NO GAINS WITHOUT PAINS. A TRUE LIFE FOR THE BOYS

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No Gains Without Pains. A True Life for the Boys by H. C. Knight

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H. C. KNIGHT

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BY H. C. KNIGHT.

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CHAPTER I.

THE OLD HORSESHOE-LITTLE DONKEY-THE MOTHER'S PRAYER.

ONE day a little boy on his way to school picked up an old horseshoe. What did he do with it? He carried it three miles to a blacksmith's shop, and sold it for a penny. It was the first penny he ever had. "No gains without pains," perhaps he thought. He did not directly go and spend it. He laid it by; and we will see how he added to it. A short time afterwards, a man who had been watching a boy carrying dirt from his father's door, called Samuel, for that was our little boy's name, and told him if he would beat that boy in carrying dirt, he would give him a penny. Samuel tried his hand, and earned the wages.

"Now," said the man, "if you will show me this same penny in a fortnight, I will give you another; and I will make a mark on it, so as to know it." He marked and gave it to Samuel, for I suppose he knew how boys like to spend, and he had a mind to try Samuel on this point. In a fortnight he showed the man the penny. "There it is, sir," said he.

"Good," said the man; "you shall have another; you know how to keep, as well as to carn."

Samuel now had three pennies. An English penny is two of our cents. He was, therefore, according to our currency, worth six cents. Perhaps you would like to know a little more of his earnings. One day, one of his sisters, in drawing molasses, let a quantity run over the kettle she was filling on to the floor. She took up all she supposed worth saving, and was about to wash up the rest, when Samuel asked if he might not have it; and on his sister's giving him leave, he carefully scraped it up, and sold it for three half-pence. How many cents is that? Three cents: he has now, then, nine cents.