

**"I FORGOT;" OR,
WILL LEONARD**

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"I forgot;" or, Will Leonard by Mrs Frederick Field

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MRS FREDERICK FIELD

**"I FORGOT;" OR,
WILL LEONARD**

“I FORGOT.”



"I FORGOT;"

OR,

WILL LEONARD.

BY

MRS. FREDERICK FIELD,

AUTHOR OF "I DIDN'T HEAR," "BY AND BY," ETC., ETC.



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I FORGOT.

I.

SHORT MEMORIES.

OUR young Leonards were all of them naturally gifted with good minds, so, as memory is a very prominent part of our intellectual nature, they were by no means deficient in it. There was a difference certainly, in its mode of action. Harry seldom forgot a form or a place, while Alice remembered best the beautiful ideas which she had read or heard, especially if they were poetically expressed. Johnny remembered accurately whatever he tried to learn, and was a little too much inclined to commit his lessons to memory, word for word; while

Will found nothing so hard as to get even a few verses from the New Testament fastened *verbatim* into his mind, but at the same time remembered the ideas perfectly if he only understood them, and had a capital memory for whatever interested him. Yet notwithstanding this excellent condition of their faculties, one would have supposed to hear them talk that they were all subject to some curious mental disease, a sort of paralysis of the memory!

Harry, as the readers of his experiences know, was very much given to putting off whatever he had to do, and, as everybody is aware, people who do not do things at the right time are very apt not to do them at all. So "I forgot it," was if anything more frequently on his lips than "by and by." The way it generally happened was, that when he had anything to do, he *thought*, "I'll do it by and by," and when by and by he was asked why he had not done it, he would look fairly amazed, and *say*, "I declare I forgot it!" As I have told you elsewhere, he found his ca