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The Young Folks.

THE MAN OF THE HOUSE.

BY MARGARET E. SAWYER.

"I will take Ralph, Jemima!"

"Take Ralph, Ichabod! I can't think of such a boy. I can't spare my boy. There are so few of us now, brother!"

"But what, under the canopy, are you going to do with a great growing boy, eating you out of house and home, at the age when he needs a man to look after him, too? I tell you Jemima, it's monstrous! Bundle up the boy's clothes; and let him jump into the cart and go with me. His Aunt Polly'll see that he has plenty to do and he can sleep in now and then to see you on market days, if you like. Well done by the boy, Jemima! Don't turn away a fair offer. Come, Ralph, you know which side your bread is buttered on. You want to go home with me, don't you?"

It hardly seems possible that this coarse-looking, red-faced man, a regular Uncle Pumbuck of a man, could be own brother to the slender, refined woman in widow's mourning, awaiting whom the boy was leaning, his arm thrown fondly around her shoulder. The thought of living with Uncle Ichabod and Aunt Polly was hateful, and Ralph shuddered at the bare idea. But he was a well-trained boy, said politely, "I cannot leave mamma, uncle. Papa told me that I was to be the man of the house."

Ralph had died a month ago.

"Humph! Pretty man of the house you'll be! Need a man over you, I say?" And storming and blustering, Uncle Ichabod departed, slamming the door behind him, and driving old Whiteface clattering back down the road at a great pace.

"I hope I've said wisely, Ralph," said Mrs. Alford, smoothing back her boy's fair hair. "We have very little money, and your uncle's rich."

"I won't eat anymore than I can help, mamma, and I'll stop growing so fast if I possibly could."

"But, dear child! Eat all you want, ladie, and don't worry about growing. The sooner you grow to be a tall man, as papa was, the sooner you will be able to take good care of mamma and your sisters."

If there was very little money in the Alford's house, there was something much better—a great deal of love. Mrs. Alford knew how to be merry over bread and milk, and not to cloud her children's pleasure, she kept a cheerful face even when she felt sad and lonely. Ralph went to school every day, and tried not to worry his mother by complaints; but it was hard for a boy of eleven to wear trousers which were too short in the legs, and jackets which persisted in getting too tight over the chest, with sleeves which crept half-way to the elbow.

One day Miss Meredith, his teacher in the day school where he attended, asked him to remain a few moments. She knew how bravely and patiently this little man of the house was bearing his heavy burden, and so she wished to encourage him all she could, and keep his spirits up.

"Ralph, dear," she said.

"Yes, Miss Meredith?"

"You are a wonderfully good reader for your age. Haven't you been used to reading aloud?"

"Yes, Miss Meredith," answered Ralph; "I used to read to papa, every day, the paper, and stories, and poetry, and the Bible."

"I thought so. Now I have a proposal to make. There is a blind lady in the house where I board; she requires somebody to amuse her; and she will pay three dollars a week to a person who can read to her two hours every day. I have been thinking that I could excuse you every morning at a quarter before twelve, and let you ride home, eat your luncheon, and then you might go to Mrs. Merrifield for an hour. Then if you could give her another hour from four to five in the afternoon, she would be satisfied."

Ralph almost jumped for joy at the prospect of earning three dollars a week. Why, how glad he would be to help mamma so much as that! That would be like the man of the house.

Miss Meredith proceeded. "Mrs. Merrifield is an old lady, and sometimes rather impatient in her manner. You must not mind her plain-speaking, however. And her taste in reading may seem very dry to a boy like you, but that you will be prepared for, as it will only take two hours each day."

"Miss Meredith," said Ralph, "I do not mind anything, if I can only please the lady, and earn some money for my mother. It's dreadful," he added, confidentially, "to grow so fast and to eat so much as I do."

It wasn't the very pleasantest thing in the world for a boy who liked to play ball and cricket and lively games to spend two hours a day reading Baxter's *Saint's Rest*, and Owen's *Fairfield State* to a blind lady, but Ralph did it.

Mrs. Merrifield took a great fancy to him from the moment she passed her fine wrinkled hands over his smooth face, and the longer he came to her, the more pleased she was, saying now and then to Miss Meredith, "There's good blood there, my dear. The little lad's a gentleman."

She could not see him colorfully one day when she felt his bare wrists and divined the cat-o'-ninet jacket, but she had delicate sense of his natural pride to send him the order for a new suit of clothes, which she had resolved upon for his birthday present, until a fortnight later, Miss Meredith happened to mention the boy's birthday.

Before Mrs. Merrifield sent her gift she had a good reason for doing so. Ralph was sitting by the window. A pale hand came in the rustling. The old lady had stopped to stop and then to consider what her favorite author had been saying. Suddenly, with a hurried "I beg your pardon; I must go," the boy dashed out of the room, as if he had been stung by a hornet, leaving his patois with uplifted hands in a state of amazement. Never had this gentle boy behaved in so unfeeling a manner.

A moment later he was back, bearing in his arms a bearded, eye-bleeding child, whose little dress was stained with mud, while her hands were bleeding from a sharp scratch. A sky's terror brought up the rest, screaming violently, and a very much demoralized maid came straggleing after.

"Oh, grandmother! grandmother!" cried the little girl. "I would have been bound over if this big boy had not jumped down from the sky just in time."

"Just in time," barked the terror. "And where were you, Misusing?" inquired the old lady, severely, of the maid, who was advanced to tell the truth, which was that she had forgotten her little charge, while gossiping with a tall policeman, who fairly was reported. Such a medicine as the German Syrup cannot be too widely known. It is sold at a drugstore in New York, 75 cents. Sold by all Druggists and Dealers, in the United States and Canada, I

sent the order for the new suit. But I think there was greater merit in the steady self-denial which made the boy ready to give up two hours a day to uncongenial work, than in the sudden impulse which sent him to snatched a baby from peril.

He is proving himself a really charming man of the house, though Uncle Ichabod still grumbles at Jemima's usefulness in spoiling that boy.—*Harper's Young People.*

JINGLES AND JOKELETS.

Hair an Hour With the Wise Men, the Wits and the Paragraphs of the Day.

Good the year round.—National Pills are a good blood purifier, liver regulator and mild purgative for all seasons.

A lady writes: "I was enabled to move the comes, root and branch, by the use of Holloway's Corn Cures. Others who have tried it have the same experience.

Whooping, spasmodic asthma from Asthma receive quick and permanent relief by using Southern Asthma Cure. Sold by all druggists or by mail on receipt of price.

Origin of sweating.

The brother of the fairy Paul Banow was only thirty inches high. His beard, was thirty-two feet long and extended horizontally in front of him as he walked. He invented swearing to express his feelings when poor biscuits were set on his table. His wife could always make biscuits when he was home to use Imperial Cream Tartar Baking Powder.

The signs of worms are well-known, but they are not always so well determined. Worm Powders will destroy them.

A short road to health was opened to those suffering from chronic coughs, asthma, bronchitis, catarrh, lumbago, tumors, rheumatism, excoriated nipples of inflamed breast, and kidney complaints, by the introduction of the inexpensive and effective remedy, Dr. Thomas' Electrolic Oil.

For the complexion.—For Pictures, Taus, Blotches, and all itching tumor of the skin, use Prof. Low's Magic Sulphur Soap.

United.—The old or the young may at all times and all seasons of the year take Burdock Blood Bitters with benefit when requiring ablood purifying tonic, but it washes off the stomach, bowels, liver or kidneys.

Most exhilarating are the twinges which rack the muscles and joints of the rheumatic. Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery and Dyspepsia Cure, by promoting increased action of the kidneys, by which the blood is more effectively depurated, removes through the natural channels certain acidic elements in the circulation which produce rheumatism and gout. The medicine is also a fine laxative antispasmodic and general corrective.

On Your Guard.

Don't allow a cold in the head to slowly and surely run into catarrh, which will be cured for by using Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure. A few applications curinpatent catarrh; 1 to 2 doses ordinary catarrh; 2 to 5 doses is guaranteed to cure chronic catarrh. Try it. Only 25c. and soon cure.

The public should bear in mind that Dr. Thomas' Electrolic Oil has nothing in common with the impure, deteriorating class of so-called medicinal oils. It is immensely pure and really efficacious—relieving pain and lameness, stiffness of the joints and muscles, and removing hardness being an excellent specific for rheumatism, coughs and bronchial complaints.

A Fatal Attack.

A fatal attack of croup is a frequent occurrence among children. Every household should be guarded by keeping Hargrave's Postural Balsam at hand. It breaks up colds, coughs, croup, asthma and bronchitis in a remarkable manner.

Great Excitement.

People are apt to get greatly excited in case of sudden accident and injury. It is well to be prepared for such emergencies. Haggard's Yellow Oil is the handiest remedy known for burns, scalds, scabs, lameness, pain and all wounds of the flesh. It is used internally and externally.

A Remarkable Case.

Frederick Wize, of Minto, Ont., suffered with running sores on both legs which the best of physicians failed to cure. Two bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters cured him completely. Scrofula always due to bad blood, is curable when timely treated with D. B. B.

The extraordinary popularity of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is the natural result of its use by intelligent people over forty years. It has within itself the very best specific for colds, coughs, and pulmonary complaints.

Great Futility.

There is no other medicine of such general usefulness in the household as Haggard's Yellow Oil for the cure of rheumatism, neuralgia, sore throat and all internal and external pains and injuries.

Have You Noticed?

The weary, "all gone" feeling, with gnawing at the pit of the stomach, or a choking from undigested food so common to the weak dyspeptic, is soon remedied by Burdock Blood Bitters, which is a positive cure for the worst form of Dyspepsia.

Rest and Comfort to the suffering.

"Brown's Household Panacea" is no squat for relieving pain, both internal and external. It cures Pain in the Side, Back, Bowels, Sore Throat, Rheumatism, Toothache, Lumbago and any kind of a Pain or Ache. "It will most rapidly quicken the Blood and Head as its netting power is wonderful." "Brown's Household Panacea," being acknowledged as the great Pain Reliever, and of double the strength of any other Elixir or Liniment in the world, should be in every family handy for when wanted, "as it really is the best remedy in the world for Cramps in the stomach, and Pains and Aches of all kinds, and is for sale by all Druggists at 25 cents a bottle."

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In Brief, And to the Point.

Dyspepsia is dreadful; it is misery, Indigestion is a fool to good.

The human digestive apparatus is one of the most complicated and wonderful things in existence. It is easily put out of order.

Greasy food, tough food, sloppy food, bad cookery, neutral worts, late hours, irregular habits, and many other things which ought not to have made the American people a nation of dyspeptics.

But Green's August Flower has done a wonderful work in reforming this bad business and making the American people healthy, that they can enjoy their meals and be happy.

Remember:—No happiness without health. But Green's August Flower brings health and happiness, to the dyspeptic.

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