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OTTAWA, MONTRÉAL, WINNIPEG. FEBRUARY 21st, 1906.

Single Copies, 5 cents.

FOR LOVE'S SAKE.

(By Margaret E. Sangster, in New York "Observer.")

Sometimes I am tempted to murmur
That life is flitting away,
With only a round of trifles
Filling each busy day;
Dusting nooks and corners,
Making the house look fair,
And patiently taking on me
The burden of woman's care.

One day is like another!
Sewing and piecing well
Little jackets and trousers,
So neatly that none can tell
Where are the seams and joinings,
Ah! the seamy side of life
Is kept out of sight by the magic
Of many a mother and wife!

Comforting childish sorrows,
And charming the childish heart
With the simple song and story
Told with a mother's art;
Setting the dear home table
And clearing the meal away,
And going on little errands
In the twilight of the day.

And oft when ready to murmur
That life is flitting away,
With the self-same round of duties
Filling each busy day,
It comes to my spirit sweetly
With the grace of a thought divine:
'You are living, toiling, for love's sake,
And the loving should never repine.

'You are guiding the little footsteps
In the way they ought to walk;
You are dropping a word for Jesus
In the midst of your household talk:
Living your life for love's sake
Till the homely cares grow sweet,
And sacred the self-denial
That is laid at the Master's feet.

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