

# L'HIRONDELLE ET DAMOISELLE.

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Au temps des hirondelles,  
Lorsque les damoiselles  
Du reflet de leurs ailes,  
Dorent les Nénuphars  
'A travers la prairie,  
S'en va ma reverie,  
Cherchant l'herbe fleurie  
Qui chatoie aux regards.

TRANSLATION.

## THE SWALLOW AND DRAGON-FLY.

Dreary winter's fled away—  
Joyous spring once more returns;  
Nature all around is gay:  
Thus the seasons take their turn.  
Bounding billows cease their strife:  
Creation thus returns to life.

See the sportive swallow flying,  
Wafted by some genial breeze,  
Watch the new-born lambkin lying—  
Everything around to please.  
Gentle zephyrs o'er me blowing:  
The tender grass is quickly growing.

In yon limpid water gliding,  
Near the verdant bank in sight,  
The water-lily takes a pride in  
Being richly dressed in white:  
The fleecy clouds above its head  
Cast a shadow o'er the bed.

O'er its bosom gaily sporting,  
Dragon-flies display their hue;  
All the gayest colours courting,  
There most gorgeous meet our view—  
Tinting with a golden ray  
A blush, to make the plant more gay.

Vain is richest satin vying  
With a couch of purest white.  
See the insect softly lying  
Ere the dewy shades of night  
Silently on down reposes,  
Softer than a bed of roses.

Thus I pass a tranquil hour:  
Fancy leads me to some tree—  
There I cull my favourite flower.  
Every moment light and free;  
All my troubles lulled to rest:  
Not a pang disturbs my breast.