

## A GREAT DEAL TO DO.

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An old man once complained that he was very weary.

" I don't understand what tires you so, " said one of his young friends. " you have hardly anything in the world to do but to sit down quietly and wait for night to come. "

" That is where you are mistaken, " answered the old man.

" I have a great deal to do each day. I have two falcons to tame, two hares to keep from running away, two hawks to manage, a serpent to guard, a lion to chain, and a sick man to tend and wait upon. "

" You are joking, " said his friend.

" No, I am not joking. I am telling the very sober truth. The two falcons are my eyes, which I must carefully guard, lest they see things hurtful to my soul; the two hares, my feet, which I must hold back, lest they run in sinful paths; the two hawks are my hands, which must be trained to work, to provide for the necessities of life; the serpent is my tongue which must be guarded against every moment; the lion my heart which I must restrain, so that pride, envy, anger, and other evil passions, may not take possession of it; the sick man, my body, which needs constant care, because I have grown so old and feeble. So, you see, I am a very busy man, after all. "

THE AVE MARIA.

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