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[FROM THE BALTIMORE AMERICAN.] There is one branch of mechanical industry of which Baltimore has good reason to feel proud, and to lay claim to superiority over all similar manufacturers in the world, and that is its pianos. Much, if not all of the credit for the rapid strides in this direction is due to the world-renowned manufacturers, Wm. Knabe & Co. Wherever a taste for music is to be cultivated, there will be found one of Knabe's celebrated pianos. It would be useless to enumerate the many expositions at which they have taken prizes, inasmuch as the public has been from time to time informed of the different awards. Since then there have been improvements made on the improvements, which were at the time thought to be perfection; and to-day the Knabe piano stands unsurpassed in tone and quality. Now that the interior work of the instrument has been perfected, the outer covering is receiving due attention. Among the latest styles of cases turned out at their factory are those made of rosewood and mahogany, with beautiful inlaid work, and those of mahogany, with inlaid brass and ebony, with artistic fancy work, are to be had in either square or upright pianos.

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A FABLE.

Once upon a time a long while ago, in the beginning when all things were created, the animals being made, it came to the turn of the bird.

First its head was formed, then its legs, lastly its wings.

But the bird complained bitterly. "The animals have no wings; why should such a burden be put on a little thing like me!"

By and by, at the end, when all things were finished, the living creatures were placed on the earth and began to move.

The animals stepped out, and ran over the plains, some scaled rocks, leaped the chasms, and scrambled up the mountains; the smaller ones climbed the trees.

But the bird spread its wings and soared away. Up, up; above, beyond; over tree, over mountain, away from the earth into the skies, nearer the sun.

Children, the trials and cares of our life, of which we so bitterly complain, often prove to us but the burden of wings to a bird, helping us to soar away, up, up, above, beyond, over the earth, into heaven, unto God.—Parish Visitor.

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