

Fragments of Sam Slick

To be successful in society—lay in a good stock of “soft sawder” and small talk.

Diffidence is begotten by knowledge ;
presumption by ignorance.

Deacon Overreach was so mean he always carried a hen in his gig-box when he travelled, to pick up the oats his horse wasted in the manger, and lay an egg for his breakfast in the morning.

Memory acts on thought like sudden heat on a dormant fly ; it wakes it from the dead, puts new life into it, and it stretches out its wings and buzzes round as if it had never slept.