

THANKSGIVING

Thank God for little common things,
Small, lovely things of every day—
Grasps that to greet beside the door
And flowers that grow across the way,
Conditions that flicker in the dusk
And quiet rooms where shadows play;
For silver fingers of the rain
Striking a young tree, bending head,
For still winds that prick through drifting clouds.

And dawns that bring in gold and
Thank God for common, lovely things
That are the spirit's daily bread!

APPLY WITHIN

"Oh, Aunt Madge," Sally's voice was very plaintive, "can you cheer me up? Everything is going wrong!"

"Outside and inside?"

"Yes," Sally answered stoutly, "outside and inside, both."

"So, them of course, are beginning to put things right as fast as you can."

"But how can I?" protested Sally. "How can I do anything with the fact that it is raining so we can't go on our class picnic, or that Sarah Shumway's mother is having things about me, or that father says I must have another new dress? And what else?"

"That's the great trouble; I can't think of a single one of these horrid things."

"Well, those are only the outside things, and, after all, the outside things are the ones that count least."

The puzzled look on Sally's face deepened as she said, "Aunt Madge, you certainly don't think I've got troubles that are worse than those, do you?"

Aunt Madge smiled—one of her wide, understanding smiles.

"Why, yes," she said, "I certainly did know I saw the signs of consider-able worse things—and yet, after all, things that are absolutely in your own hands."

"Aunt Madge, please don't talk in riddles! How are any of these horrid things in my own hands?"

"Because all you need to do is to follow one little direction that we all do every morning nearly every day."

"Apply Within?" It's the only place I know of to find happiness and contentment, I suppose, over the outside things that trouble us."

Sally's look became almost in-



IN SCHOOL DAYS

Still sits the schoolhouse by the road,
A rugged old stone building,
But still the sunbeams grow,
And blackberry vines are climbing.

Within the master's desk is sleep,
Deep snored by tape official.
The warping floor, the battered seats,
The jack-knife's carved initial.

The chequered freeces on its wall,
Its down's worn out betraying.

The feet that, creeping slow to school,
Went stomping out to playing;

Last year's snows, last winter sun,
Left up the western window panes
And low caves' eyet feeding.

It touched the tawny golden curles,
And brown eyes full of grieving.

Of one who still her steps delayed
When all the school was leaving.

For near her stood the little boy,
Her children, singer, violinist,
Her mother lower upon his face
Where pride and shame were mingled.

Pushing with restless feet the snow
To right and left, he lingered.

As restlessly beat his hands,
The blue-cheeked apron fingered.

He saw her lift her eyes, fell
Sighed, and the frosty breath he voice.

As if a fault confessing—

"I'm sorry that I said the word,
Because," the brown eyes lower fell,

"Because, you see, I love you!"

Still memory to a gray-haired man,
That sweet child-like face is shown.

Dear girl! The grasses on her grave
Have forty years been growing!

He lives to learn in life's hard school,
How few who pass above him

Learn their triumph and their loss.

Like her, because they have no
Whittier.

MEMORIES OF SIXTY YEARS AGO

More and I accepted the invitation of the School Trustees to visit the new High School building on Saturday evening, October 22, with the rest of the members of the Board. My mother clattered about the room, I stepped into what was Fairview Place, the family residence of Grandfather Sidney Smith, of which he was so anxious to show me. He had the bottom half closed in by windows and the top wired and supplied with cutout sections, hinged to permit of opening and closing when the hot weather bath windows of Montreal may be removed.

He built a single house with the exception of a porch which was added later on, while he was still working on the house, which comprised the Smith property.

I recall one winter afternoon when a couple of the scholars were missing from the unusually objectionable man, and Mr. Little, the teacher, seemed to have lost their power of speech, then he said to Tom Lee: "Tom, go over to Mr. Smith's and cut me a piece of board, stiff board, pads, etc., then when you get home, get a nail and see if I can't drive out those mischiefs from them." With alacrity Tom obeyed the master's order. The game came off, and the boy, though three times as big as his teacher, ran straight through the door, and straight through the culprits who were brought along, and got through with a bang. When Mr. Little's got through with the culprits they were brought along, and got through with a bang. It was a good sign the boy had got through with a bang, but when he did he obtained prompt results. A few old chaps abroad and in, and the country can make witness as to the value of their personal experiences, if they will.

"Yes," assented Sally slowly, "I suppose so, but how does that apply to me?"

"Well, of course, you have heard this before, too, but that doesn't make it any the truer, does it?" asked the girl. "But that hurts you, but the way you permit yourself to feel about it—Not at all. He goes 'within,' he lays out the country that will be right, whatever happens, he stays on the wheel, and he rides the storm," but that was the way to be its master."

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