

DEAD MAN'S MILLIONS.

After this colloquy, Baudouin sat down at his table, took his pen and calmly began to write again.

Joseph Rabirot and Henri Cordier waited till all the servants had retired to their rooms. When no sound was any longer to be heard in the mansion they crept into the dead man's study and carefully holled the two doors, letting the heavy tapestries fall over them as an additional precaution.

Armed with the famous keys, Rabirot walked toward the safe. The secretary lighted his way. The first thing was to place the three keys in their respective locks. This task was neither difficult nor long, but when it came to turning the keys they resisted all their efforts.

Mademoiselle Anastasia Fourel, tall and slim, with pale, thin lips, pointed nose, clear and piercing eyes, and angular throughout her person, had exactly the air and aspect of a religious ascetic.

Madame Parizot remained silent a moment; then, shaking her head, she said in stiff tones: "Cousin, we good people from the country are not capable of estimating the value of things here. You will find it a good plan, dear cousin, for us to employ experts."

"Oh! if we put ourselves into the hands of business men we shall not get out except at the cost of a good, round sum."

"But, cousin, we shall have the means with which to pay them," rejoined Fourel. "For my part I agree with you; a wife and approve of what she says."



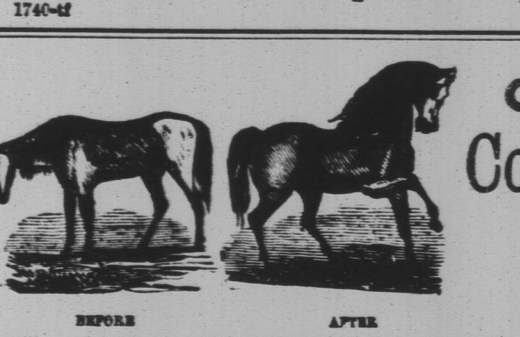
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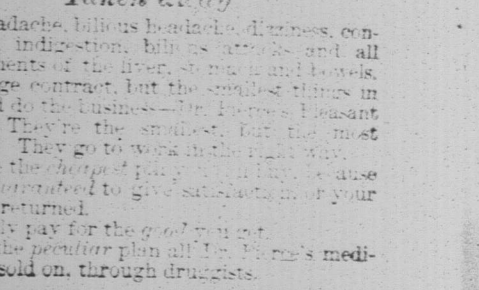
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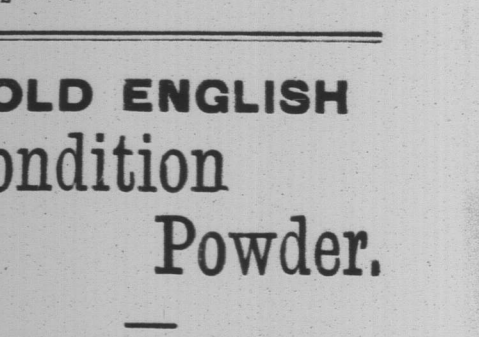
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(To be continued.)