appearance, together with a host of other sylvan species; soon after, the Cuckoo and Landrail arrive; and on the joyous First of May the latest of all comers, the Swift, the Nightjar, and Flycatcher may be looked for. A pause of a few weeks follows; and, reproduction having been accomplished, then commences, as it were, the ebb of the great tide of migration. The Swift, which, as we have seen, was one of the latest to arrive, is the first to depart; then the Landrail makes good its retreat to the more southern country of Africa; other kinds follow in succession, all hastening to make their escape before such changes of climate and natural conditions have set in as would prove fatal to their existence, either on account of the lowering of the temperature or the cessation of suitable food. By the end of September the great mass have departed, and only a scanty remnant are to be met with. With this same ebb, the autumnal months bring to our sight again strings of grallatorial and natatorial birds, urged by similar causes from the northern regions back towards the south in search of that food and aquatic life which the icy hand of winter had already begun to grudge them and their progeny in their summer location. To follow the sun appears to be the course of true migration; but the promptings of instinct which lead the Swallow and many other species to quit our shores, after a brief sojourn, for Africa, or those which lead the Fieldfare and the Redwing to quit the Norwegian 'fjelds' for our cultivated lands, must surely be connected in some way with, if they have not for their sole object, the provision of food and climate suitable to the species. The Rev. H. B. Tristram remarks that "those species which have the most extended northerly have also the most southerly range, and that those which resort to the highest latitudes for nidification also pass further than others to the southward in winter. Thus the migratory Fieldfare and Redwing, visiting regions north of the limits of the Thrush and Blackbird, on their southern migrations likewise leave their more sedentary relatives behind. The Brambling, which passes the Chaffinch in Norway, leaves it also in Europe, and crosses the Mediterranean every winter to the Barbary states."—Ibis, 1865, p. 77.

The regularity, however, which occurs in the arrival of our summer visitants is not quite so strictly adhered to in their departures. Having accomplished the purpose for which they came, these depart again at varying periods, but mostly as soon as the renewal of their primaries will admit of their flying across the channel, leaving their young to follow instinctively (when their muscular development has been sufficiently matured) the same route by which their parents have preceded them. This apparent desertion of the young birds at a period when one would imagine the presence of their parents as leaders would be absolutely essential, seems to prevail amongst many of our migratory species. That the old birds should be able instinctively to wing their way back to whence they came is not half so marvellous as that the newly fledged nestling, urged by some mysterious power, should undertake a flight extending over hundreds of miles and many variations of climate in search of a temporary home it has never seen. This irresistible impulse, which prompts the necessity of a migration somewhither, is but too sadly seen in the restless actions and almost frantic efforts

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