

"Getting Together"

Heart to Heart Talks with Chathamites on General Topics—A Local Philosopher who Chats Entertainingly.

KNOCKERS

What are knockers? Webster defines a knocker as one who knocks, as a door seeking admission. But there is another meaning in the word knocker which Webster might have known but which he did not put down in his dictionary. This term is very commonly applied to a person who can never see good in any person—except, perhaps, himself—or anything, but can always find something to find fault with or cry down.

He is found all over the world mingling with all classes of people and flourishing in every walk in life. He is generally on the outside, sometimes on the inside, but never to his way of thinking, on the wrong side. When he is found he is generally found talking, sometimes weeping, although as a rule these sort of people do not work—except perhaps when they are knocking.

They are found in all public enterprises, especially when the promoters or the shareholders of these enterprises are going to make some money. In this case the knocker is not, as a rule, financially interested. He is easily detected by his talk, which is generally loud and exhibited on the street corners.

Knockers might be divided into three classes, viz., the chronic, the man with the grievance, and the covetor. The first man, the chronic, is the least dangerous. It is a habit with him and he does the most of his knocking on general principles. He never wants to branch out into anything new, and would like to see the world go along the same as it did a hundred years ago.

The man with the grievance is a little different than the chronic. He has generally been ignored in the making up of or thrown out of some public organization or concern. He is, to a certain extent, harmless and the most of his talk is bluster, and is easily seen through.

The third man, however, the covetor, is by far the most dangerous and hardest to detect. It may be that he is a business man and some scheme is being started which, if carried to a successful issue, will interfere with, and lessen, his business and earning capacity. He may also be a man of means who has a good business instinct, and recognizes a paying thing when he sees it. He realizes that it would be a good thing for him and if he can discourage the promoters of some business concern and in the end purchase their interest, he is going to do it. This last man is, as a rule, the most dangerous knocker. He goes about his work in a quiet way giving a rap here and another there, until his hopes are realized with one grand coup. He is probably the only man who benefits himself by his knocking.

In some cases, however, the man in this class is inclined to be careless. The results are then the same as in the cases of men in the other two classes—defeat and sometimes humiliation and disgrace.

No matter which class a man is in he is still a knocker and worthy of the strongest contempt from his fellow creatures.

OYSTER CULTURE

The average citizen may not know that oysters are planted, cultivated and harvested like any other crop, a person who engages in this industry being known as an oyster planter. Thousands of acres of oysters are under cultivation in Hampton Roads, which during the harvesting season is often literally alive with the reaping machines of the oyster men.

When the oysters are from one and a half to two years old they are usually large enough to be sold, and as a rule part of them are sold at this age and the balance in the third or fourth year, after which time the ground is allowed to rest a year before being planted again. Great care must be exercised in the selection of bottoms for oyster planting if the planter would be financially successful.

The largest packer in Hampton opens from 100,000 to 200,000 bushels of oysters in a year. In this house as the men open the oysters they drop the shells on an inclined plane, from which they slide into a trough and are carried along by scrapers attached to an endless chain, called a "shell conveyor," which takes them without further labor to the shell pile in the yard. When a shucker has filled his gallon measure he carries it to the strainer, where the oysters are strained and measured. They are then emptied into large casks kept full of fresh water, by means of which any loose shell or grit is washed out. From these casks the oysters are dipped into a second strainer and when separated from the water are again measured and packed.

The shells are sold for from 1 to 3 cents a bushel and are used extensively by oyster planters for the propagation of oysters. They are placed in small piles on grounds found suitable for the purpose, where the spat or small oyster will attach itself to the shells. They are also used for making shell lime and for building the excellent shell roads found in some parts of the Virginia peninsula.

The money that makes one man stop often makes the other man stop.

It's because riches have wings that so many who inherit fortunes become high-flyers.

The smart men of the world are those who put the shoulders of others to the wheel.

PARK CANNON

It may not be generally known that the cannon which occupies such a prominent position on the point of Tecumseh Park was captured from the Russians by the English in the Crimean war. The cannon was sent to Canada and placed by the Government at Point Edward.

The credit of bringing it to Chatham and placing it on the Park is due to Dr. J. P. Rutherford, who wrote to the Government in 1888, when he was mayor of Chatham, and asked permission to move the cannon to Chatham.

The following is a copy of the answer he received:

London, Ont., Jan. 31, 1888.

To His Worship the Mayor of Chatham:

Sir,—I have the honor by direction of the Deputy Adjutant General M. D. No. 1, to inform you in reply to your letter of the 6th inst., that the Honorable the Minister of Militia and Defense, approves of the transfer of the gun at Point Edward to the corporation of Chatham, the municipality of Chatham, to become responsible for the safe keeping of the gun and the expense of its removal from Point Edward.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

M. AYLMER, Lt.-Col.

Shortly afterwards the cannon was brought into the city, placed on the Park, and has remained there ever since.

DRUMMER BOY

Responding to a recent communication in this journal, The Planet is in receipt of the following:

Dear Sir,—In reference to the request in your paper the other day I enclose copy of the Drummer Boy of Waterloo as was used to sing in the lumber camp 35 years ago.

J. H. BROAD.

When battle roused each warrior's band, And courage louder trumpet blew, Young Edwin left his native land— A drummer boy for Waterloo.

His mother, as his lips she pressed, And bade her noble boy adieu, With ringing hands and aching breast, Beheld him march for Waterloo.

So he who knew no infant's fear, His knapsack o'er his shoulder threw— He said, "Dear Mother, dry up your tears."

Till I return from Waterloo." He went, but e'er the setting sun, Beheld our arms the Joe subdue, A bullet from a rebel's gun, Laid Edwin low at Waterloo.

"Oh, comrades, comrades," Edwin cried, While proudly beamed his eyes so blue, "Tell my poor mother her Edwin died."

A soldier's death at Waterloo, We laid his head upon his drum, And 'neath the mournful moon-light's hue, When night had stilled the battle's hum, We laid him low at Waterloo.



A mercerized linen waist in blue, and straps topped with pearl buttons. The guimpe is transparent, of Venetian lace.

MUTE WITNESSES

The soft lamp glids my desk to-night; My books stand all a-row. I turn them o'er, and to my sight They seem to sorrow so.

The ancient rhymes of love and death That were such comforters Seem now to know some living breath That all about them stir.

Story and fable, quaint and good, They speak so bitterly! Not as the hand that penned them would.

That they should speak to me, A little comment scribbled fine, A finger-print, a bit of folded paper, at some line Tell how we talk of it.

Alike the poet and the sage, Gold-edge and russet-brown— A penciled word upon a page, A corner folded down!

The glamour of the verse is flown, The cut leaves seem to bleed; In the dim light I read alone The books she loved to read.

THE DANGERS OF CHILDHOOD

Summer is the most deadly season of the year for little ones. The little life hangs by a mere thread; diarrhoea, infant cholera and other hot weather ailments come quickly, and sometimes, in a few hours, extinguish a bright little life. Every mother should be in a position to guard against, or cure these troubles, and there is no medicine known to medical science will act so surely, so speedily and so safely as Baby's Own Tablets.

A box of the Tablets should be kept in every home where there are little ones, and by giving an occasional Tablet hot weather ailments will be prevented, and your little one will be kept well and happy. Won't wait until the trouble comes—that may be too late. Remember that these ailments can be prevented by keeping the stomach and bowels right. (Mrs. A. Vanderveer, Port Colborne, Ont., says: "My baby was cross, restless and had diarrhoea. I gave her Baby's Own Tablets and they helped her almost at once. I think the Tablets a splendid medicine for children.")

The Tablets are untraced to cure all the minor ailments of little ones; they contain no opiate or poisonous drug, and can be given safely to a new born babe. Sold by medicine dealers, or mailed at 52 cents a box by writing to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

ELEPHANTS IN BURMA

In Burma the animal generally used in lumbering operations is the elephant. While "my lord the elephant" solves in a unique way the transportation problem—always a vexatious one in lumbering operations—he does more than that. The stolid and slow moving ox can haul a load from one place to another, but the load has to be made ready for him in the first place, and after it has arrived at its destination it has to be unloaded. The elephant takes care of all these operations. Not only he is a draft animal, but in some instances, at a word from his driver, he picks up a timber, carries it to the designated point, and then not only deposits it where it belongs, but does so with precision and comparative ease, accomplishing a result almost impossible by hand labor, and with less expenditure of time than would be required by a steam crane.

In most cases an elephant driver, or mahout, is required for each elephant, but human labor is so cheap as not to be a factor in the expense. The elephant furnishes the labor which is paid for, and the driver is looked upon as a necessary, though not altogether desirable, concomitant, as the native helper is not so much to be relied upon as his big charge. Optum and the strong brews of native roots work on human frailty, but the elephant has no desire for these. In many big lumbering operations the elephants are seemingly "told" what they are to do in the morning, and in some degree left to carry on the work during the day according to their own devices. Very remarkable are the stories told of their sagacity. One of these stories, vouched for as true, concerns lumbering, and tells of an elephant that was about to pick up a log just as the great gong which signaled the close of the day's work was sounded. To the surprise of the mahout, the log, only a little larger than others which had been carried, proved too heavy for the elephant to lift from the ground. Another elephant was requisitioned, but the two together failed to make any headway with the heavy timber, and the attempt was given up. In the morning the first elephant went immediately to the timber, lifted it with apparent ease, and carried it to the required resting place. Forestry and Irrigation.

The Days of Auld Lang Syne

Interesting Events of Ye Olden Times Gathered from The Planet's Issues of Half a Century Ago.

From Planet files, March 14, 1855, to April 25, 1855.

On March 12th, 1855, Mrs. Thos. Degge, of a son.

Judge Wells presided over the Court of Quarter Sessions on April 3.

The Town Council borrows \$30,000 for public improvements to the Maple City.

The seat of government is to be located at Toronto for the next four years.

The "Canadian," one of the fastest boats on the lakes, was captained by Capt. Eberts.

On March 27 to incorporate the St. Clair, Chatham and Rondeau Railway Company.

Martin Brain charged Elijah Brown with assault and battery—assault proven—fined 1 shilling.

The wedding of George Chrysler, of the firm of J. and G. Chrysler, to Miss Isabella Strong, of Detroit, is recorded.

The Great Western Railway paid the Council \$25 for the use of the Town Hall as a hospital after the Baptiste Creek accident.

Mr. Larwell, M. P., presented a bill The Chatham Theatrical Club organized and gave their first performance on Thursday, April 25.

Messrs. W. & W. Eberts decide to

establish a line of communication from this town to Port Sarnia and Goderich upon opening of navigation. The "Canadian" was the boat to be used.

The ship owners, merchants and traders of the town of Chatham in the county of Kent, petitioned the Legislative Assembly to have the obstructions, caused by St. Clair flats, removed.

Along report of the commissioners appointed to look into the cause of the terrible accident on the Great Western Railway at Baptiste Creek is published, and the commissioners complimented on their report.

The St. George's Society met and elected the following officers:—

G. W. Duck, President.

A. P. Slater, Vice-President.

Wm. Winters, Second Vice-Prs.

Joshua Biles, Treas.

Richard Monck, Secretary.

Rev. Mr. Sandys, Chaplain.

Dr. Cooper, Physician.

Management Committee—John Walton, J. W. Shackleton, Chas. Woods, and Joke Winter.

The largest stick of Oak lumber we have ever heard of, and probably the largest ever cut in the North American Continent, was manufactured by Messrs. Fowler and Kelsey, of Wakeburg, the present winter. It is white oak, fifty-one feet eleven inches in length and squaring forty-one by forty inches, making nearly six hundred cubic feet. It is now lying on the banks of the Sydenham River. This is a big stick and we doubt if it can be beat in Canada or the United States.

HAPPY PHILOSOPHER

Care is to me a feather— If stocks do rise or fall, If the devil's in the weather; Then—the devil take it all!

If trusted Love prove fickle, Let Love still weed his row; If queenly Kate doth scorn me, Let Kate and scorn go!

What need to vex my spirit, With earthly right or wrong, When life's a sweet May morning, And one lies dead so long? —Atlanta Constitution.

How the Lives of Babies Can Be Saved.

Physicians say that the inability of mothers to feed their babies, or lack of knowledge concerning proper food, accounts for nine-tenths of the deaths that occur in summertime.

A babe must succumb to the common hot weather troubles if the mother's milk is poor in quality. Ordinary cow's milk distributed in large cities and towns is, during the hot weather, a source of danger to the little one.

When mother's milk fails in supply and quality, the proper food is nourishing and easily digested lactated Food. The composition of this food should commend it to every mother. It is a perfect substitute for mother's milk and always agrees with the baby. Lactated Food is the great life savor in hot weather. The babies fed on it are always plump, healthy happy. Try it, dear mother, if your child is not thriving; it will give wonderful results. Ask your druggist for it.

I understand your cook has permitted this month to go by without breaking anything.

Oh, you're mistaken.

But your wife said she hadn't broken a single dish.

Exactly; but because of that fact she broke her record.

—If you feel too tired for work or pleasure, take Hood's Sarsaparilla—it cures that tired feeling.

This is a sad world for those who have no humor to their make-up.

LAUNDRY LINES

Flatirons may be cleaned by rubbing them with powdered bath brick moistened with paraffin.

Iron pillowslips lengthwise instead of crosswise if you wish to iron the wrinkles out instead of in.

Never pin delicate materials on the clothesline without placing a piece of clean paper between the fabric and the clothesline.

To wash a lace collar first sew the lace with long stitches upon a double thickness of white dannel, then plunge into warm soapsuds.

Wash fabrics that are inclined to fade should be soaked and rinsed in very salt water to set the color before washing in the suds.

Glycerin is a capital remover of coffee or milk spots from white goods. Paint the stains with the glycerin; then wash out the glycerin with lukewarm rain water.

HOW DOES IT SEEM TO YOU?

It seems to me I'd like to go Where bells don't ring, nor whistles blow.

Nor clocks don't strike, nor gongs don't sound, And I'd have stillness all around.

Not really stillness, but just the trees, Low whispering, or the hum of bees, Or brooks faint babbling over stones In strangely, softly tangled tones.

Or maybe a cricket or katydid, Or the songs of birds in the hedges hid;

Or just some such sweet sounds as these To fill a tired heart with ease.

If 'twere't for sight and sound and smell I'd like a city pretty well, But when it comes to getting rest I like the country lots the best.

Sometimes it seems to me I must Just quit the city's din and dust, And get out where the sky is blue, And say, now, how does it seem to you?

—Eugene Field.

Keep Minard's Livement in the House.

PARIS 1900.

"Superior to Imported Gin because it's old"

A taste of Melchers

RED CROSS

Canadian Gin.

Satisfies that it is the Finest Type of Pure Gin, perfectly matured and mellow.

It's the Only Gin which is distilled, matured for years and bottled in Bonded Warehouses under Government Supervision, and the Only Gin having its age, quality and purity guaranteed on every bottle, by an official government stamp.

BOYK, WILSON & CO., 520 St. Paul St. Montreal.

PARIS 1900.

WE CARRY A LARGE STOCK OF

IRON BEDS SPRINGS AND MATTRESSES

Which we are selling at the lowest prices.

IRON BEDS.... In all designs, 3.25, 4.25, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00 to \$20.00.

SPRINGS.... Strong and durable, 1.50, 2.00, 3.00 and \$5.00.

SPRING COTS.... 1.40, 1.60 and \$2.00.

MATTRESSES.... Clean, sweet smelling and sanitary, 2.50, 3.50, 4.50 up to \$18.00.

H. McDONALD & CO., FURNITURE and CARPETS.

SUPERIOR TO ALL OTHERS.

E. B. EDDY'S

NEW INDURATED FIBREWARE

Tubs, Pails, etc.

FOR SALE BY ALL FIRST-CLASS DEALERS

Insist on Getting Eddy's