

just going to set out for school. But poor Honor had first to take her little brothers and sisters to the infant school, and then to walk some distance further to her own. "If I were alone," thought she, "I could run, but children do walk so slow! however, I must not be cross to them, it is no fault of theirs that we happen to be late this morning."

At last they reached the infant school, and having left her charge there, Honor ran as fast as she could, hoping still to be in time. But the moment the school door was opened, she saw that the girls were all assembled, and the first words the mistress said to her were, "You are late, Honor; I am sorry to say you must lose your place." Honor did not attempt to excuse herself, as she knew that the mistress made it a rule never to listen to any excuses for lateness at school, which would indeed have been an endless business among so many girls. She silently took her book and began studying her lesson. When they stood up to read, she saw that the girl who was next above her, was Bridget Neil, who had come to school in good time, and had got a step higher in her class. Now Bridget lived much nearer to the school than Honor, so she had no great merit in being in time; and we have seen that she had been neither active nor good-humoured at home, yet she gained a place,—while Honor, who had been trying to do her duty, and whose kindness for others had made her late, lost one. This seems very hard; but we must not expect to be always rewarded for doing our duty, or even never to suffer unjustly, though the consciousness