

#### THE BROOK.

With dimples and ripples and gushes of fun, he goes, be his companion. Let his State to make better ones." She bade her good morning to earth, air She played hide and seek 'mid the rocks in

She playfully pulled the long hair of the the light spray high above her

She spent all her playtime, till, reaching She sprang to her labor with hearty good

Her feet danced the mill-wheel as gally as

Were, "Work while you work, and play while you play." -Anna Nell Gilmore.

seemed to say.

#### THE BOX'S COMPANIONS.

"Where is John?" Father, who had just returned from his day's work, made this inquiry concerning his five-year-old son.

"I thought he was out in front, watching for you," mother replied. "I did not see him."

"He must have gone down the street, then. I cannot keep track of him any more. He is off every chance he gets."

"He'll be back in a few minutes," father remarked indifferently. Why be concerned about the child's

absence? There was no danger. The street was a quiet suburban one, with no cars and few vehicles.

No danger? Ah, but John is more than physical body. He is mind and

John returned just as father said he would. He had been in a neighbor's house, and there was no harm

No harm? Then why did John hurry so with his supper, and leave the house so quickly when the meal was ended?

Ah, well, the neighbors liked him. Of course, they did. Who could help it? His absence had its advantages also, for father had time to read the afternoon paper, and mother to do

her evening work. "Where is John?"

Five years later, father asks the same question.

"I think he went down to Anderson's," mother replied. "Why does he go there so much?"

"The boys have built a cabin in Anderson's yard."

"Which boys?" "O, the Andersons' and the Griffiths' and Will Hamer and Sam Van Leer and a few more."

Boys from the best families in the neighborhood. No cause for alarm

But come, father, and see that cabin. Come quickly, for the moments are precious. This it is. Open the door. Whew! What an odor of stale tobacco smoke! Do not hesitate on the threshold, for your boy

is part owner here. What is that small box behind the rafter? Ah, cigarettes. And these papers, father; what are these? Dime novels. And this little book with no title on its yellow cover, which is pushed away back beneath the other papers; what is this?

Quick, father! Have you a match? Burn them-the booklets, the papers, the cigarettes, the shanty-all of

But stop a bit. The nicotine poisoning, the lies, the false conceptions of heroic manliness, the evil stories, the impure thoughts, the corrupt practices! Can you burn these things out of your boy and leave him unscarred? Can you gather them together in one hideous mass of corruption, and so utterly destroy them that he will know them no more forever?

Can you? Say, father, if you can do this, come with the speed of the lightning's flash and the glory of the morning's light, to show us other fathers how to do it.

"Where is John?"

The same inquiry is made when an other five yeers is past. "He went down to the creek,"

mother answered. "Why does he go down there so

much?"

"They have a boat and a boathouse."

"Who?" "The Anderson and the Griffith boys, and Will Hamer and Sam Van and then, after a thoughtful pause:

Leer." The same old crowd-boys from the best families in the neighborhood. But mother, did John forget to tell you that a few more boys had

joined that company-Jack Quinn, whose father keeps the notorious saloon; Mike Donnelly, son of a lowbred politician; and more of that type? No matter. Perhaps they are not so very different from your boy after all.

"But this is Sabbath, father suddenly remembers. "Doesn't he go to Sabbath School any more?"

"He hasn't been there for several weeks."

"Why?" "I suppose he thinks he has grown

too big." place he may be this Sabbath after- ert Leslie alighted, with a quick, round, but presently went on, as

noon. Do not go in anger, with Adown the rough mountain, so gray and so stern reproach or arbitrary command, as he paused by the wagon. but go with loving pity and sympathy

ambitions. If he has none, create cally.

interest be your interest. Learn his

come the same old query: "Where is John?"

"I don't know," mother replies. to-day-your daughter." "He never tells me now."

lips sang the baby John to sleep, might make a trade." while the heart built magnificent castles-virtue, love, achievement.

ed that question many times in the ing might be seen. She was dressed man." past, father; and you were satisfied in a neat dark-blue calico gown, over | She needed no urging, and after Long after the lips have ceased to re- doubtfully toward her father. companionship then, you will one day make." yearn for a fellowship which you Mr. Scott considerately left the Mother's Magazine.

#### ON PROBATION.

"So you want to marry my daughter, do you?" said old farmer Scott, as he wiped the perspiration from his brow and inspected the young man the study of medicine, of which prorather sharply.

Despite his indolent, almost effeminate air, which was the result of leisure and wealth, Robert Leslie, Jr., was a fine-looking young man. As a rule, he was not easily embarrassed, but he colored and grew confused under that sharp, searching

"Yes, sir, I spoke to Margaret last evening. She-well, she referred me to you."

The face of the old farmer became very bright face. softened, and he said musingly "Maggie is a good girl, and deserves you do?"

this unexpected and abrupt ques- morning."

port a wife-"

interposed Mr. Scott, "but I take it little cage, with a wheel on purpose you asked my girl to marry you, and for the fellow to run up and down. not your property. What guarantee It is a shame to have that cage and could you give me, in case you were nothing to put in it! I'll be real to lose your fortune, that you would good to my squirrel, Auntie. He shall be able to support a wife? Do you have fresh water and plenty of nuts. know how to use your hands and and I'll make a perfect pet of him." brains?"

Robert was entirely unprepared Aunt Ruth. for such catechisation; consequently without speaking.

"I believe you have been through college," continued Mr. Scott; "have you any profession?" "No, sir. I thought-"

"And you want to marry my daughter?" interposed the old man. "I have given Maggie better advantages than most girls have, and she hasn't thrown them away. If she couldn't work she'd be no daughter of mine. did say once that she shouldn't marry any lad who had the misfortune to have a rich father, but she's taken a liking to you, so I'll tell you what I'll do-you go to work like a man, and perfect yourself in some occupation; then come around, and if the girl's willing, you may have her."

Having said this, the old man turned and slowly entered his house.

Pretty Margaret was awaiting her lover at the gate, their usual trysting-place. The smile faded from her lips, as she noticed his gloomy, discomfited look.

"Pa means well," she said, when might. she heard the result of the interview. "I'm not so sure but he is right. It his grave look, she added softly: I'll do it anyway." 'Never mind, Robert, I'll wait for

ciates, Robert Leslie suddenly disapter, the little boy, who had gone to peared from his accustomed haunts. one of the upper rooms of the house Nothing was heard of him, except as on an errand, found himself to his Margaret occasionally received a let- surprise, locked in; somebody had ter. He had applied for many po- turned the key on the outside. sitons, and after repeated failures, He knocked, called, and listened; factory in Albany. But wherever he but no one came, and not a step did

on to his best efforts. early in the next spring, as farmer nutting. He heard their merry shouts Go after the boy, father. To the Scott was mending his front fence, a but could not make them attend his boathouse? Yes, or to any other light cart drove up, from which Rob- calls. Once Rob Farley did look

former leisurely movements.

"Good morning, Mr. Scott; I understand you want to buy some but- Claude. derstand you want to buy some but. Claude.

ter-tubs and cider barrels. I think I He looked around as he spoke. He carried forward and outward, as if this way be improved the ter-tubs and cider barrels. I think I He looked around as he spoke. He carried forward and outward, as if this way be improved the ter-tubs and cider barrels. I think I He looked around as he spoke. He carried forward and outward, as if this way be improved the ter-tubs and cider barrels. have some here that will just suit was in one of the prettiest chambers supporting an imaginary rosette on rough refrigerator, to be said the most prominent part. The posi- one that has been an imaginary rosette on rough refrigerator, to be said the most prominent part.

and I challenge any cooper in the that he scorned to touch it. to bring him back. And wherever

Another five years pass, and there down the last of the lot. "What will Presently Tim, the hired man, position each time. It should pass you take for them?"

The roguish twinkle in the old Ah, the pathos of it; But try as man's eyes broadened into a smile. Claude's is grievin' himself to death,' not utter the sob that is in the heart. after all," he said. "Come in, lad, boy's ears.

Robert followed silently.

"Where is John?" You have ask- traces of the flour she had been sift- door, Sally; there's a dear, good wo-

peat the query, your heart and soul The old man looked at her for a the woods and groves. will reiterate it, for in your inner- moment affectionately, and then said: That night his Aunt Ruth told him most being will be the bitterness of Maggie, this young man-maybe you the story of a great painter named a fearful disappointment. How glad- have seen him before-has brought Leonardi da Vinci, who used to buy ly yould you then recall the days a lot of tubs and barrels of his own cages and cages of birds in the marwhen the little fellow romped make. He asks a pretty dear price kets, just for the pleasure of setting through the house, while you com- for them, but if you are willing to them free. Claude's eyes sparkled. plained of his noise or shunned his pay it, all right. Your old father and he said: "Aunt Ruth, that's society! Because you spurned his will stand by whatever bargain you just what I mean to do when I grow

cannot win .- Harry E. Bartow, in room. The kind of a bargain the young people made may readily be conjectured. In three months Robert led a happy bride to the altar.

> Believing that he could be of greater use in the world if he engaged in some other line of activity, Robert Leslie turned his attention to fession he became a useful and prominent member. Each year, however, on the anniversary of his marriage, he remembers his aged father-in-law with a specimen of the handicraft by which he won his best and dearest possession.-Lutheran Witness.

#### CLAUDE'S CAPTIVE.

"I've been setting a trap," said Claude, coming in to supper, with a

"Where?" said Aunt Ruth. "Down by the big elm, just over a good husband," and, then, sudden- the creek. Jason helped me to make ly looking up asked: "What can it, and I've put a forked stick in it. with a nice bit of apple on its end Leslie was almost dumbfounded at I'm sure I'll catch a squirrel before

"Why do you wish to eatch a squir-"If you mean my ability to sup- rel, Claude?" said his aunt.

"O Aunt Ruth, a squirrel is such "I know you are wealthy, Robert," fun! And in the attic is a cunning

"But he'll be a prisoner," said

"Oh, he'll soon get used to that," he stared blankly at his questioner replied Claude, taking another slice of bread and butter.

> Aunt Ruth said no more, but she secretly hoped that Claude would not succeed in catching his squirrel. For several days he said nothing about it, returning from his little trips to the elm-tree with a disappointed look. One evening, however, he came flying with great leaps over the meadow and as he drew near the house he called out, gayly: "Hello, Aunt Ruth! I've got him!"

> "Let me beg, then, Claude, that you will not shut him up after the free life of the woods, in that cubbyhole of a cage. Put him in the loft over the granary-that will be a splendid place for him."

But Claude shook his head. He to be good to him, and every day he fed him plentifully-or tried to do so-though often the nuts were unat the bars, and the bead-like eyes fairly snapped with anxiety to be free. "Let me out! Let me out!" Mr. Squirrel kept saying with all his

Aunt Ruth would stop and take a pitying peep at him, now and then, saying: "Yes, you poor creature, I seems to me every man should have would, in a minute, if you were not some occupation." Then, noticing my nephew's property—and perhaps

She set her wits to work to see if she could not give Claude a lesson, To the surprise of all his gay asso- and one day not a great while af-

went, he carried with him her last he hear. He glanced from the winwords, "Never mind, Robert, I'll dow. Aunt Ruth, with her little wait for you," and this urged him velvet bag on her arm, was tranquilly walking down the road to a neigh-One pleasant, sunshiny morning, bor's. A party of boys were going

supposition.

in the cottage, and as he began to the most prominent part. The posi- one that has been successfully in The older man looked quizzically notice things more particularly he tion is best attained by thrusting a in our home for years. The older man looked quizzically notice things more particularly he came or a stick through the elbows as Home Companion. at the younger one, hardly recogniz- discovered that a basket of fine, mel- cane or a stick through the elbows as Home Companion ing in this brisk, energetic business low pears and a plate of cookies were the arms are doubled up close to the man, the easy-going youth of a year standing on the table. There was a sides; the cane at the back holds the pitcher filled with cool water from shoulders in position. Take long white paper from filthy rate was "Whose make are they?" he said, the well. At another time Claude deep breaths at the same time. These should hinder God in raising him would have eaten the fruit, and enhe paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit, and on the paused by the wagon. | would have eaten the fruit wagon. | woul

Mr. Scott examined each one criti- Ruth would play such a trick on gauged by measuring the chest with me," he said, as he sat sullenly down a tape-measure once a week, being "They'll do," he said, as he set beside the window.

crossed the yard below, and stopped above the breasts and just under the "What I asked you for a year ago a minute to speak to Sally in the arms .- Exchange. kitchen.

you will, sweet mother lips, you can- "You've got the right mettle in you, were the words that reached the

It seems but yesterday those same come in. I shouldn't wonder if we "Tim! Tim!" cried Claude, leaning far out over the sill; "send Sally up here, won't you, please!"

"Maggie, oh, Maggie, called Mr. Sally's slow, heavy steps came up They seemed si sure, so strong, Scott, going to the kitchen door. | the stairs. He could hear her pantthose castles; but now they are blown Margaret tripped lightly through ing with the exertion. When she over with the breath of these few the door. Her round, white arms reached the third landing, Claude words: "He never tells me now!" were bared above the elbow, and said very pleadingly: "Unlock the box in place, and fill up all the space or after the election, for the space of th

when mother answered. You will which was tied a checkered gingham an hour's confinement Claude was at ask that question many times in the apron. When she saw Robert she liberty. He rushed down to the barn, shelves, leaving a space in the center future; but there will be no answer. blushed and smiled, and then turned set wide the door of Bunny's prison, for the ice. and let the little victim go back to

up."-Pittsburg Christian Advocate.

#### CHEST DEVELOPMENT.

Both health and looks depend upon the development of the chest. For if the chest is not properly developed, it means that the lungs are cramped and that the air does not or cannot enter them sufficiently. The chest depends for its correct position upon the general carriage of the body. The

## **MALARIA**

headache, biliousness, indigestion, rheumatism, pimples, blotches, yellow complexion, etc., are all signs of poisons in your blood. These poisons should be driven out, or serious illness may result. To get rid of them, use

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Insist on Thedford's

elastic spring, quite in contrast to his though he had been mistaken in his shouders, which have a general tendency to push forward, should be laid at the bottom, for the "If this isn't a mean shame?" said squared and kept in position. They rest upon. Legs may be able to should be held well back, the chest and the drainage and ventures very little while. The amount of de- Christ?-Gotthold. "I wouldn't have believed Aunt velopment thus obtained can be careful to place it in exactly the same

#### "That 'ere poor ' squirrel of A HOME-MADE REFRIGERATOR.

Take two large boxes, the second one somewhat smaller on all sides, equaled for piles. Only 25 cents at and bore two one-inch holes in each correspondingly, to give drainage and ventilation. Fill up the bottom of the larger box with powdered . charcoal (or sawdust, if charcoal can | not be procured) until the smaller . box will stand on a level with the . top of the larger box. Put the inner . from now until November 18 . around the sides with the charcoal. . for single subscription, or right. Fasten lids on both boxes to fit tight- of three subscriptions for \$1 24 . ly. On each side of the inner box, . Please get up as many clubs as . by means of cleats, put several . you can and send us

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