

Poetry.

THE BIRDS IN AUTUMN.

BY MRS. S. GOURNEY.

November came on with an eye severe,
And his stormy language was hoarse to hear—
And the glittering garland of brown and red,
Which he wreath'd for a while round the forest's head.

With sudden anger he rent away,
And all was cheerless, and bare, and gray.

The houseless grasshopper told his woes,
And the humming-bird sent forth a wail for the rose;
And the spider, that weaver of cunning so deep,
Roll'd himself up, like a ball, to sleep;
And the cricket his merry horn laid by,
On the shelf, with the pipe of the dragon fly.

Soon, voices were heard at the morning prime,
Consulting of flight to a warmer clime:
"Let us go! let us go!" said the bright wing'd jay—
And his gay spouse sang from a rocking spray,
"I am tired to death of this hum-drum tree;
I'll go—if 'tis only the world to see."

"Will you go?" asked the robin, "my only love?"
And a tender strain, from the leafless grove,
Responded—"Wherever your lot is cast,
'Mid summer skies, or the northern blast,
I am still at your side, your heart to cheer,
Though dear is our nest in this thicket here."

The eriole told, with a flashing eye,
How his little ones shrank from the frosty sky—
How his mate, with an ague, had shaken the bed,
And lost her fine voice by a cold in her head—
And their oldest daughter, an invalid grown,
No health in this terrible climate had known.

"I am ready to go," said the plump young wren,
From the hateful homes of those northern men;
My throat is sore, and my feet are blue—
I'm afraid I have caught the consumption too;
And then I've not confidence left, I own,
In the doctors out of the southern zone.

Then up went the thrush, with a trumpet call;
And the martins came forth from their box on the wall,
And the swallow peep'd from his secret bow,
And the swallows convers'd on the old church tower;
And the council of blackbirds was long and loud—
Chattering and flying, from tree to cloud.

"The dahlia is dead on her throne," said they;
"And we saw the butterfly cold as clay;
Not a berry is found on the russet plains;
Not a kernel of ripen'd maize remains—
Every worm was hid—shall we longer stay,
To be wasted with famine? Away!—away!"

But what a strange clamor on elm and oak,
From a bevy of brown coated mocking birds broke!
The theme of each separate speaker they told,
In shrill report, with such mimicry bold,
That the eloquent orators started to hear
Their own true echo, so wild and clear.

Then tribe after tribe, with its leader fair,
Sweep of thro' the fathomless depths of air—
Who marketh their course to the tropics bright?
Who nereth their wing for its weary flight?
Who guideth their caravan's trackless way,
By the star at night, and the cloud by day?

Some spread o'er the waters a daring wing,
In the isles of the southern sea to sing;
Or where the minaret towering high,
Pierces the gold of the western sky;
Or amid the harem's haunts of fear,
Their ledges to build, and their nurseries rear.

The Indian fig with its arching screen,
Welcomes them in, to its vestian green;
And the breathing buds of the spiny tree,
Thrill at the burst of their revelry;
And the bulbous starts 'mid his card clear,
Such a rushing of stranger voices to hear.

O wild-wood wanderers! how far away
From your rural homes in our valleys ye stray!
But when they are wak'd by the touch of Spring,
We shall see you again, with your glancing wing—
Your nests 'mid our household trees to raise,
And stir our hearts in our Maker's praise.

Miscellaneous.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

[Extract from a letter written to a friend in Edinburgh by a recent emigrant to Port Adelaide.]
19th February, 1839.

And now it is time to tell you something of the state of Port Adelaide, and what opinion I entertain of it. On first coming ashore, as I mentioned above, my feelings were those of disappointment. Neither the accounts I received from those who had preceded me, nor what came under my own observation, tended at all to give me a favourable opinion of the prosperity of the colony. On the contrary I was inclined to believe that we had been lured by the representations of interested men to come to a settlement, which was not unlikely to prove a second Swan River. Nor was it wonderful I should come to this conclusion. On landing at Holdfast Bay, I saw not the fine rich land that I had heard and read of, but an extensive dried up plain, containing soil of a most inferior description. On the road to Adelaide I saw no marks of cultivation of any sort; neither flocks nor corn fields could I discover; and for the flourishing gardens I expected to meet with I looked in vain, because they were not to be seen. In fact, on after inquiry I could hear of but one field of grain in the colony; and though I afterwards did discover one or two gardens, they were such as could scarce bear rivalry with many a cottager's kale-yard at home. The amount of stock, too, I learnt was very small, as regarded sheep at least, not above, if I might believe the accounts given me, six or seven thousand. I found indeed a town which has made a wonderful advance, considering the short period of the colony's existence, containing already, I am told, seven or eight thousand inhabitants; but on this town, and in a pernicious system of land-jobbing the buying and selling of town and village allotments of land, the vigour of the colony has hitherto been mainly expended. Here is the unfortunate, or at least singular, position in which Adelaide stands—it is a town without a country; depending on England and the other colonies for her veriest trifling articles of support, she has nothing of her own to offer in return, and the ships which come here laden go away empty. The consequent drain upon the capital of the country seemed to me to threaten it with ruin, should things continue long in their present state, and any thing cause a temporary check to emigration from England. That she will soon get over these difficulties, however, I am now convinced, and I expect to see her yet a prosperous colony. As to what touched my own individual interests more closely I did not find much more satisfaction. The system of leasing land at four pounds, the square miles, was not, as yet I found, in operation. At the Bank, too, my visions of ten and twelve per cent. interest were speedily dispelled, no such rate being known there except upon their own discounts. If you place your money there on a

deposit receipt, it must lie unproductive for three months, and then you receive only four per cent. But the circumstance which principally led me to consider this colony ill adapted for me at present were these two, the high price of labour, enhanced by the dearth of provisions, and the expense and difficulty of procuring good stock. With the land, as I afterwards found, I had not much cause to be dissatisfied. The lowest rate of wages at which you could hire a servant here is £50 a year, with rations, and but few, I believe, of any value would engage to work even upon these terms, sixty and seventy being no uncommon payment.—In the next place, stock cannot be procured of good quality without great difficulty and expense. If you purchase them in the colony you must pay at least forty shillings a head, and you are not at all sure of getting them of the best quality, those that are imported on speculation being not unfrequently of an inferior description. If you, on the other hand, import them yourself from Van Dieman's Land, you must pay, in the first place, ten shillings a head for their transportation; and you run the risk of losing many of them on the passage, or immediately on being landed, a casualty of frequent occurrence. These circumstances, as you must perceive, would weigh heavily on me, commencing but with a moderate capital, and sadly retard the realization of those golden dreams so fondly cherished on leaving home. At Port Phillip, on the other hand, thirty-five pounds is the highest rate of wages given to any servant, and you may purchase the best stock at twenty-five shillings a head; provisions, besides, are much more moderate than in this place. In regard to the nature of the land here, I have now seen cause to be pretty well contented, not that there is by any means that universality of fine land we were led to expect, but such is to be found on searching. In the immediate neighbourhood of the town it is certainly very poor, and throughout the extensive plain which stretches from the Gulf to the Mount Lofty range there are but few spots that one would care to call his own from their intrinsic value. Beyond the hills, however, the land improves very much in quality, and is much better supplied with water. I have myself seen as fine spots as one could wish to settle upon, and in other districts which I have not visited I am told it is still finer. The great complaint is want of water; and certainly as regards surface and running water, it is but too well grounded; but in almost all the valleys water is to be found on digging a few feet. From what I can learn regarding Port Phillip, I should think the land there must be at least equal, if not superior. The appearance of the country as regards scenery is, generally speaking, of a pleasing character, but by no means so superior as I expected. There is a sad want of variety, and grandeur is totally unknown. There are, no doubt, many hills and valleys, which are very pretty; but they are all so like each other, that the eye tires of travelling over them. The wood, too, consisting principally of varieties of the gum-tree, and what is called the —, has all the same sombre, monotonous hue; in some places, however, the trees are of a majestic size, and they are sometimes scattered over the ground in a very picturesque way. This is particularly the case in the immediate neighbourhood of the town, or rather in the town itself. The plants at this season (for, in regard to vegetation, the summer here exactly corresponds to our winter) are numerous and beautiful, and I see many of our valued garden annuals growing here wild in great abundance. As regards individual fruits, however, or any production capable of sustaining life, I suppose this is the most miserably barren country on the face of the earth. There are what they call native apples, and native plums; but they bear about the same proportion to our crabs and sloes that these do to a New York pippen or an Orleans plum.

I have mentioned that my sections are still unselected. You may think I have been rather dilatory in this; but the fact is, to get good land speedily is no very easy matter, and when I first arrived that was a universal subject of complaint among the recent comers. This arose from two causes, the slow progress of the surveyors, and the circumstance that the holders of preliminary land orders, of which there are many still in abeyance, must be satisfied before any newly surveyed district is opened to general selection; these gentlemen naturally choose out all the best spots, and consequently, there are not, perhaps, out of the whole survey, half a dozen sections of any value left for the public at large. This, as I have said, was a general subject of complaint, when I arrived, and I certainly regarded it as one of the elements of mischief, likely to endanger the success of the colony. Since then a new method has been resorted to; by a clause in the colonial regulations, any one, on paying the purchase money of four thousand acres, is entitled to require a special survey of fifteen thousand, in whatever district he pleases, out of which to select his purchases. Mr. Dutton, a gentleman from Sidney, who came down here about six weeks ago, with a cargo of sheep, was first to avail himself of this privilege, and he has secured, I believe, the finest sheep run in the colony. His example has since been followed by many others. Those who cannot afford so much money themselves (the major part, of course,) go to work in this way—so many unite together their money or land orders till the requisite amount is made up; they next make choice of a district, require it to be surveyed, and then settle amongst themselves about their respective allotments. This plan has many advantages, and it is that by which I shall probably get my own sections located. It has, besides, infused a new spirit into the colony. It will be the medium of introducing good and numerous flocks, and prove, I believe, the great means of rescuing it from its present difficulties, and advancing it to opulence and prosperity. I have said that provisions are very expensive. To give you a few examples—fresh meat costs a shilling per lb.; the quarter loaf of bread, till within the last few days, has sold at eightpence; eggs, fourpence each, and poultry fifteen shillings a couple; milk, to our great annoyance, cannot be bought under a shilling a quart, and butter sells at three and sixpence per lb. You may suppose we have not indulged much in these luxuries, bread

excepted; salt pork and tea, which is very moderate, have been our principal sustenance. Cattle (horses excepted) are not so extravagant; high priced as sheep; a good bullock may be had for £35, and a milch cow costs from £18 to £25. Horses are very high; for the humblest animal that bears the name, £50 is unblushingly demanded, and a tolerably good riding horse is not to be had under 70 or £80. The natives, of whom there are a good many in the neighbourhood, are, as yet, on friendly terms with the colonists, and they are, generally speaking, very harmless, but it seems to be doubted whether matters will continue on this footing; they are a miserably degraded race, and resemble more the beasts of the field than creatures made after the image of God, arts are totally unknown to them; they have no houses of any description to shield them from sun or storm, nor any clothing except what they may receive from the settlers, and occasionally a sheepskin. Their costumes are consequently, at times, sufficiently ludicrous; an old black coat is sometimes the sole garment of one, a waistcoat of another, and a shirt or a pair of drawers of a third. Their only weapons are a wooden spear sharpened at the point, and what they call the "waddie," a small club; the "boomerang" they are here unacquainted with.

The climate, of which I ought perhaps to have spoken before, is a most singular one, as regards the rapid alternations of heat and cold. Within 24 hours you may be almost shivering with cold and melting with heat. Both day and night are occasionally excessively hot; and when the wind blows from the north, it puts one somewhat in mind of the snow of Italy; exposure to the sun, however, is not attended with the same dangerous consequences as in India and other hot countries, nor is the heat, I believe, nearly so oppressive.

In regard to what advice I would give to persons having their view turned in this direction, I would say, as regards this colony, that there are two classes for whom it is well adapted—those with a good deal of money, and those with none at all. The former, if judicious and quick-sighted, may employ their capital in various ways here to great advantage; and in regard to the latter, whose hands are their sole fortune, where the most ordinary labourer never receives less than 5s. or 6s. a day, and mechanics, such as carpenters, &c. can gain, with ease, 12s. and 13s. there can be no doubt about its being a good place for them. For all kinds of tradesmen, however, there is not the same opening. For the intermediate class I do not think this is the best place.

[From Sir Woodbine Parish's Buenos Ayres.]

THE WINDS OF BUENOS AYRES.

I have been often asked whether the heats in the summer are not almost intolerable. On some days they are so; the glass perhaps above 90 degrees in the shade, and all nature gasping for air; but on those very days the most experienced of the natives will be clothed in warm woollens, instead of linen jackets and trousers, for fear of catching cold.

During the greater part of the year the prevailing winds are northerly, which, passing over the marshy lands of Entre Rios, and then over the wide expanse of the Plata, imbibe their exhalations, and by the time they reach the southern shores of the river, have a great influence upon the climate. Every thing is damp; the mould stands upon the boots cleaned but yesterday; books become mildewed, and the keys rust in one's pocket. Good fires are the best preservatives; and I found them, if not absolutely necessary, at least very comfortable, during quite as many months as I should have had them in England; and yet I never, during nine years, saw snow, or ice thicker than a dollar, and the latter only once. The bodily system the effect produced by this prevailing humidity is a general lassitude and relaxation; opening the pores of the skin, and inducing great liability to colds, sore throats, rheumatic affections, and all the consequences of checked perspiration; one of the best safeguards against which is doubtless the woollen clothing of the natives, of which I have already spoken; though they require it, perhaps, the more especially, because they seldom stir out of their houses in the extreme heat of day; and it is at the time they do go out, when the sun has lost its power and the damps of evening are setting in, that such precautions are doubly necessary. Europeans at first are loth to take the same care of themselves; but sooner or later they discover that the natives are right, insensibly fall into their ways.

Though free from the malaria of the Mediterranean coasts, the sirocco of the Levant does not bring with it more disagreeable affections than the sultry viento norte, or north wind of Buenos Ayres; indeed, the irritability and ill-humours it excites in some people amount to little less than a temporary derangement of their moral faculties. It is a common thing to see men amongst the better classes shut themselves up in their houses during its continuance, and lay aside all business till it has passed; whilst amongst the lower orders it is a fact well known to the police that cases of quarrelling and bloodshed are infinitely more frequent during the north wind than at any other time.

Not many years back, a man named Garcia was executed for murder. He was a person of some education, esteemed by those who knew him, and, in general, rather remarkable than otherwise for the civility and amenity of his manners; his countenance was open and handsome, and his disposition frank and generous; but when the north wind set in he appeared to lose all command of himself, and such was his extreme irritability, that during its continuance he could hardly speak to any one in the street without quarrelling. In a conversation with my informant a few hours before his execution, he admitted that it was the third murder he had been guilty of, besides having been engaged in more than twenty fights with knives, in which he had both given and received many serious wounds; but, he observed, in was the north wind not he, that shed all this blood. When he rose from his bed in the morning, he said he was at once aware of its accused influence upon him; a dull headache first, and then a feeling of im-

patience at every thing about him, would cause him to take umbrage even at the members of his own family on the most trivial occurrence. If he went abroad, his headache generally became worse, a heavy weight seemed to hang over his temples, he saw objects, as it were, through a cloud, and was hardly conscious where he went. He was fond of play, and if in such a mood a gambling-house was in his way, he seldom resisted the temptation; once there, any turn of ill luck would so irritate him, that the chances were he would insult some of the by standers. Those who knew him, perhaps, would bear with his ill humours; but if unhappily he chanced to meet with a stranger disposed to resent his abuse, they seldom parted without bloodshed. Such was the account the wretched man gave of himself, and it was corroborated afterwards by his relations and friends, who added, that no sooner had the cause of his excitement passed away, than he would deplore his weakness, and never rested till he had sought out and made his peace with those whom he had hurt or offended.

But it is not the human constitution alone that is affected; the discomforts of the day are generally increased by the derangement of most of the house hold preparations. The meat turns putrid, the milk curdles, and even the bread which is baked whilst it lasts is frequently bad. Every one complains; and the only answer returns I see—"Senor, es el viento norte."

All these miseries, however, are not without their remedy, when the sufferings of the natives are at their climax, the mercury will give the sure indications of a coming pampero, as the south-wester is called; on a sudden, a rustling breeze breezes through the stillness of the stagnant atmosphere here, and in a few seconds sweeps away the mists and all else before it. Originating in the snows of the Andes, the blast rushes with unbroken violence over the intermediate Pampas, and ere it reaches Buenos Ayres, becomes often a hurricane.

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The Subscriber having been appointed Agent at Fredericton for the above mentioned Company, is now prepared to take risks on every description of Property against loss or damage by Fire.

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UNEXAMPLD

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THE following detail of a Scheme of a Lottery to be drawn in December next, warrants us in declaring it to be unparalleled in the History of Lotteries. Prizes to the amount have never before been offered to the public. It is true there are many blanks, but on the other hand, the extremely low charge of twenty dollars per Ticket—the value and number of the Capitals, and the revival of the good old custom of warranting that every prize shall be drawn and sold, will wear sure, give universal satisfaction, and especially to the Six Hundred Prize Holders.

To those disposed to adventure, we recommend early application being made to us for tickets—when the prizes are all sold, blanks only remain—the first buyers have the best chance. We therefore, emphatically say—delay not, but at once remit and transmit to us your orders, which shall always receive our immediate attention. Letters to be addressed, and application made to

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ONE PRIZE—DWELLING HOUSE.

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(Adjoining the Arcade.) No. 20, 23 feet, front, on Natchez Street—Rented at \$1200, valued at \$20,000

ONE PRIZE—DWELLING HOUSE.

No. 23, northeast corner of Basin and Custom House Street, 40 feet, front on Basin, and 40 feet on Franklin Street, by 127 feet deep in Custom House Street—Rented at \$1,500, valued at \$20,000

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1 do. 200 do. Commercial do. \$100 20,000
1 do. 150 do. Mech. & Trad. do. do. 15,000
1 do. 100 do. City Bank do. do. 10,000
1 do. 100 do. do. do. do. 10,000
1 do. 100 do. do. do. do. 10,000
1 do. 50 Exchange Bank, do. 5,000
1 do. do. do. do. 5,000
1 do. 25 do. Gas light do. do. 5,000
1 do. 25 do. do. do. do. 5,000
1 do. 15 do. Mech. & Trad. do. 1,500
1 do. 15 do. do. do. do. 1,500
20 prizes, each 10 shares of the Louisiana State Bank, \$100—each prize \$1000, 20,000
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The whole of the Tickets with their numbers, as also those containing the prizes, will be examined and sealed by the commissioners appointed under the Act, previously to their being put into the wheels. One wheel will contain the whole of the numbers, the other will contain the Six Hundred Prizes, and the first 600 numbers that shall be drawn out, will be entitled to such Prize as may be drawn to its number, and the fortunate holders of such prizes will have such property transferred to them immediately after the drawing, unincumbered, and without any deduction. Editors of every paper in the United States, in the West Indies, in Canada, and British Provinces, are requested to insert the above as a standing advertisement until the 1st of December next, and to send their accounts to us, together with a paper containing the advertisement.

SYLVESTER & Co.
156 Broadway, N. Y.
New York, May 7, 1839.

THE MAMMOTH LOTTERY.—We call the attention of our friends to the alteration of the "scheme of this Lottery." It will be seen that a Trust deed has been executed by which all the money received for tickets is deposited in the New Orleans Bank to be properly appropriated; this giving additional assurance, (if any were wanting,) that the Managers' intention is strictly to fulfill their contract with the public.

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Fredericton, 9th April, 1839.

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