[illegible] Company.

[illegible] all hands, and one [illegible] very long way back into [illegible] The oldest ancestor the Twomblys have any record of was a friend of the family by the name of Higgins.

Andrew Twomby was a man of considerable [illegible] a minister on the high [illegible] William Rufus [illegible]. At about the age of [illegible] most people of their time he [illegible] the gates of [illegible] thing, and never [illegible] again.—While here he [illegible] solemnly.

Augustus Twomby [illegible] to have made something of [illegible] about the year 1160. He was [illegible] of fun as could be, and used to [illegible] his old sabre and sharpen it up, [illegible] convenient place on a dark night, and stick it into the people as they went by, to see them jump. He was a born humorist. But he got to going too far with it, and the first time he was found stripping one of these parties, the authorities removed one end of him, and put it upon a pick high place on Temple Bar, where it could contemplate the people and have a good time. He never liked any situation so much or stuck to it so long.

Then for the next two hundred years, the family tree shows a succession of soldiers—noble, high-spirited fellows, who always went into battle singing, right behind the army, and who always went whooping out right ahead of it.

This is a scathing rebuke to old dead Froissart's poor witticism, that our family tree never had but one limb to it, and that that one bore fruit winter and summer.

Early in the fifteenth century we have Beau Twaie, called "the Scholar." He wrote a beautiful hand. And he could imitate anybody's hand so close that it was enough to make a person laugh his head off to see it. He had infinite sport with his talent. But by and by he took a contract to break stone for a road, and the roughness of the work spoiled his hand. Still, he enjoyed life all the time he was in the stone business, which, with inconsiderable intervals, was some forty-two years. In fact, he died in harness.—During all those long years he gave such satisfaction that he was never through with one contract a week till government gave him another. He was a hard [illegible] yet. And he was always a favorite with his fellow-artists, and was a conspicuous member of their benevolent secret society, called the Chow-Chow. He always wore his hair short, and had a preference for striped pantaloons, and died lamented by the government. He was a sore loss to his country, for he was so regular.

Ah-go-to-wah-wah-puk-kee-ke-te-kee-wi-[illegible] Hunter with-a-Hoe-[illegible], Twain adorned the middle of the eighteenth century, and aided Gen. Braddock with all his heart to resist the Father Washington. He was the Indian who fired seventeen times at Washington from behind a tree. So far the beautiful romantic narrative is true, but the story stops is correct; for where the narrative goes on to say that the seventeenth found the awe-stricken Indian said solemnly that the Great Spirit reserved by the Great Spirit for some mighty mission, and he could not miss his sacrilegious rifle shot him again, the narrative seriously impairs the integrity of history. What he did say was:

"It-ta-ya (hic) ni-ne! 'At man's so drunk he can't stand still long 'nough for a man t' hit him. I (hic) can't get close enough to pay any ammunition on 'im."

And then there were the pedlars. Twomby sold the pop-corn boy to get rid of him, because I was trying to compose a poem for a young lady's album, and did not want to be disturbed. But he came right back with a stock of peanuts. I took a few and harried him away, and he returned with some ice-cream candy. I don't like ice-cream candy and peanuts together, yet I invented at once, because an inspired rhyme had been [illegible] to me, and I wanted to set it down before it slipped my mind. Then the pedlers came back to me with tobacco and cigars, and afterwards with oranges, imitation ivory baby-rattles, fig-paste and apples: [illegible] away, and was gone some time, and I was encouraged to hope the lads had run over him. He was shy. Keeping his most malignant oranges in his pocket. He was getting his machinery ready. And from that time forward, that degraded youth did nothing [illegible] from office to another, but office the passengers with specimens of the vilest blood-and-thunder romance on earth. "The Pirate's Doom," and the "Desperado," were some of his milder productions. Their backs were picturesque with stabbing affrays and duels, and people buying other people over precipices, followed by rescues of the victims from terrible perils. He always wore his hair long, and had a preference for striped pantaloons, and died lamented by the government. He was a sore loss to his country, for he was so regular.

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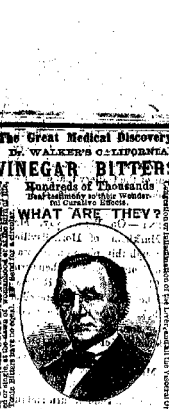

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