

THE FAIRY LAMPS.
The Little Eare-Legged Boy and the Fairy of tae Woods. There was onse a little barelegged, brown-imbed boy who spent all his time in the woods, writes Ernest Thompson Seton, in Century. He loved the woods and all that was in them. He used to look, not at the Howers, but deep down into them, and not at the singing bird, but into its eyes, to its little heart: and so he got an insight better than most others, and he quite gave up collecting birds' eggs.

But the woods were full of mysteries. He used to hear little bursts of song, and when he came to the place he could tind no bird there. Noises and movements would just escape him. In the woods he saw strange tracks, and one day, at length, he saw a wonderful bird making these very tracks. He had never seen the bird before, and would have thought it a great rarity had he not seen its tracks everywhere.
so he learned that the woods were full of beantiful creatures that were skillful and quick to a oid him.

One day, as he passed by a spot that he had been to a hundred times before, he found a bird's nest. It must have been there all the time, and yet he had not seen it; and so he learned how blind he was, and exclaimed: "Oh, if only I could see, then I might ander-
stand these things! If only I but never tracec. But the eggs knew! If I could see but for once were the marrelous things. His how many there are and how near! old egg-collecting instinct broke If only every bird would wear over out. He rushed forth to clutch the its nest this eveniag a little lamp wonderfal prize, and-in an into show me?"
The sun was down now ; but all at once there was a soft light on the path, and in the middle of it the brown boy saw a little Brown Lady in a long robe and in her hand a rod.
She smiled pleasantly and said: "Little boy, I am the Fairy of the Woods. I have been watching you for long. I like you. You seem to be different from other boys. Your request shall be granted."

Then she faded away. But at once the whole landscape twinkled over with wonderful little lamps, red, blue and green, high and low, doubles and singles and groups; wherever he looked were lamps-t winkle, t winkle, t winkle, here and everywhere, until the forest shone like the starry sky. He ran to the nearest, and there, sure enough, was a bird's nest. He ran to the next; yes, another nest. And here and there each different kind of lamp stood for another kind of nest. A beautiful purple blaze in a low tangle caught his eye. He ran there, and found a nest he had never seen before. It was full of purple eggs, and there was the rare bird he had seen but once. It was chanting the weird song he had oftes heard,
this 'great trial' would be. When folk talk of 'cool-headed statesmen' and 'sentimental rhetoricians' again, I shall always call to mind that in taking stock of Eng. lish opinion at this crisis the sen timental rhetorician was right and the cool-headed statesmen were wrong." Mr. Morley quotes Green's glowing tribute to the leader of whom he was so proudthe man who "was walways noble of soul." Mr. Gladstone had the pow er of thus impressing widely diverse natures. Large fibred Sur geon rivaled the finely grained Green in admiration. "We believe," he wrote, "in no man's infallibility, but it is restful to be sure of one man's integrity." "That ".. .......न. - тиarks gine secret. No ordinary man could have so clasped to himself such differing siljorters. At Oxford, Glad stote had Pusey's vote, and he had Jowett's.

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