

Autumn Days.

BY WILLIAM COWAN

A wealth of beauty meets my eye— Yellow and green, and brown and white, In one vast blaze of glory fill My happy sight.

The rich-robed trees, the ripening corn Bright colored with September fire; Fulfillment of the farmer's hope, And year's desire.

Sweet in the air are joyous sounds Of bird and bee and running brook; And plenteous fruits hang ripening round, Where'er I look.

The mellow splendor softly falls On morning mist and evening dews, And colors trees and flowers and clouds With thousand hues.

O, dreaming clouds, with silver fringe! I watch ye gathering side by side, Like armies, in the solemn skies, In stately pride.

I love the woods, the changing woods, Fast deepening down to russet glow, When Autumn, like a brunette Queen, Rules all below.

Thy soul of beauty haunts the heavens, Nor leaves for long the warm faced Earth, And like a mother, the kind air To life gives birth.

But Death rides past upon the gale, And blows the rustling golden leaves; They whirl and fall, and rot and die, And my heart grieves.

Farewell O Autumn days—farewell! Ye go, but we shall meet again, As old friends, who are parted long, By the wild main.

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