

OUR BOYS' CHATTERBOX

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Our Boys' Chatterbox by Various

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VARIOUS

**OUR BOYS'
CHATTERBOX**

OUR BOYS' CHATTERBOX.



BY

AUNT CALLIE, OLIVE THORNE, UNCLE FRED,
ANNIE MOORE, AND OTHERS.

CHICAGO AND NEW YORK:
BELFORD, CLARKE & CO.

1884.



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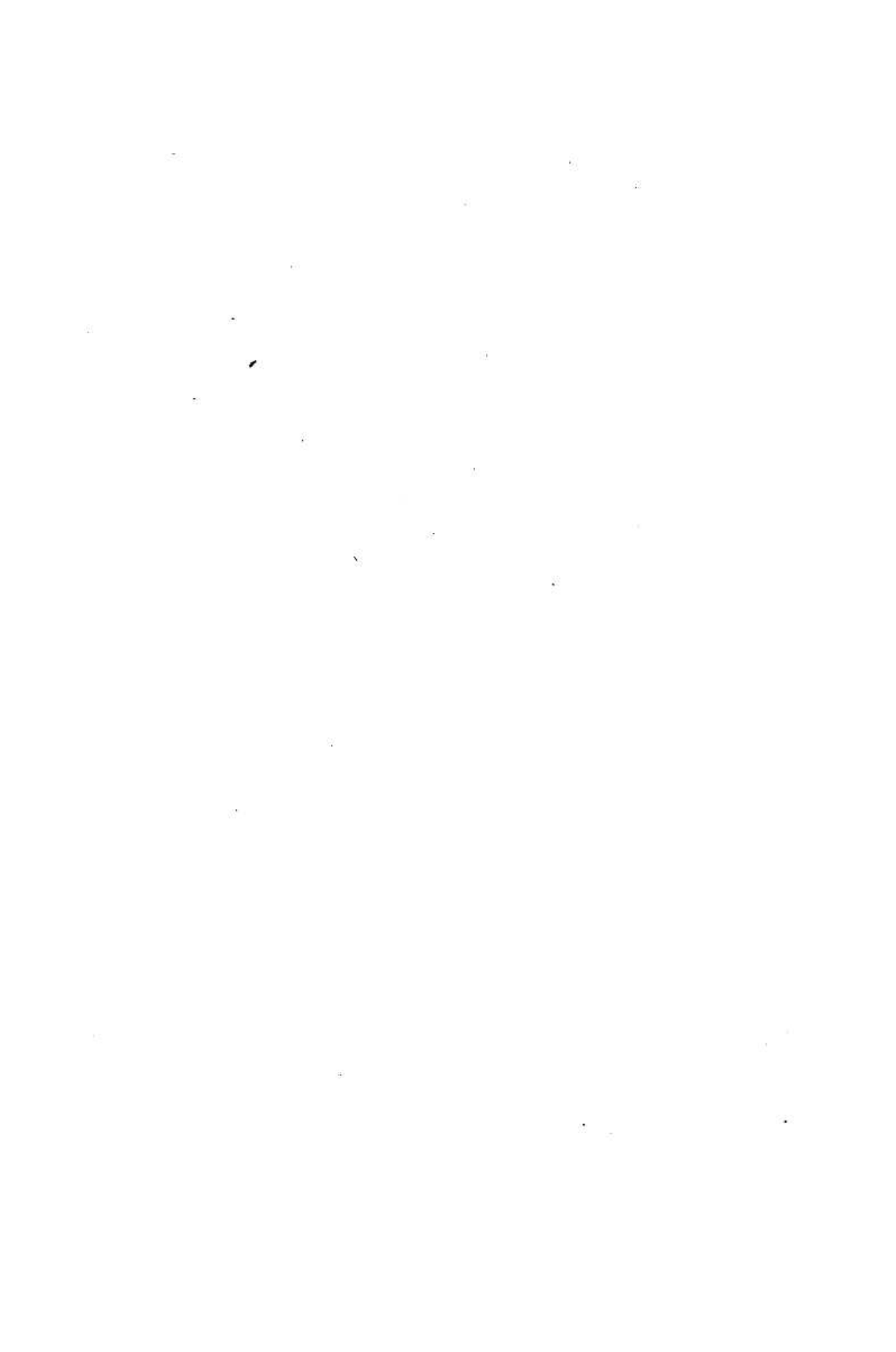
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BORROWED TROUBLE.

ANNIE sat alone in a great cushioned chair, with her feet curled up like the Grand Mufti. Very sad she looked, and tears were chasing each other down her little rosy cheeks. She paid no heed to the bustle about the house, and the running up and down stairs; but every few minutes one might hear a great sob from this foolish little Annie, who had so many things to make her happy and comfortable.

Don't you wonder what was the trouble? Maybe you would want spectacles to see it; for it was not very large. You see, Annie lived with her uncle and aunt; for she had no father and mother. They loved her very much, and were very kind to her,—as kind as they could be. Annie had every thing her little heart

could wish, because her uncle was rich, and liked to give her pretty things. Only little hearts do sometimes wish for things they ought not to have.

When dear aunt Mary took Annie on her knee every evening and petted her, and told her pretty stories, Annie felt that her cup of happiness was full.

But now something was coming to her, such as sometimes came to people in her story-books. Another little niece was coming to stay there always, and have a share in aunty's love. Annie thought it a sad and dreadful thing that she couldn't be number one any more, and that the little cousin would always be first. "Nurse" told her it would surely be so: the last always had the best. And every one of the school-girls pitied her. Allie Morrell said she had seen cases just like that, where the one who came first wasn't loved any more at all. Kate Snow said Annie might be sure of one thing,—that all the girls would love her best, anyway.

Poor little Annie sobbed and sobbed as she thought of it. She did love aunty so! and aunty had been so busy getting ready for the little cousin, she hadn't petted her for two evenings past.

In the midst of her sobs and tears she heard the street-door close, and a great bustle in the lower hall. "She's come, I suppose," said Annie, sitting up, and drying her eyes; but they were very much swollen, and her face was stained with tears. She jumped