

her eyes sparkled and a beautiful color came into her pale cheeks, until she looked lovelier than I had ever seen her look before. And we all talked and laughed, and made such a noise that Aunt Nancy and Uncle Jake came in to see what was the matter, and then there was more noise. I saw Master looking at my Helen a little anxiously, and I did try to stop barking, but I couldn't right away. However, it did not hurt her at all, and it was from that very day that she began really to get better fast enough for us to say every day, "She *is* better." We had dinner in the parlor that day, so that she might have her door open and see us, and her dinner was put on the pretty little table that fitted across the bed, and which Roland had made her. I do remember that.

And now I have taken you all through my first year at Ladysmede, and made you see just how we live and what sorts of things are likely to happen; so I shall not say much about the rest of my life—it would be telling the same thing twice, and sometimes oftener—but just pick out the few things that have only happened once, and then stop, for I am afraid if I do not stop soon, you will.

When spring came, and the birds which had gone away came back to the woods and fields, my Helen could walk a very little way out on the grass. We did not let her go far, for she was weak, and Master and Mr. Rob said she must never get tired. But it was easy for her to step from her pretty room into the parlor, and from there to the wide piazza, and then it was only down a few