PHIL'S HERO

242

refusing to receive payment in any other way for the debt of long ago. She was bright and active, and was like a mother to Dorothy, whose delight in the new life she shared.

'Well, Dorothy, are you happy now that you have got your heart's desire?' her guardian asked, as, after a long, happy time spent together, he and Phil prepared for their journey homewards.

'I am happier than I could ever have believed possible,' she answered, ' and it is all your goodness that has brought it about. I can't find words to thank you! Do you know,' she continued after a few minutes' silence, 'I have a plan which Jack thinks a most excellent one, and I wonder what you will say to it? Jack tells me, and I see for myself, that there are many boys about here straight from England who are quite alone, so far as any good home influences go. I want to help them in some way. Perhaps I might use my music and singing to attract them, and get them to come to us on one recognised evening each week, all through the winter months and when farmwork allows of it. I could teach them glees and part-songs (boys always like singing), and between games, reading, and music they ought to have a good time, and we might get an influence over them and help them to keep straight. Mrs.