

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1899.

USES OF PLUG TOBACCO

ITS CONSUMPTION HAS FALLEN
BUT NOT ITS VALUE.

What an Old Dealer Has to Say About the Use and Abuse of Chewing Tobacco—There is an Increase in Smoking But a Decrease in Chewing—Some Facts.

The topic was the consolidation of the plug tobacco interests of the country, recently effected, making it the largest in the world, and one of the oldest tobacco men in New York was commenting on the time it had taken to bring it about and the plug tobacco trade generally. He said:

'It was in March, 1889, this matter was first mooted, and the cause undoubtedly was the difficulty of finding a satisfactory way of increasing the demand and selling the goods. Although the figures of production furnished by the Government show a big increase in that department, there is no doubt that the consumption of plug tobacco has fallen off. The increase shown is due to the fact that in the returns smoking tobacco and chewing are taken together as 'manufactured tobacco,' bearing the same amount of tax, so that, although 1887 showed about 202,000,000 pounds for the year and 1898 showed about 230,000,000 pounds (fiscal year), the increase is much more in the smoking line than the chewing, while the greatest profit lies in the latter.

'Any one who can look back thirty years can remember that every one chewed. The men's cabins on the ferryboats were almost impassable. At the theatre the flood flowed from the rear on the orchestra seats so that women had to sit with raised skirts and men dare not place their hats under the seats. What has done away with it? Well, largely the introduction of the cigarette. At that time boys at college who wanted to be manly chewed because the men did. Later they began to smoke cigarettes instead, and so the new generation did not chew. This view is indorsed by some of the leading men in the business.

'I am rather sorry to see the practice of chewing pass away. The chewer, as a rule, was a good solid citizen; not light-headed, erratic or flighty, but given to careful thought, and a pretty decent fellow at bottom. There was also more fun around the chewing fraternity than ever there has been around cigars or cigarettes, pipe smokers or snufflers. I remember many years ago, just after the civil war, I was out in Calloway county, Mo., and came across an old man boring 10 inch holes with a 1½ inch bit into a pretty solid log, and asking my way. I next asked him what he was doing. He had just bored the last of a chain of holes, three inches apart, the full length of the log, and with sparkling eyes he said: 'I'll show yer, stranger.' Going to a bark lean to be brought out tobacco leaf and a jar of honey, dropped some tobacco in each hole, rammed it down dropped in a chunk of honey, more tobacco, more honey, ramming all tight until the hole was filled when he put in a plug.

'Let it lay that way for a month or so turning it twice a week,' he smiled; here is a ripe one, and lagging out another log from the brush, he drove a chisel and wedge in and split it from end to end, displaying two dozen made but appetizing plugs ready for use.

'Me and the boys gets away with quite a power during the winter nights. Try a bit.'

'It was the finest piece I ever remembered to have sampled, and never paid a cent of tax. In another case a friend of mine a well known dealer in Newark N. J. in 1873 made a summer trip down the Missouri River, and leaving Leavenworth, Kan., was advised to take plenty of tobacco along, as it 'was better'n money' in that region. He did so and traded it right along the route for all he wanted, one purchase being a pig, a sack of flour, a young pig, bait for catfish, a gallon of home-made wine and a basket of fine apples, all bought for three twists and a deerskin pouch costing a quarter in St. Louis.

'Especially were the leading lawyers and Judges strong favorers of the chewing brands, and mighty good judges, too. There was a Southern firm bought some plug of a well known Atlanta jobber and later refused to pay for the goods, the plug being that the tobacco was damaged. The case came up before the leading Judge of the region, who listened gravely to the arguments, and then asked that a sample

be given him, of which he took a generous bite, and sat in silence for nearly five minutes chewing it, while counsel watched the up-and-down movement of his jaw. Then the oracle spoke: 'Damaged to the extent of 13 cents a pound,' and judgment for the plaintiff was given accordingly.

'This was nearly equalled by a Scotch Judge, Lord D. as, who died some eight years ago. He was once hearing a case when the smell of tobacco permeated the room, and being in opposition to the rules search was made to trace the offender, without avail. Finally the ushers said it must come from the retiring room of the lawyers. This his lordship scouted saying: 'No such thing. Dae ye mean to tell me the gentlemen of the bar smoke common Limerick twist?' and strange to say shortly after an Irishman in court discovered the pipe he had placed alight in his pocket had set fire to the lining, and it was loaded with Limerick twist. The Judge had a good nose and knew what he was talking about.

'The talk about the habit being injurious is all nonsense. We had less dyspepsia and stomach trouble when nearly every one chewed than there is to day, with only smokers. Out of a dozen cases I could give you take that of Peter C. Ulter of Rensselaerville, Ind., who was actually kept alive for seventy years by its use, beginning when a boy of 11, when he had a curious fever laying a dangerous sore on his side which would not heal. The doctor told him he must use tobacco or die. He smoked a first, but after the third year chewed. The sore improved right away, but if he ceased chewing it broke out again, and this continued up to his eighty-fourth year, in 1890. I do not know if he is still alive or not.

'A still more curious case is that of a man in Atlanta who began the use of tobacco at 14 years, chewing as continuously that the uninterrupted flow of saliva caused chest troubles and threatened consumption. The doctor ordered him to swallow the juice, and for sixty odd years he has had no recurrence of the trouble. He has not had a headache in thirty years and no medical advice in over forty. A great friend of his has eaten tobacco for over fifty years and is a fine specimen of manhood to day and a great hunter.

'Fine cut tobacco for chewing, once so popular in this region, is now almost dead. The oldest firm practically went out of business last week, passing its connection over to a very small house, comparatively speaking. At one time all the then prominent hotel cigar stands kept open packages of the leading brands for customers' use without charge, just as the bar has clove and coffee.

The Rev. Dr. Tiffany of Minneapolis was an inveterate chewer of fine cut, making no secret of it. A meeting was in progress once presided over by a well known Bishop, also a tobacco user, and the chewing habit came up for discussion. Brother after brother arose to condemn the habit. Finally one of them asked for Dr. Tiffany's views. The big doctor arose and said: 'Every one knows I chew tobacco, the best I can get. Now I would like all those who do not use it to rise in their seats.' There was a general uprising. 'Remain standing, please,' he said, looking over the cadaverous group (so he called them later). 'Will those who use tobacco step up here?' and a half dozen came forward, every one as sleek as could be; 'Stand up, Bishop, you are in with us on this,' he said to the presiding officer, and then looking over both groups, he said in his inimitable manner, 'Brethren, I think we are doing quite well.' The argument was unanswerable.

'Possibly it is well known that in the leading gold-working shops the American workers never have the gold raw material weighed out to them. It is a matter of honor and old-time use. They take a piece, work it up—so much left, so much waste, and that is all there is to it. Well, in these very shops every man has either to carry his plug in his trousers pocket or lock it up in his work table. It would not be safe a minute.'—N. Y. Sun.

She Never Forgot Again.

Winkins has a servant-girl who is willing, active, and obedient, and gives her master and mistress every satisfaction. But Marie has one fault—she is very forgetful. Whenever the family sit down to dinner the bell has to be rung, as something is invariably discovered to be missing—say, a spoon, the bread, the salt. All means had been tried to cure her of this unhappy failing, but without effect.

The other day the family were seated at table, and the bell was rung as usual. The girl hurried to the dining-room.

'Marie,' said Winkins, 'just run and fetch the big step-ladder down from the attic and bring it in here.'

Marie, who had been disturbed at her dinner, gave a great deal of dissatisfaction, but ran up the three flights of stairs to fetch

down the heavy ladder. In about five minutes she returned to the room painting with the exertion.

'So now,' said Winkins, 'put it up at the end of the room and climb to the top.' Marie did as she was told, and when she was at the top, Winkins quietly observed:

'Marie, you have now got a better view than we have; just look round and tell us if you can see any salt on the table. My wife and I could not find it.'

That did the business: Marie never forgot the lesson.

SOLIDIFIED ALCOHOL.

A Newark Inventor Discovers a Process to Transform the Liquid.

An inventor in Newark has succeeded in finding a compound which will hold alcohol in suspension in a solid form, and he declares that his discovery is both new and useful. Weather it be true that no one else has ever before succeeded in getting alcohol into a solid form, it is certain that no one has put it into the market in that shape. There is no doubt to the usefulness and advantage of such a compound. The inventor contemplates its use solely as a fuel. Whether it could be used for other purposes does not appear but their seem to be other possibilities for it.

After the inventor had exhibited a sample of the solidified alcohol to a San reporter and explained its uses, he offered to prove the character of the compound in a practical way by making some of it for the reporter if the reporter would go to his

workshop in Newark and take with him his own supply of alcohol. The only stipulation made was the alcohol should be at least 92 per cent, in strength, as the presence of water would prevent the success of the process. The reporter accepted the proposition and went to Newark, taking with him a half-pint whiskey flask, filled with 95 per cent. wood alcohol.

The inventor measured out the alcohol, and then for every two ounces of it, added to it a slice of a waxy compound shaped like a piece of pie, and cut from a box the size and shape of a stove blacking box. Each slice of this compound was about an inch wide at the circumference of the box, half an inch thick, and 1½ inches long. What this was composed of is the inventor's secret. It felt waxy, and was light and porous, and from its smell had evidently been prepared with wood alcohol.

The alcohol and this compound were heated together in a water bath until the alcohol boiled, and at that temperature the compound in it melted and mixed with it, forming a clear liquid except for a pink coloring which was an arbitrary addition to the waxy compound. The mixture was now set to cool, and in a short time it became a stiff paste.

It is in this form that the inventor proposes to put it on the market. Although it smells strongly of the alcohol, the mixture seems to be stable, and samples which were put up in two-ounce tin boxes three

months ago have lost little by evaporation. If a lighted match is touched to the alcohol, it melts on the surface and takes fire, burning freely with the characteristic blue alcohol flame, only with a tinge of yellow added at the outer part. Burning freely in the box and giving a flame big enough to heat a chafing dish, a two-ounce box of paste kept lighted for about two hours, where the same alcohol in a liquid form would have burned out in ten minutes.

Many uses for the new paste will occur to the reader. Alcohol is one of the most desirable of fuels for many purposes, and in a form where it can be transported without danger of its leaking or spilling would have an added value for hunting and camping trips and for exploring expeditions, instead of a can of the fluid, any lady can have boxes of the paste to light under her chafing dish or to heat a curling iron, and a man can use it to heat shaving water or to make toddy. If the mixture be heated to a melting point and then kept in agitation while it cools, it does not harden, but the hardening compound separates and is held in suspension. In this state the liquid alcohol might be recovered, and this suggests other uses for the compound.

Inspector (to school-girl during examination): 'What is meant when it says, "He was amply rewarded?"'

Girl: 'Paid for it.'

Inspector: 'No, you don't know that. Suppose you were to go to the baker's shop and buy a half-quartern loaf, and laid down 4d.' would you say you had "amply rewarded" the baker?'

Girl: 'Yes, sir.'

Inspector: 'Why?'

Girl: 'Because it's only 3½d.'

Collapse of inspector.

Rescue For All Suffering and Helpless "Grippe" Victims.

PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND

Quickly Banishes All the Terrible After-Effects of the Dread Disease.

The Nerves Are Fed and Braced—The Blood Is Made Pure—Flesh is Solidly Built Up and Weight Increased—A Permanent Foundation of Health is Laid for Future Years.

At this time our thoughts naturally revert to our "Grippe-sick" relatives and friends, who are truly the most miserable of afflicted mortals.

We have all beheld the agony of body and mind that grips victims endure. Suffering is clearly depicted in face and eyes, and the very soul is sorely vexed and cast down. Kindly hands minister in vain, and the sympathies and tears of near and dear ones are of no avail in this time of misery. The vice-like grip of the fiendish disease works havoc on the brain and nerves of poor victims, they become so racked and

frayed with aches and pains that, in many instances, death is evoked as a relief.

Until the mysterious and terrible fatal enemy has completed his work of torture, but a small measure of relief can be afforded by physicians. Dosing with quinine, narcotics and opiates, mustard applications and liniments may all pain for a brief hour, but they cannot drive off the implacable foe before he has accomplished his mission—the bestowment of broken health, unstrung nerves, heart troubles, confused brain power, poisoned blood, rheumatism and neuralgia.

It is after the fury of the disease has been passed—when the patient is weak and frail as an infant—that the grand work of rebuilding should begin. This work of re-establishing sound health for "Grippe-sick" men and women must be commenced with intelligence and great care. A move in the wrong direction will quickly prove fatal or bring on complications more to be dreaded than the original disease.

Those who have just passed the critical stage of grippe must avoid the weakening effects of ordinary drugs and medicine. Medical science and a world-wide experi-



ence point directly to that marvellously successful remedy of nature, Paine's Celery Compound, the only true nerve, flesh and strength builder that medical science has so far devised.

Paine's Celery Compound, with its life-giving virtues commences by bracing the unstrung nerves. While this foundation work is progressing, the blood is rapidly purified; it becomes rich and red, and all parts of the body soon feel its vitalizing power. The reinforced nerves and pure, rich blood influence the digestive organs. The stomach is put in a healthy condition, food is relished, assimilation is perfect, re-

freshing sleep each night adds its quota to new health, it is gained, the brain is clear and active, and the whole system works so harmoniously that with ordinary care a long and happy life can be enjoyed.

To those who have thus far escaped grippe, but are not as strong and robust as they should be at this season, we say beware! A bottle or two of Paine's Celery Compound to restore your vitality and strength will save you from all impending dangers.

Paine's Celery Compound has, during this season of disease and death, won a name

and record that can never be reached by other medicines. Thousands of grippe convalescents have frequently thanked Heaven for its life-giving powers. Scores of thankful men and women have publicly declared that Paine's Celery Compound, and it alone, saved their lives. If you value life; if you would avoid the treacherous after-effect of grippe, you must do as thousands are doing to-day, place your faith and confidence in Paine's Celery Compound. You cannot be deceived or disappointed. Paine's Celery Compound is a great physician's prescription—the only medicine that guarantees a perfect cure.