

**THE DEAREST
SPOT ON EARTH**

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The Dearest Spot on Earth by Jay T. Stocking

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BY

JAY T. STOCKING

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TO
THE WOMAN
WHO MAKES MY HOME
THE DEAREST SPOT ON EARTH

PREFACE

THESE essays lay little claim to novelty or originality. Much that they contain was uttered half a century ago by that great prophet, Horace Bushnell, who probably did as much as any one in his generation for the emancipation of childhood. Recently Charles Wagner, another prophet, has given expression to the same truths in his delightfully sweet and wholesome book, *By the Fireside*, from some of whose phrases I fear I may not have shaken myself wholly free, they have such a way of sticking. I am glad to think that the essays are in line with what so many of our best teachers are saying with frequency. My hope in putting them into print is to give a

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little wider currency to these ideals. If the following pages help to make a few people — especially young people— more appreciative of the beauty and sanctity of the home, and more responsive to its sublime demands, I shall be happy.

J. T. S.

NEWTONVILLE, May 14, 1906.