

thousand feet : in this vast amphitheatre he revolves in his strength, looking indeed as though he were the real monarch of the hills and of space. Here we see bird-flight in perfection : those great wings outspread to catch the icy winds which rush up the snowy steeps, sustaining the Eagle's weight even in mid-air, and enabling him to rise with greatest ease until he is even higher than the most lofty peak, and the ragged, rough white sentinels of the sky are left silent and solitary far below. Those who have not seen this great brown Eagle alone in his chosen home may despise him, but I know full well that he bears his rightful title of king of Bird-land.

Thus even the highest peaks, clad in their covering of everlasting snow, are still Bird-land : and although a contrast to fair meadows or bleak marshes, they are nevertheless still intensely interesting, for if only we keep a sharp look-out, birds are to be seen nearly everywhere, and that is why in my writing I have given to the country-side the name of Bird-land.