

Our Jannie - A way to influence
children -

Stories for children

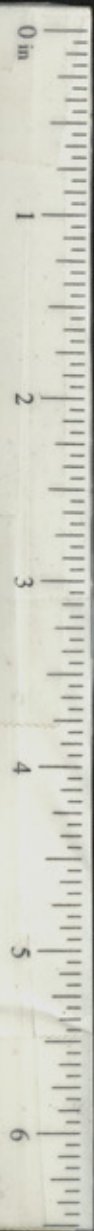
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Our Janie. - A way to influence children.

When Janie was eight years old we lived in Washington, near the Howard University. Our house occupied an acre lot at the corner of ^{the} Seventh Street road and the Broad avenue that led from it to the University. There was a strong picket fence along the road & the avenue. In the south west corner near the ^{main} road were ~~some trees~~ ^{two or three} fruit trees. On one of them at the time I have in mind were some ripening cherries, and near our front door a few vines covered with roses. They hung to ~~the~~ a high frame-work which leaned against the ~~the~~ wall of the house. Opposite to us & stretched along the 7th Street road were many houses of poor people, whose children, often full of play & mischief, in groups would dash across the road & ~~not~~ ^{clamber over} ~~climb~~ the fence & make a raid upon the cherries.

Our children were much inclined to call the



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5.
dog to their aid and to drive the young
vagabonds out. As soon as ^{the little rogues} ~~they~~ saw
any of ~~them~~ ^{our household} coming or heard the bark
of the dog, the ~~most~~ ~~mischief~~ machines
would swing themselves over the fence
& scamper off giving back a defiant
cry as they ran. I told Jamie how I had
once succeeded in stopping some Florida
volunteers from stealing my melons.

"What, papa, did you give ^{melons to} the thieves
~~some melons~~? I'd a set 'Shep' on 'em -
I'd ^{shoot} ~~a shot~~ 'em - I would!"

Yes, Jamie, I found out who ^{the men} ~~they~~ were
and captured their hearts by asking them
to come & see me, and when they had come
^{gave} ~~gave~~ them a melon feast & some melons
to carry away with them.

"Papa, may I try & capture the children
here?"

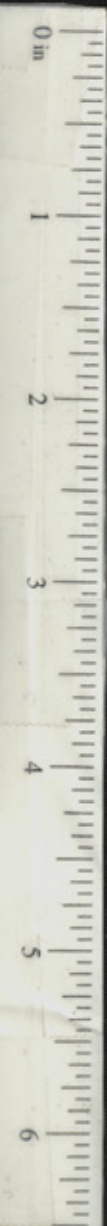
"Yes, my son, ^{you can try} call them in & give them some
roses & some cherries." So when again
Jamie saw the little scamps coming
toward the fence & some of them peeping
through the palings, he approached them
and said: "do you want some flowers, children?"



[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.]

6.
"yes, yes, bully for you!" A dozen voices responded
and a dozen ^{girls} ~~boys~~ ^{came} ~~went~~ over the fence or through
the gate in ~~a moment~~ an instant. Jamie
led them up to the house where his mother &
sister helped him arrange a bouquet of
roses for each. Some cherries, previously
gathered ^{there} were brought out, and the happy
children trotted off one after ^{another} with the
~~fruit~~ ^{fruit} in one hand & the ~~other~~ flowers in
the other. Jamie had conquered them. They
never came again to steal. ~~Through~~
Occasionally ^{our} little voices ^{& another} would beg of
me, "as I came in through the gate, please
sir, will you give me a penny. ^{3.0} ~~to~~ ^{open}
^{the gate} ~~for~~ for you?" or "please sir, may I have
some flowers?" It was wonderful, that
sudden transformation which Jamie
effected by his kindness of manner &
generosity.

This conduct appears to me to be in
accordance with the instruction of the
Apostle Paul to his friends at Rome. When
he ~~was~~ wrote: "Recompense to no man
evil for evil... If it be possible as much



[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper, possibly a letter or document.]

as lieth in you live peaceably with all
men. Dearlly beloved avengel not yourselves
but rather give place unto wrath; for it
is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay,
saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy
hunger feed him; if he thirst give him drink:
for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of
fire on his head. Be not overcome of
evil, but overcome evil with good.

