

BOY WITH A BUNDLE,

AND THE

*Ragged old Woman.*

A TALE.

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*Ornamented with Cuts.*



WINDHAM:  
*Printed by Samuel Webb.*

.....  
1813.

*Capital Letters.*

A B C D E F G H I J  
K L M N O P Q R S  
T U V W X Y Z.

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*Small Letters.*

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n  
o p q r s t u v w x y z &.

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*Vowels.*

A E I O U Y - a e i o u y


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*Points.*

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## BOY WITH A BUNDLE.



**S**AMMY SIMPLE, a child about five or six years old, was sent by his mother, to carry a little bundle to his sister at the boarding-school. The bundle consisted of a handsome new shawl, a pair of silk gloves, two elegant ribbons, and some other articles, all neatly tied up in a striped silk handkerchief.— While Sammy was slowly sauntering along the streets,

and gazing at the toy-shops and pastry-cooks' windows, a person came up to him, genteelly drest in blue, with his hair well powdered, and with every appearance of a gentleman. "My good lad," said this gentleman to Sam "I'll give you a nice two-penny tart, if you will go and deliver this letter at Mr. Townly's, a few doors round yon corner. So saying, he pulled out a letter from his pocket, and presented it to little Sammy.

Sammy was very fond of sweet things: and besides he was a civil obliging lad, who took pleasure in rendering service to every body, as far

as lay in his power. He agreed to carry the letter : and, as he took it from the gentleman's hand, and was preparing to go with it, " Stop," said the gentleman : " you had better not take the bundle with you : leave it with me : I'll take care of it, until you come back ; and you will find me in that pastry-cook's shop at the other side of the street, where I intend to buy you the tart."

Sammy gave up his bundle into the gentleman's hands, and went to deliver the letter, as he had been directed. He knocked at one door—he knocked at another—he in-

quired of all the servants and pot-boys that he met : but nobody could tell him where Mr. Townly lived. At last, finding that there was no Mr. Townly in the whole street, he determined to carry the letter back to the person from whom he had received it.— So he went to the pastry-cook's shop, where the gentleman had promised to treat him, and, looking round on every side, was much surprised to see neither the gentleman nor his bundle.

He inquired of the pastry-cook for the gentleman in the blue coat, who was to buy him a two-penny tart : but the

woman told him that she knew nothing of the gentleman in the blue coat, and desired Sammy to get out of her shop; for she suspected he was a little rogue, who wanted to cheat her, or to steal some of her cakes.

Sammy was much mortified by this treatment, but did not yet perceive the trick that had been played upon him: for the pretended gentleman was in reality a thief and a sharper, who had sent poor Sammy on that fool's errand, only for the purpose of cheating him of his bundle, and had run away with it, the moment the child had

turned his back to go and deliver the letter. Sammy, however, did not yet suspect any roguery : he only thought that the gentleman had gone to some other pastry-cook's shop ; and, as there were several of those shops in the street, he went to every one of them, still inquiring for the gentleman in the blue coat : but he was every where turned out as before, and laughed at.

He now roamed from street to street, asking every body he met, if they had seen a gentleman in a blue coat, carrying a little bundle tied up in a striped silk handkerchief :



but he could hear nothing of the gentleman or the bundle. At last, after he had walked to a great distance, he met a ragged old woman, who told him that she had seen the very gentleman just pass by, that she knew where he lived, and, "if you will come with me," said she, "I'll conduct you to the very house, and get you back your bundle.

Sammy thanked her for her good will, and went with her. She led him through private lanes and dark alleys, till she came to a lonely place, where nobody was stirring. Here she suddenly turned round, seized him by the arm, and,

having thrust a dirty rag into his mouth to prevent him from crying out, stripped him of all his clothes and ran away with them, leaving him stark naked in the cold.

By chance, a good natured gentleman, happened to pass that way soon after, saw poor Sammy's distress, took pity on him, wrapped him up in his great coat, and conducted him home to his mother.— She was vexed at the loss of the bundle, but still more grieved to think that her poor child had been stripped naked, and left shivering in the streets on so cold a day.— The thought of this was per-

haps the only thing that prevented her from whipping him for the loss of the bundle. She quickly put him to bed, & gave him something warm to drink, as he was almost chilled to death. Next morning she chid him for his folly in giving the bundle out of his hands, and told him that it is very common in London for thieves to be as finely drest as any gentleman; that they go about the streets, to watch little boys and girls carrying parcels, and get the parcels from them, by desiring them to call a coach, or carry a letter, knock at a door, or sending them on any fool-

ish errand. She also told him that beggars, and even well-dressed men and woman, often decoy children into private corners, by offering them apples or ginger-bread, and then strip them stark naked, as the old woman had stripped him. "For that reason, my child," said she, "never again give any thing out of your hand to a stranger in the streets: never follow a stranger, who promises to give you cakes, fruit, or toys, or to show you any fine sight: never venture into narrow lanes, dark alleys, or lonesome places, with a stranger who offers to show you the way.—"

If you do not know your way, always go to some house or shop to inquire : and remember, it is much better for a child to walk a long way about in the open streets, than to go and be stripped naked by some rogue in a private corner.”



A B C D E F

G H I J K L M

N O P Q R S T U

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