

NAN and ANN IN MANNERS TOWN

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Laura Rountree Smith





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Nan and Ann
In
Manners Town

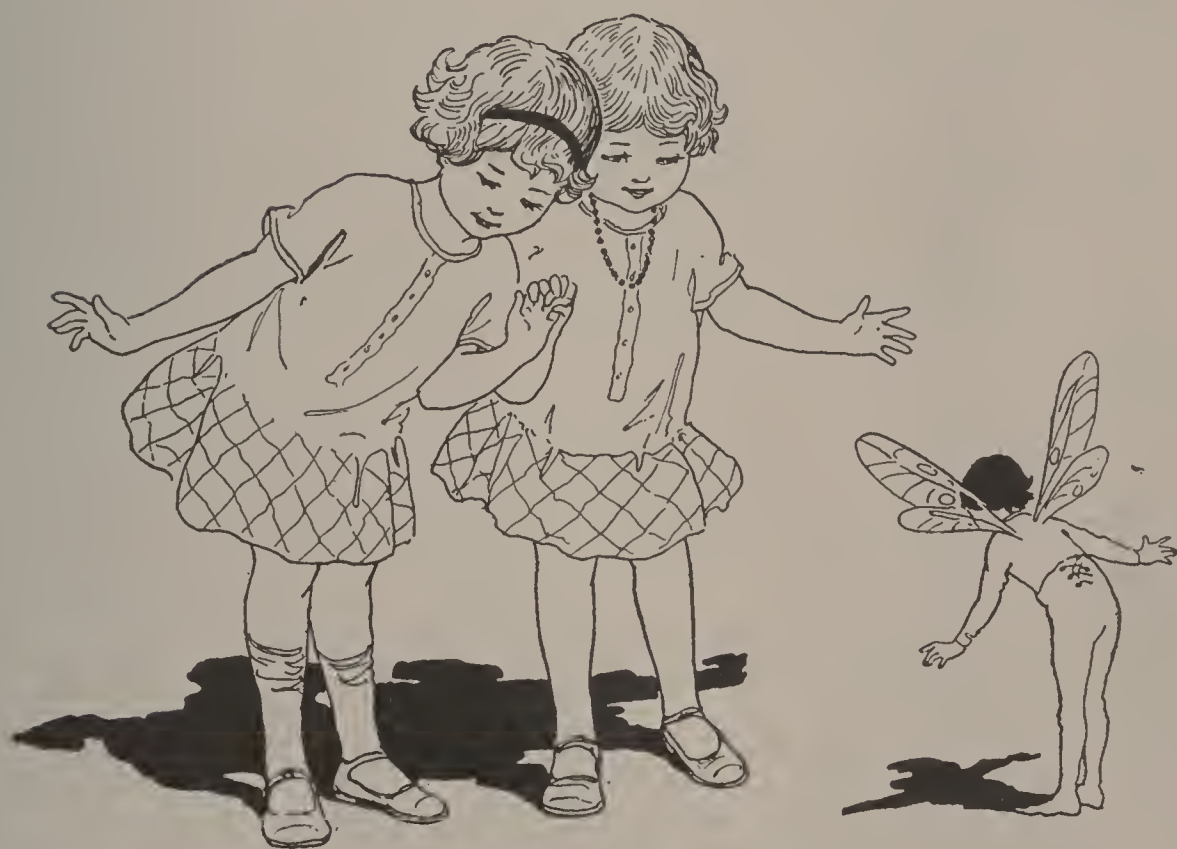


“Off and away the happy twins bounded to the little log house.”

NAN & ANN In Manners Town

by

Laura Rountree Smith



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Nan and Ann in Manners Town

CHAPTER 1.

MANNERS AT HOME.

ONE evening Nan said, "Oh, Mother, may we go home with Aunt Matilda?" and Ann said, "Oh Mother, please say 'yes'."

Before Mother could answer a word Aunt Matilda said,

"I want to take you up and down,
All the way through Manners Town."

Nan giggled and Ann slid right off the sofa on to the floor, and both the Twins ran to Mother and threw their arms around her saying, "Do please say we can go home with Aunt

Matilda, do let us take the trip with her to Seattle and travel through Manners Town.”

Mother said, “How can I spare my Twins?”

Father said, “It will do the Twins good to take a journey, and perhaps they will come home with better manners after they have stopped off in Manners Town.”

Aunt Matilda was very full of fun and said with a merry twinkle in her eye, “Where is Mark?”

She did not explain that she had sent Mark downtown to buy something as a surprise for the Twins.

Just then Mark came in. He set something down in the hall and the Twins ran from the table without stopping to say, “Excuse me,” and Father winked at Mother and said, “I think we had better let the Twins go if Aunt Matilda will promise to take them through Manners Town.”

The Twins set up a shout, for Mark had brought each of them a traveling bag with their name engraved on the silver mounting.

These bags were a present from Aunt Matilda.

“Oh Mother, when can we start to pack?” cried the Twins with enthusiasm.

Mother said, “Dear me, will you always forget your manners? We want Aunt Matilda to stay on with us a long time.”

Aunt Matilda laughed and said, “I must go anyway in two weeks, so you can pack your bags and unpack them several times before we start.”

Quite suddenly, without a bit of warning, a Polite Pixie appeared in the door remarking,

“To be polite if you really care,
I hope you’ll offer me a chair!”

The Twins were up and dressed by this time and were more than pleased to have a real Pixie with them.

The Polite Pixie said, “I have decided to go with you on the journey and I am not going to tell you how or where I shall hide, or when to expect to discover me. I really can manage to hide somewhere in your baggage of course.”

“What fun!” cried the Twins excitedly.

He said, “Little acts of courtesy are worth practising, because strangers judge you more by your manners than anything else.”

Suddenly the Polite Pixie began to sigh and it was seventeen minutes before he would tell what was the matter. Then he confided to the Twins that it was hard to tell them apart when they were dressed exactly alike, and had their hair bobbed exactly alike.

Nan’s eyes sparkled and she said, “I will have a band on my hair and Ann can wear her beads and then unless we exchange these decorations you will know us apart.”

The Polite Pixie said,

“I have forgotten my manners quite
It is time to say ‘Good night’.”

He disappeared and Nan said, “Oh Ann, I fear our Home Manners are really shocking.”

Ann said, “I wonder if our train manners, or street manners, will be any better. What fun

it will be for the Pixie to go with us, I wonder where he will hide.”

What a busy time they had next day packing their brand new traveling bags and their little steamer trunk.



Aunt Matilda was busy packing too for every hour it grew nearer, and nearer time for them to start.

Nan and Ann ran round the house saying, good-by to everything. They even ran down to the Little Log House where they had spent

so many happy hours and shouted “good-by, good-by.”

Mother said the Twins could help put up a fine lunch and Father gave them some shining silver dollars and said they might go into the dining car as often as they liked for meals.

Old Sammy Slow-Coach asked if he was to take them to the train and all went merrily.

Mark said, “I wish I were going with you.”

Mother said to the Twins, “How I shall miss you, but I know you will have a wonderful journey.”

The Twins hugged Mother and said, “We intend to write letters every day and we will have a wonderful journey through Manners Town.”

Just then they heard the Polite Pixie, though they could not see him and he said,

“Nan and Ann I really presume,
There are good manners for every room.”

My! how the Twins had tossed their things

about. They ran now and picked up books and wraps and playthings.

They said, "Do you suppose there are bedroom manners, and bath-room manners, and parlor manners, and kitchen manners? What a very interesting world we are living in."

The day finally came for the Twins to start on their journey with Aunt Matilda, and Sammy Slow-Coach drove them all to the station in the old-fashioned victoria and there on the platform, to see them off were their old friends.

"Good-by," called Eager Ed and Thoughtless Ted, and even Betty Behind-Hand came running all out of breath to wave a last good-by.

The Twins said, "We thought the Polite Pixie was going with us, but he is nowhere to be seen."

The bell rang. The whistle blew and the train started and with last good-by's to all at home the Twins were at last on their way to Seattle and Good Manners Town.

A voice cried,

“You really did not count on me,
I journey by land and by the sea.”

“The Polite Pixie!” cried the Twins in one breath.

Aunt Matilda smiled and said,

“I have a notion to invite,
Little Peter and Polly Polite,
And Little Edgar Education,
May join us on our vacation.”

CHAPTER 2.

THE JOURNEY. MANNERS ON THE TRAIN.

THE Twins were taking a real journey at last!

They were so excited that they fairly shouted "Oh, Aunt Matilda, which seats shall we take."

She said, "Hush, my dears, do not attract attention of strangers, we have reserved seats of course and if we follow the porter he will show us the way."

The Twins were excited when they found the number of their berth was 13, for they said, "Thirteen is an unlucky number, and they always thought that riding in berth 13 had something to do with the things that happened on that journey."

The first unlucky thing that happened was that Aunt Matilda was taken ill, and had to have her berth made up so she could go to bed.

Nan and Ann said, "Will we sleep on the shelf above?"

The Patient Porter made friends with them at once and said they did not have to go to bed, but could sit in seats across the aisle until bedtime came.

The Twins did not want to go into the dining car alone and Aunt Matilda said as she would probably be well by breakfast time, if they were neat and careful they might eat their lunch on the train now.

They got out the lunch that Mother had put up for them.

Aunt Matilda said,

"Well mannered children I adore,
Don't spill your crumbs upon the floor."

Nan put a piece of newspaper in her lap and Ann used the lid of the box, and they ate

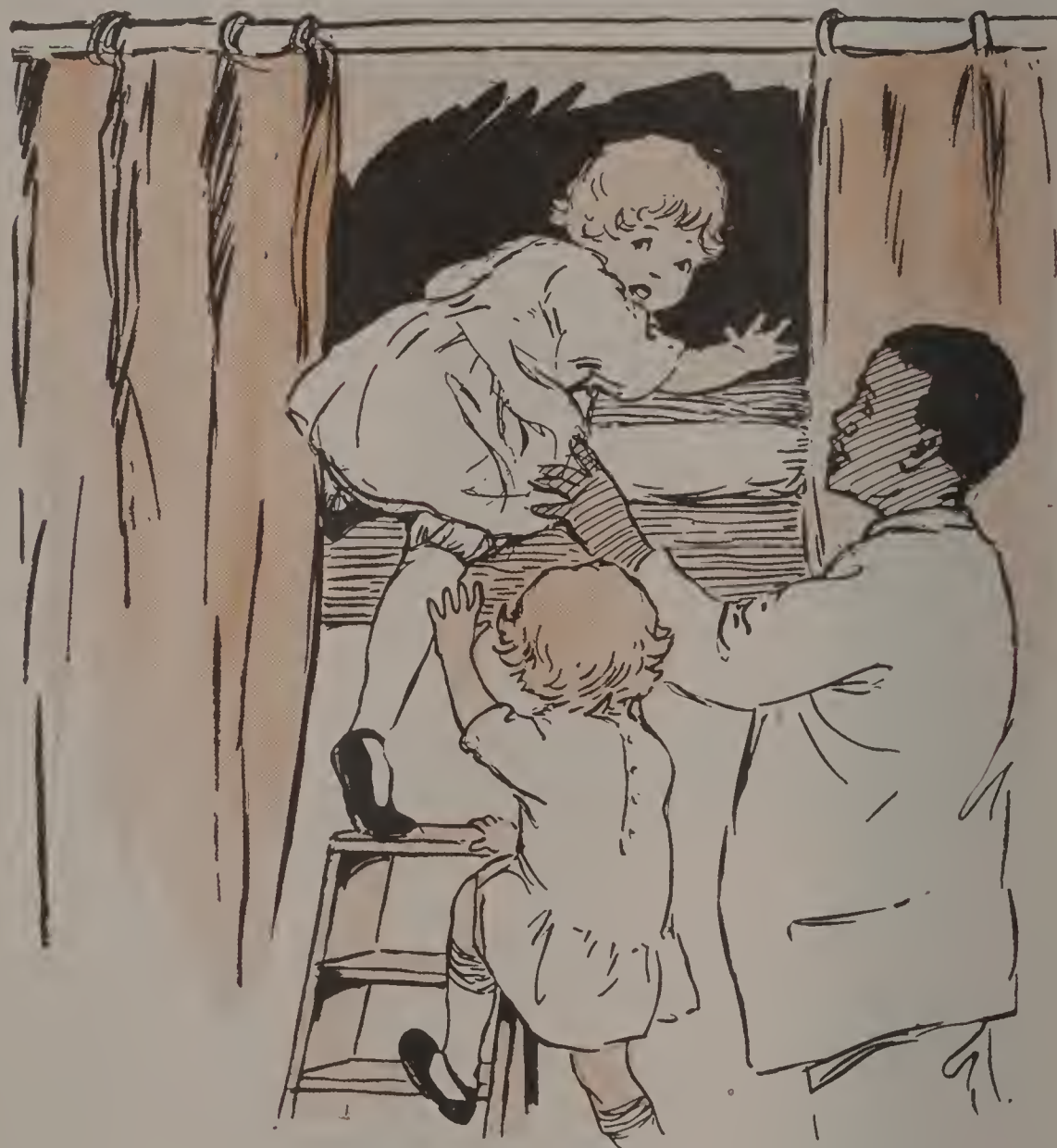
quietly for they were determined to be well mannered.



The Patient Porter brought a ladder and the Twins said as they climbed into the upper berth to sleep for the night, "It makes us think of Jack and the Bean Stalk, this wonderful climb."

Aunt Matilda reminded them that they

must think of the comfort of other passengers on the train and not talk so loud.



Everybody knew next day that there were Twins on the train, and they could not help answering questions, but as Aunt Matilda was

quite well again they enjoyed their breakfast in the dining car. They were amused at the call, "First Call for Breakfast, Second Call for Breakfast, and Last Call for Breakfast in the dining car."

Ann said, as they sat in the diner, "How fast the telegraph poles fly by," and Nan said, "How very fast we are traveling."

Aunt Matilda said, "Look out of the window and see the wonderful country we are going through. To-day I will order breakfast, and Ann can order lunch, and Nan can order dinner, so you will get used to ordering a meal on the train."

The Twins were delighted with this idea of course.

Nan liked to run up and down the aisles for exercise but the Pixie frowned and said she could certainly *walk* which was more dignified, and on no account should any one stand on the platform before the train stopped, or get off the car unless an older person got off in your company."

“Dear me,” said the Twins in one breath “If we traveled alone we would never learn any of these things.”

Only once, the Patient Porter scolded both the Twins. He found them leaning out of a window, and he said they must never, never do such a thing, as it was very dangerous, and accidents had often happened in that way, by a person leaning from a train and being struck from something outside.

The Patient Porter made them think of Sammy Slow-Coach, but he moved a little faster and by and by he took the Twins out on the observation car. They stayed there until he came back saying, “Aunty says you all have a surprise waiting for you.”

The Twins just couldn't walk back to their seats but ran in a hurry and Aunt Matilda introduced them to Peter and Polly Polite, and Edgar Education.

They were jolly children and had such nice manners that the Twins liked them at once.

Then and there on the fourteenth of the

month great fun began. The children played authors and other games and made up stories, and wrote letters home, and had a jolly time.

That night Nan said, "I shall not be satisfied until I tell the story. The engine that carries our train is number 13."

While Nan was talking Ann fell asleep, and Nan soon followed her into dreamland.

It was strange but they had the same dream that night and in the morning told their new friends that they had dreamed the Polite Pixie took them down the river in a glass-bottomed boat, and they dreamed that they saw wonderful plants growing in the water and sea-weed, and pebbles, and colored shells.

The children asked Aunt Matilda if they could sit in the other end of the train, and she said they might if they would not be noisy and forget their manners.

Polly and Peter Polite said, "Thank you, Aunt Matilda." Edgar Education carried a book under his arm. He said, "I want to have good manners wherever I am,

Here is a book that will explain,
How to have good manners on the train."

On arriving in Manners Town every one was polite and they found their way to their own car while the red-caps took their baggage.

The children said, "Oh Aunt Matilda, what a long journey that was, have we really arrived at last?"

They were glad to undress and tumble into bed. Nan said, "I wonder where we will go tomorrow?"

CHAPTER 3.

STREET MANNERS. A WALK AND TALK WITH PETER POLITE.

EVERYTHING might have gone well next day if Nan had not gotten into disgrace the very first thing before Ann was dressed, and before any one even thought of breakfast.

The Pixie tried to stop her and shouted, "Heave-ho, mind your craft"; but nothing stopped Nan when she made up her mind.

What do you suppose Nan did?

She put on her hiking togs and ran out into the street and talked to a strange boy and jumped right up on his bicycle beside him, and they rode away! By eight o'clock that morning Nan was lost in a strange city, for the strange boy got tired of the remarks people

made and he made her get off the wheel while he rode away.

Poor Nan was frightened and she was not thinking at all about street manners when she looked right ahead of her, and as good luck would have it, she flew right into the arms of Uncle Phil.

“Where? and when? and how?” she cried. “Oh Uncle Phil we did not know you were in Seattle.”

He said, “I think we will go in a street car, here is the money, watch sharp, now we pay as we go in.”

Uncle Phil said, when they were riding along, “Just suppose you had met a Bold Pirate instead of me, what would have become of you, Ann?”

Nan laughed and said, “Uncle Phil, you cannot tell us apart yet can you?”

When they got home all the children hugged Uncle Phil for he was the finest storyteller in the whole wide world, and all the children loved him.

Aunt Matilda said it was a serious thing for Nan to run away and if she could not learn manners she must go right straight home, as it was she might spend the day in bed.

So it was, that Ann accepted Peter Polite's invitation and went out for a walk.

Peter walked by the curb on the outside and said, "I am so glad you came to visit Aunt Matilda, we will have so much fun together." Peter politely raised his hat when he met any one he knew.

"Said dear little, queer little Peter Polite,
Be careful, Ann, please pass to the right."

As they met a good many people, Peter Polite said it would make much confusion on the street if there was not some rule for passing.

A boy across the street shouted to Peter but he and Ann crossed over to talk to him, and afterward Peter said, "People in the city as a rule do not shout at one another, and they do not wave at each other across the street. They never try either to attract the attention of

strangers but walk in a dignified, business-like way.”

“Dear me,” said Ann, “Nan will have so much to learn. She is a regular sport and can’t help it.”

Peter spoke first to an old lady they met, and said it was polite to speak first to an older person if a child recognized them first.

Peter and Ann kept step as they walked and Peter said, “I hope you won’t mind if I do not offer my arm, I never do so except at night.”

Ann said “I am so anxious to learn good street manners that I wish you would tell me all you know and then I will teach my sister Nan.”

The children saw two people kissing on the street, and they stopped and blocked the way so other people had to pass around them.

Peter said,

“Bow to any friends you meet,
But never kiss upon the street,
Just so we will not forget,
Let’s write a book of Etiquette.”

“That is a big word,” said Ann, “but I suppose ‘Etiquette’ means manners.”

They went into a book store and each of them bought a five cent blank book and said they would write down everything they could learn about manners.

They saw many beggars and strange looking people on the city streets and Ann asked, “Should we drop pennies in the beggar’s cup?”

Peter said, “By no means speak to a beggar, or give him pennies. He may be an impostor and should not be begging on the street.”

Suddenly the street cars stopped and great crowds gathered and the children, with the rest of the crowd stood still. They asked a Policeman what was the matter and he said, “**THE CIRCUS PARADE IS COMING!**”

Ann was very glad that Peter was with her and saw how foolish it would have been if she had come downtown alone.

The great Circus Parade came down the street.

There were Camels, and Elephants, and ani-

mals in cages, and even the old-fashioned Calliope was there, making music by steam. All the traffic had to wait for the Circus Parade to pass.



The ponies looked so inviting that Ann longed to have a ride on one, and the Clowns threw out candy and flowers and made everybody laugh.

After the Circus parade passed Peter took

Ann into the Library. He said, before they went in, "We must not say a single word out loud, for it is good manners to keep still in a Library."

Peter took off his cap and the children tiptoed in quietly while Peter asked for a book, as it was not in, they tiptoed out again.

What do you suppose Nan was doing?

She just could not possibly content herself in bed all day, and so she thought Aunt Matilda would not care if she crept about the garret.

She sat a while on one of the trunks.

Of course she did not mean to open any of the trunks or even peep in. A horsehair trunk way over in the corner stood open. "Oh," breathed Nan. "This seems like a Fairy Tale come true, for there is a trunk open. I must just take a peep and see what is in the old horsehair trunk."

So she plunged into the old trunk and took out piles and piles of fancy dress clothes!

She put on the costume of a Pierrot, with one side red and one side yellow, and wore a

great white ruff at her neck, and a cap with a silver bell.

Nan danced before the very mirror Mother had written about, singing, a pretty little song,



for she forgot that she had been sent to bed, and how could you blame her, for it is such fun to dress up in other people's clothes!

It was at this very minute that Ann and Peter came in and began to tell Aunt Matilda and the other children about the big Circus Parade, and Nan danced downstairs and for half an hour every one thought she belonged to the Circus of course.

Nan had taken fancy dancing lessons and found it no trick at all to dance on her toes!

Aunt Matilda said she had been punished enough if she would promise not to go out on the street any more in this strange city, alone. Of course Nan gladly promised.

That evening the Polite Pixie handed the Twins some blank books and pencils and asked each one to draw a picture that they had seen on the street.

Nan drew a picture of a girl helping an old lady across the street and wrote under her picture, "Good Street Manners."

Ann drew a picture of one girl kissing another on the street, and she wrote under her picture, "Bad Street Manners."

CHAPTER 4.

HOUSEHOLD MANNERS. IN LOOKING-GLASS LAND.

NEXT day Nan awoke and said, "Dear me, I had a wonderful dream! I thought I was helping a Mermaid comb her golden hair."

"Did she have the tail of a fish?" asked Ann.

Nan nodded and said, "Tell your dream."

Ann said, "I dreamed about a Merman and he showed me his lovely corals and shells."

Just then, suddenly without any warning whatever a voice piped up,

"I have said this thing before,
Pick your clothes up from the floor,
You can be careful if you choose,
And find a place to put your shoes,
Oh, it is a shocking sight,
To see things thrown around at night,
Please pick up your shoes with care,
Place them underneath the chair."

The Twins laughed for everything sprang to order as the voice talked and they said, "What a funny room we are in, it must be a magic room! One thing we did well any way, we slept with windows open."

The Twins were going into the bath-room when a voice fairly shouted,

"Oh ho, children, wait a minute,
You left your comb with hairs in it."

Then the Polite Pixie came into view for he had been talking all the time. He said, "Every room in the house has its manners of course,

As I said before, it is a bore,
To say, 'Pick up things from the floor.' "

Nan's book lay on the floor and Ann's hair ribbon.

The Polite Pixie said, "At home, or visiting, or anywhere, your dresser or bureau ought to be in perfect order, picked up on top. It ought not to look as though a cyclone had struck it, and," he added,

“Good Mannered Twins know I suppose,
Bureau drawers were made to close.”

The Polite Pixie said, “I suppose you don’t want to make any trouble in this house, then remember you don’t want to draw water for a bath at an unusual hour, and you don’t want to make a noise when people are sleeping. Be sure not to splash water on the floor or walls, and only use what towels you need.

When you’ve finished your rub and scrub,
Neatly wash the old Bath Tub,
And children dear before I ask it,
Put soiled things in the clothes basket.”

The Twins aired their beds and were just ready to dance downstairs when the Polite Pixie called,

“There you go heels over head,
Come back at once and make your beds.”

Now the children started to make their beds carelessly and the things pulled this way and



that way, and they stopped to have a regular pillow fight.

Aunt Matilda looked in the door and called, "Good morning, what jolly little visitors I have."

The Polite Pixie said,

"To have good manners I give warning
Tear off bed clothing every morning,
When the bedding is aired completely
You can make your bed up neatly."

My! those were difficult beds to make!

The Pixie would not allow a fold or wrinkle in the beds, and he made the Twins pound the pillows so they would stand up straight.

At last the Twins had their bedrooms spick and span and danced downstairs saying "Good morning" to every one.

Peter and Polly Polite and Edgar Education rose as they came into the room, and said "Good morning."

Aunt Matilda said, "Some day I am going

to get the Polite Pixie to talk to us about Table Manners.”

He stood at attention in the doorway but soon disappeared.

It began to rain. It rained harder and harder, and though the children begged to go out, Aunt Matilda said,

“I would rather have you stay in please,
Good manners will not let you tease.”

So, the children decided to be happy indoors and roamed all about Aunt Matilda’s wonderful house.

Nan danced before a mirror and heard a silvery voice call,

“I’m the Looking-Glass Girl, please understand,

I live quite near, in Looking-Glass Land.

Ann danced before the mirror and the same voice called,

“Step over the frame, now hand in hand
We will travel in Looking-Glass Land.”

Boldly, the Twins stepped over the mirror frame into Looking-Glass Land. What a curious Land it was!

Everybody imitated everybody else. If you smiled, the Looking-Glass people smiled back at you! If you frowned all the Looking-Glass people frowned and scolded.

The Twins said, "We really suppose we ought not to have come, we forgot to ask Aunt Matilda and we are really on our way to Good Manners Town."

The Twins went into one room where there were big mirrors, and little mirrors, and middle-sized mirrors, and each one had a story to tell. The Twins said, "This is more thrilling than any Fairy Tale we ever read."

The little hand mirror began to talk first.

"Your bedroom manners are very sweet,
I see your room picked up and neat,
Your visit to me is quite a treat,
Your bedroom manners are very sweet."

Nan said, "See, here is a package under my pillow."

It was addressed, "Nan and Ann from Looking-Glass Land."

They eagerly opened the package and found two little hand-mirrors. They laughed and said, "The Looking-Glass Queen could not have been so very angry with us after all."

They danced downstairs and shouted, "Good morning" to every one and cried,

"We are so happy you understand;
We have a present from Looking-
Glass Land."

CHAPTER 5.

MANNERS AT TABLE.

ONE evening Aunt Matilda was invited out to dinner and she said the children could have their dinner served as usual, and she asked them to be polite to the maid who waited on them. She said,

“Nan and Ann I know you’re able,
To practice good manners at the table.”

Polly and Peter Polite opened the door for Aunt Matilda and Edgar Education ran and opened the car door and just then, a neighbor child, Greedy Gerty, pushed herself in and said she wanted to stay to dinner.

“Who will sit at the head of the table?” asked Nan.

“I will,” said Ann, but, to her surprise, before she could get up into Aunt Matilda’s chair, the Polite Pixie cried,

“Excuse me, though I heard what’s said
I will sit here at the head.”

Greedy Gerty was anxious for the meal to begin, but Edgar Education said, “Oh, Polite Pixie do you really ever wave a magic wand?”

The Polite Pixie said,
“If you sit at table with me,
You will see what you will see.”

Which, you see was really no answer at all.

The boys pulled out chairs for the girls and stood until they were seated, then the children did not know exactly what to do next, so, as the Polite Pixie had used magic, the napkins said,

“Unless you want a sad mishap,
Open your napkin in your lap.”

The Polite Pixie smiled as the children opened their napkins and put them in their laps.

All the knives stood up and made a bow and said in chorus,

“Good mannered children understand,
They hold a knife in the right hand;
Do be careful as you should,
The knife is made for cutting food.
Good knife manners say ‘No, no,
To your mouth I never go;’
Good manners we’ll spread far and wide,
Lay knife and fork now side by side;
When meal time’s done, at any rate,
The knife and fork lay on the plate.”

Nan said, “Oh we wish the forks and spoons would tell us what to do.”

Ann said, “Hark, the forks are going to talk. Don’t you hear their silvery voices?”

They all listened as the forks said,

“I hope you children understand,
When eating hold me in the right hand;
In the left, when cutting food,
Hold my tines down as you should,
For vegetables, salads and ice cream,
To use a fork I know you mean;
In eating ice cream, it is true,
Either fork or spoon will do.”

The spoons began to dance.

“Ha! ha! ha!” sang each tiny spoon,
“We will play a fairy tune.”

They tapped on the glasses until the Polite Pixie brought them to order and then they stood in a row and said,

“We were made to be taken up,
But don't leave us in your cup;
You can learn this very soon,
In your saucer leave your spoon.”

Greedy Gerty had begun to stir her cocoa and she left her spoon in the cup, and caught her sleeve in the spoon; over went the cocoa on the nice clean table cloth. She said, “Oh dear, I had no manners with my spoon.”

The children had a jolly meal and the napkins piped up,

“Good manners are very apt to linger,
Use us for your mouth and fingers.”

When the children were noisy in eating, the Polite Pixie said,

“Good manners for girls, good manners for
boys,
When eating do not make a noise,
And never mind what word is spoken,
Do not eat with your lips open.”

Some of the children leaned back carelessly
in their chairs and the Polite Pixie said,

“I can tell fairy tale and fable,
Please sit up now at the table;
And I hope you’ve no excuse,
For the humble toothpick’s use.”

“Can’t we use a toothpick at all?” asked Nan
and Ann.

The Polite Pixie said, “You can use it away
from the table.”

“Ah! ha! sad to relate,
Greedy Gerty, here’s your plate;
Don’t pass it oftener than right,
You can’t eat everything in sight.”

Edgar Education played with his extra knife
and fork while waiting for dessert and the
Polite Pixie said,

“To learn good manners you are able,
Don't make noises at the table,
Learn some lessons every day,
With your knife and fork don't play;
If finger bowls are served politely,
Dip your fingers in quite lightly;
It really makes a Pixie laugh,
To have you splash as in a bath.”

Peter reached for some butter with his own knife and the Polite Pixie scolded, and said never to use your own knife and fork for anything on the common dish. He scolded Polly for spreading a whole slice of bread and nearly boxed Edgar's ears for spreading a slice of bread in his hand. He said,

“For good manners we will wait,
Use your bread and butter plate.”

He scolded the Twins in turn for drinking from their saucers. He said they would never arrive in Good Manners Town unless they learned table manners and he said,

“If you do not like your food,
Say ‘No, thank you,’ as you should.”

He went on to say if we should ever find a speck or hair in food, we should not say a word about it. If our biscuit had been scorched at the edge it was not polite to mention it. Just leave on the plate any food not right to eat.

He said, "We should be cheerful at the table and only talk of pleasant things."

Nan jumped down from the table before the rest and the Polite Pixie called her back. He said,

"We can learn things like these,
Use the words 'Excuse me, please.' "

He said we ought to sit at the table until all are ready to leave.

Greedy Gerty stuffed her apron pockets full of nuts and the Polite Pixie said,

"To like good manners you really should.
Please don't carry away your food."

Edgar and Peter jumped down to draw out the girls' chairs from the table.

It was then that the most surprising thing happened. The Polite Pixie said,

“Little black patch over my eye,
To use some magic we will try;
I want this pleasant company,
To travel with me on the sea.”

In less time than it takes to tell it, the happy company were boarding a vessel that sailed for Good Manners Town. The Polite Pixie held the tickets and had to explain at length that he was quite harmless, and would do no stealing of treasures, before they let him on board.

The vessel set sail and they were soon bounding away across the deep blue sea.

“Will we see Mermaids?” asked Nan.

“Will we see Mermen?” asked Ann.

“We have so many things to learn,
Everything must have a turn.”

The Twins held the Polite Pixie’s hands as they stood on both sides of him and said,

“We hope that we are really able,
To remember good manners at table.
Like a little tinkling tune,
Are manners for knife, and fork, and
spoon.

Napkin manners also invite,
Every child to be polite;
Well mannered children we declare,
Are always welcome everywhere.”

They sailed safely home and begged De Soto to visit them, but he said he felt like sailing on the sea. He and the Polite Pixie sailed away.

Nan called to the Polite Pixie, “When shall we see you again?”

Ann said, “Don’t desert us altogether.”

The Twins said, “Oh, Polite Pixie, why do you sail away?”

The Polite Pixie said,

“Don’t ask so many questions, please,
I am used to things like these,
I know you do not mean to tease,
My home is really on the seas;

This may be true, or on April Fool,
Perhaps I'll meet you some day in school."

With a wave of his hand he was off and away.

Aunt Matilda kissed the merry children as they trooped in and said, "Where did you get your lovely coral necklaces?"

CHAPTER 6.

MANNERS IN SCHOOL.

NAN and Ann woke up very happy, one day, singing,

“Manners in school, manners in school,
Be on time is a good rule.”

They ran downstairs merrily and said, “Oh Aunt Matilda, are we really and truly going to school to-day?”

Aunt Matilda laughed at the Twins and said,

“Yes, indeed as I remember,
School begins now in September.”

The Twins had never been to school very much, but had studied with Mother at home. They said, “We wonder if we will have any school manners at all. Oh, Aunt Matilda, do

suggest some things we can learn in the way of school manners before we get there.”

Aunt Matilda said, “You can be on time, and go regularly as long as you visit me, and you can dress neatly, and speak politely to your teacher. You can have good lessons and treat your schoolmates well, and take care of your school books and all school property.”

The Twins’ eyes grew big and round and they said, “We have tussled so much with boys, we can fight if we have to, and Oh, Aunt Matilda, we hope no one will point us out and say ‘Aren’t the Twins cute?’ We just cannot stand it to have people stare at us and make remarks.”

Aunt Matilda knew some of the boys and girls who went to that school and she said, “I hope you will not make fun of Dora Dunce and Bertha Button-Off, and I know you will like Fannie Favorite, and Karl Know-It-All has some reason to be proud of his knowledge. I hope Ben Bully, who teases all the new children, will leave you alone.”

The Twins started merrily to school and it was Ben Bully who met them on the playground and began to make fun of their bobbed hair and said, "Aren't we cute, little Twin sisters."

Out flew Nan's right arm and Ann's right arm and then and there, while the other children stared, they laid the Bully low and marched proudly into the schoolroom.

The teacher, Miss Minnie Manners, was pretty, and sweet, and polite, and showed Nan and Ann their seats, and gave them books, and they began to feel at home when the whole school sang "America." The teacher said, when Nan answered a question, "I like the way you speak out, so clearly and distinctly," and she said to Ann, "I like to see you stand up so straight with arms at your side when you recite."

It was Tommy Tattle-Tale who told the teacher that the Twins could fight and that they had been more than a match for Ben Bully. Miss Manners said,

“Tommy Tattle-Tale, when will you learn,
To hold your tongue, good manners to earn?”

Tommy Tattle-Tale was ashamed and Freddy Fun made fun of Dora Dunce when she did not know her times table. Miss Manners took him aside afterwards and said,

“Do not make fun by night or day,
Of any one in any way.”

She said Dora Dunce was very poor and had a hard time at home and she wanted the children all to help her learn. She said little Bertha Button-Off might do better if some one would help her sew buttons on her shoes.

The Twins were favorites at once and all the children crowded about them at recess when they were ready to play a Politeness game.

They stood in a circle and tossed a ball from the center to any child who must say “thank you” before he returned the ball. If he failed to say “thank you” the children clapped him

out. They all sang to the tune of "Lightly Row,"



"Thank you say, thank you say,
In your games now every day;
Thank you say, thank you say,
Be polite we pray.
Bouncing ball is lots of fun,
Now our play time has begun;
Thank you say, thank you say,
Happy holiday."

Every once in a while some child would forget to say "thank you," and be out of the game.

They played another politeness game. They chose one child to stand in the center of the circle they formed. This child said,

"To Politeness Land who has the key?
Run inside and answer me."

The first child to run in and say, "Excuse me, Beg Pardon, If you please," or any other polite expression, changed places with her and the game continued. They sang in connection with this game a song to the tune of "Yankee Doodle,"

1.

Oh to Good Manners Town we go,
So early in the morning,
Oh to Good Manners Town we go,
We give you all fair warning.

Chorus:

Say, "Excuse me," if you please,
Do not be unruly:

Use some little words like these,
Be good mannered truly.

2.

Oh to Good Manners Town we go,
And this is what we're saying;
Oh to Good Manners Town we go,
Polite in work or playing.

The bell rang and the children hurried back into the schoolroom. Ben Bully tripped Tommy Tattle-Tale and they made a great noise.

Miss Manners said in her sweet, quiet voice,

“To apologize I understand,
Means politeness in Manners Land.”

Ben Bully and Tommy Tattle-Tale went right up to Miss Manners and said, “Do please excuse us for being so noisy.”

Miss Manners said, “I accept your apology and we will march a while to get quiet after our recess game.”

They marched and then copied a verse from the board.

Tick, tock, tick, tock,
Very good mannered is the clock;
Do you like my simple rhyme?
Always in my place on time.
Regular and prompt you see,
Mean good manners for you and me.

Tick, tock, tick, tock,
Now I hear your gentle knock;
All day long I tick away,
It is my business to obey;
I do the best that's in my power,
And always point to you the hour.

The children copied the clock's face and wrote under the verse—"Regular—Prompt—Obedient."

When they had a lesson on Japan, Edgar Education said, "I am glad I do not have to study in Japan, for instead of twenty-six letters to the alphabet, they have forty-seven to learn, and many characters that mean words, and sentences, and their books begin at the back and not like ours do in the front, and the lines run up and down the pages and not across. The

children copy what the teacher puts on the blackboard with brush and ink. They play a game called 'One Hundred Verses of One Hundred Poets,' in which they learn the names and verses of poets."

Then Miss Manners read the following story. It was called, "The First Day of School":

"Once upon a time Fairy Faithful said, 'I will go to school and see if I cannot see a few things for myself instead of always hearing stories from my Grandmother.'

"Fairy Faithful said, 'I see it is the first day of school and some children are so timid and shy and hardly any one knows where to go or what to do. Ah! ha! here is a little new teacher and it is her first day too. I will wave my magic wand and make every one patient with everybody else and make things go smoothly.'

"Things went very well until the Fairy found a proud girl who bragged about her new

shoes and hair ribbon, and a careless boy who made fun of a boy who stuttered.

“Then Fairy Faithful waved her wand and even tapped these children on their shoulders, but she could not make them behave.

“The Fairy said, ‘I will take them with me to Topsy-Turvy Land.’

“She took the children with her and the proud little girl had to wear old shoes and the careless boy began to stutter himself. The Fairy said,

“ ‘Things are upside down you understand,
In this queer Topsy-Turvy Land.’

“The children had so much trouble they longed to go home. The Proud Girl had her feelings hurt when the children made fun of her poor clothes, and the Careless Boy was so ashamed of his stuttering that they said,

“ ‘Our lessons on manners are just begun,
Never make fun of any one.’

“As soon as they had learned their lesson

the Fairy waved her wand and they were back in their own school. After that they never made fun of any one who wore poor clothes or who limped or stuttered, or was peculiar in any way. The Fairy said,

“ ‘It does you good you understand
To go to Topsy-Turvy Land;
It gives you a kind of grace,
To stand in some one else’s place.’ ”

Miss Manners had many pleasant surprises in her school. She had the children cut keys from cardboard and write upon them. She said, “These are Politeness keys.”

The Twins picked up the books about the room and returned the borrowed book and said, “We never knew before that books could really talk and had feelings like ourselves.”

Next day, the Twins went merrily off to school and found the children excitedly standing and talking in groups. They said, “We are to help Miss Manners plan a school party. It

will be a Thanksgiving party and we will all help her of course.”

Miss Manners said they could invite the fifth grade from the other school.

“Now,” she said, “Let us consider what we have to plan for.”

“Invitations,” cried the Twins.

“Refreshments,” cried Karl Know-It-All.

“Entertainment,” cried Bertha Button-Off.

“Decoration,” cried Dora Dunce.

Miss Manners said, “We will talk about our invitations first. If they were to be very formal, we would write notes and put them in envelopes, but as it is to be a school party we will write our invitations neatly on cards and you can decorate the cards in any way you wish.”

My! the children had fun making the invitations. Some of them printed on their cards a picture of a turkey, and some of them printed a picture of a spinning wheel, and some of them printed a “Horn of Plenty” or a pumpkin, but everything suggested Thanksgiving. Miss Manners liked the cards, but said perhaps

they had better decide who had the best picture and then make them all alike. They decided the turkey with outspread wings was the best and on the card they wrote the invitation,

“The Pupils of Miss Manners’ School invite you to a party at the school, November 29th, at 8 o’clock. R. S. V. P.”

“What do the letters at the end mean?” asked Dora Dunce.

The Twins said, “They mean—Reply, If You Please.”

Miss Manners said,

“To have good manners we all will try,
To a written invitation send a written reply.”

She said they would have to know how many children were coming, so they could tell how many refreshments to prepare. She said they must make their refreshments attractive and not spend too much money, for they would want to give other school parties that year.

They planned to decorate the room with chrysanthemums and to wear Puritan and In-

dian costumes. They looked up history and chose names that they found of Puritans and Indians and printed them on their paper caps. Massasoit stood at the door to welcome the guests and Priscilla introduced them to a table which contained red apples piled high. To each apple was attached a string which led the guest to his partner and they had a merry time.

After all the children had partners they had a grand march which ended in a song, sung to the tune of "Jingle Bells,"

"We are bright and gay,
Upon glad Thanksgiving Day;
Pausing in our play,
It is this we sing and say,
Praises for our food,
And for all things bright and good,
Sing hurrah Thanksgiving Day, we
welcome you once more.

Chorus:

Hear the bells, hear the bells,
Ringing from each sleigh;
Hear the bells, hear the bells,

Upon glad Thanksgiving Day.
Hear the bells, hear the bells,
And our laughter gay;
Merry, merry are the bells,
Upon glad Thanksgiving Day.”

Nan and Ann rang sleigh bells softly, and one by one the guests were blindfolded, and sent to pin a string of sleigh bells on the horses and sleigh they had drawn on a sheet and pinned up in a doorway. Bursts of merry laughter followed, for no one could pin the bells on the harness where they belonged.

They had dinner and many guessing games and stunts followed. They enjoyed their candy which was served in a hollow pumpkin.

They had so much fun they decided some day to have a postal card party and tell something about the cards they brought.

They told stories of Puritans and stories of Indians and many interesting things about the long ago.

The Polite Pixie came in, almost out of

breath and said, "Here I am almost late. Of course, for no one thought to send me an invitation until the last moment and then a raft came floating by and took me and my copper kettle on board. I rubbed it up and a voice said,

'If hungry you should ever feel,
Just rub me up and order a meal.'

"I rubbed the kettle just like this and ordered whatever I wanted. It always came. So now I say,

'Little kettle, so neat and handy,
Give us a shower of fine candy.'"

The children crowded round and the little kettle held candy full to overflowing. The Polite Pixie threw it up in the air, again and again, it returned full of more candy than they could eat. He said,

"On stilts I'll off and away,
And play a joke on Thanksgiving Day;
To every little child I meet,
I'll give some candy for a treat;

Into the windows as I go,
Candy sweet I will bestow."

The Polite Pixie was off and away and the children cried, "What a wonderful story! What a wonderful kettle!"

The children danced and the boys were so polite they tried to see that every one had a good time and had a partner.

Nan never grew tired of dancing, but Ann sometimes sat down and watched the others. Miss Manners introduced the shy children to each other and they all had a lovely time at the school party. All the children shook hands with Miss Manners when they said good-by and some of them said, "We had a lovely party," and some of them said, "We thank you for a good time," and they all went merrily homeward.

Miss Manners saw that the older children took the younger ones home and they all cried, "Hurrah! hurrah! for the Thanksgiving party."

It had been snowing and some of the children walked home and some of them went in sleighs.

The Twins told many things they were thankful for that night and said,

“We’re gayly walking up and down,
We’re on the road to Manners Town.”

They reviewed their politeness lessons.

Nan said,

“To remember politeness I will try,
A written invitation means a like reply.”

Ann said,

“ ’Tis a useful bit of politeness please,
To make your guests all feel at ease.”

Nan said,

“In a school party you understand,
Every one must lend a hand.”

Ann said,

“Another useful thing I guess
Is to wear a simple dress.”

The Twins fell asleep to be wakened by a

gentle “tap, tap, tap” on the window. A voice said,

“Will you return to-day or to-morrow,
That book you happened now to borrow?”

The Twins said, “To-morrow, to-morrow! How many bits of politeness we are learning. We wonder if we will have a real adventure to-morrow.”

They fell asleep, to dream of Pixies and hidden treasures and Thanksgiving parties.

Next morning they told Aunt Matilda all about their good time. She said,

“As this is happy Thanksgiving Day,
We all will ride out in the sleigh.”

She had six baskets packed full of good things for poor people and they all rode merrily along.

Nan would run up to one door and say, “We wish you a happy Thanksgiving Day,” and Ann would run up to another door and say, “Best wishes for Thanksgiving,” and Peter

and Polly and Edgar cried, "Hurrah! hurrah! for Thanksgiving."

They had a fine Thanksgiving dinner at home and after dinner they played games.

The Twins wrote up a long verse. They wrote,

"We learned politeness at our party,
And replied to the invitation hearty;
To remember we'll always try,
To our hostess to say good-by;
Manners at home and on the train,
We have learned, let us explain,
Bedroom manners and street manners too."

"Merry Christmas time draws near,
And Santa Claus will soon appear."

Aunt Matilda said, "It is a fine plan for you to help Santa Claus and I will give you two dollars for dolls."

Aunt Ella Etiquette said, "I will give you two dollars too."

"What is that?" asked Uncle Earnest Etiquette.

When the Twins patiently explained their



plans he give them a crisp five dollar bill, and they danced downtown and bought more dolls than you ever dreamed of, and spent many happy hours in the garret, dressing them from pieces which they found in the old trunks.

The weeks went by and one day Nan began to feel a tiny bit homesick and Ann dropped her sewing and said, "I wonder what it will be like to spend Christmas in a great city. I wonder how we shall feel on Christmas day away from home."

The Polite Pixie began to feel homesick for his great great grandfather, so he suggested they go for a ride at once. He bundled the Twins into a sleigh and drove himself. He attracted a great deal of attention, because he would wear the patch over his eye of course. They drove north and drove away, away, away. At evening they came near a little house and saw the lights twinkle, twinkle. The Polite Pixie shouted,

"Ha! ha! 'tis a jolly time of year,
And Santa Claus' work-shop is right here."

The twins were excited, you may be sure. Just as they rapped on the work-shop door a trap-door opened, and Santa Claus and Mrs. Santa Claus disappeared, but a walking-talking doll opened the door and begged them to come in. There were dolls and toys of every kind. A woolly Lamb began to bleat, and a tiny train of cars ran on the track, and a rocking horse rocked to and fro.

It was a jolly place, you may be sure.

The Polite Pixie said it was their duty to telephone Aunt Matilda and tell her where they were, so she would not worry about them. He did so, and Nan said, "Where is Santa Claus?" Ann said, "Where is Mrs. Santa Claus?"

A letter came from mother. She said,

"Dear Twins:

"I hope you are doing your duty every day at home, and in school, to yourselves, and to others. It is your duty to form habits while you are young and don't forget your duty to write letters home.

"Your father will come for you in January,

soon after Christmas, so have all the good times you can and do your duty to every one, specially to the old people. I hope you have traveled miles and miles towards Manners Town.

“Your loving Mother.”

The Polite Pixie said, “This is something like a game. Good manners set us way ahead, and bad manners set us back.”

“Like disputes,” said Nan.

“Like interruptions,” said Ann.

Now that the Twins were soon to go home they did not know whether to be glad or sorry.

Arnold Acknowledge-It telephoned,

“To Mother’s letter please reply,
Don’t put it off for by and by.”

Robbie Return-It said, “The New Sand-Man left his book of Sleepy-Songs. Do return it at once by mail.”

The Twins did all that was asked and said,

“We are happy, come what may,
We do our duty every day.”

CHAPTER 7.

MANNERS IN PUBLIC.

NAN said, "Christmas day away from home and Christmas coming on Sunday too. Oh Ann, what shall we do?"

Ann said, "We are to have our presents this evening any way and we are soon going home, so let us make the best of it." She spoke cheerfully, though she did feel a bit homesick.

The chimes were ringing from the church nextdoor and the Twins thought they sang words as well as ringing a beautiful tune.

"Chiming bells, chiming bells,
Ring at Christmas morn;
Chiming bells, chiming bells,
Christ, the Lord, is born.
Everywhere the golden chime,
Is ringing in glad Christmas time."

That evening as they were ready to have their presents around the Christmas tree, a group of young people came and sang Christmas carols.

The Twins decided that Christmas in a city was not so bad after all.

The Polite Pixie evidently forgot that it was Christmas, for he was so happy to find the little book on Manners he had lost, he kept shouting all kinds of directions to the Twins. He said,

“I like your smiling happy faces,
Do you have good manners in public places?”

“What places are you talking about?” asked Nan.

“What places do you mean?” asked Ann.

The Polite Pixie said, “I suppose you know enough not to shout when you go up the steps of a Public Library, and not to whistle when you go to visit an Art Gallery.

“To have good manners this is true,
Don't attract attention, whatever you do.”

The Twins had a Merry Christmas and lovely presents, but they had the finest time of all, long after the others had gone to bed.

“I cannot sleep,” said Nan.

“I am too excited to keep still,” said Ann.

They decided to put on their slippers that looked exactly alike, and their dressing gowns that looked exactly alike, and creep down as silently as possible and look at the wonderful Christmas tree.

“There is some one talking,” whispered the Twins. They sat down in their two new red rocking chairs and a voice began,

“I am the Spirit of Christmas. I am here, and there, and everywhere. If you traveled with me over the wide world you would see no one can keep me outside. I am in the air, and I float as light as thistle-down. Everywhere it is Christmas!”

The Tree cried, “How shall I know when Christmas is coming? Every tree in the woods is eagerly waiting and swaying in the breeze and saying, ‘Shall I be chosen? Shall I go?’

Shall I hold a hundred candles on Christmas eve?" "

The candles said, "We all know when Christmas is coming. So many customers! Such crowded stores! And then the bustle and excitement of the happy people who get in a crowd and say 'Christmas is coming.' "

"I know something too," said one candle that had been left lighted on the tree by mistake. "I know what it means to burn a candle at both ends."

"Do tell us," murmured the other candles.

The candle said, "In Merry Old England long ago candle-sticks were made so we were pushed up through the center and our two ends, one at right, and one at the left, were lighted."

"That is interesting, tell some more," cried the candles.

The Christmas Star on top of the tree cried, "You all know the story of the Christmas Star in the East leading the Wise Men, yet every Christmas time the story is new, as well as old,

and the Star on the Christmas tree gleams to remind you we are led upward by loving and giving.”

The Mistletoe and Holly began to dance. They danced until they looked like real fairies and sang,

“To be sad now would be folly,
Hang high the mistletoe and holly;
At Christmas time we all are jolly,
Hang high the mistletoe and holly.”

They danced such a merry dance Nan and Ann began to dance too, in their new little slippers, and they danced themselves up to bed and into Dreamland.

Next day they wrote a play about the Spirit of Christmas and the next day they began to think about going home.

Arnold Acknowledge-It, was right at their elbow and shouted,

“Please listen now to what I say,
Acknowledge your presents right away;

Acknowledge them and be polite,
Use the telephone, or a note please write."

The Twins wrote notes, and letters, and Robbie Return-It, said, "Are you sure you will remember to return everything before you start on your journey home?"

Arnold Acknowledge-It, said, "I do have such a hard time at Christmas and all through the holidays, for some people will not listen to me at all, and some people I have to remind over and over."

She helped the Twins back over the picture frame and they said, "It was exciting to hear Nero roar. We are glad we are safely back in the picture gallery. When we get home we will try to see some of the pictures Rosa Bonheur painted."

Uncle Phil said, "You will soon be going home now and will have to say good-by to us. I hope you will have a good time in Manners Town."

The Twins said, "We wonder how long we will stay in Manners Town."

Uncle Phil said, "Do you ever review your manners and do you practise good manners every day and are you *ever* rude to each other?"

The Twins both began to talk at once, and Uncle Phil said,

"I love your little voices sweet,
But you make too much noise on the street."

They said good-night by and by to Uncle Phil, and Aunt Matilda; and wrote a letter home to Mark. They said, "Next week we will start home."

As it happened they did not start home next week, or the next, or the next, for Nan began to act queer, and as luck would have it, they both came down with the measles, on the same hour of the same day!

They said, "A measles sign on the house, and a doctor and nurse very likely! Oh dear, what would Mother say?"

Aunt Matilda said, "My maid will wait on you, my dears, and I will keep the shade pulled down so your eyes will keep well, and you must

be as good as can be, and every evening I will read or tell you a story.”

“Thank you, Aunt Matilda,” said the Twins soberly.

My! how long the days were!

The Polite Pixie came every little while and remarked, “Even measles can’t last forever and if you are cheerful when you are sick and people least expect it, you are miles and miles nearer Manners Town.”

“Tell us more about the Town,” begged the Twins. “What will we do when we really get there?”

The Polite Pixie said, “There are so many odd bits of politeness to learn. Anywhere you go you are likely to see people who are lame, or cross-eyed, or have some peculiarity and you must learn never to call attention to their defects, for

Good manners is to do and say,
The kindest thing in every way;
The golden rule applies to you,
To do as you’d have done to you.”

The Polite Pixie went out and came in and began to limp and said, "Be careful now of your conversation and whatever you do, don't talk to me about lameness."

He said,

"You can practise things like these,
As well as 'Thank You,' and 'If You
Please';
Use your magic as I have said,
You're not really sick-a-bed."

The Twins said, "We are in such a hurry to get well and go to Manners Town and then home. We wonder what is going on in the Little Log House."

If they could have looked in at the Little Log House that minute they would have had a wonderful surprise.

The Polite Pixie said, "If I came to visit my Aunt Matilda and she gave me the very best time in the world, I would not appear too anxious to leave, and go home."

“To your hostess be polite,
Every morning, noon and night;
When you leave be sure to write,
To your hostess be polite.”

The Twins passed happy hours with the Polite Pixie and said, “We do hope you will take the next trip with us.”

The Polite Pixie disappeared suddenly, saying, “I feel the longing for adventure. Heave-ho, my vessel is now in sight.”

“Don’t leave us yet,” cried the Twins, “remember we are sick-a-bed with measles.”

“There you go—impolite and selfish,” cried the Pixie. “Sick people are apt to be selfish and think only of themselves. I know people who are sick-a-bed for years, and years, and yet they do not tell their troubles to everybody.”

“Suppose I ask you to sail with me,
Tell me, what will the answer be?”

“Hurrah!” cried the Twins. “Take us sailing, please.”

Aunt Matilda called, "Be sure to keep your arms under cover. Be sure to keep warm."

"Thank you, Aunt Matilda," cried the Twins.

The Polite Pixie said a magic verse and they were soon off to visit Sarah Slang, and Sally Sick-A-Bed.

CHAPTER 8.

SARAH SLANG AND SALLY SICK-A-BED.

SARAH SLANG cried, "Oh gee,
Here is a surprise for you and me."

Sally Sick-A-Bed said, "What kind of a surprise is coming? Do tell me what you see at the window."

Sarah Slang was as kind-hearted as any one could be. She had only one bad fault, and that was using slang she heard on the street and in her own home. She said, "I've put my lamps on a peach of a vessel and I do believe it has a Pixie in it."

"Look again, is there any one else in the vessel?" asked Sally Sick-A-Bed.

"There are a pair of Twins—oh cute Twins,

the very peach of twins, and so alike I can't tell tother from which."

"Open the window wider. Maybe I can see them sail by," said Sally. As Sarah did so, whiz, bang, came the vessel and in it sailed, without any warning whatever.

"Well, you have plenty of nerve and pep," said Sarah, staring hard at the Twins.

The Polite Pixie took off his cap, and made a low bow and said,

"I beg your pardon, if you please,
I sail on quite uncertain seas."

Sally began to laugh, and Sarah began to laugh, and Ann and Nan laughed, and soon they all became well acquainted.

The Twins said, "Oh Sally, how can you stand it to lie abed year in, and year out?"

Sally said, "I have my Play Of Days. There are the holidays. I always make the most of them, and the week days are always interesting too."



“What do you mean by the ‘Play Of Days’?” asked the Twins eagerly.

Sally said, “Well, as this is Monday, we will play school. Sarah is teacher and as we have a large class to-day, we will all spell, and recite, and read, and write, and have a real little school, and play games, and sing pretty songs. When I am alone I line up the dolls and recite for them.”

After awhile the children said, “Do tell us what you do on Tuesday.”

Sally said, “Tuesday is Doll Dress-Making Day. Let us play it is Tuesday for a while. Dolly Dimple, come and show yourself. You say you want a silk dress. Very well, bring me my thread and scissors and pattern box. Tight skirt, short sleeves, very well, you have ideas in your china head, I am sure. Here comes the Rag Doll with her apron-string gone.”—“Not my fault at all,” she said in her ragged voice, “for it was chewed off by the puppy next door.”—“Here is my little bisque doll and my big, old doll, both with buttons off their dresses

if you please. All these others will have to wait while I dress Dolly Dimple. Lay down the pattern and make her silk dress. What is that? A silk hat to match? Cut me a circle of cardboard to be sure, cut out a circle in the center and fit the cardboard circle over Dolly Dimple's head. Now cut a long piece of cloth and gather it round the cardboard circle. Cut a circle of silk for the crown and gather it on. With strings the hat is complete for Dolly Dimple to wear."

"How sweet," murmured the Twins. "We wish your Tuesday would never end."

"Well, Wednesday is coming. Take the dolls away, please, and help me clean the decks for action. Wednesday is knitting day. Here is my knitting bag and my samples. See my pretty samples. See my pretty yarns. I make samples of every new stitch any one can teach me. See, I have knitted a sweater for my dolls, and then one for my little brother. See, I am crocheting a shawl for Mother. How the busy knitting needles fly! How the crochet needle

bounds along! See, I tie in a piece of white thread to-day, so I can see where I started and how much I do to-day.

“Happy me, happy me,
Tho I am sick-a-bed you see,
I think of others every day,
In my work and in my play.”

“Oh we wish Wednesday would never end,” said the Twins, “but we will teach you the ‘afghan’ stitch, and show you how to make some reins for baby brother, and when we go home we will send you some bells to put on the reins, so when he wears them for a harness the bells will tinkle, tinkle.”

Sally said,

“Thursday is postal card day. Dear me, first I must put my album in order, sort the cards, and re-arrange them. Then I will write five postals to friends far away, and it will be a happy day if I receive a postal card, for then Mother and I sit down with our geography

and find out everything we can about the place from which the card came.”

“I’ll send you a postal,” cried the Polite Pixie.

“I’ll send you one every week,” said Nan.

Ann looked in her pocket and took out a postal card she had received from Japan and they had the finest time telling everything they knew about the Japanese.

Nan said, “Keep the card please.”

Sally said, “Thank you,” politely and “Now here comes Friday—basket day. I make reed or raffia baskets on Friday.

“A basket, a basket,
Before you ask it,
Here is a present, a hand-made basket.”

“How did you learn to make them?” asked the Twins.

Sally said, “A book, borrowed from the Library, showed me how, and I earned money for materials by taking care of baby and copying recipes for Mother.”

The Polite Pixie whispered, "When you make baskets for the Twins do be sure and make them exactly alike.

"Baskets, baskets, every one wants a scrap-basket, or market-basket, or work-basket for Christmas. I tell you, the basket days are busy days indeed.

"Saturday is silk quilt, or rag rug day. Sew them hit or miss, and oh the lovely bright colors. See the red and blue and yellow.

"Every stitch must be made neatly,
Everything done quite completely.

"How I enjoy making up stories of every bit of silk in my quilt. I like to tell where every piece came from.

"Sunday comes at last and I read my Sunday School Lesson, and watch the time, and sing my hymns, and learn one verse by heart. Then I am reading and writing Bible stories, and Mother plays the talking machine, so I hear the great choir singing, and on sunshiny days

Father carries me into the Sun Parlor and I rest and enjoy Sunday best of all.”

“Tell about the Holidays, please,” whispered the Twins. “You are teaching us more happiness and contentment and pretty plays than we could learn in years and years.”

“Gee whiz, is that so?” asked Sarah.

“You have to choose your holidays, of course,” said Sally. “Here is a grab bag. Nan may grab first.”

As Nan took out a flag Sally said, “That is Washington’s birthday, so to celebrate I have my room done up in red, white and blue paper chains and flags, of course. Then we dress the dolls as George and Martha Washington and all day long it is a Red, White and Blue day, and we may even have red and blue sugar, on our cookies, and Mother keeps pretty paper napkins in a box for all occasions.”

Ann grabbed next and took out a small valentine heart.

Sally said, “Valentines make so much fun. We put up paper valentines and make valen-

tines, of course, and it takes hours and hours to compose a verse to write on a valentine heart."

"You ought to have the Pixie around. He can make sixty verses in sixty minutes," said the Twins.

The Polite Pixie drew from the grab bag a stocking—a Christmas stocking, of course.

Sally said, "I am having more fun with my Christmas stocking. I work on it every month except December. In it I put a toy, or dressed doll, or bit of work started for every month in the year. On one package I write 'Open this in September'; on another 'Open this in October' and so on. When my Christmas stocking is finished I will send it to some other little girl who is lame, or a Shut-In, like I am.

Sarah drew from the grab bag a tiny bird-house made from a small cigar box.

"Arbor and Bird-Day," shouted the Twins. "Oh what fun! Names of birds, habits of birds, houses for birds and, trees. What a wonderful Play-Day."

Sally herself made a grab and took out a paper carnation for Mother's Day. She said, "On Mother's Day I plan little ways I can save Mother. I can make out a list of everything she needs in the kitchen as she calls up, 'We are out of matches and Baking Powder and butter. Do write me a shopping list. I want to remember number 60 white thread; and can you find time to darn Bobby's socks and make Mother a stove lifter, and perhaps you could polish up the silver spoons. They need so much rubbing.'—I love Mother's Day best of all.

"I often sing, as I work away, to the tune of 'Lightly Row,'

Mother's Day, Mother's Day,
Help her now in work and play;
Mother's Day, Mother's Day,
Help her every way.
Mother's willing helper see,
Mother's comfort you can be;
Mother's Day, Mother's Day,
Help her every way.

“Then there are the Rainy Days and Sunny Days, the History Days and Music Days. See, I will play a little for you on my guitar. I pick out tunes by ear and am learning notes, so I can soon read music. Oh, I am busy, as busy can be.

Tinkle, tinkle light guitar,
Sing of troubadours afar;
Tinkle, tinkle, fast and slow,
Sing of days of long ago;
Tinkle, tinkle, little tune,
Happy days are coming soon.

“Then there are Rainbow Days, when I play with my prism, and Soap-Bubble Days, and Visitor Days, and all my days are busy and merry and glad.”

“Don’t you get tired lying in bed after all?” asked the Twins.

Sally said,

“My spirit travels miles and miles,
I light the way with happy smiles.

“I almost forgot,” she said, “to tell you about

my Clipping Days. I keep envelopes for stamps, and poems, and stories, and cut them from old newspapers for the children to enjoy.

“The very best way on the road to health
Is to think of others beside yourself.

“And then there is Work-Basket Day, when I put everything in Mother’s work-basket in order, and do a little embroidery myself.

“On Mother Goose Day I pretend I am one of the characters from Mother Goose, and say over and over the verse and make a whole Mother Goose village by cutting the children out of newspaper.

“On Columbus Day I am a sailor and sail in the Nina, Pinta, or Santa Maria.”

The Polite Pixie said, “All the vessels are at your service.

We are in the suburbs of Manners Town,
Just a sail and we’ll settle down;
I really hope you do not care,
If we sail the seas or in the air.

Happiness is a hidden treasure,
Worth much more than we can measure;
Come and seek it now with me,
Sail in the air or on the sea."

Away, away, away sailed the Twins and the Polite Pixie.

Sarah said, "I'll be slam-banged how fast and far they sail."

Sally said,

"Happy me, happy me,
Safe and comfortable as can be;
I won't sail upon the sea,
Happy me, happy me."

The next day, Sally Sick-A-Bed was pleased to receive a postal card from Nan from "Politeness Station," and one from Ann from "If-You-Please Town." Sally sent a card saying, "We forgot to play Birthdays."

"So we did," agreed the Twins.

The Twins said, "What a wonderful thing it is to be sick-a-bed and have so much time for

Play Days. What a wonderful thing it is, to think of others instead of yourself.”

Ann said, “I have learned more things than I can practice in a hundred years from Sally Sick-A-Bed.”

Nan said, “I have learned so many things I shall never scold again for staying in bed a few days with measles and I will try to help little children who are laid up like Sally Sick-A-Bed.”

The Pixie called cheerfully,

“A Play of Days, a Play of Days,
Is very sure to please always;
Through Fairy spectacles please gaze,
A Play of Days, a Play of Days.”

“How soon will we be in Manners Town?”
asked Nan.

Ann said, “How far did we travel to-day?”

The Polite Pixie said,

“If you follow your nose, instead of your toes,
It will lead you to Manners Town, I suppose.”



You see this was really no answer at all, but the Twins shouted,

“In Manners Town we’re happy and gay,
We’re on the way,
We’re on the way,
We have also heard it said,
‘Practice good manners when sick-a-bed.’ ”

CHAPTER 9.

MANNERS TOWARD ANIMALS.

“WE hope you really understand,
You can have manners in Animal Land,”
sang the Polite Pixie one day as he danced
on the window-sill, and Nan and Ann said,
“What do you mean by Manners in Animal
Land? Must we be polite to animals as well
as people?”

The Polite Pixie began to whistle and
along came Everybody's Dog and Sarah
Slang.

The Twins said, “He has truly been such a
wanderer, perhaps he has known that cat be-
fore.”

They shed real tears at the idea of leaving
Rover behind, for the time was drawing near
for them to go home.

One morning early, in through the window
floated a letter. It read:

“Dear Twins:

“I enjoy my new Dog House and I enjoy my new name and it is fun to have two mistresses, but I cannot bear to part with you. Box me up and take me home with you.

“Your loving Rover.”

“Can we? May we? Shall we?” cried the Twins.

Aunt Matilda kissed the Twins and said, “We will see by and by. I am glad you have been in Animal Land and learned kindness to animals. To tell the truth, I have grown rather fond of Rover myself.”

Rover came in and licked Aunt Matilda’s hand.

The Polite Pixie fairly shouted,

“Please hearken now to what I say,
Be kind to animals every day;
Please hearken now to what I say,
Be kind to them in every way.

With good manners be polite,
Dumb animals can’t assert their rights;

These simple things please bear in mind,
Never be cruel, just be kind.

No well-mannered child is ever willing,
To hunt an animal for the joy of killing;
Please hearken now to what I say,
Be kind to animals to-day.”

CHAPTER 10.

GOOD HABITS OF MIND.

ONE morning Nan sang to the tune of
“Lightly Row,”

“Postman oh, Postman oh,
Up and down the street you go;
Postman oh, Postman oh,
Walking to and fro.
Bring a letter, if you please,
For a paper too we tease,
Postman oh, Postman oh,
Welcome as you know.”

“He is going to stop. Perhaps he will bring a letter from Mother,” suggested Ann.

The Postman brought them three letters that day; one from Mother, one from Father, and one from Mark. Mother’s letter read:

“Dear Twins:

“I miss you more as the days go by, but Father will come for you soon, and Aunt Matilda writes you have improved so much, I am sure you must have been in Manners Town. I shall be glad indeed to see you again and I want to tell you that a surprise awaits you in the Little Log House.

“Be sure to thank Aunt Matilda for all her kindness to you and come home soon to,
“Your loving Mother.”

Father’s letter read:

“Dear Twins:

“I will come soon on the fast express, so pick up your grips and bid Aunt Matilda good-by. I will arrive the last of next week and we will start home at once.

“Please tell Aunt Matilda we thank her for giving you such a good time, and teaching you so many nice manners. We have planned a surprise for you in the Little Log House.

“Good-by. Write soon to,
“Your loving Father.”

The next letter was from Mark. He wrote:

“Dear Kiddies:

“I have been to my first formal reception. I had to shake hands with the hostess and a long line of people. I was glad I had learned manners at home and knew what to do. We were soon invited out to refreshments and served the prettiest things. Ice cream was in the form of candles and had lighted nuts on top.

“I am coming home for a vacation and will be jolly glad to see you, and the surprise in the Little Log House.

“Your brother Mark.”

The Twins had just one thing to say when they had finished reading their letters. “The surprise, what can be the surprise in the Little Log House?”

Arnold Acknowledge-It said,

“Will you listen to what I say?

Will you answer your letters right away?”

“Oh, we cannot possibly answer them *now*,” cried the twins. “We have to say good-by to Rover and Aunt Matilda, and all our new

friends and we just cannot write unless we feel in the mood for it.”

Arnold Acknowledge-It said,

“Patty and Matty Put-It-Off,
I’ll name you just in fun;
Patty and Matty Put-It-Off,
Never get anything done.
I’ll ask the Postman not to call,
Or bring you any more letters at all.”

“Oh dear,” cried the Twins, “what a really fierce fellow you are. The only way to please you seems to be to acknowledge a thing right away.”

As they got out paper and ink, Arnold Acknowledge-It called,

“Habits of mind, habits of mind,
Are very wonderful you will find;
Habits of mind, habits of mind,
Make you good and also kind.”

So the Twins wrote letters home, and both of them asked, “What is the surprise in the Little Log House? We can hardly wait to get there.”

That evening as Nan and Ann sat by the fire, Nan said, "Do you really believe we will ever get to Good Manners Town, now it is nearly time to go home?"

Ann said, "I believe we are on the way now, for we try to practice good manners every day."

CHAPTER 11.

GOOD-BY—THE JOURNEY HOME.

“To-morrow, to-morrow, to-morrow,” the Twins woke saying, “We are really going home to-morrow.”

The Polite Pixie said,

“Aunt Matilda has been so kind,
Make her a present if you don't mind.”

“What kind of a present shall it be?” asked the Twins eagerly.

The Polite Pixie said,

“When selecting presents for one who's old,
Don't buy youthful things I'm told.”

“Oh,” said Nan, “we should not buy for Aunt Matilda things we would like, but something *she* would like.”

They put on their thinking caps and sat for some time quietly.

The Polite Pixie suggested,

“To advise is in my power,
Why not buy her a nice flower?”

“The very thing,” cried the Twins. So they hurried off to the greenhouse and found for Aunt Matilda a nice potted plant. They asked the florist to deliver it just after they had left, and wrote on a card:

“Dear Aunt Matilda:

“We send you this flower to make you think of us and to thank you for the many happy hours you have given us.

“From Nan and Ann.”

It was a busy day and the Twins went to school in the afternoon to bid their playmates good-by.

The Polite Pixie said,

“Playground manners I hope you know,
As on to Manners Town we go;
I like one motto, I declare,
In a game always play fair.”

The Twins saw some children rudely push

other children aside, so they would have a better chance at the game, and some children cheated and many children had never even heard of the Golden Rule. Karl Know-It-All, and Ben Bully said they had decided not to go to Manners Town after all. Bertha Button-Off and Dora Dunce said, perhaps they would go next year.

Fannie Favorite told the Twins she had already been there and she hoped they would have a pleasant journey.

On arriving home, they found the letter telling about the Golden Wedding and all was excitement of course. They were invited to their Grandmother's and Grandfather's Golden Wedding.

The Twins said, "Aunt Matilda, what is a Golden Wedding?"

Aunt Matilda said, "People have a Golden Wedding when they have been married fifty years and if they give a present it should be something made of gold."

The Twins said, "What can we take to

Grandmother for her Golden Wedding?"

Aunt Matilda said, "You may take her my gold lace scarf. That will make a fine present for a Golden Wedding."

Father arrived and the time came to go.

The Twins said "good-by" to Peter and Polly Polite, and Edgar Education, and kissed Aunt Matilda, and thanked her for their happy time. They called "Good-by, good-by" and started on their journey homeward.

They had berth thirteen and the Twins said, "We wonder if we will have any unlucky adventures."

Father said,

"It is silly to believe in luck,
Better far to have some pluck."

He left the Twins and went into the smoker and a familiar voice cried,

"When entertained even over night,
A note to the hostess you should write."

The Twins said, "Where is the Polite Pixie hiding?"

He did not show himself for some time, but kept on talking about writing to Aunt Matilda, and so the Twins wrote a note together and thanked her for her kindness to them.

Just then the Twins began to think of the surprise that awaited them in the Little Log House. They begged and teased Father to tell what it was. They teased so hard the Polite Pixie grew quite angry and even threatened to tear the patch off his eye and said,

“Use good manners, if you please,
It is not polite to tease.”

Father said, “When I am told to keep a secret I try to do so, and you will have to wait until you get to the Little Log House to see what surprises await you there.”

“Surprises? Is there more than one surprise?” asked the Twins eagerly.

Father smiled and nodded.

That evening the Twins began to tell stories

very softly in a whisper, so they would not disturb any one, when the Polite Pixie said,

“I give invitation hearty,
Come with me to a Soap Bubble Party.”

But soon they closed their sleepy eyes and the Polite Pixie said, “Here we are with my Great Uncle and he says, ‘Get out your pipes, and bowls, and soap suds, and we will have a Soap Bubble Party. Blow the bubbles. See the Pretty colors! See the bubbles fly!’”

One little boy said, “I can’t blow a bubble,” and one little girl said, “I won’t blow a bubble,” and one child said, “I don’t want to,” and one said, “Why do we have to blow bubbles to-day?”

My Great Uncle said,

“Now once in a while I understand,
We will go to Soap-Bubble Land.”

We will all go to Soap-Bubble Land and see what happened.

The Twins took up two clay pipes and began to blow bubbles. They grew larger and

larger and had so many pretty colors in them. When they broke they were in Soap Bubble Land. There they met "I Can't," "I Won't," "Don't Want To," and "Why." These children said, "We sailed away in the soap bubbles When they broke they were in Soap Bubble Land."

Just then a Fairy came and waved her magic wand, saying,

"We are very glad you came,
A fairy now will change your names."

She changed "I Won't's" name to "I Will," and "I Can't's" name to "I Can," and "I Don't Want To" to "I Will Do It," and "Why" to "No Useless Questions." Then the children were happy and sat down and blew bubbles to their heart's content.

"I hope we will see a ghost ship," said the Twins.

The Pixie continued, "Columbus discovered the Sargasso Sea long ago. He named it from its gulf weed. Some parts of the sea

have ten per cent of gulf weed and this strange weed forms rafts and islands. Early sailors tell us there was another continent called "Atlantus," but it may have been only these floating islands after all. Some of these islands have been called 'Islands of Sunshine.' Millions of coral insects have been building for years and years."

"How beautiful!" cried the Twins, as they looked down from the airship and saw the colors in the water. "It looks like Fairyland. We will certainly write Sally Sick-A-Bed about the Sargasso Sea and Bermuda."

"Notice the gardens about the houses and feel the fine breeze blowing," said the Polite Pixie.

Just then a ship came into view. It had white sails flying and a silent crew. The lights came on, one by one.

"The Phantom Ship—The Ghost Ship," whispered the Twins.

The Polite Pixie cried, "I feel sure there

is a treasure in the Phantom Ship," and descending to earth he rode away, waving good-bye and calling,

“Nan and Ann please don't forget,
Little lessons in Etiquette;
You'll meet a Pixie of great renown,
Just as you enter Manners Town.”

Next morning the Twins declared they had had the same dream.

Father said, “As we are nearly at our journey's end, see now that everything in your traveling bags is in order, and have your coats



and caps ready for the Porter to brush, for you may as well put some of your good manners into practice. It is not very good form to appear in a hurry, if you can help it.”

Father explained that it was customary to give the Porter some money at the journey's end, for he had looked after their comfort.

The Patient Porter came into view now with his whisk broom and began to brush people's clothes and answer their questions as to how soon they would arrive, and if the train was on time, and how cold it was.

All was bustle and excitement.

The Twins sat up very straight and said, “We can hardly wait to get home. We can hardly wait to see Mother and find out the surprises that await us in the Little Log House.”

The train came to a stop. There were Mother and Mark and Sammy Slow-Coach, waiting for them.

The Twins forgot all the manners they ever had heard of and shouted as they ran out of the train, “Hurrah! Hurrah!”

CHAPTER 12.

IN MANNERS TOWN.

NAN and Ann were so happy to see Mother and Mark they almost forgot about the surprise that awaited them in the Little Log House.

Mother said, "I am so glad to have my girls home again! How tall you have grown!"

Father said, "When you are together I can tell you apart. I wonder if I can tell which is which, when you come in one at a time."

Mark whistled softly and said,

"One can tell you apart if he really tries,
In the Little Log House waits your surprise."

Then the first delightful thing happened.

Off and away the happy Twins bounded to the Little Log House. "Oh" and "Ah" and

“How splendid!” they cried when they stepped inside, for there was a baby grand piano for Nan, and a violin for Ann, and the Little Log House was fixed up for a real studio, and Mark said two music teachers were engaged to come next week, one to teach violin, and one piano.

The Twins were so happy they imagined they were musicians already and they said, “We are glad we had a birthday. We are so happy over our home-coming and our surprises!”

Then the second delightful thing happened.

Grandma and Grandpa came to celebrate their Golden Wedding, for they had been married fifty years. The Twins had a chance to practice all the manners they had learned, and they loved to run and wait on Grandma and Grandpa, for they loved them dearly.

The Twins ran errands and helped take the invitations to the Golden Wedding, and helped unpack the presents as they arrived, and helped decorate the house with flowers.

At last the great day came and guests came from far and near.

Ann opened the door for them, and Nan told them where to lay their wraps, and Grandma and Grandpa, and Father and Mother, stood in line to receive the guests. Then they had a beautiful formal dinner.

The Twins never forgot the Golden Wedding and wondered if they would ever have a Golden Wedding day.

Then the third delightful thing happened. A letter came from Uncle Phil saying,

“I am thinking of running down,
To meet the Twins in Manners Town.”

“Hurrah!” cried Nan and Ann, “We will surely have a fine time in Manners Town if Uncle Phil meets us there.”

The next delightful thing was a letter from the Polite Pixie which he dropped from the air, because he was sailing again in an aeroplane. He enclosed two tickets to Manners Town and said,

“I will call, let me explain,
I will call in the Manners Town Train.”

The Polite Pixie came about as soon as his letter. He came in an aeroplane, which he called his train. The Twins said good-by to all at home and said, “This is a fine way to travel.”

The Polite Pixie said, “I will punch your tickets, because you used good manners at home lately. I expect I will have to punch your tickets quite often as we make many stops before we arrive at Manners Town.”

The Twins behaved so well on the journey that they had their tickets punched again and soon they saw the roofs of the cutest little houses, in the cutest little town in the world, and they said, “It is a regular little Toy Town. We will feel like giants there.”

The Polite Pixie said,

“I use my magic of the sea,
You can grow tiny as can be!”

Nan and Ann began to shrink and feel themselves no larger than big dolls. “Stop, stop,”

cried the Polite Pixie, "you have shrunk in size enough."

So they sailed down into Manners Town and had a royal reception. They were met by Knights in Armour who welcomed them to Manners Town and every one they met said, "Excuse me," "Beg Pardon," "Thank You," "If You Please," and "By Your Leave."

The Twins rode on white horses all around Manners Town and it was the happiest, busiest place in the whole wide world.

The children were delighted to meet all their old friends and new friends, and suddenly came upon Uncle Phil, who had grown small in size too, so he could visit in Manners Town.

They had some Good-Mannered Plays and Uncle Phil entered into the spirit of it with the children. He sat down in an easy chair and saw how many children he could catch who forgot to say "excuse me" when they passed in front of him, and how many children were polite enough to pass back instead of in front.

The Polite Pixie was happy and said,

“Dear Twins, it moves me most to tears,
You know so much now for your years;
Please remember manners, dears,
You must go home it appears.”

The Twins said, “We would like to stay forever in this cute little town.”

Just then there was a flare of trumpets and rat-a-tat of drums, and down the street came the Good Manners Parade. All the procession were mounted on white horses and carried Banners with such words on them as—“Be Courteous at Home,” “Respect the Aged,” “Be Polite at Table,” “Remember Manners in Public,” “Be a Lady or Gentleman,” “Cultivate a Pleasant Voice.”

“Oh my!” cried Ann, “I have learned enough to last me a thousand years.”

Nan said, “We shall have to be very careful from now on, never to say we hate to practice, or we don’t want to get up, or to tease, or contradict any one, for we think we would really

and truly like to live in Manners Town.”

“Good!” cried a sentinel, “You are the two we are looking for, and just the proper size. We want two Queens in Good Manners Town, so when one is absent the other may be on the throne. As you look exactly alike our subjects will never know the difference.”

The Polite Pixie stopped him just in time and took the Twins and Uncle Phil in his aeroplane and made them all the proper size again.

Next day a long pleasant letter came from Aunt Matilda, and Sally Sick-A-Bed wrote too, and said she had just had one of her red, white and blue days, everything patriotic of course.

The Twins remembered Arnold Acknowledge-It's advice and answered the letters promptly, and even remembered to answer all the questions the letters contained.

The day came for Grandma and Grandpa to say good-by, and the Twins helped them carry their wraps and packages and went to the

train with them. Uncle Phil was next to go, but he came and went so often the Twins did not mind saying good-by to him at all.

The Twins called, "Good-by, good-by," and Mother said, "I am glad you are going to stay home and practice and learn to play the piano and violin. Some day you may give real concerts."

The Twins decided to give Mother and Father a surprise and they both decided to learn to play both instruments.

The Polite Pixie peeped into the Little Log House and saw Nan practicing piano and Ann practicing violin. Then he saw Ann practicing piano and Nan practicing violin. He said,

"Your manners in practice are pleasing me,
And good musicians you will be;
Such regular practice pleases me,
Good-by, I feel the call of the sea."

"Good-by, and thank you for taking us to Manners Town," cried the Twins.

The Polite Pixie called back,

“If faithfully you count each measure,
You will find a hidden treasure.”

The Twins did not know exactly what he meant, but the next time Nan opened the piano she found a little gold ring with a pearl in it, and Ann found in her violin case a little gold ring with a pearl in it. On the inside of each ring was written,

“Practice good rules and write them down,
From the Polite Pixie of Manners Town.”

The Twins always wore their rings after that, for they reminded them of their manners and they often sang to the tune of “Twinkle Little Star,”

“Manners Town, so we’ve heard say,
Is not very far away;
We can enter any day,
And a game of Manners play.”

Nan said, “I wonder if the Polite Pixie will meet us in Good English Town.”

Ann said, "Perhaps we will go there with our Fairy Godmother."

THE END.

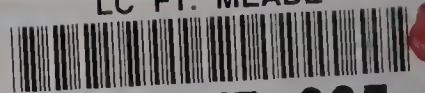
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