ARE THERE GHOSTS IN THE HISTORIC CATACOMBS OF PARIS? WEIRD HAPPENINGS AT THE CRISES OF THE FRENCH NATION

silent, empty streets beneath her sur- to them have from 80 to 240 steps. face. Only when a periodical cave-in occurs does the world hear of that obscure realm beneath the capital-the catacombs of Paris.

Except today. Today the Latin Quarter whispers

The wagon! The rumbling, thun-

You understand, it is a city down there, vast, unknown. Paris has always been built up from stone found underneath her soil. The soft, creamy tle the galleries grew and met each

Nobody knows it now. Up to the welfth century the palaces, churches, public and larger private buildings were built from the catacombs quarried under 1,500 acres of the present surface in three well-known groupsunder the Gobelins, under the Latin Quarter, and, on the other side, the whole Trocadero quarter. If you would have an idea of their extent here is a fact. The isolated group under the Jardin des Plantes dates from Roman times. In Dunkel's "Topography and Consolidation" it is said to communicate with the far-off Latin Quarter catacombs; yet no map of the engin-

Elaborate plans made 50 years ago by Delesse and Lefeb re de Fourcy were burned with the Hotel de Ville in 1871. Only partially made over by the ancient quarries service, they have never been published. Dunkel's book, incomplete and reduced, remains the only guide for real estate buyers. They have often queer surfaces. A

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secretly. Your money will be refunded filled shelvings. Then, beyond, in me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, if, after a trial, it has failed to benefit. darkness, it leads on, on, for miles—and I sent and got a supply. In Costs only \$1 a box. Come in and get to the realm of the "neighbors."

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-your razor needs

Haunts of Mushroom Growers. Next to the inspectors and their workmen of the curious old Subterranean Guild, those who know most about the catacombs of Paris, are the mushroom growers. Ask for grilled mushrooms in mushroom-loving Paris, dering, unseen, awful wagon dashing down there through the black and hollow ways, that chills the hearts of mushroom growers with blind dread!

Well, a recent report of the mushroom syndicate refers to "40 members quality lies deep. Once down there they followed the veins. Little by litventilation and heating. Ventilation other. As the upper city grew the lower labyrinth became forgotten clean, dry, empty, down there! Already in digging them, old water-seekers times—when "safety began struck a quarry, they just let themfifty feet underground"—the network selves down into it by a rope—and fifty feet underground"—the network selves down into it by a rope—and reason. They dug a stairway of 170 was a realm of mystery, hiding flight that much work reined. See from the stair was a stairway of 170 steps, which still exists. Hundreds that much work gained. Seen from of masons worked months preparing the catacombs, such wells look like pillars and masonry to bolster up the isolated pillars-or, more often, simple holes in floor and ceiling. In either case the mushroom growers have only to clean out the choked-up air shaft d'Enfer, close to the Students' Ball to the surface.

from the dark "farm" of such a mushroomer off the antique Hollow street and near the Tombe Isord. He is 185 feet. They lead to the upper Guesclin, well-to-do, morose and silent, gallery, wide enough for 30 men to a dark man. His farmhand, Gideon, told first of the accursed passing.

Gideon was planting spores toward 9 there. He heard a kind of far-off rumbling, and at first he thought it was the subway-yet they never hear the subway down there; it is much too high above them. Slowly it grew louder and less distinct. And it suddenly dawned on the mind of Gideon that the phenomenon was extraordinary, inexplicable, impossible! Far off there was some thing coming up the black ways, not like a train, but a noise of jarring, bumping shocks like wood on stone; and mingling with it, echoing in the darkness, hollow clacking of rude footsteps! Gideon's blood chilled with an unknown horror. He ran for the stairway-just in time, because the rumbling grew to be a roar, the roar deafening uproar, and there thundered past him a black shape amid a veritable pandemonium of nameless noises. Stupidly he heard the rumble of it growing fainter in the district He struck a light and glanced at his

"For many years I was troubled second cellar, for a christening party upon is Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for It was a clumsy, wooden wagon, "For many years I was troubled second cellar, for a christening party with Rheumatism, also with Bright's close to midnight. "Woman, shut Disease of the Kidneys. I suffered awfully. Tried many advertised remendation. Soon the narrow, ancient street awfully. Tried many advertised remendation. It was a clumsy, wooden wagon, made of a rough, very heavy, ancient make new blood, and new blood means health and strength. The red cheeks, health and strength. The red cheeks, quarry roller, used—who knows when? dies. After using your truly remarkable preparation, RHEUMA, I was fully cured."—Prof. C. J. Budlong, Sound View, Conn.

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Both have grimy little shops, mil-Mrs. R. Steele, Atton Road, F. E. Strong & Co., who sell it for 50 cents about the stairs," right through the second cellar had to call in a doctor. He told me stairs," right through the second cellar had to call in a doctor. He told me Wives floor, down, down, some 80, 90 or 100 that my blood had turned to water steps, you strike a broad domain, of spacious galleries intersecting in round He treated me four months, but still the You know the terrible affliction that domes and oval; and the man of the pain remained, and my condition was comes to many homes from the result mean shop, upstairs, is lord of broad, growing pitiable. I lost my appetite, of a drinking husband or son. You know of the money wasted on "Drink" lighted—except when they plant that is needed in the home to purchase food and clothing. ORRINE has ness. For a quarter of a mile the saved thousands of drinking men. It broadest avenue is lighted, warmed but little hopes of my getting better, is a home treatment and can be given and lined with three tiers of earth-

ers under Henri III., they have been

Paris is ancient, mysterious — with wall may shift without notice! In in. Particularly 'round 1774 such another old, forgotten city of dark, ed; and the stairways leading down longed rains and much new building, came to be so dangerous that a royal inspection of ancient quarries was appointed-which has still its offices in the Place Denfert-Rochereau.

Researches starting from a house that went down bodily, disclosed that the streets of entire wards were in danger of sinkings. The royal inspection consolidated the streets, but refused to consolidate private properties; and thus great stretches of the leeper catacombs, particularly, were left open and communicating, strengthening here and there by pillars, according to the fancy

owners. Old Stairway Still Exists.

As a centre for consolidation the commission bought a very ancient fortified mansion in its walled grounds called the Tombe Isord, on the old high road to Orleans, the Hollow street (Vole Creuse), so named for a goo roofs of antique quarries.

There are three entrances. The best known is that beside the Barriere The second is that of Tombe Isord. So the whole dark adventure starts The third is on the plain of Montsouris. The narrow stairways permit march abreast. To right and left at intervals are other galleries, going off to unknown distances under the o.m.—all hours are the same down Faubourgs Saint-Jacques and Saint-

Germain, All this work 100 years ago, suggested the idea to utilize the catacombs solidified. How use them? There the dead. The ancient cemetery of awful! the Innocents in Central Paris was a dangerous and wasteful eyesore. They unparalleled, transported all its bodies to the cata-

THIN-BLOODED

Williams' Pink Pills Actually Make.

watch. It was two minutes after midnight!

Stories Told of Strange Noises.

Guesclin did not like the story. He was more disgusted when his nearest rival, an Alsatian named Gutzwiller.

Thin-blooded people do not the strange of the control of the heart, some difficulty in breathing and a tendency to be easily tired his wife to religious from the load. They Thin-blooded people do not permitted his wife to whisper of "un- are suffering from thin blood. They natural noises," "worse than human," need only the resolution to take the on a horrid stretch of scattered bones how her servant, Melie, dropped the right treatment and stick to it until and miles of debris, which extended to beer which she was drawing in the cured. The remedy that can be relied a dome-where a strange object stood. about a month after beginning their use I had much relief, and by the time Realm of mystery, in the old days I had taken six more boxes I was when "safety began 50 feet below fully cured and felt as well as ever I

ground," lair of the Skinners in the did in my life. I have never had a time of Jeanne d'Arc, the trades unions twinge of the pain since, and feel that of the middle ages, the Free Livers of I owe my life to Dr. Williams' Pink the Coeur des Miracles, the Red Fingers Pills, as they cured me after the docunder Francis I., and the House Mark- tor had failed." Sold by all medicine dealers or sent abandoned now for centuries, to- by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by The Dr. Williams' Medi-Long ago the weaker surfaces caved cine Company, Brockville, Ont.

ZOT needs
3-in-One oil

LADY SYBIL GRANT, Lord Rosebery's eldest daughter, who has just published a clever satirical book, "Founded On Fiction." She is also the author of two other books, "Samphire," and the "Chequer Board." She is the wife of Captain C. J. Cecil Grant, of the Coldstream Guards.

half a mile is shown. But the dead masons were more than a hundred go on, on, for miles, neglected, cluttering up, where none but workmen of the subterranean guild have ventured.

Here sleep the dead of Paris of all hair hung from the concrete head. A of death, Merovingian kings keep the wagon-full of human bones. silence beside victims of the commune of 1871. Valois, Bourbons, Orleans, not plously arranged, like those that

the mushroom growers. Few People Venture In. It is a trip of dark miles, amid crumbling pillars, partial cave-ins and unknown horrors, never ventured but infrequently by workmen of the Sub-terranean Gulld, some twenty obscure specialists commanded by three engineers and an inspector general. From father to son, this crowd has kept the

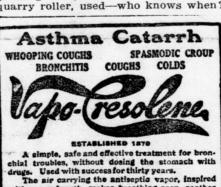
old job of the royal commission. Dwellers on the threshold! Though mere journeymen masons, they pick their own work. They pass their lives pottering about, exploring, hunting weak spots under streets and running up new pillars. They have traced black lines by which they find their way through labyrinths of intersection, turning galleries emptying into vast domes from which five streets may start, to unknown distances, without plans, as the ancient quarrymen followed the best quality

of building stone. Only these men know the catacombs—in part. From father to son, they have kept the old traditions of is only one use, as in Rome, to store the catacombs-and some of them are

All right. "Upstairs," in a mean street of the Latin Quarter, gossips whispered, pointing to the mushroom shops of Guesclin and Gutwiller. Rumor spread. Wherever there were mushroom growers, from the Pantheon to the Lion of Belfort, and from the Park of Montsouris to Montparnasse, they talked of anarchists, counterfeiters and clandestine printing presses, and revived old legends of the "witches' Sabbath," the "Black Rider" Need the Rich. Red Blood Dr. and the "Hound Pack of the Catacombs," who come up to seek their food in Paris by night. All of which tales were silenced by the finding of the wagon.

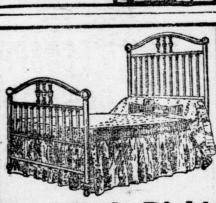
> It exists, the wagon! It seems that a dozen young men

Nearly two miles distant they came



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combs thus fixed up for them. And —to transport big blocks of stone. Its packing case," said the old man. "The cried—and fied in horror, as Paris spread and crowded, one by wooden tongue was held by something greatest kings of France are in it." | "The next day." said the one each ancient cemetery was trans- yet more inexplicable—a human figure These are the catacombs which tourists visit. A short stretch of blouse and soft felt hat such as the

ages. Vague multitudes, great nobles, knowing, leering smile was on the canonized saints, robbers hanged at smooth-shaven lips, as the "young Montfaucon. In the confused equality workingman of Paris" seemed to pull Yes, it is full of bones. They are

Stuarts mix with beggars from the tourists see upon the walls, when they Cour des Miracles and 9,000 victims of go down the steps beside the Barriere the massacre of Saint Bartholomew. d'Enfer. They were piled into the Such are the far-off "neighbors" of wagon, helter-skelter, with contempt. Strangely moved, the young men finally went past it on their exploration. After wading through mud, clambering over partial cave-ins, and past an abandoned work of masonry, they came finally to the clean galleries lined with decorative bones,

tourists visit. And they whispered to each other. "It was the one thing that could have rolled or moved!" they whispered. Who had made it? What for? Why were the bones dumped in it contemptuously?

Standing in the recess of a dom which none may visit, why was it surrounded by this mess of rusty picks and troweis, old beds of mortar, blocks of stone and scattered debris-signs of fleeing workmen who had never never come back?

An old mason of the inspection ther gave out his story. You can put the two together—if you wish to. He had heard it from his father, who had heard it from his father-and so on, back to the revolution, when they sacked the royal vaults at Saint Denis and scattered the bones of the kings of France

Kings' Bodies Not All Replaced. The restoration claimed to have found and replaced some of the kings. "But not all," said the gray-haired mason-which is quite correct histori-

The riflers of the royal tombs were grim king haters. They conceived it a grim joke to make off with the most illustrious kings of France as trophies. Where dispose them? Evidently in the catacombs, where the trades unions had long enjoyed safe retreat. Affiliated to the masons of the royal inspection, their meeting place was in this dome, beyond the safe, clean galleries newly decorated with the bones from Paris cemeteries. "They transported the kings in that

FLORAL MEMORIAL TO VEN-**ERABLE HYMN WRITER**



Special Correspondence.

Bridgeport, Conn., Feb. 20.-A chain of letters that will encircle the world has been started by the Fanny Crosby Circle of King's Daughters, asking people in all parts of the world to pay tribute to the blind hymn writer, Fanny Crosby, by wearing a cluster of violets on her birthday anniversary, March 24. Mrs. Crosby will be 94. She has been blind since childhood. Among the well-known hymns that have made her name immortal are "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," "Rescue the Perishing," and 'Saved by Grace."



HOURS: 10 to 8.30 onsultation Personally or by Letter FREE

Someone set the packing case upon a quarry roller. Someone modeled sad defeat in Belgium!" the rude "working boy of Paris" in the attitude of dragging royalty where

he pleased. Quick! Time passed. Then, one night when a lodge had its meeting it was noticed that the "working boy" and his "wagonload of kings" had disappeared. Far off they heard a low rumble. Slowly it grew londer and less distant. It was something coming up the black ways with a noise of jarring, bumping, shocks like stone and wood. And mingling with it, echoing in the darkness, was a hollow clanking of rude footsteps! Their blood chilled with unknown horror. And the rumbling became a roar, the roar a deafening uproar, as



onsider your

"Paris heard of the republic's armies The noise was heard when Napoleon

It was heard for Charles X, Louis-Philippe and Napoleon III.
"War and revolution," said the gray-haired mason, "war and revolu-

But the mushroomers continue. MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES

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roar, the roar a deafening uproar, as there thundered past them a black shape!

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