

## THE MESSAGE THIS MONTH

### BIRDS

Birds are beautiful.

Many birds have beautiful colors—red, blue, yellow, and other colors.

Many birds can sing sweetly. Do you like birds?

Pedro wanted to have a bird for a pet. So he made a bird trap. He put it in the top of a tree.

In the evening before he went to bed, he hoped that by morning the trap would catch a bird.

When he woke up the following morning, he went to see the trap.

“Good!” said Pedro, “I have a beautiful green bird.”

Pedro put the bird in a beautiful cage. He gave the bird some rice, some bananas, and some water.

But the little bird was very much frightened. He did not like to eat. He tried to get out of the beautiful cage. He cried and whistled as if he were trying to call for help.

“Oh you will get used to it,” said Pedro to the bird.

“You see, you have a nice cage. You have plenty of food to eat and water to drink.”

Pedro was very kind to the little bird. But the little bird did not seem to like his new place. And he jumped and jumped. He put his head between the bars of the cage. He cried and cried.

At night, when Pedro was sleeping, he had a dream. He dreamed that the little bird in the cage spoke to him. This was what the bird said:

“Pedro, you are indeed very kind to me. But you know I have three little birds. I was looking for food when I was caught in the trap. My little ones are now very hungry. Won't you let me go? Please, Pedro, let me go and feed my little baby birds.”

Pedro woke up and it was already morning. He remembered his dream. So he went to the little bird and set him free.

And Pedro was very, very happy. So were the bird and the little baby birds.

—DR. I. PANLASIGUI