

EYEBRIGHT; A STORY

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Eyebright; a story by Susan Coolidge

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SUSAN COOLIDGE

**EYEBRIGHT;
A STORY**



To her there was a great charm in all that goes to the making of pictures. — PAGE 7.

Sarah Chauncey Woodsey

EYEBRIGHT.

A STORY.

By SUSAN COOLIDGE, *pseud.*

AUTHOR OF "THE NEW YEAR'S BARGAIN," "WHAT KATY DID," "WHAT
KATY DID AT SCHOOL," "MISCHIEF'S THANKSGIVING,"
"NINE LITTLE GOSLINGS."

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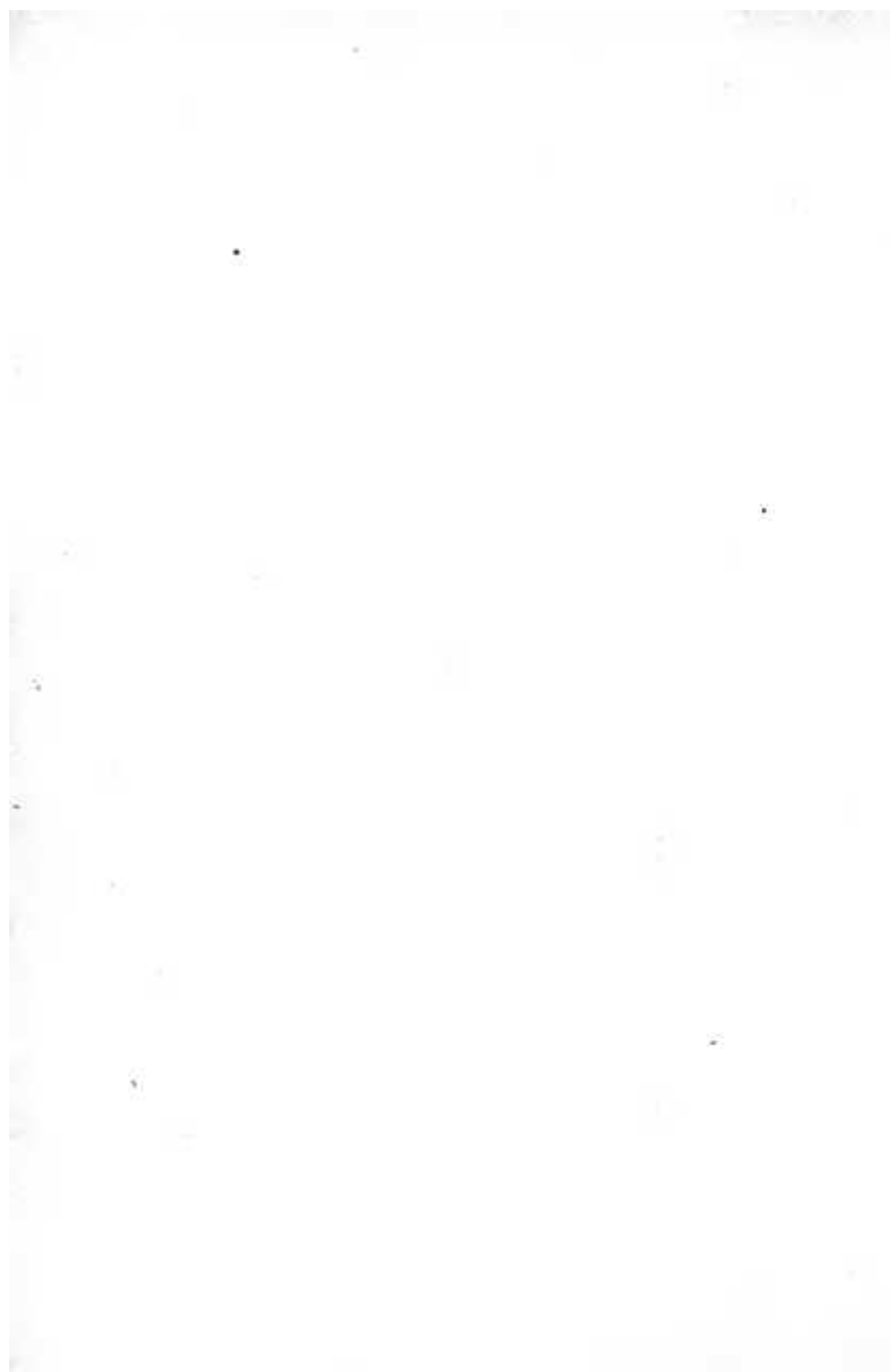
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EYEBRIGHT.

CHAPTER I.

LADY JANE AND LORD GUILDFORD.



"THE FALCON'S NEST."

IT wanted but five minutes to twelve in Miss Fitch's schoolroom, and a general restlessness showed that her scholars were aware of the fact. Some of the girls had closed their books, and were putting their desks to rights, with a good deal of unnecessary fuss, keeping an eye on the clock mean-

while. The boys wore the air of dogs who see their master coming to untie them; they jumped and quivered, making the benches squeak and rattle, and shifted their feet about on the uncarpeted floor, producing sounds of the kind most trying to a nervous teacher. A general expectation prevailed. Luckily, Miss Fitch was not nervous. She had that best of all gifts for teaching, — calmness; and she understood her pupils and their ways, and had sympathy with them. She knew how hard it is for feet with the dance of youth in them to keep still for three long hours on a June morning; and there was a pleasant, roguish look in her face as she laid her hand on the bell, and, meeting the twenty-two pairs of expectant eyes which were fixed on hers, rang it — dear Miss Fitch — actually a minute and a half before the time.

At the first tinkle, like arrows dismissed from the bow-string, two girls belonging to the older class jumped from their seats and flew, ahead of all the rest, into the entry, where hung the hats and caps of the school, and their dinner-baskets. One seized a pink sun-bonnet from its nail, the other a Shaker-scoop with a deep green cape; each possessed her-