

SF 427  
M663

H. B. Price 69p 44

## Introduction.

AS the world gets older civilization becomes more complex; cities multiply and grow vaster; population is more and more gathered in great centres; mankind departs more and more from Nature; artificial wants arise and are met only to beget others more exacting; the struggle for existence becomes keener; men live amid piles of brick or stone or mortar with but a few feet of unoccupied soil called a "yard." Many a parent amid this ceaseless bustle, this agglomeration of unnatural conditions must sigh for a state of things for his children such as he himself enjoyed as a boy—the family horse, the family cow, the cat and above all his old and well-remembered canine friend Carlo, whose merry ways sweetened the hours of boyish freedom. He says to himself, "How I would like to have at least a dog—one dog for my boys that they might learn by actual contact with the creature something of the real nature of animals. I would like to teach my boys to be kind to animals, to realize that they have feelings like themselves and that they are models of unselfish devotion." Often he ponders over this great blank in the education of his children, not to mention the unsatisfied want in his own existence, so at last he broaches the subject to the partner of his joys and sorrows somewhat

ms-18-44