COSMO'S VISIT TO HIS GRANDFATHER

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649178124

Cosmo's visit to his grandfather by M. A H.

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

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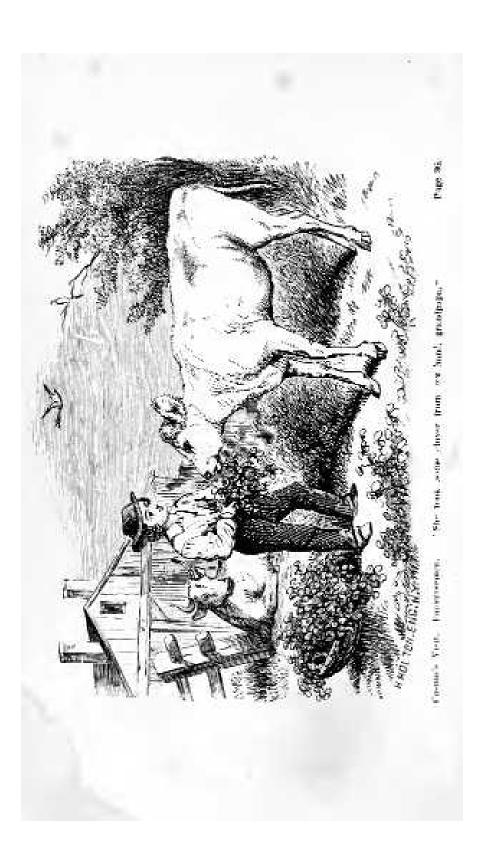
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BY M. A. H.

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AUTHOR OF "GOODLY CEDARS," "THE GLEANERS," ETC.

NEW-YORK: ROBERT CARTER & BROTHERS, No. 530 BROADWAY.

1874.

Cosmo's Visit to his Grandfather

CHAPTER I.

"What do you say to trusting Cosmo to go alone, and spend a few weeks with his grandfather this summer?" said Mr. Linton to his wife one morning in July; "he has been studying pretty hard of late, and I think a little freedom from books, and work in the hay-field will do him good. I should like to have him familiar with all the old haunts which I loved so much when I was a boy: the brook where I used to wade and fish, the barn where I used to hunt for eggs, the orchard where 1 played, and the hill where I used to pick black berries. It almost makes me feel as

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if I were a boy again, to think of his enjoying all the sports I used to take pleasure in."

Cosmo's mother looked up from her work, and smiled at her husband's animation, as the remembrance of his happy boyhood came so vividly to his mind, and then she said :

"I am quite as anxious as you that Cosmo should enjoy the country this summer, but you know I can not leave home, and he has never been away from mc. To be sure he could go by the boat, and your father would meet him; he is nine years old now, and many boys learn to take care of themselves at that age."

"To be sure they do," said his father, "and that is one benefit which will arise from his going, he will learn to depend upon himself more than he has done, for my mother can not wait upon him as you do, though I think she will be glad to have him come."

"Very well," said Mrs. Linton, "if you

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willing to be troubled with a noisy boy about her quiet house, I shall have no ob jections to letting Cosmo go."

"I will write, then, this afternoon, but we will say nothing to Cosmo about it until the answer comes."

The letter was accordingly sent. Cosmo went on studying his lessons industriously at school, in ignorance of the pleasure in store for him. I am afraid if he had known of it, he would not have been so diligent in preparing for his examination, which was to precede his summer vacation.

Mr. Linton's father owned a large farm, about fifty miles from the city where Cosmo lived. And the large old-fashioned house which his grand-parents occupied, was the same in which his father's childhood had been passed. Cosmo had been in the habit of spending two or three weeks there every summer with his mother. But now Mrs. Linton's mother, who lived with her, was