

## **The Rights of Privacy.**

**From The North American Review.**

The illustrated journalism now prevalent finds its finest achievements in the publication of photographs surreptitiously taken. The value does not seem to lie in the fact that the photographs are of notabilities, but that they have been taken by stealth when the subjects were unconscious of the purpose of the person manipulating the camera. Indeed, it is a well-known fact that at least one of the newspapers of New-York keeps a photographer busy in the streets of the metropolis taking "snap shots" at every person who appears to be of consequence. These are used at once, or filed away for use when occasion arises. Now, such practices are unquestionably invasions of the right of privacy; but we are told by the courts that the victims of such practices may not restrain by injunction the publication of photographs so taken, but that the remedy lies in a recovery for damages.

This is no remedy at all, for the chances would be that some demagogue of a judge would declare that the hurt was but fanciful and too inappreciable for a merely earthly tribunal to estimate.