

SUMMER IS NIGH.

BY E. COOK.

The richest of perfumes and jewels are mine,
While the dog-roses blow and the dew-spangles shine,
And the softest of music is wakened for me,
By the stream o'er the pebble—the wind in the tree.
Nature, kind mother, my heart is content
With the beauty and mirth thou hast lavishly sent!
Sweet Summer is nigh, and my spirit leaps high,
As the sun travels further along the blue sky.

If I murmur, it is, that my home is not made
Mid the flowers and drops in the green coppice shade.
If I sigh, 'tis to think that my steps cannot stray
With the breeze and the brook on their wandering way.
Nature, kind mother, I long to behold
All the glories thy blossom-ring'd fingers unfold,
None like thee can I meet, for all others will cheat,
With a portion of bitter disguised in the sweet,

The earth, the wide earth, will be beautiful soon,
With the cherry-bloom wreath and the nightingale's tune;
And the dreams without sleep and strange magic will
come,

While the wood-pigeons coo, and the heavy bees hum.
O! Nature, kind mother, 'tis only thy breast
That can nurse my deep feeling and lull it to rest;
For my soul is too proud to be telling aloud
What to thee it can utter all weeping and bowed.

I see the rife buds on the wide spreading bough,
Soon, soon, they will shadow my thought-laden brow;
I see the bright primroses burst where I stand,
And I laugh like a child as they drip in my hand.
Nature, kind mother, thou hearest me breathe
My devotion at altars where wild flowers wreath,
None other e'er knows how my warm bosom glows,
As I watch the young daisy-fringe, open and close.

I see thee blue violets peep from the bank;
I praise their Creator—I bless and I thank;
And the gossamer insect at play in the beam
Is an atom that bids me adore the supreme.
Nature, kind mother, my heart is content
With the beauty and mirth thou hast lavishly sent!
Sweet Summer is nigh, and my spirit leaps high,
As the sun travels further along the blue sky.

RUSSIAN OPINIONS OF SIR R. PEEL'S FREE TRADE POLICY.—We subjoin the following article, copied from the *St. Petersburg Commercial Gazette*, on the subject of Sir R. Peel's measures, and the consequences to be expected therefrom. "As the measures of finance Sir R. Peel has announced in the English Parliament, and which, from his great influence, will no doubt be adopted, even if a few unessential modifications are introduced, must lay the foundations of a new epoch in the trade of Poland, and generally in the whole commercial world, it may not appear inopportune if we devote, in the first instance, a few preliminary remarks to this new system of duties. The assertion which we have already expressed in this journal (some few years ago), and which was also transferred from this to others, that no concessions were to be made to England in order to induce her to effect a reduction of duties on corn and other articles of provision, as she would be sooner or later compelled to do so for the sake of her own interest, now receives the fullest confirmation. England feels that she has arrived at a point where, if she

does not procure subsistence for her working classes at a far more reasonable rate, it will become still more difficult for her to maintain a competition with other countries, and this conviction must necessarily result in the adoption of the new measures of finance. If these, however, are in the highest degree conformable with the designs of England, they cannot, nevertheless, be so unconditionally and generally recommended, as the public journals will have it, to other countries, which find themselves in wholly different circumstances. England, after attaining a commercial eminence which towers far above all other countries, casts away the ladder by which she has climbed to it. Were other nations, which have not yet attained this Alpine altitude, to throw away their ladders also, they would certainly never reach the same elevation. The most immediate great result of the English measures will be in the first instance, a favouring of the trade and agriculture of the other countries of the world; but, on the other hand, a powerful depression of their manufacturing industry. An almost total freedom from taxation of all natural products must infinitely animate trade simultaneously with the culture of the soil from which they spring forth, and secure for them a richer, and consequently a more remunerating return, in the prices of their produce. By means of the more reasonable prices of provisions, the English manufactures of all sorts will become immensely cheaper, and thence their productions, as well as the population thereby employed, will rapidly increase. This simultaneously increasing, and now already unexampled prosperity of the country, must also extraordinarily enlarge the consumption of all natural produce. Wholly different, on the contrary, will be the effect of these financial measures on the manufacturing industry of foreign countries. If it has been already difficult hitherto for the majority of their different branches to maintain a competition with England, it is certain that the difficulty will now become far greater—ay, and for a time impossible—especially in those states which have only recently trodden the path of manufacturing industry in a larger proportion."

SINGULAR DAISY.—This week we have been shown a curious daisy, gathered on Monday, in Skircoat, having five perfect heads on one stem. The heads are all in one line, and the stem broad and flat, widening towards the flowers somewhat after the manner of a cockscomb. The gentleman in whose field this unusual daisy was gathered, has also in his garden a monster auricula, the stem of which is broad and flat, and must have on it at least fifty blooms not one-third of which, however, can find room to come to perfection, except in regular rotation.—*Halifax Guardian*.

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