

POETRY.

ON SEEING AN EAGLE PASS NEAR ME IN
AUTUMN TWILIGHT.

BY GRENVILLE M. LLEN.

SAIL ON, thou lone imperial bird,
Of quenchless eye and tireless wing;
How is thy distant coming heard
As the night's breezes round thee ring?
Thy course was 'gainst the burning sun
In his extremest glory! How!
Is thy unequalled daring done,
Thou stoop'st to earth so lowly now?

Or hast thou left thy rocking dome,
Thy roaring crag, thy lightning pine,
To find some secret, meaner home,
Loss stormy and unsate than thine?
Else why thy dusky pinions bend
So closely to this shadowy world,
And round thy scorching glances send,
As washing thy broad pens were furled;

Yet lonely is thy shattered nest,
Thy cry desolate though high;
And lonely thou, alike, at rest,
Or soaring in the upper sky.
The golden light that bathes thy plumes,
On thine interminable flight,
Falls cheerless on earth's desert tombs,
And makes the North's ice-mountains bright.

So come the eagle-hearted down,
So come the proud and high to earth,
When life's night-tempests darkly frown
Over their glory and their mirth;
So quails the mind's undying eye,
That bore unveiled fame's noontide sun;
So man seeks solitude to die,
His high place left, his triumphs done.

So, round the residence of power,
A cold and joyless lustre shines,
And on life's pinnacles will lower
Clouds dark as bathe the eagle's pines.
But O, the mellow light that pours
From God's pure throne—the light that saves!
It warms the spirit as it soars,
And sheds deep radiance round our graves.

MISCELLANY.

[From the Saturday Magazine.]

THE CULTURE AND MANUFACTURE OF INDIGO.

THE Indigo of commerce, so well known as a beautiful and permanent blue dye, is manufactured from several plants, particularly the *Indigofera Anil*, a large American plant, and the *Indigofera Tinctoria*, a native of China.

The Indigo plant requires rather a rich soil, and not too dry; it exhausts the land much, and during its growth must be kept very free from weeds: in preparing the ground for the reception of the seed, the hoeing and raking is repeated as many as five different times. Although Indigo is perennial, yet as the young plants yield a greater quantity of dye than the older, the practice of rearing them every two years from the seed is in general followed. Small holes are bored to receive the seed, two or three inches in depth, and about a foot asunder in every direction, a straight line being carefully preserved. When the hoers have arrived at the end of the field, each of the workmen provides himself with a small bag of seed, and retracing his steps, places in each of the holes he has made, eleven or thirteen seeds, for, in their estimation, any but an odd number would be unlucky.

Although any part of the year is proper for sowing the Indigo, it is necessary that the weather should not be dry, for fear of having the seed destroyed, by insects or swept away

by high winds. As soon as the plant is above the earth, the work of weeding commences, and must be pursued unremittingly until the plant is fit for cutting, which will be in about two months; if it is allowed to grow for a greater length of time, the blossoms will appear, and the leaves become dry and harder, and yield the colouring matter in less quantity and of an inferior quality. After the first gathering, the new branches and leaves may be gathered every five or six weeks, provided the weather is moist, for if cut in a dry season, the plant will be destroyed.

The plants being cut to within a few inches of the ground, are carried by the negroes to the factory to be soaked. The cisterns intended to contain the indigo are three in number, generally one above another, so that the second which is lower than the bottom of the first, can receive the liquor contained in the first, when the small canals at its side are opened, and the third can also in its turn, receive the contents of the second. The cisterns are in general formed of solid Masonry, well cemented together. The first, and largest of these cisterns is usually twenty feet long, and twelve to fifteen in width, the depth being three or four feet; this is called the *battery* or *pounding trough*; it is about half the size of the first; the third which is much smaller is called the *settling trough*.

About eighteen or twenty bundles of the plant are in general sufficient to fill a soaking trough of the size we have mentioned; they are then covered with water, and pieces of wood are laid across to keep the Indigo under. According to the heat of the weather and the greater or less tenderness of the plants, the process of fermentation takes place sooner or later, sometimes in six hours, and sometimes, though very rarely, not until twenty hours. As the fermentation proceeds, the liquor gradually becomes more opaque, and of a bluish colour bordering upon violet. They then, without meddling with the plants, open the little canals at the bottom of the vat, and allow the liquor, impregnated with the salts and substance of the Indigo, which have been separated by fermentation, to run into the battery or second trough, while the contents of the first vat are laid aside as nearly useless, to give place to a fresh supply. The liquid in the battery is now violently stirred about or churned as it were, until the extracted matters begin to separate from the more liquid, and assume a more solid form. The great art of the workmen appears to consist in knowing the exact time when it is proper to leave off agitating the liquid, since if it is done too soon, the separation is not complete, and if continued too long, it is again distributed through the water. If the proper time has been chosen, the more solid parts will gradually settle at the bottom of the battery, of a consistence like mud, and the water becomes clear. Little holes which have been bored at different heights on the sides of the battery are then opened, one after another, until the water is drawn off nearly to a level with the sediment, which is then allowed to run through the openings in the front, into the last or smallest receptacle; it is there allowed to remain for a short time, when it is placed in pointed cloth bags from fifteen to eighteen inches in length; these are hung up until the remainder of the water has drained off.

When this is done it is spread out in boxes three or four feet in length, two feet wide, and about three inches deep; it is then exposed to the air and thoroughly dried. While it is drying, it is essential to the goodness of the dye that it should be carefully preserved from exposure either to the rays of the sun or to the rain.

A ROGUE OUTWITTED.—A bachelor gentleman, who was a very superior draftsman and caricaturist, was laid up in his apartments with the gout in both feet. He could not move, but sat in an easy chair, and was wheeled by his servants in and out of his chamber to his sitting room. Now a well known vagabond ascertained the fact, and watched till the servant was sent upon a message. The servant came out of the front door, but left the front area door open, communicating with the kitchen. Down went the vagabond, entered the kitchen, walked up stairs, where as he anticipated, he found the gentleman alone and helpless. "I am sorry, sir, to see you in this situation," said the rogue; "you cannot move and your servant is out." The gentleman started. "It is excessively careless of you to leave yourself so exposed, for behold the consequences! I take the liberty of removing this watch and these seals off the table and putting them into my own pocket; and as I perceive your keys are here, I shall now unlock these drawers, and see what suits my purpose." "Oh! pray help yourself, I beg," replied the gentleman, who was aware that he could do nothing to prevent him. The rogue did so accordingly; and in about ten minutes, having made up his bundle, he made a low bow and decamped. But the gentleman had the use of his hands, and had not been idle; he had taken an exact likeness of the thief with his pencil, and when the servant returned, he despatched him immediately to Bow street with the drawing, and account of what had happened. The likeness was so good, that the man was immediately identified by the runners, and was captured before he had time to dispose of a single article. He was brought to the gentleman in two hours afterwards, identified, the property found on him sworn to, and in six weeks was on his passage to Botany Bay.

IMPORTANCE OF A RECEIPT.—Jo Sacabsin—one of our Penobscot Indians—not long since, was sued for the sum of \$5, by a white man, before Squire Johnson. On the day of the trial Jo made his appearance, and tendered the requisite amount for debt and costs, and demanded a receipt in full. "Why, Jo, it is not usual—it is entirely unnecessary," said the Squire. "O, yes, me wantum receipt, sartin." "I tell you Jo, a receipt will do you no good." "Sartin Squire Johnson, I wantum." "What do you want it for, Jo?" "O, spouse me die and go to heaven, then spouse they say, 'Well, Jo Sacabsin, you owe any man, now?' Then me say 'No.' 'Very well—did you payum Ben Johnson?' 'O, yes, me payum.' 'Well, then, spouse you showum receipt?' Then me have to go away off down—and run all over hell to huntum up 'Squire Johnson!'—*Bangor Press.*

A witness examined in an Illinois court, concerning a horse trade, was asked by the counsel for the defendant how the plaintiff generally rode. "He generally rides a straddle sir." "How does he ride in company?" "If he has a good horse, he keeps up." "How does he ride when he is alone?" "Really, sir, I cannot say, for I never was in company with him when he rode by himself." "You may stand aside sir."

AGENTS
FOR THE BEE.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.—Mr. DENNIS REDDIN.
Miramichi—Rev. JOHN McCURDY.
St. John, N. B.—Mr. A. R. TRURO.
Halifax—Messrs. A. & W. MCKINLAY.
Truro—Mr. CHARLES BLANCHARD.
Antigonish—Mr. ROBERT PURVIS.
Guysboro'—ROBERT HARTSHORNE, Esq.
Tatmagouche—Mr. JAMES CAMPBELL.
Wallace—DANIEL MCFARLANE, Esq.
Arichat—JOHN S. BALLAINE, Esq.