## The Acton Free Press

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#### Editor and Proprietor Business Directory.

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repayable in monthly instalments on appli-

R. J. McNabb. Agent, Acton. | merely assented, as if were a matter of no

## Poetry.

THE DISAGREEABLE MAN. afn't much on preachin' nur tellin' a whopper Haow things is continuorly waggin' askow : 'yo kim ter conklusions it's nighest ter proper

Terwhittle yer story, or out it in two, For I do dospise Nox' ter him that tells lies, " The follow that's makin' the bigger ado. Daowa ter our town moetly' they's allers

That gits in a fidget an' keeps us all blue: Nomeon us can't sleep when he starts out ter (My piglou o' him lot me whisper ter you). I feel just abaout

The feller thot's makin' the bigger ado. Fa fellor's got sumpthin' ter say, let him say it I ais't a complainin', so long ez it's new ; F a fellor's got sumpthin' ter pray, let him pray So long es it's short, an' so long es it's true.

Like wrastin' aout

### The feller thet's makin' the bigges'ado. Select Family Reading.

I'll pint ter the door

Er I said afore,

The Major's Revenge.

BY DARLEY DALE. Major Levett could scarcely be called popular man among his brother officers, although his men all loved him : for he was so exceedingly reserved that it was comknow as much of Levett in one evening as

he would over know. He was a good soldier, and considered a rising man; for he was not only clever, but also devoted to his profession. He was a remarkably silent man, he went out but little, and did not care for ladies' society ; so that when it was known in the regiment that he was about to be married, much surprise and a great deal of curiosity about

the future Mrs. Levett were felt. Only one of the officers in his regiment and seen the bride-elect, and that was oung Donaldson, Levett's most intimate friend. He was the senior lieutenant. Levett at the time the engagement was announced, was senior captain, but he was expecting his majority, which would give Donaldson a step. Arthur Donaldson was a very smart soldier, fair, slight in build, but remarkably handsome, while Jack Levett was over six feet and proportionate-

ly broad, dark, and not particularly good-The two men were as unlike in character as in appearance. Donaldson was a genial fellow, a great talker, very fond of society, particularly that of the gentler sex, never so happy as when he was off duty, and quite satisfied with being the best dancer in

the regiment. At first he was enthusiastic in his praise of Levett's fiancee, and never wearled of talking of her beauty and her various accomplishments. She waltzed divinely-Levet t, by the way, was not a dancing man -she was equally good at golf and tennis; in short, if life were only a series of garnes In cases of Neuralgia, Nervous or Bilious | Mabel Lawson would have taken most of

> the prizes. By degrees Doualdson coased talking about her, and the other men concluded some of his own flirtations had driven the thought of her out of his head, Meanwhile, Levett was only waiting fill he got his majority to ask his bride to name the day. He was gazetted in April, and the wedding-day was fixed for the 18th of May -sn unlucky month, and an unlucky number some of his friends told him-and Arthur, now Captain Donaldson, was to be

his best man. Reserved as Jack Levett was, he could he was desperately in love. Once when Miss Lawson had some slight ailment he was like a man distracted, till he was as-

sured she was quite well again. He was not a rich man by any means That's all we ask you to do but he lavished gifts upon her that he -furnish the feet. We will could only afford by cutting down his own expenditure, and in furnishing his house every whim of hers was consulted and his own comfort and taste offered up as a sac-

Somewhat to the surprise of the Colonel, Captain Donaldson asked to take his long leave in May and June that year, but his request was granted and he left Portland for Sootland on the first of May, promising to be in London to support Major Levett on the occasion of his wedding on the un

looky thirteenth. Major Levett's leave did not begin till the twellth, and on the morning of that day, while he was giving his servants instructions about the time he intended to start, he took up the newspaper, and the first thing that caught his eye was the annonnoement of his friend Donaldson's marrisge.. This would itself have been sufficiently attrtling, but when he saw the lady he had married was his own bride-elect, Mabel Lawson, it is perhaps not surpris-

ing that the first exclamation rung from him in the moment will not bear repeating. His servant, who had never beard him swear before, was startled ; but on glaneing at the pale, drawn face of his master he saw something had happened and quietly left the room. He heard the Major look the door after him and he made a shrewd guess they would not go to London that day. For two hours not a sound came from Major Levett's room; but by that time someone else had read the aunounce ment, and it was known all over the bar-

racks that the Major had been jilted by his love and betrayed by his dearest friend. Then the Colonel went to see him, and was admitted, and offered the sorry consolation that perhaps it was a hoar, and suggested that he telegraph to the girl's

father to know if it were true. "It is true: there is no need to tele graph," said Levett, and simple as the words were, the tone of finality in which they were said told the Colonel it was the only alluion to the subject he would ever hear from the Major's lips. "I will postpone my leave till July, if you will allow me," he added almost immediately, and the Colonel understood he had accepted the

eltostion.

To the surprise of everyone Major Lovett dinedat mess as usual that evening, and expent that he ate and drank next to nothing and was rather more silent than on was wont to be, no one could have told from his manner that anything extraordinary had occurred to him. A day or two later the Colonel informed him that he had written to Captain Donaldson requesting him to get an exchange before his leave expired, as he thought, under the circumstances, it was better that he should no return to the regiment. Major Levett

#### moment to him, and the Colonel, fearing that perhaps he bimself intended to leave the regiment, remarked that the letter had not gone yet, and that if Levitt desired he

would make it much stronger. "By no means; I have not the slightest wish in the matter. I shall remain myself and, unless Donaldson's own feelings prompt him to exchange, it strikes me as

wiser to let him remain. But the probability is he will exchange. On reflection the Colonel adopted this course, more particularly because Levitt seemed to desire it and the letter was not sent. But to his disgust Captain Donaldson returned at the end of June with his bride and tried to ignore the cold reception he met with. Major Levett went for his long leave a day or so before Donaldson's

deceivers and the deceived met. As the day of Major Lovett's return approached, the Colonel began to fear that perhaps he intended to call Donaldson out or horsewhip him, or avenge himself in some way for the treachery of which his former friend had been guilty. Levetc's habitual reserve made it exceedingly diffioult to forecast his conduct. Although he had been twenty years in the regiment, not one of his brother officers could fathom his feeling in the matter, or even guess

Fortunately, perhaps, for all parties, the regiment was ordered to South Africa. to quell one of the risings of some of the native tribes, a day or two before Major Levett returned, so that in the excitement of the near prospect of active service, and in the bustle of preparation less heed was given to the private affairs of the two men. It was, however, noticed that Major Levett merely greeted Donaldeon as a most casual acquaintance, did not offer him his hand

and was never seen or heard to exchange a syllable with him. By the time they reached South Africa the general opinion in the regiment was that Major Levett had neither forgotten nor forgiven the injury he had receivedthat he was merely biding his time; that the day of reckoning would come, and that sconer or later he would be revenged. They were all in high spirits at the near prospecof fighting; but Levelt was the most elated, and seemed to look forward with almost savage glee to the idea of a battle : while Donaldson was the least enthusiastic,

bride so soon. They were all confident of victory, and, then there came a day when they were overwhelmed by the host of naked warriors, who seemed to rise from the depths of the earth, so olever were they in availing themselves of every scrubby bash or tuft of grass

After a long engagement, during which our loss was heavy, a retreat was sounded for the Colonel said they were in danger of being completely surrounded by the enemy. Major Levett, who throughout the day had been the foremost in the fight was one of the last to retreat. He was mounted, and he rode up and down the broken ranks urging those on foot to make for the camp as fast as possible, and seemed to bear

that afforded any cover for their dusky

Nor had Donaldson been backward in the fight. He had led his company several times into the ranks of the enemy : but not hide even from his acquaintances that they were cruelly out-numbered, and it was back again and again. The enemy had way, and was crushed by the violence of suffered very heavy losses, and their dead and wounded bore witness to the execution

done by our men among them. Reluctantly Major Levett turned his Thompson an implosion. back to the foe, and rode in the rear of the dying on his way, but there was no time to stop. The enemy were persuing them, and liquid at a cost of 60 cents a gallon. It is he was ever urging on the fleeing men. Now and again a bullet whizzed past him,

and once or twice he saw a man fall never to rise again. Their camp was about a mile from him when he noticed an officer limping along at some distance in front of him, evidently wounded. He was not mear enough to see

who it was, and before he had recognized him the man fell to the ground. Levett spurred his home, and riding to his side reigned up and naw it was Captain Donaldson, who was shot in the leg and was binding his bandkerchief around it. For a moment he paused. His hour of vengeance had come. A detauhment of the enemy was coming close. It was quite easy for him to escape on horseback; it was impossible for Donaldson to do so,-

even supposing he had the strength to limp into camp, He was groaning when Major Levett reached him; and his handsome face, pale Cuba. There is no end to its possibilities, with suffering grew paler when he saw himself, alone, face to face with the man

he had wronged Oue moment only Levelt hesitated, then he took his rovenge. He dismounted, and bridle and rifle in band approached

"Monat my horse, qui ck; you have only just time. I'll give you a hand.". And putting down his rifle he half lifted "And you ?" said Donaldson reluctantly "I am rovenged. Ride for your life,

turning picked up his ritle and faced the advancing foe, who were now close upon He stood his ground bravely, and fought as men will fight when face to face with death-more like wild animals than more But they were too many for. him, and he fell, covered with wounds and with glory. His last words, even if the yhad understood them, would have conveyed nothing to the Africans who had done I im to death, for they were in broken ser tences, of which only the words "Forgive ..... trepasses-

Wealth is a dangerous thing for a young man to start out into life with. Wealth at the start often means poverty in both brain and pocket at the fluish. Many a man cannot get credit bimself

because he has been o'er liberal in giving

forgive trespassed sysinst," were audible.

but the angels who heard knew the context.

Scrofula, hip dieca e, salt rheum, dyspepsis and other dereases due to impure blood are cored by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL BEAUTY THE FORCE OF CANNON-BALLS. Healthfulness and physical beauty are more nearly synonymous than we are

accustomed to think. The ancient Greeks strove to attain physical perfection-beauty of figure and face -by means of exericses, baths, and every means known to them of stimulating the bodily functions to a high degree of health. They were intense admirers of physical beauty, and appreclated the fact that health is one of its prime conditions. The modobservance of certain laws is necessary for the evolution of the growing boy and girl'

into the healthy man and woman. Prominentamong these laws is that of personal cleanliness. To obtain and to return, so that nearly four months from the wedding-day would elapse before the followed by active friction with brush or towel. It should be remembered that the skin is an excretory organ ; that materials which have been expelled through it collect upon its surface, and must be

> which keeps it moist, flexible and healthful. This is partially removed by bathing and the healthful secretion is again stimulated by active rubbing. To attain a good development of the

> fixed time for exercise, either at home or t school, as well as for study, for eating and for sleep. An athletic trainer tells his pupils that

ment; he insists upon regularity in exercising, eating and sleeping. Such a temperate and regular method of living should be the aim of every one. In quoted that sense of that word, every one should keep himself in "training." This is especially important in youth, when not only are habits forming, but the foundations of future good or ill health are being laid. pierce twenty six inches of Harveyized And let it be remembered that the means by which health is best attained are the same means by which one's personal

## appearance is best improved.

IMPLOSION. Every one knows what an explosion but its opposite, an implosion, is loss familiar. At great depths in the sea the conditions are favorable for its production. and secretly regretted having to leave his At twenty-five hundred fathomas the pressure is, roughly speaking, two and a half tons to the square inch-that is to say after the manuer of Englishmen, despised several times greater than the pressure their enemy, and were considerably taken exerted by steam upon the piston of a back when they found they had underesti- powerful engine. A beautiful experiment mated their strength. In the first two or | to illustrate the enormous force of this three skirmishes they were successful, but deep sea pressure was made during the voyage of H. M. S. Challenger. We quote

from "The Fauna of the Deep Sea." Mr. Buchanan bermetically sealed at both ends a thick glass tube several inches in length full of air. He wrapped this sealed tube in finnel, and placed it in one of the wide copper cyclinders, used to proteet deep sea thermometers when they are sent down to the sounding apparatus. The copper cylinder had holes bored in

The copper case contains, the sealed glass tube was sent down to a depth of two thousand fathoms and drawn upagain. It was found that the cylinder was bulged and bent inward, just as if it had been charmed life for he had several hair-breadth | crumpled inward by being violently squeezed. The glass tube itself, within its flappel

it, so that the water had free access inside.

no fault of theirs that they were driven long against the pressure but suddenly gave stone in Iroland beside me?"the action to a fine powder.

#### This process, exactly the reverse of an explosion, is fermed by Sir Wyville

A NEW INVENTION. Good fresh air can now be turned into so cold that a few moments contact with it will freeze meats so solid that they will ring like a piece of steel. It evaporates so rapidly that a few spoonsful will cool a heated room. Placed in a room and subjooted to gentle heat it will run an engine ; or under great heat it will explode like guppowder. In an ordinary releigerator it would be invaluable. If placed in a kettle and over a flame it will begin at once to boil vigorously and eject steam, though a thin sheet of ice will gather on the bottom of the kettle directly over the blaze. If a piece of ice or a little cold water is dropped into the kettle it will boil very vigorously and will send a shower of loy particles all over the room. It is likely to revolutionize cold storage and the ice cream trade; and with enough of it on top New Orleans might establish an ice carnival in July. Liquid air might enable the American soldiers to wear overcoats in

## time only will develop them.

IRONICAL IF'S If a man fails once he begins to believe If you would make a self-made maangry ignore him. If Adam had been wide awake he would

If opportunities were females men wou embrace more of them. If the moon could only talk what interesting disclosures it might make. said Levett. And he started the horse, and If silonce is golden all deaf and dumb persons ought to be millionaires.

If a man has to choose between a law

per or a doctor ite's a case of his money or

not have lost that rib.

If you see one man laughing at th ancient jokes of another the other has If a rich man tells you the greatest hap pinces is to be found in poverty remind

im of what David said in his haste. A LONG-FELT WANT. One day woo Willie and his dog · Sprawled on the nursery floor. He had a florist's catalogue, And turned the pages o'er.

Till all at once he gave a spring. "Hurrab!" he cried with joy; "Mamma, here's just the very thing To give your little boy! "For when we fellows go to school We lose our things, you know:

"And as you often say you can,t Take care of 'em for me, Why don't you buy a "rubber plant" Aud an "umbrolla tree?"

And in that little vestibule

Being Hit by a Locomotive is Noth-

Ainteresting comparison was in : doby The American Machinist last week for the purpose of giving its readers an accurate idea of the tremendous force developed by big cannon nowadays. The largest guns used on naval vessels to-day have a 13-juch bore. The projectile for a gun like this weight 1,100 pounds and a charge of powder amounting to 500 pounds is ignited behind ern science of hygiens teaches that the it. The shot acquires a muzzle velocity of about 2,000 feet per second. Few people

have any notion of the energy that is here Our contemporary asks its readers to think of a locomotive engine weighing 100 .retain a healthful and active condition of 000 pounds: This is fifty tons. Now if the the skin, frequent bathing is necessary locomotive were moving at the rate of forty miles an hour its energy would be scarcely more than one thirteenth that of the cannon-ball. In other words, if thirteen locomotives were to smash up sgainst stone wall all at once the blow which they would deliver would be no more severethan The skin also secretes an oily matter that of one shot from the 13-inch gun assuming that the muzzle of the latter was placed only a few inches from the same wall. Inasmuch as the projectile would be small it would concentrate its aution on one spot, and do more harm, apparently

muscles physical exercise must be taken. than the thirteen engines. But the amount The growing boy and girl should have a of energy would be the same. In one case there would be a small mass and a high velocity, and in the other a large mass and a comparatively low velocity. Forty miles an hour is a pretty good speed temperance in all things is necessary for for a locomotive, but not for a cannon-ball. even a fair degree of physical develop. The momentum of a moving object is compated by multiplying the weight by the velocity, and this was done in the very

suggestive and surprising calculation here It has been estimated by ordunuo experts that if a shot from a 13-inch gun should strike an armor plate only a few inches from the muzzle of the gun, it would

THE CASTLE DISAPPEARED. One of Ireland's magnificent rulned castles dame to its floal end in this manper. The ancient seat of the Castlereighe overlooked Lake Swilly, and it was one of the most princely residences in Ireland. Eventually it fell into decay and was not nhabited. As usual in such circumstances when the peasantry wanted to build a pigsty, repair a road, or anything of the sort they took the stones from the old castle which was disappearing piecemeal, when one day the then Lord Londonderry paid a visit to his Irish property. When he saw the state his castle was in, and reflected on the fact that it was so much identified with the history of the family, and even as a rain was the gloay of Ireland, he deter-

mined to put a stop to the encroachments that had been made upon it. Bending for his agent to give him order that the people were no longer to remove ones from the building, he instructed him to bave the place enclosed with a wall six feet high and well coped to keep out trespassers. That being done he went his way and did not return to Ireland for three or four years. He then found, to his amazement, that the old castle had disappeared and in its place there was a big wall inclosing nothing. Sending for his agent be demanded to know why his orders

had not been carried out. The agent insisted that they had been. "But where is the castle?" demander the marquis.

wrapper, was reduced to a fine powder "The castle, is it? Bedad, I built the almost like snow. The glass tube, it would | wall with it, my lord ! Is it for me to be seem, as it had slowly descended held out going miles for materials with the fluest In telling the man to build the wall Lord Londonderry had said nothing whatever about preserving the castle, which is

now a thing of the past. Nevertheless

the wall is a good one.

A FEW NEW IRISH "BULLS." An Irish reader of the London Spectator contributes the following specimens hibernicism which are good if not al During a disussion at a meeting of th Trinity College Historical Society upon the slight consideration attached to life by uncivilized nations a speaker mentioned the extraordinary circumstances that i China if a man was condemmed to death he could easily hire a substitute to die for "And" the debator went on. " believe many poor fellows get their living by acting as substitutes in that way !" "Well, Mick," said my friend, "I've heard some queer stories about your doings lately." "Och, don't belave thim, sir, roplied Mick. "Sure half the lies tool:

about me by the nayhors isn't thrue !"

A child went orying to its mother and

reported that it had swallowed a button

'Well, well, look at that now !" oried the

woman. "Begor, I suppose the next thing

you'll do is to swallow a buttonhole

pharic acid. The combination of the latter This story reminds me of the graphic description given by a boggar-man of his tattered coat : "Faith, yer honor, if nothin' but a parcel of holes sewn to A curious peculiarity of the Irish nature s the wide limits to which relationship is extended. "Do you know Pat Mechan!" a possant was asked, "Of course I do.

#### tion of mine. He wance proposed for my BIRDS IN ALASKA.

Great numbers of wild birds nest

was the answer. "Why, be's a near rela-

Alaska. Ducks, goese, and swans. build their nests on the ground. In the nesting area of Alaska it is said that the nests are so thick that it is impossible to walk. withont stepping on one. The natives are experts in killing this game. They do it with | ing cotton ; when you have home dyeing to s peculiar weapon. Six sinew strings, about three feet in length, are fastened together by a quill at one end. At the other | and garments depend upon the brand of end of each sinew is a ball of ivory, pear. | dye you employ. shaped, and about as large as a waingt. The hauter, with this in his hand, approaches the flock at dusk. He sels faded and dingy looking goods after a bath these balls whirling. When the flock rises | in the Diamond Dyes are made as good as to fly, these whirling sinews are thrown into the flook. They catch about the necks or less of the birds, and they are captured. Sometimes as many as a dozen are captured at one throw. Travellers are sorry to less dyes sold by some dealers for the sake see that the nests of these wild birds are of long profits -well, you must be prepared so carelessly robbed of eggs. The eggs are for cruel disappointments and losses. The wanted for the albumen which is used in Diamond Dyes save time and money, and manufacturing, but eggs are taken that are solid guarantees of encouses and good cannot be used, and these are thrown away. So great is the destruction of eggs and birds that the birds each year occupy much less space in nesting.

THE LOVE-BRIDGE. Two little feet upon the stairs,

- Two little arms were open wide, Two litto hands would har the way · Trying to reach from side to side. With smiling glances, two brown eyes Look up to mine in the softened light. The sweet child voice in answer tells

Why I must own her playful right. "Dis is a love-bridge, papa says,

Dis is the gate my arms so wide, Div me a kise as you go through, I'll dly it back on the other side. I bond to give my kiss, and think Of the "love bridge" across life's sea,

Whore the gate is a father's arms,

Willing to open wide for mo.

When the treasures swept from my sight, When tossed and turned by wind and tide, Have passed the gate, and he will give Them back to me the other side.

-Boston Globe. GREAT PRESENCE OF MIND. One of the sights of Philadelphia, fifty cars ago, was a magnificent Chinese auseum, whose treasures, collected by a Mr. Dunn, a munificent merchant, were displayed in a building erected on the site on which the Continental Hotel now stands. Over the museum was a long, narrow, upper room, about thirty-five feet high. It was a public hall used for lectures and con-

remarkable instance of presence of mind. A correspondent of the London Spectator, tells the thrilling story; In the central part of this immense audtorium were collected one evening about three thousand persons. At about nine o'clock the manager of the building came to the leader of the meeting, white with sffright, and told him that the floor had sunk nearly a foot, and in a few minutes

corts, and with it was associated a most

more the tenons of the joists might be out of their sockets. The floor would then fall through onto the Chinese Museum, and the walls, sixty feet in height, would collapse and be precipitated with the roof, upon the assembly. The loader explained to the person whom the audience expected next to hear, that by addressing the assembly from the end of the hall, he could withdraw the company from the sunken part of the floor to that where the front walls strengthened the

The reply to this was that his own famiy was in the audience, and that he must got them out first, "You shall not," said the leader; "a hipt of danger, a rush and we shall all be under the walls and roof. Five minutes delay may kill as alto-As a boy in the audience I well remember my surprise at socieg the leader

joists to bear the weight of the people.

next be addressed from where he stoodthe organ-loft. As the audience turned and moved to the front, the flooring rose six inches. The people were entertained, partly by an impromptu sentimental song in a voice

suddenly appear at the far front of the.

room, and tell the people that they would

without a quaver, in the very, face of death, and as soon as practicable they were quietly dismissed. Not a single individual in that great assembly was aware that, by the presence of mind of one man, an awful catastropho had been averted. The imagination sickens at the thought of what would have been the consequence of a panic and

sudden alarm by the failure of the courage The terror of those minutes before the crowd was moved and the floor rose to its level, was such that he nover, even in his

own family, alluded to the scene, though

se lived for forty years afterward. SET THE EARTH ON FIRE. "Setting the earth on fire," is an expre sion often heard in ridicale, but it can never be applied to Magician Kellar for the reason that he has already accomplished that feat literally. En route from Valparaiso to Montevideo, via the strait of fagelian, in February, 1875, the steamer apon which he was a passenger stopped for oal at Punta Arenas, the extreme southern point of Patagonia, where a Chilian penal settlement is maintained. Mr. Kellar was the guest of the commandant of the day. and, as considerable trouble had been caused by unraly natives, he was asked to do cornething to frighten them and cause them to obey the commands of the authorities. Accordingly, after dinner he called several score of them about the station and amused them with simple tricks in magic. Just as to was about to conclude he appounced, in voice of anger, that if further acts of lawlessness occurred he would burn up the earth. As he spoke he touched the sand at his feet with a wand and a living sheet of fame sprang up, which so frightened the natives that they fled in terror. The acts complained of by the commandant were never repeated. The trick was simply done. A quantity of white sugar and chlorate of potash had been secreted in the sand by an assistant during the forencon-The wand was hollow and contained sul-

with the two former caused the flame, but,

the ignorant natives of course it appear-

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