

# HAPPY DAYS

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## AN OBJECT-LESSON.

"'Tis only good children Whom the angels call fair."

"I wish God had made me pretty," said little Annie Sparks, who looked so doleful that Aunt Marie resolved to help the child, if she could.

That night, when Annie came home from school, her aunt said, "I am going to give you a new doll, my dear. I have two in my room, and you may choose one for your own."

Annie tripped up-stairs gaily to seek her new treasure. She found the two dolls upon the sofa. The one that first claimed her attention was exquisitely dressed in silk and velvet; dainty lace was about her neck and wrists; upon her feet were pretty shoes, and on her head a lovely hat.

Before Annie had examined the dolls closely, she thought this one would be her choice, for when she first glanced at the other she noticed only the dress, which was of the plainest calico, with no ornament of any kind; but when she examined more carefully, she found that the doll with the homely dress was a beautiful marble doll with real golden hair, eyes that would open and shut, dainty little feet on which she could stand alone, arms with joints



"The cloak and dress are pretty, I know," responded Annie; "but those things don't make the doll."

"Neither," said Aunt Marie, "do rosy cheeks, bright eyes, and soft hair make the little girl; and if a child has a cross and selfish spirit, no matter how fair are the form and face that clothe it, God and the angels and the people round her will look upon her with but little pleasure; but if she has a sweet and loving spirit, it will shine through the homeliest features, and many will delight in her. A beautiful spirit, no matter how uncomely the body in which it is dressed, will as surely be prized as your doll is prized, in spite of her faded calico."

Annie was an apt pupil, and never forgot Aunt Marie's comforting lesson, but ever after sought for the best beauty, which is

never denied to the earnest seeker—beauty of heart.

Evil thoughts are worse enemies than lions or tigers, for we can keep out of the way of wild beasts, but bad thoughts win their way everywhere. The cup that is full will hold no more. Keep your head and heart full of good thoughts, that bad ones may find no room to enter.

which admitted many different positions—in short, the doll was a marvel of beauty, while the other, which was of rough wood, had no grace or loveliness aside from its dress. "Oh! I choose Miss Calico Dress," said Annie, at once taking possession of her new treasure.

"But," said Aunt Marie, "look at this beautiful silk dress and velvet cloak and the hat."

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