

# SUNBEAM

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## SEALING THE STONE.

"As ye will," the governor said: "Bring forth the imperial seal; let wax and the parchment strip be spread, and make ye sure that nothing lacks to hold secure the crucified, on now your Jewish hate and pride fear no more. Do ye your ways; wash my hands of all this day's justice to a wronged man—let mine the deed, but yours alone. Be fast the watch as best ye can, seal the stone."



SEALING THE STONE.

## USE BEFORE BEAUTY.

"HEN, a goose, and peacock lived in a together that was in charge of Rover, watch-dog. One day the hen was scratching for her breakfast; the goose standing by, while the peacock was lying in the shade of the wall, sleeping on. Just then the proud peacock came along, and flying to the limb of the tree, spread out its tail that the morning sun might shine on it and make it more beautiful.

and taken care of and admired."

"No," said the hen, "I do not wish to be a peacock. There is something that our mistress prizes more than beauty, and that is usefulness. I think she would rather have my fresh eggs than your fine feathers."

"That's my view," said the goose. "If I were not a goose I would like to be a hen I wouldn't—no, not for the world, be a lazy peacock."

"She is quite right," said Rover, "you are beautiful indeed to look at, Mr. Peacock, but that is all you are good for. Take comfort in your fine feathers, but don't boast."

Now, it so happens that there are some boys and girls—mostly girls, perhaps,—who are like this peacock, very beautiful to look at, but of no great use in the world. They admire their fine feathers, fine dresses and hats, and expect other people to do the same.

"Ah," said the peacock to the hen, "do you not wish that you were as handsome as I am? Then you would never have to scratch for your food, but would be fed but are no good for useful work. Little ones, don't be peacocks.

**HAVE** courage to be ignorant of evil.