

took to revelling in a Dirty Puddle in the Meadow. At this the Chickens were much Offended, but their pitiful cries were Unheeded by their Web-footed Guardians. At length, a Hen passing by took in the Situation. "My Dears," said she, "you must not be Surprised at this Disgusting Conduct, for it is in Accordance with the Fitnesss of Things that Geese and Ducks should delight in Puddles, however filthy. All your Protesting will be unavailing, so you might as well give it up. If you are truly Offended, as you profess to be, there is a Clear Course before you." "What is that?" asked the Chickens in an anxious chorus. "Simply to cast off Allegiance to these uncongenial Parties, and put yourselves under the protection of a Decent creature like yourselves."

MORAL.—Birds of a Feather should flock together.