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comes we can see him coming up the field path."

"Just so," said So-So, blinking in the sun.

Suddenly Joan jumped up. "Oh!" cried she, "there's a bird. He is not flying; he is running into the corn. Crake! Crake! I do wish I could catch him and put him in my cage."

"I'll catch him!" said So-So.

"No, no!" cried Joan. "You must stay and take care of the house and bark if any one comes."

"You could scream, and that would do just as well," replied So-So, with his tail up.

"No it wouldn't," cried little Joan.

"Yes, it would," reiterated So-So. Whilst they were bickering an old woman came up to the door; she had a brown face and black hair and a very old red cloak.

"Good evening, my little dear," said she; "are you all at home this fine evening?"

"Only three of us," said little Joan. "I and my doll and So-So. Mother has gone to town on business, and we are taking care of the house, but So-So wants to run after a bird in the meadow, and so do I."

"Dear, dear, is there no neighbour to sit on the doorstep for you and keep house while you slip down to the field after the bird?"

"No, only old Martha—and she is bedridden," said little Joan.

"I have some distance to go this evening," said the old woman, "but sooner than that you should lose the bird I will sit on the doorstep to oblige you, while you run down to the cornfield."

"But can you bark if any one comes?" asked little Joan.

"I can call you if I see any one coming, and that will do just as well," said the old woman.

"So it will," replied Joan, and off she ran to the cornfield, where, for the matter of that, So-So had run before her, and was bounding and barking and springing among the stalks.

They did not catch the bird, though they stayed a long time, longer than little Joan intended to. When they reached the cottage the widow had not returned.

"I hope mother won't think we ought to have stayed in the house," said little Joan.

"It was taken care of," said So-So, "and that does just as well."

But the old woman had gone, and she had taken the quilted petticoat and duffle cloak, and the plum-cake from the top shelf away with her, and no more was ever heard of any of the lot.

"After this, my child," said the widow, "I hope you will always do just as you are told, whatever So-So may say."

"I will, mother," said little Joan—and she did. But the house-dog sat and blinked. He dared not speak. He was in disgrace.

When any one begins by being only So-So, he is apt to be So-So to the end. So-Sos so seldom change.

Though this one was very soft and

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nice—on the whole, we will hope that he lived to be a good dog ever after.

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—Hatred is blind, as well as love.—Plutarch.

—The principle which makes work Christian is the will and glory of God.

—Days in which we gain nothing are not merely lost; they weigh against us, and weigh us down.—

—There is an All-seeing Eye. When a man looks earnestly to God he will find God looking lovingly at him.

—We have, all of us, special endowments; each has got some place in the providential ordering of God; not one soul but has his or her place.

—If, instead of a gem, or even a flower, we could cast the gift of a lovely thought into the heart of a friend, that would be giving as the angels must give.—George MacDonald.

—Contentment is not to be caught by long and foreign chases; he is likeliest to find it who sits at home and daily contemplates those blessings which God has placed within his reach.

—"As I have loved you," means love that is sweet and gentle to all men, who have many rudenesses and meannesses, who are selfish and faulty, who have sharp corners and vexing ways.—Rev. J. R. Miller, D.D.

—If you have turned to God, and given Him anything of your love, how are you pouring it out upon Him? Is your work done for Him? Why are you doing it? How are you doing it?—Knox Little.

—Kindness adds sweetness to everything. It is kindness which makes life's capabilities blossom and paints them with their cheering hues, and endows them with their invigorating presence.—Frederick W. Faber.

—If we had more religion, if we would give it freer course, if we would consent to think less of our circumstances, more of God and His gifts, there would be less fear and more joy, both in our work and in our prayer.—C. Gore.

—You never get to the end of Christ's words. There is something in them always behind. They pass into proverbs, they pass into laws; they pass into doctrines; they pass into consolations, but they never pass away, and after all the use that is made of them they are still not exhausted.

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