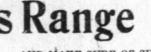
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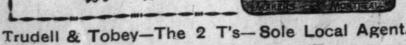
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Old Documents Which Tell Some Curious Tales of Long Ago.

The Parson Always had to be Pro vided With His Allowance of Liquor ..

Household Words. Much curious information respect ing the wants and ways of our fore fathers may be gathered from old church accounts; indeed, the parish books kept by the church-wardens of former days are a veritable mine of facts relating to such matters. We, therefore, append a few ourious entries culled from various old accounts. In the books of Darlington Parish Church some curious items occur relative to the refreshment provided for the clergy in past days: "1712. Six quarts of sack to the minister who preached when he had no minister to assist, 9 shillings. For a quart of sack bestowed on Jillett when he preached, 2 shillings and 6 pence. For a pint of brandy when Mr. George Dill preached here, 1 shilling and 4 pence. For a stranger who preached, a dozen of ale. When the Dean of Durham preached here, spent in a treat 3 shillings and 6 pence." Similar entries appear in many other parish books. The following item occurs in the vestry minutes at Livering-at-Bowes, in Essex: "At a vestry held at St. Mary's Chapel, Havering, ye ninth of November, 1717, agreed-Yt a pint of sack be allowed ye minister yt offici-

was in former times complete without an hour-glass, and many of these relies are still preserved in various churches. Parish books of the olden time es. Parish books of the olden time contain many entries relating to these pricles. In the church book of St. Katherine's, Aldgate, London, under 1564, this entry occurs: "Paid for an hour-glass that hangeth by the pulpit, where the preacher doth make a sermon, that he may know how the houre passeth away, I shilling." In the same book, among the bequests of 1616, in "an hour glass, with a frame of iron to stand in." In the church accounts of St. Helen's, Abingdon is the following entry: "1591. Payde for an hour-glass for the pulpit, 4 pence." Many similar entries might be quoted.

Fosbroke tells us that the priest had sometimes a watch supplied to him by the parish. The authority cited for this is the following entry in the accounts of the church-wardens of a parish in Surrey: "Received for the priest's the street the terms and the priest's priest's the street the terms and 12 shillings. Surrey: "Received for the priest's watch after he was dead, 13 shillings

ates ye Lord's Day ye winter season.'

NO CHURCH PULPET

A curious custom of bygone days
was the drinking of wine in the church
at a wedding. The church-wardens'
account for Tallaton, in Devonshire,
under 1595, contain this item: "Payde for bread and for wine for three wee dings, 6 pence;" and under 1601: "Paid for bread and wine against a wedding, 2 pence." The bread, which was soak-ed in the wine, was blessed by the offiand the wine was the drunk, and the "sops" eaten by the bride and bridegroom and the company

In the churchwardens' accounts of Gosberton, Lincolnshire, we have a sample of old-time Puritanical Sabba-taganism, for, under 1648, it is recorded that two travellers "for traveling on the Sabbath day," were ordered to

ay "a fyne of 12 pence," In the days of the commonwealth the churchwardens received fines for misconduct, as appears from the foi-lowing entries in the accounts of a. Gloucestershire parish: "1656. Rec'd of Jno. Wild, being convicted of tip-ling, 3 shillings and 4 pence. Rec'd. of Philip Groom, for swearing, 3 shillings and 4 pence. Rec'd. of John Nash for selling ale or beer lesse than measure, 20 shillings. misconduct, as appears from the foi-

MUCH CURIOUS INFORMATION. respecting the ringing of church bells is to be gathered from old parish books. Our forefathers believed that the ringing of the bells counteracted the natural influences of violent tempests. Many church accounts con-tain entries of "bread, cheese and beere," provided for the ringers dur-ing "thunderings," and in the accounts of Spalding Church the following entry occurs: "1519: Item, payde for ringing when the tempest was,

3 pence." In the old days, when church pews were strewed with rushes, it is not surprising to learn that much dust and vermin accumulated. Thus, in the churchwardens' accounts at St Margaret's, Westminster, is this entry: "1610.. Item, payde to Good-wyffe Wells for salt to destroy the fleas in the churchwardens' seat, to pence"; and at St. Michael's, Cornhill, the following entry occurs: "1569. Payde for three ratts trappes for the church, 6 pence."

Formerly an officer called the "dog-

whipper," was appointed to every church, his duty being to drive dogs and other intruders out of the church during service. Numerous references to this individual are to be found in old accounts. For instance, the parish book of Great Staughton, the parish book of Great Staughton, Huntingdon, contains these items: "1653, Paid to Richards for whipping dogs out of ye church from Michaelmas to Christmas following, I shilling, 1729; Paid ye dog-whipper, 2 shillings and 6 pence. 1736, Payd for a dog-whip for the church, 6 pence." Even as late as 1835 the Exeter Gazette announced that "Mr. John Pickard, in the employ of the Rev. Chancellor Martin has been appointed dog-whipper of Exeter Cathedral, in the room of Mr. Chas Reynolds, deceased."

Old friends are best. King Jame used to call for his old shoes; they were the easiest for his feet.—Selden. He that hath no friend and no enemy is one of the vulgar; and without talents, powers or energy.-Lavater. Nothing more dangerous than a friend without discretion; even a prudent enemy is preferable.—La Fon-

Friendship is the only thing in the world concerning the usefulness of which all maukind are agreed.— Ci-

THE MIDNIGHT MINUET.

It is dark and dull and gloomy, with its windows facing north.
This the old colonial mansion from its This the old colonial mansion from its ivy peering forth.

There's a flintlock o'er the mantel, and a flag above the door,
And a harp with strings that dangle in the dust upon the floor.

But when falls the purple twilight, then the silver sconces flare,
Comes a hand upon the knocker, and and a sten upon the stair.

and a step upon the stair, And she courtesies from the threshold in her sweet, patrician grace.
As he grounds his mouldy musket by
the fireless chimney place.

Here and there the yellow laces from her sleeves have dropped away, And her pearls have lost their lustre in the darkness and decay; Brown and scentless are the roses that are clustered on her breast, But her gown is gold embroidered, and

her hair with powder dressed. He is clad in tattered garments that were once of buff and blue, On his temples is a bandage where the blood is cozing through; Sash and blume are grimed with bat-tle, spur and sabre red with rust— But the harp is faintly sounding from

its covering of dust. It is played by unseen fingers that with touches soft and slow Gently wake the mournful music of a century ago; Quaint old tunes that were in fashion

Quaint old tunes that were in fashion in the days of patch and puff,
Periwigs and ostrich feathers, lace cravats and perfumed snuff;
And they walk with prim precision through the stately minuet,
Though her faded satin slipers with the grave dews glistening wet,
And he moves a little stiffly, since beneath the flower and vine
He has slept a hundred summers on the field of Brandywine.

Hark! The ancient clock is striking in the dim, deserted hall, Slowly, as with age grown weary, twelve deliberate strokes in all, And the tinkling harp is silent, and the lady lifts her train,

And the soldier takes the musket to his shoulder once again; Dies the candle in the socket, loudly creaks the crumbling stair, Swings the door on broken hinges with

a rush of chilly air, But the mouse behind the curtain, and the spider in her net, ll remain to tell the story of the midnight minuet. Minna Irving in Munsey's.

Blamed by the Chinese for all their Troub es.

An Order Issued in the Province of Shantung to Convert Them all Back Again by Force.

New York, July 20. - A despatch to the Herald from Che Foo, July 13, via Shanghai, sags: The fantai of Shantung, the highest legal official of the province and next in rank to the governor, has issued to the subordinate magistrates of the province the folports to be addressed to and to record a conversation between the governor and the fantai, but that is probably a subterfuge to impose on the magistrates. The fantai is notoriously anti-Christian and his letter cannot fail to have evil consequences. The

letter is as follows: According to your remarks to me when speaking on the subject of Boxers, who declare themselves the enemies of all Christians, from the time of the settlement of the Pingyuan affair and the Brooks murder they have increased like a swarm of bees and their power has grown day by day. The provinces of Shantung and Chihli are filled with them. Beginning at Pekin and Tien Tsin, they have burned churches, murdered Christians and persecuted other people. On this account soldiers were despatched, but the trouble increased so that it

seems endless.
This calamity has as its source the native Christians, who have clothed themselves with power of foreigners Relying on this power the native Christians have insulted people to such an extent as to engender the greatest hatred and the occasion has been tak-en advantage of by lawless men to carry out evil designs, as burning and

what, therefore, can be considered a good method to stop the trouble? To stop the pot boiling over the fuel must be pulled out from below; but the native Christians are part of our people, and since they have been deceived by the foreigners they have lost the right road, If they could be brought back to the old pathway they would be our loyal people again. In this way mutual harred would cease

this way mutual hatred would cease and tranquility be restored.

Therefore we exort you according to the instructions of our government and authorize all magistrates to compel native Christians to return to their former religion and make them give security that they will not again enter a Christian church. All furniture of churches and Christians is to be cona Christian church. All furniture of churches and Christians is to be confiscated and proclamations are to be issued exhorting the people to bstain from robbing Christians who enounce their faith.

This will be the best plan to cause the present troubles to cease, and it is the duty of all wise and good men to consider this plan for stopping the present calamities.

JEANNETTE'S CREEK.

Mrs. Rogers and children left last week to spend a month with relatives in Hamilton, Toronto and Whitby. Several from here spent the twelfth in Chatham.

A large crowd from here went on the excursion to Belle Isle on Tuesday. The "borer" is destroying the peach orchards in this section. From one to six will be found in the trees. Mrs. Fred. Bagnal is improving very

Heaven gives us friends, to bless the present scene; resumes them to pre-

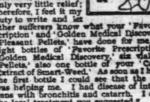
Is the sweetest season in human interit is in Nature generally. It is the time
of promise. As the young girl draws
near to that mysterious line "Where
womanhood and girlhood meet," her
whole destiny is in a measure being determined. How

the change, withers and droops like some blighted bud. Nature generally needs some little help at this critical paried and critical period, and this help in its best form is contained in Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It establishes regu-larity, and gives the vigor of per-fect health to the womanly organs. It contains no alcohol, neither opi-

often the sweet

young girl, under the influence of

um, cocaine, nor other narcotic, Miss Emma Lee, of Williford, Sharp Co., Ark., writes: "I was suffering severely and tried several doctors"



Raging Forest Fires in Arizona are Likely to Cause it.

Placerville, Cal., July 19 .-- A great forest fire is raging on the lands of the American River Land and Lumber Co., 12 miles morthwest of this city. The big chute built by the company in 1894 at the terminus of its railroad to run logs into the south fork of the American in the control of the control of the American in the control of the control logs into the south fork of the American River, is reported destroyed. The chute was 3,500 feet in length and was built of large logs. Over 3,000,000 feet of lumber is said to have been used in its construction. The cost of the chute was about \$60,000. Should the fare continue it will entail a loss running into the millions, In addition to many houses and 12 miles of railroad. many houses and 12 miles of railroad, 12,000,000 feet of logs are lying cut and barked in the woods, awaiting a drive.

EAST BRANCH.

Beautiful weather.

Cherry picking and berry picking is a thing of the past.

D. Stanley Shaw, of Merlin, spent few days at his home here recently.

Mrs. F. Galbraith and children, of St. Thomas, are spending a few weeks with her sister, Mrs. J. Richardson. A little daughter has come to stay with Mr. and Mrs. J. Jenner. Miss Ethel Hooktwith, of Wallace

burg, formerly of this place, has gone to Leamington for the summer.

J. Richardson attended the Loya Orange demonstration in Sarnia on the 12th. That is right, Jack, stick to

The farmers in this section are busiy engaged drawing in their golden

The harvest apples are quite plenti-ful in this part, but the winter ap-ples will be few and scattering. Miss M. Booth spent Dominion Day

n Chatham. T. Richardson and family attended the celebration in the Maple City on the 12th. T. and A. Shaw spent Thursday last

Chatham. Harold Birmingham was successful in passing the entrance examination.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Irving, of Chatham,
township, spent Sunday last at J. Richardson's Isaac Little is laid up with a very

Dr. Shaw is in Wallaceburg looking after Dr. Mitchell's practice, the lat-ter being confined to his room with severe attack of blood poisoning.

The friends thou hast and their adoption tried, grapple them to thy soul with hooks of steel.—Shakespeare

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brethren heartily welcomed.
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ALEX. GREGORY, Sec.

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MUSICAL Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Marshall, organ-iste and choirmaster of St. Andrew's iste and choirmaster in St. Andrew & Presbyterian Church, will receive pupils in singing, voice development, piano and organ. Classes in sight singing and church psalmody. Residence Park Street, directly opposite Dr. Battisby's residence.

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