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Childrens' Department

THE BIRD'S VISIT.

Dr. Krummacher tells how a poor man who owed a debt he was unable to pay was delivered out of his distress by a song bird.

The man was sitting early in the morning, at his house door, expecting an officer to come and distraint him for a small debt; and whilst sitting thus, with heavy heart, a little bird flew through the street, fluttering up and down as if in distress, until at last, as quick as an arrow, it flew over the man's head into his cottage and perched itself within a cupboard. The man caught the bird and placed it in a cage, where it immediately began to sing very sweetly. Suddenly some one knocked at the door. It was the servant of a respectable lady, who said that the neighbors had seen a bird fly into his house, and she wished to know if he had caught it.

"Oh, yes; here it is," and the bird was carried away.

A few minutes after the servant came again. "You have done my mistress great service," she said; "she values the bird highly. She is much obliged to you, and requests you to accept this trifle with her thanks."

It proved to be the exact sum he owed; and when the officer came he said, "Here is your money; now

leave in peace, for God has sent it to me."

TELLING THE TRUTH IN SCHOOL.

Edward Everett Hale, in a recent address, made an interesting statement concerning the Boston Latin School when he was one of its pupils, some fifty years ago, "I am quite sure" he said, "that even cowardly boys of the school would have been more afraid to tell a lie than of any consequences of telling the truth."

He attributed this high tone not to the discipline of the school, nor to the example of the teachers but to the right feeling of the boys themselves. "It was a tone given by the scholars," he remarks. "It was a thing understood among them that a boy who would tell a lie was a cowardly and mean fellow, and as such was to be politely cut by his fellow-pupils until he had learned better."

Dr. Arnold, who attached more importance to this than to anything else, was of the opinion that the elderly boys of the school usually set the fashion, both in morals and in manners, and he directed his best efforts to raising the tone of feeling in his highest class.

"It is a shame to lie to Arnold," said one of his pupils, once, "for he always believes us." Which shows that his efforts were successful.

THE ROPE.

Two beggar-boys, Guy and Klaus, found an old rope on the road, and strove and quarreled for it, till hill and valley echoed with their noise. Guy held the rope at one end, Klaus pulled at the other, and each sought to draw it by main force out of the other's hands. All of a sudden the rope broke asunder, and both the boys rolled over into the mire.

A man, who happened to come up to them, said, "So it is with the

quarrelsome! They make a great noise, and quarrel about some trifling matter; and what do both parties gain at last? Nothing—except to cover themselves with ridicule and disgrace, as you two are now befouled with mud."

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