THROUGH A BOY'S EYES.

The Way Some Folks Look to Little People.

Ram's Horn.

WELL, sir; I don't see why it is that my ma is all the time wanting me and Hetty to go to meetings so much when according to what she says herself there ain't hardly anybody goes any more but bad folks. Last Thursday old Miss Tigg come to our house, and her and ma seowed all day and talked about the folks. Hetty and me didn't quite hear all they had to say, because sometimes ma would see us and drive us out.

Old Miss Tigg said she didn't believe Brother Stormer had any business in trying to preach. For one thing, she didn't like him because he hollored so loud, and for another, she believed that all he preaches for is the pay he gets. She said she couldn't see how a man who is all the time telling stories like he does, could have enough religion to amount to much. And then besides that he was so proud. Anybody with half an eye could see that from the way he roaches his hair up. I don't see how anybody with just a half an eye could see at all unless they had dredful good specks, but that's what Miss Tigg said. She said she never saw a preacher so proud of his hair in all the days of her life. And then he was so pompous and put on so many airs that it never done her a bit of good to hear him preach. She couldn't bear to see a preacher a raising up on his tip toes so much, and it made her nervous for him to pound the Bible so hard as he does. I can't remember near all the things about Brother Stormer that Miss Tigg didn't like, but she was so put out, she said, that he couldn't go to a store and ask for a bar of soap without doing it in such a column voice, and then what sense was there in his calling his dog in a way just as though he was trying to preach?

As soon as ma could get a chance, she said that everything that Mise Tigg had said was just as true as could be, but she said she liked Brother Stormer a good deal better than she liked his wife. She said she thought Sister Stormer was altogether too stuck up for a preacher's wife, and then ma didn't like it a bit the way she tried to boss. She couldn't bear to see a preacher's wife so fond of dress that when she went to church she looked nicer than nearly everybody else, and then ma thought it was a shame that she should make things look so nice in her house. Anybody could see that she wasn't pious much from the fancy tomfooleries and things she had scattered all over her house. According to the way ma looked at it a preacher's folks ought to be plain and prim, and not do a thing that would give anybody a chance to say they were extravagant or stuck up. Extravagance was as bad as stealling, ma said, in a preacher's house.

Miss Tigg, sai dto be sure it was, the first time ma stopped to catch her breath, but she could look over that if the preacher's wife didn't all the time try so hard to have her way over everybody else. When they cleaned up the church no other way but hers would do about how then should fix the pulpit, and at the sunflower supper she wouldn't listen to any way but hers how the tables should be set. In the Sunday school she made the superintendent do just as she wanted him to do in naming the classes, and in the missionary society everybody had to knuckle down to her when they sent away a box, and it was Miss Tigg's idea that she even bossed Brother Stormer in what he should preach and made him ask her how she liked it whenever he picked out a text. Miss Tigg said she thought a preacher's wife ought to be a woman who wouldn't never do nothing at all to ruffle the feathers of anybody else. I should think it would look awful funny to see folks with feathers on 'em, but that's just what Miss Tigg said. Hetty thinks she meant the feathers on their bonnets.

Well, sir; as soon as ma got a coance to talk again, I tell you she give it to Mister Munus the superintendent. She said if he was as good as he ought to be she she didn't believe there would be so much talk that he wouldn't pay his house rent. She said pa had heerd somewhere that nobody like to trust him, and as for her when she found out that people wouldn't pay their debts, she hadn't any more use for them. Mister Munus was a good singer, and he could talk nice and the children all liked him and thought there was nobody like him, but ma thought that when there was such talk as that about him, it was Brother Stormer's place to put him out and put somebody else in.

But just then Miss Tigg got a chance again while ma was a threading her needle, and wanted to know if she had heard anything about old Miss White, who teaches the infant class, a having a fuss with Aunt Jane Smiley. Ma said she hadn't heard a breath of it, and wanted Miss Tigg to tell her all about it as quick as she could, but Miss Tigg couldn't tell her a word. only that she had heard that Mr. Shafer's wife should have said that Miss Podson had told her that she had told her that she had seen a woman who thought that because when they met last Sunday they didn't kiss one another as they always have done, that they must have had a fuss, and ma said that if that was the case there must certainly have been someting wrong and she wondered how they could manage to find out all about it.

Well, sir; just then, pa, who had come for his dinner, spoke up and said," "Well, if I was you, and wanted to know all about it so bad I believe I'd go and ask her"; but ma and Miss Tigg only laughed. That afternoon I went over to old Miss White's house and told her what ma and Miss Tigg had said, and then I asked her if her and Aunt Jane had had any fuss, and she said no, but when I run back as hard as I could and told ma, she was took with a hard headache right away, and said she had the biggest notion in the world to skin me alive, and she made me go to bed that night without any supper. It seems to me that if ma had a wanted to know about that fuss half as bad as she let on to Miss Tigg she did, she wouldn't a done that way.

Well, sir; the next one they talked about was Miss Glue who teaches my class in the Sunday school, Ma said she heard that Miss Glue didn't live happy with her husband, and Miss Tigg said she didn't much doubt it. When ma asked her why, she leaned over and whispered something that made ma stamp her foot and shake her head awful hard, and though we couldn't hear what it was, Hetty and me made up our minds that it was something awful bad. I never did like Miss Glue much, because she tries to make us boys set still and learn instead of cutting up, and I don't care if Brother Stormer does find out it and turn her out of chuch. Pa. read something out of the Sunday paper to ma about a woman who put Rough on Rats in ccffee and poisoned everybody in the house, and may be Miss Glue has been a trying to do something to her husband like that, because he wouldn't buy her a new hat.

Well, sir, Miss Glue don't look as if she would do such a thing as that but I heard ma and Miss Tigg say that you can't tell anything about anybody any more by their looks. I'd be sorry, though, for Miss Glue to be put in jail. All I want is for them to put her out of church, then we'd have a new teacher. The one I would want is Miss Pippin. Her pa is rich and gives her all the money she wants. If we had her for a teacher she would make a party at her house every once in awhile for us boys, and let us cut up in the class as much as we please, and not care much about it, for ma says she hasn't got a grain of religion, but then for that matter neither has anybody else, according to what ma and Miss Tigg says.

Well, sir; I don't know what to make of it. If the preacher is proud and his wife is shuck up; and Mister Munus won't pay his debts; and Miss White can't get along with her neighbors without a fuss; and Miss Glue has to be watched all the time to keep her from poisoning her folks; and everybody else who belongs to church is just as bad and some of them a good deal worse, why is it that ma makes me and Hetty go to meeting, and I have to catch it in some way that either makes me go without things I like to eat or hurts like fire whenever I play hookey from the Sunday school to go and fish? What's the use in trying to make us children be good, I'd like to know, if none of the big folks know how?

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