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TOWANDA:

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Selected Poetry.

THE PATH THROUGH THE CORN.

Wavy and bright in the summer air—
Like a quiet sea when the wind blows fair,
And its roughest breath has scarcely curled,
The green highway to an unknown world,
Soft whisp'ers passing from shore to shore,
Like a heart content, yet desiring more—
Who feels forlorn,
Wandering thus on the path through the corn?
A short space since, and the dead leaves lay
Corruption under the hedge-rows gray;
Nor hum of insect, nor voice of bird
Or the desolate field was ever heard;
Only at eve the pallid snow
Blushed rose-red, in the red sun glow;
Till one blest morn,
Shot up into life the green young corn.
Small and feeble, tender and pale,
It beat its head to the watery gale,
Harkened the wren's soft note of cheer,
Scarcely believing spring was near:
Saw chestnuts bud, and the champions blow,
And daisies mimic the vanished snow.
When it was born,
On either side of the path through the corn.
The corn—the corn—the beautiful corn,
Rising wonderfully, morn by morn,
First, scarce as high as a fairy's wand,
Then, just in reach of a child's wee hand,
Then growing, growing, tall, green and strong,
With the voice of the harvest in its song,
While in foal's scorn
The lark out-courts the murmuring corn.
Oh, strange, sweet path, formed day by day,
How, when and wherefore—tongue cannot say;
No more than of life's strange paths we know,
Or whether our eyes shall ever see
The wheat in the ear, or the fruit on the tree,
Yet, who is forlorn?
Heaven, that watered the furrows, will ripen the corn.

Miscellaneous.

Tin—Its Uses and Commerce.

There are thousands of persons who have no further knowledge of tin than that of holding it in the form of common pans and pans. Well, to use an expressive Irishism, "such tin is no tin at all." It is simply thin plates of iron coated with tin metal, the proper name of which ought to be *tinned sheet-iron*. Tin is one of our most useful metals, because it is employed for a great number of purposes. We purpose to give some information respecting it, which will be new to most of our people and interesting, we think, to all.

Tin is one of the most ancient metals—that is, it was well-known to the ancients; and it is very well established as a fact that the Phoenicians, those older masters of the sea when Tyre was in her glory, made voyages to Cornwall, and obtained tin from the mines in that district, long before Britannia was known to the Romans. It was this tin, alloyed with copper, which formed the old bronze armor of the Asiatic warriors; and it may have been furnished also by the renowned Hiram, King of Tyre, the great architect and friend of Solomon, for the building of the first and unapproached Jewish temple. In appearance, this metal resembles silver when first polished; but it soon becomes dim, because a thin coat of oxide forms early on its surface when exposed to a moist atmosphere. It is quite ductile, and may be rolled out into very thin sheets, called *tin foil*. When undergoing this rolling operation, it is kept at temperature of about 212 Fah., at which heat its malleability is greatly increased. A common method of making tin foil is to form ingots of lead and tin—the former in the heart of the ingot, the latter on the outside—and to roll these into foil. By this process, the tin is retained on the outside, however thin the ingot is, may be rolled out, while the poisonous lead is kept inside; and by this means the cost of the material is not one-half what it otherwise would be if made entirely of pure tin. A patent has been secured for this invention, and by the reduction caused by it in the price of foil, the latter is now employed for a hundred purposes, such as wrappers for tobacco, labels on bottles, &c., for which paper and other substances were formerly used.

Tin is also extensively employed in the chemical arts, such as by calico printers and dyers, for making what are called "spirit mordants" and "stannate salts." It is this metal which gives its brilliant hues to the rich crimson shawl and the azure-blue robe of the fashionable lady; and it forms the basis of many other colors on silk, cotton and woollen fabrics. For this purpose, the metal is commonly dissolved in an acid, such as hydrochloric or nitro-muriatic, which, in a diluted state, forms the chemists' "spirits." Instead of dissolving it as an acid for such purpose, as was exclusively done in former years, it is now combined with an alkali, and forms the stannate of soda, a salt resembling pearl-ash. In this form it is now extensively employed in Europe, and the writer of this has had some of it in his possession for more than a year, but has endeavored in vain to make some of our practical chemists appreciate its advantages. Tin dissolves in some acids like white sugar in hot water; but the action which takes place in the former case is chemical—in the latter, merely mechanical.

The tinned-plates employed by our "white-smiths" for making milk-pans, pails, and such like articles, are all imported from England, to which country their manufacture is confined.—We also import great quantities of this metal in pigs, called "block tin." It is principally used for making bronze alloys for machinery and "white metal," formerly called "Britannia metal," which is an alloy composed of tin, copper and antimony. Very small portions of the latter two metals are used in the alloy—only a sufficient quantity to render the tin hard and at the same time retain its ductile quality. A very great amount of this metallic alloy is employed in the manufacture of tea-table ware.

It is first made into sheets; these are afterwards spun in lathes into the forms of teas, coffee and milk pots, cups, flagons, and urns, of tasteful designs; after which they are electroplated with silver, and become beautiful in appearance. Twenty years ago all our pewter and Britannia ware was imported from England now, very little, if any, comes to us from abroad. We manufacture all we use at home. Skillful English artisans introduced the art among us, and there are very large manufacturing establishments for making this ware in Waterbury and Meriden, Conn., Taunton, Mass., and several other New England towns. Very great advances have been made of recent years in the designs or forms of articles formed of this ware. The old pewter tea-pots and their adjuncts were models of ugliness in comparison with the same class of articles now manufactured. The adoption of classic models has wonderfully improved the tastes of our people, and such has been the progress recently made in this art that elegant articles of such ware, with surfaces of dazzling pure silver, can now be purchased lower than the old-pewter-pots, 30 years ago. At some other period, we may refer at further length to these manufactures; we must now, however, confine ourselves to tin as an article of commerce.

Four classes of tin find their way into our market. These are denominated *Banca*, *Straits*, *English* and *Spanish*. The first is the best, and is the principal sort which we employ—Our rocks yield an abundance of gold, but not a pound of American tin has ever been sold in our markets. Traces of this metal have been found at Lyme, N. H., Gotham, Mass., and in some parts of Virginia; but we have no tin mines.

"Banca tin" is always sold for about two and three cents more per pound than any other because it is a reliable article, and its quality can be taken upon trust. The honest Hollanders deserve credit for this confidence in the tin with which he furnishes us. Its name is derived from the island of Banca, where it is obtained, and which is under the government of the Dutch East India Company. Great care is exercised in smelting the ore to obtain the metal pure and of a uniform quality, and the manner in which business is done in the selling of it is peculiar. The company makes public sales of this metal only once per annum, in the month of July, and accumulates the yearly products of their mines for this purpose. Rotterdam, in Holland, is the place of sale; and about two or three months previous to this event the company sends notices to all civilized countries of the amount to be sold, with the reliable guarantee that not another pound shall be furnished until July of the subsequent year.—These annual sales were commenced about 20 years ago, and the promises of this Dutch company have always been sacredly kept, although, in many instances, great temptations have been presented by a high rise in the prices of the metal after the public sales. Those who purchase Banca tin at Rotterdam, do so with the perfect confidence that subsequently a flood of this metal cannot be poured into the market to lower their prices. The investment in it, therefore, is very safe, and the Rothschilds and other large bankers are frequent purchasers for the purpose of safely investing idle funds.

In 1856, there was 167,000 pigs of Banca (70 lbs. each) sold at Rotterdam; in 1857, 191,000; in 1858, 191,000; in 1859, 139,000 only. There was quite a falling off in the product last year, and, as a consequence, there has been a rise from two to three cents per pound in Banca since the news of the annual sales the last month arrived. Of the amount of this tin taken by the United States in four years, there were, in 1856, 32,316 pigs; in 1857 (year of the panic) 14,000; in 1858, 31,791; and this year, so far, 27,000 pigs. Our "white-ware" manufacturers do not find hard granules and other foreign substances in this tin, as they do in other brands; hence its high character for the most important purposes.

"Straits tin" derives its name from vessels which trade with ports in the Indian Archipelago, and pass through the Straits of Malacca. They collect this metal at Singapore, at Borneo, and other places, and although some of the pigs are as good as those of Banca, on the whole it is not so reliable, but ranks next in value. "English tin" is obtained in Cornwall, where the most productive mines of this metal in the world are located. The best qualities of English tin, it is said, never reach our markets; the poorer qualities only are exported. The "refined English," which is esteemed as good as Banca, and sells for the same price in London, is all kept for British manufacturing purposes, the demand for it being greater than the supply.

Our "Spanish tin" comes from Mexico and South America. Its quality is poor, owing to the slovenly method employed to smelt the ore. It could be refined to equal any other; but as it is, the pigs of it sold in our market are very impure.

This metal (tin) deserves more attention from our metallurgists than it has received, as its market value is steadily on the increase, and the demand for it advancing rapidly, because of its more general application to various new purposes in the arts. Banca tin is double the price it was 20 years ago; the wholesale price at present is 33 cents per pound, and the prospect is that it will attain to a much higher figure. Dr. Jackson, of Boston, who has discovered specimens of tin ore in New Hampshire, advises further prospecting for the metal and we urge his suggestion upon metallurgists in every section of our country, as it costs about \$5,500,000 annually for the largest item being plates and sheets valued at \$4,700,000, a sum which might be saved if we had tin mines of our own.

Religion will sustain us through the uneven and uncertain journey of life—support us in a dying hour, and bring us safely to heaven at last, where we shall enjoy the blissful presence of our Saviour forever.

It may sound like a paradox, yet the break of both of an army's wings is a pretty sure way to make it fly.

Inclined to be Quarrelsome.

"There was once a little, slim-built fellow, rich as a Jew, and independent as the devil, riding along a highway in the state of Georgia, when he over-took a man driving a drove of hogs by the help of a big, raw boned, six-foot two-fisted specimen of humanity. Stepping the last named individual, he accosted him:

"I say, are these your hogs?"
"No, sir; I'm to work by the month."
"What pay might you be getting, friend?"
"Ten dollars a month and whiskey thrown in," was the reply.

"Well, look here, I'm a weak, little, inoffensive man, and people are apt to impose upon me, d'ye see. Now, I'll give you twenty-five dollars a month to ride along with me and protect me," said Mr. Gardner. "But, he added as a thought struck him, "how might you be on the fight?"

"Never been licked in my life," rejoined the six-footer.

"Just the man I want. Is't a bargain?" queried Gardner.

"Six-footer ruminated. "Twenty-five dollars—double wages—nothing to do but to ride around and smash a fellow's mug occasionally when he's sassy."

"Six-footer accepted."

"They rode along till, just at night, they reached a village inn. Dismounting at the door, they went in. Gardner immediately singled out the biggest man in the room, and picked a tuss with him. After considerable promiscuous jawing, Gardner turned to his fighting friend, and intimated that the licking of that man had become a sad necessity. Six-footer peeled, went in, and came out first best.

"The next night, at another hotel the same scene was enacted—Gardner getting into a row with the biggest man in the place, and six-footer doing the fighting."

"At last, on the third day they came to a ferry kept by a huge, double-fisted man, who had never been licked in his life. Whilst crossing the river Gardner, as usual, began to find fault and "blow." The ferryman naturally got mad, threw things around, and told him his opinion of *their* kind. Gardner then turned to his friend and gently broke the intelligence to him, "that he was sorry, but that it was absolutely necessary to thrash that ferryman."

"Six-footer nodded his head, but said nothing. It was plainly to be seen that he did not relish the job, by the way he shrugged his shoulders, but there was no help for it. So when they reached the shore, both stripped, and at it they went. Up and down the bank, over the sand, into the water they fought, scratched, gouged, bit, and rolled, till, at the end of an hour, the ferryman gave in. Six-footer was triumphant, but it had been tough work. Going up to his employer, he scratched his head for a moment, and then broke forth:

"Look here, Mr. Gardner, your salary sets mighty well, but I'm—of—the opinion—that you are inclined to be quarrelsome. Here I've only been with you three days, and I've licked the three biggest men in the country! I think this firm had better dissolve, for you see Mr. Gardner, I'm afraid you're inclined to be quarrelsome, and I reckon I'll draw!"—*Tahoea Gazette.*

ANECDOTE OF GOV. SEWARD.—Cozzens, in his last *Wine Press*, tells an old story, which, he says, few persons have not heard. When governor of New York, Seward, in those pre-Revolution days, had occasion to visit a certain part of the state, and, accordingly, mounted upon the box of the mail-coach, in order that he might enjoy his cigar and the scenery.—The driver was an inquisitive fellow, and his passenger humored him.

"Land agent?" said the driver.

"No," quoth Seward.

"Selling goods?"

"No."

"Traveling preacher?"

"No."

"Circus?"

"No."

"What then?" said the baffled driver.

"What is your business?"

"Governor," replied Seward, with a tranquil puff.

"Governor of what?"

"Governor of the State of New York," replied the smoking passenger with composure.

"Get out!"

"Well, I can convince you of that," said Seward, "for here is a man on the road with whom I am acquainted, and, as the stage passed by, he saluted him. "Good morning, Mr. Bunker, I want to ask you a question—am I not the Governor of the state of New York?"

"No, by thunder!" was Bunker's unexpected answer.

"Who is, then?" said the startled smoker.

"Thurlow Weed!"

Col. Nash once demanded the hand of a cross-grained Alabama planter's daughter. "Squire my business to day is to ask for your daughter's hand." "It is, is it? What! you marry my gal? Look here, young man, leave my premises instant, and if you ever set foot here again, I'll make my niggers skin you. Marry my daughter you—!" Nash left. He saw the old gentleman was angry. After getting to a safe place he thought he would turn and take a last fond look at the home of his lost idol when he espied the old man busy shoveling up his tracks from the yard and throwing them over the fence.

Learning is not offensive in a woman, if she only preserves a gentle and thoroughly feminine disposition. Some one has very significantly said, that it does not matter how blue the stockings are, if only the petticoat is long enough to cover them.

PATIENCE.—"I remember," says Wesley "hearing my father say to my mother, "how could you have the patience to tell that block-head the same thing twenty times over?" "Why," said she, "if I had told him but nine-teen times, I should have lost all my labor."

Air and Sunshine.

"Pure air for the lungs and bright sunlight for the eyes," is a physiological maxim which should never be forgotten. On this subject the Springfield *Republican* has some very good remarks. It says:—"When the trees about a dwelling shade the ground so thoroughly, that the grass and shrubbery will not grow, and the rooms of the house have a constant air of dampness and gloom, and the outside gathers moss and mold, it is time to make war upon the trees and open a pathway for the sunshine and warm air. If it were not for the beneficent visits of the hot winds from sunnier spots occasionally, such homes would be as noxious and fatal as tombs. The vital statistics of cities show the sunny side of the streets to be the most healthy, notwithstanding the insane efforts made even by the inhabitants of cities to exclude the little sunlight that attempts to reach them; and we have no doubt that the statistics of country residences would show the same general fact. A certain amount of shade is essential to comfort, but when it reaches the point of excluding sunshine altogether, it becomes a positive evil. When we talk about opening windows and doors, we know what the exclamation of tidy housekeepers will be. Flies are a nuisance, we confess, multitudinous, disagreeable and dirty; dust from the streets is insufferable, and faded carpets are a daily mortification. But after all, are not rosy cheeked and lively children, and vigorous women more ornamental and more essential to the comfort of a family than the best preserved colors in the worst work or entire immunity from the annoyance of flies? Let us welcome the visits of the healthful air and sunshine, and look out for the essential conditions of vigor and cheerfulness first of all, and if matters of mere show must be sacrificed, why, let them slide."

WEIGHT OF THE EARTH.—Copernicus first demonstrated that the apparent terrestrial plain was a free and independent material mass, moving in a definable path through space.—Then Newton explained that this independent mass moved through space because it was supported by props and chains; that, in fact, as a massive body, it is falling forever through the void; but that as it falls it sweeps round the sun in an never ending circuit, attracted toward it by magnetic like energy, but kept off from it by the force of its centrifugal movement. Next, Snell and Picard measured the dimensions of the heavy and falling mass, and found that it was a spherical body, with a girdle of twenty-five thousand miles. Subsequently to this, Baily contrived a pair of scales that enabled him approximately to weigh the vast sphere; and he ascertained that it had within itself about 1,256,165,670,000,000,000,000 tons of matter. To these discoveries, Foucault more recently added demonstration to the actual senses of the fact, that the massive sphere is whirling on itself as it falls through space, and round the sun, so that point after point of its vast surface is brought in succession into the genial influence of its sunshine; an investing atmosphere of mingled vapor and air is made to present clouds, winds, and rain, and the inverted surface to bear vegetable forms and animated creatures in great diversity. The world is, then, a large, solid sphere, invested with a loosened shell of transparent, elastic, easily moving vapor, and whirling through space within the domains of sunshine; so that by the combined action of the transparent mobile vapor and the stimulant sunshine, organized creatures may grow and live on its surface, and those vital changes may be diffused, among which conscious and mental life stand as the highest results.

A LEGAL ANECDOTE.—Elisha Williams, formerly of Columbia county, was somewhat noted for his eloquence and power of moving a jury. On one occasion he made a plea which produced a marked effect both upon the jury and upon the Court. His legal opponent was a mere pettifogger, but shrewd, and, as it so happened on the occasion, succeeded in laying out the eminent counsellor. When Mr. Williams had closed his eloquent appeal, the pettifogger rose and said:

"Gentlemen of the Jury and your Honors: I should despair of the triumph of my client in this case, after the eloquent appeal of the learned counsel, but for the fact that common law is common sense. No man could like better the piece which the learned gentleman has spoke, than what I like the piece. He spoke it good. I've heered him give it four times afore—once at Sedock, in a burglary case; once at Kink, on a suspicion of 'stealin'; once at Poughkeepsie, in a murder case; and the next time at Kakak, about the man who was caught a counterfeiting. Well, he always spoke it good, but this time he's really beat himself. But what does it all amount to, gentlemen of the jury? That is the question, and you can answer it as well as I kin, and better tew?"

And so they did, and quickly, by a verdict for the pettifogger's client.

DROVE A LITTLE TOO NIGH.—A few mornings since, says the *Oswego Times*, as the train was leaving Fulton, a farmer attempted to cross the track ahead of it with a wagon loaded with lumber, and not having made the right calculation, the hind end of the wagon was struck by the locomotive, and the load, wagon and farmer were scattered about promiscuously. The train was stopped as soon as possible, and backed up to the spot, the witnesses expecting to find the driver a corpse, but instead of that they found him sitting on the fence, wiping the perspiration from his face, and all right, except being terribly frightened. On seeing the conductor and engineer approaching him he exclaimed, "Boys, I guess I drove a little too nigh!"

It is difficult to conceive anything more beautiful than the reply given by one in affliction, when he was asked how he bore it so well. "It lightens the stroke," said he, "to draw near to him who handles the rod."

A Trip Through the Country.

At this time of year every one feels more or less inclined for change of scene, change of air, or simply the excitement of fresh faces, new society and different habits. All want a break in the year—something to convince them that they are not mere business or household animals, but that they are individuals with a large capacity for enjoyment, and capable of being amused and instructed by woodland notes and the sight of farms, the sea, green fields, or wild forests. In consequence, the great question now is: "How shall I spend my vacation?" Friend, let us give you the advice which Dr. Huteland, of Jena, gives on the subject of travelling, in his great work, "The Art of Prolonging Life," adding to his advice the determination to be amused and keep in good temper the whole holiday through. What if hotel keepers over-charge thee, friend? be not vexed, but make a joke of it, and the laugh will do you more good than the extra charge could do if spent in physic. Look on all things pleasantly, determined to be pleased, and the moral effect will be of more value than the physical; and above all, locomotive swain, take with thee at least one-third more money than you expect to spend. You can economise on the way, but it is well to have something to meet contingencies. The learned doctor tells us:—

1. Travelling on foot, or rather on horseback, is the most healthful; but when one is weakly, or undertakes long excursions, it is more advisable to travel in a carriage or by railroad.

2. When one travels in a car, it is very beneficial always to change the posture; that is, to sit sometimes and sometimes to recline. By these means one can best prevent the evils attending continued riding in this manner, which are occasioned principally by the jolting being in one direction.

3. Nature will not suffer any sudden transitions. It is therefore improper for people accustomed to a sedentary life to undertake suddenly a journey during which they will be exposed to violent jolting. The case here is the same as if one accustomed to drink water should all at once begin to drink wine.

4. Excursions, the object of which is health must not be fatiguing; but this can be determined only by difference of temperament and constitution. One ought, above all things, to avoid travelling in the night time; which, by interrupting the necessary refreshment, checking perspiration, and exposing the body to unhealthy air, is always prejudicial.

5. People must not imagine that they may indulge a little more in intemperance when on a journey. One, however, needs not to be too nice in the choice of food and drink; and it is always best to use the common fare of each locality. But at any rate the stomach ought not to be overloaded. By the motion of traveling, the power of the body is too much divided for the stomach to admit of a large quantity of food; and the motion itself, by these means, will become more fatiguing.—People, in particular, should not indulge too much in heating food and liquors, as is often the case on journeys; for traveling alone acts as a stimulus, and less stimulating nourishment is then required than in a state of rest. A want of attention to this rule may occasion too violent irritation, inflammation, accumulations of the blood, &c. It is most proper, on journeys, to eat rather little at a time, but often; to drink more than one cats; and to choose food easy of digestion, yet strongly nutritive, not of a heating nature, and such as cannot be readily adulterated. It is safest, therefore, in the country and in small hotels, to eat milk, eggs, well-baked bread, boiled or roasted meat, and fruit. Drink water, with the addition of a little lemon-juice. If the water be impure, it may be rendered sweet by charcoal powder.

6. Avoid immoderate exertion and wasting of the powers. It is, however, as difficult in general to lay down a proper standard of motion, as of eating and drinking. But nature, in this, has given us a very excellent guide, a sense of lassitude, which is here of as much importance as the sense of satiety in eating or drinking. Weariness is nothing else than the voice of nature, which tells us that our stock of powers is exhausted, and that he who is tired should enjoy repose. But nature may, indeed, become lost in habit; and we may be as sensible of lassitude as the continual glutton is of fullness, especially when the nerves is overstrained by stimulating and heating food and drink. There are then, however, other signs to tell us that we have exceeded the proper measure; and I request that to these the strictest attention may be paid.—When one begins to be low-spirited or dejected; to yawn often, and be drowsy, yet at the same time to be incapable of sleeping though one enjoys rest; when the appetite is lost; when the smallest movement occasions a fluttering of the pulse, heat, and even trembling; when the mouth becomes dry, and is sensible of a bitter taste, it is high time to seek refreshment and repose, if one wishes to prevent illness already beginning to take place.

7. While one is traveling, insensible perspiration may easily be checked; and cold is the principal source of those diseases which therefore arise. It is advisable, therefore, to guard against all sudden transitions from heat to cold, or the contrary; and those who have great sensibility in the skin, will do well, when they go on a journey, to carry a thin flannel shirt along with them.

8. Cleanliness, when on travels, is doubly necessary; and, therefore, to wash the body frequently with cold water is much to be recommended. This will contribute also, in a great degree, to remove lassitude.

9. During winter, or in cold climates, one may always submit to greater exercise than during summer, or in warm climates, where perspiration exhausts one-half of the strength. One, also, can undergo more fatigue early in the morning than in the afternoon.

10. Full-blooded persons, or those who are subject to a spitting of blood, or other serious disease, must consult their physician before they undertake a journey.

WOMAN'S INFLUENCE OVER MAN.—The instant a woman tries to manage a man for herself, she has begun to ruin him. The lovely creeper clings in its feebleness with grace to the stately tree; but if it out grow, as if to conceal its supporter, it speedily destroys what it would otherwise adore. When the serpent had persuaded Eve that she should induce her husband to take her advice, and become as knowing as herself, she no longer felt herself made for him, and both for God, but rather that he was made to admire her. When she prevailed, they soon bickered about their right place, no doubt, for God's law was lost sight of by both. One grand purpose of woman's power over man's heart, now that both are fallen, is the maintenance of man's self-respect.—A man who loves a true-hearted woman aims to sustain in himself whatever such a woman can love and reverence. They mutually put each other in mind of what each other ought to be to the other. To the formation of manly character, the love and reverence of the virtuous feminine character is essential. One must see in the other's love the reflection of the character desired. Hence the pertinacity of true love and reverence often recovers a character that would otherwise be lost forever. If once mutual respect depart, then farewell the love that can alone rectify what is wrong; then farewell the heart-rest, without which life becomes a delirium and an agony. If it be the faculty of woman to love more tenaciously than man, her might surpasses his so far as she is wise in showing it. In expressing love, without at the same time indicating her faith in the inherent dignity of man, however obscure, she only repels him to a worse condition by exciting a reckless sense of his own worthlessness, together with a hatred of her forgiving patronage. When a man hates himself what can he love? Give him time, and he will love the soul that clings to him to save him.

The following from the *Cairo (Ill.) Gazette* will be understood and appreciated by any one who has ever spent an hour in the place:

"Whoop! I'm just nat'rally spillin' for a fight!" screamed a somewhat "tosticated" individual in front of Springfield Block, the other night. "I'm the best man that ever wore hair. I'm the big dog of the tan yard—the gray wolf of the prairies, so I am! Jerusalem, don't some of these ornary Cairo cusses want to tackle me? I'm the post oak runner—the big boy what's never been backed; I'm a steam engine, fired up, with my safety-valve tied down 150 pounds of steam, and bound to bust, unless I can work it off lickin' some of these Illinois suckers! I shall die, I know I shall, if I can't find somebody to fight me. Dare any man that ever wore breeches lend me a dollar! Won't somebody here just please to me a liar?"

Notwithstanding this polite and uncommon request, urged with so much pathos and sincerity, the gentleman made no impression on the minds of our citizens, and found no one willing to make the required assertion. Next morning we saw the youth sitting on a pile of lumber by the river, both eyes hunged up, nose flattened, half his teeth knocked out of his head and his coat torn into shreds. Upon kindly inquiring after his health, and how he liked Cairo, he remarked, "Stranger, I like Cairo first rate—it's a lively place, and has the best society in it I've met with since I left home."

ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF PEWS.—In Anglo-Saxon and some nother churches of early date, a stone bench was made to project within the wall, running round the whole interior, except the eastern end. In 1010, they were represented as sitting on the ground, or standing. About this time the people introduced low, rude, three legged stools promiscuously over the whole church. Wooden seats were soon introduced after the Norman conquest.

In 1007, a decree was issued in regard to the wrangling for seats being so common that none could call any seat his own, except noblemen and patrons, each entering and holding the first one he seized. As we approach the Reformation, from 1530 to 1540, seats were more appropriate, the entrance being guarded by a cross, and the initials engraved on them. Immediately after the Reformation the pew system prevailed; as we learn from a complaint of the poor common addressed to Henry VIII., in 1546, in reference to a decree that a Bible should be in every church, at liberty for all to read, because they feared it might be taken into the "quire," or some "pue." In 1608, galleries were introduced. But as early as 1611 pews were arranged to afford comfort, by being raised or cushioned, while the sides around were so high as to hide those within; (a device of the Puritans to avoid being seen by the officers, who reported those who did not stand when the name of Jesus was mentioned.) With the reign of Charles the First, the reason for heightening the sides disappeared, and from the civil war they declined gradually to their present height.

PERSEVERANCE.—The greater the difficulty, the more the glory in surmounting it. Skillful pilots gain their reputation from storms and tempests.

A Washington clergyman, a Sunday or two since, while stating a deficiency in the collections, remarked that since the issue of three cent pieces, the revenue of his church has declined nearly one half!

It is complained of Shakespeare, that he unnecessarily murdered Hamlet. But he has been paid for it. A great many Hamlets have murdered Shakespeare.

One who will tell you of your of your faults and follies in prosperity, and assist you with his hands and heart in adversity.

The more peaceably and quietly we get on, the better—the better for our neighbors. The wisest policy is if a man cheats you, quit dealing with him; if he is abusive, quit his company; if he slanders you, take care to live so that nobody will believe him.