

to heaven. You might be mistaken, you know, about being just fit to die at present. If I were you, I'd take a trip to heaven first."

"Why, Mamma Mason!" exclaimed the surprised little girl. "I don't think it very nice for grown-up people to make jokes about solemn things."

"Indeed, I am not joking in the least, my daughter," replied her mother; "and if you will sit down and think a moment, I am sure you will see that I am right. What are some of the things which will make it so lovely and pleasant in heaven?"

"Why," replied Anna, "everybody will be nice there, and there won't be any hard things to do."

"I can understand," said her mother, "how the conduct of everyone in heaven will be just as we would want it to be, because they will all be actuated by the Golden Rule and the law of love. And of course you will expect to act the same toward every one there—just as you would like to be done by, and because you love others more than you love yourself"

"But supposing I didn't mamma; wouldn't it be heaven just the same?"

"It might be heaven to every one else," answered her mamma; "but suppose it to be possible for a little girl to gain entrance there who loved herself better than others, so that instead of finding pleasure in giving up her own and seeking their enjoyment, she found her greatest pleasure in seeking her own, and was unhappy when crossed, do you think it would be very heavenly to that little girl?"

"I am afraid not," answered Anna. Then her mother went away and left her to do as she pleased. She had been very busy arranging her dolls and anticipated having a delightful afternoon all alone by herself, with nothing to do but dress and undress them, put them to bed and take them up again, and anything else which her fancy prompted. But her mamma had come in upon her with a request

to put the dolls away before the boys came home, and that was the cause of her trouble.

Now she was left all alone, to do as she pleased about putting things away; but somehow she didn't seem to take the same pleasure in the thought of dressing and undressing these dolls to her heart's content as she had a few moments ago. Suddenly, as she thought, a look of resolution came into her face; and although her mother had given her reluctant permission to do as she pleased, she began quickly to gather her playthings and put them in their places. As she did so, she kept whispering to herself: "as you would they should do unto you," and "in love preferring one another"

When she had put all things carefully away, she softly opened the door and stepped into the room where her mother was sewing, still repeating over to herself in a whisper the "as you would that they should do unto you," and "in love preferring one another."

"There, mamma," she said, "when the boys come home, they can have the room to do anything they please. Now, what can I do to help you about the work?"

"Why," said her mamma, "I was going to ask you to gather these sleeves for me, all ready for stitching. But since I told you you need not do it, you are at liberty to do whatever you prefer. You may go and play with Lucy, or read, or—"

"But, mamma," said Anna. "I am going to prefer just what the Bible tells us to—one another. I am going to prefer you and the boys. I'll gather sleeves."

Anna sat down with her needle, and scratched and scratched at the tucks she wanted to make in the calico. Though she usually complained that the grating sound of the needle annoyed her dreadfully and made her shiver, somehow the harder she worked at it, the pleasanter became the look upon her face, and pretty soon she