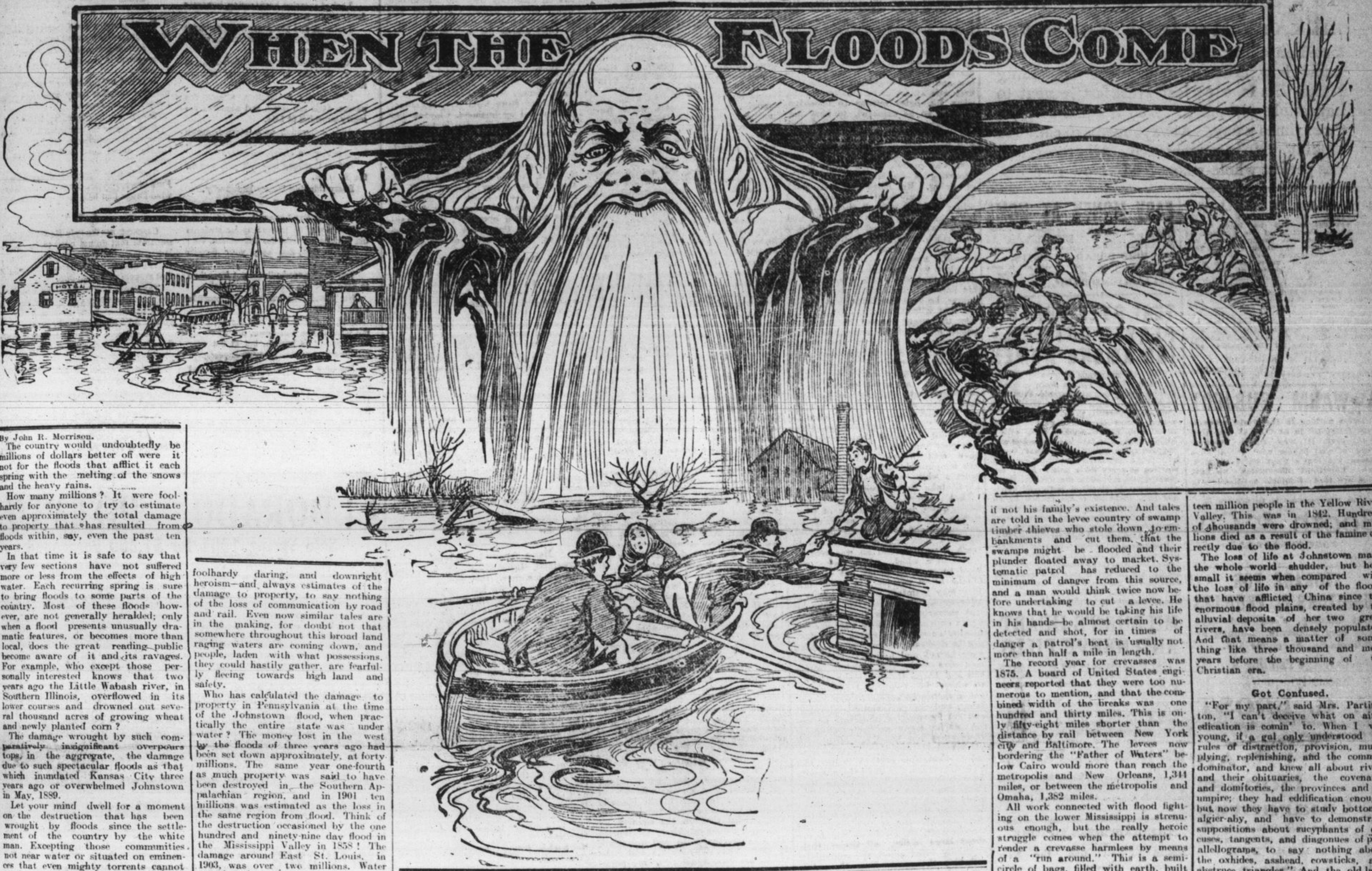


THE DAILY BRITISH WHIG.

YEAR 73.

KINGSTON, ONTARIO, SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1906.

NO. 77.



By John R. Morrison.
The country would undoubtedly be millions of dollars better off were it not for the floods that afflict it each spring with the melting of the snows and the heavy rains.

How many millions? It were hardly for anyone to try to estimate even approximately the total damage to property that has resulted from floods within, say, even the past ten years.

In that time it is safe to say that very few sections have not suffered more or less from the effects of high water. Each recurring spring is sure to bring floods to some parts of the country. Most of these floods, however, are not generally heralded; only when a flood presents unusually dramatic features or becomes more than local, does the great reading-public become aware of it and its ravages. For example, who except those personally interested knows that two years ago the Little Wabash river, in Southern Illinois, overflowed in its lower courses and drowned out several thousand acres of growing wheat and newly planted corn?

The damage wrought by such comparatively insignificant overflows tops in the aggregate, the damage due to such spectacular floods as that which inundated Kansas City three years ago or overwhelmed Johnston in May, 1889.

Let your mind dwell for a moment on the destruction that has been wrought by floods since the settlement of the country by the white man. Excepting those communities not near water or situated on eminences that even mighty torrents cannot reach, no locality is without its own flood stories and traditions to relate to all who will give patient ears. There are the paint marks on fences and bridge piers—incidents of humor.

Threatened With Paralysis

The Doctors Told the Writer of the Letter Quoted Below—Restoration Brought About By Use Of

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food

It is customary to consider paralysis, insanity and other diseases of the nerves as afflictions which come upon a person without warning and which are therefore unavoidable. As a matter of fact such results are preceded by months, if not years of symptoms which point to an exhausted condition of the nervous system. These symptoms are such, however, that many pass them by as not being of serious concern and thinking that they will wear away of themselves.

Sleeplessness, nervous headaches, indigestion, bodily weakness, fainting spells, twitching, whirling, inability to concentrate the thoughts and loss of memory are among the most common indications of a run-down nervous system. It is sometimes only a step from such symptoms to prostration, paralysis, locomotor ataxia or insanity.

Stimulants and narcotics, though sometimes affording temporary relief, only hasten the exhaustion of the nerves. Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, on the other hand, reconstructs and restores the wasted and depleted nerve cells.

Naturally, gradually and certainly this great medicine instills into the blood and the nervous system the life-sustaining principle which reinvigorates the nerve force in the body and so effect lasting benefit.

Miss Emma Scott, Athens, Ont., writes: "Dr. Chase's Nerve Food has done me a world of good. I was troubled with fainting spells, bodily weakness, and spent restless, sleepless nights. I frequently had cramps in the stomach and would at times become entirely insensible, not knowing what was going on until others told me afterwards.

"I consulted with several doctors and they told me I was threatened with paralysis. They gave me relief, but could not cure me. After suffering for three years I began the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food and, it has done me more good than all the medicines I ever used."

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Who has calculated the damage to property in Pennsylvania at the time of the Johnstown flood, when practically the entire state was under water? The money lost in the west by the floods of three years ago had been set down approximately, at forty millions. The same year one-fourth as much property was said to have been destroyed in the Southern Appalachian region, and in 1901 ten billions was estimated as the loss in the same region from flood. Think of the destruction occasioned by the one hundred and ninety-nine day flood in the Mississippi Valley in 1858! The damage around East St. Louis, in 1903, was over two millions. Water escaping through a single crevasse at Allawarra, La., destroyed property valued at \$23,000,000. This happened in 1887. Just one crevasse and in 1875 the crevasses in the Mississippi levees were repaired by the federal government engineers as being too numerous to mention.

In view of these scattering figures, it is too imaginative an estimate to say that in this country, from the date of settlement, spring floods have been directly responsible for property losses aggregating a billion or two dollars?

Benefits Conferred By Flood.

Probably the most destructive of all nature's forces, a flood still brings many benefits in its train.

If it were practicable to permit the Mississippi to overflow its banks as it does the Nile every spring, the sediment height of the bank is from thirty to forty-five feet. From this one source alone, the river receives annually 332,000,000 cubic yards of sediment; and many more millions of cubic yards are received from the Missouri, the Red, the Ohio, and other tributaries. Something like 300,000,000 cubic yards of the sediment are discharged into the Gulf. Before the levee system was inaugurated, most of this sediment was deposited in the river valley, when the banks were overflowed. Indeed, in this fashion the entire valley was built up through centuries of spring flooding—our richest farming valleys are entirely so formed.

Every crevasse that occurs in time of flood in the Mississippi levees is certain to cover the flooded land with the river's richest alluvium. The deposit naturally raises the level of the land and this of itself is beneficial. Sometimes the height of the deposit is a foot or more on the level and it is never less than several inches. In any case, it is sufficient to act as a fertilizing fertilizer for from five to fifteen years.

There are numerous instances of alluvium filling up lowland and swamps, making them cultivatable. A crevasse occurred some years ago in front of the Mulberry Grove plantation, Louisiana. All efforts to close it proved futile, and the planter saw his entire crop of sugar cane ruined before his eyes. But when the waters had gone down, the man's sorrow was quickly turned to joy when he discovered that the flood had left behind sufficient alluvium to fill all the swampy lands in the rear of the plantation, thus giving him over two hundred more acres that could be profitably tilled.

At the time this land was estimated to be worth one hundred dollars an acre. Its value had undoubtedly increased as the years have gone by.

It has been estimated that along just one bayou of Southern Louisiana—the Lafourche—thousands of acres of tillable land have been created by crevasses during the last fifty years. About ninety miles below New Orleans, the river in a generation made something like forty thousand acres in one locality.

Here formerly existed what was known as "the Jump." It was a strip of land, less than a third of a mile wide, separating the Mississippi both from the Gulf and a body of water called Oyster Lake. In order to save a strip of more than forty miles, fishermen were in the habit of dragging or "jumping" their boats over the strip in going from one body of water to another. This practice gradually wore a road in the strip, and one day in 1837, when there was a flood, a crevasse occurred in the road across "the Jump," and the sediment-laden waters swept into the lake. The crevasse sounded the doom of the lake. To-day it is no more in its place are thousands of acres of fertile land, and in 1903, a bill was introduced in congress directing the secretary of the treasury to sell the thirty-five thousand acres still owned by the federal government.

The rice planters of Louisiana have been materially benefited from time to time by floods. Did many of them have their way, the levees round about them would be destroyed and the river

allowed to overflow the rich fields every spring. Some years ago, a certain planter, whose crop of sugar cane had been drowned out by water escaping through a crevasse, sowed his water-logged acres with rice, and in proper time, he harvested a crop of high grade rice, worth upwards of fifty thousand dollars. This proved to be one of the most valuable crops his plantation had yielded him in years.

Increasing Height Of Levees.

The first levees along the Mississippi were built by the pioneer settlers, attracted to the alluvial bottoms by the richness of the soil, and remaining in them despite the peril of flood. Later, parishes, counties, states and railroads began constructing levees, and finally, in 1882, the federal government was induced to make its first appropriation for levees. Since then, the government has been actively engaged in the construction and maintenance of the levees along the river south of Cairo, and makes every effort in times of peril to aid the local authorities in their battle to keep the levees intact and to fight back the flood when crevasses occur.

With the passing of time the levees have grown considerably in height. In 1823 they were only a foot or two high. Thirty years later they averaged five feet, in 1849, seven feet. The average is now twenty feet, and some levees are as high as thirty and forty feet. Except for gaps about the mouth of such big rivers as the Red and the St. Francis, the banks of the Mississippi below Cairo are continuously superimposed with levees, their total linear length being about fourteen hundred miles.

Enough money to make a man one of the richest in the world has been spent on the levees. Not long ago it was stated that the national government, the states and the various levee districts had expended a grand total of sixty million dollars. Of this sum the national government has furnished one-third. Of course, these figures do not take into account the big sums poured out for levees by individuals, or bodies of individuals, from the days of the pioneers down to the present, and by the railroads. The latter have put fortunes in levees, that their property might be adequately protected. To get somewhere near the total cost of levee construction since the first levee was raised, millions should be added, to those spent by federal and state governments.

The increase in levee heights should not be set down to a constant increase in mean flood heights. It is partly due to a desire to keep above the height of each record flood. The mean flood height is no greater now than it was in the days of the pioneers. Then, too, as the chain of levees, had it become more and more complete, the river has

found fewer chances to escape except at the mouth, and the water, thus kept in the channel, has necessitated higher levees and had much to do with establishing new records.

So well are the levees constructed, and kept in condition nowadays that there is little danger of crevasses, though the constantly narrowing strips of grassed earthen walls boding in the mighty torrent.

130 Miles Of Crevasses.

In years gone by not a few crevasses were undoubtedly due to cutting of the levees by interested parties. A break on the Mississippi side, for example, would relieve the pressure and the danger of flood on the Arkansas side, and the temptation to disregard the rights of the Mississippians would be too great on the part of some Arkansas planter, fearful for his crops.

if not his family's existence. And tales are told in the levee country of swamp timber thieves who stole down to remote banks and cut them, that the swamps might be flooded and their plunder floated away to market. Systematic patrol has reduced to the minimum of danger from this source, and a man would think twice now before undertaking to cut a levee. He knows that he would be taking his life in his hands—be almost certain to be detected and shot, for in times of danger a patrol's beat is usually not more than half a mile in length.

The record year for crevasses was 1875. A board of United States engineers reported that they were too numerous to mention, and that the combined width of the breaks was one hundred and thirty miles. This is on stretch on the levees not more than fifty-eight miles shorter than the distance by rail between New York city and Baltimore. The levees now bordering the "Father of Waters" below Cairo would more than reach the metropolis and New Orleans, 1,341 miles, or between the metropolis and Omaha, 1,382 miles.

All work connected with flood fighting on the lower Mississippi is strenuous enough, but the really heroic struggle comes when the attempt to render a crevasse harmless by means of a "run around." This is a semicircle of bags, filled with earth, built around the crevasse, and some distance inland from it. Then gentlemen planters work without question alongside the meaneast of negro roustabouts, giving and taking with them in the universal anxiety to stem the destructive current. At such time the grimness that settles down on all is worthy of description by a master realist such as Zola was. Some of the richest men of the Mississippi river country have worked for hours at a stretch on the levees and stand ready to do so again when occasion demands. It is neighbor help neighbor, no matter who he may be, for no one ever knows when he will need all the assistance he can possibly summon in the battle to keep the water from burying his good acres and imperiling his family and plantation hands.

The Worst Of All Floods.

Our greatest floods are in the Mississippi Valley; twelve, particularly destructive, have occurred in less than a century. But not the worst of all these floods is to be mentioned in the same breath with the raging torrents that periodically afflict several other portions of the globe.

Perhaps the worst floods in all history, having out the consideration of course, the deluge—take place in the valleys of the Yellow and Yangtze rivers of China. Levees have been maintained along the rivers for many centuries, one marked effect has been to raise their respective levels above that of the valleys; consequently when the artificial barriers give way in any places appalling disaster is certain to follow.

Five years ago the loss of life in the Yangtze floods was so great that it could be estimated only roughly in thousands. Hundreds of villages were wiped out, literally, not so much as the foundation poles being left, and with the houses went the inhabitants—men, women and children. In the Kiang-Si district alone, 150,000 persons were in imminent danger of starvation before any semblance of relief could be got to them and hundreds of women and children were sold into slavery that food might be obtained for those left.

The Yellow river floods of seventeen years ago drove from home and utterly ruined about twenty million people—a number sufficient to make five New York cities, or equal to the combined populations of New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Mississippi. The property loss, of course, was estimated by several millions of dollars, and the donation of two million dollars made by the emperor sent a very little way to give relief.

One of the greatest—perhaps next to the deluge, the greatest authenticated destructive flood since history began—was that which brought death to thirteen million people in the Yellow River Valley. This was in 1842. Hundreds of thousands were drowned, and millions died as a result of the famine directly due to the flood.

The loss of life at Johnston made the whole world shudder, but how small it seems when compared with the loss of life in any of the floods that have afflicted China since the enormous flood plains, created by the alluvial deposits of her two great rivers, have been densely populated. And that means a matter of something like three thousand and more years before the beginning of the Christian era.

Got Confused.

"For my part," said Mrs. Partridge, "I can't deceive what on airly allocation is coming to. When I was young, if a gal only understood the rules of distraction, provision, multiplication, replenishing, and the common dominator, and knew all about rivers and their tributaries, all covenants and dominions, the provinces and the empire; they had edification enough, but now they have to study botany, algier-ahy, and have to demonstrate suppositions about nuyphants of glasses, tangents, and disjunctive parallellograms, to say nothing about the oxides, ashland, cowsticks, and abstract triangles." And the old lady became so confused with the technical names that she was forced to stop.

Mechanics, Farmers, Sportsmen.

To heal and soften the skin and remove grease, oil and rust stains, paint and earth, etc., use The "Master Mechanic's" Tar Soap, Albert Toilet Soap Co., Manufacturers.

Your enemies can be relied upon to keep you from growing contented if your friends should fall in their efforts.

Will not save a diseased tree. What ever it is that threatens the life of the tree must be discovered and attacked Pruning directly. It is the same with rheumatism which has been considered in advanced stages because the ordinary remedy instead of going at the root of the disease simply prunes the branches. The trouble is in the bone or joint and must be got at there, must be driven out. This is where the pre-eminence of Tuck's Rheumatic Bone Oil comes in over all other remedies. It goes straight at the root of the trouble in the quickest and most direct way, penetrates to the bone and effects a cure, permanent and speedy cure. Here is what one sufferer says of it:

"Dear Sirs, You ask me if Tuck's Bone Oil did me any good. I can tell you that it did. It cured me of rheumatism and nothing ever helped me for neuralgia until I got that. I suffered everything for years from rheumatism and at times I thought it was going to my heart and would kill me. All my neighbors know how I suffered and they all know that Tuck's Bone Oil cured me, because I tell everybody I see. I took small doses of it, about four drops in milk, and I had it thoroughly rubbed into my legs, which were both affected. It seemed to penetrate right to where the pain was and even the first application gave me relief, but the grumbling pain came back in a few hours. I kept on using it, and before I had used all of the fourth bottle I was completely free of rheumatism. During this time I had a terrible attack of neuralgia. I used Tuck's Bone Oil and got almost instant relief. I am willing for you to see this any way you like, because I think Bone Oil should be known of by everybody.

W. H. DEAN.
Farnham, Quebec.

For rheumatism, lame back, neuralgia, sprains, coughs, colds, quins or bronchitis, in short for any and all kinds of inflammation there is nothing to equal Tuck's Bone Oil. A bottle should be on the shelf in every home. For sale by all medicine dealers at 50c. a bottle or sent prepaid by The Tuck Bone Oil Co., Ltd., Smith's Falls, Ont.

and Misses' Skirts

WEED SKIRT, with invisible stripe, style of box-pleating all around the waist, front showing a neat slot, center, both pleats and seams open wide tucks at about flaring on down to special only.

5.75

Black Kid

at \$1.50

slip, Cuban or low heels, each swell shoes as we will Buy early.

SHOE STORE

WHO HAS ASTHMA?

Let Them Know of the One Permanent Cure.

Doctors advance different theories as to the cause of Asthma.

The cause isn't material—it's the cure you want.

Internal remedies are useless—no good.

But use the ozonated air cure, "Catharhoxone," and asthma won't hang round very long.

No room for doubt—Catharhoxone isn't an experiment. Thousands have been cured permanently and quickly, like Edward J. O'Connor, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., who writes:

"From my boyhood I had been a constant sufferer from asthma and catarrh. My nose and throat were always stopped up with mucus and I had droppings in the throat.

"When asthmatic attacks came on I thought I couldn't live through the night. I would sit up and gasp for breath and endure great distress.

"Catharhoxone was a God-send to me. It has made me entirely well and I speak of it just as I found it."

Your druggist sells Catharhoxone; two months' treatment costs \$1; trial size 25c. By mail from N. C. Polson & Co., Hartford, Conn., U.S.A., and Kingston, Ont.

BARGAINS IN MEDICINE.

A woman once wrote us that she was not going to buy Scott's Emulsion any more because it cost too much. Said she could get some other emulsion for less money. Penny wise and pound foolish. Scott's Emulsion costs more because it is worth more—costs more to make. We could make Scott's Emulsion cost less by using less oil. Could take less care in making it, too. If we did, however, Scott's Emulsion wouldn't be the standard preparation of cod liver oil as it is to-day.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Toronto, Ont.

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Miss Emma Scott, Athens, Ont., writes: "Dr. Chase's Nerve Food has done me a world of good. I was troubled with fainting spells, bodily weakness, and spent restless, sleepless nights. I frequently had cramps in the stomach and would at times become entirely insensible, not knowing what was going on until others told me afterwards.

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