BAREFOOT IN FIERY LAVA

THE HORRIBLE SUFFERINGS OF HINDOO FANATICS.

Walking on a Bed of Live Coals—Men, Women and Children, Even, Tread the Fire, Walk to Music and Frenzied Songs and Supplications—The Government Should Interfere.

Blasts of trumpets, ringing of bells, the sounding of innumerable tom-toms, ecstatical ravings from ten thousand throats, all simultaneously and executed with all possible fervor—these are the preliminaries of the gruesome spectacle known as the fire-walk of the Hindus, which took place at Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean, recently described by Eugene Wolff in a foreign periodical.

"I had stayed expressly to see it," he writes, "being persuaded to do so by the glaring advertisements of the railroad companies that ran special excursions to Pittreboth Mountain, at the southern slope of which the lava was to be spread. It's a humbug, of course, I said to myself. The genuine fire-walk has long been abandoned. They wil give us a fake show with the aid of Chinese fire. These clever Hindus and the English company which presented them with steam cars, as usual, will reap the benefit.

"But thoughts of the unreality of the thing vanished quickly as I neared the roped arena of fanaticism. The race-course strewn with live coals and separated from the highway by stout ropes is twenty-one feet broad from the entrance to the embankment of the rivulet where the priests are stationed, with their pots of ointment and healing salves. As I approached the tribune, the caretakers had just finished the work of spreading the red glowing charcoals over every inch of the allotted ground, for in order that the sacrifice be complete there must be no break in the chain of self-inflicted horrors.

"The charcoal had been obtained by charring an immense pile of wood and distributing its contents, while yet ablaze, over the track on the mountainside, the firemen being Hindu priests and adepts. Now they drew up in front of the scaffold, where I, with others, was putting civilization to shame, and viewed their work. The imaginary road to heaven they had built was one mass of red fire, that swayed to and fro with the vibration of its own heat. The priests contemplated the horizontal pyre with satisfied looks, paying no attention to the burns received in the work. Three or four of the old men had lost their sandals in preparing the lava bed. The hair, eyebrows and beards of all were singed or partially burned off.

TERRIBLE LAVA HEAT.

"The heat of the atmosphere was terrible and, combined with that emanating from the fiery road, almost unbearable. I wore an Indian terai hat consisting of two thick felt hats, one spread over the other, and in addition guarded my eyes by a sunshade doubly lined, but notwithstanding, my head burned as with fever, while tears rolled from my eyes incessantly. There I sat a prisoner, not two feet from the lava bed, held captive on the other side by a surging mass of 10,000 sightseers, who grew more excited every second while, at the same time, their ranks were swelled by newcomers on ox carts, mules, on foot and by rail.

"Aside from myself and two other Europeans no one in the vast crowd seemed to mind the poisonous vapors arising over the lava; they got into my lungs and soon caused nose-bleeding and intense pain in the head and eyes. Yet I had to sit still and await the horrible ceremonies which the railroads had advertised circus fashion and which, for that very reason, I had thought to be a chimera of the past brought back to unreal life for money-getting purposes.

FESTIVE MUSIC AND DANCES.

"Alas, there is the procession formed before my eyes by subjects of Her British Majesty. First a gang of a half hundred urchins of both sexes, naked but for the flowers in their hair. They sing and dance, filling the air with exclamations of joy and agile arms and legs. Then follow the music, kettledrums, gongs, clappers and castanets, the orchestra dividing upon arriving at the slow place and taking positions on both sides of the lava bed, half a dozen of them being kind enough to place themselves between me and the fiery oven.

"Surprise upon surprise! The white helmet of a dozen police officers under a lieutenant appear marching at the head of the natives. Two are left to guard the tribune for distinguished foreigners, the rest from a cordon alongside the lava bed, "to maintain discipline," as the lieutenant expressed it.

WALKING ON THE FIRE.

"The Hindus! One hundred men wearing only a thin linen cloth about their loins, the long, black hair loosened and falling upon the shoulders, garlands of flowers and greens around the forehead, neck and breast. In both hands they carried large flowers pieces, holding them aloft as offerings to Heaven. Their eyes are fixed upon the sinking sun, they walked slowly and deliberately in single file, one after the other, paying no attention to their surroundings.

"Now the first enters upon the fire walk without altering his gait in the least, moving tardily, mechanically; he is followed by others in the same manner; the glowing charcoal severs skin and flesh from the bones of their naked feet, singes their locks, brows and eyes-lashes.

"A horrible spectacle! The eyes of the poor, deluded fanatics protrude from their sockets, the muscles of the face contract, they lock their teeth, their bodies sway in painful convulsions. Twelve, fifteen times they must sink their feet in the bed of fire, then to fall into the arms of the priests standing ready to receive them at the rivulet.

"If my eyes have not betrayed me the majority of the fire walkers were half unconscious with pain upon reaching the embankment. They had to be dragged down into the slimy water, where their feet were bathed and treated to a coat of ointment. After a little while they seemed to have momentarily recovered, only to become subject to another fit of religious delirium.

"Nirvana they call it, a condition which, according to the Buddhist doctrine, presupposes the total extinction of desire, passion and unrest, a state to which the professors of Buddhism aspire as the highest aim of life.

"'Nirvana,' they cry, 'Nirvana,' and, though hardly able to use their feet, these unfortunates drag themselves back to the entrance of the lava bed singing and shouting. Their appearance is sickening. From their bleeding feet and ankles hangs the flesh in shreds; their bodies are covered with blotches and dust. The mass of sightseers, however, feels no mercy; all these people adhere to the Nirvana theory, and though most of them are too cowardly to undergo the tortures themselves, their religious spirits rise at seeing others do so.

"They applaud wildly, encourage the musicians to new exertions, and bring their children and women to beg the fire walkers to make another trial for their sake. The men readily respond, for while they suffer physical pain their imagination leads them to believe they are in paradise. Twice, three times some brave the flames, two of the latter fall on their knees after walking half the distance, and for a moment I think they will roast to death. But the lunatic shouting of the onlookers makes the Hindu get up and complete the terrible task with a bound or two.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN TOO.

"Alas! poor creatures; the last performance, more horrible than the others, will not help them to achieve Nirvana. The Hindu must walk slowly and deliberately through the fire, says the book of Buddha.

"The mob grows more furious with passion; frenzied prayers are heard on all sides; the number of voluntary fire walkers has trebled. 'Women, children,' is the cry now.

"I see several Hindus ready to enter upon the walk and place babies on their bare shoulders. 'Lieutenant,' I shout, 'unless you hinder this sacrifice I will report you to the Governor.'

"The official and his eleven men—twelve men against 10,000—run to the entrance, and, taking each other by the hands, form a ring round the natives with the children. The mob advanced upon the group threateningly; a moment later and triumphant cries announce that the police have been pushed aside, that they have ceased to offer even a shadow of protection.

"Meanwhile the lava has cooled off somewhat; the coals, in spots, present a blackened appearance; white caps show here and there that the cinders have burned out. 'Women and children prepare for heaven!' shout the priests.

"Beautiful girls, mothers and crones, the lower part of their bodies naked, with bare breasts and flowers in hair and hands, now seek the doleful path, preceded by their fathers and brothers, carrying the children, a homogeneous hecatomb frenzied, jubilant, hopeful. After their wounds have been dressed by the priests all throng into the temple to prostrate themselves before the All Sacred.

"This is the Tinnery festival as it was celebrated in the year of our Lord 1895 on the Christian island of Mauritius, sometimes called the Isle of France, the scene of "Paul and Virginia." The island has belonged to the British Empire since 1814, and before that was under French rule for some two hundred years. The British Governor is powerless to prevent such scenes of native fanaticism, having only a few hundred policemen and one battalion of the Scotch Black Watch at his disposal.

"Before I came to Mauritius I stayed a few weeks in Benares, where I witnessed hundreds of cremations of victims of typhus, cholera and consumption at the embankments of the holy river. The nude bodies were placed on a small pile of wood and the latter fired, a horrible spectacle to contemplate, horrible for all but the crocodiles waiting for the bones. But the Benares performance paled into insignificance by the side of the fire walk on the island of Mauritius.

"I travel to learn and see, but I wish to God I had never read the circus advertisements of the railroad company that caused me to witness the Tinnery festival."

IMPROVING FRUITS.

The Development Which Has Taken Place in the Quality of the Common Fruits.

If there be a timely thought for the hot season it is surely that in which one recalls the almost complete revolution which the fruit trade has undergone in the last few decades. Half a century ago these succulent products of garden and orchard were almost inaccessible to the poor; to day—thanks to swift railroad transportation and the development of canning industry—they are received everywhere in abundance, and can be sold at prices low enough to meet the needs of the humblest purse.

Not less remarkable than their increase in quantity has been the improvement which has taken place in the quality of the common fruits, though this amelioration, as the naturalists tell us, is one that has been going on ever since the age in which vegetable-eating animals first appeared upon our planet.

Somewhere in what is known as the tertiary period, fruits were first developed as a means of distributing the seeds of a variety of plants. Owing to the deposit of sugary matter in the tissues, birds were led to perfer certain seeds to others; such chosen seeds were widely dispersed, and had the best chance of surviving.

The most attractive of the survivors were again eaten to the rejection of the rest, and by a continuation of the same process the earliest fruits underwent

GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT.

The edible portion of the plant which we now call fruit was developed from different parts of the floral envelopes or of the ovary of the plant, the calyx becoming enlarged and fleshy, as in the apple and pear; the receptacle itself swelling to form the strawberry; the integuments of the ovary increasing in bulk, as in the case of the plum, the peach, and the grape. In other plants compound fruits arose, in a variety of ways, from a mass of flowers, as in the case of the mulberry, the pineapple and the fig.

The first of the fruits were thus brought into existence through the agency of the lower animals by what is called natural selection. But when man came he began to select and improve fruits for himself. The most primitive tribes must have exercised, in some form or other, this new kind of selection.

The progress made within historic times in the character of certain apples and pears has been remarkable, not to say extraordinary. The apple of the age of the lake-dwellings of Switzerland, for example, hardly equalled our crab-apple; while the luscious peach of to-day is believed by expert naturalists to have had at one time the low estate of a mere almond.

A purely modern feature of these improvements has been the success achieved by the fruit raiser in producing seedless varieties.

THE ABSENCE OF SEEDS

is asserted to have a double advantage, since the nutriment originally needed to develop the seed goes to increasing the supply for the fruit.

At present, the fruits in common use that have few or no seeds include bananas, pine-apples, and a certain kind of oranges, together with some other tropical fruits that do not reach the great markets of the world in large quantities. Yet cultivators do not greatly despair of adding to this list—of eliminating the small and hardseeds of the strawberry, the raspberry, the blackberry, and the currant, and of providing for the market that "long-felt want"—the seedless grape. Nor do they altogether frown on the enthusiastic fruit consumer who looks forward to a future of coreless apples and pears, of stoneless cherries and plums.

In the meantime, cultivators of fruit are much more anxious still further to improve means of transportation that to provide more luscious fruit. Should they succeed, it may prove possible even in our own time, with the help of more scientific methods of transportation, to draw to our northern markets some of those edibles that now make the sultry tropics almost a regret to the untravelled—even such delicacies as the avocado pear, the custard-apple, the cherimoyer, the sweet-cup, the sweet-sop, the durian, the papaw, the rambutan, the mango, and the mangosteen.

An Immense Steamer Building.

In point of tonnage, speed, and other qualities, the steamship Great Eastern now a rotting hull in the Mersey, will be eclipsed by the new steamship now building for the Hamburg-American Packet Company by the Belfast firm of Harland and Wolff. Even the Georgic, the big new freighter of the white Star line, will not be able to approach her in any respect. The new steamer which the Hamburg-American line has contracted for will be one of the largest steamers in existence. She will be able to carry a dead weight of 13,000 tons. Her displacement capacity, which will exceed that of the Campania by 15 per cent., is to be 20,000 tons. The measurement capacity of the new steamer will be about 19,000 tons, at the rate of 40 cubic feet per ton. The length of the vessel on the load water line is to be 560 feet, which is two feet longer than the new White Star line freighter Georgic; beams 64 feet; depth of hold, 42 feet. The Georgic has a beam of 60 feet, and a depth of 40 feet. Her displacement is estimated at 20,166 tons, and her carrying capacity at 12,320 tons.

An Unkind Question.

I've an idea in my head, exclaimed young Mr. Goslin.

But are you quite certain that you can distinguish between ideas and whals? asked Miss Kittish.

Luck at Last.

Pater Familias—Hurrah! I've fallen heir to a million.

Mater Familias—Isn't that grand? Now we can begin to take ice.

NO WEATHER SIGNS, EH?

NOT EVEN A WET MOON LEFT BY AN ENGLISH INVESTIGATOR.

Common Beliefs About the Weather Knocked on the Head by Modern Meteorological Study—Animals, Plants and Proverbs All Said to Be Worthless in Forecasting.

Superstitious and proverbial lore about the weather were cruelly rent in the iconoclastic address on "Weather Fallacies" read to the Royal Meteorological Society at its recent annual meeting in London by the President, R. Inwards. In early times, when the weather had to be studied from cloud, sky, and sea, and from the behavior of animals and plants, men were pardonable for doing what is still often a cause of error fore-telling what they most wished for and putting down as a universal law what was only a coincidence of independent events. One class of prophecies connects the weather with certain seasons of the year, particularly days in the week, or the days of certain saints, which was a convenient way of fixing a date, and even with particular times of the day. We often hear such sayings as "Fine on Friday, fine on Sunday," or "Friday is the best and the worst day of the week," and proverbs like "rain at seven, fine at eleven." When these sayings come true they are faithfully remembered, when they fail they are forgotten. There is no kind of foundation for such rules, which Mr. Inwards calls "self-exploding," or for the belief that if it rains on St. Swithin's day, July 15, is will rain for forty days after. That date to very near a well known bad period in wet years, as the terms "St. Margaret's flood," July 20, and "Lammas flood," Aug. 1, show; the fact that some heavy rains began on July 15 was enough to establish he "law," which every one knows is

CONSTANTLY BROKEN.

Equally unfounded are the scientific superstitions, presented under the shield of astronomy, which base infallible rules for the weather on the relative position of the moon, sun, and planets. These appeal to analogy, to reason, and to common sense. The known action of sun and moon on ocean tides is generally the starting point of such theories, and it is clear to common sense that when the earth is nearer to the sun or the moon to the earth, or both sun and moon are pulling together, there ought to be tide of atmosphere similar to the tide of ocean which these influences undoubtedly produce. But the facts do not bear the theory out; the atmospheric tides do not ebb and flow, except in an infinitesimal degree. Again, the sun and moon move in planes that are at an angle to each other, so that at times their attraction acts in widely diverging lines, at others almost in the same plane. Here is a clear case: When the angle is greatest, when the moon is "on her back," there must be atmospheric disturbance. Unfortunately the storms do not come, and we must find some other cause for our weather. Hardly a year goes by without a new moon theory to account for it. M. Flarguergues, as the result of twenty years of observations, has found that when the moon was furthest from the earth the barometer averaged 755 millimetres, and when nearest, 754 millimetres, a difference of only one millimetre.

Some prophets have built their faith on cycles, predicing that weather changes would repeat themselves when sun and moon got back into the same relative position, which they do in nineteen years, with an error of only an hour and a half. Others advocate a cycle of fifty-four years, but all the cycle systems have broken down when tested, and as far as we know, there is no period within which weather changes repeat themselves. There are plenty of other fallacies

ABOUT THE MOON,

such as that the full moon clears away clouds, that you should sow beans or cut trees on the wane of the moon; that it is a bad sign if the moon changes on Saturday or Sunday; that two full moons in a month will bring a flood; that to see the old moon in the arms of the new brings on rain. M. Flammarion says that "moon's influence on the weather is negligible. The heat coming from it would affect our temperature by twelve millionths of a degree, and the atmospheric tides caused by it would only affect the barometric pressure a few hundredths of on inch, far less than the changes always taking place from other causes."

The Moon and the Weather
May change together;
But the change of the Moon
Does not change the weather.

Even the halo round the moon is discredited; it has been found by observers that it is followed by fine weather as often as by rain.

About the sun there are many fallacies, and ever since the discovery that the spots on its surface appear with greater or less frequency, theorists in shoals have tried to prove that they rule our weather. It has been proved that the frequency of sun spots and the variations of the magnetic needle are intimately connected, and that the aurora appears and disappears in some sort of sympathy with the sun spot variations, but this is as far as we can get for the present, as these changes seem to have no definite relation to our weather. Mr. Scott has proved that there are no equinoctial gales.

Coming down to earth, we find a long list of statements of the behavior of animals and plants having a supposed connection with the weather. E. J. Lowe has carefully examined a number of well known signs, and all seem to break down completely. He took the signs of bats flying about in the evening, many toads appearing at sunset, great quantities of snails, fish raising to the surface, bees busy, crowds of locusts, restless cattle, landrails clamorous, flies and gnats troublesome, many insects, crows flocking and noisy, spider webs thick on the grass, spiders hanging from their webs in the evening, and ducks and geese making more noise than usual. Calling a day fine when no rain was measured in the rain gauge, he found in 361 observations of such signs that they were followed 213 times by the fine weather and only 148 by rain. Even

SWALLOWS FLYING LOW

cannot be depended upon, as especially in summer and autumn they almost invariably skim along the ground. Animals probably feel the dampness or darkness preceding wet weather, and this makes them uneasy, but not more than it affects man himself. As to cows scratching their ears, and goats uttering cries, they are no more true as signs of rain than the adage which credits pigs with seeing the wind. The leech is believed to be a weather prophet and two books have been written about its behavior. The author of one devised an instrument by which leeches could give audible storm warnings. It consisted of twelve bottles of water, each containing a leech and a metal tube too small for it to enter easily, but into which it would try to squeeze when a thunderstorm came on, according to its nature. In the tube was a piece of whalebone, attached to a chain from which hung a bell, which rang when the whalebone was touched. Twelve leeches were used so as to make sure that at least one would do his duty.

Plants are also used as weather indicators and as they act in sympathy with the dampness, gloom, and chilliness of the air, and these are conditions that generally precede rain, their indications cannot be called altogether fallacious. The pimpernel and the marigold close their petals before rain, because the air is getting damper, and for the same reason the poplar and the maple show the under surface of their leaves. An artificial leaf of paper will do the same. If hard, thin paper is used for the upper side and thicker unsized paper for the lower, the leaf will curl up in sympathy with the condition of the air. So will a slip of ordinary photographic paper. And the slackness that moisture produces in plants applies to insects, some of which can fly only in the sunshine.

In 1892 attention was directed to a plant, the Abrus precatorius, a beautiful shrub of the mimosa kind, which has the property of being sensitive in a high degree, so that its pinnate leaflets go through many curious movements, and it was claimed that these form a guide of unerring certainty to foreshow the coming weather. Even earthquakes were said to be predicted by

THIS WONDERFUL PLANT.

If it closed its leaflets upward, after the manner of a butterfly about to settle, fair weather was shown; when the leaflets remained flat, changeable and gloomy weather was indicated; while thunder at various distances was to be foretold by the curling of the leaflets, and the nearer the thunder the greater the curl, until when the points of the leaflets crossed, the thunder storm was indicated as being overhead. Changes of wind, hurricanes, and other phenomena were to be shown by the various curious and beautiful movements of the leaflets and stalks. These movements undoubtedly took place, but the botanists at Kew were unable to find any connection between them and the weather, and found that most of them were due to the agency of light and moisture. At the meteorological office the movements were found to have nothing to do with either cyclones or earthquakes. Yet this sensitive plant had been made the subject of an English patent.

In the country a large crop of hips, haws, and holly berries is held to be a sign that a severe winter is coming, and that nature thus provides winter food for the birds. But it is not so. Neither is it true a green Christmas makes a fat churchyard, as Mr. Dine's statistics have shown. It is often stated that the noise of cannon will produce rain, and in Austrian Tyrol the church bells are rung to avert thunder; but the notion is a fallacy. The experiments made in America to test whether rain could be produced by exploding a large quantity of gunpowder in the air resulted in nothing but smoke and noise.

Only a selection has here been made of the vast catalogue of fallacies that have grown up about the weather. There are still people, Mr. Inwards remarked in conclusion, who believe that the saints' days rule the weather, that the sun puts out fire, and that warm water freezes sooner than cold.

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Yours truly, Chas. Powell.

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James E. Nicholson.

Almost Passes Belief

Mr. Jas. E. Nicholson, Florenceville, N. B., Struggles for Seven Long Years with

CANCER ON THE LIP,

AND IS CURED BY

AYER'S Sarsaparilla

Mr. Nicholson says: "I consulted doctors who prescribed for me, but to no purpose; the cancer began to

Eat into the Flesh,

spread to my chin, and I suffered in agony for seven long years. Finally, I began taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla. In a week or two I noticed a

Decided Improvement.

Encouraged by this result, I persevered, until in a month or so the sore under my chin began to heal. In three months my lip began to heal, and, after using the Sarsaparilla for six months, the last trace of the cancer disappeared."

Ayer's The Only Sarsaparilla

Admitted at the World's Fair.

AYER'S PILLS Regulate the Bowels

HOUSEHOLD.

Bags of All Kinds.

Clothes pin bags! Nearly everybody has one. Made out of ticking of course. A piece three-quarters of a yard long and ten inches wide doubled for twelve inches o form a sack and with strings to tie round the waist. It is much improved in looks, in case there is no place to hang it save where it will be seen, by cutting the ticking, arranging it so that only the right side shows, and working the white stripes with feather stitching in turkey red, outlining cotton.

One more. A novelty this time. We read somewhere, the other day, that a small piece of ice would keep a week if confined in a woolen bag, enclosed within a second woolen bag a good two inches larger, the space between them being evenly filled with feathers. Such a bag would be worth having in case of sickness.

Having given so much space to the purely useful and well known members of the family I will have to limit my introductions among the ornamental as well as useful whose name is legion. Light green or blue satin combined with pink silk makes a pretty fancy-work bag. A round piece of card-board covered one side pink and one green forms the bottom. A perfectly straight piece of the satin lined with the silk gathered very full on one edge, which should be felled to the bottom and prettily shirred with a ribbon draw string at the other completes the bag. Smaller ones of the same pattern are found on gentleman's bureaus for soiled collars and cuffs, the gift of some lady friend.

A handy bag for soiled handkerchiefs is also found in a convenient place in his room. It is made of a brilliant Turkish towel sewn into a sack, the fringes pulled up through an embroidery hoop, turned down over it nearly half way, and securely fastened. Three gay bows decorate it, two where the ribbon loop, by which it is hung, are sewn to the hoop and one directly over the nail from which it hangs.

Others are only protected and ornamented at the bottom with vandykes of the crocheted rings pointing upward. If an all black hand-bag is too sombre, delicate rose-color or lavender silk gleaming through the circles of the black rings are elegant and beautiful.

Ways of Serving Peaches.

When simply sliced, to be eaten with sugar and cream, peaches should be set on ice for a short time, but never sweetened beforehand, as standing in sugar destroys their delicate flavor.

Baked peaches are nice, and this is an excellent way to use those that are not quite ripe. Pare and halve the fruit. Remove the stones and in each cavity left put a piece of butter and cover generously with sugar. Set each half peach on a round of buttered toast, sprinkle with more sugar, lemon juice and a very little nutmeg. Bake in the oven for 20 minutes and serve hot, with cream.

Peach trifle is a dainty dessert, concocted of nicely peeled and sliced peaches, 2 cups of milk, 4 tablespoonfuls of sugar, 3 eggs and a small stale sponge cake. Make a boiled custard of the milk, the yolks of the eggs and half the sugar. Slice the cake, lay it in the bottom of a glass dish and cover with the peaches well sweetened. Beat the whites of the eggs, with the remaining 2 spoonfuls of sugar, to a stiff meringue and heap lightly on top. All the ingredients should be very cold before they are mixed, and the custard is poured over the "trifle" when served.

Peach roll has a rather rich suet crust rolled out in a long sheet. Cut up the peaches rather fine and spread thickly on the paste, sprinkling liberally with sugar. Roll up and fold the ends over. Then wrap in a strong cloth, tie closely and steam for two hours in a steamer. It is eaten with either a hard or soft sauce.

Cut-up peaches are a delicious addition to hard pudding sauce of butter and sugar creamed together, and transform even a plain batter pudding into a royal viand.

Peach potpie is merely a plain pie-crust filled with a deep layer of sliced peaches, then a layer of sugar and nutmeg. Cover with a crust and bake slowly for two or three hours. For preserving the best quality of peaches should be selected and they should never be either over or underripe. White freestones are the best. Like other large fruits, too, they should always be peeled with a silver knife and thrown immediately into cold water to prevent discoloring. When this is done divide each peach and remove the stone. In a porcelain kettle, make a syrup of 1 lb of sugar and 1 pint of water for every pound of fruit. Drop in the halves and let them boil for 20 minutes. Then dip out and lay on a large dish. Boil down the syrup until it is quite thick, when return the peaches to it and cook gently until they appear ransparent. Put up in glass jars and crew on the covers securely.

Hints for Housewives.

The lighter the color on the walls of the room, the less artificial light will be required.

For greasing pans for bread and cake baking, tie a piece of muslin on the end of a stick.

When flat irons become rusty, black them with stove polish, and rub well with a dry brush.

Steel knives and forks not in daily use may be preserved from rust by keeping them in a bag of flannel or flannelette made like a glove, with a separate compartment for each knife.

Water Jugs and decanters may be cleansed by filling about two-thirds full of hot but not boiling water, in which is a number of pieces of brown paper. After letting stand for a few hours, shake well and rinse with cold water. Turn down over a folded towel and when it has drained perfectly dry, polish outside and in as well as you can.

A Steamboat Attacked by a Shark.

A despatch from Vancouver says:—The Blonde, a small steamer, was caught in a violent storm in Queen Charlotte Sound on her last trip north. While the waves were sweeping over the boat and the Captain feared that they might never reach port alive, a shark, over thirty feet long, made its appearance directly in front of them, and appeared to be preparing to charge the steamer. Capt. Beck could not resist a shot from his rifle at the huge fish. His aim was true and a rifle ball was imbeded in the head of the man eater. The shark, furiously lashing the water, retreated several yards and, turning on its back, charged directly at the little steamer. The shock was so severe when the boat and fish met that those on board said it felt as if they had struck a rock. The boat quivered from stem to stern and swayed even more fiercely than in the storm. The shark, however, had had enough, and retreating, sank out of sight.

Crispi's Body Guard.

An Italian newspaper has recently published in detail the daily expense incurred by the Government in guarding King Humbert's Minister of State, which is probably the first time that unpopularity has been measured by a pecuniary standard. According to this paper Crispi's person is watched over by two commissaries of police at $1.60 a day, twenty-two "agents" or detectives, at a little over 90 cents a day for each, and two vice-brigadiers at 60 cents each (one would suppose from their titles that vice-brigadiers would cost more). A carriage at $2.50 also figures in the bill. The total, reduced to American money, is $26.10 per day, or $9,526.50 per year. This, however, is only during the time when the Prime Minister is in Rome. When he travels the expenses are three or four times as great, which bring the annual amount up to about $12,000.

Sash and Door Factory.

Having Completed our New Factory we are now prepared to FILL ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY.

We keep in Stock a large quantity of Sash, Doors, Mouldings, Flooring and the different Kinds of Dressed Lumber for outside sheeting.

Our Stock of DRY LUMRE is very Large so that all orders can be filled.

Lumber, Shingles and Lath always In Stock.

N., G. & J. McKECHNIE.

HARNESS SHOP!

CHAS. LEAVENS, Jr.,

Is still in his old stand on Lambton Street, near the Post Office, where he is ready to fill all orders for

HEAVY AND LIGHT HARNESS, SADDLES, BRIDLES, COLLARS, Etc.

New Stock Horse Blankets.

A complete stock of **Whips, Combs, Brushes, Bits, Etc.,** Kept on Hand.

Repairing promptly attended to. First-class workmanship guaranteed

Highest Price Paid for Raw Furs.

Durham, Jan 26, 1895. CHARLES LEAVENS.

When the Nerve Centres Need Nutrition.

A Wonderful Recovery, Illustrating the Quick Response of a Depleted Nerve System to a Treatment Which Replenishes Exhausted Nerve Forces.

MR. FRANK BAUER, BERLIN, ONT.

Perhaps you know him? In Waterloo he is known as one of the most popular and successful business men of that enterprising town. As managing executor of the Kuntz estate, he is at the head of a vast business, representing an investment of many thousands of dollars, and known to many people throughout the Province. Solid financially, Mr. Frank Bauer also has the good fortune of enjoying solid good health, and if appearances indicate anything, it is safe to predict that there's a full half century of active life still ahead for him. But it's only a few months since, while nursed as an invalid at the Mt. Clemens sanitary resort, when his friends in Waterloo were dismayed with a report that he was at the point of death.

"There's no telling where I would have been had I kept on the old treatment," said Mr. Bauer, with a merry laugh, the other day, while recounting his experiences as a very sick man. "Mt. Clemens," he continued, "was the last resort in my case. For months previous I had been suffering indescribable tortures. I began with a loss of appetite and sleepless nights. Then, as the trouble kept growing, I was getting weaker, and began losing flesh and strength rapidly. My stomach refused to retain food of any kind. During all this time I was under medical treatment, and took everything prescribed, but without relief. Just about when my condition seemed most hopeless, I heard of a wonderful cure effected in a case somewhat similar to mine, by the Great South American Nervine Tonic, and I finally tried that. On the first day of its use I began to feel that it was doing what no other medicine had done. The first dose relieved the distress completely. Before night I actually felt hungry and ate with an appetite such as I had not known for months. I began to pick up in strength with surprising rapidity, slept well nights, and before I knew it I was eating three square meals regularly every day, with as much relish as ever. I have no hesitation whatever in saying that the South American Nervine Tonic cured me when all other remedies failed. I have recovered my old weight—over 200 pounds—and never felt better in my life."

Mr. Frank Bauer's experience is that of all others who have used the South American Nervine Tonic. Its instantaneous action in relieving distress and pain is due to the direct effect of this great remedy upon the nerve centres, whose fagged vitality is energized instantly by the very first dose. It is a great, a wondrous cure for all nervous diseases, as well as indigestion and dyspepsia. It goes to the real source of trouble direct, and the sick always feel its marvellous sustaining and restorative power at once, on the very first day of its use.

For Sale by **McFARLANE & CO.,** Wholesale Agents for Durham and Vicinity

The Ebb and Flow of Gold.

Business Man (in the bosom of his family)—The crops of this country are abundant, those of Europe have failed, and the stream of gold which has been flowing across the Atlantic will soon be returning. You bet I'll get my share of it.

Daughter—That's just splendid. Then next year we can all go to Europe and spend it.

You can lead a man anywhere by the nose of his self-esteem.

English Spavin Liniment removes all Hard, Soft or Calloused Lumps and Blemishes from horses, Blood Spavins, Curbs, Splints, Sweeney, Ring Bone, Stiffes, Sprains, all Swollen Throats, Coughs, etc. Save $50 by use of one bottle. Warranted by McFarlane & Co.

Newspaper Laws.

We call the special attention of Postmasters and subscribers to the following synopsis of the newspaper laws:

1. If any person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrears, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount whether it be taken from the office or not. There can be no legal discontinuance until payment is made.

2. Any person who takes a paper from the post office, whether directed to his name or another, or whether he has subscribed or not is responsible for the pay.

3. If a subscriber orders his paper to be stopped at a certain time, and the publisher continues to send, the subscriber is bound to pay for it if he takes it out of the post office. This proceeds upon the ground that a man must pay for what he uses.

DURHAM DIRECTORY

TRINITY CHURCH.
W. J. CONNOR, Pastor.
Sabbath Services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School and Bible class at 9:30 a.m. Church Wardens, W. B. Vollet and T. M. Whitmore.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
REV. A. G. JANSEN, Pastor.
Service every Sabbath at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sabbath School and Bible class at 2:30 p. m. Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening at 8 p. m.

BAPTIST CHURCH.
REV. W. McGREGOR, Pastor.
Sunday Services, morning at 11 a. m. Sabbath School and Bible class at 2:30 p. m. Preaching at 7 p. m. Week evening Service—Thursday evening, regular prayer meeting at 8 p. m. Young Peoples Union on Monday evening at 8. p. m.

R. C. CHURCH.
REV. R. MALONEY, Pastor.
Durham Services—11 a. m. first Sunday of every month. Glenelg Services—9 a. m. first Sunday of every month, 10:30 a. m. third Sunday of every month.

S. G. REGISTRY OFFICE. Thomas Lauder, Registrar. John A. Munro, Deputy-Registrar. Office hours from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m.

POST OFFICE. Office hours from 8 a. m., to 7 p. m. Arch. MacKenzie, Postmaster.

DURHAM LODGE NO. 306 OF A. F. & A. M. Night of Meeting, Tuesday on or before full moon of each month. Visiting brethern welcome. Thos. Brown, W. M. Geo. Russell, Sec.

GREY LODGE NO. 169 I.O.O.F. Night of Meeting every Monday evening at 8 o'clock, in the Odd Fellows Hall. Visiting brethern welcomed. W. B. Vollet Sec.

DURHAM L. O. L. NO. 632. Night of Meeting, on Thursday or before full moon in each month. Wm. A Anderson, Sec.

SONS OF SCOTLAND, BEN NEVIS CAMP NO. 45, meets in S. of S. Hall, Friday on or before full moon. George Binnie, Chief, Geo. Russel, Sec.

SAUGEEN TENT, K.O.T.M., No. 154, meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every month. Thos. Brown, Com. F C. Hamilton, R. K.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE. New Hall—open every Tuesday evening from 7 to 9 o'clock, and every Saturday from 2 to 4 p m. Annual fee $1.
Dr. Gun, Pres. C. Ramage, Sec.
Mrs. MacRae, Librarian.

Monthly Fairs

Durham—Third Tuesday in each month
Priceville—Monday before Durham
Hanover—Monday before Durham.
Mount Forest—Third Wednesday in each month.
Guelph—First Wedesday in each month
Harriston—Friday before the Guelph Fair
Drayton—Saturday before Guelph.
Elora—The day before Guelph.
Douglas—Monday before Elora Fair.
Hamilton—Crystal Palace Grounds, the day after Guelph.
Listowel—First Friday in each month.
Fergus—Thursday following Mount Forest
Markdale—Saturday before Orangeville
Orangeville—Second Thursday in each month.
Flesherton—Monday before Orangeville