

*Hair and Nails of the Dead.*—It sometimes happens that the hair and nails continue to grow after death, notwithstanding the decomposition of the body. The 'Journal des Savans' mentions a female whose hair was found, forty-three years after the interment of the body, to have forced itself through the chinks of the coffin. This hair crumbled on being touched. During the middle ages, such phenomena caused the dead to be regarded as sorcerers. Their bodies were dug up, and, after having been burnt, the ashes, were scattered to the winds.

### THE STORMY PETREL.

A thousand miles from land are we,  
Tossing about on the roaring sea;  
From billow to bounding billow cast,  
Like fleecy snow on the wintry blast:  
The sails are scattered abroad like weeds,  
The strong masts shake like quivering reeds,  
The mighty cables and iron chains,  
The hull, which all earthly strength disdains,  
They strain and they crack, and hearts like stone  
Their natural hard proud strength disown.

Up and down! up and down!  
From the base of the wave to the billow's crown,  
And amidst the flashing and feathery foam  
The Stormy Petrel finds a home:  
A home, if such a place may be,  
For her who lives on the wide wide sea,  
On the craggy ice, in the frozen air,  
And only seeketh her rocky lair  
To warm her young, and to teach them spring  
At once o'er the waves on their stormy wing!

O'er the deep! O'er the deep!  
Where the whale and the shark, and the sword-fish  
sleep,  
Outflying the blast and the driving rain,  
The Petrel telleth her tale—in vain;  
For the mariner curseth the warning bird  
Who bringeth him news of the storms unheard!  
Ah! thus does the prophet of good or ill,  
Meet hate from the creatures he serveth still:  
Yet He ne'er falters:—So, Petrel! spring  
Once more o'er the wave on thy stormy wing!

## AGRICULTURE.

### Transplanting Trees.

Trees may be lifted from one place to another, or transplanted. The art of accomplishing this exceedingly delicate operation in tree culture, was some years ago brought to perfection by the late Sir Henry Steuart, of Allanton, whose treatise is the best authority on the subject. The transplanting of a full-grown tree has, in all ages, been deemed next to impossible; and when it was attempted, the operator thought it necessary to cut off a great number of the branches (and consequently the leaves), from an idea that, if suf-

fered to remain, they would require more sap than the roots could supply in their new situation. Of course, just in as far as they deprived the tree of its branches, or, we may rather say, of its leaves, they deprived it of the principal organ of its existence, and it invariably decayed to a corresponding degree. The lopping was like cutting off of the lungs in a human being; and it would be as absurd to expect a man in that state to be healthy and strong, as it was to hope for vigour in the stripped member of the forest.

Sir Henry Steuart, having studied the internal structure of trees, began, a good many years ago, to practise the art of transplanting on what he justly calls the preservative principle; that is, without mutilating either roots or branches, as was universally practised till his time. His seat, Allanton House, is situated on an irregular slope, on the right bank of the river Calder, which is a tributary of the Clyde. The neighbouring ground, though diversified, has no very picturesque natural points; but he contrived, by the removal of large trees, and forming an artificial lake and river, to realise in some measure the miracle of bringing new and picturesque scenery into actual existence, in an almost endless variety of combination.

The following are the rules to be attended to in the transplanting of trees. The best season for transplanting is certainly during the months of October and November; for though trees may be transplanted in any of the winter months when the weather is mild and moist, they never do so well as when removed in the first-mentioned months. Taking up a tree requires as much care as replanting it; the spade and the pick-mattock are both necessary to raise the roots from their seat; and as the most tender fibres are the most active and useful, the greatest care should be taken to preserve them entire. Neither should these delicate fibres be exposed to a dry or frosty air; they should be kept moist and shaded till again put into the ground. The root should be placed no deeper in the new place than it was in the old; and all the ramifications laid in their natural positions, and embedded in the finest of the earth.

Trees may be transplanted from the age of one up to ten, or even twenty or