

able to sit on the veranda, then keeping as close to him as possible, would every little while raise his paw and lay it gently on his master's knee, gazing lovingly into his face, expressing as plainly as if in words, sorrow for his changed countenance and wasted form.

A little girl who possessed a very sensitive nature, possessed also a very sympathizing cat. Whenever her little mistress, wounded in spirit, retired to weep in secret, pussy would search till she found her, and nestling close to the hidden face, she mewed in sympathy, till the grieved little soul was comforted, and with peace in her heart and pussy in her arms, the child returned to the family circle.

The interpreters of nature,—the poets—have not overlooked this aspect of the truth. Mrs. Browning tells us of the soothing influence of Cowper's pets, on the mind of their unhappy master.

Wild, timid hares were drawn from woods to share his home
caresses,
Uplooking to his human eyes with sylvan tendernesses!

Wordsworth finds his joy increased by contemplating theirs.

"Ye blessed creatures, I have heard the call
Ye to each other make,
My heart is at your festival,
The fulness of your bliss I feel—I feel it all."

With what fine effect does Coleridge in his "Ancient Mariner" bring before us the bond that unites man to the lower animals. The Ancient Mariner cruelly and in contempt of the laws of hospitality, kills a huge bird of the southern seas, which had taken refuge on the ship. A mysterious vengeance follows, which is prolonged through unmitigated horrors, till he is left

"All, all alone,
Alone on a wide, wide sea;
And never a saint took pity on
My soul in agony!"

The spell begins to break when he beholds the bright creatures of the deep, and there springs up in his heart a sudden sympathy with the happiness of the animals floating in his sight.

With what a thrill do we read of the melting of the heart that was as 'dry as dust.'

"Oh happy living things! no tongue
Their beauty might declare;
A spring of love gushed from my heart,
And I blessed them unaware;
Sure my kind saint took pity on me,
And I blessed them unaware."

He is now able to pray, and with the prayer comes

"The gentle sleep from heaven
That slid into my soul,"

and with lightened penance he is at length brought safely home to "his own countree," where he wanders about telling his terrible tale, the burden of which is—

He prayeth well who loveth well
Both man and bird and beast,
He prayeth best who loveth best
All things both great and small,
For the dear God who loveth us,
He made and loveth all."

St. John.

E.

SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

Work on the new building of the University of Dalhousie College is still going vigorously on. The magnificent accommodations provided for scientific teaching will place this University ahead of many of the famous older universities of the world. The physical and chemical laboratories and lecture rooms are most admirable in design and arrangement, and even sumptuous in general aspect.

The Halifax Ladies' College under the energetic and able direction of President Laing and Secretary McKay, has risen with nearly the speed of magic. The location is one of the most beautiful and convenient in Halifax. The dormitories are perfection for neatness and comfort. Heating and ventilation are effected by the latest and best approved methods and are very efficient.

The attendance at St. Francis Xavier College is quite large during the present term. It is ahead of many of our colleges in looking after the good of the physical man, as its new gymnasium building attests.

Acadia College is making preparations for the due celebration of its jubilee year. Professor Coldwell writes to the provincial papers correcting the ascription of the honors of the Star of Bethlehem to Venus.

The School of Agriculture is keeping agricultural thought in motion. A "Farmers' Institute" was held in Truro last month. Col. Wm. Blair, the President, Gen. J. W. Laurie, M. P., R. O. H. Starr, Esq., W. D. Dimock, B. A., Jas. Norrie, Esq., and F. A. Lawrence, Esq., took a prominent part in the proceedings, as did Principal J. B. Calkin and Dr. Hall of the Normal School, and Professor Smith of the School of Agriculture. Professor Smith is the Secretary and efficient mover in this important work.