

**NOTHING VENTURE,  
NOTHING HAVE**

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Nothing Venture, Nothing Have by Alice B. Haven (Cousin Alice)

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**ALICE B. HAVEN (COUSIN ALICE)**

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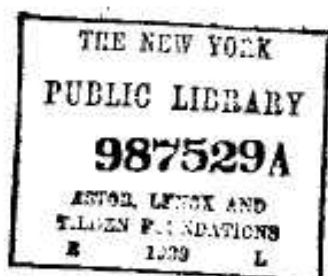
BY

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1864.

Co



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## HOME BOOK THE FIFTH.

It must tell its own story to my young cousins this merry Christmas ; and after the day has passed, and the *bombons* are all eaten, and the toys broken and cast away, there is the corner of the book-case, by the side of " No Such Word As Fail," and the rest of our Proverbial Tales, waiting to be filled by it.

There is no need for Cousin Alice to point out its lesson, and it only remains for her to caution you not " to venture too fast or too far." She does not at all approve of the spirit of adventure, that leads young gentlemen of twelve or fourteen, to steal away from a comfortable home, for the hardships of a sea life,—

or to break their necks, or arms at the least, in perilous feats, that often show foolhardiness instead of courage. Nothing of the kind. She has tried to show you the bravery of a self-reliant, humble spirit, that shrinks from nothing which is duty, or will aid us to fulfil our duty faithfully, however hard or disagreeable it may seem. The success of such a one is perhaps better expressed in another motto, which she at first thought of using as a title to the story, and which is kept in view through it all:

*God helps those that help themselves.*

LOCUST COTTAGE, 1854



## CONTENTS.

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE HAPPY SATURDAY, . . . . .	9
II. PREPARATIONS, . . . . .	22
III. THE FIRST VENTURE, . . . . .	34
IV. TROUBLE, . . . . .	49
V. NEW LIFE, . . . . .	61
VI. MANK, . . . . .	72
VII. GAINING COURAGE, . . . . .	81
VIII. SERVICE, . . . . .	96
IX. BERTHA BELL, . . . . .	111
X. WHAT A DAY MAY BRING FORTH, . . . . .	128
XI. TWO YEARS AFTER, . . . . .	141
XII. THE LILY VASE, . . . . .	156



**BELLY AND HER GRANDMOTHER.**

## Nothing Venture, Nothing Have.

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### CHAPTER I.

#### THE HAPPY SATURDAY.

"WHEN Christmas comes, grandmother, I hope I can choose my own present."

"That's a long way off, Nelly—what made you think of Christmas just then?"

"Why you see, grandmother, I was thinking, while I dusted the bedstead, about little Red Riding Hood. She waited on her grandmother, you know, and I *thought*, suppose Mr. Jones should pay us ever so much money when Christmas came for making all these red shirts, whether you would think you could afford to give me the book that has the story in."