a slipper, open behind, with a split "lace up" heel cap. The Age of Steel describes this new skate as a skate of glass, hardened by a new process to the consistency of steel. Every part of the skate is of glass, from the slipper-like upper to the glittering blade.

It is said that the glass blades are much more slippery than steel ones, and that they will run almost as well over rough, snow-covered ice as on a smooth ice sheet and will also go easily over inequalities, twigs and other obstructions.

They are made very sharp and are so hard that it is almost impossible to blunt them. They are unlike steel skates in that they never need grinding and never rust.

The new skates are as pretty as they are efficient. They are very nearly transparent, and in some cases the glass while in the liquid state is variously colored. Several notable skaters are said to have tested them, in every case with satisfactory results. So the pretty skates, with their sharp blades, will in all probability soon be seen skimming over lakes and streams, and youths and maidens who long ago relegated the Cinderella story to the region of their childhood will take renewed interest in glass slippers.

A Scotch Laddie.

A little boy had come to school for the first time. The teacher, to encourage the children to speak, asked them simple questions such as "How many feet have you?" etc. The cautious little man, however, listened without saying anything. At last the teacher, noticing this, said to him:

"How many feet did you say you have?"

Afraid of committing himself, he said: "Please, sir, I didn't say I had any."

Queer.

Said a little white cloud to the deep blue sea:
"If I were you and you were me,
You could sail up here, while I'd roar so loud!
What fun it would be!" said the little white cloud.

A little schoolgirl came down to the shore
And listened to hear the big waves roar.
"How queer it seems that the deep blue sea
And that little white cloud are the same!"

said she.
— Jennie Betts Hartwick in Little Folks

Brevity.

King Frederick William III of Prussia was very spare of words, as is well known, but one day he was told there was at Toplitz, where he was just drinking the waters, a Hungarian magnate less talkative than himself. An opportunity for a meeting was soon managed, and the following conversation took place, the king beginning: "Bathing?" "Drinking." "Soldier?" "Magnate." "Good." "Policeman?" "King." "Compliments."

Only Asked Once.

Mrs. Ferry—Did you behave yourself at Mrs. Wallace's and not ask the second time for pie?

Bobby—Yes'm. I didn't have to ask only once. I got the first piece without asking. Cincinnati Enquirer.

Using New Files.

An expert in files has given some directions as to the best ways to use these necessary implements. He says that a new file of very high temper should first be used on brass or cast iron. After the first sharpness is gone from it it answers quite as well for wrought iron and steel. Sometimes new files will tear the surface of wrought iron and steel to such an extent as to become very annoying and cause additional work. Very few mechanics thoroughly understand the use of files and the methods by which they are utilized to the greatest advantage. Files bite rolled metal much more quickly and easily than cast, therefore it requires a sharper file for brass and cast iron than for the wrought articles or for steel. If files are gradually adapted to their best uses, they will give much longer service than when they are indiscriminately employed.

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