



“To Little Sister”

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MARIETTA



At 8 P. M. in her tenement home.

MARIETTA,

the youngest skilled worker found by the National Child Labor Committee in a recent investigation of the New York tenement home industry, was too young to tell what time it was. She couldn't even count the petals she handled.

But her fingers were not too small to put together the 1620 different pieces it took for the 540 forget-me-nots she made a day. Her baby eyes could still see by the light of the evening lamp to put the tiny blossoms together, though they could not read the hands of the clock pointing to 8.

And the pay to Marietta's family for her days' work was five cents.

MARIETTA'S STORY

was told in a state penitentiary in the middle west a few weeks ago, and one of the forget-me-not wreaths she helped make was shown to the prisoners.

A "LIFER'S" ANSWER.

At the close of the service a life inmate walked to the platform and placed in the hands of the speaker a shabby, cheap little brown purse "for the little girl."

The purse contained forty-five cents in small coin, and, written in pencil on the margin of a newspaper scrap, the words:

"Jerry Mason
To Little Sister."



MARIETTA'S STORY WAS ALSO TOLD

to other gatherings—especially to one large missionary society, but nothing came of it. If Marietta had lived in Turkey or China, perhaps they would have seen their duty toward her.

But she lived in another world—in their own city. Her case brought to their mind no parallel. Their children were well cared for, happy.

Their duty seemed done when they listened comfortably and patiently, and told the speaker how much they had “enjoyed” the talk.

JERRY'S MESSAGE

is a radium sermon that sends sharp rays in all directions.

His phrase "To Little Sister" voices the principle that would revolutionize the world of selfish indifference and oppression.

Jerry himself has nothing left but the remnant of a ruined life, because those who should have been his big brothers failed him when he was the little brother.

His crushed spirit did not crowd out compassion for the innocent and helpless. His forty-five cents, yes, even his purse he gave.

AND MARIETTA?

When the National Child Labor Committee's agent called to give Marietta the forty-five cents entrusted to its care, no trace of the family could be found.

One little Marietta more or less makes no difference in a large crowded city perhaps, especially among those absorbed in the fight for gain or luxury.

Marietta may have succumbed to continued confinement, to lack of proper food and of play and exercise,—like so many little child workers. Or she may have endured, in spite of all,—like those others held up as examples by apologizers for child labor who forget the silent tales told by small graves, hospital cots or quiet “lifers.”

THE FIGHT FOR THE TENEMENT CHILD

has been partly won. On May 19, 1913, New York prohibited by law the manufacture of goods in tenements by children under fourteen.

For thirteen years child labor committees, consumers' leagues, settlements, hospital nurses, physicians and others had worked for this. Finally the National Child Labor Committee conducted a special investigation of several months, with six agents. It placed the undeniable statistical results, photographs, and a special exhibit prepared from this material at the disposal of the New York State Factory Commission, whose limited appropriation had not permitted exhaustive study. The Commission's Bill for the fourteen year age law is the result.

Now it will take vigorous work to get the law enforced.

MORE "BROTHERS' KEEPERS" NEEDED.

Children of all ages, some quite as young as Marietta, work in the oyster and shrimp canneries of the Gulf Coast.

Boys of fourteen work all night in the overheated glass factories of Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Boys and girls, ten years old, work in Georgia cotton mills eleven hours a day.

Children of twelve work in hundreds of cotton mills of other Southern States.

Tenement child labor, with long hours and child desecration, still exists in Boston, Baltimore, Chicago, Philadelphia, and other large cities.

The National Child Labor Committee acts as headquarters for information, advice, publicity and the organization of public interest against the abuse of child labor in each of the forty-eight states.

What the National Committee can do depends upon the help of those who believe in giving every child a chance.

If any little love of mine
 May make a life the sweeter,
If any little care of mine
 May make a friend's the fleeter,
If any life of mine may ease
 The burden of another,
God give me love and care and strength
 To help my toiling brother.

— *Children's Home Society of Florida.*

FROM EVERYONE ACCORDING TO HIS ABILITY
TO
LITTLE SISTER AND BROTHER

Date

To V. Everit Macy, Treasurer,
NATIONAL CHILD LABOR COMMITTEE,
105 East 22d Street, New York.

Let me help the working children by en-
rolling in your membership, through re-
mittance for \$ herewith enclosed.

Signed

Address

Membership Enrolment

Associate \$2 or more.
Sustaining 25 or more.
Guarantor 100 or more.

National Child Labor Committee
INCORPORATED

105 East 22d Street, New York.

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