

KIDDIES IN THE COUNTRY



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JIMMY AND JANE

BY JOSEPHINE LAWRENCE

JIMMY and Jane were a little brother and sister who had always lived in a large city. So perhaps you'll understand how very excited they were when Doctor Harry came down the stairs one morning—he had come to see Jimmy's big brother, David—and told them they were going to the country.

“Yes sir—this afternoon—I'll take you in the car,” said Doctor Harry. “David has the measles and your mother will be busy taking care of him. Don't forget to take a milk pail



WATER
WELL

M. Burd

for the milk. Your Cousin Abby lives on a farm.”

Dear me, Jimmy and Jane had not known they had a Cousin Abby. But that afternoon, after a long drive in Doctor Harry's car, they found they not only had a Cousin Abby, but a Cousin John—who was her husband—and that they lived on a farm and were as glad as glad could be, to see Jimmy and Jane.

“Ellen and George, do get your cousins a drink of water; they look so warm and thirsty,” said Cousin Abby as soon as she saw them.

Ellen and George were Cousin Abby's little boy and girl and though Jimmy stayed with Doctor Harry, Jane followed them out to the pump and drank some of the clear cold water George pumped for her. Reddy, Cousin Abby's dog, drank, too, while Ellen tried to drink from



the wooden bucket and spilled most of the water on her dress.

After Doctor Harry had driven away, Cousin John saw that Jimmy was holding a milk bottle in his hand.

“What is that milk bottle for?” asked Cousin John.

“Doctor Harry said to bring a milk pail for the milk, but we didn't have any,” explained Jimmy. “Mother puts out the milk bottles every night for the milkman, so I thought a milk bottle would be all right for your milkman.”

“You come right along with me and I'll show you our milkman,” said George, and the two cousins followed him out to the barn.

George sat down on a funny little stool, beside a beautiful cream-colored cow and said



he was "milking." Sure enough, streams of milk flowed into the shining pail he held between his knees and Jimmy understood why Doctor Harry had spoken of a milk pail for the milk. Cousin Abby came out and gave Jane a little cup and George filled it with rich new milk. It was warm and Jane said she liked cold milk better. She had some for her supper that night.

It was almost the end of the school term, but there was still a week or two left. Jimmy and Jane thought it great fun to go with their new cousins to school the next day. Maybe they weren't proud of Ellen when she raised her hand and spelled a word none of the others could spell. George said Ellen was the best speller in the whole school.

It took Jimmy and Jane almost till the end



R. Burd



of school time to get acquainted with the farm and the farm animals. Jane was the least bit afraid of the cows, but Jimmy used to like to drive them to pasture and bring them back at night. Once he and Ellen went after the cows much later than usual—after supper, in fact—and the great round harvest moon came up and surprised them and made them feel that they must be staying up very late indeed.

David was soon well again, but Cousin Abby was so glad to have Jimmy and Jane visit her, that she coaxed their mother to let them spend the summer on the farm and in the fall go to school with Ellen and George.

“We have lots of fun when harvest is over,” said George.

Jimmy and Jane thought so, too. For as soon



as the corn was cut and the weather was frosty, they had a "Husking Bee" in the barn. All the boys and girls came and helped husk the corn and afterward they had a party with good things to eat.

When thanksgiving time came, the four children were very busy indeed. They helped Cousin Abby get everything ready for dinner and George brought her the turkey to look at, while Ellen peeled potatoes—she could do that very nicely—and Jane sat on the floor and tasted everything. Jimmy carried a basket of apples up from the cellar and polished them. Aunt Abby said with so many to help her, it wasn't a bit of trouble to cook a fine dinner,

The night after Thanksgiving, the country school gave an entertainment; All the children



took part. They wore quaint, old-fashioned clothes and they stood up and sang songs for their fathers and mothers. Jimmy sang louder than any other boy. The teacher said so.

And just the week before Jimmy and Jane went home—of course they had to go home for Christmas—they visited Grandma Baker who had a spinning wheel. Jimmy wasn't much interested in the wheel and he said he thought holding flax was a girl's job. Jane liked it, though, and said when she grew up she meant to have a spinning wheel and spin thread.

And both Jimmy and Jane were sure they would like to always live in the country.

The End



The End.

