

1881

THE
BIRD
OF
PASSAGE

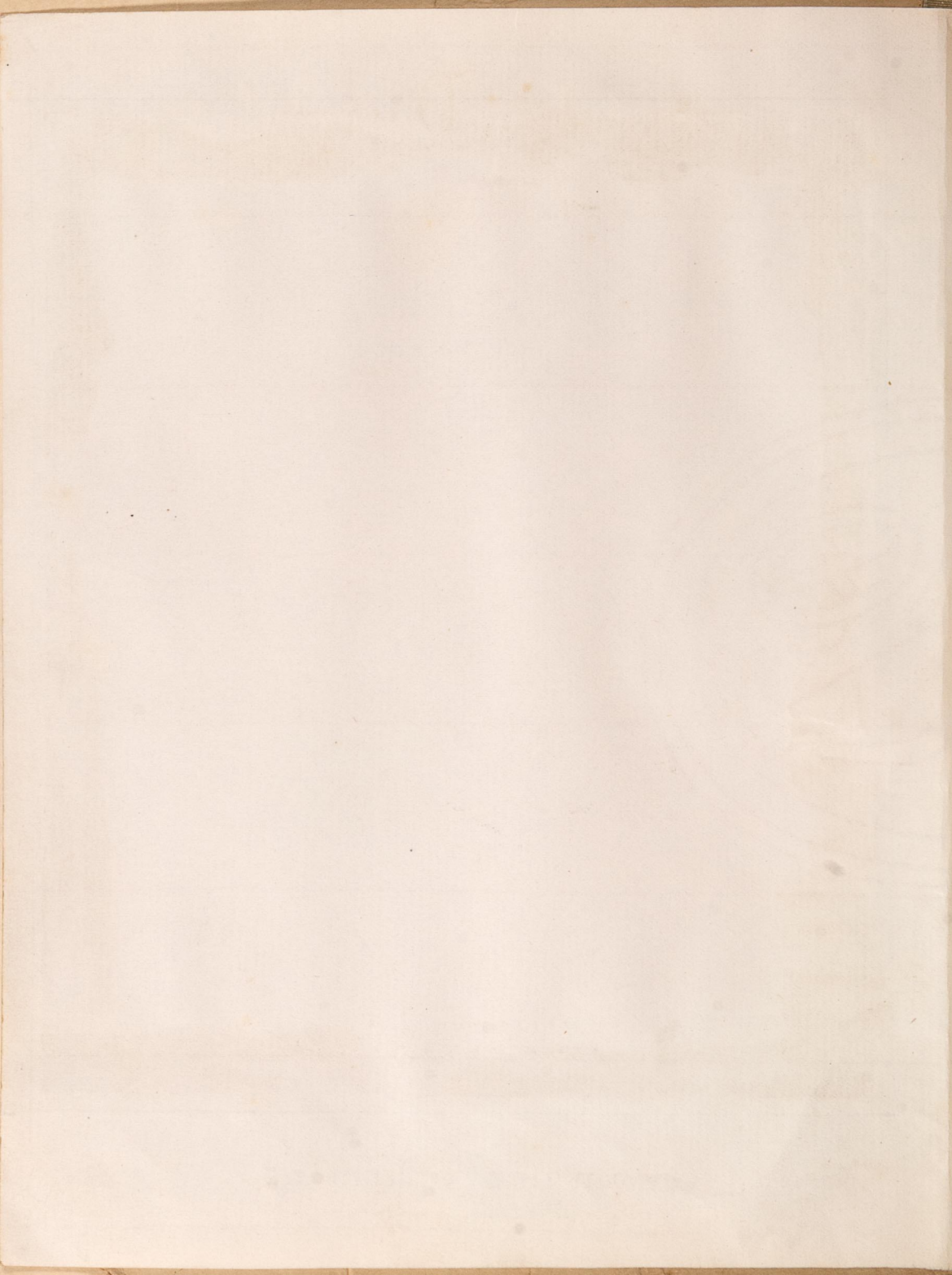
DECEMBER

77
A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL



Tweddledym.

Oranges & Lemons.



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POSTAGE, 3^d

1870

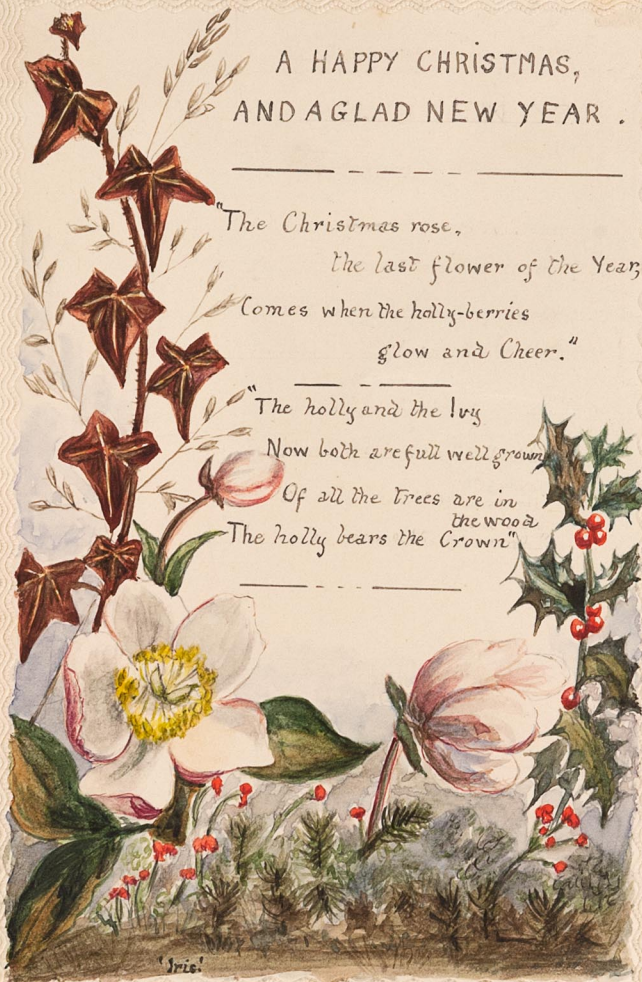
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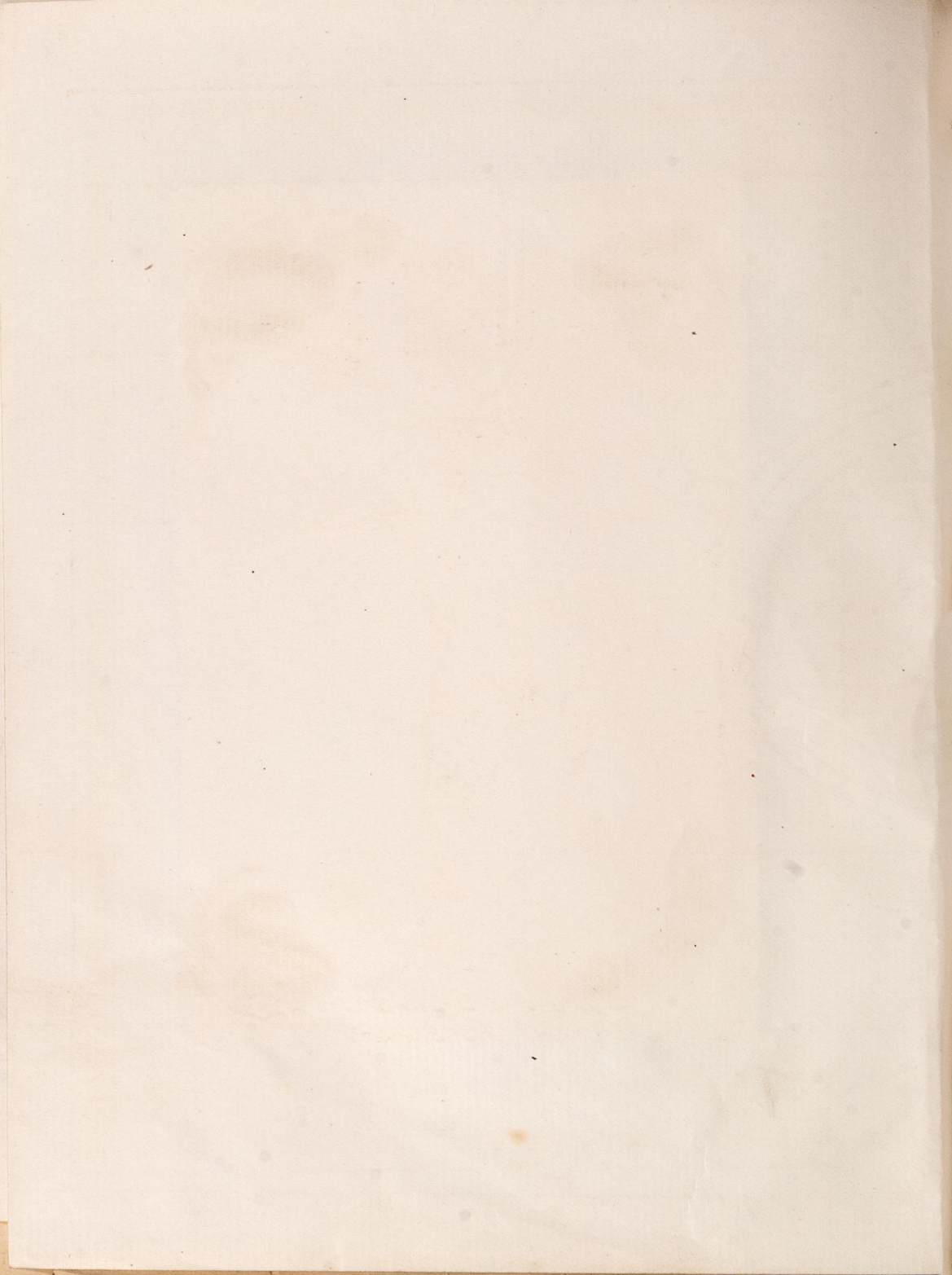
1871

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS,
AND A GLAD NEW YEAR.

*"The Christmas rose,
the last flower of the Year,
Comes when the holly-berries
glow and Cheer."*

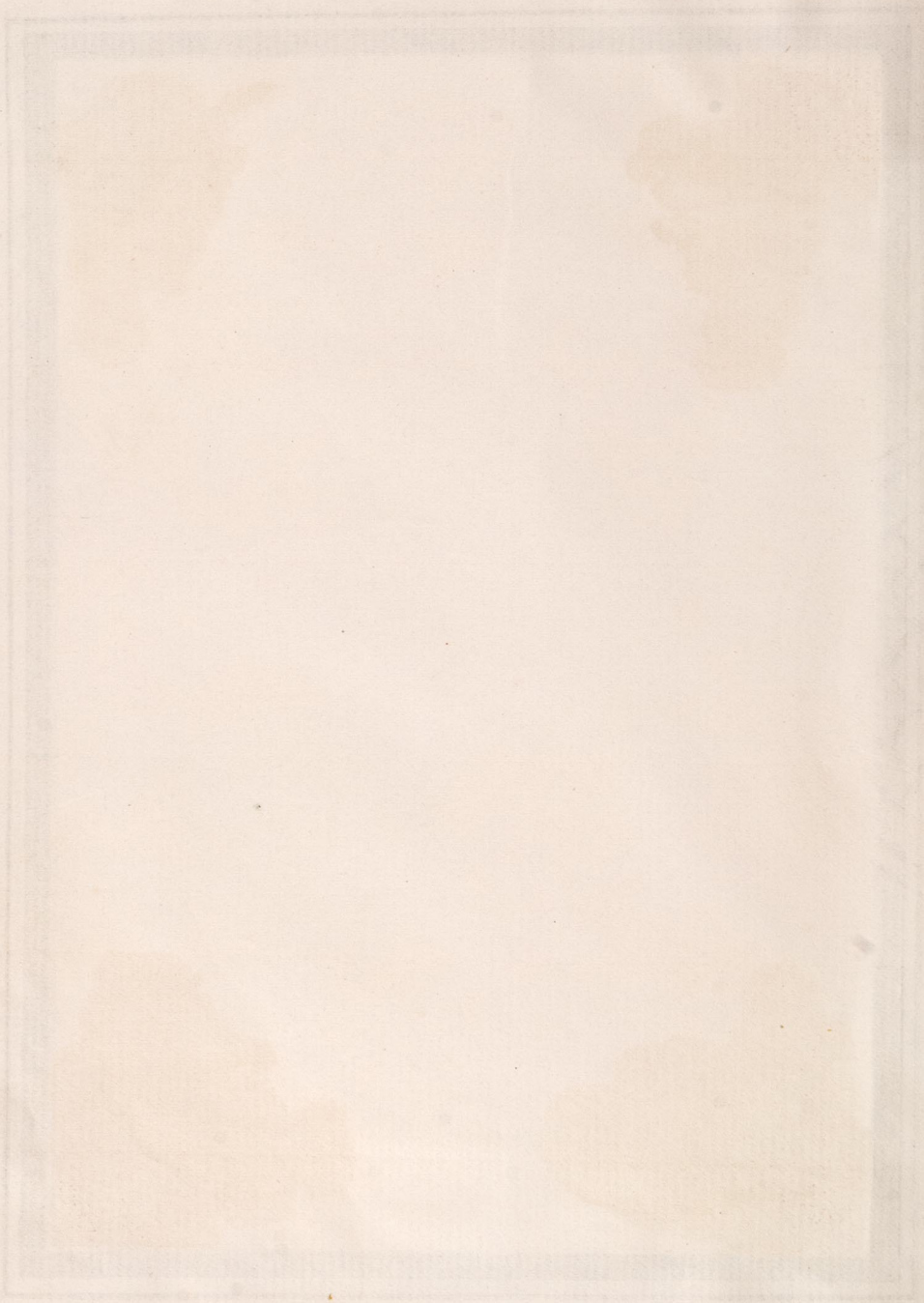
*"The holly and the Ivy
Now both are full well grown
Of all the trees are in
the wood
The holly bears the Crown"*







COMMON RAGWORT. *SENECIO JACOBÆA*.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

Common Ragwort.
Senecio Jacobaea.

When the Summer flowers are over and before the leaves change on the trees, the Ragwort appears with its golden stars and enlivens the lanes and hedgerows. It blooms first about July but lasts in flower through November. It is a striking plant when seen, as it often is in great quantities, from two to three feet high.

It is a troublesome weed to the farmers as it has such strong roots and its seeds with their hairy wings of pappus, or down get blown to great distances, but it is said to disappear from perfectly drained land. It is not eaten by horses, cattle or sheep. The fresh leaves have

been used as a green dye but the color is not permanent.

There are several varieties of *Senecio* in Great Britain, and this one is common throughout England and Scotland in dry places. The Groundsel belongs to this family, and there are two kinds; one well known to all who have anything to do with pet birds, blooms everywhere & all the year round, and was formerly used as a medicine both for men and animals. The other, with larger flowers, grows only on gravelly soil and blooms from July to September.

The white hairs on the seeds give its name *Senecio*, from *senex* - an old man. "Iris."

The Cat.

The cat is a well known animal in England by every body but they are not all of such a sweet temper as the one I am going to write about "Lilly" is her name. Her eyes are small in the day & look large at night as all cats do, & their whiskers tell them if anyone touches them even when they are ^{as} sleep. Cats are generally very good to their kittens who are born blind & do not open their ^{eyes} for 9 days, but they have been known to eat them if they are deformed. "Lilly" has the sweetest temper that a pussy cat ever had, she is so attached to the people she lives with, she cannot stay by herself when there is only one person in the house she follows

them about in the same way a dog would. She has traveled about to several newhouses & is always quite happy & contented. She, as a rule sleeps in a bed & is a very quiet bedfellow keeping her head just outside the clothes like a child - & sleeps soundly all night - I forgot to say she is a long haired white fur cat & keeps herself very clean sometimes she is washed which she does not mind but rather likes it. She has never been known to scratch - & is altogether the pet of the horse.

Buchanan.

"Touched

with

Autumnal tints."

Longfellow.



a Tadpole.



"Sardanapalus"

We have had pets of many kinds, and of many denominations - from dogs to tadpoles - but the one most generally beloved was the owner of the majestic name at the top of my paper - A name of five syllables would naturally belong to some remarkable individual, and our pet was no exception to the rule -

Sardanapalus was a ferret! A ferret, moreover, endued with talents in no ordinary degree -

He was quite young when my brother had him, and more resembled a soft mass of cream-coloured wool, with four pink feet, and two twinkling red eyes, than anything else - When he first arrived we named him "Yoe;" as, at that period of his existence he gave no

indication of the superior mental and physical faculties which in after life proved so distinguishing - So, thinking he was in no way above the common ferret genus, we gave him the common name of "Yoe!"

gradually, however, he began to wake up, and as it were, to come out of his shell. When we went to feed him he would try to bite us; and when we put him on the ground by his saucer of bread and milk, he used to rush at our feet, and those who did not run quickly, felt his teeth!

We used to take him out walking with us, and put him down to follow - but then he invariably got into a muddy ditch, or down some rabbit-hole, ~~from~~ whence he would finally emerge covered with dirt, and as disreputable-looking a pet as possible.

Now that we saw what a spirited and talented character our ferret was rapidly developing, my sister and I pronounced that "Joe" was quite unworthy of him, and that "Sardanapalus" (being the longest and most impressive name in our vocabulary) was alone fit for such an important personage.

So "Sardanapalus" he was called!

He always was with us in the schoolroom every morning, amusing himself in various ways - first scrambling on the bookshelves in imminent peril of his life, then hiding in the twisted newspaper we had put for him on the floor - then suddenly darting out to bite at our feet, which proceeding became so tiresome that finally we were compelled to sit with our feet on chairs.

One Saturday, when we went to feed him, Sardanapalus was missing! our grief was

overwhelming, for we searched for him in vain - On Monday morning a Swoop was heard proclaiming that there was a ferret in the road, and presently Sardauapahus appeared - very dirty and in very high spirits, evidently quite elated of being of so much importance -

Want of space prevents me from saying more - I must only relate our pet's departure - One sad Sunday, Sardauapahus was discovered in the henyard, surrounded by three deceased chickens, sadly mutilated! after this evil deed, the reigning powers declared he must be expelled, which sentence was duly carried into effect -

Full oft we bewail him, but in vain -
 he is not yet forgotten, for,
 "Though lost to sight - to memory dear!"

A Gadpole.

The Plane Tree

Platanus ^{or} *Orientalis*.

The Plane Trees, as might be inferred from their trivial names, ("Oriental," or "Occidental" are foreigners in England, and still, rather the cultivated growth of our parks and gardens, than the spontaneous product of our woods -

They are chiefly valued for their beauty, and the luxuriance of the shade they produce.

The Oriental Kind, originally a native of the warm climates of Asia, was in singular estimation with the ancients as affording the verdant canopy, so grateful to those who enjoy the open air in the heat of summer. In those countries it grows to be one of the tallest and most spreading of trees. Plane trees are frequently planted in the squares and public gardens of large cities like London and Paris; as they have the peculiarity of throwing off their outer bark annually in scales, and so,

getting rid of the sooty particles which
seriously injure trees that are obliged to
wear the soiled and smoke-dried bark which
poisons their life-blood, or sap, as it is called.
The wood of the plane is sometimes, but not
much used.

Amia



Oriental Plane

Amica

The Fox & the Lion

translated from the German of Gleim
The Fox made to the Lion this address—

"Pray satisfy me—for I must confess,
"My faith in you will else come to an end."
"The Donkey speaks ill of you; for he says
"He can't see what I find in you to praise!"
"False, is the mighty "courage" you pretend,
"Your "justice", and your "generosity"—
"Your aid to all the helpless you deny—
"Nor can he love or praise to you extend!"

A space, the Lion waited quietly—
Then "Let him say his worst," was his reply—
"What's 'er a donkey thinks of me, he may!"
"I care not—let the silly creature brag!"

Anna

Cinderella.

In my midsummer holiday, which I spent in one of the suburbs of Dublin, I renewed my acquaintance with our dog Cinderella; she came to us when she was about three months old, and about the size of a large rat, she is about five pounds weight and of a brown colour, she received her name before she came to us from the great love she had of keeping close to the fire sometimes even lying under the grate; she looks very singular when standing with her forepaws on the grate warming herself. She is a great enemy of the cats, when we take one in our arms, Cindy comes barking and growling round us till we put the cat down, when Cindy is not satis-

fied till she drives the cat out of the room. She has also a great hatred for children, if, when she is out, she meets children she begins barking at them. Whenever anyone seems angry with her, she rolls on her back and turns up the whites of her eyes in the funniest manner imaginable so that, when in the street, it is difficult to take her up especially with gloved hands. When any of the family leave the house she is not satisfied till she sees them return. Also, when two or three members of the family are out she gets quite uneasy if they separate. I and my sister went to bathe one day and she ^{swam} ^{into} ^{the} ^{water} us [to "teach us to swim"].

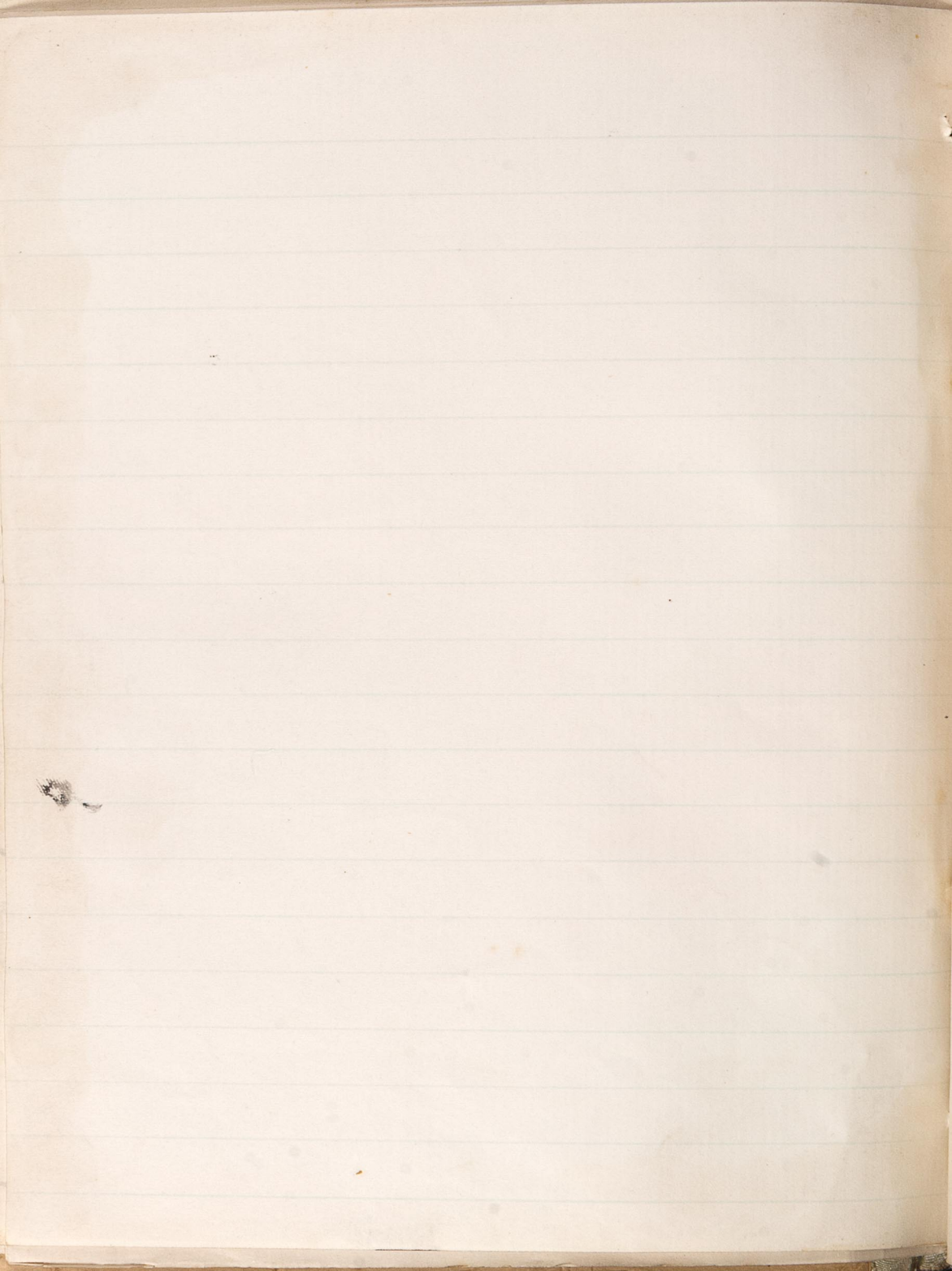
Erin-go-bragh.

About Bats.

20.

Bats are generally about the size of a mouse, that is about 3 inches in length, and about the same from wing to wing. There are a great many bats in the roof of my dormitory at school, they make a dreadfully squeaky noise at night, which is very aggravating if you want to get to sleep. They are of a brownish colour. They build their nests in trees, and when clinging on to the trees they hang by the little claws at the ends of their wings, and so go to sleep. They feed upon flies, gnats and other insects. They generally fly at a very white, such as a handkerchief. If you throw up a handkerchief close to where a bat is flying, it will pounce down on it and very often catch hold of it and come down, and in this way you can ~~be~~ catch them.

Heron.



The Bear and the Bees translated from Gleim.
In Poland, growled a hungry Bear

"You Bees, with me your honey share."

"For I am large, and you are small,

"And if I choose, I'll have it all!"

Before the Bees their course could see

The Bear had scrambled up the tree!

The Bees, with terror overcome

Could do no more than fiercely hum.

"You Bees - Give me that honey there!"

"Indeed - it cannot be, Sir Bear!"

But soon his nose was thrust inside

"Away! - the honey's mine," he cried.

The Bees cried - "Must we lose it all

"Since you are great, and we are small?"

"Your nose shall very quickly own

"You'd better leave our store alone!"

The Bear began to rap and roar -

No use - the Bees but stung the more

22.

They pricked his nose, his tongue, his ears!

Now must he give it up - he fears.

The Bees rejoiced with cheerful hum -

Except for growls - the Bear was dumb!

And as he fled away, they cried

"Henceforth let us in peace abide!"

Amiee - from the German
of Dinter



"Gloires de Dijon" from nature by
Froggy.

The Fly-catcher

There are some beautiful old gardens near our house where we are allowed to go. One day this summer we were walking by the wall which goes all round the gardens and is covered with bare roots of ivy and we saw something move. We looked to see what it was, and we saw four little downy heads huddled up close together. They were in a little nest tightly wedged in the wall and you could scarcely tell it from the roots of ivy on which it was. We looked at them and then walked on, and the instant we had left them the mother bird flew back just as if she had flown

off to let us look at it We
found that it was a fly cat-
cher's nest. There are a great many
sorts of Fly-catchers, there are
only two Kinds in England
the one that we found was the
spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa
griseola*) a small bird about six
inches in length of brownish
tint above with a few dark
spots on the head and neck.
They sometimes choose the
most curious places for build-
ing their nests; there is a house
near here where they build every
year in the peck and a book I
have says that a pair once
built on the top of a garden rake
which was left standing near
a cottage; another pair built

in a birdcage and some have been known to build on street lamp posts. In general the nest is placed in a hole in a wall, in a fagot stack, or an outbuilding, but the branches of trees trained against a wall are sometimes chosen by the birds. The nest is cupshaped and generally composed of moss lined with fine grass and sometimes feathers and horsehair. It is beautifully made, and the mother bird is supposed to build it. If I had thought of it a little sooner in the summer I could have sketched it as we saw it but as it is too cold to draw out of doors I have tried to draw a picture of of a Flycatcher that I found

27.
in White's "Selbourne".

Kingfisher



The Flycatcher.
Copied by
Kingfisher

REGISTER.Recd Sent off.

1. Miss Wilson. Chauntry House, Bray.
" Maidenhead.
2. Miss Hester Peile. Trampington, Cambridge.
3. Miss Atta Robertson.
" Ballanclerach, Lennoxtown, N.B.
4. Miss Margaret Norman.
" 90. Portland Place. W.
5. Miss Mary F. Jones.
" Lesketh How, Ambleside
6. Master Thomas Bissell.
" Wollaston, Stourbridge.
7. Miss Mary L. Jones.
" Woodcote, Elpsom.
8. Miss Katie Kilburn. Chancellor House.
" Tunbridge Wells.
9. Miss Gertrude Browne.
" Trinity House, Pontefract.
10. Master Edward Jackson.
" Ware Hill House, Ware, Herts.

Dec^r 17th 20th
 ' 22nd 23rd
 26th 29th

Jan^y 4th 5th

Jan^y 8th 9th
 9th 11th
 Jan 12th 13th
 — 21st

23. 23.

Recd. Sent off.
24th 25th

11. Miss Nellie Atkinson.

" 11. Margaret's Buildings, Bath.

25th 27th { 2 12. Miss Mary Vale. c/o Miss Robson.

" 5. Vale View Place. Claremont

13. Miss Adile Barrett. Bath.

" 12. Pierrepont St. Bath.

14. Miss Ethel Dawson Campbell.

" Rose Hill, Hoddesdon, Herts.

15. Miss Theodora Wilson.

" Melbourne, Derby.

16. Miss Iba Brock. c/o Mrs Round,

" Birch Hall, Colchester.

17. Miss Mary Jones. Portway House.

" Warminster.

Nov. 4 18. Miss Gertrude Whyley.

" Alton Vicarage, Hants.

19. Miss Ella Kilburn,

" St Lawrence, Isle of Wight.

20. Miss Mary Wilson, Nutfield.

Watford, Herts.

Feb. 2nd ~~18th~~

12th 18th

14th 18th

22nd 24th

Nov. 4

5th 7th

10th 13th

21. Miss E. Collier. March 13th - 15th

" Holyport, Shortlands. Kent.

22. Miss Margaret Reed.

" Dagmar House, Plaistow

" W Bromley, Kent.

31.

I am obliged to send away this number without criticising any of the papers - I can only wish you all a very happy Xmas and New Year, and express a hope that you will all try and write as regularly as you can; I think you will all be pleased with the Frontispiece which I think quite the prettiest we have had - E. Edz Zoete

The frontispiece is certainly very pretty indeed - It is the drawing on page 3. The Ragwort is very natural, but looks a little as most wild flowers do, when they have been gathered in a long walk, & carried home - when they look what the French

people would call fatigues - the description of it
is very good & well written. I fear Tadpole's dry
leaves will not manage to keep their places long -
They have been very beautiful - Why does he,
(or she) not try to paint them exactly like the
real ones, as a painted leaf would travel so
much better than a real one? - & they are not at
all difficult to copy.

Cinderella writes nicely, & what is quite as good
if not better, (because more uncommon,) she
spells correctly too.

Kingfisher's writing, drawing & spelling are
all good - & her little pets, the flycatchers are
amongst the most amusing & tameable of
little birds.

Let us all rejoice in the improved health
of our good manager - & join in wishing her
many a happy Xmas and new year to come!

Amica

I like the frontispiece immensely.

And Amica's painting too

"An Ugly Duckling"

I am sorry I could not send a paper
for this number. There are so few
contributions. I quite forgot to sign
my drawing of "Fleurs de Dijon" Roses.
The frontispiece is very pretty indeed,
& I think "Iris"'s "Ragwort" is beautifully
painted. -

Froggy.

I think this is a very pretty number;
the Frontispiece is one of the most
charming which Tweedledum has
given us. Tadpoles tale of Sardanapalus
(which name I think must have been
procured by the yard) is very well told;
I think he must have been rather a
troublesome pet, though. Amica's picture
of the Plane tree is lovely as usual;
we have several of them in the gar-
den.

"Kangaroo".

I am so sorry this number has been kept so long but it was sent to school when I was at home & it was not sent to me.

Bunnie

I think that Tweedledum's ~~frontis~~piece is very pretty it is the ~~the~~ nicest one she has drawn for a long time back.

Tadpole's account of Sardanapalus is very interesting.

Heron.

I think "Sardanapalus" by "Tadpole" is very interesting indeed, I wish she would a paper like that for every magazine. I think "Tweedledum's" frontispiece is very good. It seems to me that "Iris'" drawing of the common ~~so~~ "Ragwort" is well worth praise. I wish we could imitate "Arnicas'" painting.

"Hoggys" "Gloire de Dijon" Roses are
very good. I hope all the magazines
this year will be as good as this
one.

"Erin-go-bragh"
I like "Sardanapalus" by Sadpore & it
is sold well & the leaves are very pretty
I think that the frontispiece by

"Weedlum" is done very well &
also very pretty. America's Plant
Tree is very nice. I hope that
the drawings & stories will be
as good next time & that
there will be more.

Buchanan.
1882

This number is very pretty, Tweedledum's
frontispiece is beautiful, also
~~Tadpole's~~ Iris' drawing.

"Bullfinch"

Tweedledum's frontispiece is very lovely -
and Heron's account of Bats is most
interesting - Anica's painting is
as beautiful as usual -

a Tadpole.

I like this number very much.

Kingfisher

I agree with Amica in thinking
that it would have been better
if Tadpole had painted
her leaves but still it is
very nice to have the
real ones.

I think Tweedledee's frontispiece
is very well done, and is one of the
best she has done. Amica's painting
is also very pretty as usual.
Sparrow

The frontispiece is lovely, and Amica's
contributions, as usual very good.

"Kingfisher's paper too is very nice and
her drawing quite artistic." Tadpole's
pretty arrangement of Autumn leaves

has survived its long journey wonder-
fully. But as "Annica" suggests they would
be better if they were drawn and colored.

"Froggy" has taken great pains with her
boxes and the result is very successful. On
the whole it is a good number; let us hope
for some more still better! Miss.

