

Nep and the Baby.

NEPTUNE lives next door to our house. I mean Nep, Dr. Lane's

dog. He is half Saint Bernard, and is eight years old. Some one

gave him to the doctor a few months ago, and he soon made himself at home.



The butcher comes three times a week with meat, and Nep found out about this in a very few days. When meat day comes, he trots down to the corner of the road and waits for the butcher. Other days he stays at home.

He is very fond of the doctor's baby, who is two years old. He takes care of him almost as well as a nurse.

One day Mrs. Lane was roasting oysters in the kitchen. The baby was playing about the floor, and Nep was looking on. Just for sport, Mrs. Lane snapped the tongs at the baby. Nep sprang up at once with a deep growl, and showed all his teeth to Mrs. Lane. He seemed to say, "You shall not harm this baby, if he is yours!"

The baby's mamma feels sure now that the baby is safe when he is in Nep's care.

