

**Springtide.**

BY A BANKER.

After lying dormant for several months in apparent death, the landscape is now revived into exuberant life, a mighty resurrection has taken place, and the face of nature, which has for a time presented but a bleak and inhospitable aspect, trees bereft of foliage and shivering under the wintry blast, the land hardened into rock or hidden beneath the frozen snow, and the flow of the brooks and rivulets arrested by the icy hand of winter, now breaks forth into new life and vigour, and, as our hemisphere continues to incline more and more towards the great source of light and heat, under its revivifying influence again assumes its many-hued garb of surpassing beauty and loveliness.

The forest which until now was but an assembly of withered and gnarled, bare and naked denizens of the wood, is now aglow with vivid life; the graceful birch, its softly green glistening foliage reflecting the rays of the sun as from innumerable mirrors; the shapely larch, clad in a wreath of lovely-hued delicate green; the mespilus, which in the more gorgeous and resplendent autumn presents, by its vivid scarlet embellishment, such a dazzling spectacle of brilliant leafage, now clothed in a profusion of virgin white, as though it were covered with newly fallen snow, that arboreal wonder, the stately and magnificent horse-chestnut, lavishly adorned with a countless array of symmetrical candelabrum shaped spikes of fantastic formed flowers of white and gold and rose, each flower by itself a picture, the whole presenting a majestic and lustrous splendour which could only find its peer in the more vividly-hued florage of the tropics.

These all, backed by the more sombre Scotch fir, still clad in its winter garb, and forming a dark-hued background which, by contrast, heightens the colouring of its neighbours, thrusting into greater prominence the diverse and various shade and tint of leaf and flower, afford a wondrous paginated of superb and attractive beauty, which almost vies with the more radiant and richly-tinted autumn.

The hedgerows and pastures, too, all participate in the glad general life-awakening, which is mantling the landscape with colour and enlivening it with song. Though some of the more resplendent of the flora, as the flaming poppy or the purple headed foxglove, await the full power of the summer sun before opening their petals to its influence, yet even now the banks are aglow with many-coloured flowers; the azure blue of the field veronica, the sparkling golden yellow of the comely slanting show yaris, that deliciously perfumed but humble violet flower which takes its name from its colour the handsome purple orchis, the elegant and graceful lily of the valley, now alas nearly exterminated by the ruthless hand of those who would blot out of existence anything beautiful or rare in our hedgerows and copses upon which they could lay their destroying and predatory hand; the delicate blue-bell, barely yet however venturing to trust her slender and fragile stem to the sometimes rough inclemency of the season, with many another beauty, perhaps "born to bloom unseen" by those who can traverse a country lane and scarce devote even a passing glance on all this flower-bedecked loveliness.

And not alone does the vegetable world rejoice in the coming spring, but almost all life participates in the rejoicings incident to this glad release from the inclement rigours and discomforts of winter. With the exception of those migrating feathered travellers, which happily for the inhabitants of the gelid north, return at the approach of spring to those arctic latitudes from whence they had escaped when months of darkness and cold first set in, both bird and beast and insect come forth with new life and vigour, and in various ways testify their gladness. The feathered songsters especially, after months of mute taciturnity, now break forth into almost hilarious melody. The blackbird, with rollicking, frolicsome trill emulates the more melodious cadences of philomel, that sweetest of all, the carollers of the woods; that sweet singer the "lark, high poised in air," as he soars yet higher and higher, pours forth his tuneful harmony to cheer his mate who is engaged in her prosaic task of incubation on the sod below; the linnet and the goldfinch, with their more modest note, the sociable robin with his cheerful tune, and the handsome yellow-hammer fearlessly singing on the gate as the wayfarer passes by,—all rendering their glad homage to their Creator.

And lastly, the insect world, the gorgeous butterfly, which for months past has lain in the grave of its chrysalis, takes part in the resurrection, and though once a worm of earth, now issues forth resplendent in brilliant colouring, a fit type of that wondrous change, which is reserved for us at that great and momentous day, when the trumpet shall

sound and dead shall come forth. "They that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto resurrection of damnation," St. John v. 29. And with each recurring Easter, that season when our thoughts revert to the bursting from the tomb of Him who died, as our Substitute that we might live, let us remember that when the great resurrection dawns upon us and we are hurried to the bar of Divine judgment, our fate for the great hereafter will be determined according to whether we have, during our earth-life, prepared to meet our God, and whether or no we have with careless indifference neglected to avail ourselves of that all-prevailing atonement so graciously made for transgressors.

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Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart positively gives relief within 30 minutes after the first dose, is taken. James J. Whitney, of Williamsport, Pa., says: "Cold sweat would stand out in great beads upon my face, and I indeed thought that my end had come. But relief was found in Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart. After using it for a short time I feel now that the trouble is altogether removed. Its effects are magical. For sale at Dodd's Medical Hall and by Geo. E. Hughes.

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Of one thing Mr. W. H. Bennett, the Conservative Standard Bearer in East Simcoe, is Sure—He Suffered from Catarrhal Trouble and Found Speedy and Fixed Relief in Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder.

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