THE EXPOSITOR ORIGINAL MAY

An Aim,

BY ELLA WHEELER.

Give me a man with an aim. Whatever that aim may be, Whether it's wealth, or whether it's fame, It matters not to me. Let him walk in the path of Right, And keep his aim in sight : And work and pray in faith, alway With his eye on the glittering height.

Give me the man who says, "I will do something well ; And makes the fleeting days A story of labour tell. Though the aim he has is small, It is better than none at all. With something to do the whole ye through, He will not slumber or fall.

But Satan weaves a snare For the feet of those that stray, With never a thought or care, Where the path may lead away. The man who has no aim, Not only leaves no name

When this life is done, but ten to one, He leaves a record of shame. Give me the man whose heart Is filled with ambitious fire, Who sets his mark at the start, MAnd keeps moving it higher and higher.

Better to die in the strife The hands with labor rife, Than to glide with the stream in an idle dream, And livera useless life.

Better to strive to climb, And never reach the goal, Than to drive along with Time, An aimless, worthless soul, Ah ! better to climb and fall-Or sow, though the yield be small, Than to throw away, day after day,

And never strive at all.

Purity of Character.

Over the beauty of the plum and apricot there grows a bloom of beauty more exquisite than the fruit itself-a soft delicate flush overspreads its blushing cheek. Now, if you strike your hand over that, and it is once gone, it is gone for ever; for it never grows but once. The flower that hangs in the morning, impearled with dew, arrayed with jewels-once shake it never can be made again what it was when the dew fell lightly on it from heaven ! On a frosty morning you may see the panes of glass covered with landscapes, mountains, lakes and trees, blended with a beautiful, fantastic picture. Now lay your hand upon the glass, and by the scratch of finger, or by the warmth of the palm, all the delicate tracery will be obliterated. So there is in youth a beauty and purity of character, which once touchfringe more delicate than frost-work, and which, when torn and broken, will never be re-embroidered. When a young man leaves his father's house, with the blessings of his mother's tears still wet upon his forehead, if he once loses that early purity of character, it is a loss that he can never make whole again. Such is the consequence of crime. Its effects cannot be eradicated; it can only be forgiven.

Origin of the Wedding Ring.

Some doubt seems to exist in the minds of antiquaries and others as to the origin of the sanctity of the ring, that most important feature in our marriage service, as in by-gone ages it was given to the bride only as a gift amongst other presents. The form of it was doubtless a symbol of eternity. It was the custom among the Anglo-Saxons for children to be bethrothed at an early age, and at such ceremonies the bridegroom gave the "wed" (whence our word wedding) as pledge, which consisted of a number of valuables, amongst others a ring which was placed on the girl's right hand, where it remained until it was transferred to her left when she was married. On that occasion the bridegroom put the ring on each of the bride's left hand fingers in turn, saying at the first, "in the name of the Father," at the second, "in the name of the Son," at the third, "in the name of the Holy Ghost," and at the fourth, "Amen;" after which the father presented the husband with one of the bride's shoes as a token of the transfer of authority, whilst the bride was made fully aware of the fact by a blow on her head given with the shoe. The husband-bound himself down by oath to use his wife well, in failing of which she might leave him, altough he was allowed by prescriptive right to bestow on her and his apprentices moderate castigation. Popular opinion in time formed itself into law, and even nowa-days there is an idea current in some parts of the country that husband may beat his wife, provided that the stick be no longer than the wielder's arm and no thicker than his middle finger. An old Welsh law considered three blows of a broom-stick a fair punishment upon any part of the lady's body except her head.

Ir is stated as a medical fact that persons addicted to the use of intoxicating drinks are more liable to be attacked by small-pox than those of abstemious lives and regular habits.

DEATH. -- Haste not to get rich, for Death stalketh abroad at all hours, and will encounter thee unawares. The high, the low, the poor, the affluent, the righteous, as well as the unrighteous, are all alike to Death, for his inexorable scythe levels all social distinctions.

mals is on our table. This paper is issued monthly by the "Massachusetts Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals." Its aim is to inculcate principles of humanity in the treatment of dumb ani- If a tree survive its removal for three mals. Price \$1 per year. Address, 46 Washington street, Boston.

has got a full band of cannibals now, and being in duty bound, is a newspaper man, to interview them, we went for the task. "Which of the Fiji islands are you from?" we asked of the oldest. "From Tipperary, begob!" was the savage reply. Ex.

Street Profanity.

Our attention has frequently been called | C., as a poet and grammarian. He was so of late to this very prevalent evil, and diminutive that he always carried leaden mere recently by an appeal in the columns weights in his pocket to prevent his being of the Belleville Ontario, urging upon all blown away by the wind. He was preceplovers of good order and decency the ne- ter to Ptolemy Philadelphus. Another cessity of doing something in order to abate this rapidly increasing public nuisince. That it is an alarmingly prevalent evil, and constantly growing upon the comma, at the age of thirty-five years, wearing culiar circumstances, and then not before age, seventeen inches at six, thirty-three inches at twenty, and thirty-nine inches at connection with the rising generation of most recent dwarfs known to history. our country. Young men, youths scarce-ly in their teens, and even children of tender age, hardly able to lisp their own names, in the play-ground and on the street corners, in imitation of their seniors, are heard bandying profane epithets, which, as was said by a member of the Board of to contemplate!" Surely parents are not so indifferent to the welfare of their children that they would willingly see them acquire a degrading habit that may stick to them through life. We protest that this is not the religious element alone that is thus waking up to this matter, but a growing conviction among men of fine tastes and sensibilities, and who may have no reverence for sacred things whatever, that something should be done to root out this glaring evil. We do not expect to accomplish much in the way of checking the very common outlet for violent ebulitions of anger in private—we leave that with their conscience and their Maker. But we hope that something may be done to arrest the spread of a contaminating vice that is at once disgusting and annoying, and would therefore urge upon all who are interested so that the heads roll off, and you may in the welfare of society to lend their inaprinkle water over it as you please, yet it | fluence in the direction of right. -Port Hope Guide.

An interesting decision was recently rendered by the Court of Queen's Bench in this city, as to what may be legally included within the term of "personal luggage. Some time ago, an immigrant sued the Grand Trunk Railway for the loss of one out of four trunks, which he had shipped at Montreal, and left for a few hours at the Toronto station, while he took a strole through the city. He intended to pass on to Hamilton, but on returning to the station one of his trunks had disappeared. ed and defiled, can never be restored—a He brought evidence to prove that among other things, the missing trunk contained \$90 worth of personal clothing, a gold Albert chain, a rifle, a revolver, a sewing machine, and \$100 worth of carpenter's tools. The Grand Trunk contended that there were only three boxes, and that some of the articles were not "personal luggage, and therefore the Company was not responsible for them. The jury found a verdict in favour of the immigrant, in about \$300, subject to a reduction by the Judges for the value of what they might consider not personal luggage. After hearing argument, the Bench decided that the rifle and the revolver were personal luggage, but the carpenter's tools and sewing machine were not. A concertina unhappily caused some discord in the court, Judge Adam Wilson deciding that it was personal luggage; but the other two Judges, less devoted to harmony, ruled against giving Bench decided against the further contention of the Grand Trunk, that because one article in the box was not personal luggage, therefore they could not be held reponsible for the remainder, though be-

I am free to own that it requires great courage and great good sense for a warmhearted, social, lively girl to stem the tide of frivolity and worldliness, and remain rue to her better self in her corner of iso lation; and I could wish that more young men than I can at present number, honored them for so doing, not only in their Neck Yokes, Whiffltrees and general Turning on the shortest possible notice. Factory, West hands as partners for life. Meantime the young men who talk about the impossibility of supporting the "extravagant girl of the period," will please look in their glasses at the man of the period. - Fanny

Poor Apples.-It is a lamentable fact that one-half of the apples grown in Canada are varieties that are worth very little, only for cider. Farmers have taken very little pains to inform themselves in regard to the varieties best adapted for marketing and to the climate, and there are thousands of orchards of natural fruit, which, if they had been grafted to the right kinds, would now be yielding thousands of dollars to their owners. But I am glad to see they are beginning to wake up to the importance of this subject, and I believe the day is not far distant when Western Ontario will become what it should beone of the best fruit-producing sections of the world .- From Address to Fruit Growers' Association.

ORNAMENTAL SHADE TREES. -In driving through some of our townships one cannot fail to notice that the appearance of the country is rendered very desolate by the absence of isolated and ornamental trees. Not to enter here into the question of the ill effects upon the surface of the land of an utter denuding of all trees, we would simply point to the barren appearance that is the result of such wholesale mutilation. It is urged that it is useless to leave forest trees standing by themselves when the bush is cut down. Doubtless, it is true that most varieties of forest trees will die or be uprooted by high winds, when de-prived of the shelter of companions. When such is the case, though the appearance of certain townships proves that it is not always a necessary sequence, we would have every inducement held out to our farmers to plant out saplings. If owners of dwellings or farms have not sufficient taste to beautify their awn property, let the public at least endeavor to induce such THE April number of Our Dumb Ani- men, by the hopes of pecuniary compensation, to plant trees along the public roads. Let the counties or townships vote a bonus to the planter for every tree which shall be set along the highway, and which shall be living say three years after planting. years, the chances are that it will grow to a large and handsome one. If we live ten years from to-day, such trees as are now BARNUM'S wonders will never cease. He set out will do much to relieve the desolate appearance of too many of our landscapes; and to those who are living twenty years hence, and to our children, the appearance of the country will rival the arboreal beauty of old Englard. We may

then, with our old country friends, eula-

gise "the shady lanes and leafy bowers."

-Canada Farmer.

munity, everyone who has occasion to visit a long beard. He was skilled in the lansaloons, railway stations, public marts, guages, and was about three feet in height. &c., for the transaction of business can Jeffery Hudson, an English dwarf, when bear ample testimony. We do not hesi- a youth of eighteen inches high, was servtate to say that it is vulgar in the extreme, ed up at table in a cold pie before the as well as highly offensive to the religious King and Queen, by the Duchess of Buckfeelings of many, and while no real geningham, 1626. He challenged a gentleman tleman would be found thus offending who had insulted him to fight a duel, and against good taste and decency, it has be- the challenged party came on the ground come so all-pervading in its influence, that armed only with a squirt. This led to anmen are unconsciously led into it, and it other meeting in 1653, when he shot his thus becomes by careless habit, as it were antagonist dead. Count Borowlaski, a second nature. In reference to smoking, Polish gentleman of great accomplishments it is a well understood maxim that no gen and elegant manners, was born in 1739, tleman will indulge either in public or in and lived in England for many years. He the presence of ladies, except under pe- was fourteen inches high at one year of

Among the most noted dwarfs was Fhile-

tas of Cos, who was distinguished, 330 B.

latter; yet how many are there who would thirty. His sister, Anatasia, seven years consider it a base insult to hint that they younger than himself, was so much shorter are anything but the pure cloth, every day that she could stand under his arm. He unthinkingly violating this important rule | died in England at the age of 98, in 1827. of etiquette? Just so in regard to pro- Charles Stratton (Tom Thumb) Lavinia fane swearing. But the worst phase of Warren and Commodore Nutt, whose avethis common evil is devoloping itself in rage height is thirty-two inches, are the

> "MADAM," said a husband to his young wife, in a little altercation which will spring up in the best regulated families," "When a man and his wife have quarreled, and each considers the other in fault which of the two ought to advance towards a reconciliation ?" "The best-natured and

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12 3

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