

OLD WHITE-TOP.

"Cock-a-doodle-doo!" said White-Top, the rooster, as he stood all alone under the lilac bush, near the kitchen door.

Sad to say when he was young, he had been so cross, that now he was old, he had no one to love him.

He must have felt sorry to be alone but he cried in a loud voice, "Cock-a-doodle-doo!"

"Peep! peep!" said a wee bit of a chicken near him. "Cock-a-doodle-doo," said White-Top. The chicken ran to him saying, "Peep! peep!"

A mother hen had only this one chicken and so would not take care of it.

Now White-Top must hunt for worms to feed this yellow chicken.

When the mother hen saw the White-Top was feeding her chicken, she said, "Cluck! cluck!" calling it to her.

But White-Top cried, "Cock-a-doodle-doo!" which meant, "I shall take care of the chicken you did not love."

White-Top hopped into the shed that night, the little one with him. "Peep! peep! I can't come!" "Yes, you can! Now jump a little higher. That's right. Cuddle under my wing. I will keep you warm all night." "Peep! peep!" said the chicken.

So poor old lonely White-Top cared for the little yellow chicken, whose mother did not love it.

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had to stand at the open door. There was no room to sit down, it was so crowded. Among the listeners was a learned, thoughtful-looking man of about fifty or sixty years of age. He came the first day, and the second day, and day after day; he then came to the missionary and said: "Sir, I have been very much pleased with a great deal of what you have said. You have talked about God. Before you came I did not know about Him, or who made the mountains, the air, the river; but a great deal of what you have said does

not agree with the teaching of our learned teacher Confucius."

The missionary said, "Very well, you bring your great teacher's books, and I will bring my Testament, and we will study the matter together. You may have something to teach me, and I think I have a great deal to teach you." He did, and being convinced of the truth of the Bible, asked for baptism. He was told that before he could be baptized he would have to give up his profession; he was a geomancer, a chooser, that is, of lucky days, spots to

bury the dead, &c. In China the dead are not buried, as in England, in cemeteries, but on some, as is supposed, lucky spot; it may be the mountain-side, or a rice-field. For instance, the business of a tea-merchant fails; he does not think it is through any mistake of his own, but there is a mistake in the spot where his dead are buried; so he takes up the body and re-buries it elsewhere, thinking his ill-luck, as he calls it, will stop. The poor geomancer was distressed at being told he must give up his profession; how was he to gain his

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