

Salisbury Plain over the door, and some Latin verse, and inside some quaint old prints illustrating coarsely the Life of the Prodigal Son. Here it is the custom to stop and take stimulants, and a peculiar drink of milk, eggs, and brandy is made, and is highly recommended for anyone coming down with a bad head after a dissipation at Cape Town.

The road after this leaves the head of the bay behind and stretches over part of the flats, and passing at a distance High and Low Constantia, where the celebrated wine is made, reaches Wynberg. Wynberg is by far the most beautiful spot about Cape Town, and almost as beautiful as any village I have seen; but then nearly all its beauties are imported, not indigenous, and arise from the fact that it is situate in the midst of thick pine groves and plantations of other trees. Here one sees growing together the European pines, the oak, poplars, and the gnarled and contorted South American Cactus (*Cereus*), and numerous Australian gum-trees and acacias.

The road at Wynberg leads through a grove of pines for a mile or more, the pines meeting overhead and forming a delicious shade, and shutting in the road on either hand with their closely set stems. No doubt the very trying heat and glare of the open sand-flat over which one drives before reaching the Wynberg grove, makes one exaggerate the beauty of its refreshing shade. Even amongst the grove the brick-red dusty soil stains the trunks of the trees, and after long absence of rain turns the very foliage brick-red. At Wynberg is the cricket ground where the Army plays the Navy, the Army the Cape Town Club, and so on, and also a most excellent hotel, known as "Cogill's," after the proprietor.

Above Wynberg are the talus slopes and débris mounds of Table Mountain, covered with the wonderful Silver-tree, whose leaves shine like burnished metal, and which is found nowhere else in the world but about the slopes of this mountain and its immediate neighbourhood. It does not even grow at Simons Bay. Nowhere on the earth but just round this one mountain.

The Silver-tree (*Leucadendron argenteum*) is one of the *Proteaceæ*, which natural order is characteristic of the flora of the Cape and South Australia, the genera being nearly equally divided between the two regions, and found scarcely anywhere else. A few only are found in tropical Australia, in New Zealand, South America, and equatorial Asia. Another group of plants, the *Restiaceæ*, serve further to connect the Cape with Australia, and there are other marked alliances.

The wide difference between the West and East Australian flora has been treated of by Sir Joseph Hooker, and the greater resemblances of the Western Australian flora to that of