ABOUT A SAFE DEPOSIT.

THE MYSTERY AND ROMANCE OF LONDON VAULTS.

Great Precautions—Those Who Enter Are Photographed — Registered Keys — Capture of a Notorious Thief—The Sheriff's Present—Some Peculiar Incidents.

'Few people are aware that a safe deposit is one of the most interesting and romantic places imaginable," said the manager of one of London's greatest institutions, to the writer recently, 'yet it is the storehouse of heirlooms, treasures, and secrets. Before relating some of the extraordinary incidents which have come under my notice, however, it is necessary to explain a little of our system.

"For instance, the moment a person enters the establishment an electric bell rings in the identification lobby, and the facial experts minutely, though unobtrusively, examine the new-comer, who is also requested to give his signature and password, if not very well known.

"The doors of the strongholds cost £500 each, weigh nearly three tons, and are fitted with thirteen automatic bolts, which are controlled by chronograph time-locks.

"These are set every night for a certain time next morning, before which it is absolutely impossible to open the door, even with the keys—a fact which led to the following amuseing, though extremely awkward, incident:—

THE SHERIFF'S PRESENT.

"A certain well-known city sheriff was to be presented with a massive silver inkstand, which was placed with us for a few days. At a quarter past six on the night of the banquet an official called for the gift, but was horrified to learn that the great door was closed, and the time-lock set for nine o'clock the following morning, so that access to the room was simply impossible. The Presentation Committee had a cardboard dummy made as quickly as possible, and this did duty for the genuine article.

"Just after the death of a famous general who had deposited a number of valuable papers here, his widow came to me in a state of great excitement, saying that the key was lost and her husbands' will was required at once.

"Of course, it is utterly impossible to open a strong-room door in the ordinary way without the renter's key, so I recommended the lady to make a further search for it, as many depositors make the same complaint, and, curiously enough place their keys in such queer places for safety that they themselves are frequently unable to find them.

"This particular key, however, could not be found, so we gave notice to a firm of safe-makers that we required a door cut open, and they sent two experts—legitimate ones, not burglars—who cut a hole ten inches by five, after having worked for

THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS.

That little operation cost the widow considerably over £20.

"After this incident we introduced a system of registering keys by means of numbered labels, and one of these brought about the capture of a notorious international thief in the following singular manner:—

"One day a lady and her daughter entered the shop of a great Parisian jeweller, and decided to see some diamond tiaras. After having been shown several, they left, saying they were undecided, and some hours after their departure a number of pearl and ruby necklaces were missed, whereupon the police were communicated with, and handed a small bunch of keys, bearing our label, which had been found near the counter.

"Finally, we were consulted, and gave the name and address entered against the number of the tell-tale keys, the result being that the 'lady and her daughter' were apprehended at King's Cross in their proper character of expert male thieves.

"Here is a Mr. Astor's strong room, the door of which cost £2,000 and is fitted with golden keys. He is very particular, by the way, and always has a man stationed in the corridor to orsure perfect privacy while he is in the safe among his millions.

"This room contains over £40,000 worth of unique paintings—a little art gallery, in fact—the property of a judge. This one contains the Shakespearian manuscrips collected by the late Halliwell Phillips, and valued at £50,000, while its neighbour holds a huge family Bible and an elephant's foot."

QUEER DEPOSITS.

"You see we have some queer deposits, but our correspondence reveals something more remarkable. One traveller requested us to take charge of a pair of fully-grown tigers, while a lady asked our terms for the weekly maintenance of a number of prize Hamburgh and Cochin cocks. Fancy this subterranean palace of steel and marble lit by eelctric light, and fitted with the most marvellous mechanism ever invented, turned into a menagerie or poultry run.

"The most unaccountable thing I know of, however, is that we have at least fifty deposits whose owners have mysteriously disappeared. In such cases the rent is paid for some little time, and then ceases suddenly, though, of course, we never break open the boxes or chests, and are entirely ignorant of their contents.

"A most amusing sight was witnessed in the genral writing-room, one day, when a gentleman and his wife met, both having had safes here for four years unknown to each other. The lady was in the habit of depositing her diamonds here, and usually wore a paste set, which had deceived her most intimate friends; quite a large number of society dames do the same thing now.

"Some deposits are made under very

PECULIAR CIRCUMSTANCES.

For instance, a very well-known peer, who has a magnificent strong room in his country-house, recently deposited over £20,000 worth of jewellery and plate with us, simply because he had dreamed that a burglar entered his bed-room by night, and demanded his safe key at the muzzle of a revolver. Strange to say, the very next day his house was burnt down.

"There can be no doubt as to the absolute security of the deposits, for not only are there from ten to fifteen locks to open, but armed watchmen patrol the vaults at night, and their rounds are checked by a tell-tale clock.

"Such precautions induce even Continental diamond merchants to deposit their gems here to be called for by their London agents. A curious fact about these dealers is that their pockets are in most extraordinary places, such as up the back or under the arms, and their tailors are continually devising means whereby many thousands of pounds' worth of stones may be carried without the least risk of discovery even in the event of a personal investigation."

AN EMPEROR'S CAPRICES.

How He Surprises His Servants and Soldiers by Calling on Them at Unearthly Hours.

The German Emperor is one of the most impulsive and eccentric of sovereigns. In his daily life he makes few plans and follows his caprices. His attendants never know what he will do until they receive his instructions. One morning he will rise late and amuse himself with amateur painting. The next morning he will leave his bed at four o'clock, and dictate despatches or letters to a stenographer for two or three hours. One of his favorite recreations is to summon a guard of hussars at a moment's notice and to inspect a military post or regimental quarters without warning.

Indefatigable himself, he expects officials and attendants to be as indifferent to personal discomfort or physical fatigue as he is himself. At the opening of the Baltic Canal, he kept kings, princes, diplomatists and visitors up all night in order to have the triumphal entry of the new waterway take place before dawn. He visited German war-ships in the harbor of Kiel without warning and set everyone to wondering what he would do next.

His vacation journeys are conducted in the same way. He dislikes to be embarrassed with appointments and engagements and prefers to keep his time at his own disposal and to follow his mood. While he was recently at Cowes he paid visits when his royal relatives were not expecting him. Early one morning he left his yacht and astonished his brother by calling upon him on the battle-ship Worth, which was at anchor in the Solent.

It was a genuine surprise. Neither the royal commander nor the crew were anticipating a call from the Emperor. He was on the battle-ship and ordering the crew to be mustered before the officers knew what he was about.

Then followed one of his characteristic addresses. He reminded officers and men of the great battle after which the ship had been named, and which had been fought on that very day twenty-five years before; and expressed the hope that the heroic valor of the German soldiers would be a source of inspiration for them if they should ever be called into active service. Every one else had forgotten the anniversary, but he had remembered it and had found delight in taking every man on the ship by surprise.

Activity so abnormal as his is uncomfortable for attendants and officials but it promotes habits of vigilance and self-possession. There is method in his restlessness and caprices. He has the idea that in a military empire with a million of soldiers either under arms or in training, every one should be constantly on guard. By his own example he enforces the necessity of unremitting vigilance.

ICE CREAM.

British Institute of Preventive Medicine Says It Is Deadly.

The British Institute of Preventive Medicine has dealt a deadly blow to ice cream. A very exhaustive enquiry regarding the nature and adulterations of this toothsome substance has just been completed by Dr. Mac Fadyen and Mr. Collyer, F. I. C. These gentlemen tell us that ice cream has only 26.5 per cent. of solids, the rest being water; that the solids consist of fats, 4 per cent.; sugar, 12 per cent.; starch, 6 per cent.; albuminoids, 4 per cent, and mineral matter, 1-2 per cent. This all sounds well enough, and would lead the unwary reader to think that ice cream was all right, but the denoument comes in the results of microscopical research. The microscope shows the presence, in London ice cream at least, of bed bugs, bugs' legs, fleas, straw, hair, coal dust, woolen and linen fiber, tobacco, epithelial scales and muscular tissue. Even the microscopical examination, however is delectable compared with the results of bacteriological studies. These reveal in street-barrow ice cream a maximum number of 7,000,000 microbes per cubic centimeter, while the ice cream of the shops has only 1,000,000 per cubic centimeter. The character of the micro-organisms is extremely mixed. There are the bacteria coli commune, besides spirillae and putrefactive microbes of various kinds. We find no account of a chemical analysis, which would perhaps add the final touch to the pathological picture of the ice cream of the shops. In this country it is known that ice creams chemically contain a poison known as tyrotoxicon. But in London it seems, what with the bugs and the microbes and the filth generally, there is no particular need of further research to prove that the ice cream of the peddlers and the streets are not good things to eat. It would be a manifest injustice to the ice cream industry, however, to suppose that the supply which is furnished to the American public is at all comparable to that which has been investigated by the English authorities.

NEXT THE ALUMINIUM AGE

WONDERFUL PROGRESS IN THE PRODUCTION OF THE METAL.

Its Cost Reduced From $200 a Pound When First Discovered to Fifty Cents a Pound——Bicycles, Boats, Cabs, and Many Useful Implements Made of It.

Aluminium, the youngest of all metals, is rapidly coming into general use. It was discovered by Frederick Wohler, a German professor, in 1827; but to St. Clair Deville, a Frenchman, belongs the honor of being the founder of the aluminium industry.

The first article made of this metal was in compliment to Louis Napoleon —who had helped Deville—a baby rattle for the infant Prince Imperial.

Aluminium's weight is about one-third that of iron, and only steel of the highest quality and the best aluminium bronze will give a greater strength for a given weight than aluminium. It stands high in the list of malleable metals, and can be drawn into wire 1-250th of an inch in thickness. It is an excellent conductor of electricity, and would at 20 cents a pound take the place of copper for all electrical purposes.

In shipbuilding, where lightness is demanded, aluminium meets every requirement. Corrosion and galvanic action are easily overcome by properly painting the part subject to the action of the water and by using aluminium rivets. France and Germany have several torpedo boats made of aluminium, and pleasure yachts every year are being constructed of this metal.

In Germany two army corps are equipped with aluminium, which includes chevrons and every article of metal carried on the person, even the buttons on the clothes and the pegs in the shoes.

THE SWORD BAYONETS,

scabbards and contents are also made of the metal. In Paris there is a cab made of aluminium, and some of our best racing records have been made by horses wearing aluminium shoes and pulling aluminium sulkies. For decorating purposes it is better than silver, because the air, which blackens silver so quickly, has no effect on it. The President of one of the largest palace car companies in this country is said to have remarked that the price alone kept aluminium from being used entirely in car decoration. A short time ago an enterprising firm in Ohio built several aluminium ducking boats, as well as a number of rowboats. They found they were very successful, especially the ducking boat, as this craft was extremely light and non-sinkable.

Price has been the only drawback to the general use of aluminium, but that will soon be such that the rich and poor alike will be able to enjoy the great advantages which the metal offers. It seems likely that the year 1897 will see aluminium selling at less than 35 cents a pound.

Thus the growth of this wonderful metal has been spreading out in all directions. A few weeks ago an aluminium bicycle was shipped to an eminent politician in England, Mr. Balfour. Here again its beauty and nontarnishable qualities, together with its lightness, make it most desirable.

Cooks of the twentieth century will no doubt demand that their employers supply them with aluminium cooking utensils, as the metal is an excellent conductor of heat and it is almost impossible to scorch anything while cooking. Dentists are already using it in making plates, as aluminium has its

ADVANTAGES OVER GOLD,

for on contact with metallic substances no disagreeable electric current is set up. For scientific instruments, such as sextants, transits, levels, &c., where the inertia of a heavy moving part is to be avoided, aluminium is the metal par excellence. Photographers find aluminium flash-light powder better than the present magnesium, as it is cheaper and not so liable to explode in preparation and produces none of the white fumes so disagreeable in the use of magnesium. Among other uses for aluminium, are keys, watches, musical instruments, car roofs, ice and roller skates, and many other articles which lack of space prevents mentioning.

The substitution of aluminium for copper and nickel coins has long been a subject of debate. The advantages of aluminium for coinage:

1. It takes a fine impression when stamped.
2. It wears remarkably well.
3. It resists corrosion better than copper, bronze, or any of the common metals. Besides this, if it does corrode slightly, the salts formed are harmless, which is more than can be said of any other metal.
4. Weight for weight it is cheaper than copper, and only slightly dearer than nickel alloy.
5. Lightness. Aluminium's weight is about one-third of that of copper or nickel, so we could reduce that weight 2,000 tons by adopting aluminium.

Horseless carriages, which are attracting so much attention now, could be most advantageously built of aluminium, thereby making them not only much lighter, but much stronger. Surgical instruments are being made of aluminium. The harmlessness of the metal makes it exceptionally desirable for use in surgery, and when a man has to be braced up he will find aluminium a great comfort.

THE CIGARETTE LIP.

Cigarette smokers are threatened with another terror. This is the so-called "cigarette lip." It is claimed by the inventor of this mysterious term that the habit of perpetually holding a cigarette between the lips causes the upper lip to project over the lower one. The scientist who has lighted upon this discovery says: "Among the savage Africans a prominent and protuberant upper lip is produced by inserting a wooden ring in a slit in the lip, and increasing the size of the ring from time to time. The same effect is attained in enlightened lands by means of the cigarette, though the expense involved is vastly greater, as well as the deleterious influence upon the general health of the patient."

NEARLY BENT DOUBLE.

The Story of a Well Known Delhi Man.

Tortured With Rheumatism for Nearly Twenty Years—Spent Large Sums in a Vain Search for Renewed Health—How He at Last Found It.

From the Delhi Reporter.

There are very few troubles more wide spread and none more difficult to eradicate from the system than rheumatism. The sufferer is racked with pains that seem unbearable, and frequently feels that even death itself would be a relief. Among those who have found much of their lives made miserable by this dread trouble is Mr. Michael Schott, of Delhi, and having found a means of release from its agonies he is anxious that other sufferers should profit by his experience. Mr. Schott is in the employ of Messrs. Quance Bros., millers, and has a reputation for sterling integrity among all who know him. When one of the staff of the Reporter interviewed him, Mr. Schott gave the facts of his illness and recovery as follows:—He had been a sufferer from rheumatism since about eighteen years of age. At times he was confined to bed but obtained no rest day nor night from the excruciating pains he was undergoing. Again he was able to go about and follow his employment, but even then frequently walked about in an almost doubled up condition. Then again he would have another relapse, and would be forced to take to his bed. During all these years he was almost continually doctoring, but never obtained anything more than temporary relief for the large sums he expended in this way. Having failed to obtain relief at home he went to Simcoe for treatment but received no permanent benefit and soon after coming home was as bad as ever. It will be readily understood that he was seriously discouraged, and had come to look upon his case as hopeless. Finally he was urged to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and after hesitating at spending any more money, in what he now considered a vain pursuit of health, he at last consented to give them a trial. By the time he had used a half dozen boxes there was no longer any doubt in his mind that he was steadily improving, and the treatment was then gladly continued. When he had taken a dozen boxes he found himself entirely recovered, entirely free from pain and from all stiffness of joints, and he is now able to do as hard a day's work as any man in the village. He has now been free from his old enemy for so long a period that he feels his cure is permanent, and is consequently an enthusiastic admirer of Dr. Williams' wonderful Pink Pills, and urges all who are similarly suffering to give them a trial, feeling confident that they will prove quite as efficacious as they did in his case.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills strike at the root of the disease, driving it from the system and restoring the patient to health and strength. In cases of paralysis, spinal troubles, locomotor ataxia, sciatica, rheumatism, erysipelas, scrofulous troubles, etc., these pills are superior to all other treatment. They are also a specific for the troubles which make the lives of so many women a burden, and speedily restore the rich glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. Men broken down by overwork, worry or excesses, will find in Pink Pills a certain cure. Sold by all dealers or sent by mail post paid, at 50c a box, or six boxes for $2.50, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., or Schenectady, N.Y. Beware of imitations and substitutes alleged to be "just as good."

SMUGGLERS' CONTRIVANCES.

About One Out of Every Ten Professional Smugglers Is Caught.

Some amusing anecdotes are related in connection with the recent discoveries of smugglers' tricks. A few years ago an individual in an ecclesiastical costume used to cross the frontier from Switzerland into France every morning with a large breviary in his hand. He was a man of dignified aspect, and received every mark of deference from the customs officers, who sometimes accompanied him part of the way in his daily stroll. At last a letter put the authorities on the alert, and the presumed priest was found to be a professional smuggler, who had contrived to introduce into France at least a thousand watches in his breviary, which, on examination, proved to be a tin box.

Very curious also was the experience of a former inspector-general of customs. During a visit to Geneva he bought a clock, and instructed the vender to forward it only when he had informed him of his return to Paris, adding that he must be careful to pay the duty. One of the first things that he noted on his arrival at his home was this identical piece in his drawing room, and in reply to his questions his coachman, explained that the tradesman had himself stowed the clock away in the carriage. It is calculated that only one out of ten professional smugglers is ever caught.

HORSELESS CARRIAGES.

The horseless carriage promises to be as pervasive in its social, as well as its commercial, influence as the bicycle. In Paris the dry goods houses are all selling the horses that drew their delivery wagons and using automobiles, and scores of electric dogcarts and other horseless vehicles are seen every evening taking their owners out to their homes in the suburbs, where land is rapidly going up in value. This is but the beginning of a great popular evolution. The horse in cities is practically forbidden to all except the rich. The horseless carriage is comparatively cheap, and a team fed with oil or naptha at a cost of a few cents a day will eventually put a carriage ride in the park wtihin the reach of any bookkeeper or clerk.

ONE OF HER WAYS.

He—What is Miss Woolston getting that $800 dress for?

She—To wear to a lawn fete for charity; admission ten cents.

Woman's Work

Is never done, and it is especially wearing and wearisome to those whose blood is impure and unfit properly to tone, sustain and renew the wasting of nerve, muscle and tissue. The only remedy for tired, weak, nervous women is in building up by taking a good nerve tonic, blood purifier and vitalizer like Hood's Sarsaparilla. For troubles *Peculiar to Women* at change of season, climate or life, great cures are made by

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills do not cause pain or gripe. All druggists. 25c.

FOR TWENTY-SIX YEARS.

DUNN'S BAKING POWDER

THE COOK'S BEST FRIEND

LARGEST SALE IN CANADA.

ONE'S BRIGHTEST HOURS.

Men have not the mental power at midnight that they have at noon. The effect of sunlight on the mental powers is extraordinary. No matter how well a student or writer may do when burning the midnight oil, he would do much better if he made the same efforts in daytime. Men who habitually work at night time, such as editors of morning papers and others, frequently testify to this. A human body may be compared to a locomotive. When it is fired up for its day's work there is plenty of steam. When at night it is put into the engine shed, and the fires banked, the power is less. The same with man. During the day, when he is active, eating and drinking, there is more vigor. When we stop eating and drinking, and lie down to rest, there is less vitality, and the process of life is at low tide.

Hay Fever and Catarrh Relieved in 10 to 60 Minutes.—One short puff of the breath through the Blower, supplied with each bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, diffuses this powder over the surface of the nasal passages. Painless and delightful to use. It relieves instantly, and permanently cures Catarrh, Hay Fever, Colds, Headache, Sore Throat, Tonsilitis and Deafness.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.

THE REPORT IS TRUE.

There is a report that Buzbee has a large floating debt, announced the cashier to the teller.

Yes, sir; an $80,000 steam yacht.

Rheumatism Cured in a Day.— South American Rheumatic Cure for Rheumatism and Neuralgia, radically cures in 1 to 3 days. Its action upon the system is remarkable and mysterious. It removes at once the cause and the disease immediately disappears. The first dose greatly benefits. 75 cents.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.

QUALITY ALL RIGHT.

Is the hay crop this season a good one? asked the summer visitor of the farmer.

Good as usual, but thar's blamed little of it.

Piles Cured in 3 to 6 Nights.—Dr. Agnew's Ointment will cure all cases of Itching Piles in from 3 to 6 nights. One application brings comfort. For Blind and Bleeding Piles it is peerless. Also cures Tetter, Salt Rheum, Eczema, Barber's Itch, and all eruptions of the skin. 35 cts.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.

Benedict—See here; I've solved the problem.. Arnold — What problem? Benedict—This thing about marriage. I married money, and have found that it's a failure—that is to say, her father failed the day after the wedding.

10 cts. Cures Constipation and Liver Ills.—Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills are the most perfect made, and cure like magic, Sick Headache, Constipation, Biliousness, Indigestion and all Liver Ills. 10 cents a vial—40 doses.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.

Old Gentleman to Railway Porter—Porter the rain is dripping in from the lamp-holes all over my trousers. Porter—No, sir, it's quite water-tight, I assure you. It's only the oil leaking a bit.

Relief in Six Hours.— Distressing Kidney and Bladder Diseases relieved in six hours by the "South American Kidney Cure." This new remedy is a great surprise and delight on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the bladder, kidneys, back and every part of the urinary passages in male or feamle. It relieves retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure this is your remedy.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.

HIS COMPANION.

Last night I took a long stroll with the one I love best in all the world.

I should think you would get tired of walking by yourself.

Heart Disease Relieved in 30 Minutes.—Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gives perfect relief in all cases of Organic or Sympathetic Heart Disease in 30 minutes, and speedily effects a cure. It is a peerless remedy for Palpitation, Shortness of Breath, Smothering Spells, Pain in Left Side and all symptoms of a Diseased Heart. One dose convinces.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.