

Explanation - I

Explain, with reference to the context, the following passages:

"Certain it is that - - - type it."

These lines are taken from the essay "Dream Children" which is written by Charles Lamb. There is a reference to Mrs. Field, the great grandmother of the children. She lived in a great house in Norfolk. It was believed that this great house hundred times bigger than that in which they lived had been the scene of the tragic incidents with which they had become familiar from the ballad of the children in the wood. This ballad, this dance-song known as 'The Babes in the Wood' is the tragic tale of two little orphans whose uncle got them murdered. The children were ill-treated by their cruel uncle. Their grief ended in death. They died

in one another's arm. They did not receive the burial of any man. But birds called Robin Redbreast nest piously covered these with leaves. The whole story of the unfortunate babes could be seen fairly carved out in wood upon the chimney-piece of the great hall. But a foolish rich person purchased the great house.

Lamb in his fantasy, records the reactions of Alice, the daughter of his fancy, to the reference to the tragic story of children in the woods. Alice was deeply moved by the ballad. She was deeply saddened by the tragic-death of the children cruelly treated by their uncle.

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