

## POETRY.

## THE NIGHTINGALES.

SEE in her nest, the nightingale's mate  
Hatching her young, her patient vigil hold,  
See how with love her fostering wings dilate,  
As if to screen her nurslings from the cold.

Her neck alone, with restlessness upraised,  
O'erlooks the nest in which her brood reposes,  
And her bright eye, with weary watching glazed,  
Closing to sleep, with every sound unclosed.

Care for her callow young consumes her rest,  
My very voice her downy bosom shakes,  
And her heart pants beneath her plumy vest,  
And the nest trembles with each breath she takes.

What spell enchains her to this gentle care?  
Her mate's sweet-melody thro' the groves among,  
Who, from some branching oak, high poised in air,  
Sends down the flowing rivo' of his song.

Hark! dost thou hear him, drop by drop distilling  
The sighs that sweetest after transport be,  
Then suddenly the vault above us filling  
With foaming cataracts of harmony?

What spell enchains him in his turn—what makes  
His very being thus in languor melt?—  
But that his voice a living echo wakes—  
His lay within one living heart is felt?

And ravished by the note, his mate still holds  
Her watch attentive through the weary time;  
The season comes, the burating shell unfolds,  
And life is music all, and love and prime.

Lamartine.

## MISCELLANY

## THE ESQUIMAUX SNOW COTTAGES.

BY CAPTAIN ROSS.

THE village consisted of twelve snow huts, erected at the bottom of a little bight on the shore, about two miles and a half from the ship. They had the appearance of inverted basins, and were placed without any order; each of them having a long, crooked appendage, in which was the passage, at the entrance of which were the women, with the female children and infants. We were soon invited to visit these, for whom we had prepared presents of glass beads and needles; a distribution of which soon drove away the timidity which they had displayed at our first appearance.

The passage, always long and generally crooked, led to the principal apartment, which was a circular dome, being ten feet in diameter when intended for one family, and an oval of fifteen by ten when it lodged two. Opposite the doorway there was a bank of snow, occupying nearly a third of the breadth of the area, about two feet and a half high, level at the top, and covered by various skins: forming the general bed or sleeping place for the whole. At the end of this sat the mistress of the house, opposite to the lamp, which, being of moss and oil, as is the universal custom in these regions, gave a sufficient flame to supply both light and heat; so that the apartment was perfectly comfortable. Over the lamp, was the cooking dish or stone, containing the flesh of deer and of seals, with oil; and of such provisions there seemed to be no want. Every thing else—dresses, implements, as well as provisions, lay about in unspeakable confusion, showing that order, at least, was not in the class of their virtues.

Of these huts, built entirely of snow, I must add, that they were all lighted by a large, oval piece of clear ice, fixed about half way up on the eastern side of the roof, while the variations among the different ones that we inspected,

were trifling. But we also saw afterwards, what had escaped us before, where was so little light to discern any thing, that about the middle of each passage was an antechamber leading into a recess for the dogs. It was obvious too, that the external aperture could be turned at any time, so as to be always on the lee side, and thus prevent the wind from entering. We found that these huts had been but just erected: they were scarcely a day old, so that the architectural processes of this country do not occupy much time. It was also ascertained that their winter stock of seal and reindeer was buried in the snow, that this store was laid up in the summer, and that they returned to it in winter. Hitherto, this practice had not been found among the natives of these countries; whether overlooked or not, we could not decide.

## BEAVER CATCHING IN NORTH AMERICA.

PRACTICE, says Captain Bonneville, has given such quickness of eye to the experienced trapper, in all that relates to his pursuit, that he can detect the slightest sign of a beaver, however wild; and, although the lodge may be concealed by close thickets and overhanging willows, he can generally at the single glance make an accurate guess at the number of its inmates. He now goes to work to set his trap, planting it upon the shore in some chosen place, two or three inches below the surface of the water, and secures it by a chain to a pole set deep in the mud. A small twig is then stripped of its bark, and one end is dipped in the 'medicine,' as the trappers term the peculiar bait which they employ. This end of the stick rises about four inches above the surface of the water, the other end is planted between the jaws of the trap. The beaver possessing an acute sense of smell, is soon attracted by the odour of the bait. As he raises his nose towards it, his foot is caught in the trap. In his fright he throws a somerset into the deep water. The trap being fastened to the pole, resists all his efforts to drag it to the shore; the chain by which it is fastened defies his teeth; he struggles for a time, at length sinks to the bottom and is drowned. Occasionally it happens that several members of a beaver family are trapped in succession. The survivors then become extremely shy, and can scarcely be 'brought to medicine,' to use the trapper's phrase for 'taking the bait.' In such cases the trapper gives up the use of the bait, and conceals his trap in the usual paths and crossing places of the household. The beaver being now completely 'up to trap,' approaches them cautiously, and springs them ingeniously with a stick. At other times he turns the trap bottom upwards by the same means, and occasionally even drags them to the barrier and conceals them in the mud. The trapper now gives up the contest of ingenuity, and shouldering his traps, marches off, admitting that he is not yet 'up to beavers.'

ALARMING.—The New York Times says,—"The prospect for our City next winter is really frightful. Persons well acquainted with the subject estimate that 50,000 persons, male and female, are out of employment, comprising mechanics of every description, labourers, hat-trimmers, book-binders, folders, tailoresses and seamstresses. Added to this, our provision and coal dealers show no disposition to lay up a store in advance of the close of river navigation. In fact, but few have the means of doing so, and the necessaries of life will be scarce and high. Many persons during the summer months obtain sufficient to support life among the farmers; but the harvest is over, and they are again in the cities. What is to become of them God only knows.

## COLUMN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

## RICH AND POOR.—PART I.

BESIDES those who work for their living, some at a higher rate and some at a lower, there are others who do not live by their labor at all, but are rich enough to subsist on what they, or their fathers, have laid up. There are many of these rich men, indeed, who hold laborious offices; as magistrates and members of parliament. But this is at their own choice. They do not labor for their subsistence, but live on their property.

There can be but few of such persons, compared with those who are obliged to work for their living. But though there can be no country where all, or the greater part, are rich enough to live without labour, there are several countries where all are poor. And in those countries where all are forced to live by their labour, the people are much worse off than most of the labourers are in this country. In savage nations, almost every one is half-starved at times, and generally half-naked. But in any country in which property is secure, and the people industrious, the wealth of that country will increase; and those who are the most industrious and frugal, will gain more than such as are idle and extravagant, and will lay by something for their children; who will thus be born to a good property.

Young people who make good use of their time, and are quick at learning, and grow up industrious and steady, may, perhaps, be able to earn more than enough for their support; and so have the satisfaction of leaving some property to their children. And if these, again, should, instead of spending this property, increase it by honest diligence, prudence, and frugality, they may, in time, raise themselves to wealth. Several of the richest families in the country have risen in this manner from a low station. It is, of course, not to be expected that many poor men should become rich, nor ought any man to set his heart on being so: but it is allowable, and a cheering thought, that no one is shut out from the hope of bettering his condition, and providing for his children.

And would you not think it hard that a man should not be allowed to lay by his savings for his children? But this is the case in some countries; where property is so ill-secured, that a man is liable to have all his savings forced from him, or seized upon at his death. And there, all the people are miserably poor; because no one thinks it worth his while to attempt saving any thing.

There are some countries which were formerly very productive and populous, but which now, under the tyrannical government of the Turks, or other such people, have become almost deserts. In former times, Barbary produced silk; but now most of the mulberry trees (on whose leaves the silk-worms are fed) are decayed and no one thinks of planting fresh trees, because he has no security that he shall be allowed to enjoy the produce.

[Parts 2d and 3d will be given.]

AMUSEMENTS.—The New Yorkers have five theatres in full operation, at some of which upwards of 2,000 persons may be seen in an evening.

## AGENTS FOR THE BEE.

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