

DOLLY AND DOT.



III.

When the children saw the reason of Dolly's act, they drove away the strange cat, and shut the door. Then Dolly let Dot fly away from her mouth; and the little bird lighted on Ralph's finger, and began to sing.

As for Ellen, she went up to the good cat, and petted and praised her so much, that Dolly seemed very happy.

"You dear good Dolly!" said Ellen. "You did not mean to harm the little bird, did you? It was only to save him from the strange old cat, that you acted so."

All that Dolly could say in reply was to purr loud and louder, as if she well understood what her little mistress was saying.

Dolly and Dot were better friends than ever after this adventure; and I think Dolly would have starved rather than do any harm to the little bird who had been her playmate and friend.

This story has been told to me for a true one, and I fully believe it.

EMILY CARTER.