

might be flattered if he knew there is a bird with such an admiration for his genius as the catbird evidently has ; who indulges himself with the hope, apparently, that some day success and fame will reward his efforts also. I have known that bird to arouse himself in the middle of the night in order to render his much practised imitations of other bird's notes, just, it would appear, because it was the other bird's custom so to do—with, I fancy, much the same idea that Napoleon the Third had in believing that he was following the lead of the same destiny when he said and did the same things in ordinary everyday life as his great uncle.

Another familiar figure is that of the robin who for some years past has occupied for the season that " desirable residence " known as the big spruce in the fence corner. The American substitute for the Robin Redbreast of nursery rhyme fame, has few points in common with his English name sake, and when the New Englanders gave the big thrush the name by which he has since been known, it was not so much on account of his brick dust colored front, as that his preference for the ploughed fields and gardens of the settlements reminded them of the friendly ways of the aimiable bird they had left over the seas. They had yet to learn, that so far from having any notions of sentiment on the subject he was influenced solely by the superior advantages the newly ploughed fields and gardens afforded for his favorite diet of earth worms. Another *habitué* of the place, but who is also a resident, is Jim the crow.

Jim is a bachelor bird, the misfortune of a wing broken while he was yet a callow youth, preventing him from taking the place in life he might otherwise occupy. But even if Jim were responsible for the well being of a family, he would never I feel sure, show the lack of confidence in his friends, which the robin displays in his every movement. The latter's ideas of the dangers to which that nest is exposed are precisely the same as on that first day he deposited the beakful of mud which formed its cornerstone ; and from break of day till dark of night it does nothing but worry over anticipated difficulties, and threatened dangers. I was moved one day, by hearing shrieks of wrath which betokened a