A DYING PROMISE

OR, THE MISSING WILL

"This is Philip Randal, mother," he said, presenting him to the beautiful, plainly-dressed lady reclining by the open window.

"So you are Philip," she said, looking thoughtfully at him.

"Yes, if you please, ma'am," he replied, respectfully; "and I have a mother, too," he added, standing in front of her and resting his elbow on the arm; "she sent her duty to you."

"So you are not afraid of us?" she asked, smiling as Philip supposed that angels smile, and caressing his reverent, upturned face with her dainty hand, white as a lily and soft as a rose-leaf.

"No, ma'am. And I like your house, though it's the biggest I ever was in.

"Do you like small houses best, Philip?"

"Well, you see, I've been used to small houses all my life," he explained, "and just at first a big one feels strange. Besides, I didn't know that people lived in such fine places."

"I hope you will be happy in our house," she said, graciously; "Claude will show you everything. Run away now, boys, and don't get into more mischief than you can help."

Philip kissed the hand that was under his chin with a natural unconscious grace that gave pleasure, and the boys left the room, Claude with an air of relief.

"By Jove, Philip," he said when they were outside the door, "you've made a conquest of her ladyship. She can't bear boys." And, taking him to the library to Sir Arthur, he forthwith, to Philip's surprise, described the interview with Lady Gertrude, at the recital of which Sir Arthur smiled and pinched Philip's ear. "A born courtier," he said, enigmatically. Then sending Claude away, he spoke to Philip of his origin and his intentions concerning him, as Mrs. Meade had already done.

"Your foster-father," he said, in conclusion, "wishes you to do exactly what you like best. He is quite ready to give up all claims upon you, if you like to live with us and share my son's education and other advantages. There is a pony for you already. You will go to school with Hugh till you are both ready for Eton. Run away with Claude now."

Dismissing him with a wave of the hand, Sir Arthur dismissed the subject as well, considering the event of Philip's preferring Stillbrooke to Marwell as too improbable to be taken into account.

The few days spent at Marwell seemed months to Philip, everything being so new and strange. Claude and Hugh were capital companions, for a boy without brothers the younger children and the little girls, too, were companionable. There was so much to enjoy, such variety of games and pastimes, so many books, so many objects of interest, such space for play. Claude even had a gun, besides fishing-rods, cricket-bats, carpenters' tools, and a boat.

Their rides in the park were delightful; the pretty shyness deer starting away from them, the pale gray mass of masonry everywhere showing itself in some new and imposing light, the large gardens, the home farm, the harriers, all either pleased him or impressed his fancy. He liked to go with, the other children after dinner into the long drawing-room, opening into a long vista of drawing-rooms, and glorified when he first saw it, by a blaze of sunset falling through the tall western windows; he wandered at the ladies' gleaming arms and shoulders, their jewels and silken clothes, and liked their gentle manners and refined accent.

"Well, Philip," said Lady Gertrude, when he stole up to a position behind her sofa just after dinner, "do you still think this a beautiful house? And what do you think the most beautiful thing in it?"

"You, ma'am," he replied, without hesitation to the great amusement of some ladies staying in the house, who were near.

It was a new wonder after this glimpse of enchantment, to see the familiar hedge-rows and fields floating past him in the summer sunset when he was driven home again.

He arrived just as dusk was falling; the lamps shone sparse and dim in the gray streets and were reflected from the bridge in the still mill-stream and there, under the plane-tree, sat Mrs. Meade in her homely familiar dress, with Jessie half-asleep on her knee, and there, issuing from the green shadows, was Matthew himself.

How glad they were see him again, how Jessie clung to him, and how pleasant and cosey the homelike parlor seemed with the candle lighted, the supper spread, and Sarah coming in with smiles of welcome.

"Take your time, Phil, take your time," his father said after supper, when questioning him about his visit; "mind, it's for life, so don't decide in a hurry. Philip looked in his face and then in his mother's, and said nothing, but in his heart he decided once for all, "I'll never leave them," he thought.

CHAPTER III.

So the children's will prevailed. Philip knew nothing of the controversy between the Medways and the Meades as to which house he should belong. Sir Arthur had weakly consented to refer the question to the boy, without dreaming that a lad of that age would hesitate for a moment in preferring such a home as he had to offer to the gray solitude of Stillbrooke Mill.

"Very good, sir," was Meade's last words. "If you takes the bwoy, I goes to law."

This clinched the matter; the Medways dreaded the publicity of a legal process beyond everything. As Matthew had represented, Philip was practically at Sir Arthur's gates, he could watch him and make sure of his welfare. His adoptive father pledged himself to give him the best education to be had in Cleeve and start him afterward in a profession when he failed in those conditions, Sir Arthur could step in. So the visit to Marwell Court soon faded to a dim golden memory in Philip's mind; he forgot Claude and Hugh's description of their schools and sports, and the glowing picture of the Eton life now to be Claude's and the lad's congenial companionship. Everything connected with them slept out of sight in his mind while the quiet years slipped by like a peaceful dream, and Philip grew a tall, lanky lad, a sore puzzle to the miller now that the time was come for choosing a profession.

As usual the wishes of youth did not chime with the counsels of riper age. The navy alone had charms for Philip; the church for his parents. A vision of the boy's merry face rising above gown and white bands, in the oaken pulpit of Cleeve Church, haunted Mrs. Meade's mind with beatific persistence, while Mr Meade felt it would be a grand thing to hear Philip read the burial service over him and perhaps preach his funeral sermon.

Philip's only alternative proposition was the army. The question was seriously debated at a Christmas gathering at Stillbrooke Mill by a small knot of elders grouped, church-warden in hand, round the fire in the common parlor while the young people played games in the best parlor.

"You may depend upon it, Meade," observed Cousin Jane, an uninvited presence in the smoking parliament, "you'll key to pay for bringing the boy up above plain folk."

"I've paid already, ma'am, for this year," replied Meade, "and got schoolmaster's receipt upon the file."

Cousin Jane's husband's mouth went upwards at this observation.

"You've a right to mock at your wife's relations at your own fireside Mr. Meade," she returned mournfully, "but mocking won't undo the wrong you done my poor sister's child for the sake of a foundling and a castaway. But it's none of my business. You may make the boy prime minister to-morrow for all I should meddle. And let Jessie go barefoot. Not that she'll ever come to good, spoiled and muddled up as she is."

"Make a land agent of him, Meade," interposed Mr. Plummer, Cousin Jane's husband, with some haste. "Sir Arthur's agent's fine gentleman enough for anybody, so's his wife."

"A lawyer," observed Mr. Cheeseman, the corn-dealer and town councillor, "is a gentleman by act of parliament. I'll warrant law's a fine business. It takes brains and it makes money."

"Lawyers," added Mr. Symes, the clockmaker, "have a finger in everybody's pie. Mr. Westley has half the town under his thumb."

"You may say what you like," added Mr. Plummer, "whatever business a lawyer's in, the money sticks to en. Whether it's drawing of a lease, or raising of a morgige; the sovereigns cleave to his fingers. Give a lawyer money to lay out and you're a lucky man if you lives to see the half of it agen. Whoever fails, a lawyer's never broke. There's money in law, Meade."

"Aye, but think of the rascality, Plummer," sighed Mr. Meade.

"To be sure," was the chorussed reply, "whoever heard of a honest lawyer?"

"Millers haven't always been reckoned straight men," observed a hitherto silent smoker, Mr. Reade, grocer and church-warden. What's that about the miller's thumb, Meade, eh?"

"Mr. Reade must hev his joke," commented Martha, coming forward to see if people's glasses were properly filled, amid a chorus of chuckles over the jest.

"I've heard say 't is a fine thing to be a barrister," Mr. Meade continued, "but meself, I can't see it. Before ever they earn so much as a penny piece they've got to eat dinners for a year or two in a sort of church. And when they get a job it is mostly a dirty one so far as I can make out. A barrister that gets a scoundrel off hanging is a made man, they tell me, and run after by every villain in the land. Philip can eat dinners at home, and the fewer scoundrels get let off the better. Doctoring I've laid awake over many a night. But I shouldn't like the boy to live off other folk's ills. As for a clergman, he won't so much as look at it."

"It does seem hard work to be a honest man and a gentleman to be sure," commented Mrs. Meade. "Many a time I've said to Meade, 'let the child be plain and honest.'"

"You may warrant," added her husband, "gentle or simple, 'tis a heavy thing to be honest and rich, whatever trade you take.

A chorus of denials followed, for nearly all present were men of substance and each convinced of his own integrity, though doubtful of that of others.

The end of this and many such conferences was that Philip found himself one fine morning perched upon a high stool in Mr. Westley's office, an articled clerk. He came home at night, pale and silent; at the end of a month, a doctor had to be consulted. The doctor recommended air and exercise; which being taken speedily restored the patient. Six weeks more in the office reduced Philip to the same low level. His release came; Mr. Meade's purse was lightened, and there was Philip free, and a standing problem once more.

A period of idling followed, then Philip, having neatly set his dog's broken leg in splints, suddenly took it into his head to be a doctor, remembering that a doctor can enter either army or navy. The afore ore memorable night in the memorable year of the Crimean war, found Philip making pills in Dr. Maule's surgery, with a listless air and dispirited face.

He had been apprenticed for more than a year and a half, and felt himself little wiser than he had been at the beginning. As for old Maule, as he called him, he soon found out that all his skill was built upon experience and that he was as incapable as he was unwilling to teach him.

Many a headache did the poor lad get over Dr. Maule's medical books, his bones, and his instruments; the names of different bones and muscles refused to remain in his head, the books were a hopeless maze without a clue, he began to think that he had no aptitude for the profession, and to crown all he had to be interrupted so perpetually in receiving patients, taking their messages and mixing their medicines that no sooner had he succeeded in making himself acquainted with the carotid artery or the thyroid cartilage than a report upon old Mr. Robinson's gout drove both cartilage and artery out of his mind.

"Teach!" the old doctor would say with a hearty oath, "how the devil am I to find time to cram your thick head? Nobody ever taught me; I picked up what I could in old Pestle's surgery, with the assistant and the other apprentice swearing at me and boxing my ears from morning till night, but damn me I took care to pull through the examinations. I wasn't cockered like you. Learn, you lazy dog, learn!"

He was a kind old fellow, with a sort of bluff cordiality, and did not swear with his patients more than enough to give his discourse a pungent emphasis; he took care not to be the worse but rather the better for his powerful potations when on duty, he was shrewd too and knew men, thus he was popular, and when his patients died people said it was the will of God, and when they recovered (as they sometimes did) the skill of Dr. Maule.

Suddenly, while Philip was musing over his pills, the surgery door opened violently and in stormed the old doctor, pouring out a broadside of oaths. Philip knew that he had been dining out and had not expected him to return for another hour or two. Having consigned Philip piecemeal to perdition in company with his own soul, he suddenly thrust a bottle into his face and asked him what he meant by that.

"Mean, sir?" returned Philip, "I suppose I meant it for cough mixture."

Alas! it was a poisonous compound intended for outward use and clearly marked for inward in Philip's handwriting.

"You murderous young dog!" shouted the doctor.

"I'm not a dog," retorted Philip, "I have not made a beast of myself," he added with sarcasm.

"What do you mean?" cried the doctor with a thick utterance.

"I mean," cried Philip, suddenly and passionately, "that I came here to study medicine, and not to be bullied and sworn at and made to do all your work."

"Take that," roared the doctor, with embellishments, boxing his ears, whereupon Philip seized him by the collar and laid him flat on the floor, in which position Dr. Maule's grown-up son entering, discovered them.

"This is nice marly behavior, Randal," said young Maule, picking up his irate parent and placing him in a chair; and after much blustering on the old man's part, and vain attempts at peace-making on the son's, Philip found himself in the street, with the information that his indentures would have to be cancelled and he need not return.

So ended Philip's second career. "What's the good of a fellow like me?" he thought, marching defiantly down the street and whistling savagely.

He finished the evening with some fellows of his own age, not a very steady set, and tried with loud merriment, jovial songs and deep potations, to bury his chagrin.

(To be Continued.)

Crawford—"He seems to be a confirmed cynic. I didn't hear him say a good word about anybody." Crabshaw—"Perhaps you didn't draw him out about himself."

GOOD RESULTS.

Are Sure to Follow the Use of Dr. Williams Pink Pills—They Never Fail When Used for Blood and Nerve Troubles.

The reputation held by Dr. Williams Pink Pills not only in Canada but throughout the whole world is one that cannot be equaled by any other medicine. No other medicine in the world is so extensively used as Dr. Williams Pink Pills, and this extensive use is due solely to the merit of the medicine. These pills are not a common purging medicine; they are a scientific blood builder and nerve restorer. Every dose helps create, new, rich, red blood, and this new blood reaches the root of the disease and drives it from the system. That is the whole secret of the success of this remarkable medicine. Thousands and thousands testify to the value of these pills among them being Mrs. Robert Gibbs, Petit Lamèque, N. B., who says:—"I wish to thank you for the good results obtained from the use of Dr. Williams Pink Pills. I suffered from kidney trouble and the pains in the back were sometimes hard to bear. I used in all six boxes of the pills and the trouble has entirely disappeared. I would strongly advise others sufferers to use your pills without delay."

Dr. Williams Pink Pills cure all blood and nerve troubles such as, rheumatism, neuralgia, anaemia, partial, paralysis, indigestion, palpitation of the heart and many others. Sold by all medicine dealers or direct from The Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., at 50 cents a box or six boxes for $2.50.

WHERE MEMORY FAILS.

Ability to Analyze, Compare, and Combine.

Many people are lacking in the faculty of concentration. The secret of achievement is the power to focus the thought. A man must be able to marshal his intellectual forces as Napoleon did his army, and to bring their united strength to accomplish whatever he is doing. A wandering mind will never accomplish anything.

The great trouble with our present educational system is that most schools and colleges encourage memorising, says London Advertiser. This is a fundamental error, for the memory is not a real power. It is merely a reservoir to which the executive faculties go for material. Some of the men who have been endowed with the most phenomenal memories have never attained anything beyond mediocrity.

There is no doubt that many naturally strong minds have been ruined by being crammed with unrelated and undigested facts. It is not the overfull mind that utilizes its material, but the one that has made thoroughly practical every scrap of knowledge and every bit of experience that has come to it.

Competitive examinations are responsible for many a weakened mind. They lay too much stress on memory and text book knowledge, and too little on a real working comprehension of a subject. A boy with a good memory can secure high marks and pass examinations creditably, simply because he remembers the pet questions and theories of his teachers; while one who has spent his time in mastering principles and gaining actual power may not obtain nearly so high rank, or may fail altogether in his examinations.

It is not memory that counts most, but ability to grasp, to hold to analyze, to compare, and to combine, which gives a solid grip and mastery of principles.

GROWTH OF GERMAN RACE.

Where Will They Earn Their Bread in Twenty-five Years.

The German nation is now increasing at the rate of 900,000 a year. Every twelve months more than 2,600,000 Germans are born within the confines of the Empire. During the same period a little over 1,000,000 die. The population problem demands the gravest attention of all German statesmen.

In twenty-five years at the present rate of increase, the German Empire will number 100,000,000 of inhabitants. Where will they all live and earn their bread? Little wonder that the Imperial Statistical Office, by its publications, should revive the many discussions on the necessity of a large Colonial Empire for Germany.

The Anglo-Saxon race now increases at little more than half the rate of the Germans, who are the most optimistic race in the world, and firmly believe that in the future ordering of the globe their numbers will prove a decisive factor.

TIMELY CALLING.

How the Pastor Saved a Life.

A man near Fort Gay, W. Va., made an entire failure in getting strength from the kind of food he ate and not knowing that the trouble was with the food kept on losing health until the doctors gave him up to die.

It was supposed to be consumption because he was wasting away steadily and slowly dying. His minister called from time to time and one day brought along a package of Grape-Nuts thinking from what he knew of the famous food that perhaps it might help him. The sick man took to it at once and from that day began to get well. In writing he says:

"I walked to town to-day 3 miles. Have gained over 40 pounds in about 2 months and my neighbors don't know what to say. I frequently am told it was as if I am raised from the dead. Everybody here knows of my case, you can tell people to write to the Postmaster or Rev. L. D. Bryan. I will make a sworn statement that Grape-Nuts saved my life." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

This is another illustration that where all other food fails one can be brought back to health and strength on Grape-Nuts. "There's a reason."

"Look in each package for the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville."

"Why, that coat doesn't fit a bit," said Edgar's sister; "it's all waves up and down your back." "That is what I told the tailor, but he said you had to expect that because it was a serge suit."

$100 Reward, $100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by all Druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Amiable Tourist (to guide): "That is a very imposing statue, guide." Guide: "Indeed you are right, sir; most people are imposed on by it. They think it's marble but it's only painted timber."

When the little folks take colds and coughs, don't neglect them and let them strain the tender membranes of their lungs, Give them

Shiloh's Consumption Cure The Lung Tonic

It will cure them quickly and strengthen their lungs. It is pleasant to take. Prices, 25c., 50c., and $1.00. 306

15—04

CURED BY WILL-POWER.

Mrs. George Todd, of Stanhope (N.Y.), has been an invalid, unable to walk, for more than three years. The other day she was reading an article stating that by concentrating one's will upon one subject that object could be accomplished. She desired very much to walk just then because it was dinner-time, and at once she found she was able to walk. After dinner she walked back.

CHARITABLE PEOPLE.

The Spanish are among the most charitable people on earth. Without a special tax for the poor, Spanish communities of 500,000 self-supporters feed a pauper population of 5,000 or more.

THEY CURE MEN AND WOMEN TOO

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS KEEP UP THEIR GOOD WORK IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

Christopher Bishop Tells How His Wife and Brother Were Brought Back to Health and Vigor.

Clark's Beach, Nfld.—Feb. 29.—(Special)—Among the splendid cures made by Dodd's Kidney Pills in Newfoundland is that of Mrs. Christopher Bishop, of this place. The story of her suffering and cure is told by her husband as follows:

"My wife suffered for three years with a weakness in the lower part of her back followed by a shivering causing weakness. Her legs were swollen from her knees to the feet and she had a pain in the left side just under the ribs.

"Two doctors attended her, but failed to cure her when she decided to use Dodd's Kidney Pills. The results were wonderful and now after using five boxes, the swelling and weakness are gone and the pain is gone with them.

"My brother too suffered a heavy pain in the back and four doctors failed to give him relief. Eight boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills made him a new man."

If you don't cure the pain in your back by using Dodd's Kidney Pills it will grow into something worse—Dropsy or Rheumatism or Bright's Disease.

"When I say good-bye to you this evening," said Mr Slowman, "do you think it would be proper for me to place one reverent kiss upon your fair hand?" "Well," she replied, coquettishly, "I would consider it decidedly out of place."

HAD A SPLENDID YEAR.

The Independent Order of Foresters apparently had a splendid year during 1903. The net addition to the membership during the twelve months was 14,123. This is considerably larger than the net additions during 1902. The death rate was also lower being only 6.46 against 6.60 in a thousand as compared with 1902. This indicates how careful this great Fraternal Society is in its selection of its risks. The enormous work which the Order did in helping widows and orphans may be understood from the fact that it paid to them during last year no less than $1,542,639.01. In sick benefits the members of the Order received $192,163.71, and totally and permanently disabled brethren received $84,719.91. Notwithstanding these large and helpful payments to the membership the Order increased its already large accumulated funds during the year by the enormous sum of $1,234,236.97. The total accumulated funds of the Order on February 1st, 1904, amounted to $7,518,852.09. The above is certainly a wonderful record. Dr. Oronhyateka, the Supreme Chief Ranger, is certainly to be congratulated upon the results which are flowing from his labors. The total membership of the Order is now over 220,000.—Daily Mail and Empire, Totonto. Feb. 16th.

"I don't want to be rude, Banks, but you'd make an excellent executor." "Why?" "Well, you see, you have such a natural aptitude for minding other people's business."

Baby Humors.—Dr. Agnew's Ointment soothes, quiets, and effects quick and effective cures in all skin eruptions common to baby during teething time. It is harmless to the hair in cases of Scald Head, and cures Eczema, Salt Rheum and all Skin Diseases of older people. 35 cents.—53

Old Gent (to small boy, who is nursing a skinned knee): "Did you fall down, little chap?" Small Boy: "Yer didn't think I fell up and dashed agin a cloud, did yer?"

Lever's Y-Z (Wise Head) Disinfectant Soap Powder dusted in the bath, softens the water and disinfects.

Lodger (quarrelling with landlady) "I haven't lived in lodgings six years for nothing." Landlady: "No and you're not going to live here for nothing either."

Minard's Liniment Relieves Neuralgia

He—"Miss Brightley is quite stunning to-night. She has no idea how beautiful she looks." She—"Oh, yes she has! But it's an exaggerated one."

Wifey—Oh, yes, my new gown comes quite up to my expectations. Hubby—Indeed! Well, it's the first time I ever knew your expectations to be so low.

"It seems an awfully high price to ask for it," said the customer. "Is it all wool?" "I should say not," replied the salesmen, handling the piece of goods caressingly. "Why, madam, look at it again. It's more than half high-grade cotton!"

Pill-Dosed with nauseous, big purgers, prejudice people against pills generally. Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills are revolutionizing the pill demand—they're so pleasant and easy to take—the doses are small and so is the price, 10 cents for 40 doses. Biliousness, Sick Headache, Constipation dispelled. Works like a charm.—53

Bertie—"I don't want to go to bed yet, sis. I want to see you and Mr. Shepherd play cards." Lucie—"You wicked boy to think we should do such a thing! We never do it!" Bertie—"But I heard mamma tell you to mind how you played your cards when Mr. Shepherd came!"

When Your Child Is In Danger

From Croup, Bronchitis, Whooping Cough or Colds, You Can Depend on

Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine.

When breathing is difficult and there is a tightness in the chest Dr Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine cuts away the phlegm and clears the air passages.

When the bronchial tubes and lungs are irritated, inflamed and sore from hard coughing Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine, with its healing, soothing influence, acts as a balm to bring relief and cure to the diseased parts.

Time has proven the reliability of this favorite family medicine. Experience has taught mothers that there is no worthy substitute for Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine.

Being composed of simple ingredients, pleasant to the taste and easy to take, Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine is especially suited as a medicine for children.

When awakened at night by the dreadful croupy cough of her child many a mother has remembered with gratitude that she had this great medicine at hand for instant use. Promptness is everything in treating this disease of the throat and lungs.

Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine; 25 cents a bottle, family size (three times as much) 60 cents, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

To protect you against imitations the portrait and signature of Dr. A. W. Chase, the famous receipt book author, are on every bottle.

Sunlight Soap will not injure your blankets or harden them. It will make them soft, white and fleecy. 7B

Birdie (as her lover is about to start on a journey round the world): "My dear Adolphus, will you be true to me when you are far away? Promise me that you will write to me from every town you visit!" Adolphus: "Oh, Birdie, is it love that prompts you to say this? Swear to me, do you really love me, or are you merely collecting foreign postage stamps?"

. or Over Sixty Years

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used by millions of mothers for their children while teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays pain, cures wind colic, regulates the stomach and bowels, and is the best remedy for Diarrhœa. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Sold by druggists throughout the world. Be sure and ask for "MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP." 12—46

"Don't you get dreadfully tired of Smithkins' jokes?" "I have never heard one." "Why, I thought you knew Smithkins." "I do."

Minard's Liniment Cures Burns, etc.

"Of course, I will be uglier some day," she whispered. "Impossible!" he replied, gallantly. And he wonders that she sent his presents back.

Bright's Disease — Insidious! deceptive! relentless! has foiled hundreds of trials by medical science to stem the tide of its ravages—and not until South American Kidney Cure proved beyond a doubt its power to turn back the tide, was there a gleam of anything but despair for the victim of this dread form of kidney disease.—54

Doctor (cheerfully)—"Oh, I'll find out what ails you before long." Patient (shuddering)—"Say, doc, am I so near autopsy as that?"

We believe MINARD'S LINIMENT is the best.

Matthias Foley, Oil City, Ont.
Joseph Snow, Norway, Me.
Chas. Whooten, Mulgrave, N. S.
Rev. R. O. Armstrong, Mulgrave, N. S.
Pierre Landry, senr., Pokemouche, N. B.
Thomas Wasson, Sheffield, N. B.

t-f

He—"I think I'm a fool" She—"Well, dear, you told me it was a wife's duty to agree with her husband."

Grand Washington Excursions. Via Lackawanna Railroad. March 18 and April 15, $10 from Buffalo. Limit ten days. Through Philadelphia and Baltimore. Cheap side trips. Full particulars, A. Leadley, 38 Yonge St., Toronto, or Philip Fox, Buffalo.

Jack—"Once more, Molly, will you marry me?" Village Belle—"For the thirteenth time this hour, I tell you I will not." Jack—"Well, thirteen knots an hour ain't bad sailin' for a little craft like you."

Piles To prove to you that Dr. Chase's Ointment is a certain and absolute cure for each and every form of itching, bleeding and protruding piles, the manufacturers have guaranteed it. See testimonials in the daily press and ask your neighbors what they think of it. You can use it and get your money back if not cured. 60c a box, at all dealers or EDMANSON, BATES & CO., Toronto.

Dr. Chase's Ointment

"Now, little one, what would you say if I were to give you these? Would you say, these is good apples or those are good apples?" "How can I tell till I eat 'em?"

Minard's Liniment for sale everywhere

Gilbert—"I went to the lunatic asylum yesterday—" Noyes—"And they let you come away? Perhaps the places were all taken?"

When you buy Blue Ribbon Ceylon Tea you get the best in the market and remember there can only be one best.

LOWER PRICES — USE — BETTER QUALITY

FIBRE EDDY WARE

CAN BE HAD IN

Pails, Wash Basins, Milk Pans, &c

Any First-Class Grocer Can Supply You.

INSIST ON GETTING EDDY'S.

$33.00 to the Pacific Coast Via the Chicago-Union & North-Western Line from Chicago daily during March and April, to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, Vancouver and other Pacific Coast points. Very low rates to Helena, Butte, Spokane, Ogden and Salt Lake City. Corresponding low rates from all points. Daily and personally conducted excursions in Pullman tourist sleeping cars to San Francisco, Los Angeles and Portland, through without change, double berth only $7.00. Choice of routes. For particulars address B. H. Bennett, 2 East King St., Toronto, Ont.

ARE WOMEN REALLY STINGY?

Are women meaner in giving than men? It cannot rightly be urged that they are. Women, after all, in buying or in giving are commonly making use of money that others have earned. They have been trustees of other people's money for 2,000 years, and long use has made them careful of their trust. Of course the petty meanness of a certain kind of woman have afforded infinite opportunities for men's jests and contempt, but those petty meannesses are nothing in comparison with the great meannesses of really sordid men.

OVER THE WABASH.

To the great World's Fair, St. Louis, Mo., opens April 30th, closes December 1st. Covers 1,240 acres, cost more than $50,000,000. The most gigantic and colossal undertaking ever attempted by man. The great Wabash line is the only railroad that owns and controls its own rails from Canada, direct to the World's Fair gates.

The new superb and magnificent trains built especially for this traffic, places the Wabash in the very first rank for this business.

For full particulars, address any railroad agent, or J. A. Richardson, Dist. Pass. agt., N. E. corner King and Yonge Sts., Toronto.

Mrs. Cupples—"You know, George, that my place is by your side. If you were dying, I should want to be with you." Mr. Cupples:—"Oh, in that case, dear, it would be so easy to die!"

Minard's Liniment Cures Dandruff.

Don't think because a name looks attractive on a visiting card that the paying teller of a bank would recognize it at the bottom of a check.

Mrs. Gudething—"I suppose most of the prisoners are brought here by bad company." Guard—"Oh, awful, mum! They're usually accompanied by a police-captain or a ward-detective."

An admirable Food of the

EPPS'S COCOA

Finest quality and flavour.

Nutritious and Economical. 48—21

A man with a cloven breath ought to be in the spicy speaker class.

BASTEDO'S 77 KING ST., EAST, TORONTO.

SPECIAL SALE OF **FURS**

Send for catalog. We give extra value. Raw Furs and Ginseng. Send for price list. 11—04

Dominion Line Steamships

Montreal to Liverpool
Portland to Liverpool

Large and Fast Steamships. Superior accommodation for all classes of passengers. Saloons and Staterooms are amidships. Special attention has been given to the Second Saloon and Third-Class accommodation. For rates of passages and all particulars, apply to any agent of the Company, or to passenger agent.

DOMINION LINE OFFICES: 17 St. Sacrament St., Montreal.

YOUR OVERCOATS

and faded Suits would look better dyed. If no agent of ours in your town, write direct Montreal, Box 158

BRITISH AMERICAN DYEING CO. MONTREAL.

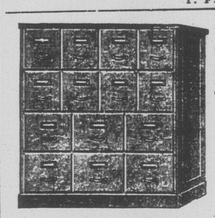
Billiard Tables

The Best at the Lowest Price
Write for Terms

REID BROS., M'f'g Co.'y
785 King St. W. 4 32-31

Poultry, Butter, Eggs, Honey, Apples, ALL KINDS OF FRUITS And Farm Produce generally, consign it to us and we will get you good prices.

THE **Dawson Commission Co.,** LIMITED TORONTO. T. F.



DON'T KEEP YOUR GROCERIES all Over the Kitchen. Send for one of Our

MOUSE-PROOF GROCERY CABINETS

In Oak, with Metal back. Sent to any address on receipt of $1.75

The Bennett Mfg. Co. PICKERING, ONTARIO.

Do not send stamps. Agents wanted

PAGE METAL GATES

3 feet wide, 4 feet high, including hinges and latch $2.75
10 feet wide, 4 feet high, including hinges and latch 5.75
Other sizes in proportion.

Supplied by us or local dealer. 203

THE PAGE WIRE FENCE CO. Limited, - Walkerville, Montreal, Winnipeg, St. John

The Manufacturers Life
Insurance Company.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The seventeenth annual meeting of the shareholders and policyholders of the Manufacturers Life Insurance Company was held in the Company's offices, Toronto, on Thursday, February 4th, at 2.30 p.m. The report submitted was eminently satisfactory to all interested.

A detailed report of the proceedings will be mailed to all policyholders, but we believe that the average busy reader will get a clearer conception of the progress the Company is making by having, as it were, a bird's-eye view of its affairs.

Below will be found the figures pertaining to the main features of the business for 1902 and 1903 and the increases; also a comparative statement of the Company's growth since its organization.

The growth made in 1903 is well shown by the following table:—

	1902.	1903.	Increase.
Net Premium Income	$ 1,054,815.72	$ 1,219,435.91	$ 164,620.19
Interest, Rents, etc.	186,074.11	215,852.67	29,778.56
Total Cash Income	1,240,889.83	1,435,288.58	194,398.75
Payments to Policyholders	316,556.63	366,533.04	49,976.41
Policy Reserves	3,753,892.00	4,461,800.00	707,908.00
Total Assets	4,406,329.19	5,136,668.52	730,339.33
Applications for New Insurance	6,542,336.00	7,764,542.00	1,222,206.00
New Policies Issued	6,082,336.00	7,294,050.00	1,211,714.00
Insurance in Force	30,152,883.00	34,392,303.00	4,239,420.00

The Manufacturers Life began business in 1887, and the following figures for four year periods taken from its returns to the Dominion Government will illustrate its remarkable growth and steady progress:—

Year.	Income From Interest Rents, etc.	Net Premium Income.	Total Premium and Interest Income.	Assets.	New Policies Issued.	Assurance in Force December 31st.
1887	$ 778	$ 27,184	$ 27,963	$ 165,732	$2,564,500	$ 2,342,000
1891	13,236	184,106	197,342	431,610	2,111,100	7,413,761
1895	39,245	324,449	363,694	1,012,569	3,017,760	10,645,021
1899	72,018	510,560	582,578	1,809,505	3,579,109	14,368,236
1903	215,852	1,219,435	1,435,288	5,136,668	7,294,050	34,392,303

OF INTEREST TO TOTAL ABSTAINERS.

The death ratio in the Manufacturers Life has always been favorable in both sections, but exceedingly so in the Abstainers' Section. The past year shows a continuance of this favorable experience. The death losses in the General Section were 75.7% of the expectancy, and in the Abstainers' Section only 41.3% of the expectancy. The saving this year from low mortality in this section is therefore 58.7% as against a saving of 24.3% in the General Section, which means much larger dividends for Abstainers. Correspondence is invited.

HON. G. W. ROSS, President. *J. F. JUNKIN*, Managing Director.

Pain Over the Eyes

HEADACHE AND CATARRH

Relieved in 10 Minutes

That dull, wretched pain in the head just over the eyes is one of the surest signs that the seeds of catarrh have been sown, and it's your warning to administer the quickest and surest treatment to prevent the seating of this dreaded malady. Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder will stop all pain in ten minutes, and cure. 18

Dr. Agnew's Ointment soothes all skin diseases. 35 Cents.

Issue No. 9—04.