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SELLING

THE

THOSE BOYS AND GUSSE.

Augusta Castbrook Davenport, January

1878. Gusse wrote the words slowly,

in her very best and roundest hand, on

the fly leaf of her new diary, her month

following every stroke of the pen, with

an up twist for the 'i's and 't's, and a down

twist for the tails of the 'g's and 'p's.

There! she said, with a long sigh of re-

lief when the page had been carefully

dried, that looks beautiful; almost, no,

not quite, as well as Miss March's writ-

ing, stopping to look at the prim letters

critically, with her head on one side; but

like her's, anyhow. Cheerfully, And

now I ought to begin writing in it right

away, or I shall forget what happened.

Every day in the week was carefully

marked and dated in the new journal,

with such a number of lines reserved for

each day. Gusse wondered how she

could ever fill them all. But there is

nothing like making a beginning, and

this is how she began:

Tuesday, January 1st.—This is the

first day of the new year, and it's vaca-

tion. New Year's day is a day to make

good resolutions on. I am going to re-

solve not to get out of patience with

those boys so often. Mamma thinks this

is a good resolution to make. It was

very cold to-day. Papa took us all to

ride after church, and I sat up in the

parlor till ten o'clock.

Wednesday, January 2d.—It was very

cold to-day, but the sun shone. I went

out to slide with the boys in the morning

and Jamie pushed me down; he is a

mean, rough boy. Went out to walk

with mamma and Miss March this after-

noon.

Thursday, January 3d.—It rained and

the wind blew to-day, and the boys had

to stay in the house. We made molasses

candy to-day, and Dick took bites out of

the candy when we were pulling it, and

I looked him up in the pantry, and he

got out of the window and chased me

up stairs to rub my face with a wet towel.

I wonder if every girl's brothers are horrid

like mine. Then we went to bed.

Friday, January 4th.—It rained and

the wind blew all day. The boys had to

stay in the house. They played circus

and Indians in the schoolroom. They

made an awful noise. The boys wanted

me to come and be Minniehans, but I

wanted to stay with Miss March and

learn to crochet. I shall be real glad

when vacation is over and the boys have

to study, they make so much noise. Then

we went to bed.

Saturday, January 5th.—It was pleas-

ant to-day, and the sun shone. The boys

played Duck on a rock, and I played

with them, till Harold said I tried to

walk like Miss March, but I couldn't be-

cause my dress was so short; and then I

was mad, and went in, though Jamie tried

to coax me to come back. Boys are awful

teases, anyhow. In the evening we had

magical music, and darling Miss March

played, and then we went to bed.

Sunday, January 6th.—We all went to

church. I wore my lovely new striped

brown stockings, and Bob called me a

giraffe right coming out of church. I

wouldn't sit with the boys this afternoon,

and papa read in Golden Deeds to them.

I missed it, and I almost cried. We went

to church in the afternoon, and in the

evening papa talked about our being

polite, and unselfish to one another;

of course he meant the boys. Then we

went to bed.

Monday, January 7th.—It rains hard

to-day, and the wind blows—

Gusse stopped to stretch her cramped

hand and wiggle her fingers. Mamma

came into the room just then.

Writing up my diary, little girl!

That's nice. I'm sorry papa forgot all

about it till Saturday, and you have had

so much to write up; but don't let it get

behind you, even a day, through any

March's door to tell her the morning

lesson in crocheting must be given up.

While the combined forces were gather-

ing up raw material in the shape of bas-

sacks and sofa pillows, to be used as

battering-rams and cannon balls, united

in making as strong as possible the re-

doubt built of arm chairs and schoolroom

benches, that the Russians were to take—

if they could. Miss March was Gusse's

last love with some other girl; but this

time it was a real young lady, bright,

pretty, and very good natured, who wore

bright ribbons, high heels to her boots,

very long trains, and a great many rat-

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