The Free Lance.

By that alabaster brow; By that hand as white as snow; By that proud, angelic form ; By that rounded, classic arm; By those raven locks of hair ; By those vermeil lips, I swear By the ocean; by the air; By the lightning and the thunder; By all things on earth and under; By the electric telegraph; By my future better half; By our vespers and our dreams; By our matins and Te Deums ; By young Cupid and by my muse, By whatever else you choose. Yes, I swear by all creation And this endless "Yankee Nation," I love you like tar-

> nation.

THAT CLEVER MERCHANT. A merchant had A little ad Which well performed its mission, And as an aid To ready trade It proved a great +

For buyers went, On bargains bent (Much to his satisfaction), And from his store Of goods galore Performed a great —

They came and went, On trade intent (Still to his gratification), Until his till By coin and bill

Showed rapid \times .

Now, tradesmen all, Both great and small, With no more indecision Just advertise And win the prize, Large profits for -+-.

-American Traveler.