A BASKET OF CHIPS.

"I declare! It does beat all natur' where that woman got her tongue. It grows wuse an' wuss, seems if!" and old Farmer Barber seated himself wearily on in old hogshead out in the barn.

A domestic storm had been brewing or several days, and now it had sudlenly burst, and in its fury Matilda, the laughter of the house, had been decidedly worsted.

Matilda was an only child, but living at Farmer Barber's was another young girl, a niece, whom Mrs. Barber said

was like an own daughter. The observant neighbors said there seemed to be quite a difference in the treatment of the two girls. Tillie, as she was generally called, took a great deal of time to attend to her curling papers, and never very much time to spend upon domestic duties, while poor little Mollie gave very little heed to personal adornment except to keep herself tidy.

But then, Mollie's hair would curl anyway. She had no use for curl-papers.

This summer the Barbers were taking city boarders "for a change," Mrs. Barber said, but the neighbors said it would come a little nearer the truth if she

had said "for the change."

Among them old Mrs. Wainwright had come to stay for the summer. It was necessary she should be somewhat economical this year, but her reduced circumetances seemed affluence to the poor people at the farm.

Tillie, who dearly loved finery, regarded her as a princess, unmindful of the fact that her gowns were a little passe, and made herself as agreeable as

Titlie did not care to propitiate Mrs. Wainwright so much for that lady's own sake as for the sake of the very interesting nephew who accompanied her.

But Mollie, with a correct interior sense of the fitness of things, regarded Mrs. Wainwright as an ill-bred woman, quite unlike her nephew in manner. Halstead Wainwright brought his aunt

there and went away directly, but returned in a week's time to see if the place suited her. He thought he would remain a couple of weeks himself. And then Tillie primped more frequently and spent all her time in dressing in her coarse finery to attract Halstead Wainwright's attention.

Mollie worked harder that ever, and when she was tired, heated and flushed, the brown rings of hair curled about her lovely face and pressed closer about her dainty ears, as if trying by their caresses to comfort her a little.

One day Tillie had arrayed herself in her best and sat upon the front piazza ready to give Halstead a smiling welcome when he returned from a ramble in

He had already come in, but this fact was unknown to her. He was seated in Mrs. Wainwright's room, and this is what Tillie heard him say:

"I declare, Aunt Wainwright! It's a shame the way folks here treat that poor Mollie! She was up before 5 o'clock hard at work, and has been working all day-not an hour for rest! She looks ready to drop! And there's that lazy Fillie, sitting round in her finery and never seeming to care about Mollie!"

"Yes, that is so," said Mrs. Wainwright. "Mollie seems to be a nice, civil girl enough, though she doesn't make of me as Tillie does.

"Good reason why-she can't get a chance to make of anybody! But I guess if it wasn't for Mollie's busy fingers you wouldn't fare as well as

Halstend pulled a rose in pieces impa-tiently and centinued: "If Mrs. Barber would put a bitchen apron on Tillie and set her to work there would be some sense in it. Mollie would make a better figure in the parlor. She's pretty-Mol-

Tillie sat transfixed with rage, but she dared not move just then. At that moment Mrs. Barber's shrill voice rung

"Now, Mollie, you hurry up an' go an' pick up some chips to set the kittle bilin', an' while that is doin' you jest take down them clothes on the line, cause you know 'tis 'most time to get sup-"There it is again!" exclaimed Hal-

stead. "Chips and clothes-clothes and chips! They will kill her if she stays here much longer. I'm going out to help her," and he rushed out of a side door into the back yard, where Mollie, with a tired, patient face, stooped over her basket, picking up chips.
"Will Miss Mollie allow me to renew

the days of my childhood? I used to pick up chips for my grandfather when i was a little lad. I don't think I have forgotten how.

He took her basket from her and gently, but with a very decided move-ment, led her laughingly to a chopping

"There," he said, making her seat herself, "rest yourself while I fill the bas-

For a moment she sat there, watching Haistead's shapely hands as he quickly gathered up the chips, flashing his brown eyes merrily upon her.

Har fears overcame her evident pleas tire at his kindness.

"Indeed, I must not stay here any ionser!

"Why not?" he asked.

"Because Aunt Barber won't like it!" Even as she spoke the basket was piled high, and he placed it on the kitchen doorstep.

Wiping the dust from his hands, he aid, "What next?" Molly shook her head remonstrat-

"Oh, the clothest Here, I'll help you take them down!" And he actually beman tugging at a sheet fluttering its waltaness in the gentle breeze.

Mollie began to laugh, but didn't see has she could prevent those strong arms from doing what they chose. She hop al rathe wouldn't see them.

But Tillie did. She had gone behind the vines at the end of the plazza and atched the proceedings.

Eller child no longer keep silent. She such I to her mother and exclaimed ;

"Ma! Ma! Do just look at Mollie! She's carrying on at a great rate with that young man! Actually coaxed him out to help her pick up chips! And now she has got him at the clothes line! My! I never saw such a shameless flirt! Didn't I tell you you'd find out some day what she is?"

Tillie was flushed and angry-angrier than even her mother had ever seen her

Mrs. Barber hurried to the kitchen window. Yes, there they were, Mollie blushing and laughing, while Halstead looked as if he were enjoying himself decidedly. There was an ominous silence in the kitchen for a few moments. Then Halstead deposited the basket, piled high with snowy clothes, upon the doorstep to keep company with the basket of chips, and, lifting his hat gracefully to Mollie, disappeared by the vine-covered porch. They heard the back gate click and thought he had gone out. Not so. He still stood near, thinking of pretty Mollie.

"You shameless critter!" cried Mrs. Barber. "Is this what I have brung you up for-to go an' flaunt yourself under our very eyes, a flirtin' with Tillie's lover in that way? Oh, I saw you, you horrid gal, a settin' your cap at him an' coaxin' him out to pick up chips!"

Mrs. Barber paused to catch her breath. "I ain't a-goin' to put up with this a day longer, you selfish, good-for-nothin', lazy critter! You pack up this very night au' leave this house to-morrow mornin', rain or shine! Do you hear?"

Mollie's bright face paled. "Ob, Aunt Barber, what have I done? I'm sure I haven't done anything wrong. I never meant to. And, truly, I've worked as hard as I could. I don't want Tillie's lover or anybody's lover," moaned poor Mollie, "and I will go tomorrow; I will not stay here any

Mollie turned to go upstairs. Her tears were blinding her eyes. She did not see Halstead, but he had entered the door and stood, pale and stern, listening to what they were saying. Tillie's angry sobs were sounding through the room.

"Mrs. Barber"—Halstead's voice was low with concentrated anger-"Miss Mollie is not to blame. I went out there uninvited. Don't blame her for what I

He turned abruptly towards Mollie. Please come here, Mollie," and he held his band towards her.

She shook her head feebly and groped for the latch, still blinded by her tears. "Come!" This time there was something almost imperative in his tone. "I

want to speak to you." She passed out the open door into the porch, while Tillie jumped up and shut with a vigorous bang.

"Mollie," said Halstead, "she said you should go away from here. I wish you would, and come to me. I love you, dear, though I have only known you so short a time. Are you afraid of me?" he asked, as she shrunk from him a

No," she said, softly.

"Will you trust yourself to me, Mollie? Surely I can't use you any worse than Mrs. Barber!" He smiled a little at the last words. Somehow Mollie felt like smiling, too.

"Now, come around here to Aunt Wainwright's room and talk this over." And Mollie went

It was arranged that they should all leave the next morning, "rain or shine," as Mrs. Barber had said, and that Mollie should stay with Mrs. Wainwright until Halstead took her to their home. It was Mrs. Barber's comments upon the abrupt departure of the trio which led Farmer Barber to repeat his exclamation:

"I declare! It does beat all natur' where that woman got her tongue?"-Chicago News.

The Mysterious Machine.

Wlimo had never seen a wheelbarrow before, and was much exercised as to how to set it in motion. He began by facing the wheel, catching hold of it with both hands and trying to pull backward. Seeing the wheel would not turn, he let go and took fresh observations. It dawned upon him at once, for the native mind is quick, that as the barrow had two arms it required two men to lift it, and he hallowed for one of his mates to come to his aid.

They both tried to get within the arms of the barrow, one man laying hold of the left arm with the left hand, while the right encircled his fellow's waist, whose right hand had hold of the other shaft, while his disengaged hand was bound around Wlime's neck, and they were prettily yoked; but they covered no ground, and bye and bye tripped each other and fell pell-mell over the wheelbarrow, which of course, turned over. Then after an hour or two Wlimo understood how to wheel this barrow.-Cape Times.

Hope in Alaska.

Those who are accustomed to think of Alaska as a land of snow and ice will be surprised at the proposed plan of turning it into a large hop plantation. This enterprise is projected by a syndicate of Oregon hop dealers. They have bought considerable territory near Fort Wrangel, and expect it to be the coming hop market.

The reasons which encourage the syndicate to hope for success are many: The summer, though short, is almost tropically hot, and it is believed the season is long enough for ripening the hops; land is very cheap, to be had almost for the asking; labor costs but a trifle; the soil requires little preparation; the hops could be gathered for half the price paid in Oregon; the freightage would all be in sailing vessels, which is cheapness itself. These are strong inducements, and if the thist is true, the prospect, certainly, has everything in its favor. Hop growers will watch the new experiment with interest.

"What is the baby's name, Ada?" was sexed a bright little girl. *George Henry Thompson." *Way, I thought ou were going to name him for your other." "Wo did, Thompson," was inther." was the convincing reply -- Youth's Com-

EDUCATIONAL.

There are 5,399 whole and 1,831 fractional school districts in Michigan.

The public schools of St. Louis give employment to over one thousand teach-

There are 500 women students in tho University of Michigan, distributed throughout all the departments.

In one of the public schools of New York city there are 710 children, all but ten of whom are of foreign birth and

Embossed books, for the use of blind persons, have been prepared in more than two hundred and fifty languages and dialects.

In Paris the common public schools are provided with medicine cases, and instructions are given for the use of the The New York Legislature passed a

bill making the teaching of music in the public schools compulsory. Governor Flower vetoed it. Jacob Gould Schurman, Cornell's new

but a noted scholar, Twenty odd years ago he was a clerk in a grocery store on Prince Edward Island. Cornell University has given presidents to three universities-Schaefer to Iowa, Jordan to Stanford and Andrews

president, is yet a few years under forty.

to Brown. Eight members of its Faculty have declined college presidencies. The School of Architecture of the Uniressity of Pennsylvania is to have a "traveling scholarship in architecture," with an income of \$1,000, which will enable the holder to study the best models in

last year articulation was taught to no less than 4,245 pupils in American schools for the deaf. In a large number of these cases the infirmity dated from birth, and was inherited.

Mrs. Sidgwick has just been appointed Principal of Newnham College, Univerversity of Cambridge, England, to succeed the late Miss Clough. Mrs. Sidgwick is a sister of the Right Honorable A. J. Balfour, leader of the House of Commons, and a niece of the Marquis of

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

There are thirty ordained colored clergymen in the Protestant Episcopal

The American Sunday School Union since its organization has established 86,-000 Sunday schools.

"The Guild of Reformers of the Methodist Episcopal Church" is the name of a new organization.

It is said that the Church of England has an income of \$1,000,000 a week. In Ireland there are about 1,155,000 Protestants and about 4,000,000 Roman

A Chicago woman, Mrs. Anne O'Neill, has given \$10,000 for the erection of a church for the use of colored Catholics in

that city. The annual contributions to foreign missions of the evangelical church are as follows: European societies, \$5,852,549; native contributions, \$796.315; American societies, \$4.189,602; native contributions, \$507,883; total, \$11,337,349.

There is no missionary in Afghanistan, with her 6,900,000 people. Annam with 5,000,000, has only Roman Catholic missionaries. India has one missionary to 275,000 people; Persia, one to 300,000; Thibet, one to 2,000,000. - Missionary Re-

The minister who makes himself a specialist as a temperance reformer, or an anti-Romanist, or a champion of the laboring classes, or a crusader against tobacco, or a defender of the Sabbath, practically ceases to be a minister of the Gospel of Christ. He may be all of these and so subordinate them to his message, which proclaims the redemption of men and of society through Christ, as not to narrow his calling. He can not be any one of these exclusively and remain in truth a Christian minister.-Congregationalist.

The Episcopal Church in England has 34 bishops and 24,000 other clergymen; in the United States, 61 bishops and 3,800 clergymen; in Ireland 13 bishops 1,807 other clergymen, and in Canada, 24 bishops and 1,300 other clergymen; in Asia, 13 bishops and 713 other clergymen; in Africa 13 bishops and 850 other clergymen; in Australia, 21 bishops and 269 other clergymen, and in Scotland, 17 bishope and 280 other clergymen; in scattered dioceses 9 bishops and 120 clergymen—a grand total of 189 bishops and 32,729 other clergymen.

ART AND ARTISTS.

Mme. Sara Bernhardt will contribute a painting to the women's gallery of pictures at the Columbian Exposition.

The sculptor, R. H. Park, has an order for a statue to surmount the Colorado exhibit at the Columbian Fair, and it is to be made of solid silver.

The collection of pictures shown during the Congress of the National Art Association in Washington, is said to have been the best and only exhibit of American art ever given in that city.

Charles Francois Feler, the Belgian painter, stands on a different footing from any other painter in history. He was born without arms, and his work has been done exclusively with his feet.

There are five fan-painters in Europe Albert, Cheneviere, Houghton, Eugene Ciceri and Lasallez-whose work commands very large prices, fans painted by them selling for from \$125 to \$500 each.

"The Society of American Fakirs" is an organization of clever New York artists who held their second annual exhibition at the Art Students' League. It is a mock show of funny caricatures of paintings which have attracted general attention the previous year.

A young lady who made such an unexpected and brilliant success by her painting of "A Yard of Roses" sailed for Europe last month. A large combination of lithographers will pay her expenses as an art student in Paris, during which time it will have the profits of her



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