FREE AS THE WIND, AND AMERICAN TO THE CORE.

BY H. BUCHER SWOOPE.

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THERE ARE NO TEARS IN HEAVEN. all agree with the hopes and aims of the wily whom she knew could not read, to take the

BY JOHN T. SCHWARTZ-I met a child, his feet were bare; His weak frame shivered with the cold; His youthful brow was knit with care, His flashing eyes his sorrow told.

Said I. Poor boy, why weepest thou?"

"My parents both are dead," he said; I have not where to lay my head; O. I am love and friendless now ''
Not Triendless, child, a Friend on high For you his precious blood has given; Cheer up and bid each tear be dry— "There are no tears in Houven."

I saw a hasain life's gay noon. Smoot weeping o'er his young wife's bier; again must we part? he cried, so scon!!! As down his cheek their rolled a tear. "Weep not," in agget is wild be cried.
"The vesterday my level ore died,
And shall she be so soon for got?" Porgotten? No! still let ber leve Sustain thy heart, with auguish riven; Serive thou to meet thy bride above, And dry your tears in Heavens

I saw a gentle mother weep.

As to her throubling breast she press An infant scenningly asless p

On its kind mother's sheltering breast.

Only one, said f. pray weep no more!

Fedbals as of he thick my hope han now called to render and the bar bore.
Not be but treached death's gloomy shore.
Young mother yield no more to grief. Les be by passions tempest driven Lorent in these sweet words relief.

Poor traveller o'er life's troubled wave-Cast down by grief o erwhelmed by core-There learn arm above can save. Then yield not thou to felt desprir, ... Look upward mourner look above! What though the thunders echo loud; The sun shines bright beyond the cloud. Then trust in thy redeemer s love-Where ere thy lot in life be cust. What'er of tail or wee be given Be firm -remember to the last, There are no tears in Heaven."

From the Chicago Times) THE POSTAGE STAMP.

AN INCIDENT IN REAL LIFE.

Upon what small events does the happiness, and even existence of individuals, often depend! Some years ago, there lived in a small interior town in Ohio a young woman then but afteen years of age. She was the heiress of a large fortune held by trustees. The will of her father strictly enjoined upon her that she was not to marry until after she had terminated her twenty-first year. He had enforced this isjunction by strong and earnest appeals to her effection, and by reminding her of the untimely death of two elder sisters who had been married young, and had died childless shortly after. But, with most prophetic judgement of her future lot, he had added a still stronger inducement to obtain her compliance with his request. He had stipulated that, in case of her death or marriage before attaining the prescribed age, the trustees should by deed convey all his estate to some distant relative. The young and handsome girl soon found herself the attractive object of the attentions, the devotions, and the importunities of a score of young men of the nelebborhood. She was aware of the provisfons of her father's will, and honestly intended | dent woods stormed and raved; he turned up- | i.e., when they are perfectly ripe. In jelly, I to comply with his so fervently expressed on the poor trembling woman to whom, but a use a pound, or pint, of juice to a pound of wish; but soon-too soon, indeed-was that few hours before he had pledged eternal love, sugar, and my wine is made for these last five injunction to appear harsh, unkind, unfortu- and charged her with basely deceiving him. years, in picking them, washing and straining nate, unreasonable.

vidual upon whose honor, faith and manliness bility of woman's devotion, she had loved him, months you will have a pleasant drink. You from some of his German friends. her destiny was from that hour to depend .- His name which for many months had been can rack it if you choose when done working. He knew her as a fair, accomplished girl, and coupled with reproaches and contamely, nevas an heiress of hall a million. He was but a er passed her lips. She would not believe him visitor at that town. He remained there but the mercenary villain he had been representa few weeks, but during that time succeeded ed. She still clang fondly to the hope that too well in leaving a highly favorable impres- all the love he had professed was real. Weak, sion of his worth upon the heart of the lady .- and broken in spirit, that hope seemed to keep He returned in one month, announcing his in- her alive. tention to reside in that village. The vanity, During March of last winter, the courts had not criminal, but natural vanity of the woman | set aside her marriage on the ground of fraud, was gratified; she recognized in this voluntary and no one contesting her right, she became alundonment of his former home and friends, possessor of a magnificent fortune. The case to take up his residence there, a tribute from was noticed in the papers, and some weeks arhis heart to her own personal and mental at- ter there came a letter to her. It was from traction. He failed not in soon confirming her lover and husband. He had seen that nothat belief, and in protestations of deep affective of the annulment of her marriage. That tion, and urged the inevitable life of wretch- was a relief to him, for he was on the eve of edness he would endure in case of her rejec- marrying again. But as money was his main tion, as well as by the display of all the out- idea, disguised he visited the place; he had ward accomplishments and bearing of a gen- heard her story repeated with no favorable retleman, won her love, and obtained from her a ferences to himself; he had heard it more promise of a marriage. These proceedings than hinted that she still retained an affection had been secret, and were entirely unknown for him; but, more than all, he ascertained to her guardian, with whom she resided. The that she was now sole possessor of that fortune betrothment was soon followed by an argent which had so strongly tempted him to wrong. request for marriage. In her hour of blissful He returned, and addressed her the letter we communion with her lover, she had almost have mentioned. It was full of repentance; forgotten her father's command. It now came it proclaimed that his life since he had left INDEFERENCE.-We prefer an out and out upon her with sudden and bitter force. She her had been one of continuous misery. He enemy to a milk and water indifferent friend. answered the proposal of marriage by stating professed to be unacquainted with what had Indifference is perfectly detestable. If a man that her father's dying command was that she passed, and with humility tendered again his spits in your face, or knocks you down, you turned to Sam and said : should not marry till twenty-one. This he love, declaring that as he had been the cause can wipe off the one, and if the blow is not too met with ridiculing the fears and superstitions of her losing her wealth, justice required that hard, get up when the effect of the other has of a too anxious parent, and holding out to he should share with her the fortune he had subsided. But when a man looks at you, and her the alternative of obeying an unreasonable amassed in the growing city where he lived. does not speak to you at the same time-when child and when her capacity for forming a accepted his love, forgiving and venturing ex- dreaming, and was afraid of awaking you, proposalliance could not be determined, or cases for his past conduct, and informing him when he shakes hands he grasps as though he been O. K.

from her. who was a standard of much unhappiness. That letter of her's was women, Good Lord deliver us. We would raconsideration. She told him that she could conjectures that might arise if seen to depo- bread, wear linsey woolsey, and lodge on the shaved a monkey.

suitor, he was too well skilled in deception to letter to the post office. This servant, to get betray his disappointment. He therefore leave of absence, took with her one of her mispromptly interrupted her in her explanations tress' children. To amuse the child she alof the conditions of her father's will, by the lowed it to carry the letter; and the little one, most solemn assurances that with him her for- pleased with the red stamp, as they walked tune had not a feather's weight; that he loved along succeeded in removing it. The letter her, and that love would be as pure, and as was deposited in the office without a stamp, et," if it were not for the fact, that he finally pipe a long whiff. strong and as devoted had she been reared in and was never, of course sent. by her father, she would sacrifice all her ex- newspaper which had been sent to him bepected wealth; but with the blindness which cause it contained a political speech delivererything, that he had enough for both, and ted. The name of Chicago was heard by the ment no falsehood; he had made carefully dis- troyer. guised inquiries, and by every one whom, he addressed he was told that "Miss C. would inherit her father's fortune at twenty-one but not before." It did not suit his designs to unmask his motives, and, disguising with indifference his questions, he failed to ascertain the whole truth. Supposing her father's will was simply framed to prevent the fortune falling in any way, however remotely, under the control of her husband before the reached that mature age, he desired by marriage to secure it ultimately. He had good cause for speed; with him prompt and secret marriage was essential, for penniless he could not much forcer maintain appearances, or pay his board, for which he was largely in arrears.

His apparant disinterestedness at length prevailed over the daughter's obedieuce. A

the distress, ruin, madness of a true and hon- that she was now prepared to give him that in- thought you had the plague, and was afraid of est heart which could not exist if separated heritence which to them had been the source catching it, we say, from such men and such elections. The next objection met with more serious destined never to reach him. To aveid any ther live on a cup of water and a crust of

poverty instead of the expectancy of wealth. A few words more will close this brief histo-Again and again she sought to explain to him ry. A month later, the lady's former guardithat with her marriage before the period fixed an, who was a politician, received a Chicago often overtakes and misteads avarice and oth- ed in this city; after reading it, he laid it er base passions of human nature, he assared down, with some remark upon the extraordiher that he knew all; that he was aware of ev- nary growth of the city in which it was prinwas prepared to remedy to the extent of all he lady; she took the paper, glauced over it, and, possessed, any inconvenience she might suffer, with a shrick, full fainting to the floor. In a pecuniarily, from disobeying her father's re- week she was dead. In that paper was found quest. In telling her that he knew all, he the announcement of the marriage of her des-

Make Home Attractive.

Having been for several years experimenting in culture on my small lot in the village of Bridgeton, I am enabled to write something from experience. My neighbors say, wit is easy for you to keep your homestead looking nice and tidy, as you devote so much of your time to it; you call your residence Rose Cotfuge, and well you may; you hunt up all the different roses and flowers and fuss about them, and then you plant different species of peach, plum, cherry, and other pits or stones, besides rafting them, and apples and quinces too."-All this is right, and if people want health, varicty, and something to please the senses, the piritual, as well as the mental, the eye as well as the ear, all these things want attention .-Change in mental as well as physical promotes false statement that her guardian had forbid | health and strength, and there are but few perbusiness required his presence in New York. but have order in their arrangements, would or several months, swept away all further ob- have time to aftend to all these things .ections to an immediate and secret marriage. a There is a time for all things under the sun." They were married privately at a neighboring sava a wise man. Too much time is wasted village, and to the bride's surprise, he advi- at taveras, stores, parties, politics, &c., that sed her return to her guardian's house for a should be spent at home among the family, few days. He returned to his own lodgangs, and garnishing your homes. You all express and at once, publicly, every where, and to all your delight when walking over my premises. he met, aurounced his marriage. In a few but how few are willing to put their time to hours he called at the house of his newly wed- necessary improvements. "Lat lat did you ded wife, and as he entered it, her guardian, ever see such currents, how full, and as large who had just heard of the marriage, also en- as cherries. How do you manage to raise tered. He was sternly questioned as to the them? Ours is so small, and hardly worth truth of the report, and he nobly avowed it. picking." I'll tell if you will follow my exmaking no apology for the unauthorized act, perience in their culture. My current bushes but assuming the attitude of one who was eas are planted in hills, four feet apart. The first, titled to admiration for a most successful ma- second and third years' growth is on the hill, nouvre. He demanded permission to see his the fourth year's growth is cut out every wife; she was called; and in their presence spring, and not more than ten or twelve stalks the guaidian bewaited the imprudence of their are left in the hill; the hill or bed is mulched onduct, and for the first time, the heretefore and kept free from grass. As soon in the during groom learned that by her marriage his spring as the earth will permit, always let a wide had forfeited the cutire foctune of her few of each year,'s growth stand; cut out the box ?" ballance. The stalks are four or five feet high Baffled, disappointed, cheated, the late are and heavy bearers. I make my wine, jelly, Overcome with grief, she fainted, and before them. To a quart of juice I add three quarts quick." Three years after her father's death, she she had recovered he had left the house and of water, and three pounds of sugar. Jug or then being eighteen years of age, she became the city. She heard no more of him for years, berrel it; let it set as the without stopper or

> ny The "Hard Shell Baptists," are a well nown sect in the South and Southwest. They are not related that we know of to the Hard Shell Democrats of New York, though their Christian name is the same. They go dead against all Bible, Temperance and Education Societies; hate missions to the heathen, and all modern schemes for converting the rest of mankind. Of course they are opposed to learning, and speak as they are suddenly moved. A Georgia correspondent relates the following of one of their preachers :- "Two of them were in the same pulpit together. While one was preaching, he happened to say, "When Abraham bailt the ark." The one behind strove to correct his blunder, by sayng out aloud-",dbraham togen't there." But the speaker pushed on, heedless of the interruption, and only to repeat more decidedly; "I say when Abraham built the ark." "And I say," cried the other, ".abraham warn't there." The Hard Shell was too hard to be beaten down in this way, and addressing the people, exclaimed with great indignation-"I say Abraham was ther, or ther Abouts.

not obtain her property till she was of full age. sit a letter addressed to that name, she indu- grass, than be under any obligations whatever Though this was unexpected, and did not at | ced, by a liberal reward, a neighbor's servant | to such persons.

Voting Under Difficulties.

A correspondent of the Knickerbacker furnishes to the Editor of that journal the following amusing sketch of the purity of the elective franchise in the state of Ohio. We should like to have grasped the hand of the patriotic fellow who was so anxious to vote the "tig whick backed out.

'In the north west portion of the State of Chio, in the county of Auglaize, there is a township, the citizens of which are principally German, and notwithstanding their sweet accent,' they are all Democrats of the regular unterrified stripe. From the time of the erection of the county up to 1852, there never had been a whig vote east in the township spoken of, although there were over six hundred voters: but at the fall election of that year, mon counting the ballots, it appeared that here was one regular straight-out whig ticket. and they dare not pass it by. This caused great commotion; their escutcheon was dim- filled. med : there was a whig amongst them ; that hlet must be wiped out, and with their courige (Dutch of course) up to fever heat in the shade, they went to work slyly to find the man who had dired to vote the "Vig Dicket;" but their labors were unsuccessful. In the mean ime another year rolled round, and the good beeples' were again assembled at the election precinct. It had not been forgotten, however, that at the last election some one had voted the Vig Dicket; and it was now the subject of open remark and wonder.

. While they were having an out-door discassion of the subject, Sam Starrett, a late immigrant from the eastern shore of Maryland, came along and demanded the cause of the commotion.

.. Vell, ve vas vondering who it vas wat voted viz dicket at the last election, said an old

"It was me, Sam said, and it wa'nt no bo-

"I dinks not," said the old Dutchman, and the belance shook their heads incredulously. "I tell you, it was, though," said Sam,

pulling out a Whig ticket, wand may I be chawed up, if I sint going to do it again. I am going to vote that, (holding out the ticket,) and vota t open, too. I'll let you know that I am an American Cilizen, and I'll vote just as I please, and you can't help it by Jemima!" So in he went to deposit his ballot. There

sat the three old Dutch judges of election, calm as a summer morning; and true to his word. Sam handed over his ticket, open. One of the old judges took it a few seconds, banded it back toward the independent voter, and said:

"Yaw, dat ish a Vig dicket."

"Well, put it in the box," said Sam. "Vat you say?" said the old Dutchman, his eves big with surprise; "put him in de

"Yes, sir'ee, put it in the box! I am goin' to vote it !"

"Oh! nix goot, nix goot! dat ish a Vig dicket." said the old Dutchman shaking his head. "Well, I reckon I know it is a Whig ticket, and I wan't you to put it in the box, darnation

"No, no, dat ish not goot; dat ish a Vig dicket; we not take him any more," said the acquainted, at a festive party, with an indi-

Sam went out and cursed till all was bluesaid he had come thar to vote. he'd be flambergasted if he wa'nt goin' to vote in spite of all the Dutch in the township. So, after cooling off a little, he again went in and tendered his ticket, very neatly rolled up. The old judge took it again, and notwithstanding Sam's dedemurring, unrolled it and looked it over; then turning to Sam in a manuer and tone not to be misunderstood, said :

"I tells you dat ish a Vig dicket; dat it ish nix goot; and dat we not take him any more!" Sam again retired, carsing all democrats generally, and the Dutch in particular, and assigning the hottest corners of the brimstone region; and was going on to curse every body that didn't curse them, when he was interrupted by an old Dutchman in the crowd,

"Sam Starrett, I tells you van it ish, if you vill vote Dimercrat dicket, and leef der gonnty we gits you so much monish as dakes you vere you cum'd vrom."

Sam scratched his head, studied awhile, and then said that as he had come thar to vote and wan't goin' away without votin', he guessed he'd do it.

'Again Sam made his appearance before the judges, and tendered his vote. The same old judge took it, and looking it over quietly,

"Yaw, dat ish goot; dat ish a Dimercratic dicket !" and dropped it into the box.

'It is only further necessary to say that Sam went back to the eastern shore at the expense request of a deceased parent, made when a Unknown to any one she answered that letter. he speaks as though he supposed you were of the township; and that, at that election and ever since, that German township has

That is what I call preserving the purity of

A dandy asked a barber if he had ever 'If you'll take a seat I'll try,' answered the Von Sweitzel on Politics.

Mine neighbor, Wilhelm, vat you tink of neighbor Von Sweitzel, the Twelfth Ward presents a striking picture of a subline view blacksmith, last evening, as he seated himself of one of nature's wildest scenes: beside him in a .bierhaus."

'I tinks much,' said Sweitzel, giving his

'Vell, vot you tinks?'

I comes to der conclusion dat bolitics is one big fool.'

makes mine fires, I gets planty of worg in, transported beyond himself-inspired!' and makes monish."

time demanding that the draind mugs be re- like myself, and we may venture to approach

'I says that I made much friends,' continued Wilhelm, relighting his pipe. Der beeples all ed as he had been to ascend to the royal yards say Von Sweitzei bees a goot man, he blows of a three-decker, involuntarily shrank and in der morning, he strikes in der night and he shutdered, as he gazed down the blue gulf of mind his business. So day spraken to me air, and the saw apparently, miniature waves many times, and it makes me feel much goot break at the foot of the mighty Cape, and ere, clapping his breast.

'Yaw, yaw, dat ish gooter,' remarked Pete ho was an attentive listener.

·Vell, it goes along dat way tree year. Tree? Let me see, one year I make tree hoonerd tol- the sea below is sheer one thousand feet,' cooller, der next tree hoonred and fifty, der next old Mike der watchman, who bees such a bad deavor to conceive the scene here in mid-winman, comes to me and he say-

·Swietzel, what makes you work so hard?"

To make monish,' I tell him.

ven he tells me dat Shake, der lawyer-dat summit where we stand! make such burty speeches about Faderland among der beeples and dell them to vote mid hear a different and most peculiar sound?" him all der while, he would put me in von big office, where I make twenty tousand tollars a

Pete, thunderstruck.

shust stop der strikin', and goes to mine iens, and all der Yarmins vote for Shake, nd Shake bees elected to der Congress."

a long draught of been and fixing his eyes on the floor, puffed his pipe as if in deep thought. 'Vell, mine neighbor,' said Pete, after waiting a due length of time for him to resume,

vat you do den, ch ?" ·Well, I ask Mike, der swellhead watchman, for der office, and he dells me I gits him de next year. I waits till after der next krout sharp, soft, and mingled sounds-all heard

making time, and den I say again, . Mike, ven vill Shake give me dat twenty housand tollar office ?'

'In two year, sura,' he say, 'if you work for for der barty.'

'Vell, I stop a blowin' mit mine bellers and I blow two year for der party mit mine mout." 'Two year mit your mout?' asked Pete in stonishment.

'Yaw, two year. Den again I go to Mike ler swellhead watchman, and dells him I wants der twenty tousand tollar, and he dells me in the Cape beneath our feet; and it is, as you one more year I gets him sure. I dinks he he fools me, yet I blow for the party another year, and den vat you dinks?

Dinks! Vy, you gets him twenty tousand

Gits him, Py shinks! Mike, der swellhead watchman, dells me I bes von big fool, and dat here in an undertone; but were we suspended I might go to der bad place, and eat sourkrout.

"He tell you that?" .Yaw. Sure as my name bes Von Sweitzel.' After you do der blowin mit your mout for

'Yaw.

Mine Got! vat you do den, mine neighbor? I makes a fire in mine blacksmit shop, I blows my own bellers again, I heats mine own iron, and strikes mit mine own hammer. 1 ay to mineself.

·Wilhelm Von Sweitzel, bolitics bes a humbug and holificians bes a bigger von. Willet boliticians do ders!'

Neighbor Pete thought he had came to a wise conclusion and after wishing all sorts of preferred Rochelle with a little soda, but the bad luck to politicians, that class of men whose one that he had named was the great tragedipatriotism and integrity lie in their pocket, enne, Rachel." they ordered all their mugs to be again refilled, and changed the topic of conversation.

How to Choose a Husband .- Never marry man till you have seen him eat. Let the candidate for your hand pass through the orleal of eating soft boiled eggs. If he can do it and leave the table-spread, the napkin and his shirt suspotted-take him. Try him next with a spare-rib. If he accomplishes this feat without puting out one of his own eyes, or pitching the bones into your lap, name the wedding-day at once; he will do to tie te.

OF 'Cleanliness is a virtue,' said a moral newsboy, when he washed his hands in the gutter, and wiped them on the curbstone.

The North Cape.

We cut the following description of the North bolitics, hey?' asked Peter Von Slug, of his Cape of Lapland, from an exchage paper; it

> Lord Silverton approached the Cape, and looked steadily downward. He drew's long breath, and in hushed accents, said:

· This reminds me of Shakspeare's description of the chalk cliffs of Dover, in King Lear. But schat are the cliffs of Dover? But what 'Ah?' exclaimed Pete, after taking a drang't are the cliffs of Dover to this North Cape of rom his mug, show do you make him dat ? Lapland! This is awful-tremendous-sub-'Vell, mine frien, I tell you,' replied Sweit- lime! The whole world has not its equal. d, after a few whites and a drink, 'I comes to What would not Shakspeare have written, had ish place ten year last evening by der Dutch he stood on this North Cape! A sight like Almanic, mit mine blacksmit shop. I builds all this would make even a common man a poets he little house, I poots up mine bellers, I but the poet-born would be etherealized-

"Give me your hand, my lord," said Herr Dat is goot,' remarked Pete, at the same Klingmager, for I think you have iron nerves nearer the brink of the precipics.'

They did so; and Lord Silverton, accustomheard the faint echo of their roar.

"Tis terrible -astounding-almost horrible." murumred he. .

From our standing-point to the surface of ly remarked Herr Klingmager. See the guils four boonerd and swonzy, and der next five and the great 'anas flying half-way down .hoondred toller. Dat make five year, when They look no larger than sparrows! Only enter, when all is storm and darkness, and when the ocean, driven in huge waves from the toy Arctic regions, burst against this sentinel of I dells you how you make him quicker as nature-this defiant Cape-and casts up solid masses of water in tens of thousands of tons, 'I ask him how, and den he tells me lo go in- hundreds of feet high, against the rock, and to bolities and get big office. I laugh at him, the foamy spray flies a hundred feet above the

· Listen a moment,' he continued: 'you feel bes a going to run for Congress, and Shake der | the cutting wind, and you hear its shrill whislawyer dells him to dell me, if I would go the as it rushes against us; but do you also

"Tis the boom of the ocean at our feet, is it not?' .. Yes; we hear the sound of the waves beating heavily-as they have beaten, without 'Twenty tousand! mine Got!' exclaimed rest or pause, for thousands of years-against the base of the Cape; and the sound is so faint 'Yaw, twenty thousand. Well, by Shinks, at this immense elevation, that one might fan: cy he was standing on a spot long miles from the sea. But it is not the echo of the waves that I wish you to notice. Bend your boad Here Mynheer Von Swaitzel stopped, took | and again listen.'

Lord Silverton did so; and now he distinctlly heard a sound, or if variety of sounds, blended together, so as to produce a species of wild, unearthly symphony. There were walling sounds, vibratory sounds, hissing sounds, mouning sounds, rumbling sounds, sighing sounds, rushing sounds, quivering sounds, faintly yet clearly, and impressing the hearer with a pleasing sensation, but unlike the imaginary distant concerts we sometimes listen to in a dream.

. What fresh marvel and mystery is this?" " "It is no mystery, my Lord, but a very natural and simple phenomenon. The singular and undescribable sounds are produced by the very same wind that blows against us, and they are caused by the resistance offered by the wind, on its passage, by the head or front of would observe when sailing around it, not a plain surface like a wall or bastion, built by hands, as it at first sight seems, but grooved. and rifted, and full of hollows and protuberances, of all sizes and shapes; hence the singular variety of sounds, all of which reach us half-way down the front of the Cape, we should doubtless be astonished at their loudness !"

· · To what a depth must the solid foundstions descend !'

Perhaps they begin miles below our foet!"

RACHEL .- "Rachell will cause much sxellement here, Mrs. P.," said the young doctor, addressing Mrs. Partington, giving the name the foreign pronunciation.

"I dure say," replied she; "they are always getting up new nostroms to cause a fomenta. tion among the people. But do you really helm Von Sweitzel, do your own blowing and think, doeter, that this Rochelle is any better than the old-fashioned globular salts ?"

The doctor bit his lips and told her that he

She looked at him a moment.

"Well," says she, smiling, "I believe I am losing all my conscientionsness, and by and by shan't know nothing.

The doctor got up to go, taking his sent a little ways with him, as some adhering wax that Ike had laid down in the chair, pipned him thereto. - Boston Post.

Description of a bad road .- "Stranger, which is the way to - village ?"

"There's two roads," responded the fellow. "Well, which is the best?"

"Aaint much difference; both on 'em very bad. Take which way you will, afore you're got half way you'll wish you tuck t'other."