The Acton Free Press.

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—AT THE—

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H. P. MOORE
Editor and Proprietor

Business Directory.

W. H. LOWRY, M. B., M. C. P. S., Graduate of Trinity College, Member of College of Physicians and Surgeons. Office and residence:—At the head of Frederick street Acton.

JOHN LAWSON, GRADUATE OF Ontario Veterinary College, Toronto—Veterinary Surgeon, Acton, Ont. Office:—In Kenny Bros. boot and shoe store.—residence in the rear. Horses examined as to soundness and certificates given. All calls night or day promptly attended to. Terms cash.

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Barristers, Solicitors, Notaries, Conveyancers &c. Private funds to loan.

Office:—Town Hall, Acton.

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BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY PUBLIC.

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Offices:—Creelman's Block, Georgetown, and 86 King street east, Toronto.

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BADGEROW, CARSON & CO.,

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS & NOTARIES.

Court Chambers, Cor. Church and Adelaide Sts., Toronto, Canada.

Telephone No. 1278. Cable Address: Badgerow.

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HENRY GRIST, OTTAWA, CANADA.

Twenty Years Practice. No Patent, No Pay.

WM. HEMSTREET,

LICENSED AUCTIONEER

For the Counties of Wellington and Halton. Orders left at the FREE PRESS office, Acton, or at my residence in Acton, will be promptly attended to. Terms reasonable.

Also money to loan on the most favorable terms, and at the lowest rates of interest, in sums of $500 and upwards.

JOHN DAY,

ARCHITECT,

GUELPH, ONT.

OFFICE:—Queen's Hotel Block, Market Square.

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(Successor to T. F. Chapman)

BOOKBINDER,

St. George's Square, Guelph, Ontario.

Account Books of all kinds made to order. Periodicals of every description carefully bound, ruling neatly and promptly done.

THE HANLAN BARBER SHOP,

MILL STREET, ACTON.

An easy shave, a stylish hair-cut, a good sea-foam an exhilarating shampoo, always given. Razors honed and put in first-class condition. Ladies' and children's hair tastily cut.

J. & H. WORDEN, Tonsorial Artists.

SALESMEN WANTED.

PERMANENT positions guaranteed with salary and expenses paid. Any determined man can succeed without. Special advantages to beginners. Stock complete, including many fast-selling specialties. Outfit free. Name this paper. Address at once. BROWN BROTHERS, Nurserymen, Rochester, N. Y.

Guelph Business College.

GUELPH, ONTARIO.

FIFTH Scholastic Year. Its graduates are now employed as book-keepers, business managers, stenographers, etc., by many of the largest business houses in Canada and the United States. Young men and women desiring a thorough business education will consult their own welfare by attending the "Guelph Business College." For terms and particulars, address

M. MacCORMICK, Principal.

6-1y

Fruit Trees, Small Fruits

And Ornamental Shrubbery.

REV. E. B. COOK, Acton, has been appointed sole agent for this section for the well known Old Rochester Nursery, S. Moulson, proprietor, and is prepared to take orders for any of the fruit trees, small fruits or shrubs which are shown in the illustrated catalogues of the nursery. The products of the Old Rochester Nursery are known to be generally reliable and correctly named, and I can promise satisfactory results to all who purchase stock from me. Prices reasonable.

REV. E. B. COOK, Acton

Lumber, Shingles, AND LATH.

The undersigned desires to inform the public that he has now on hand and will keep in stock a full line of Pine and Hemlock as well as other kinds of Lumber, also, First and Second class Pine Shingles & Lath.

Coal & Wood.

Having purchased the Coal business of Mr. C. S. Smith, I am prepared to supply all kinds of Stove Coal. I have also a good stock of Wood—Hardwood Ash, Cedar and Mill Wood, at reasonable prices. Wood and Coal delivered.

JAMES BROWN

MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

—OF THE—

COUNTY OF WELLINGTON,

ESTABLISHED 1840.

HEAD OFFICE, - GUELPH.

Insures Buildings, Merchandise, Manufactories and all other descriptions of property, on the Premium Note System.

F. W. Stone, President. Chas. Davidson, Secretary.

JOHN TAYLOR Agent.

Acton Banking Company,

STOREY, CHRISTIE & CO.,

—BANKERS,—

Acton, Ontario.

A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

MONEY LOANED ON APPROVED NOTES.

Notes Discounted and Interest Allowed on Deposits.

W. BARBER & BROS.

PAPER MAKERS,

GEORGETOWN, ONT.

MAKE A SPECIALTY OF

Machine Finished Book Papers

—AND—

HIGH GRADE WEEKLY NEWS.

The paper used in this journal is from these mills.

WM. BARBER & BROS.

PICTURE FRAMES

—AT—

WATER BROTHER

PICTURES

—AT—

WATERS BROTHERS.

Cornice Poles, Banner Rods, Mouldings, Cords, Nails, Glass, Bevelled Mirrors,

ARTIST'S MATERIALS

Winsor & Newtons

—AT—

WATERS BROTHERS,

25 DENHAM TREET GUELPH

Wellington Marble Works.

QUEBEC ST., GUELPH.

Hamilton & Clark,

PROPRIETORS.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Marble, Granite and everything pertaining to Cemetery work. Direct importers of all kinds of Granite and Marble.

Having lately visited the Bay of Fundy granite quarries, and having purchased the entire stock of gray and red granite monumental headstones, crosses, urns, etc., of Alexander Taylor, at less than cost, we will, until further notice, sell at prices never before known in Ontario. For instance—Granite monuments, ft. high, $60, 7 ft. $75, 8 ft. $90, 9 ft. $100, 10 ft. $120. All work and material warranted first-class. Parties wanting anything in this line will do well to call and see us before purchasing elsewhere as we guarantee our prices are from 30 to 50 per cent. below all other dealers.

—ACTON—

PUMP FACTORY

—AND—

PLANING MILL

THOS. EBBAGE, Man.

I have resumed the management of the pump business in Acton and would respectfully inform all parties in want of pumps that we are now prepared to supply them from

The old St le Wooden Pump to the Best Force Pump made.

Pumps for Wind Mills or Rock Wells supplied on short notice.

Deep Wells a Specialt.

PRICES RIGHT EVERY TIME,

Our Planing Mill

Lumber dressed while you wait. Mouldings &c., made to order. We have also a quantity of Lumber for sale, suitable for building purposes. Orders by mail will receive prompt and careful attention.

Shop at foot of River Street.

THOS. EBBAGE, Manager

WEAVING.

MR. T. MITCHELL

Desires to inform the people of Acton and surroundings that he is prepared to take orders for weaving all kinds of Fancy Rag Carpets, Flannel Sheeting, Shirting and Dress Goods, striped or plaid, twill or plain, also Bed Blankets and Horse Blankets, two yards wide and over.

And I will guarantee that I will give good satisfaction to all farmers and others who will favor me with their patronage.

T. MITCHELL.

—EVERYBODY—

Read This

There is Money in it.

In order to reduce the stock to facilitate his annual

STOCK-TAKING

J. C. Nelson

Will give a Cash Discount of Ten Per Cent. to all persons purchasing $50 worth, or over, of Dry Goods, Boots, Shoes, Slippers, Overshoes, Rubbers, &c.

From Now Until Feb'y 16th.

Everybody come and secure bargains. All Goods marked in plain figures.

TERMS - - CASH.

J. C. NELSON'S

ACTON.

P.S.—Cheapest and Cheapest Stock of Groceries in the town

SCHOOL BOOKS,

COPY BOOK,

EXERCISE BOOKS,

SLATES.

A FULL LINE

—AT—

DAY'S BOOKSTORE.

GUELPH.

DAY SELLS CHEAP.

THE MERCHANTS'

Protective and Collecting

ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.

Head Office,—Hamilton, Ontario.

(Established 1864)

Is an Association of business and professional men, having for its object the

Collection of Debts;

And to prevent its members from making bad debts by furnishing them with lists of parties who do not pay. Merchants and others having accounts to collect will find it to their advantage to become members—as hundreds of accounts are being collected through it that could not be collected in any other way. Many an account that has been sued and then returned by the bailiff as no good, after putting the merchant to great expense, has been collected through this association. Merchants wishing to become members, by remitting $10.00 to our Managers, at Hamilton, will receive by return mail full particulars, certificate of membership, etc. Testimonials sent.

J. B. Mills & Co., Managers

—ACTON—

LIVERY

—AND—

BUS LINE.

The undersigned respectfully solicits the patronage of the public, and informs them that

Well Equipped and Stylish Rigs can always be Secured

At his stables. A comfortable bus meets all day trains and those at night if ordered. Careful attention given to every order The wants of Commercial Travellers fully met.

JOHN WILLIAMS.

—RIGHT—

TO THE FRONT

OF ALL COMPETITION WE PLACE OUR

Elegant and Substantial Goods.

Splendid in Quality!

Complete in Assortment!!

Overflowing in Generous Bargains

—IN—

MEN'S, WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S

Boots and Shoes

RUBBERS, OVERSHOES, &c.

At prices that always lead to speedy sales

LOWEST PRICES

—CONSISTENT WITH—

GOOD QUALITY.

Custom Work and Repairing promptly attended to.

W. WILLIAMS,

Mill Street, Acton.

Fancy Goods

IN GREAT VARIETY

I desire to inform my numerous Customers that I have purchased a fine variety of Goods for the Xmas Trade, comprising a splendid lot of toilet articles in

Hair, Tooth and Nail Brushes,

The Finest Perfumes in the Market.

I have also the finest stock in

Ladies' Satchels

Ever shown in Acton

For Xmas Presents I have a beautiful selection of

Albums, Booklets, &c.

We also keep all the Authorized School Books and School Supplies, Hymn Books, Pens, Pencils, Slates, Ink, Etc.

We keep a large selection of Spectacles to suit all sights.

Give us a call before purchasing. Don't forget the place,

McGARVIN'S

DRUG STORE.

Poetry.

A SIMILAR CASE.

Jack, I hear you've gone and done it,
Yes, I know; most fellows will;
Went and tried it once myself, sir,
Though you see, I'm single still.
And you met her—did you tell me,
Down at Newport last July?
And resolved to ask the question
At a soiree? So did I.

I suppose you left the ball room,
With its mazes and its light;
For they say love's flame is brightest
In the darkness of the night.
Well, you walked along together,
Overhead the starlit sky,
And I'll bet—old man confess it—
You were frightened. So. was I.

So you strolled along the terrace,
Saw the summer moonlight pour
All its radiance on the waters
As they rippled on the shore.
Till at length you gathered courage,
When you saw that none was nigh—
Did you draw her close and tell her
That you loved her? So did I.

Well, I needn't ask you further,
And I'm sure I wish you joy.
Think I'll wander down and see you
When you're married—eh, my boy?
When the honeymoon is over
And you're settled down, we'll try—
What? The deuce you say! Rejected,
Yes, rejected? So was I.

—*Chicago Herald.*

Select Family Reading.

Who Won the Heiress?

BY MARY DALLAS.

Miss Schaffer, the rich pork packer's heiress, had mourned sincerely for her father after his death, and had observed, even more than the usual forms of outward mourning for a longer time than fashion demands.

She was now "going into" grays and mauve and dull purples, which did not become her, and accepting some invitations, chaperoned by a poor relative, more mature than herself, who, having given up all hope of marrying, devoted herself to making matches for others, and was reported to have "settled" three pretty young ladies to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Miss Schaffer's object in taking her to her home was not, however, that she should be "settled." Hiram Schaffer's sole heiress, with more money than she could count, could wear a wedding ring when she pleased. Her dress did not make her beautiful, but the glow of the great diamonds in her ears was more charming to many men than the sparkle of the brightest eyes that ever shone under a poor girl's lashes.

Miss Schaffer knew that, with some bitterness in the knowledge, but society accepted of her that she should have a companion, and poor Cousin Ann needed a home. There was a kind heart under Miss Schaffer's rather cold manner.

It was during the first winter of what it is customary to call "gayety," that a certain society lady "begged to make known to Miss Schaffer, Mr. Algernon Sidney and Mr. Graham Hall. "Algernon was a handsome, romantic youth with flowing hair, dark eyes, and a general disposition to be æsthetic in dress. Mr. Hall, who had the features of a very weak-minded kitten, and whiskers which carried out the likeness, was dressed in the latest fashion, and wore sleeves so tight that he could hardly move his arms, a collar so constructed that he might have posed for his photograph without the usual iron instrument of torture at his neck, and shoulders padded to slope.

The heiress gave her usual unaffected little bow. Algernon rolled his eyes and inclined his head so that his hair dropped over his forehead, then tossed it back and swept his fingers through it. Graham ambled backward and executed that society salutation which a gentleman of the old school would scarcely know for a bow; and they entered into conversation, which continued until the hostess brought up the lion of the evening, a presumed French nobleman, who afterward (by the way) turned out to be an impostor who had robbed his master, to take Miss Schaffer down to supper.

The nobleman was not interesting to Hester, and as soon as possible after supper she escaped from his society, and anxious to read a letter which she had received as she was leaving home, entered a little apartment beyond the drawing-room, which, with its rich portieres, Persian rugs, and soft coal fire, which lit its thousand objects of art that adorned the room, was a very dream of beauty, ensconced herself behind an embroidered screen, and fell to reading the letter by the light of a silk-shaded lamp.

It was an interesting epistle, for she read it thrice ere with a gentle, caressing touch she folded and hid it in her bosom. Then she leant back in the chair and fell into a pleasant waking dream, from which she was aroused by the sound of voices on the other side of the screen—those of Algernon Sidney and Graham Hall.

"What an awfully jolly little room," said Graham. "If only a fellow dared smoke here."

"As we can't let us sit down," said Algernon. "So the heiress turns out to be as ugly as I said she would. Why the mischief are there no pretty heiresses?"

"The law of compensation, my dear boy, the law of compensation, I presume," said Graham. "It would be too much for one man to get both beauty and money, so I shall begin to pay my devoirs as soon as possible."

"No use, no use, Graham," interrupted Algernon, in his usual affected drawl. "I intend to marry her myself, and don't imagine you'll enter the lists against me. It would be no use. Women can't resist me, you know. I can't help knowing the truth. They can't, Granny, that's a fact."

"Well, you are a handsome man, and I didn't set up for that sort of thing at all, you know," replied young Hall, with some warmth; "but tastes vary. She might prefer me. Some plain women won't marry a beauty man. Come, let's have no ill-feeling. We are neither of us in love. If you win, good luck to you. If I get her bar, so much the worse for you. Eh, agreed?"

"If you desire it," drawled Algernon, "I can't object.

Then there was a little cry of "Oh, there you are!" at the door.

The two friends were hurried away, and Miss Schaffer, shrugging her shoulders and laughing softly to herself, emerged from her corner behind the screen and went to bid her hostess good night.

In a month from that evening society gossips were asking each other whether Algernon Sidney or graham Hall would win the heiress, who seemed equally *complaisante* to both of them.

Had the world been cognizant of all that was going on, it might have marvelled even more. It might have seen Algernon one evening on his knees before the heiress, wooing her in approved theatrical fashion.

"Tell me you love me! Tell me you will be my wife!" he pleaded. "Of all women you are the queen. Your wealth is my only regret; but even that cannot forbid me to tell you of my love. Speak!"

"Oh, Mr. Sidney!" sighed the heiress behind her fan, "this is really so unexpected! If I confess—to—to being moved by your words, you must promise me one thing. Keep the fact a secret from your friend Mr. Hall for a while, I fear I have encouraged him a little, but—then I did not know your feelings. Let me break the fact that he is nothing to me, at my pleasure."

"As you will, beloved," replied Algernon imprinting a kiss upon her hand.

The world might not have been amazed at this, but on the following day it would have marvelled to see Graham Hall, with his most charming society manner, sitting beside Miss Schaffer, while he uttered these words uninterrupted:

"I've been awfully sweet on you since we first met, you know. Couldn't forget you, 'pon honaw. Couldn't, really. And I'm not half a bad sort of fellow. And if you think we can be happy, 'pon honaw, I'll try to make you so for life, you know—Mrs. Hall, you know."

"Oh, I understand," said the heiress, smiling. "I hadn't thought of such a thing, but—well, Mr. Hall, if I should think it over, will you promise not to say one word to Algernon Sidney before I give you leave? I've encouraged him, I know, and I—I'd like to break the fact that I don't care two pins for him, myself."

"Certainly; poor fellow, I'm afraid he'll shoot himself," said Graham. But he could not obey her so entirely as to refrain from a hint or two to Algernon who said to himself:

"Well, a woman is never too ugly to coquette, I suppose;" but he said nothing to Graham, rather delighting in his unexpected confusion at some future day; and I regret to say that it was not long before Miss Schaffer had informed each gentleman that "she was willing to be married on the fifth of March."

Graham, who really had more feeling than Algernon, felt very guilty after this; but Algernon had no qualms whatever. He ordered his clothes of the tailor, selected his best man, and would have spoken to a clergyman but for his future bride's command.

"I will be married by my own," she said, "and I'll speak to him myself."

Algernon was greatly amused by the hints that Graham threw out, that he had better prepare his mind for a trial. At last when all seemed ready, the very day before the wedding, he received a telegram from Miss Schaffer. Obeying the summons, he reached her house at five in the afternoon, and found Graham on the steps.

The young man looked at him gravely, and colored and paled, but there was no time to say anything. The door was opened. Miss Schaffer was at home, and they found her with symptoms of afternoon tea about her, and her chaperone and a middle-aged gentleman of business-like aspect in the room.

She arose to greet them smilingly, offered them tea, and that refreshment consumed, sent it and the servant away.

Then she spoke, addressing her chaperone:

"Cousin Ann," she said, "you know I am to be married to-morrow. The society papers have told every one that. They are only undecided as to whom I have chosen. It is time I made the matter clear. I have been engaged five years to Mr. Williams, who cared for me before I was even a prospective heiress.

"When these young men made a business arrangement with each other concerning my hand, without consulting me, I overheard them. In any case, they could not have had what they desired. I like neither of them. But it was an opportunity I could not neglect. I have had my revenge, I think. And my future husband has forgiven me, though he disapproves, of course. I leave these gentlemen to explain to each other and their friends, and wish them good afternoon."

Algernon and Graham waited for no more. Once in the street without, they looked at each other.

"Come, now, I tried to—to—give you a hint," said Graham; "and we've both been fooled, you know."

"I decline your acquaintance from this moment, sir," said Algernon. And so they parted.

FIVE ACTS OF THE RUM TRAGEDY.

ACT I. Young man starting from home. Parents and sisters weeping to have him go. Wagon passing over the hills. Farewell kiss thrown back. Ring the bell, and let the curtain drop.

ACT II. Marriage altar. Bright lights. Full organ played. White veil waning through the aisle. Prayer and congratulation, and exclamations of "How well she looks!" Ring the bell, and let the curtain drop.

ACT III. Midnight. Woman waiting for staggering steps. Old garments stuck into the broken window-pane. Many marks of hardship on the face. Biting of the nails of bloodless fingers. Neglect, cruelty, disgrace. Ring the bell, and let the curtain drop.

ACTS IV. Three graves in a very dark place. Grave of child who died from lack of medicine. Grave of wife who died of a broken heart. Grave of husband and father who died of dissipation. Plenty of weeds but no flowers. O what a blasted heath with three graves! Ring the bell, and let the curtain drop.

ACT V. A destroyed soul's eternity. No light; no music; no hope! Despair coiling around the heart with unutterable anguish. Blackness and darkness for ever!

Drunkenness increases since the barrooms were re-opened in Atlanta. This means that the young manhood of the city if being wrecked, and that the hearts of many mothers and wives are breaking.

To cure a wart place the thumb upon the wart and press it against the bone. Move it backward and forward upon the bone until the roots become irritated or sore, when the warts will disappear.

A pie that is properly baked will slip from the tin with careful handling, and if placed on a wire frame where the air has access to the bottom, it will cool without becoming moist, and when ready to serve it can be put on a plate.

When the stomach chimes the dinner hour don't wait for the clock.

THOUGHT AND TOBACCO.

I believe that habits of thoroughness cannot exist for any length of time with the use of the cigar and pipe. The aid is temporary and deceptive. I have in mind one of the most popular of Boston preachers. He has abilities of a high order, which he sustains freely with tobacco. But he has never written a line that will outlive him. Every word needs his presence to give it weight. He produces nothing inferior, and yet nothing great. He relies more on his cigar and inspiration than on close study. He knows a great deal about great topics, but he knows no science or philosophy to the bottom. I believe this class of writers and speakers is of great detriment to their hearers and readers.

The peculiar narcotic character of Tennyson's later work is explainable by a remark he once made, when a friend said of one of his lines that it must have been a spontaneous leap of genius. Said Tennyson: "I smoked a dozen cigars over that line." He has smoked too much. His words are still the same words, but they have lost weight. An author who supplements power with narcotics or stimulants will fail of permanent weight or will lose weight. Indeed words get thereby a temporary value to the author, an inconsistent worth.

THREE RULES FOR HAVING A GOOD TIME.

Pansy was asked to a party the other day, and was quite undecided whether to accept the invitation or stay at home. I happened to know that the lady who was to give the party was a very kind and lovable woman, and a charming hostess. Young people always enjoyed themselves in her house; besides, she had been a schoolmate of Pansy's mother, and it was hardly courteous for Pansy to slight her invitation unless she had a very good reason.

You see, children, your aunt Marjorie is rather old-fashioned, and she thinks that when people are good enough to want you, you should, as a rule, gratify them if you can.

I tried to ascertain the reason of Pansy's hesitation. She frankly told me that, in the first place, she was afraid her dress was too plain; in the second place, she was very shy and timid in company, and always felt as though everybody was gazing at her; and in the third place, most of the guests would be strangers to her, and she did not like meeting strangers.

Three reasons: No. 1, dress too plain; No. 2, shy in company; No. 3, dislike to strangers.

Pansy is not the only girl whose good times are spoiled by just such absurd reasons as the above three.

Now let me give her and all of you my three rules.

No. 1. Never mind your dress. A simple, quiet dress is in the best taste for a young girl. The granddaughters of Queen Victoria are always very modestly and plainly dressed, and it is quite evident that they bestow very little thought upon their gowns and hats, which are what their beautiful, sensible mother thinks fit for them. A pair of bright eyes, hair in nice order, and rosy cheeks, will set off the simplest attire.

No. 2. Never mind your shyness. As soon as you have paid your receipts to your hostess, look around for somebody shyer than yourself, somebody who is not being pleasantly entertained, and take upon you the duty of making the next hour pass delightfully for that person. You will forget all about your own shyness.

No. 3. Don't feel like a stranger, and do not suffer other people to seem to you like strangers. Wherever you go you will find wonderfully attractive persons; and if you fare in the world as aunt Marjorie does, you will always be finding new acquaintances who will be worth a great deal to you. Look upon every stranger as a possible new friend.

ODD CORNER.

Doctor: "Now, you must rise by daylight, go to the springs and drink the waters, eat plain food only, and be very careful about your diet. And, mind you, one cigar a day—no more; be particular about that. I'll call again in three days. If you want me sooner, send for me." On the third day the doctor returns. "Well," says he, "how are you getting along?" Patient: "Very satisfactorily, doctor." Doctor: "You don't find the regimen hard to adhere to, do you?" Patient: "It wouldn't be if I didn't have to smoke the one cigar a day. I never could bear tobacco."—*Shoe and Leather Reporter.*

Magistrate (to woman): "You admit that you hit your husband with the stove-lid, and yet you claim there are extenuating circumstances governing the case." Woman: "Yes, sah, dey was a 'extenuatin' circumstance. De stove-lid ware's hot."

A Scot being shown Niagara, was asked if he had ever seen aught so beautiful and strange. He replied. "Weel, for bonny, I'll na say; but, eh, mon, for queer, I once saw a peacock wi' a wooden leg at Peebles."

Why was Goliah surprised when he was struck by a stone? Because such a thing had never entered his head before.

What color is a field of grass when covered with snow? Invisible green.

Why is a solar eclipse like a mother beating her boy? Because it is a hiding of the son.

What relation is a loaf of bread to a steam engine? Mother, because a loaf of bread is an necessity, a steam engine is an invention and necessity the mother of invention.

"Ah," said the fly, as it crawled around the bottle, "I have passed through the hatching age, the creeping age, and now I am in the mucilage"—then it stuck.

A pig was never known to wash, but a great many people have seen the pig iron.

A good, pottering old dame having complained of being unable to tell her mince pies from her apple ditto, without tasting, was advised to mark them. She did so, and complacently announced, "This I've marked T. M.—'tis mince, 'an that I've marked T. M.—'taint mince."

THE LIE IS FOREVER.

A little girl came to her mother with the question, "Which is the worse, to tell a lie or to steal."

The mother, taken by surprise, replied that both were so bad that she couldn't tell which was the worse.

"Well," said the little one, "I've been thinking a good deal about it, and I think that it is worse to lie than to steal. If you steal a thing, you can take it back, unless you've eaten it, then you can pay for it. But," and there was a look of awe in the little face,—"a lie is forever."—*Portland Press.*

A STORY OF TITHES.

Many years ago a lad of sixteen years left home to seek his fortune. All his worldly possessions were tied up in a bundle which he carried in his hand. As he trudged along, he met an old neighbor, the captain of a canal boat, and the following conversation took place, which changed the whole current of the boy's life:

"Well, William, where are you going?"

"I don't know," he answered. "Father is too poor to keep me any longer, and says I must now make a living for myself."

"There is no trouble about that," said the captain. "Be sure you start right, and you'll get along finely."

William told his friend that the only trade he new anything about was soap and candle making, at which he had helped his father while at home.

"Well," said the old man, let me pray with you and give you a little advice, and then I will let you go."

They both kneeled upon the tow-path. The old man prayed for William, and then this advice was given:

"Some one will soon be the leading soap maker in New York. It can be you as well as any one. I hope it may. Be a good man: give your heart to Christ; give the Lord all that belongs to him of every dollar you earn; make an honest soap, give a full pound, and I am certain you will yet be a great, good and rich man."

When the boy reached the city, he found it hard to get work. Lonesome and far away from home, he remembered his mother's last words and the last words of the canal boat captain. He "sought first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." He united with the church. He remembered his promise to the captain. The first dollar he earned brought up the question of the Lord's part. He looked in the Bible, and found the Jews were commanded to give one-tenth, so he said, "If the Lord will take one-tenth, I will give that." And so he did. Ten cents of every dollar was sacred to the Lord.

After a few years both partners died, and William became the sole owner of the business. He now resolved to keep his promise to the old captain; he made an honest soap, gave a full pound, and instructed his book-keeper to open an account with the Lord and carry one-tenth of all his income to that account. He was prosperous; his business grew: his family was blessed; his soap sold, and he grew richer faster than he ever hoped. He then decided to give the Lord two-tenths, and he prospered more than ever: then three-tenths, then four tenths, then five-tenths. He educated his family, settled his plans for life, and told the Lord he would give him all his income. He prospered more than ever. This is a true story of a man who has given millions of dollars to the Lord's cause, and left a name that will never die. *Exchange.*

WORTH KNOWING.

Clean the piano keys with a soft rag dipped in alcohol.

Egg stains on silver can be taken off with table salt and a wet rag.

Apples that are not properly looked after will decay in the barrels very fast.

Indian meal should be purchased in small quantities and kept well covered.

Leather chair seats may be revived by rubbing them with well beaten white of egg.

Sweet potatoes require nearly twice the time that Irish potatoes do either to bake or boil.

White and pale shades of paint may be beautifully cleaned by using whiting in the water.

To polish nickel-plated goods after becoming black and not worn, use whiting on a rag with a little oil.

It is not a good plan to take off the cover of the stove to roast or boil anything when there is a dish in the oven.

Never throw away cold potatoes, as there are so many ways in which they may be warmed over and made into entirely new dishes.

When a person is "sick at the stomach" ice taken into the mouth in small pieces and allowed to melt before swallowing will, in very many instances, relieve you.

An excellent cought mixture is made of one ounce pressed mullen, half ounce hoarhound, one quart of soft water; boil until thin molasses; strain thin, add one pint New Orleans molasses; boil a few minutes. Dose, one tablespoonful four times a day or after every coughing spell.

SIMPLIFIED.

"Ob what denomination are de chile?" asked an old colored preacher of a young couple who had brought an infant to him for baptism.

"Sah!" said the young father, evidently perplexed by the word "denomination."

"I axed you ob what denomination de chile war," repeated the minister, a little severly.

The parents looked at each other in evident confusion for a moment, then the father stammered out: "I—I—doesn't know what yo' mean by 'denomination' sah."

"Hoah, yo' don't?" replied the preacher, scornfully. "Well, den, I'll simplify it 'cordin' to yo' ign'rance so yo' kin understand it. Are de chile a boy or a gale chile?"—*Youth's Companion.*

PRACTIAL POINTS.

The most valuable goods, it is said, are done up in the smallest parcels, so sometimes the most helpful suggestions are in the fewest words. The following paragraphs have been picked up from various sources, and are offered as a nosegay from an old fashioned garden:

Salt fish of any kind is quickest and best freshened by soaking in sourmilk.

Fish may be scalded much easier by dipping into boiling water about a minute.

In watering plants, put a teaspoonful of ammonia into the water once a week.

Ripe tomatoes will remove inkstains from white cloth and also from the hands.

A teaspoonful of turpentine boiled with white clothes will aid the whitening process.

Boiled starch is much improved by the addition of a little salt or disolved gumarabic.

Windows should be open at both top and bottom in order to secure proper ventilation.

To attempt hard work or close study within an hour after eating invites derangements of the digestive organs.

Because the air is invisible it is no reason why pure air is not as essential to good health as are wholesome food and drink.

So called unhealthful occupations can be made less so by properly understanding and practising the laws of breathing.

TWO VIEWS OF A DAY.

I'm a Jolly Polly Pelican!
Jiggled, "Oh, dreary me!
Why does everybody seem
Cross as cross can be?
Really, it's mud out of doors,
Everything goes wrong,
Why do all the dismal days
Stay so very long?"

Sunny Sadie Smiley-eyes
Laughed bright cheerily:
"Why does everybody seem
Very nice to me?
Really, it's mud out of doors,
Everything's in tune,
Why do all the happy days
Go so very soon?"

TEMPERANCE.

"Woe unto them that justify the wicked for rewards."

"No evil can be exterminated by selling it the right to exist."

Enough corn in the United States and Great Britain is annually wasted in brewing and distilling to feed five million men.

A Drunkard is the annoyance of modesty, the spoil of civility, the destruction of reason, the brewer's agent, the ale house benefactor, his wife's sorrow, his children's trouble, his own shame, his neighbor's scoff, a walking swill-bowl, the picture of a beast, and the monster of a man.

Dr. Willard Parker says: We shall never control alcohol until we have taught the people, first, what alcohol is; second, what it will do to us if we drink it; third; what it will make us do. I can see no way that this can be done, but through the schools. Let the public intelligence and public morals be so educated that they shall insist on laying the axe at the root of the tree by preventing a traffic in alcohol, instead of punishing the unfortunate victims of its use. If the habitual use of distilled liquors increase as rapidly in the opening century as it has during the one just ending, how sad the outlook! I can discern nothing in the future but a wreck of rational honor, and the sinking to a lower standard of civilization and morality, unless public sentiment in this regard be changed.

DANIEL WEBSTER'S BLUE SUIT.

Daniel Webster went to college in a home-spun suit, of which every thread was carded, spun and woven by his mother's hand, from the wool of three own sheep. It was dyed-in-the-wool suit, and the colour was indigo blue, the old New England colour. So Webster was fitted out in indigo blue, from collar to ankle unbecoming for his smart skin—and set off grand and sophomoric. Before reaching Hanover, there came on one of those drenching rains which, like the Scottish mist, wet a man to the skin. The suit held its own (for has not indigo blue been "Warranted fast" since first indigo was heard of?), but it had parted with enough, so that Daniel, too, was blue from head to foot. Daniel Webster had a liberal stratum of sentiment in his make-up, and for some reason this colour of his young manhood became his favorite wear through life. He wore blue coats to his dying day. If any one ever saw him in a different one, the fact has not been put on record.—*Wide awake.*

MAXIMS FOR HOUSEKEEPING.

Every bee's honey is sweet.

The house thowest the owner.

He that is ill ease seeks dainties.

Anger at a feast betrays the boor.

In a good house all is quickly ready.

Everything is of use to a housekeeper.

As the year is so must your pot seethe.

Better be meals many than one too many.

He that saveth his dinner will have the more supper.

Never haggle about the basket if you get the fruit.

There is winter enough for the snipe and woodcock, too.

Squeeze not the orange too hard lest you have a bitter juice.

They who have little butter must be content to spread thin their bread.

Many a good dish is spoiled by an ill sauce.

The biggest calf makes not the sweetest veal.

A man must ask leave of his stomach to be happy.

A WONDERFUL BRIDGE.

The Brooklyn bridge is no less a marvel than it ever was, but it is now such a commonplace convenience that the people of the metropolis wonder how they ever got along without it. Over 33,000,000 passengers passed over the bridge during the year ending December 1st, of whom more than 30,000,000 were railway passengers. Not a single serious accident occurred on the railway. Fifty-eight persons were injured by falling on the stairs or from other causes. Five lost children were found on the bridge. One person committed suicide by shooting, and there were forty-two runaways with slight damages. The bridge is well policed so that women cross alone at night without the slightest annoyance.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so, send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers; there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhœa, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind.

Consumption Cured.

An old physician, retired, from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.