

To a Waterfowl.

Whither, 'midst falling dew,
While glow the heavens with the last
steps of day,
Far through their rosy depths dost
thou pursue
Thy solitary way?

Vainly the fowler's eye
Might mark thy distant flight to do
thee wrong,
As, darkly painted on the crimson
sky,
Thy figure floats along.

Seek'st thou the plashy brink
Of weedy lake, or marge of river
wide,
Or where the rocking billows rise and
sink
On the chafed ocean-side?

There is a Power whose care
Teaches thy way along that pathless
coast,—
The desert and illimitable air,—
Lone wandering, but not lost.

All day thy wings have fanned
At that far height the cold, thin at-
mosphere,
Yet stoop not, weary, to the welcome
land,
Though the dark night is near.

And soon that toil shall end,
Soon shalt thou find a summer home,
and rest,
And scream among thy fellows; reed
shall bend,
Soon, o'er thy sheltered nest.

Thou'rt gone, the abyss of heaven
Hath swallowed up thy form; yet on
my heart
Deeply hath sunk the lesson thou
hast given,
And shall not soon depart.

He who, from zone to zone,
Guides through the boundless sky
thy certain flight,
In the long way that I must tread
alone
Will lead my steps aright.
—William Cullen Bryant.

The Choice of a Vocal Professor.

Few voices can withstand a bad musical education. Upon the first years of study depends the length of the career. How many students have I seen begin who disappeared like meteors, but, alas, failed to disappear altogether, for some have turned up again as professors! A student should be on his guard against such professors, who, after having ruined their own voices, set about ruining those of many others. Never listen to professors who tell you that they had to leave the theatre on account of loss of voice. This is always, or nearly always, the fault of a bad musical education. This is my reply to the question of the choice of a professor. Prudence and wisdom should be a student's guide at this time of life, for I repeat that upon a right beginning may depend his whole career and even his health.

In all my lyric career I have met few good professors and a very large number of bad ones. Unfortunately some of the latter have great reputations; for them teaching is simply nothing more than a means of earning much money without any consideration of honesty or of the evil which may result from their lack of experience. Getting rich is not the object of the professor who is really honest, because when one gives lessons with real science and love, it is difficult to regulate one's hours, and often a conscientious professor will spend more than the schedule time with a pupil, happy if the pupil has understood the demonstration.

The choice of a professor, then, is a serious matter. Always address yourself to a professor who has had a long career, and who, above all, has a voice at his service to demonstrate his theories.—Mme. Anna Arnaud, in the Circle.

For a man politically beheaded, ostentatiously interred and whose grave has been danced upon gleefully, ex-Boss Cox, of Ohio, is particularly lively.—Philadelphia Ledger.

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