

Middle Africa,—palm oil, maize, rice, the baobab or monkey bread tree, sometimes thirty feet in diameter, and regarded by Humboldt as the oldest specimen of organic remains in our planet. The east of Africa is the native region of the coffee plant.

Animals—Monkeys north-west; chimpanzee and gorilla in the west; baboons south; the lion leopard, hyena, jackal, elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus from the middle to the south; the camel in the north; crocodile in the tropical rivers; the ostrich in the desert. The locusts and white ants are destructive insects.

People—Estimated at 100 millions. The Caucasian race prevails in the north; the Negro in the middle; in the south are Hottentots and Kaffras.

The great majority of Africans are rude idolaters. Mahomedanism prevails in the north.

AMERICA.

Follow large print in Sullivan's geography.

Climate—The New World is more humid within the tropics than the Old World, but drier and colder in the more northern latitudes. The tropical regions are subject to violent hurricanes. In the same regions, heavy rains fall on the east coast, the winds constantly blowing from the east: while on the west and on the table lands rain falls sparingly, and in parts not at all. Outside the tropics the west coasts are wet.

The currents from the Arctic Ocean, bringing with them masses of ice, render the north-east coast the coldest in the world in the same latitude. Labrador is colder than Lapland, although in the latitude of Britain.

Productions—We have derived from America maize, tobacco, the potato from the Andes (some say from Mexico), Peruvian bark, useful as a medicine; cactus plants of Mexico, sugar maple, and others peculiar to America. We now get the chief supply of cotton from America, and large quantities of coffee, sugar and breadstuffs.

Animals—Wolf, bear, rein-deer, elk, wild goat and wild sheep of the Rocky Mountains; opossum and racoon. In South America monkeys with prehensile tails, tapir, sloth, armadillo, the lama and alpaca in the Andes, formerly the only beasts of burden. The birds are the condor, humming birds in the warm regions, and the turkey a native of the United States.

People—The natives were called Indians by mistake. Three-fifths of the population are of European origin, 12 millions are Indians, and 10 millions Negroes, introduced from Africa as slaves.

OCEANIA.

Follow Sullivan's geography, large print.

Remarks—New Zealand islands are near the antipodes of Great Britain. The north is the warmest and the south the coldest point in all countries south of the equator. The hot winds blow from the north and the cold winds from the south. June is mid-winter in Australia and adjacent countries, and January mid-summer. The compass needle points to the south in the Southern Ocean.

The climate of Australia is various. Years of drought are followed by years of flood. Wool, tallow, and gold are the chief exports. Among the trees of Australia is one without leaves; another has grass-like leaves. The natives are the lowest in the scale of humanity.

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Autumn Winds.

By MRS. LEPROHON.

"Oh! Autumn winds, what means this plaintive wailing
Around the quiet homestead where we dwell?
Whence come, ye, say, and what the story mournful
That your wierd voices ever seek to tell—
Whispering or clamoring, 'neath the casements,
Rising in shriek or dying off in moan,
But ever breathing menace, fear, or anguish,
In every thrilling and unearthly tone?"

"We come from far off and from storm-tossed oceans
Where vessels bravely battle with fierce gale,
Mere playthings of our stormy, restless power,
We rend them quickly, shuddering mast and sail,
And with their stalwart, gallant crews we hurl them
Amid the hungry waves that for them wait,—
Nor leave one floating spar nor fragile taffrail
To tell unto the world their dreary fate."

"But still, ye desolating winds of Autumn,
He, who holds you in hollow of His hand,
Can stay your onward course of reckless fury,
Your demon wrath, or eyrie sport command,
Changing your wildest blast to zephyr gentle
As rocks the rose in summer evenings still,
Calming the ocean, and yourselves enchain
By simple fiat of Almighty will."

"We've been too in the close and crowded city,
Where want is often forced to herd with sin;
And our cold breath has pierced through without pity,
Bare, ruined hovel, and worn garments, thin;
Through narrow chink and broken window pouring
Draughts rife with fever and with deadly chill,
Choosing our victims mid old age and childhood,
Or tender, fragile infancy at will."

"Oh! Autumn blasts! He, who doth temper,
The searching wind unto the shorn lamb,
To those poor shiv'ring victims, too, can render
Thy keenest, sharpest blasts, both mild and calm:
Rave on—rave on, around our happy homestead,
Upon this dark and wild November night,
Ye do but work out your God-given mission,
Mere humble creatures of our Father's might."

"But hearken, we come too from graveyards lonely—
From mocking revels held mid tomb-stones tall,
Fearing the withered leaves from off the branches,
The clinging ivy from the time-stained wall—
Uprooting—blighting, every tiny leaflet,
That hid the grave's bleak nakedness from sight,
Driving the leaves in hideous, death-like dances,
Around the lowly mounds—the grave stones white."

"And, what of that, ye cruel winds of Autumn?
Spring will return again with hope and mirth,
Clothing with tender green the budding branches,
Decking with snow drops, violets, the Earth:
And, oh, sweet hope, sublime and most consoling,
The sacred dust within those graves shall rise,
In God's good time, to reign on thrones of glory,
With Him beyond the cloudless, golden skies."

Christmas Carol.

By ELIZA ALLEN STARR.

Have you heard the wondrous story,
Bethlehem's story, sweet and old,
Of an Infant's raying glory,
From a manger bare and cold?

Bleak the stable, cold the manger,
But the "Word made flesh" was seen
By the shepherds, by the Magi,
Radiant, lovely and serene.

Icy winds of bleak December
Shook the stable, rude and worn;
But the Angels well remember
Where their King, the Christ was born;

Well remember how His Mother,
Mary, Virgin Mother blessed,
With a worship like no other
Mother, her own babe caressed.

Mother's love with adoration,
Tender, rapturous, profound—
He had come, the world's salvation,
And her arms her God surround!

We would hasten with the shepherds
Through the midnight to adore,
Join the Magi's band intrepid,
Incense, myrrh, and gold in store.