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The Bishop and the Birds.

A bishop who had for his arms two fieldfares, with the motto, "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing?" thus explained the matter to an intimate friend:—

Many years ago, a little boy resided at a village near Dillengen, on the banks of the Danube. His parents were very poor, and almost as soon as the boy could walk, he was sent into the wood to pick up some sticks for fuel. When he grew older, his father taught him to pick the juniper-berries, and carry them to a neighboring distiller, who wanted them for making Hollands.

Day by day the poor boy went to his task, and on his road he passed the open windows of the village school, where he saw the schoolmaster teaching a number of boys about the same age as himself. He looked at these boys with feelings of envy, so earnestly did he long to be among them. He was quite aware it was vain to ask his father to send him to school, for he knew that his parents had no money to pay the schoolmaster; and he often passed the whole day thinking while he was gathering the

juniper-berries, what he could possibly do to please the schoolmaster, in the hope of getting some lessons.

One day, when he was walking sadly along, he saw two boys belonging to the school trying to set a bird trap, and he asked one what that was for. The boy told him that the schoolmaster was very fond of fieldfares, and that they were setting a trap to catch some. This delighted the poor boy, for he recollected that he had often seen a great number of these birds in the juniper wood, where they came to eat the juniper berries, and he had no doubt but he could catch some.

The next day the little boy borrowed an old basket of his mother, went to the wood, and he had the great delight to catch two fieldfares. He then put them in a basket, and tying an old handkerchief over it, he took them to the schoolmaster's house. Just as he arrived at the door he saw the two little boys who had been setting the trap, and with some alarm he asked them if they had caught any birds. They answered in the negative; and the boy, his heart beating with joy, gained admittance into the presence of the schoolmaster. In a