Cecilia The Babbler.

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Her eldest daughter, Cecilia, was already old mough to aid her mother; she was a pretty little girl, and would have been beloved by all, if she had not reserved the fault of habiling.



That failing was so great with her, that it was the sake of speaking, and often sent her mother's work-women to sleep by her chatter.



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When she went for milk to the shop at the corner of the street, she would stay a long time asking idle remarks, but although a deaf ear was



It must be said however that the female porter at the door lent her a willing ear, and they would



One day her little brother fell ill, and Cecilia was sent by her mother to fetch the doctor. On her way she met with a companion, and stopped



When she arrived at the Doctor's, she was told that he had just gone out; and instead of returning home, she remained to chatter with the ser-



The poor boy, deprived of medical help, was likely to die. While awaiting the arrival of the doctor, the apothecary was sent for, who arrived just in time to save the child.



The doctor, and Cecilia, arrived when the greatest danger was past. The doctor, not pleased that another had taken his place, blamed and threatend the anotherary.



The apothecary, who was not too amiable, replied angrily and the two men were on the point of coming to blows, when Madam Bourgeois came between them.



Cecilia, without bad intention, because of her desire to speak, went and told all the neighbours of the quarrei which had arisen between the arctheary and the doctor.



The news apread that the apothocary was to be prosecuted, and all the old women gossips of the town, assembled in front of his shop, making a great noise.



The crowd became so great that the apothecar was obliged to close the shutters of his shop to prevent the windows being broken.



Cecilia on taking some work to a lady whe had employed her mother, related the scene with the doctor, and the results which had followed.



Cecilia out of the house for repeating all the prattings of the town, and refused to send anymore work to her mother.



Cecilia returned home very miserable and related what had occured. "Your chaltering will reduce us to the greatest misery", said her receins mother.



The little girl was called as a witness befor the doctors; her fear was great when she foun herself amongst these grave personages.



It was still worse when she was called upon to give her deposition at the Court, the little babbles this time had lost her tongue.



Cecilia threw herself in her mother's arms and promised to correct her fault. She has kept her word; she now works with her mother and always speaks in a sensible manner.

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