

## POETRY.

[FOR THE BEE.]

"The first time I saw her, she was in a Church yard.—She was weeping over a new-made grave. I felt it my duty to comfort her, but could not help commending her grief."

[Old Manuscript.]

STRANGER—

Why dost thou weep that he is gone—  
Gone from this cold and heartless clay,  
Heaven will not let thee tread alone  
Life's unbefriended, rugged way.

The Being that upholds thee now,  
Has called him to a brighter sphere,  
Thou let not sorrow cloud thy brow;  
But wipe away that burning tear.

LADY—

He was my love—the very soul  
Of all the fondest heart could seek;  
'Tis this that makes the tear-drops roll,  
In sad succession, down my cheek.

In joyous hour he was the light  
That dissipates all gloomy fears;  
When weeping sorrow drench'd my sight,  
He sooth'd my soul and dried my tears.

STRANGER—

There is a virtue in thy grief;  
"Sweet is the sorrow for the dead"—  
Grateful and holy the relief,  
With which the mourner's soul is fed.

Weep on—weep on, for lady, then,  
Ah! had I had thee cease to weep?  
Let fall the tear, again—again—  
Upon the grave where he doth sleep.

And let the flowers that blossom there,  
Be watered by these tears of thine—  
The violet and the snow drop fair,  
The daisy and the jessamine.

For when thou slumberest by his side,  
Those flowers will droop and fade and die;—  
Pale Love will pass, at even-tide,  
And pointing whisper, "There they lie!"

A—.

## MISCELLANY.

From the Journal of the Franklin Institute.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TANNING.

Patented by Edward S. and Daniel Bell,  
Smithfield, Jefferson county Va., July 23,  
1834.

The objects of the improved modes of procedure for which this patent is obtained, are,—first the softening the hides, or skins, and the freeing them from grease. Secondly, Expanding the hides preparatory to their receiving the tan. Thirdly, the procuring the tanning, or tanning principle, from the ooze, pure, by filtering—Fourthly, causing the tanning lixivium more readily to enter the hides, by the use of mechanical compression made upon them under the surface of the ooze, and thereby shortening the operation. The claims made are to the moles and apparatus, adopted for the attainment of these ends. For softening the hides, twenty-one and a half lbs. of caustic lime, unshacked, and levigated, and sixteen pounds of carbonate of potash, and one pound of carbonate of soda, are to be added to every two hundred cubic feet of water. In the alkaline liquor thus formed, the hides are to be suspended in the usual way, by which means they will be completely softened, and have their grease neutralized, in from 24 to 36 hours.

The expanding or raising of the hides is to be effected by adding to every hundred feet of pure galle lixivium, one pound of tartaric, and one pound of sulphuric acids; by suspending the hides in this solution, a complete expansion it is said will take place in six or eight hours.

To procure the tanning liquor pure, the ooze, after having been obtained from the bark, is to be filtered by putting it into a vessel of the nature of the common hopper for obtaining ley, the bottom and sides of which are to be covered with about eight inches of raw cotton, and filled in with fine refuse tan, or exhausted bark. Through this, the pure tanning liquor is to be passed, and collected in a proper receptacle.

The most important part of the process, however, appears to be the following, namely, the subjecting the hides or skins to mechanical pressure under the surface of the ooze, or tanning liquor. The apparatus employed for the purpose is fully described, and will be represented in the drawing. A platform is to be made, and placed upon firm supports, which platform may be suspended between two vats containing ooze, and in which the hides were suspended. The platform stands a few inches below the level of the ooze in the vats, which is admitted to flow over it, there being ledges which serve to retain it upon the platform. Upon this platform the hides are to be submitted to the requisite degree of pressure. The tanning liquid is to be kept by means of heaters of a temperature of 95 deg. Fahrenheit. The hides are to be taken from the vats, and spread smoothly upon the platform, and then a kind of carriage, sustained upon two long rollers of wood or brass, is made to pass over them, the carriage being loaded with such a weight as may be necessary for the skins to be operated upon. The guides, ways, friction rollers, pulleys, &c., which are employed in the moving of this carriage back and forth we need not describe. The object of this pressure is to remove the watery particles from the pores, which are left there after the ooze has become exhausted by the combination of its tannin with the skin; the pores are thus closed, and the skin condensed, and in that state it has to be slipped again into the vat, without exposing it to the air, where in the course of six or eight hours, it will again be expanded by the refilling of the pores with fresh ooze. This operation is to be repeated, employing a stronger tanning liquid after the first has produced all the effect expected from it; and thus, in succession, a stronger and stronger, until the process is completed, which, for heavy leather takes place in six or eight weeks, and for light skins, in from six to twelve days. To economize time and labor, there must be a series of such vats and platforms as have been described, thus enabling the workmen to proceed readily from a weaker to a stronger solution, these varying according to the nature of the skin; and requiring to be regulated according to the judgment of the workmen.

THE WIFE.—I have often had occasion to remark the fortitude with which women sustain the most overwhelming reverses of fortune. Those disasters which break down the spirit of a man, and prostrate him in the dust, seem to call forth all the energies of the softer sex, and give such intrepidity and elevation to their character, that at times it approaches to sublimity.

Nothing can be more touching, than to behold a soft and tender female, who had been all weakness and dependence, and alive to every trivial roughness, while treading the prosperous paths of life, suddenly rising in mental force to be the comforter and support-

er of her husband under misfortune, and abiding with unshrinking firmness, the most bitter blasts of adversity.

As the vine, which has long twined its graceful foliage about the oak, and been lifted by it into sunshine, will, when the hardy plant is rified by the thunder-bolt, cling round it with its caressing tendrils, and bind up its shattered boughs; so is it beautifully ordered by Providence, that woman who is the mere dependent and ornament of man in his happy hours, should be his stay and solace when smitten with sudden calamity; winding herself into the rugged recesses of his nature, tenderly supporting the drooping head, and binding up the broken heart.

I was once congratulating a friend, who had around him a blooming family, knit together in the strongest affection. "I can wish you no better lot," said he, with enthusiasm, "than to have a wife and children. If you are prosperous, there they are to share your prosperity; if otherwise, there they are to comfort you."

And, indeed, I have observed, that a married man falling into misfortune, is more apt to retrieve his situation in the world than a single one; partly, because he is more stimulated to exertion by the necessities of the helpless and beloved beings who depend upon him for subsistence, but chiefly because his spirits are soothed and relieved by the endearments, and self respect kept alive by finding that though all abroad is darkness and humiliation, yet there is still a little world of love at home, of which he is the monarch.

Whereas, a single man is apt to run to waste and self-neglect, to fancy himself lonely and abandoned, and his heart to fall to ruin, like some deserted mansion, for want of an inhabitant.—INVINC.

On Burns's first appearance in Edinburgh he was introduced, among many others to Mr. Taylor, the overweening parochial schoolmaster of Currie, who was also a competitor in verse-making, and whose opinion of his own merits far overbalanced what little estimation he might have formed of the plain unlettered peasant of Ayrshire, whose name was as yet new to the public. Mr. H—, at whose table Burns was a frequent guest, invited Taylor one day to dine with them, when the evening was spent with the usual good humour and jocularity. Taylor had brought his manuscript poems, a few of which were read to Burns, for his favourable opinion, previous to printing. Some of the passages were odd enough, such as,

"Rin, little book, round the world loup,  
Whilst I in grave do lie wi' a cauld doup,"

At which Burns laughed exceedingly. Notwithstanding the pedantic and absurd perversity of the poems, he gave him a recumbent commendatory line to the printer. Next morning Mr. H— meeting Taylor, inquired of him what he thought of the Ayrshire poet. "Hoot," quoth the self-admiring pedagogue, "the lad 'ill do—considering his want o' lear, the lad's weel enough."

PRIDE, perceiving humility honourable, often borrows her cloak.

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