SELECT POETRY.

"SCANDAL LANE."

Hearts, and homes! what a title!
Is there a Scandal Lane?
The thought of one running is bringing
A shudder to every vein.
Where all manner mischiefs are hatching
And sneaking and creeping about,
To scatter to the four winds of heaven
Each household's peace and repute.

They gather in knots in the streets, sir,
Or in the back rooms of shops,
Or in the town drawing-rooms, sir,
Or at the back doors and slops.
Wherever they are, they are hatching
Some mischief to work their will,
Some plot to destroy a reputation,
Some lie to circulate still.

They are the bane of the country,
They are the curse of the town,
They are the pests of society,
They are the common renown.
They are the terror of children,
They are the fear of the wife,
They are the dread of the husband,
They are the plague of life.

They are the cause of the heartache,
They are the cause of the sigh,
They are the cause of the tear-drop,
They are the cause of the cry.
They are the cause of the headache,
They are the cause of the pain,
They are the cause of the sleepless night,
They are the cause of the brain.

They are the cause of the fever,
They are the cause of the chill,
They are the cause of the shiver,
They are the cause of the ill.
They are the cause of the trembling,
They are the cause of the fear,
They are the cause of the anguish,
They are the cause of the tear.

They are the cause of the sorrow,
They are the cause of the grief,
They are the cause of the suffering,
They are the cause of the relief.
They are the cause of the sickness,
They are the cause of the death,
They are the cause of the last breath,
They are the cause of the last breath.