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## A Lost Gem

Bertie answered by telling his own story; but it was easy to see that Moncrieff did not in the least believe it. He believed in Kingscott, apparently, and in nobody else. Neither would he credit Bertie's statement that he knew nothing ("or very little"—a damaging qualification) about Molly's meetings with John Hannington. Matters became worse when Bertie, in passionate self-justification, turned upon his uncle and accused him of treachery. Mr. Moncrieff silenced him angrily—all the more angrily because he was certain, from a look in Stella's face, that she trusted Bertie, and not Ralph Kingscott. And then Kingscott smilingly dropped a word or two which seemed innocent enough, but which brought the look of terrified submission back to Bertie's face at once. You had better be quiet for your own sake," Ralph Kingscott said. The words were unintelligible to Stella; they passed unnoticed by Mr. Moncrieff; but they contained a veiled threat that if the boy did not hold his tongue, he, Ralph, would tell his father the story of some money transactions which Bertie was particularly anxious that his father should not know. And so the lad succumbed before the stronger will, and resigned himself to a burden of blame which he did not deserve.

"There is one thing that I have kept to the last," said Moncrieff, when Bertie was silent. He spoke deliberately, but the tightening of the lines about his mouth told their own history of pain. "Do any of you know this ring?"

He held up a little gold ring, with a red stone set in brilliant in the center. "Molly's!" Bertie then glanced at Kingscott, flushed deeply, and was dumb. "Molly's, I believe. I found it in a locked drawer in my study," said his father, gravely. "I suppose it is easy to see that Molly must have been there. To you three, and to you only, will I tell what has occurred. Molly, it seems, would not leave the house without possessing herself of her mother's jewels. They would have been hers in due course. I hardly blame her for that. But this is not all. She has taken papers, representing property to a considerable amount; and—money." His voice grew thick, and his head sank as he spoke. "She knew that she was safe—that she might keep her ill-gotten gains. But I—I would sooner have lain in my grave than been obliged to acknowledge that my daughter—my only daughter—was a thief."

### CHAPTER XXVI.

Bertie sprang to his feet. "It's not true!" he exclaimed, in great agitation. "Molly had lost her ring; it was not Molly who left it there!"

He stopped short. Kingscott's eye was turned upon him. He stood, panting and trembling, unable, apparently, to utter another word.

"Do you," he said to his father, slowly, "do you know anything of this, Bertie?" He raised his eyes and fixed them steadfastly on his son's face as he spoke.

"No!" cried the lad, almost angrily. "I know nothing of it. I should I know? All I say is, that if you find Molly on the ground that her ring was found in your drawer, you condemn her on very insufficient evidence. But you always suspect us of wrong, and you always suspect us of wrong."

"And have I never been justified in my suspicions?" said the father. He did not speak sternly, but in slow, sad tones, as of one who had just lost all hope. "I did not think so, Bertie," he said, laying the ring on the table, and leaning his head wearily on his hands; "but it seems that I have never understood my children."

An odd little silence fell upon the group. Nobody could comfort him. They all looked at him for a minute or two, as if he were a stranger for whom nothing could be done; and then Stella's heart went out to him in a rush of passionate love which she would have given worlds to express. She ventured to touch his shoulder with one tender little hand, but he took no notice of the mute caress. He rose up suddenly, indeed, as if he wished to shake it off, and Stella, turning rather pale, felt that he was resolved against consolation from her. He blamed her in part for his misfortune, and oh, she said to herself, she had indeed been to blame. It was Bertie who broke the pause.

He had become first red and then white as his father's words fell on his ear; but his eye did not flinch, and a look of strong determination had settled upon his face. He stood, grasping the back of a chair with his hand, as if he wanted support; but the appearance of extreme agitation had suddenly disappeared. He was now calm, but firm. Kingscott glared at him angrily from his pillows, but Bertie would not look at him. The spell was broken; the lad's spirit was free.

"You have been justified—you have never been unjust," he said, quickly. "Rather it is I who have never understood you; I have been afraid to trust you as I ought to have done. If you will try to believe me—I know it will be hard—I will never hide anything from you again."

"What have you hidden hitherto?" said Alan, catching at once with the suspiciousness that seemed to have become part of his nature at the hint of

something concealed. His brow did not lighten as he looked at his son.

"Several things of which I am ashamed," said Bertie, straightening his shoulders and looking his father full in the face. "I have debts, sir, that I had no business to contract, in the town. I have gambled and lost money, and, what is worse, I—I was mad, I think—I altered a check that you gave me three months ago. I turned eight into eighty—it was easy to do—and I yielded to the temptation because I was so distressed for money at the time."

He ceased, looking very white, but retaining the determined expression which, as Stella had often noticed, gave him so strong a likeness to his father. Kingscott's face was livid, but for the moment nobody noticed him. It was the effect of this confession upon Alan Moncrieff which absorbed the attention of his wife and son, who knew so well the exceeding bitterness of the cup of humiliation that he was being made to drink.

He reeled as if struck a heavy blow. His face, which had been pale before, was now of an ashen-grey. "It can't be true! It can't be true!" he murmured to himself.

"It certainly cannot be true," said Kingscott sharply. "Bertie must be raving. At any rate, exaggerating strangely. Take care what you are saying, boy." And then, in a rapid undertone, which did not reach the ear of the unhappy father, he added: "Do you want to kill your father outright by your ill-timed confession?"

"Better that Bertie should speak the truth once and for all, Mr. Kingscott," said Stella, firmly. "His father will be less hurt in the end by a frank acknowledgment of wrong-doing than by concealment." The look that passed between Ralph's eyes and hers was one of declaration of war. "Speak out, dear Bertie, and let us hear the whole truth. Your father can bear it—can you not, Alan?" And you will forgive him by and bye.

"I must bear it, I suppose," said Alan, with a grim, set look like a rock. "I know it is hard to know that both my children—both—" He could not finish his sentence.

"Not Molly," said Bertie, quickly. "I am sure you may trust Molly—she is not like me."

The genuine shame and contrition in his manner moved Stella to pity, but did not seem to affect his father in the least. "Speak for yourself," he said coldly. "Leave Molly's name alone. You altered the figures in a check, you say; you got the money; how was it that I did not know? I surely must have noticed the discrepancy between the sum in the check and the counterfoil."

He stopped short; some notion of his own carelessness in these matters crossed his mind. He turned abruptly to the bed where Kingscott lay.

"Ralph," he said almost appealingly, "explain this. It must have gone through your hands. You must know."

The beads of perspiration were standing on Kingscott's brow. He was furious, and yet he was afraid. "Know? He had known all along. It was he, indeed, who had first suggested the alteration in the check, and had helped Bertie to carry out his fraud successfully. Hitherto he had procured Bertie's co-operation in many projects, by threatening to reveal the true history of the unlovely check. Now Bertie had thrown him over; well, he could play the same game, and, as he thought to himself, he should probably play it very much better than Bertie had ever done.

(To be Continued.)

### The Genuine Merit

Of Hood's Sarsaparilla, which friends wherever it is fairly and honestly tried, know to be the best health you must have pure blood, and the best way to have pure blood is to take Hood's Sarsaparilla, the best blood purifier and strength builder. It expels all taint of scrofula, salt, and all other humors, and at the same time builds up the whole system.

Hood's Pills are prompt and efficient. 25c

Spoons—And will my ducky trust me in everything when we are married? She—Everything, Alsy, provided you don't ask for a night key.

Worms cause feverishness, moaning and restlessness during sleep. Mother Graves' Worm Expeller is pleasant, sure and effectual. It is a drugless cure for all worms, and at the same time builds up the whole system.

Customer—Why do you call this electric cake? Baker's Boy—I s'pose becuz it has currants in it. Nothing impure or injurious contaminates the popular antidote to pain, throat and lung remedy and general corrective, Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. It may be used without the slightest apprehension of any other than the salutary consequences. Coughs, rheumatism, earaches, bruises, cuts and sores succumb to its action.

"Yes," said the tree, "I suppose I am ready, so far as my trunk goes, but I've decided not to leave until spring."

The Best Cough Cure  
Is Shiloh's Cure. A neglected cough is dangerous. Stop it at once with Shiloh's Cure. For sale by W. T. Strong.

When a man refers to a woman as an old flame of his you can generally gamble that he has been fired.

Karl's Clover Root Tea.  
A sure cure for headache and nervous diseases. Nothing relieves so quickly. For sale by W. T. Strong.

JOKES mb mbmbm bm bmbmbmm  
It is estimated by engineers that the leakage from the gas pipes of London equals nine per cent of the total manufacture.

A Natural Beautifier  
Karl's Clover Root Tea purifies the blood and gives a clear and beautiful complexion. For sale by W. T. Strong.

Coal—Wood.  
Messrs. Bowman & Co. beg to inform their customers and the public that they have appointed Frank E. Clarke, 416 Richmond, as their agent. He will continue to take orders for coal and wood, best birch and maple blocks, \$4 50; half cord, \$2 25; quarter cord, \$1 12 1/2. Mr. Clarke will also continue the ticket and exchange business at the old stand.

New Drug Store.—Anything you want in the drug line. Telephone No. 1013, at C. Symonds', chemist and druggist, 461 Dufferin avenue, corner Maitland street.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.—Having put in the latest improvement to our steam leather renovator, we are prepared to clean boots and mattresses from \$1 upwards. Work done as good as new.—JAMES F. HUNT, 593 Richmond street north. Telephone 907.

Locomotive engineers and others requiring the finest possible time in a watch will find that C. H. Ward, jeweler, keeps the best. The most complete watches repaired satisfactorily. 374 Richmond street, opposite Masonic Temple.

J. W. STRONG, 333 Simcoe street, does papering and sign painting at very reasonable prices.

All modern dental operations performed. DR. ZIEGLER, dentist, 192 1-3 Dundas street, London.

### THORNDALE

May 8.—G. H. Kershaw of Albert College, has returned to spend the holidays at home.

The E. L. of C. E., recently organized, are doing good work. Each night finds an increase of membership. Their earnest spirit is manifest not only in their spiritual and social work, but also in the secular relations. They are preparing to rearrange the Sunday school room in the rear of the church. The woodwork will be painted, the floors recarpeted, new plumb erected, and resealed with chrys, besides minor improvements. A grand reopening service and entertainment will take place shortly.

The fourth quarterly meeting of the board of Thorndale circuit was held in the Methodist Church here a Monday afternoon, May 6. The meeting was most harmonious. A most hearty and unanimous call was extended to the present ministers, Revs. E. Kershaw and H. J. Uren, to remain another year. The year has been a most prosperous one in every respect, and the board expressed their high appreciation of the services rendered and urged the delegates to insist on the return of these brethren.

Mr. Joseph Walker has purchased the Logan village property now occupied by John Probyn. Mr. Walker will make some changes in the arrangement of the house. He intends adding another story and remodeling generally.

### MOUNT BRIDGES

(Advertiser Agent, T. Pease, P.M.)  
May 8.—A lot of property changed hands this spring in our village. Mr. Vesle, sen., has purchased the property of Mr. B. A. Fisher and has built a good brick addition and cellar.

Mr. W. A. Trott has purchased the property formerly owned and occupied by the late Mrs. Bond, sen. Carpenter and painters have completely transformed it into a beautiful home.

Mr. Ed. Henderson, our popular tinsmith, has purchased the Mill property. He is going to tear down part and rebuild. Only a very few of buildings are left now to remind us of other days.

A. H. Blackaby, P.G.P., of Gat. general agent of the Oddfellows Relief Association of Kingston, was in the village yesterday. He visited Amity Encampment and exemplified the secret work.

The Oddfellows will attend divine service next Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Rev. Bro. Lowe, of Glencoe, will preach. A large number are expected from London, Strathroy and Glencoe.

### GLENCOE

(Advertiser Agent, John McNeil)  
May 8.—W. J. Tremmer, B.A., principal of the high school, is to be one of the examiners at Toronto for the midsummer examinations.

The football match on Saturday next between Glencoe and Ingersoll promises to be most interesting. The home team have been practicing steadily throughout the week, and hope to line up in better shape and to better effect than on Saturday last.

Mr. James Stevenson is moving into his new dwelling on Victoria street this week.

Fall wheat and spring crops are looking remarkably well in the vicinity of Glencoe. Farmers declare that here never was a better outlook for a successful harvest than the present one.

Miss B. Orange is visiting friends in Napier this week.

Rev. Mr. Hamilton, of Alvinston, and Rev. W. Brown, B.D., of the Methodist Church here, will exchange pulpits on Sunday next, both morning and evening. The former will preach special services to the members of the Epworth League.

The family of Mrs. J. Orange will remove to Bothwell next week.

Mr. John Haytee is but slowly recovering from an attack of inflammation. Mrs. Dobie, an elderly lady, who resides with Mr. Dan Graham, had the misfortune to break her arm while entering the Presbyterian Church on Sunday evening last. The arm was set by Dr. Walker, and the patient is doing nicely.

During the severe storm on Tuesday, lightning struck the arm of Mr. Dan Haggerty, of Moss, and without damage to the barn in its passage to the ground, struck and killed a valuable cow.

### A GREAT CELEBRITY.

Dodd's Kidney Pills Extensively Used in Collingwood and District.

Collingwood, May 9.—There are fewer sufferers from severe rheumatism in Collingwood this year than ever before, and the fact has been much commented on. Several theories have been broached to account for this, but the one most generally accepted is the general use of Dodd's Kidney Pills, which obtained a great celebrity in this section of the country when Mr. Valentine Fisher, of this town, made such a remarkable discovery through their use.

The particulars of the case became widely known, with the result that the remedy came into general use, and produced the most beneficial results.

### THE TARIFF WALL.

Victoria, B.C., May 8.—A petition was telegraphed to the Government at Ottawa today by representative canning firms having their headquarters in Victoria, asking that the Canadian tariff be amended to enable salmon and other fish of similar character to be imported free into the Dominion.

The petition is the outcome of the recent decision of the board of general appraisers of New York, to the effect that these fish are fresh water fish, and as such are entitled to free entry into the United States.

The immediate local effect of this order is that while American canners of Point Roberts, Blaine and neighboring towns of Washington can now get salmon from British Columbia free of duty, canners under the Canadian laws must pay half a cent per pound duty, equal to 4 or 5 cents on each salmon for any fish they get from the United States.

As Parmelee's Vegetable Pills contain Mandrake and Dandelion, they cure Liver and Kidney complaints with unerring certainty. They also contain Roots and Herbs which have specific virtues truly wonderful in their action on the stomach and bowels. Mr. E. A. Calmrose, Sakspeare, writes: "I consider Parmelee's Pills an excellent remedy for Biliousness and Derangement of the Liver, having used them myself for some time."

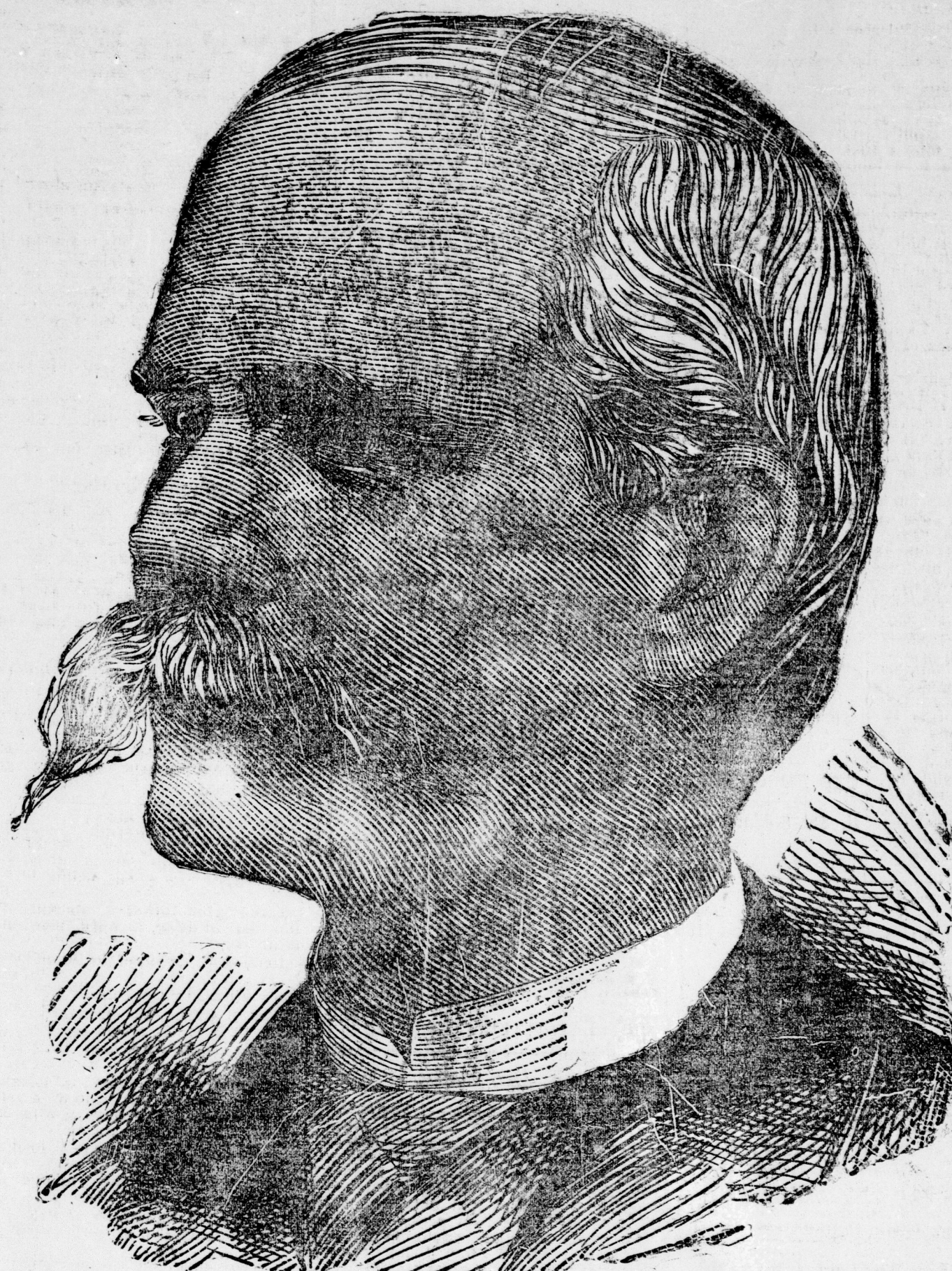
Locomotive engineers and others requiring the finest possible time in a watch will find that C. H. Ward, jeweler, keeps the best. The most complete watches repaired satisfactorily. 374 Richmond street, opposite Masonic Temple.

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## JOHN NEWTON WILLIAMS

Eminent Inventor of the Williams Typewriter Owes Strength and Health to Paine's Celery Compound.



The old-time visionary inventor has given place to the practical, hard-working professional inventor of today. The successful inventor must now be a business man as well as a man of mechanical ideas.

The high tension of the nervous system, often kept up for months and months, makes tremendous drafts on the health of those busy brain workers. Many succumb to nervous prostration when they seem just on the point of surmounting every difficulty.

Of all the countless useful recent inventions none has passed through so many or so rapid a course of improvement as the typewriter. Today, the Williams Typewriter, which represents a vast amount of cumulative invention.

Many of the best commercial houses and large corporations in Canada are now using the Williams Typewriter. This perfected machine has also been adopted by some departments of the British and Canadian Governments.

John Newton Williams, its inventor, was born in 1845, in Brooklyn, New York. He spent his early manhood on the western frontier. Subsequently he became known as one of the most successful stock breeders in the State.

But it is as an inventor that he has won his national reputation. Several were made useful and important inventions by the Williams typewriter, a machine that probably exceeds all others in the most important features.

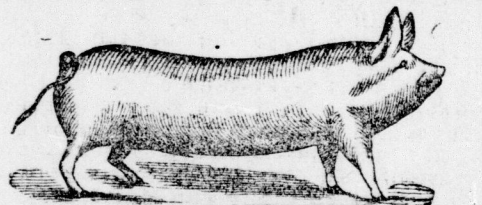
Mr. Williams, speaking of the labor expended in bringing the machine that bears his name to its present perfection, says:

"Some four years ago, when engaged in experimental work on the 'Williams,' I was putting in about sixteen hours per day of hard work and worry, and I became near breaking down. Although very particular and regular in my habits and careful about eating, my stomach troubled me. It was difficult to eat, and more difficult to digest and assimilate my food, my stomach acting in sympathy with an over-worked

brain. A friend had sent some Paine's Celery Compound to one of my business associates, and knowing him personally and seeing what it did for him, I thought I would try it. I commenced taking it before meals, and it at once stimulated my appetite and aided digestion. I took two bottles and was much benefited.

Again, two years later, I was troubled with nervousness and indigestion, and again took Paine's Celery Compound with great benefit. My wife, after her long illness last summer, and severe nervous prostration, and some trouble from indigestion, concluded to try Paine's Celery Compound a few weeks ago, and she is now taking it with steady improvement. Several of my friends have taken it on my recommendation, and are now practical believers in its great restorative powers. I have found the Celery Compound a tonic and restorative that I could lean upon with confidence in time of trouble."

Paine's Celery Compound makes people well! As a spring remedy it is unsurpassed.



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LAWN HOSE  
Best Four-Ply, at

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ARTIFICIAL LIMBS. SURGICAL appliances and supports for deformities of all kinds. I have had 25 years' experience and the limb I now make is second to none. All work guaranteed. Write for terms before purchasing elsewhere. JOHN BOYD, Lucknow, Ont.

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Say it is now transformed into the brightest day of the week. It does not injure the finest fabrics, nor the hands.

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