

## EPIGÆA ASLEEP.

Arbutus lies beneath the snows,  
While winter waits her brief repose,  
And says, "No fairer flower grows!"

Of sunny April days she dreams,  
Of robins' notes and murmuring streams,  
And smiling in her sleep she seems.

She thinks her rosy buds expand,  
Beneath the touch of childhood's hand,  
And beauty breathes throughout the land.

The arching elders bending o'er  
The silent river's sandy shore,  
Their golden tresses trim once more.

The pussy-willows in their play  
Their varnished caps have flung away.  
And hung their furs on every spray.

The toads their cheery music chant,  
The squirrel seeks his summer haunt,  
And life revives in every plant.

"I must awake! I hear the bee!  
The butterfly I long to see!  
The buds are bursting on the tree!"

Ah! blossom, thou art dreaming, dear,  
The wild winds howl about thee here.  
The dirges of the dying year!

Thy gentle eyes with tears are wet;  
In sweeter sleep these pains forget;  
Thy merry morning comes not yet!

—WILLIAM WHITMAN BAILEY.

Providence, R. I.

First Lad — I have a dog that's nearly thirty inches high.  
Second Lad — That's nothing. I have one that stands  
over four feet.

## CURRENT EVENTS.

Violent storms and floods have caused much damage and loss of life in Ohio and Indiana, and in other parts of the United States during the last month.

The lapse of time has at length brought into effect the will of the people in the United States who voted last November for a change of administration. The Democratic candidate, Woodrow Wilson, is now President of the United States.

One of the last acts of President Taft's administration was to make a treaty with Nicaragua by which that country gives to the United States the exclusive right to build a canal from the Atlantic to the Pacific through Nicaraguan territory. This does not necessarily mean that the canal will be built.

The fossil skeleton of a crested dinosaur, found near Calgary, has been placed in a museum in New York. This long extinct reptile was thirty-two feet long and fifteen feet high. Its jaws and teeth show that it probably ate water plants; and

its great bulk is an indication that it lived in the water, or never went far from the water.

The British are sending a ship to patrol the North Atlantic and give warning of the presence of icebergs.

It is proposed that the three Canadian warships of the British navy, with the one Malay and the one New Zealand ships, shall form a group to be called the Imperial Squadron, with headquarters at Gibraltar. This arrangement will probably take effect as soon as the Canadian ships are built.

The Secretary of State for War has announced that the British army possesses a type of flying machine far superior to those of any other nations.

The death of Field Marshal Viscount Wolseley, better known to us as Sir Garnet Wolseley, took place on the twenty-fifth of last month. He was sent here at the time of the Trent affair, when a war with the United States was threatened; and sent men through to Quebec by the Temiscouata route in the depth of winter, the route which had been followed by the 104th Regiment fifty years earlier. He was also the leader of the Red River Expedition in 1870, and commanded the British forces in Egypt ten years later.

The capture of Janina by the Greeks, on the sixth of March, and the fall of Adrianople under the assault of the combined Bulgarian and Servian armies, after a siege of one hundred and fifteen days which took place on the twenty-sixth, have brought the Balkan war much nearer to its close. The month ends with the Montenegrins, who began the war, still hoping to take the Albanian town of Scutari, which will give them a seaport; but this they may be compelled to forego, as both Austria and Italy object to the allies obtaining a position that might enable them to control the entrance to the Adriatic.

King George of Greece, who was an uncle of King George of Great Britain and Ireland, was murdered by an anarchist on the nineteenth of last month, while walking in the streets of Salonika. He is succeeded by his son Constantine, who takes the title of Constantine I., King of the Hellenes. King George had intended to retire in favour of his son as soon as the war was over.

There is no doubt that the killing of the late President of Mexico was deliberate murder, and there has been a rumour of a plot for the assassination of his successor. New rebellions are springing up in the northern states of the republic, and there is no indication that the strong hand of the new ruler will be able to bring order and peace to the troubled land.

Jules de Payer, an Austrian whose father was the discoverer of Franz Joseph Land, will lead an expedition to explore that country. A wireless telegraph station will be erected, which will be in communication with the Eiffel Tower, in Paris; and two aeroplanes will be included in his equipment. He expects to remain for more than a year.

Captain Amundsen, who is preparing for an Arctic expedition to begin next year, will take with him two hydroplanes, believing that they will be useful in the summer months, when there is much open water.

Sir Ernest Shackleton announces that he will lead a scientific expedition to the Antarctic.

The trade of the Dominion for the past year has been much greater than ever before, and amounts to about a thousand million dollars in the aggregate.