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## MARGARET'S CHILDREN.

## (by marguerite m Phke.)

 For The CourierThe front yard of the old stone farm touse was full of teams. Some were tied to the fence on either side, and others stood under the trees scattered over the lawn. The old plow horsee atood contentedly, but occasionally a slender legged, spirited beast chafed at his halter and moved restlessly, stirring the thick carpet of leaves that covered the ground. Many of the wagons contained farm implements, or had horees and cows hitched behind, while up on the wide veranda were piled carpete, curtains and mattresees. The auctioneer, a small, wiry man with a very red face, stood on a $k$ tchen table calling off. As the lant article fell under the hammer he took out a blue cotton handker. chief and wiped his hot face, pushing back the coarse, red hair from his wet forehead.
In one of the rooms in the house, three women were seated near a large trunk. The oldest, a stout, fair woman, said, as she folded a drese and put it in the trunk:
"This will make over real handeome for Jennie. Poor Mary, she only wore it twice. I recollect right well the day she bought it down to Roxby, and she said to me, 'Dick will be so pleaser. I got blue, he likes it so.' She had it on the day be was carried to the housejust breathing."
A little woman in a neat, black, print dress, who was sorting over a pile of children's clothing, stopped to wipe her eyes on a corner of her apron. Then she turned to the other woman, who sat on the window ledge and seemed strangely out of place in thie bare room with these plain country women.
"Margaret," she said, "will you take Lillian's things with you, or are you going to let her stay a few days with Jennie at Ann's?',
The slender figure on the window ledge rose and came towards the trunk. Her perfectly fitting traveling dress, and simple hat, possessed an elegance foreign to Roxby shops. She stood by the little woman and rested one small gloved hand on her arm, but she looked at the large fair woman and there were tears in her eyes when she began to speak.
"It is too bad to separate them Ann," she said. The large woman nodded and the little woman wiped her eyes again. "I would like to take them both with me to the city-" she hesitated.
Ana shook her head.
"It would moke it all the harder for Junnie to come back to me," she answered.
"But Ann! I mean I would like to keep Jennie too. You have four children, I have none, since Robbie died." A sob choked her, and ste turned away. The little woman wiped her eyes and Ano mumbled something about asking John.
Down in the orchard back of the house, two little giris vere wandering hand in haod. It was here, six months before, that their mother had brought them, away from the long procession that followed a hearse down the road. Then the orchard had been fragrant with the odor of appie blocsoms that loaded the trees, and feil in soft, white showers on the three bare heads. Now the October sunshine kiseed the mellow
fruit, and touched softly the two children as they paseed from tree to tree, saying good bye to their orchard chums. The younger one's pink cheeks were tear stained and her gingham sun-bonnet had fallen back on her neck leaving a tangle of yellow curls in the sunshine. One chubby hand clutched a rag doll and the other clung to her sister. The elder child's pale face showed no trace of tears, but her brown eyes were full of eorrow and her lips trembled when she
tried to opeak. "Lily," ahe said, 'yau will love Couain Margaret and per'apsper'ape Aunt Ann will let me come and see you-sometimes."
Lily turned a pair of frightened baby ayes upon her sistor.
"You know dear," the elder continued, I must stay with Aunt Ann-because -because-I-guess two'e too many--"
Bat she got no further. Lillian with a wild burst of tears threw herself upon the ground.
The sun had set, and the chill of an October twilight filled the air, when a voice at the orchard gate said:
"I'm most aure I saw them come down bis way before wo packed the trunk. Don't go into that wet grass Margaret. you'll spoil your drees. John can hunt then, up." But Margaret, regardless of the dew soaked grass, was kneeling before what seemed to be a heap of gingham drapery and John's lantern flashed into the face of little Jennie. She was last asieep with her head against a tree and both arms elasped about her little sister. As she felt herself lifted in strong arms she heard Cousin Margaret say.

I muat take better care of both my little girls."

## TOOTING.

There was once a man with a flute Teaching two tutors to trot
Said the two to the tutor :
Is it easier to toot
Or to tutor two tutors to toot?

The World and Me.
(For The Courier.)
by william reed dunrov.
Scrap and the world scraps with you, Mope and you mope alone:
But it has no use for a drone.

Persons Suffering
witb Cbronic Diseases
Can Expect Better Results Under the Care of Specialists Who Have Had Lifelong Experience in Their Treatment Alone. The British Doctors will Cure all Chronic Diseases Free Who Apply to Them Before April 13 at Their Office.
A st-ff of eminent physicians and surgeons from the Britisb Medical Instiarge nume, at the urget olicitation of a are in this countients under aheir manent branch of the institute in this city in the Sheldon block, at the corner 11th and N streets.
ided to give their gentiemen have defor three months (medicines excepted) to all invalids who call upon them be ore April 13th. These services consist not only of consultation, examination and advice, but also of all minor surgiThe operations.
The object in pursuing this course is o become rapidly and personally acuainted with the sick and afflicted, and nhatever be made for will any charge dered for three monthe, to ali who call before A pril 13th.
The doctors treat all forms of disease and deformitiee, and guarantee a cure in every case they undertake. At the first interview a thorough investigation y made, and, if incurable, you are frank againat epending your money for useles treatment.
Male and female weakness, catarrh and catarrhal deafnese, also rupture zoitre, cancer, all skin diseases, and al diseases of the rectum are positively ared by their new treatment.
The Chief Consulting Surgeon of the Office hours from 9 A. M. Otice hours from 9 A. M. till 8 P. M SPECIAL NOAR. call, send stamp for queation blank for home treatment.

