THE ORIGIN OF CAPITAL.

(From Cruikshanks' Prehistoric Annals.)

AND in those days there were no men of influence, neither was there any law in the land, and the treasury was empty. And it was so, that when the cold grew, and sticks failed for lack, that men digged into the ground and thereout brought stones that were as the raven for blackness, and they burned them with fire, and warmed themselves therewith.

And one who was wise above his fellows said: "Lo these stones give fervent heat yet to dig them is sore toil and grievous" And they said: "Carried!"

And he said: "Are not we of old in the land and children of the king? Wherefor should we toil to get heat if we may get it without?" And they said: "Why, indeed?"

And he said: "Go to, let us say to all the people, 'is it not meet that the rulers should control all the land for the benefit of all the people; and they shall sell to the people, they shall use the money to rule the people and to do justly."

And they did so, and told all the people, and the people said that it was good, and they said: "Amen!" and shouted with a great shout and they fell every one on the neck of his fellow and wept for joy, so that the tears went down his back, for said they: "Now are we a great nation, for the rights of all are protected, and each may have his inheritance in the congregation, and a stake in this land."

Yet they spake hastily and wist not that in the days to come many would have to feast on shinbone. And the rulers judged the people, and for the hire of judging, took them goodly portions of the best lands and gave to their sons and to their daughters, and they made covenants with themselves that it be theirs forever, and they set up stones at the borders thereof as a witness to all people, and marked with a crown and bearing the superscription, "*E. Pluribus Unum*," which being interpreted signifies, "Keep off the Grass."

And after these things, men were cold and essayed to dig stones, wherewith to warm themselves. And certain of the rulers came to them and said: "Where is your power to dig these stones that are the property and inheritance of all the people?'

And they answered: "Picks and spades have we, will not these suffice?" And the rulers said: 'Ye must buy the right, so that we may do justly with all the people." And they said: "Alas, masters, we have parted with our money for these weapons."

And the rulers said: "Then will we not put burdens upon you above what ye can bear, but will take of the stones that ye dig, to the end that we may do justice to all the people." Then spake one of the rebellious ones and said: "It liketh us to know how you will use these stones that we dig, to the gain of all the people?" And the rulers answered: "Even as ye do, we will warm ourselves." And the rebellious ones said: "If thy servants find grace in my lord's sight even as our bowels do yearn upon you, then let my lords dig these stones and we and our fellows will do justly to rule the people and warm ourselves." But the rulers answered: "Go to"—howbeit they specified not the locality. And to the others they said: "Dig, or dig out." And they dug.

And the rulers took of the fuel and of the wheat also, and of all other sorts of goods and consumed them and waxed great. And the stuff they took from

DALTON McCARTHY'S TRUMPET BLAST.

PREMIER THOMPSON—"All right my friend, rest peaceably. It isn't the last trump you hear by any means. It's only McCarthy blowing his horn to try and shake down that wall."
(Ghost disappears with a moan of anguish.)