Story for Charles.



J. Metcalf....Northampton.



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J. Metcalf....1837.

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THERE was a little boy; he was not a big boy, for if he had been a big boy, I suppose he would have been wiser; but this was a little boy, not higher than the table, and his papa and mama sent him to school. It was a very pleasant morning; the sun shone, and the birds sung on the trees. Now this little boy did not much love his book, for he was but a silly little boy, as I told you; and he had a great mind to play instead of going to school. And

he saw a bee flying about first upon one flower, and then upon another; so he said, Pretty bee! will you come and play with me? But the bee said, No, I must not be idle, I must go



and gather honey. Then the little boy met a dog,



and he said, Dog! will you play with me? But the dog said, No, I must not be idle, I am going to catch a hare for my master's dinner, I must make haste and catch it. Then the little boy went by a hay-rick, and he saw a



bird pulling some hay out of the hay-rick, and he said, Bird! will you come and play with me? But the bird said, No, I must not be idle, I must get some hay to build my nest with, and some moss, and some wool. So the bird flew away. Then the little boy saw a horse, and



said, Horse! will you play with me? But the horse said, No, I must not be idle, I must go and plough, or else there will be no corn to make bread of. Then the little boy thought with himself, what, is no-

body idle? then little boys must not be idle neither. So he made haste, and went to school, and learned his lesson very well, and the master said he was a very good boy.





