

# HAPPY DAYS

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## ROOKS.

The little company in our cut looks something like a group of chimney-sweeps. If we were able to approach them closely, however, we should find that instead of begrimed and sooty little fellows, they are handsome birds with shiny, black coats,

showing purple, greenish, and bluish reflections; from this we can distinguish them from their relatives, the crows, who always dress in dull, sombre black. Rooks live in society all the year round, building their nests, seeking their food and roosting in flocks. Their resorts, called rookeries, are often very extensive. One in Edinburgh in 1847 contained 2,660 nests, with about 30,000 inhabitants of all ages.

They should be very wise birds, for they rise very early in the morning. They start off at once in search of worms in the fields, or garbage in the streets. They love best to feed in the fields, where they place a sentinel on guard and fly off at his alarm note, making a great noise and clatter. They frequently travel many miles in search of food, and if they return in the forenoon or early afternoon a storm within twenty-four hours may be confidently expected. Their eggs are light greenish blue, spotted and clouded with greyish brown and light purplish gray.

Rooks may be taught to imitate the sounds of animals, but they are less intelligent than their wise, long-lived connections, the crows.

For health, rise early; to be happy, be honest.

## HOW RABBITS FIGHT.

One day as I was quietly picking wild strawberries on a hill I heard a curious grunting down the side below me; then the quick thud! thud! of an angry rabbit. Among the bushes I caught a glimpse of rabbit ears. A fight was on. Crouching

was a glimpse of Molly's ears as she made the jump that I had caught. It was the beginning of the bout; only a feint by the rabbit, just to try the mettle of her antagonist. The cat was scared; and before he got himself together Molly, with a mighty bound, was in the air again, and

as she flashed over him she fetched him a sounding whack on the head that knocked him endwise. He was on his feet in an instant, but just in time to receive a stunning blow on the ear that sent him sprawling several feet down the hill. The rabbit seemed constantly in the air. Back and forth, over and over the cat she flew, and with every bound landed with her powerful hind feet a terrific kick that was followed by a puff of yellow fur. The cat could not stand up to this. Every particle of breath and fight was knocked out of him at about the third kick. The green light in his eyes was the light of terror. He got quickly to a bush and ran away, else I believe that the old rabbit would have beaten him to death.—*From "Wild Life Near Home."*

## A LIGHT.

Jesus said: "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." That was God's plan for the people of Israel; and it is his plan for you, just one of the

littlest of his little children. There are some boys and girls, perhaps, whom you will meet to-day who will be selfish or not truthful or easy to get angry. You must let your light shine, and that will mean to be unselfish and truthful and sweet tempered for Jesus' sake.



ROOKS.

beside a bluish spot, which I knew to be a rabbit's nest, was a big yellow cat. He had discovered the young ones, and was making mouths at the thought of how they would taste, when the mother's thump startled him. He squatted flat, with ears back, as the rabbit leaped over him. It