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Mr. McLaughlin & Co., Chatham, Ont. Dear Sir:—Replying to your Dec. 5th favor with reference to our Mr. J. H. Beaumont, a former pupil at your school, will say if the ability and efficiency evidenced by our Mr. Beaumont are indicative of the quality of your school (which we believe they are, at least in part) we could not imagine a higher recommendation for any business college than is found in the work of our Mr. Beaumont. We trust that you may send out hundreds like him every year. Yours respectfully, J. H. Beaumont.

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Mr. Beaumont, referred to in this letter, is well known in Chatham, and Fletcher, where he formerly lived. Wherever our pupils are to be found, the same gratifying success attends them.

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Intending students would find it greatly to their advantage to commence during Nov. or early Dec. If circumstances will allow of it. For catalogue of other department, call at the College.

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SOME QUEER THINGS.

CHAPTERS IN THE LIFE OF A FAMOUS DIVER.

What the Sea Depths Reveal—A Meeting With the Moving Dead in a Wreck—An Old Helmet as a Reminder of Past Services.

South street has lost one of its most picturesque characters and the diving profession one of the most famous members with the retirement of John Conklin, says the New York Sun. For more than thirty years "Old Conk" as he is familiarly known to his neighbors, occupied a loft in one of the old buildings on South street facing the river and in the shadow of the bridge pier. He took up his quarters there shortly after the war and a few days ago gathered together his belongings and left the old place, as he said, "because I am too old to work under the water any longer and I want to spend the rest of my days with my family up the state."

Nearly fifty years ago he entered the service of the government of the United States, when his father, also a diver, was employed in the navy yard. His first employment was in hiding the signal rope and air tube for the men who worked under the water. There is no part of the rivers and harbors around New York that he does not know, and his reputation is known in every shipping district in the country. He was one of the first men selected to work for Gen. Newton in preparing to blow up Nigger Head rock at Hell Gate. He was also employed in placing the torpedoes and mines in the rivers leading to Washington during the war, and he served with distinction in many of the naval battles from 1861 to 1865. Whenever a diver was needed to examine the hull of a warship arriving at the navy yard he was sent for, and there are few of the vessels, especially the older ones, that he does not know thoroughly.

As a rule, the old man is reticent and he seldom cares to speak of his experiences. A few days ago a reporter climbed the rickety stairs to the old low ceiled and dingy loft occupied by Mr. Conklin. He was at work getting ready to send home the apparatus and curios he had not sold. The floor was strewn with pumps, helmets, figure-heads taken from lost vessels and coils of rope. It was like a junk shop. It may have been because he was leaving the place that he was willing to talk.

"I am going to stop diving and go home," he said. "My first experience below the water was so long ago I can scarcely remember how I felt or what I did. It has since become a mere old man's story, and my memory is none too good. I am getting to be a next month. A smile crept across his wrinkled face as he looked up to see the effect of his words. "I first went under the water at the navy yard across the river. I had been down in the diving bells many times before that. My father and I were the only divers employed in the yard at the time. It wasn't much of a place then, mostly swampy land, and the water was very dirty and black. One of the old wooden ships had arrived from a foreign station, much the worse for wear. Nobody on board could tell what the trouble was and the ship needed docking. Father was too sick to go down, and the job fell to me. At first I was nervous, for I had never put on a rubber suit. When the helmet was made fast I thought I would suffocate. There was a ringing in my ears and was dizzy. Father held the ropes and nodded to me as I looked out from the glass in front of the helmet. Here the old man stopped and looked along the floor. Picking up an old copper helmet, he continued: "This is the same old helmet. I don't use it any more but have kept just as a reminder of the old days. Well, I let go of the ladder and was soon on my way to the bottom. I examined the hull and it was a good thing it was done before that vessel was docked. Over 100 feet of the keel had been torn away and was dragging. The vessel had struck something that caused the trouble. If the same thing had happened one of the modern vessels she would never have reached port. After that diving was easy for me and I have been down many times since then and have seen some strange things."

"Once I was called on to go to a wreck off the Long Island coast. A vessel with a valuable cargo had come to grief. I had been working two days before the accident happened which nearly ended my career. Just how it occurred no one will ever know. I had been looking over the hull and started to move away when I was brought to by a sudden jerk. Then the air seemed to give out and I thought the tube had been severed by a large fish. I pulled the signal rope for more air, but there was no response. I grew faint, and all the blood seemed to take toward my head and there was a queer buzzing sound in my ears. I must have become unconscious and fallen from the deck, for I knew nothing more until I found myself lying on my back on the pump boat looking at my friends. I remember asking what had happened. Joe Carter, who held the ropes, said he felt the signal to haul up. That signal must have been given when I fell and I always believe that that fall and Providence saved me."

"Sharks never bothered me any, though I have killed several of them. They would watch us for hours at a time. It was very uncomfortable, but when they came to close we would knife them."

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It gives us great pleasure in announcing to our many customers and friends that we have refitted the second story of our store and have placed in stock all the latest designs in

Dinner Sets Tea Sets Toilet Sets Lamps

And the newest novelties in Fancy China and Glassware. We invite inspection and we will deem it no trouble to show you through although you don't wish to purchase.

J. A. Wilson
Queen St. GROCER. Phone 75

ORCHARD EQUIPMENT.

A Light Three Legged Ladder and Other Little Conveniences

Many Valuable Hints to Those Engaged in Raising Fruit.

"Gathering and marketing the crop is an important part of the fruit business. Of what avail is it to plant, cultivate, fertilize, prune and thin and then spoil the result by wrong handling at picking time," asks American Gardening in preface to the following suggestions:

There are many little conveniences that should be a part of the orchard equipment—good ladders, picking baskets, carrying straps, etc., are all important items.

In the peach orchards here light ladders with three legs are used instead of the ordinary stepladders with four legs, as they stand steadier on uneven or soft ground. Several sizes are used, according to the age of the trees. Our picking baskets are round, light affairs, with ladders tops, holding about a peck. A ring on each side of the basket permits of the carrying strap being quickly fastened or unfastened by clip hooks at each end. The strap goes over the picker's shoulders and is adjusted so that the basket hangs at the waist. This arrangement leaves the hands and arms free to work with, and a picker thus equipped will do far more work in a day than if he had to balance a basket on the top step or hold it in his hand. Not only will he accomplish more, but there will be less danger from tipped over baskets and the bruises and loss thus occasioned.

A stone boat or low wagon should follow the pickers, with a supply of empty picking baskets. Then the picker has simply to step down from his ladder and exchange his full basket for an empty one—unhook one and "hook on" to the other, thus saving steps, time and bruises.

Choice fruit should be handled as little as possible, and pouring from one basket to another or into the wagon is poor economy. Haul to the packing shed and pack directly from the picking baskets into the desired shipping package, and then there is little chance of injury through handling.

He who prides on the honesty of to-day till to-morrow, will probably regret his to-morrow to eternity.

SNAP! SNAP!

—IN—

Clothes Pins.

No. 1 hard wood smooth finished Clothes Pins 5 dozen for..... 5c

I have bought a large lot of these, and have decided to close them out at the unheard of price of 1 CENT A DOZEN. Hurry up and secure a supply of these extra quality pins.

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SENIOR THEORY CLASSES
On Thursday at 5.30 p.m.

JUNIOR THEORY CLASSES
On Thursday at 5 p.m.

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Wood's Peppermint Cure is sold in Chatham, at Central Drug Store, C. H. Gunn & Co.

THEIR FAVORITE BOOKS.

Cowper read only his Bible and his prayer book.

Chopin rarely read anything heavier than a French novel.

Voltaire's favorite classical author was Juvenal, the satirist.

Caesar Borgia had a library of works relating mostly to art.

Rossini for nearly 30 years read nothing but French novels.

Jean Paul Richter had only five or six books, all philosophical.

Titian read his prayer book and the metamorphoses of Ovid.

Paul Veronese thought there was no book equal to the "Aeneid."

Lord Clive said that "Robinson Crusoe" beat any book he ever read.

Franklin read all he could find relating to political economy and finance.

Beethoven was not a great reader, but occasionally found pleasure in a novel.

Hogarth was fond of joke books and farces and enjoyed them immoderately.

Michael Angelo was fond of the books of Moses and the psalms of David.

Cherubini was a lover of botany and made collections of works on the subject.

Mario, the great tenor, read anything he could obtain relating to sports or hunting.

George III for many years of his life read nothing but his Bible and prayer book.

"Papa" Haydn liked stories, and he said, "The more love there is in them the better."

Da Vinci read Pindar and thought him the noblest poet who ever wrote in any language.

St. John Chrysostom never tired of reading or praising the works of the apostle John.

Heine seldom read anything but poetry, but he read that with the most scrupulous attention.

POULTRY POINTERS.

Generally the better the scratcher the better the layer.

Feed milk and bran for growth, milk and meal to fatten.

When you get ready to fatten fowls, do the work quickly.

Game chickens, given a free range, are in danger of being overtaken.

The most successful fanciers are those that keep one or two breeds.

Hens cease to lay when improperly fed or when in a diseased condition.

Hens require a variety of food. They get excessively tired of one kind.

Hens should be killed when they are 3 years old. They lay fewer eggs after that.

Grain is deficient in lime and mineral matter, but bran is rich in nitrogen and carbon.

Scaolding fowls before picking partially cooks the delicate skin, rendering it dry and wrinkled.

While linned and cottonseed meals are excellent foods, too much of them will cause a loss of feathers.

When your birds have bowel disease, change the food for a few days and at the same time change the grit.

A yellow leg or skin does not indicate quality. The best table fowls, games, Dorkings, Houdans and Langshans do not have yellow legs.—St. Louis Republic.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN.

If trees are to be planted in the fall, the soil should first be prepared in good condition.

All small fruits should be planted far enough apart to admit of using the horse cultivator.

So far as it is possible large limbs should never be removed from plum and cherry trees.

Thrifty, growing trees yield the finest fruits; old and neglected trees the richest fruit.

No variety of pears will ripen so finely on the trees as they will when gathered and ripened in the house.

Good feeding must attend rapid growth in trees and plants as well as in animals. Make the soil in the orchard rich.

In the pruning encourage the growth of new wood. Many trees and vines fail because the new wood is cut off, leaving the old.

With the peach the young trees should be started with low heads, the lower limbs not more than two feet above the ground.

Lice on trees may be killed by dissolving a pound of potash in a gallon of water and applying on the affected parts with a brush.

THE JEWEL CASKET.

Quite original among brooches is a fan of which the sticks are chased gold and the leaves incrust emeralds.

A pretty little notion in gold bar plan is a design in the form of a common iron nail set lengthwise, with brilliant, rubies or olivines.

The latest whim in bracelets is gold band bracelets close set with diamonds and fastening with the old fashioned spring clasp.

The heart, plain or "winged," solid or skeleton, single or double, rides upon a very high wave of favor as the groom's gift to the bride, in form of a brooch or pendant.

The carrying of opals into the form of flower petals is a charming new idea. Single violets and daisies in the form of brooches are thus represented, with a diamond for the center and stem incrustured with brilliant.—Jewelers' Circular.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Ammonia and water cleans mud off an umbrella.

Before papering a whitewashed room wash over the walls with vinegar; otherwise the paper will not adhere.

Alcohol is good for taking the shine from ribbon or silk. It will also do the same for woollens, but as they are apt to receive larger wear the remedy must be often repeated.

The most durable floor covering is linoleum, and the best wall decoration for kitchens, pantries and back rooms is tile. Where tiles cannot be had, painted walls or varnished papers can be employed.

It is often desirable to mark plates and other dishes. To do so heat the bottom of the dish and write your name on it while hot with ordinary pen and ink. It will stay there for a long time.

"Please Smile

AND Look Pleasant."

When a woman says "I am racked with pain," the word "racked" recalls the days when they stretched the tender bodies of women on the rack with rope and pulley until the very joints cracked.

Fancy an attendant saying to the tortured woman, "Please smile and look pleasant."

And yet the woman "racked with pain" is expected to smile through her agony and to make home happy. She can't do it. It is against nature. Generally speaking, the racking pains of ill-health such as headache, backache and "bearing down pains" are related to derangements or disorders of the organs distinctly feminine. When this condition is removed the general health is restored, and with health comes back the smile of happiness.

Any woman may regain her health at home without offensive questionings or examinations by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It cures perfectly all diseases and derangements peculiar to women. Sick women may consult Dr. Pierce by letter free of charge. Such letters are treated as sacredly confidential.

"I was a great sufferer for four years from displacement and returning to the right bank of the Seine, there are still a number of houses which are identified with the names of world-wide-known names in literature, says a writer in the Pall Mall Magazine.

Space will only permit of my mentioning one or two. The house at 124 Avenue Victor Hugo, where Victor Hugo died on May 22, 1885, at the age of 83 years, will not be overlooked by those in search of historic buildings.

When the Author of "Les Misérables" lived there in that double, two-storied building which, though unpretentious in appearance, is surrounded by a very pretty garden, it was there that one of the cleverest and yet one of the most egotistical men of the century held those celebrated receptions, to attend which was the ambition, seventeen years ago, of every young man of letters.

Then there is the house where Charles Dickens resided at the close of the year 1846.

In a letter to Forster, his biographer, the author of David Copperfield gave a description of this corner house at 38 (formerly 48) Rue de Courcelles. If I remember rightly, his description was a very odd one; he said something about the house being "the most ridiculous and unparalleled in the world."

It was "a cross between a haunted castle and a new kind of clock, one room resembling a tent and another a grove"—such a quaint description as only Dickens could have penned.

St. Petersburg has the largest bronze statue in existence—that of Peter the Great, which weighs 1,000 tons.

Henry Arthur Jones is a devoted cyclist, and most of his plays are thought out while the author is awaked.

It is equally as important to be sure you are wrong before backing out, as it is to be sure you are right before going ahead.

FAMOUS RESIDENCES.

The Houses in Which Hugo and Dickens Lived

Still There are Residences Standing That are Identified With Great Names

Leaving the neighborhood of the Latin Quarter and returning to the right bank of the Seine, there are still a number of houses which are identified with the names of world-wide-known names in literature, says a writer in the Pall Mall Magazine.

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WELLINGTON Lodge No. 46

G. R. C. A. F. & A. M. meets on the first Monday of every month in Masonic Hall, Fifth street, at 7.30 p. m. Visiting brethren heartily welcomed.

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FRASER & BELL—Barristers, Office—Merchants Bank Building, Chatham.

JOHN S. FRASER, EDWIN BELL, LL.B.

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WILSON, KERR & PIKE—Barristers, Solicitors of the Supreme Court, Proctors of the Maritime Court, Notaries Public, etc., Office, Fifth St., Chatham, Ont.

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