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JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL.

No doubt, children, you have heard your dear mothers sing this hymn a great many times. Sometimes when she looked you to sleep during hours of pain and anxiety; sometimes when she was in great trouble of soul, and longed for sympathy and rest. It is one of the most beautiful hymns that were ever written. One day Mr. Wesley, the author, was sitting by an open window looking out over the bright and beautiful fields. Presently a little bird fitting about in the sunshine attracted his attention. Just then a hawk came sweeping down towards the little bird. The poor thing, very much frightened, was darting here and there trying to find some place of refuge. In the bright sunny air, in the leafy trees or the green fields, there was no hiding place from the fierce grasp of the hawk. But seeing an open window and a man sitting in it, the bird flew, in its extremity, towards it, and with a beating heart and quivering wing, found refuge in Mr. Wesley's bosom. He sheltered it from the threatening danger and saved it from a cruel death. Mr. Wesley was at that time suffering from severe trials, and was feeling the need of refuge in his own time of trouble as much as did the trembling little bird that nestled so safely in his bosom. So he took up his pen and wrote that sweet hymn:

A KIND ACT.

One day Sir William Napier, while walking in the country near Freshford, met a little girl sobbing over a broken bowl. She told him that when she got home she would be whipped; but suddenly she looked up at him and said "But yee can mend it, can't 'ee?" He told her that he was afraid he could not, but that he would give her sixpence to buy a new bowl. Finding, however, that he had no money in his pocket, he promised to meet her on the same spot, and at the same time next day. The child went off quite happy. On returning home, Napier found an invitation to dine at Bath the next evening, to meet a person he particularly wished to see. He at once thought of his little friend. Would it be possible for him to go and meet her, and then to return in time for the dinner? Finding that it would be impossible, he wrote to decline the invitation, remarking to his daughters "I cannot disappoint her, she trusted me so implicitly."