



THE EAGLE.

Have I told you enough about things that have wings? I might say a little of those robbers of nests, the cuckoos—they tell me that they eat the eggs of other birds, but I am not quite sure that this is true; yet I know that they lay their eggs in nests not their own. I might speak of the cruel kite, the gloomy raven, the snowy swan, and many other; but I will only now tell you of the eagle.

There are many kinds of eagles,—the white eagle, the black eagle, the bald eagle, and the sea eagle,—but there is none like the golden eagle. Among all the birds of prey none is so large, none is so swift, and none is so strong. His eye can look at the bright sun. He builds his nest on the high rocks, and he flies abroad in the storm. He is indeed the king of birds.

"The eagle is a daring thing,
And mounts the sky with rapid wing."

A little child was left alone by its mother. Soon after, an eagle came down and bore it away. How sad for the poor child to be taken high up in the air! How sad for the eagle to carry it to its nest among the high rocks!

But was the little thing torn to pieces? No! For four men, who knew the way to the eagle's nest, took a boat, rowed over the lake, and got up the rocks, and found the child unhurt. How glad were the men!

How very glad was the mother of the poor babe!

There! you have heard of the gnat that played under the tree on the sunny day; of the fly that gave the window-pane a bang with his head; of the beetle that struck me in the face, and never so much as asked my pardon; and of the fierce fiery wasp who stung poor Mongo on the nose.

You have heard, too, of the bee that is always at work; of the butterfly that the boys run after; of the dragon-fly that put the lady in a fright; of the bat with his wings like a bird and his head like a mouse; and of the lark that was kept in a cage only a span long.

"It was at best a cruel case,
To keep him in so small a place."

And besides these, you have heard of the white owl, with his great eyes; of the parrot that cried out, "Stop thief!" of the wild goose that flies so high in the air; and of the golden eagle the king of birds. These are a few of the things that have wings. I said I would try to please you, and I think that I have kept my word.

"At last my little tale is told,
Now try to turn it into gold."

While you think of the things you have read of, from the gnat to the golden eagle, the king of birds, think also of Him who made them all—the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Try to know more of him by reading his word, which tells us of Jesus Christ, that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John iii. 16. Ask him to give you the Holy Spirit for Christ's sake, to help you to love him; and the more you love him, obey him, and praise him. "All thy works shall praise thee, O Lord; and thy saints shall bless thee." Psalm cxlv. 10.—[Things that have Wings, Library A, No. 163.]