

ide first Cover.

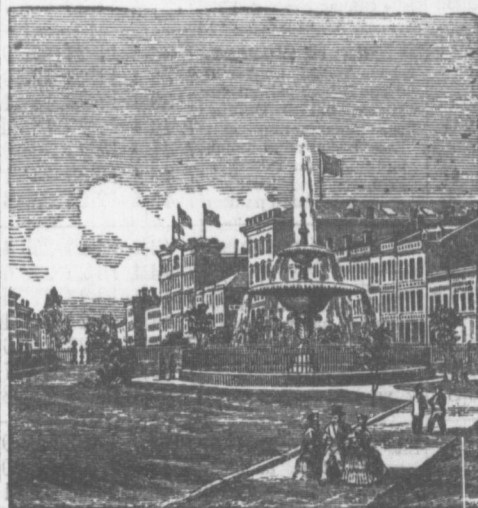
Chambers's "Book of Days."

SWEET REVENGE.

DURING Queen Mary's imprisonment in Lochleven Castle, she was compelled to resign the crown of Scotland in favour of her infant son, and to agree that her unnatural brother, the Earl of Murray, should act as regent during his minority. This was in 1567. Murray did not hold his position long, for one fine day—it was the 25th of January, 1569—when passing through Linlithgow, he met his death-blow. The story of his end is thus told : The chief actor was a gentleman known as Hamilton of Bothwellhaugh. He had been condemned to death soon after the battle of Langside, and owed his life to the regent's clemency. But that act of grace was soon forgotten, for part of his estate was bestowed upon one of the regent's favorites who seized his house and turned out his wife on a cold night into the open fields, where, before next morning, she became furiously mad. This injury made a deep impression on Hamilton ; he vowed vengeance on the regent. Party rage strengthened and inflamed his private resentment. His kinsmen, the Hamiltons, applauded the enterprise. The maxims of that age justified the most desperate course he could take to obtain vengeance. He followed the regent for some time, and watched for an opportunity to strike the blow. He resolved at last to wait till his enemy should arrive at Linlithgow, through which he was to pass in his way from Stirling to Edinburgh. He took his stand in a wooden gallery, which had a window towards the street ; spread a feather bed on the floor, to hinder the noise of his feet from being heard ; hung up a black cloth behind him that his shadow might not be observed from without ; and after all this preparation, calmly expected the approach of the regent who had lodged during the night in a house not far distant. Some indistinct information of the danger which threatened him had been conveyed to the regent, and he paid so much regard to it that he

Two dogs fell to fighting in a saw mill. In the course of the tussle one of the dogs went plump against a saw in rapid motion, which cut him in two instanter. The hind-legs ran away, but the fore-legs continued the fight and whipped the other dog.

"I've got a new machine," exclaimed a Yankee pedlar, "for picking bones out of fishes. Now, I tell you, it's the leetle the thing you ever did see. All you have to do is to set it on a table and turn a crank, and the fish flies rite down your throat, and the bones fly under the grate. Well, there was a country greenhorn got hold of it the other day, and he turned the crank the wrong way; and I tell you, the way the bones flew down his throat was awful: why, it stuck that feller so full of bones that he couldn't get his shirt off for a whole week."



CITY OF HAMILTON.