

1882

THE
BIRD
OF
PASSAGE.

MARCH.

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Postage 3



Winged March

by Twaedledum.

The early season.

The weather has been so mild this winter that a great many of the spring flowers and shrubs have come out a great deal earlier than usual. The periwinkle has been out in our garden for several weeks; and there is a flowering currant with all its leaves and buds quite green, and it will soon be quite out I think. There is a beautiful wood here, where the ground is nearly covered with moss and my sister saw all the leaves of a wood anemone growing. There is such a quantity of different kinds

of moss here; it is different almost every where. It grows on nearly every wall and looks so pretty. We often find pieces of stick quite covered with it. One of the prettiest kinds is the fern moss which one sees very often here. We went out for a walk the other day and found several celandines and some strawberry flowers quite out growing in the banks and there are numbers of primroses.

There is an apricot tree in our garden and it is nearly covered with blossoms and a lot of leaves

ab well. We have heard
three weeks ago, that a
friend of ours in the
Isle of Wight, had pick-
ed four roses off the house.
The willow or palm has
been out for weeks, and
we have often heard
larks and thrushes sing-
ing. We picked the first
daffodil yesterday.

Blue-tit.

About Jumbo.
Jumbo is a very large
Elephant in the Zoologi-
cal garden's, 10 feet high.
Somebody has bought
him, but he won't go.
The keepers got him out
side, but he wouldn't
go any further. but
began to cry and bellow
us. and so did his wife.

whose name is Emma.
they tried to make
him go for the who-
le day, but they -
couldn't, so they took
him in again. The
next morning at
daybreak they
tried to coax him out
again, but he would.

-nt go. They Chained
his feet and lanced
his gums but still
he wouldn't go. we
haven't heard any
more yet.

Tortoise

Aged 7.



The Arbutus Unedo or Strawberry Tree.

A beautiful Evergreen Shrub which grows in places where it thrives, almost into a small tree. It is said to be a native of Ireland, and is well known to grow there quite naturally in the neighbourhood of the Lakes of Killarney, to which its rich green foliage, delicate flowers, and bright fruit add much beauty. It does not grow wild in England, but is frequently seen in shrubberies, where it is very ornamental all the year round. In very sharp winters it is often sadly injured by frosts, sometimes quite down to the ground - when nothing can be done but to cut it down, and leave it to sprout in the spring from the root, which it has often been known to do. The fruit is remarkably pretty, & causes it to be called the Strawberry Tree - I do not know whether it has any of the pleasant flavour of Strawberries, as I have

always preferred seeing it on the tree to eating it. I believe it is quite harmless; at least I have known it eaten freely by poor children in mistake for strawberries, and I never heard that they were the worse for it. Birds eat it freely - I wish they did not! as the berries when ripe in winter are so pretty on the trees, if they are only allowed to remain there. A fine plant of it well covered with fruit and flowers, which come nearly at the same time, is one of the most beautiful shrubs we have. The flowers of this year produce the fruit of the next. The leaves are of a rich dark green, & very shining and bright.

Amica

The song of a Poor man - translated from
the German of Uhland -

I am so very poor a man
And dwell so much alone;
If I might have one happy day!
I could rejoice - I own!

First, in my loving parents' home
A merry child, I dwelt -

But since they have been in the tomb
No happiness I've felt!

But patient, often though in want,
I watch gay people's glee;
And wish them long and happy life
Warmth, & prosperity!

Oh Father - thou whose loving care
Leaves no one joyless quite,

Let me be glad the world is blest
With beams of heavenly light!

That close beside the village stands
Thy house - on holy ground!

Where choral hymns and organ tones
 Delight us with their sound!

Warm sunny rays - bright moon & stars
 Are beautiful, for me!

And when the evening bell is heard
 It calls me - Lord! - to thee!

One day - every faithful soul
 Thy Halls shall opened be -
 Then will I come - in festal garb,
 A guest, oh Lord - to thee!

* Anna

The Vampire-Bat.

This bat is a native of South America, of a reddish-brown colour. It is said to seek out animals, and suck their blood. They also suck people's blood.

When they are travelling, and night comes on, these birds know by instinct when they are asleep. They alight near the feet, [fanning the victim to keep him cool, with their enormous wings]

They then bite a bit out of the great-toe, so small, that you could scarcely put a pin's head into the wound, it is constantly not painful. Through this little hole they suck the blood till they are obliged to disgorge, and so they go on sucking and disgorging, until they are scarcely able to fly again.

Often the sufferer dies from the

7.

exhaustion.-

Chaffinch

Turk and Dandy-

Turk is a dog - but by no means an ordinary member of the canine race - a dog who ought to be a thorough-bred Skye, but who is instead a mongrel cur! He is about eight years old, and is chiefly noted for his arrogance, his egotism, and his cowardice!

He always accompanies us in our walks, barking at every dog he sees - if the barked-at animal is of an otherwise than humble spirit, he turns round upon the barker, and Turk runs away (or tries to do so) with his tail between his legs -

If there is a fight, Turk always has the worst of it, as he took some rat-poison about two years ago, and was dreadfully ill - My uncle and cousin

9.

pour'd all the oils in the house down
his throat - castor-oil - cod-liver oil -
and salad oil - but when they left him
late at night, they quite expected to
find him cold and dead in the
morning - however, to every one's surprise,
in the morning Turk was as well as
usual - but ever since his illness, all
his teeth have been quite loose - so
loose that he can bite nothing hard -
therefore, in a dog-fight, he usually
turns tail, and runs away -

Turk has some very bad
habits - a short time since, he used
every Saturday evening to go down to a
public house the other end of the town,
and stay there till Monday morning -
this was most annoying to us, as
we are teetotallers - and to see our dog
thus frequenting a public was very

aburd -

Dandy is Turk's companion - a thorough - Red Dandy - Diamond - one of those dogs of whom we read in Sir Walter Scott's "Guy Raverling" - he is not strikingly beautiful to look at - being somewhat of the caterpillar shape - long - low, and weak on his legs - his head is too big for his body, and he has goggle eyes! but in the sight of his masters and mistresses he is ^a wonderful creature! certainly he is a very aristocratic puppy, and has a pedigree, of distinguished ancestors, longer than himself - he is much more gentlemanly than Turk, who has very low manners, and is altogether a vulgar animal -

Dandy is far superior to Turk in mental capabilities - he is really quite a genius (in the canine way!) and

if only well educated would prove an
ornament to his tribe -

The two dogs are great friends
and go out on poaching expeditions
together - When Dandy, being a dog of
good morals, endeavors to restrain Turk
from any especially lawless act -

They are both still, as the saying
is, "alive and kicking" - both present
their compliments to the members of the
Bird of Passage, and beg to sign their
biography -



Signed -

Dandy -
His mark -



Written for
them by

Turk - A Tadpole.
His mark -

About Moths and Butterflies.

The Tiger Moth is a very interesting moth to bring up. The caterpillar is called the Woolly Bear on account of its long hairs and brown colour. The moth is very pretty. Its upper wings and head are brown and the wings have white stripes ^{on them.} ~~on it.~~ The caterpillar feeds upon blind nettle and grass. The under wings of the moth which I forgot to tell about are red with black spots and the lower part of its body is the same. When the caterpillar wishes to turn into its next state (namely the pupa) it is generally found at some distance from its food walking along very fast; it is looking for a suitable place to spin in. When it is caught like this it is very easy to manage. You have to put it in a box and you need not give it any food as it does not eat in

16. that state. But it will spin in one corner and wait there until it turns. If you find it in its chrysalis state a very good way of keeping it is to put it in a box of bran or sawdust and leave it in the sun. In this ~~the~~ manner it comes out very soon. Last summer I was told of a very good and quick way of killing. It is a long preparation but is very strong when ~~it~~ made. First get some liquid camphor and some liquid carbolic acid. Then get also some glue which is called Fine Russian glue. Put this in luke warm or cold water, and leave it to soak for one night. In the morning take it out, when it will be quite flabby. Cut it up in pieces about two or three inches square. Then get a small tin can and also a large one, so that the little one will fit into it. Fill the big one with boiling water. Put the

17.
little one inside then put a little boiling
water and the glue in the little can -
then pour in the carbolic acid slowly,
stirring the glue meanwhile, and then put
in twelve drops of camphor. Pour it into
the bottle and leave it to get cold and
hard. It takes rather a long time getting
hard. About a fortnight.

Heron.

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Our Cats.

We have two cats: one is seventeen years old and is of a black and white color; the other is seven years of age; it is of a white and grey color. Tibby (the eldest) seems to be very tenacious of life; because a few years ago we all thought Tibby was dying; consequently we got our other cat (Snap), but, somewhat to our chagrin, Tibby did not die, nor does he seem to intend to die; though each succeeding winter his fight with death becomes more fierce, yet his energies seem still equal to many a future struggle.

They are both very well-trained cats; they always know their food-time etc.

I will relate one adventure of Tibby's; About the middle of last winter, Tibby suddenly disappeared and we could not make out what had become of him, but at last

we came to the conclusion that he had, by some means or other, got locked up in an old chapel next door to which we live; but when we went to look for him, he ran away and would not come near us; he seemed to be half-mad with hunger and fright; we gave him some meat and also some milk and so he gradually got less frightened of us. And one day we left the chapel door a little open and Tibby rushed out and into our house. ^{(wh. o)?} They are very good playfellows; they always sleep with their arms round each other. Snap has a very ferocious temper, and when he is angry he will bite as well as scratch. Nevertheless he is a beautiful cat to look at for he has very good fur, and he is a very large cat.

With these few words of praise of a cat of whom I am not particularly fond, I will conclude.

Erin-go-bragh.

Something about Window-gardening.

I am now going to try and write something about window-gardening.

[Most people believe that plants in a living-room are very unhealthy. So long as the room is hot, this is true, but if it is cool, they tend rather to make a room more healthy. If the couch or seat of the person in the room with the plants is higher than the latter, the person cannot in any way be affected, as the carbonic acid gas which the plants give off is twice or three times heavier than the general air in the room, and it falls to the ground and does not rise again until heat and sunshine enter the room.] One of the most important features in window-gardening is the watering of the plants, and mistakes are so often made in this, that it is very important that this should be regularly attended to. The plants should be very carefully watched,

and directly they show the least sign of thirst, they should be watered until the water fills the saucer (which should always be kept under the pot), and then left to soak it up for about an hour, and then the rest should be emptied out. When the roots become large and fill the pot, it is sometimes very difficult to keep them moist, so when the leaves begin to flag, the whole plant should be dipped in a pail of water, and held there until the soil has had time to get well moistened. Care should also be taken to keep the outside of the pots very clean, because if any moss grows on them, it harbours insects which will feed on the plant.

The time to plant mignonette to flower in the Spring, is in August. It looks very pretty when well grown, but should be kept out of the pot during the winter. It is sometimes

grown in small trees, but when growing thus, all the buds and lateral shoots should be cut off until a nice head has grown, after which it will flower nicely all over, and a slender stick should be put to support the main stem, which may be allowed to grow two or three feet high.

Primroses, also, look very pretty in windows in the spring, especially if they are planted in boxes which take up the whole length of the window. They may be taken up from the banks or woods when in bud. When the roots fill the pot, I have noticed that the flowers become much more numerous, which probably is because the sap of the plant, not being able to enlarge the roots, goes into the flowers. If the pot is too small for the plant, the roots very often grow onto the inside of the pot, and also, grow out at the hole in the bottom of the pot,

however much it may be filled up with
corks and chips.

Bulbs are also very nice for putting in the
window, and being very hardy they do
not require much care, and do not re-
quire much water either, at least, cro-
cuses and snowdrops do not; but hya-
cinths are more delicate, and grow faster
if they have a glass put over them when
they are very young. When they have done
flowering, they should be cleaned, dried,
and then put away in a drawer or on
a shelf, so as to be kept quite dry, and
left there until the beginning of the next
autumn, when they may be planted for
flowering in the Spring; but even when
so treated, they do not flower so well the second
season as they do the first. The flower ought
to be quite straight, and the stalk well
covered part of the way down with blossoms.

The plant never bears more ~~than~~ one flower
every season, and usually has several
young bulbs growing out of it.

—— Sparrow.

Register.

	Rec ^d	Sent off.
1. Miss Wilson, Chauntry House.	4 th March	6 th March
" Maidenhead.		
2. Miss Margaret Norman.	7 th	9 th
" 90. Portland Place, W.		
3. Miss Alta Robertson.		
" Ballanclerach, Lennoxtown, N.B.	13 th	15 th
4. Miss Mary Wilson.	16 th	18 th
" Nutfield, Watford, Herts.		
5. Miss Gertrude Browne.	19 th	25 th
Miss Spencer's, Trinity House, Pontefract		
6. Miss Gertrude Whyley.	26	30 th
7 Evelyn "		
8 Winifred "		
9 Bay.		
Alton Vicarage, Hants.		
10. Miss Theodora Wilson.	31	
" Melbourne, W ^r Derby.		
11. Miss Mary F. Jones.	April 5 th	11 th
" c/o Mrs Walsh, The Priory, Lincoln.		

26.

	Rec ^d	Sent off.
12. Miss Ella Kilburn.	6 th apt	8 th apt
" St Lawrence, Ventnor, I. W.		
13. Miss Nellie Atkinson.		
" 11. Margaret's Buildings, Bath.		
14. Miss Adèle Barrett.		
" 12. Pierrepoint St. Bath.		
15. Miss Mary Vale.		
16. Elsie " /o Miss Robson.		
16. Miss Ethel Dawson Campbell.	17 th	19 th
18. Mabel. Rose Hill, Hoddesdon,		
19. Miss Katie Kilburn. <u>Herts.</u>	20 th	24 th
" Chancellor House, Tunbridge Wells.		
20. Miss Edith de Zoete.	25 th	27 th
21. Winnie, "		
" Hayes Common, Kent.		
22. Edward Jackson.		
" Ware Hill House, Amwell, Herts.	4 th	5 th
23. Miss Mary L. Jones.		
" Dower House, Woodcote, Epsom.	6 th	early 10 th
24. Miss Mary Reed,	10 th	11 th

Rec^d Sent off

25. Margaret Reed.
 " Dagmar House, Plaistow, Bromley
 " Kent.

26. Miss Mary Jones.

13th

15th

" Portway House, Warminster.

27. Thomas Bissell.

16th

18th

" Wollaston, Stourbridge.

28. Miss Iba Brock.

29th

22

" % Mr. Round, Birch Hall,

" Colchester.

29. Miss E. Collier.

" Holyport House, Shortlands.

Regulations.

1. The Magazine may be kept two
" clear days.
2. Contributions should reach the
" Editor by the 25th of the month.
3. Each Subscriber must send
" four contributions during the
" Year.
4. Each separate sheet to be filled
" before the next is begun, and
" the illustration, if small, to be
" pasted upon ~~half~~ a sheet of the
" plain paper, so that it can face
" the writing on the lined paper.
5. A good inch margin to be left,
" so as to allow of binding in the
" Pages.
6. Prizes will be given at Xmas,
" to the three best Contributors.

CRITICISMS & REMARKS.

I must begin by making one or two complaints - I think you must all confess that I am not over strict, but really the Magazine is so long on its rounds that I am obliged to try and find out the reason - I take the October number of last year -

"Amica" keeps it the appointed time - 2 clear days - and posts it on the 6th October to Ambleside - at the latest, it must have arrived there on the 8th - yet in looking at the Register I find, ~~that it was Rec^d~~ on the 10th, sent away on the 12th - now, as I am quite sure that "Amica" is correct in her dates, I can only suppose that "Canary" keeps it till the 12th, and then makes a careless mistake in entering the 10th instead of the 8th.

If it was posted on the 12th at Ambleside, surely it must reach Glasgow the next day, yet "Grey Cat," according to the Register, does not receive it until the 14th - she sends it off on the 17th to Sturbridge, and it does not arrive till the 19th - posted there on the 21st, it duly reaches Nottingham on the 22nd - sent away on the 24th, it is received at Cambridge on the 25th. now comes a most unaccountable gap - it leaves Cambridge, the Register says, on the 27th, but does not reach Bromley Common till Nov^r 1st!! is posted at Epsom on the 5th, but is not delivered at Hoddesdon till the 7th - though sent from Derby on the 12th, it does not, apparently, get to Colchester before the 15th - now how is all

this irregularity to be accounted for?
 perhaps some of you can explain
 the reason to me - I cannot help
 feeling vexed to see how careless
 some of you are, but I do not know
 upon whom the blame rests - certainly
 not, I think, upon the postal authorities.
 Something else I have to complain
 of, and then I have done - one of
 the rules says that contributions
 should reach the Editor by the 25th
 of the month - I am sorry to say
 that this rule is very rarely kept
 by the young contributors - now you
 must all see, I think, that unless
 you are punctual, I cannot possibly
 criticize your papers and get them
 bound by the end of the month -
 if I wait after the 25th, there is
 quite a scrimmage to get the Magazine

off in time - and, of course, all the pleasure which I should have had in reading your papers at leisure is destroyed - I am sure I need not say anymore, for I feel certain that you will try and keep to the Rules in future.

I have only received four papers as yet, so I am afraid this will be a very small number. Feb 25.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of subscriptions for 1882 from "Fly catcher", "Canary", "Sparrow", "Tadpole", "Emingo brash", "Cock of the Wood", "Heron" and "Burnie".

I am sorry to say that I have mislaid a paper of "Sparrows". I am afraid it has been destroyed. I hope this carelessness of mine will not discourage her from writing again.

I did not put "Chaffinch's" paper upon Vampire Bats into the last number, as it was not altogether correct. It is a fact that they do sometimes attack people in their sleep, but the stories about their fanning their victims with their wings are quite untrue.

They generally attack animals, and in Brazil—in parts of the country where there are great numbers of them—it is, I believe, almost impossible to keep cattle.

"Erin go bragh's" writing is so very indistinct, that I had to go over several of the letters—certainly neither her cats nor "Tadpoles," ^{dogs} are exactly what one would call loveable pets!

I am very glad to see that

"Grey Cat" has begun to colour a little. I hope she will go on with her Botany, now that the spring is coming on. She really does notice what she sees. next time she does a drawing, will she paste it inside the plain sheet on the left hand side, as I can then arrange so that it faces the writing?

"Heron" appears to have lost his card and to have come to the end of his paper, as he sent two half-sheets, folded up. however, they were very welcome - even in such a shabby condition, as I know he has very little time at school. I wish, though, he would take ^{care} not to make blots, or, if he does, ~~to~~ would scratch them out. I think I ought to tell the readers of the Magazine

that the carbonic acid which he
uses in his "killing" preparation
is Poison.

E. E. de Zoete. Feb 28. 1882.

I forgot to mention that we have
to welcome five more little
contributors - all under ten - four
of them under eight.

Since I wrote the above, two more
papers have arrived; this will account
for the confusion in the Index. The reason
I put them in was that the volume was
so very small I could not afford to
lose them, but in future I mean to
keep strictly to Rule 2, and to leave
out all contributions which arrive after
that date the 25th of the month.

"Sparrow's" paper upon Window Gardening (which
I am glad to say I have found) is very nice,

but she makes a mistake, I think, about plants "giving off" carbonic acid - they do just the opposite - they inhale it - this is correct, I feel sure - what is poisonous to us, is health-giving to them - human beings breathe in oxygen and breathe out carbonic acid - plants do exactly the contrary - they breathe in carbonic acid, and breathe out oxygen. E. E. de Z.

I think I can help the Editor out of one of her mysteries by telling her that I think it was my fault - the Map: seemed such a long time getting to Bromley Common. Half the year I am always in London & my letters etc. only come twice a week from the country. Now, as it was sent to the Country, I think I forgot to ~~put~~ look at the address, & so put down

the day I received it in London
 whereas it may have reached Bromley
 Common two days earlier. I am
 very sorry. I am glad to see that
 two dear little friends of mine have
 joined the Mas.
 An Ugly Duckling.

The Magazine arrived here on the morning of the
 13th bearing the London post mark of the 11th
 Our letters from the South always take two days to
 come & pass through three post offices.
 Grey Cat asked me to write this as she leaves her
 home at eight o'clock every morning & did not return
 from Glasgow
 as usual last night. She admires exceedingly
 Anna's beautiful attributes & always much
 enjoys her papers. Trusting she excused for this
 intrusion I am Grey Cat's Ma'am.

Sparrow's paper is very good with The

exception of the mistake the Editor
 has pointed out. "Blue-bits" notes
 about the early season are interesting.
 I found the little blue veronica
 speedwell in bloom on the 1st of March
 and the honeysuckle on the house
 here has quite large flower buds. One
 hardly realizes from all the flowers
 that are in bloom and the bright
 warm sun that it is only the
 middle of March. I should be sorry
 to think all "Chaffinch" songs about
 the Vampire bat is true, it is not
 a pleasant subject to write upon.

Iris.

I am very sorry for the delay of the
 magazine but I have been away
 from school for about a week & it
 was not forwarded to me. I like the
 magazine very much this time.
 Bunny.

I like the frontispice very much
 + Verons paper is nice. Amica's picture
 is very pretty.

Blue-tit.

I like this number very much. particularly the Strawberry tree, I like the paper
 on window gardening very much too
 Kingfisher.

I am so sorry that the "Bird of
 passage" has been delayed at Ambleside
 but as I have been at school in
 Lincoln all the term, my letters
 all had to be forwarded to one
 which caused two days delay &
 I dated it ^{the magazine} from the time it
 came to me at Lincoln.

I am so busy at school that
 I am afraid you find me a
 very poor contributor

"Canary."

The Magazine has been delayed at Margaret's Buildings on account of Eric - go - bragh being out of Bath.

I am sorry we are sometimes irregular in sending off the Magazine; we will try to be more regular in future - I think we should write better if we each chose a subject on which to write for the year - I mean to write on the wild flowers of Hertfordshire for the next year -

A Tadpole -

Bullfinch thinks this number is delightful. Anna's articles is lovely, also "Winged March -"

A Bullfinch -

I must really apologize for keeping the Magazine so long, but we have

been spending a week in town & it came while we there. I have dated it the day it arrived, not the day we came home. I do not think it is so good as usual. there are so few illustrations, but I like Winged March very ^{much}, also Amica's pretty arbutus; "Grey Cat's" Cotoneaster is also very nice. How nice it must have been for the carpets after Turk and Dandy had signed their biography! "Kangaroo."

I think Tweedledum's picture is very pretty, I wish I could paint as well.

"Jumbo."

I like the frontispiece very much and also Amica's picture. * Tadpole's story is very amusing.

Heron.

I think the papers by "Ladpole & "Eri-go-bragh" are amusing, tho' their animals do not seem to be possessed of very sweet tempers. I do not think this Number is so good as usual, owing to the small amount of illustrations, but I ought not to speak about it, not having sent anything at all! I do hope the Editor will forgive my keeping the Magazine a day too long, & will try to be more regular in future.

Froggy.

I think Tweedledee's picture is very pretty, also Aunty's. I like the story of Turk & Dandy very much.

Cock of the Wood.

I am very sorry if I have delayed the Magazine but I will try & send it off in better time

the future.

Summet.

37.

I think

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or initials, located in the upper right corner of the page.

