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and told us how much he thanked us for taking care of Skinny all these years, instead of letting her go to the workhouse and be a pauper there.

They come to see us nearly every year now. Skinny says Jim is as good as gold, and Jim says there is nobody in the world like his own little sister Phebe. They don't want anybody but each other, and they are quite content. It is when Jim takes his yearly holiday that he comes to see us. He hopes some day to be able to have holiday almost whenever he likes; at any rate, a great deal oftener than once a year. Something has been said about taking him as junior partner into the firm where he has been employed now for such a long time. And papa thinks, as he is so steady and well-conducted, his employers cannot do better than give him a little share in the business. Skinny is just as quiet and simple and modest as when she used to take care of Callie, or cut out frocks for me in the nursery upstairs.

When Jim comes to Abbotsbury, he always goes over to Linwick for a day, to walk round the old place, and see the little cottage with its garden front and back, and stand by his father's and mother's