Select Poetry.

Summer Day.

There's a gaping rent in the curtain
That longs for a needle and thread,
There's a garment that ought to be finished,
And a book that wants to be read.
There's a letter that ought to be answered,
There are clothes to fold away.
And I know these tasks are awaiting,
And ought to be done to-day.

But how can I mend the curtain,
While watching this silvery cloud,
And how can I finish the garment,
When the robin calls so loud
And the whispering trees are telling
Such stories above my head,
That I can but lie and listen,
And the book is all unread.

If I try to write the letter,
I am sure one half the words
Will be in the curious language
Of my chattering friends, the birds.
The lilacs bloom in the sunshine,
The roses nod and smile,
And the clothes that ought to be folded
And ironed, must wait awhile.

I lie in the locust shadows,
And gaze at the summer sky,
Bidding the cares and troubles
And trials of life pass by.
The beautiful locust blossoms
Are falling about my feet,
And the dreamy air is laden
With their odors rare and sweet.

The honey-bees hum in the clover,
The grasses rise and fall,
The roses stops and listens,
As he hears the brown thrush call.
The humming-bird sings to me softly,
The butterfly flirts away—
Oh what could be sweeter than living,
This beautiful summer day.

Together.

Sweet hand that held in mine,
Seems the one thing I cannot live without,
The soul's one anchorage in this storm and doubt,
I take thee as the sign,

Of sweeter days in store
For life and more than life, when life is done,
And thy soft pressure leads me gently on
To Heaven's own Evermore.

I have not much to say,
Nor any words that at such fond request,
Let my blood speak to thine, and bear the rest
Some silent heartward way.

Thrice blest the faithful hand
Which saves e'en while it blesses; hold, me fast;
Let me not go beneath the floods at last,
So near the better land.

Sweet hand that thus in mine,
Seems the one thing I cannot live without,
My heart's one anchor in life's storm and doubt,
Take this, and make me thine.

Miscellaneous

A PARABLE.

The Trees of the forest, sayed old Thomas Adams, held a solom parliment wherein they consulted of the various wrongs, which the ax had done them, therefore they enacted, that no tree should hereafter lend the ax wood for a handle on pain of being cut down. The axe traveled up and down the forest begging wood of the Seeder, Oak, Ash Elm, even to the Popular, not one, would lend him a chip. At last he desired so much as could serve him to cut down the bushes and briers, aledging that they did suck away the juces of the ground and hindred the growth of the goodly trees, hereon they were content to afford him so much. But when he had got his handle he cut them down also.

Thus are we continuely supplying wood for handle to the axe that shall cut down some bushes and briers, (by the way of Dreears.) And before we are aware of it, with a giant stroke the axe we thought should prove advantagious to us, smites us down. Beware my friends how you indulge in wicked habits, for the removel of little insignifigent Disease lest if the D'seas be removed, the axe strike to the heart, and the result prove fatle, The good book says, And now also the axe is laid unto the roots of the trees: Therefore every tree which bringith not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire,

F. F. S.

The Governor Taken from a Cra e.

A benevolent old man of Brooklyn was making the tour of the city, in pur suit of truants and little wanderers, one Sabbath morning a score of years ago, when he found a little boy asleep in a crate on one of the wharves.

He shook the crate, and a pair of bright, black eyes opened and flashed upon him, with a look of timid surprise and bashfulness.

"Why do you sleep here?" inquired the old man.

"Because I have no home," said the child.

"Where is your father?"

"I don't know, sir. I hain't seen him for a long time; never since he told mother he wouldn't come home again."

"Where is your mother?"

"She is dead."

"So you have no home—no father, no mother—and live from hand to mouth in the street, and sleep in a crate?"

"Yes, sir. I sell soap and matches, and sleep here."

"Would you like to have a home, and go to school, and grow up to be good and brave and useful man?"

"Yes, sir."

"Come along with me: I will take you to my own house, and feed and clothe you, and send you to school, if you prove to be, as I think you are, a good and faithful boy,"

As the old man said this, he dashed a tear from his eyes, with his coat sleeve, for the boy was the very image of his own sweet child, who had died a few years before. Lifting the lad tenderly out of the crate he lead him to his own pleasant home, where he was washed and combed, and then dressed in a suit of clothes formerly worn by the son of the philanthropist.

To shorten the story, which has material enough for a volume, the good old man gave the lad all the advantages afforded by the common schools of the "city of churches," and then gave him a clerkship in his own store, for he was a well-to-do merchant.

After several years of faithful service the young man expressed a wish to engage in business on his own account, or in some other way to extend his usefulness

"I will start you in business," said the old man, "on certain conditions."

"Please state them," remarked the young man with a smile, for he supposed his benefactor was about to perpetrate a joke at his expense.

"I will start you in business, if you will make three promises," continued the old man.

"Pray what promises do you wish me to make?"

"One is, that you will never swear,'

"Agreed."

"Another is, that you will never drink rum."

"Agreed."

"The other is, that you will have nothing to do with politics."

"Agreed."

True to his promise as the steel to the star, the old man furnished his clerk with capital, and started him in business in one of the Western States—The young man was very attentive to his business, and his habits of industry and sobriety were crowned with good fortune, which generally accompanies virtue, courage, enterprise and intelligence. A few years ago he paid a visit to his venerable friend in Brooklyn, and found him the same kind-hearted and gentle gentleman that he was when he first led him from the crate on the wharf to the pleasant cottage on the avenue.

"I am delighted to see you," remarked the old man. "May I ask you if you have kept the pledges you gave me, when you suggested to me the idea of starting business on your own account—are you a temperance man?"

"I have not tasted a drop of any kind of intoxicating liquor since I promised you I would not, and you know I had no sacrifice to make in keeping that promise, for I never was accustomed to the use of such liquor; and I do not furnish it to my guests, nor to persons in my employment."

"Good boy—give me your hand and let me shake it again. How about that promise not to use profane language?"

"Well, sir, when I was a little wanderer, and sold soap and matches, I scattered my oaths as liberally as colleges do their D. D.'s, but I droped them in your Sabbath School, and I never resumed them. I never indulge the silly and vulgar habit of swearing. I think it shows a lack of originality. A man wishes to say something to be emphatic, and owing to a lack of ideas and proper use of language, he fills up the chinks of conversation with oaths. He curses his eyes, his limbs, his soul, his heart, his horse, his luck, and thinks he is fluent when he is only profane. No, sir, I do not claim to be a paragon of perfection, but I should be ashamed of my speech if I spiced it with profanity."

"Good, good! I expected such a report from you. How about politics?"

The young man of business had until this moment maintained perfect self-command, but when the last question was put to him, his cheeks grew red as crimson.

"Well, sir, I suppose some people think I am a politican," remarked the young merchant.

"Sorry—very sorry," observed the old man.

"I couldn't help what happened, sir."

"You promised me you would have nothing to do with politics."

"I know I did."

"Well, it is strange that you could not keep that promise as easily as you kept the other two."

"Well, sir, have patience with me, and I will tell you how it happened."

"Well, go on."

"As you are aware, I was fortunate in trade, honored my paper when it became due, and paid, with intrest, the money you had the kindness to advance. I was the leading business man in the town; had opinions in relations to man and measures, and did not hesitate, on all proper occasions, to express them, and sustain them with my vote on election days."

"There can be no objection to that," remarked