

## 76. CHILDREN IN EXILE.

Two Indian boys were carried to London, not long ago, for exhibition, and both died soon after their arrival. It is said that one of them, during his last moments, talked of the scenes and sports of his distant home, and that both wished to be taken back to their native woods.

1. FAR in the dark old forest glades,  
Where kalmias<sup>1</sup> bloom around,  
They had their place of youthful sport,  
Their childhood's hunting-ground;  
And swinging lightly in the vines  
That o'er the wigwam<sup>2</sup> hung,  
The golden robins, building near,  
Above their dwelling sung.
2. Each morn their little dusky feet  
Sprang down the sparkling lea,<sup>3</sup>  
To plunge beneath the glowing stream  
Beside the chestnut tree;  
And when the hiding squirrel's nest  
They sought, far up the hills,  
They bathed their reeking foreheads<sup>4</sup> cool  
Among the mountain rills.
3. They saw the early silver moon  
Peep through her wavy bower,  
And in her beams they chased the bat  
Around his leafy tower;  
And, when the stars, all silently  
Went out o'er hill and plain,  
They listened low to merry chimes  
Of summer-evening rain.
4. These haunts<sup>5</sup> they missed,—the city air  
No healthful music brings,—

<sup>1</sup> Kál' mi a, a kind of evergreen shrub, having beautiful white or pink flowers.—<sup>2</sup> Wig' wam, an Indian hut or cabin.—<sup>3</sup> Léa, the land or shore.—<sup>4</sup> Fore head (fór' ed).—<sup>5</sup> Háunts, places often visited.

They longed to run through woodland dells<sup>1</sup>  
Where Nature ever sings;  
And, drooping, 'mid the noise and glare,  
They pined for brook and glen,<sup>2</sup>  
And, dying, still looked fondly back,  
And asked for home again. J. T. FIELDS.

## 77. THE INDIAN AND HIS DOG.

IN the town of Ulster, in the State of Pennsylvania, lived a man whose name was Le Fevre. He was the grandson of a Frenchman, who was obliged to fly his country on account of his religious belief. He possessed a plantation at the very verge of the valley toward the Blue Mountains, a place of refuge for animals of the deer kind.

2. This man, having a family of eleven children, was greatly alarmed one morning at missing the youngest, who was about four years of age. He disappeared about ten o'clock. The distressed family sought after him in the river, and in the fields, but to no purpose. Terrified<sup>3</sup> in an extreme<sup>4</sup> degree, they united with their neighbors in quest<sup>5</sup> of him.

3. They entered the woods, which they beat over with the most scrupulous<sup>6</sup> attention. A thousand times they called him by name, and were answered only by the echoes of the wilds. They then assembled at the foot of the mountain, without being able to gain the least intelligence of the child.

4. After reposing themselves for some minutes, they formed into different bands; and night coming on, the parents, in despair, refused to return home, for their fright was constantly increased by the knowledge they

<sup>1</sup> Dëll, a little dale or valley.—<sup>2</sup> Glên, a narrow space between hills.—<sup>3</sup> Tër' ri fiéd, frightened.—<sup>4</sup> Ex trême', the last or highest.—<sup>5</sup> Qvëst, search.—<sup>6</sup> Scrü pu lous (skrö' pu lus), careful.

had of the mountain cats, an animal so rapacious<sup>1</sup> that the inhabitants can not always defend themselves against their attack.

5. Then they painted to their imaginations the horrid idea of a wolf, or some other dreadful animal, devouring<sup>2</sup> their child. "Derick, my poor little Derick! where art thou?" frequently exclaimed the mother, in language of the deepest distress, but all of no avail. As soon as daybreak appeared, they renewed their search, but as unsuccessfully as on the preceding day.

6. Fortunately an Indian, laden with furs, coming from an adjacent<sup>3</sup> village, called at the house of Le Fevre, intending to repose himself there, as he usually did on his traveling through that part of the country. He was surprised to find no one at home but an old negro, kept there by her infirmities.<sup>4</sup> "Where is my brother?" said the Indian. "Alas!" replied the negro woman, "he has lost his little Derick, and all the neighborhood are employed in looking after him in the woods."

7. It was then three o'clock in the afternoon. "Sound the horn," said the Indian, "and try and call thy master home: I will find his child." The horn was sounded; and as soon as the father returned, the Indian asked him for the shoes and stockings that little Derick had worn last.

8. He then ordered his dog, which he had brought with him, to smell them; and then taking the house for his center, he described a circle of a quarter of a mile, ordering the dog to smell the earth wherever he led him. The circle was not completed,<sup>5</sup> when the sagacious<sup>6</sup> animal began to bark. The sound brought some feeble ray of hope to the disconsolate<sup>7</sup> parents.

<sup>1</sup> Ra pá' cious, given to plunder; accustomed to seize.—<sup>2</sup> De vour' ing, eating up.—<sup>3</sup> Ad já' cent, lying near.—<sup>4</sup> In firm' i ty, weakness; an unsound or unhealthy state of the body.—<sup>5</sup> Com plét' ed, finished.—<sup>6</sup> Sa gá' cious, knowing.—<sup>7</sup> Dis cón' so late, sad; without comfort.

9. The dog followed the scent,<sup>1</sup> and barked again; the party pursued him with all their speed, but soon lost sight of him in the woods. Half an hour afterward they heard him again, and soon saw him return. The countenance of the dog was visibly altered; an air of joy seemed to animate him, and his gestures<sup>2</sup> indicated<sup>3</sup> that his search had not been in vain.

10. "I am sure he has found the child," exclaimed the Indian; but whether dead or alive, was at present the cruel state of suspense. The Indian then followed his dog, who led him to the foot of a large tree, where lay the child in an enfeebled state nearly approaching death. He took it tenderly in his arms, and hastily carried it to the disconsolate parents.

11. Happily, the father and mother were, in some measure, prepared to receive their child. Their joy was so great that it was more than a quarter of an hour before they could express their gratitude to the kind restorer of their child. Words can not express the affecting scene. After they had bathed the face of the child with their tears, they threw themselves on the neck of the Indian, whose heart in unison melted with theirs.

12. Their gratitude then extended to the dog; they caressed him with inexpressible delight as the animal which, by means of his sagacity, had found their beloved offspring; and conceiving<sup>4</sup> that, like the rest of the group, he must now stand in need of refreshment, a plentiful repast was prepared for him; after which, he and his master pursued their journey. The company, mutually pleased at the happy event, returned to their respective habitations, highly delighted with the kind Indian and his wonderful dog.

<sup>1</sup> Scent, smell.—<sup>2</sup> Gést' ures, motions.—<sup>3</sup> In' di cát ed, showed.—<sup>4</sup> Con- ceiv' ing, supposing; thinking.

## 78. SIR EDMUND SAUNDERS.

MANY years ago there was a little boy in London, who, from his earliest infancy, had never known any other condition than that of beggary. His rags barely sufficed to cover him, but could not protect him from the bitter blast. His food was the scraps doled<sup>1</sup> out by the hand of charity, and his bed was some wretched hovel, or often the open street.

2. Of his parents he knew nothing; for when he was but six years old his wretched mother, either by accident or design, had separated from him in a crowd, and he had never since beheld her.

3. By some providential<sup>2</sup> circumstance, the poor boy found his way to a certain part of the city which was then, as it is now, the principal resort of lawyers, and entirely occupied by their offices.

4. Here his agility<sup>3</sup> and obliging temper made him quite useful. He became a sort of errand-boy among the clerks, and was rewarded for his services by receiving broken victuals, and occasionally a bed of straw beneath the shelter of a roof.

5. His extraordinary<sup>4</sup> docility,<sup>5</sup> his extreme diligence,<sup>6</sup> and his remarkable intelligence,<sup>7</sup> at length interested the society in his favor. He had learned to read by means of a few torn pages of an old law-book, with the occasional aid of a good-natured clerk; and he was now very desirous to learn writing.

6. One of the lawyers, compassionating<sup>8</sup> the forlorn<sup>9</sup> boy, had a board nailed up beneath a window on the top of a staircase, and upon this rude desk he took his first lessons in writing, by copying the law-papers and

<sup>1</sup> Dòled, given with a sparing hand.—<sup>2</sup> Prov i dên' tial, ordered by God himself.—<sup>3</sup> A gll' i ty, quickness in action.—<sup>4</sup> Ex traor di na ry (eks-tror' de na re), out of the common course.—<sup>5</sup> Do cil' i ty, ability to receive instruction.—<sup>6</sup> Dil' i gence, love of work.—<sup>7</sup> In têt li gence, ability to understand.—<sup>8</sup> Com pas' sion a ting, feeling pity for.—<sup>9</sup> For lorn', destitute or forsaken.

other things which the clerks lent him. He soon made himself quite expert<sup>1</sup> with the pen, and was finally enabled to earn a little money as a copier.

7. Being thus relieved from his former servile<sup>2</sup> duties, he gave his whole attention to his new employments, and from poring<sup>3</sup> over interminable<sup>4</sup> legal documents,<sup>5</sup> he at last proceeded to the study of law itself. It was a matter of much amusement among his early friends, the clerks, when they found the little beggar-boy applying to them for the loan of books; but perseverance overcame every difficulty, and in the course of time he succeeded far beyond the expectations of any one.

8. He became a special-pleader, then a counselor<sup>6</sup> at large, and finally was called to the bar, where he had a large practice in the King's Bench Court. Roger North, son of the Lord Keeper North, who personally knew him, says: "As to his ordinary dealing, he was as honest as the driven snow is white; as for his parts, none had them more lively than he; and while he sat in the Court of King's Bench, he gave the rule to the general satisfaction of the lawyers."

9. That poor beggar-boy was Sir Edmund Saunders, Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, in the reign of Charles the Second. Such were the results of perseverance.

EMMA C. EMBURY.

## 79. TO THE CUCKOO.

1. HAIL, beauteous stranger of the grove!  
Thou messenger of Spring!  
Now Heaven repairs thy rural<sup>7</sup> seat,  
And woods thy welcome sing.

<sup>1</sup> Ex pèrt', skillful.—<sup>2</sup> Sèrv' ile, like a servant.—<sup>3</sup> Pòr' ing, studying carefully.—<sup>4</sup> In tèrm' in a ble, without end.—<sup>5</sup> Dòc' u ments, papers.—<sup>6</sup> Coun' sel or, an adviser.—<sup>7</sup> Ru ral (rò' ral), belonging to the country.

2. What time the daisy decks the green,  
Thy certain voice we hear;  
Hast thou a star to guide thy path,  
Or mark the rolling year?
3. Delightful visitant!<sup>1</sup> with thee  
I hail the time of flowers,  
And hear the sound of music sweet  
From birds among the bowers.
4. The school-boy, wandering through the wood,  
To pull the primrose<sup>2</sup> gay,  
Starts thy curious voice to hear,  
And imitates thy lay.<sup>3</sup>
5. What time the pea puts on the bloom,  
Thou fliest thy vocal vale,  
An annual guest in other lands,  
Another Spring to hail.
6. Sweet bird! thy bower is ever green,  
Thy sky is ever clear;  
Thou hast no sorrow in thy song,  
No winter in thy year!
7. Oh, could I fly, I'd fly with thee!  
We'd make, with joyful wing,  
Our annual visit o'er the globe,  
Companions of the Spring.

LOGAN.

## 80. CRUELTY TO INSECTS CONDEMNED.

A CERTAIN youth indulged himself in the cruel entertainment of torturing<sup>4</sup> and killing flies. He tore off their wings and legs, and then watched with pleasure their feeble efforts to escape from him.

2. Sometimes he collected a number of them together,

<sup>1</sup> Vis' it ant, visitor.—<sup>2</sup> Prim' rose, one of the earliest flowers of spring.  
—<sup>3</sup> Lay, song.—<sup>4</sup> Tort ur ing (tort' yer ing), causing very great pain.

and crushed them at once to death; glorying, like many a celebrated hero, in the devastation<sup>1</sup> he committed.

3. His tutor remonstrated<sup>2</sup> with him in vain, on this barbarous conduct. He could not persuade him to believe that flies are capable of pain, and have a right, no less than ourselves, to life, liberty, and enjoyment.

4. The signs of agony, which, when tormented, they express by the quick and various contortions<sup>3</sup> of their bodies, he neither understood nor regarded.

5. The tutor had a microscope;<sup>4</sup> and he desired his pupil, one day, to examine a most beautiful and surprising animal. "Mark," said he, "how it is studded<sup>5</sup> from head to tail with black and silver, and its body all over beset with the most curious bristles.

6. "The head contains the most lively eyes encircled with silver hairs; and the trunk consists of two parts, which fold over each other. The whole body is ornamented with plumes and decorations, which surpass all the luxuries of dress in the courts of the greatest princes."

7. Pleased and astonished with what he saw, the youth was impatient<sup>6</sup> to know the name and properties of this wonderful animal. It was withdrawn from the magnifier; and, when offered to his naked eye, proved to be a poor fly, which had been the victim of his wanton cruelty.

PERCIVAL.

## 81. THE MOCKING-BIRD.

THE mocking-bird is one of the most wonderful of all the feathered tribe. His plumage has nothing grand nor brilliant in it; but his figure is light and graceful, well formed, and even handsome.

<sup>1</sup> Dêv as tâ' tion, destruction; laying waste.—<sup>2</sup> Re môn' strât ed, gave reasons to make him act differently.—<sup>3</sup> Con tor' tion, twisting out of shape.—<sup>4</sup> Mi' crô scôpe, a magnifying glass, or glass which makes things appear larger.—<sup>5</sup> Stûd' ded, marked: a stud is a thing which projects outward like a button or the head of a nail.—<sup>6</sup> Im pâ' tient, unwilling to wait, or to bear.

2. He is remarkable for the ease and grace of his movements. He displays great skill in learning lessons in sweet music, from every creature that he hears. But he is not always judicious<sup>1</sup> in selecting his songs.

3. He can imitate every bird that he hears, but he seems to be as well pleased with crowing like a cock, or grunting like a pig, as with singing the sweet notes of the canary-bird or the nightingale.

4. He whistles, and the dog thinks his master is calling, and runs to him. He clucks like a hen, and the little chickens run to their mother, supposing it to be the old hen calling them.

5. He barks like a dog. He mews like a cat. He wails like a puppy. He makes a sound like the creaking of a wheelbarrow or the grating of a saw. He imitates the warbling of the robin and the canary, the glad notes of the lark, and the wild songs of the wood-thrush, in a manner so superior to them, that, mortified<sup>2</sup> and astonished, they fly from his presence, or listen in silence, as he continues to triumph over them.

6. His motions are easy, rapid, and graceful. He looks as if he understood every thing that he does, and why he does it. In short, the mocking-bird is one of the most interesting of all the feathered tribes, not because he is a handsome bird, with bright feathers and a gay dress, but because of his skill in imitating<sup>3</sup> every sound that he hears.

7. And now, my young readers, I wish you to think how interesting a boy or girl is, who, though not very handsome or gayly dressed, can do whatever he or she is taught to do, in a pleasing manner.

8. The peacock has very beautiful feathers, and so, also, have very many other birds. But the mocking-bird, though his feathers are not so gay, is prized more

<sup>1</sup> Ju di cious (ju dish' us), wise; according to sound judgment. —  
<sup>2</sup> Mor' ti fied, ashamed. —<sup>3</sup> Im' i tât ing, doing as others do.

highly than all other birds, because his musical powers surpass<sup>1</sup> them all.

## 82. THE MOCKING-BIRD.

A MOCKING-BIRD was he, in a bushy, blooming tree,  
Imbosomed by the foliage<sup>2</sup> and flower.  
And there he sat and sang, till all around him rang,  
With sounds, from out the merry mimic's<sup>3</sup> bower.

2. The little satirist<sup>4</sup> piped, chattered, shrieked, and hissed;  
He then would moan, and whistle, quack, and caw;  
Then, carol, drawl, and croak, as if he'd pass a joke  
On every other winged one he saw.

3. Together he would catch a gay and plaintive snatch,<sup>5</sup>  
And mingle notes of half the feathered throng;<sup>6</sup>  
For well the mocker knew, of every thing that flew,  
To imitate the manner and the song.

4. The other birds drew near, and paused awhile to hear  
How well he gave their voices and their airs.  
And some became amused; while some, disturbed, refused  
To own the sounds that others said were theirs.

5. The sensitive<sup>7</sup> were shocked, to find their honors  
mocked  
By one so pert<sup>8</sup> and voluble<sup>9</sup> as he;  
They knew not if 'twas done in earnest or in fun;  
And fluttered off in silence from the tree.

6. The silliest grew vain, to think a song or strain  
Of theirs, however weak, or loud, or hoarse,  
Was worthy to be heard repeated by the bird;  
For of his wit they could not feel the force.

<sup>1</sup> Sur pass', to go beyond in any thing; to excel. —<sup>2</sup> Fô' li age the leaves. —<sup>3</sup> Mîm' ic, one who does as another does. —<sup>4</sup> Sât' ir ist, one who judges severely of another, or ridicules him. —<sup>5</sup> Snâtch, a short piece; taken quickly. —<sup>6</sup> Thrông, company. —<sup>7</sup> Sên' si tive, having feelings easily excited. —<sup>8</sup> Pêrt, smart; saucy. —<sup>9</sup> Vól' u ble, talking or acting quickly.

7. The charitable said, "Poor fellow! if his head  
Is turned, or cracked, or has no talent left;  
But feels the want of powers, and plumes itself from ours,  
Why, we shall not be losers by the theft."
8. The haughty said, "He thus, it seems, would mimic us,  
And steal our songs, to pass them for his own!  
But if he only quotes<sup>1</sup> in honor of our notes,  
We then were quite as honored, let alone."
9. The wisest said, "If foe or friend, we still may know,  
By him, wherein our greatest failing lies.  
So, let us not be moved, since first to be improved  
By every thing, becomes the truly wise."

HANNAH F. GOULD.

### 83. PLANTING TREES.

AN old man was busily employed in planting and grafting an apple-tree. Some one passing by, rudely accosted him with the inquiry: "Why do *you* plant trees, who can not hope to eat the fruit of them?"

2. The old man raised himself up, and leaning on his spade, replied: "Some one planted trees before I was born, and I have eaten the fruit; I now plant for others, that the memorial<sup>2</sup> of my gratitude may exist when I am dead and gone."

3. It is a narrow, selfish feeling that confines our views within the circle of our own private interests. If man had been made to live for himself alone, we may justly conclude that every one would have been placed by himself, and his bounds marked out, so that he might live alone. But since God has made us to live in society, He designs that we should be helpful to each other.

<sup>1</sup> Quotes (kwòts), takes from the words of another.—<sup>2</sup> Me mò' ri al, that which serves to keep in memory.

4. The truly ingenious,<sup>1</sup> benevolent mind, takes more pleasure in an act which will confer blessings upon others, than in one that terminates<sup>2</sup> on himself. The selfish man wraps himself in his cloak, and cares not for the sufferings of others, so that he keeps warm himself. This old man, however, remembered how much he was indebted to those who had lived before him, and resolved to pay his debts.

5. If we would look around us, we should find ourselves indebted to others on every side, for the comforts which we now enjoy—first to God, and under Him, to those whom He has employed as His agents<sup>3</sup> to give them to us. Ought we not, then, to strive in some measure to repay these obligations<sup>4</sup> by doing something to promote the happiness and well-being of others?

6. Who gave us the blessing of freedom which we enjoy? Did not our fathers brave<sup>5</sup> the ocean and the wilderness to establish it? Ought we not, then, to transmit<sup>6</sup> this precious boon<sup>7</sup> to our posterity?<sup>8</sup>

7. And so, in whatever direction we look, we find some blessing, for which we are indebted to the generosity, public spirit, or Christian benevolence of others. Let us return the blessing, with interest, into the bosom of others.

8. Dr. Franklin, having done a favor to some one, and being pressed with thanks, requested the person whom he had obliged, to embrace the first opportunity of doing a kindness to some other person, and to request him to pass it round, as all mankind are brothers. A greater than he has said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

NEWCOMB.

<sup>1</sup> In gèn' u ous, open; without concealment.—<sup>2</sup> Tèrm' in ates, ends.—  
<sup>3</sup> A' gents, persons who act for another.—<sup>4</sup> Ob li gá' tions, favors; acts which bind others to us.—<sup>5</sup> Bráve, to dare to meet a danger.—<sup>6</sup> Trans-  
mit', to pass over to another; to hand down.—<sup>7</sup> Bóon, a gift.—<sup>8</sup> Pos tèr'-  
i ty, children and descendants.

## 84. LUCY GRAY.

1. NO mate, no cōmrāde,<sup>1</sup> Lucy knew;  
She dwelt on a wide moor;<sup>2</sup>  
The sweetest thing that ever grew  
Beside a cottage door!
2. You may spy the fawn<sup>3</sup> at play,  
The hare<sup>4</sup> upon the green;  
But the sweet face of Lucy Gray  
Will never more be seen.
3. "To-night will be a stormy night,  
You to the town must go;  
And take a lantern, child, to light  
Your mother through the snow."
4. "That, father, I will gladly do:  
'Tis scarcely<sup>5</sup> afternoon—  
The minster<sup>6</sup> clock has just struck two,  
And yōnder is the moon."
5. At this the father raised his hook,  
And snapped a fagot band;  
He plied his work, and Lucy took  
The lantern in her hand.
6. Not blifher<sup>7</sup> is the mountain roe:<sup>8</sup>  
With many a wanton<sup>9</sup> stroke,  
Her feet disperse<sup>10</sup> the powdery snow,  
That rises up like smoke.
7. The storm came on before its time:  
She wandered up and down,

<sup>1</sup> Cōm' rāde, companion.—<sup>2</sup> Mōor, meadow-land of great extent.—  
<sup>3</sup> Fāen, the young deer.—<sup>4</sup> Hāre, a small, timid animal.—<sup>5</sup> Scārce'ly, hardly.—<sup>6</sup> Mīn' ster, a church.—<sup>7</sup> Blifh' er, more joyous; more gay.—  
<sup>8</sup> Rōe, the female deer.—<sup>9</sup> Wan ton (wōn' tun), playful.—<sup>10</sup> Dis pērse', scatter.

- And many a hill did Lucy climb,  
But never reached the town.
8. The wretched par'ents all that night  
Went shouting far and wide;  
But there was neither sound nor sight  
To serve them for a guide.
  9. At daybreak on a hill they stood,  
That overlooked the moor;  
And thence they saw the bridge of wood,  
A furlōng<sup>1</sup> from the door.
  10. They wept, and, turning homeward, cried,  
"In heaven we all shall meet"—  
When in the snow the mother spied  
The print of Lucy's feet!
  11. Half breathless, from the steep hill's edge  
They tracked the footmarks small;  
And through the broken hawthorn hedge,<sup>2</sup>  
And by the lōng stone wall;
  12. And then an open field they cōssed—  
The marks were still the same;  
They track them on, nor ever lōst,  
And to the bridge they came.
  13. They followed from the snowy bank  
Those footmarks, one by one,  
Into the middle of the plank—  
And further there were none!
  14. You yēt may spy the fawn at play,  
The hare upon the green;  
But the sweet face of Lucy Gray  
Will never more be seen.

WORDSWORTH.

<sup>1</sup> Fur long (fēr' lōng), forty rods; the eighth part of a mile.—<sup>2</sup> Hedge (hēj), very many shrubs and trees growing; a fence formed of bushes.

85. EMULATION<sup>1</sup> WITHOUT ENVY.

FRANK'S father was speaking to a friend, one day, on the subject of competitions<sup>2</sup> at school. He said "that he could answer for it, that envy<sup>3</sup> is not the necessary consequence of school competitions: he had been excelled by many, but he never recollected having felt envious of his successful rivals;<sup>4</sup> nor," added he, "did my winning many a prize from my friend Birch ever diminish his friendship for me."

2. In support of the truth of what Frank's father had asserted,<sup>5</sup> the friend who was present related an anecdote,<sup>6</sup> which had fallen under his own observation, in a school in his neighborhood. At this school, the sons of several wealthy farmers, and others who were poorer, received instruction together. Frank listened with great attention while the gentleman gave the following account of the two rivals.

3. "It happened that the son of a rich farmer and of a poor widow came in competition for the monitorship<sup>7</sup> of their class; they were so nearly equal, that the master could scarcely decide between them; some days one, and some days the other, gained the head of the class. It was determined, by seeing who should be at the head of the class for the greater number of days in the week.

4. "The widow's son, by the last day's answer, gained the victory, and maintained his place the ensuing week, till the school was dismissed for the vacation or holidays.

5. "When they met again, he did not appear, and the farmer's son being next in excellence, might now

<sup>1</sup> Em u lă' tion, desire of excelling.—<sup>2</sup> Com pe ti tion (kom pe tsh' un), seeking with others to gain a prize.—<sup>3</sup> En' vy, unhappiness caused by the prosperity of another person.—<sup>4</sup> Ri' vals, persons desiring to do or to obtain the same thing.—<sup>5</sup> Assêrt' ed, said.—<sup>6</sup> An' ec dote, a short story.—<sup>7</sup> Mōn' i tor ship, the office of one, who is set over others, to observe what is done amiss.

have been at the head of his class; but instead of seizing that vacant place, which had devolved<sup>1</sup> to him by the non-appearance of his rival, he went to the widow's house to inquire what could be the cause of her son's absence.

6. "Poverty was the cause; she found that she was not able, with her utmost endeavors, to continue to pay for his schooling, and for the necessary books, and the poor boy had returned to day-labor, as it was his duty, for her support.

7. "The farmer's son, out of the allowance of pocket-money which his father gave him, and without letting anybody but the widow and her son know what he did, bought all the necessary books, and paid for the schooling of his rival, and brought him back again to the head of his class, where he continued to be monitor, for a considerable time, at the expense of his generous rival."

8. Frank clapped his hands at hearing this story. Mary came up to ask what pleased him so much, and he repeated it to her with delight. "That farmer's boy," added he, "must have had a strong mind, for my father's friend, who told the anecdote, said that people of strong minds are never envious; that weak minds only are subject to that unhappy infirmity."<sup>2</sup>

MISS EDGEWORTH.

## 86. HUMANITY REWARDED.

JOSEPH Second, Emperor of Germany, once received a petition<sup>3</sup> in favor of a poor and superannuated<sup>4</sup> officer, with a family of ten children, who was reduced to the utmost poverty.

2. After making inquiries respecting the man, and

<sup>1</sup> De vōlved', fallen.—<sup>2</sup> In firm' i ty, weakness.—<sup>3</sup> Pe tī' tion, a paper containing a request.—<sup>4</sup> Sū per ân' nu a ted, grown too old to work.



satisfying himself of his worth, the Emperor determined to judge of his necessities by personal observation.<sup>1</sup>

3. Accordingly, he went alone to the house of the officer, whom he found seated at table, with *eleven* children around him, dining upon vegetables of his own planting.

4. The Emperor, who was disguised as a private citizen, after some general conversation with the officer, said: "I heard you had *ten* children, but I see here *eleven*."

5. "This," replied the officer, pointing to one, "is a poor orphan, whom I found at my door. I have endeavored to obtain for him the assistance of persons who could better afford to provide for him, but have not been able to succeed; and of course I could do no better than to share my little portion with him."

6. The Emperor, admiring the generous humanity<sup>2</sup> of the poor man, immediately made himself known to him, and said, "I desire that all these children may be my pensioners,<sup>3</sup> and that you will continue to give them examples of virtue and honor."

7. "I grant you *one hundred florins*<sup>4</sup> per annum, for each, and also, an addition of *two hundred florins* to your pension. Go to-morrow to my treasurer,<sup>5</sup> where you will receive the first quarter's payment, together with a lieutenant's commission for your eldest son. Henceforth I will be the father of all the family."

EMMA C. EMBURY.

### 87. BIRDS IN SUMMER.

1. **H**OW pleasant the life of a bird must be,  
Flitting about in each leafy tree;  
In the leafy trees, so broad and tall,

<sup>1</sup> Ob ser vâ' tion, seeing.—<sup>2</sup> Hu mân' i ty, kindness; fellow-feeling.—  
<sup>3</sup> Pên' sion ers, persons who receive money from others.—<sup>4</sup> Flôr' ins, pieces of money.—<sup>5</sup> Tréas' ur er, an officer who has charge of money.

Like a green and beautiful palace hall,  
With its airy chambers, light and boon,<sup>1</sup>  
That open to sun and stars and moon,  
That open unto the bright blue sky,  
And the frolicsome winds as they wander by!

2. They have left their nests in the forest bough,  
Those homes of delight they need not now;  
And the young and the old they wander out,  
And traverse<sup>2</sup> their green world round about;  
And hark! at the top of this leafy hall,  
How one to the other they lovingly call:  
"Come up, come up!" they seem to say,  
"Where the topmost twigs in the breezes sway!"<sup>3</sup>
3. "Come up, come up! for the world is fair,  
Where the merry leaves dance in the summer air!"  
And the birds below give back the cry,  
"We come, we come, to the branches high!"  
How pleasant the life of a bird must be,  
Flitting about in a leafy tree;  
And away through the air what joy to go,  
And to look on the green bright earth below!
4. How pleasant the life of a bird must be,  
Skimming<sup>4</sup> about on the breezy sea,  
Cresting<sup>5</sup> the billows<sup>6</sup> like silvery foam,  
And then wheeling away to its cliff-built home!  
What joy it must be, to sail, upborne  
By a strong free wing, through the rosy morn,  
To meet the young sun face to face,  
And pierce like a shaft<sup>7</sup> the boundless space!
5. How pleasant the life of a bird must be,  
Wherever it listeth,<sup>8</sup> there to flee;  
To go when a joyful fancy calls,

<sup>1</sup> Bôon, gay; merry.—<sup>2</sup> Tráv' erse, go over.—<sup>3</sup> Swây, move to one side.—<sup>4</sup> Sklím' ning, going over the surface.—<sup>5</sup> Crést' ing, standing on the top.—<sup>6</sup> Bll' lows, waves.—<sup>7</sup> Shâft, an arrow.—<sup>8</sup> Líst' eth, pleasea.

Dashing adown 'mong the waterfalls;  
Then wheeling about with its mates at play,  
Above and below, and among the spray,<sup>1</sup>  
Hither and thither, with screams as wild  
As the laughing mirth of a rosy child!

6. What a joy it must be, like a living breeze,  
To flutter about 'mong the flowering trees;  
Lightly to soar, and to see beneath  
The wastes of the blossoming purple heath,<sup>2</sup>  
And the yellow furze,<sup>3</sup> like fields of gold,  
That gladden some fairy region old!  
On mountain tops, on the billowy sea,  
On the leafy stems of the forest tree,  
How pleasant the life of a bird must be!

MARY HOWITT.

#### 88. BIRDS OF AUSTRALIA.

THE forests of Austrālia<sup>4</sup> are very monotonous;<sup>5</sup> but the birds do their best to give life and variety to them. Oh! there are hundreds of different kinds of birds, and many of them very beautiful. Parrots, blue, green, gray, and red; rich-coated little paroquets;<sup>6</sup> cockatoos, white and gray; cranes, pelicans, turkeys, wild ducks and geese, black swans, and emus,—these are some of the feathered citizens of the Australian woods.

2. What I like in the birds is, that except the more-pork, a small owl, the curlews, and a few others, they all come out in the day-time, while, oddly enough, nearly all the animals of Austrālia are nocturnal.<sup>7</sup> Besides the kangaroos and kangaroo rats, nearly all the animals only come out in the night.

<sup>1</sup> Spray, the foam or froth of water.—<sup>2</sup> Heath, a shrub; a place covered with shrubs.—<sup>3</sup> Furze, a thorny shrub that bears yellow flowers.—<sup>4</sup> Austrālia (ās trā'le a).—<sup>5</sup> Monōt'ous, appearing the same.—<sup>6</sup> Paroquets (pār'c kēts), small kind of parrots.—<sup>7</sup> Noctur'nal, of the night.

3. But of all the birds the most amusing are the piping crow, the leatherhead, and the laughing jackass. These three birds are the universal companions of travelers. Everywhere they greet you, and everywhere are most amusing.

4. There is a piping crow and a laughing jackass in the Zoological<sup>1</sup> Gardens, in London; and I used to hear the latter ha, ha, ha-ing! when I crossed the Regent's Park. But it is only in the Austrālian woods that one hears them in perfection. There they are jolly, and full of fun. There you see their antics,<sup>2</sup> and hear their merry, quaint<sup>3</sup> voices, in all their fullness and variety. These birds awake you at the earliest peep of day, and by the time the sun rises there is a general chorus<sup>4</sup> of them all around you.

5. The piping crows, or, as they will call them here, the whistling magpies—though to my eye they have nothing of the magpie but their pied<sup>5</sup> feathers about them—whistle away like a lot of school-boys, only with much deeper and more musical tones. Their warbling is the oddest thing in the world; part of it so rich, so mellow, so melodious; and then again such an outbreak of croaks, and screeches, and crowish noises! But they seem delighted with their own music, and do not sing, like our birds, only while the hen-bird is sitting, but all through the long summer, and, as I am told, through the whole year.

6. There are thousands of them all over the colony, and their black and white colors give a liveliness to the dim woods. They have none of the tail-flirting motions and janty<sup>6</sup> ways of the magpie, but are about the size, and much the same shape, as our wood-pigeons. They have a sober and somewhat heavy flight, but I am told

<sup>1</sup> Zōōlōg'ic al, belonging to the life of animals. The Zoological Gardens are where all kinds of living creatures are kept.—<sup>2</sup> An'tics, funny tricks.—<sup>3</sup> Quaint, odd or uncommon.—<sup>4</sup> Chō'rus, union of voices.—<sup>5</sup> Pied, spotted with different colors.—<sup>6</sup> Jānt'y, airy; showy; fluttering.