

been speaking. A gentleman! Every boy may be one if he will. Whenever I see a gentlemanly boy I feel so glad and proud. I met one the other day, and I have been happier even since."

### A GLAD SURPRISE.

Grandpa came up from the barn, one day,  
His kind eyes with pleasure o'er-runn-  
ing;  
He carried his hat in a careful way,  
For in it, all new to the light of day,  
Were some little chicks, downy and  
cunning.

He opened the door, and for Bess looked  
about—

His two-year-old granddaughter, sturdy.  
"What is it?" he asked, as he held a  
chick out.

She looked for a moment, then gave a  
glad shout:

"Oh! a dear little doll-baby birdie."

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## Happy Days.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY 28, 1903.

### HAVE YOU DONE YOUR WORK?

The Lord gave you a work to do; it was needful and important. Have you done it? Of course there were obstacles in the way. The Master knew it when he gave the work, and gave you health and strength to do it, and knowing that you would meet these obstacles, he promised you his grace to help you to surmount them. Have you done this? Have you been frightened from your work by dangers and by foes? Has it been taken out of your hands by officious friends? Has it been assumed by some committee, society, or organization? Have you been content to

allow a work which God gave you to do to be wrested from you and absorbed by others who never were called of God to do it, and only took it up when they saw that you were likely to succeed in it?

If you have done this, you may find that you have erred. The Lord has distributed to every man his work. He has given you your work; and if you do it faithfully he will give you your reward, but if you allow others to take from you the work which God intended you to do, you may see your work marred, hindered, and destroyed by men whom God never appointed to do it; and when the great day of reckoning comes, and the Master looks over the wreck and ruin which others have made, he may not say to you, "Well done." Christian worker, see that you do your own work. There may be obstacles, adversaries, doubts, and dangers; but, through God, you may overcome them all, and stand at last approved in the presence of the Master, and crowned with glory in his kingdom. Oh, worker in the vineyard, see to it that no man take thy work, and that no man take thy crown!

### HOW A CAT HELPED A DEAF AND DUMB WOMAN.

The chill wind was moaning, the rain falling drearily, and day darkening rapidly, when a lady might have been seen walking along quickly. She was thinking of home, with its bright, warm fire, and how soon she should be sheltered from the cold and wet.

Suddenly she stopped, as a feeble cry arrested her footsteps, and looking round she perceived a cat crouched against some steps. The storm was beating on the poor harmless creature, and night coming on.

The lady did not turn away and hurry on, as some selfish people would have done, but pitied and called the poor cat. It looked so forlorn, and gave a frightened glance in her face. Gaining courage from what it saw there, it trusted her, and jumped up, curled its tail over its back, and trotted contentedly after her. The lady went on. When she looked back now and then, there was pussy trotting steadily behind.

Presently the lady knocked at a hall door, and when it was opened they passed into a bright room, and pussy sat down to dry herself before a warm fire, where two other cats, sleek and well fed, kept her company.

Well, puss, whose name was "Gipsy," very soon was lapping a saucer of warm milk. After that she looked at the fire, and winked her eyes until she fell asleep.

A deaf and dumb woman, named Sarah Darby, was at that time living in this house. Pussy became very fond of Sarah, and liked to sit in her lap, because she was kind to it. Now, Sarah did not think a

cat could help her, but she knew that God commands us to be kind to helpless creatures, and he is always pleased when we obey him.

You will wonder how a cat could help any one, so I will tell you. Sometimes Sarah was alone in the house, and when a knock came to the hall-door there was no one to tell her but puss, and puss did so. How? She jumped down off Sarah's lap, and looked up in her face every time a knock came, and waited till the knock was repeated and Sarah opened the door. So this is how the cat helped the deaf and dumb woman.

### LENT TO THE LORD.

No stories are so good as those of the Good Book, and the stories of the Bible, children, are the best of all.

Up among the mountains of Palestine lived a pious man, Elkanah, with his wife, Hannah, whom he dearly loved. One thing made Hannah very sorrowful; she had no son. She never prayed without asking God to give her a boy baby. Her face was sad and her red eyes showed how much she cried.

At last her earnest prayer was answered, and the baby came to make her happy. She named him Samuel, which means, "God heard;" and while he was yet very young she took the child to Eli, the high priest at Shiloh, and left him there.

This seems like a strange thing to do, but she said, "The Lord has given me this boy, and I am so grateful that now I am going to lend him back to the Lord; as long as he lives he shall be lent to the Lord." God had been so good in sending her a son that she could think of no better way of showing her gratitude than by having the child spend his life helping the priests about the burnt offerings.

It must have been a pretty sight to see the rosy-checked lad in his linen tunic running in and out of the tabernacle grounds, and standing by with a sober face, while the gray-bearded Eli prayed and offered up the sheep and goats. Very serious thoughts must have come into his curly head in those days and nights.

The gentle mother in her mountain home did not forget her precious boy. She saw him only once a year, when the family came up to the tabernacle to sacrifice, but every time she brought with her a little new cloak which she had spun and woven and made for Samuel.

The lad who was thus lent became a great and useful man, and the story of his noble life is written in the Bible. Many a mother nowadays, as she clasps her little child in her loving arms, really lends the little one to the Lord. Many of us who read this paper to-day have been so lent. Let us be faithful in the Lord's service as Samuel was, and be as useful to those around us.