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MORNING.

Behold I the eastern clouds are telling What they oft before have teld: Sombre shades with glory swelling Flash from gray to ruby gold.

A thousand voices aweet upraising Gladsome greating to the day,
As the sun, his forehead blazing,
Wakes the birds and paints the gray.

See the warm clear rays of sunshine Touch the soft cold veil of mist; Lakelet-like the fog was lying, Ere the sun the surface kissed.

Where has that smooth ocean vanished That just filled the valley wide? Into cloudlets it is banished Floating up the mountain side.

All the leaves with moisture glisten In the glory of the sun, While in stillest hush they listen Till they feel the day begun.

List and hear the gentle rustle, As the trees from sleep awake; Every leaf is in a bustle, Tiny mist drops off they shake.

Brilliant drops, like diamond powder, Catch reflections of each ray; Dancing leaflets murmuring louder Shake the moisture far away.

Weak are words to show the splendor Of the waking of the light; Words all fail in power and grandour To pourtray the death of night.

Black and awful for a season Night's oppression holds the world, All the mighty strength of reason Backward into dreams is hurled.

Till the day's approaching brilliance Wrestles with the gloom of night, While the dark with stubborn dalliance Slowly yielding dies in light.

B. MUSGRAVE, JR.

SEA-LIONS AND FUR-SEALS.

Seal-skin from the true seal has shor, bristle hairs and is used for trunk covers, coats, caps, gloves, etc.; seal-skin from the eared seals is the soft, fine, glossy fur which the ladies prize so highly, and which has an important place in our luxurious winter ward-robes. These animals are carnivorous mammalia, and breathers of the air; while they hunt their food in the water, they must live out of its house that are found in the water, they must live out of it; hence they are found most frequently near the water, on the rocks of the coast, or floating on cakes of ice. In connection with the walrus, they have been aptly described by some writers as a kind of marine bears. Their bright, intelligent looking faces are familiar in all our zoological collections, and their sports and antics are always amusing, and never fail to collect a crowd wherever they can be observed. The true seals live in the Northern seas. They are the main reliance of the Eskimo for his support, and supply him with food, light, fuel, clothes, thread, strings, and leather.

The sea-lion, having a head with pointed ears, "looking like the head of a dog with his ears cut off," large eyes, whiskers, a long neck, and a body raised upon its hind and fore limbs several inches from the ground, appears upon the land more like a land animal, while it is fully as much at home in the water as the scal.

The breeding habits of the sea-lions, as they are described by several authors, are extremely curious. They frequent solitary islands, away from inhabited coasts, in large numbers, and are supposed generally to return to the same place, or near it, year after year. Here they occupy the spaces between high water mark and the foot of the cliffs—to which the sailors have giving the name of "rockeries"—using the beach as a playground for the pups, and fixing their sleeping-places on the tops of the cliffs. Only the old males or "married seals," and the full grown females or "mothers," are »liowed upon the rookeries.

The young scals—the young males are called "bachelors"—are left to swim about in the water, or are allowed to retire behind the rookeries to the uplands back of the grounds that the old seals have appropriated to themselves. Communication between their upland haunts and the sea is given them by appointed paths, from which they are not permitted to stray to either side. The rockeries are haunted only by a few stragglers during the winter, but at the beginning of spring the older and chief males of the herd virit the place as if on a tour of inspection, swimming around cautiously; then, if it all seems safe, climbing upon the rocks and examining overything carefully. The company increases very slowly until about the 1st of June; then, if the weather has become warm, the bull-so-ls come up in large numbers and select their "claims," consisting of a plot of ground about ten feet square for each animal, which he must defend against all comers.

Desperate fights often take place for the possession of these little plots, at the end of which the vanquished seal withdraws humbly, while the victor

quietly takes possession of his conquest.

It is said, according to Mr. Clark, "that occasionally these mates who have been vanquished in all their encounters, and to encounters un the to obtain a resting place or a wife, retire together to some distant beach, there to bury their shame, far from the society of their tellows, where they sit together groomity, greviously wounded in body and in temper."

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