SCIENCE IN STORY. SAMMY TUBBS, THE BOY DOCTOR, AND "SPONSIE", THE TROUBLESOME MONKEY, VOL. IV

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Science in story. Sammy Tubbs, the boy doctor, and "Sponsie", the troublesome monkey, Vol. IV by Edward B. Foote

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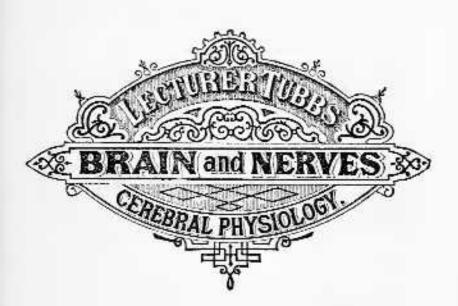
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EDWARD B. FOOTE

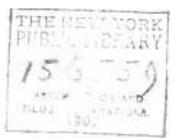
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THE MASKED PARTY AT THE BIDDLEWICKER'S.
[See Chapter VIII.]









CHAPTER I.

THE LECTURER TUBBS.



F no one of my impatient or mischievous readers has touched the secret spring to which reference was made in closing the last volume, then circumstances must have done so, for here I am again, and loaded down, too, with news, like the small boy under your window, crying, "'Ere's the 'Erald,

Tribune, Times, and World!" First let me tell you that there is a large handbill posted about the streets which announces that Doctor Samuel Tubbs will deliver a lecture at the Johnson Dispensary on Twenty-seventh Street, on the evening of the 7th of January, at eight o'clock. Subject, THE BRAIN.



SAMMY'S HANDRILL,

Sammy himself knows nothing of this poster yet, but I can tell you who does—Doctor Winkles. He is closeted at this moment with his particular friend, Doctor Hubbs, talking the matter over. The boy knows that he is engaged to lecture, for he promised his old friend Mr. Johnson that he would do so on the subject and night already named, but he has not the slightest knowledge of the fact that the lecture is advertised in all that portion of the city bounded by Twenty-third and Forty-second Streets, Broadway and Ninth Avenue, excepting, mind you, the route which Sammy always takes in going back and forth between the Doctor's and his Twenty-seventh Street home, Old Mr. Johnson, fearing that the handbill might make the young lecturer feel that he had undertaken too much, directed the little colored boys who gratuitously posted the announcements, to avoid the blocks which Sammy frequented.

The little practitioner is at this very moment at the Dispensary attending as usual, during the morning hours, to his patients, while Doctor Winkles has taken advantage of his absence at this time in the day from the office of his employer, to see Doctor Hubbs about the announcement of the lecture. Doctor Winkles is again astonished that Doctor Hubbs should allow the "old fool to make a young fool of Sammy."

Doctor Hubbs protests his innocence and even ignorance of the whole matter. He is very much surprised that Sammy should have undertaken such a thing without consulting him, but he is inclined to believe that the boy will prove equal to the emergency.

Both gentlemen conclude that it is too late to interfere either to prevent the lecture, or to give the young lecturer any assistance, for, according to the date announced, it is to come off this very evening.

"I want to attend," said Doctor Winkles, " and see what the presumptuous young fellow will do. I'll bet you anything he will utterly break down if there should be many people present, white as well as black, for there is nothing in the poster that says that the lecture is intended for colored people only."

"Don't you go!" exclaimed Doctor Hubbs, with decided emphasis. "Your presence alone would have a worse effect upon Sammy than a