

**MISS PLUMY MOXON'S CAT.**  
BY ROSE TERRY.

Simeon Baggs had a good figure, and a handsome face; that its expression was acute, sly, stony was not visible to Amelia Harding, the daughter of a small Georgia planter, left at twenty, mistress of six slaves and a little money and land. Simeon Baggs applied for the vacant post of overseer on her place, improved and increased its crops, worked her negroes with proverbial Yankee cruelty, and made love to her between time. So she married him, spent twenty miserable years and died, leaving behind her six ill-behaved children.

Simeon was a "long headed" man, to use the phrase of his own people, and perceiving clouds on the horizon he thought best to find shelter before they gathered overhead: his plantation was sold and thrown in to the next one, he had money invested in Northern securities and he bethought himself of Hilldale, where before long he found himself and all his half-wild progeny settled in an old farm house, beyond Miss Moxon's some quarter of a mile, and up the grass-grown road of which we have spoken. But six untamed Georgia children the oldest a girl of eighteen, set down at once in the midst of frugal New England proprieties and cleanlinesses, make a little chaos of their own, of course. Confusion, dirt, squalor, and general quarrelling ensued; nobody would live there as "help," and matters generally became so unendurable, that Mr. Baggs after much inward meditation, decided to marry again, and began to look about him to that end. Now in his youth he had had a sort of mild flirtation with Miss Plumy Moxon, then a demure, pretty, still, young girl; and since he came back he had renewed the acquaintance so far as a neighborly call or two went, and she had been to see his daughter "Mely" and offer friendly help. The exquisite neatness of her dear little spinster's house, her gentle manner, her placid face, all recurred to the irritated soul of Simeon like a soothing psalm-tune, and his attentions became more and more devoted, he called so often, he talked so plausibly, his eyes were so penetrating, his smile so keenly tender—Ah! what shall I say for Miss Plumy? What but the most pathetic thing can I say—she was a lonely woman! All her life had drifted away in serene monotony, its springs slept under sands like the desert. If at last they leaped up and sparkled under human power, was it a wonder that bloom and perfume and verdure spread about them? You and I have chanced on the right word—verdure Miss Plumy was verdant, more so at forty-five, Matilda, than you were at ten; and she began to feel in an unspeakable way the power of a late, a last, affection. There are some plants that never blossom till after a long growth, but then to bear fruit to good old age. Such was poor Miss Plumy's nature; but habits and training were against her; the implanted virtues are stronger in age than the natural ones, and when Miss Plumy once became sure of Simeon Baggs's intention she withdrew herself into her shell to consider, to examine, to make quite sure that she should "better herself," as she phrased it, by accepting him. These were certainly circumstances against him; his children were rude almost to violence, his manner overbearing to all his inferiors, he himself bitterly unpopular in the village already, though he had money and was a church-member both indisputable passports to consideration in New England, peculiarly so when existing in combination. All these Miss Plumy's tender nature could have excused and overlooked in consideration of his deepening devotion to her and her own awakening human nature; but there was one mightily suspicious thing about him,—animals never liked him. His own dog, even while it fawned upon his hand looked upward askance, as if it feared a blow; his horse pricked suspicious ears and cast a wicked look about at the sound of his voice. He allowed the children to ravage birds' nests, to trap and torture squirrels, to beat the dog and over-drive the horse; but worst and last of all, coming into Miss Plumy's parlor one day in a fit of irritation, and finding Beauty in the rocking-chair with her kittens, (Miss Plumy having just shut to the south-door blinds to sweep the doorstep so he did not see her) with one sweep of his hand cat and kittens were suddenly landed on the floor, and when Beauty, furious at the indignity, flew at him and fastened her teeth in his leg, with a deep curse and a heavy kick he sent her spinning across the room right into her mistress's face, just as she opened the blind-door to interfere. Human nature was too much for Miss Plumy, broomstick in

hand, with the spitting cat clasped in the other arm, she advanced upon Simeon white and speechless from pure anger, and the first words she could utter were simply—"Go away: go right away, Simeon Baggs! and don't you ever come back, never!"

Mr Baggs took the advice directly the case was plain before him; and if Miss Plumy shed any hot tears as she swept down her castle in the air with a spiritual broom, finding it to be but cobwebs, nobody knew it. She did say to Beauty some months after, when Simeon Baggs had left town to avoid being tarred and feathered as a secessionist by the frantic patriots of Hilldale, and she sat placidly in the sunshine caressing her pet—

"I sha'n't forget it of you, Beauty! You done me good service; you was a kind of an angel, 'nd kep me from havin' a real bad fall, I do declare. I'm p'dful thankful to the Lord, I'm sure, but I'm proper glad you was the means, for you're all I've got now, Beauty, and I love you better'n ever I thought to!"

Beauty jumped down and shook her splendid coat at this speech. She did not understand sentiment; and it was a dry hot day, but what were those clear drops that flew from her gold and jet side as she lit on the floor? Cats do not like water.

Beauty still lives; old age has laid hold upon her, and she is stone deaf; but her eyes are still beautiful, her manners the height of elegance, her fur resplendent, her mind acute, and she still creates the great perplexity of dear Miss Plumy's life by presenting her not infrequently with a kitten or two that must be drowned. The poor lady had tried poison—at least so far as to buy a good deal and put it in the pie; she experimented with chloroform, but they would kick, "physicians were in vain." At last a bland-looking Irishman took a perpetual lease of the job, and now the kittens always go off in a pretty little cigar-box tied with red ribbon, and are seen no more. Need I say that Miss Plumy's faithful heart still clings to her cat so fervently and so constantly, that if you ever should contrive to get married, Matilda, I offer her to you as an example of fidelity and devotion, worthy of all imitation. "And what more can I say?" she said.

**W. BELL & CO.,**  
GUELPH ONT.  
PRIZE MEDAL

**Cabinet Organs!**  
**AND MELODEONS,**  
Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers of "THE ORGANETTE," containing Scribner's Patent Qualifying Tubes.

**Awarded the Only Medal,**  
Ever given to makers of Reed Instruments at Provincial Exhibitions.

**FOR PROFICIENCY IN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**  
Besides Diplomas and First Prizes at other Exhibitions too numerous to specify.

Our Instruments are acknowledged by musicians and Judges to be the finest yet produced. Our latest and most valuable improvement is the "Organette," containing Scribner's Patent Qualifying Tubes, the effect of which are to nearly double the power, at the same time rendering the tone smooth and pipe-like. By this wonderful invention we can make an instrument of nearly double the power of a pipe Organ at half the expense.

**CAUTION.**  
As we have purchased the sole right of manufacturing Scribner's Patent Qualifying Tubes for the Dominion of Canada, we hereby caution all parties from purchasing them elsewhere, as they will be liable to prosecution. We have copyrighted the name of the "ORGANETTE."  
For our instruments containing this wonderful improvement. Any manufacturer infringing on this copyright will be prosecuted.  
Illustrated Catalogues furnished by addressing  
**W. BELL & CO.,**  
Guelph.

**CONFEDERATION**  
**LIFE ASSOCIATION**  
**OF CANADA.**

HEAD OFFICE, MASONIC HALL, TORONTO.  
CAPITAL \$500,000.  
Stock and Mutual Plans Combined.  
Deposited with Dominion Government for Security of POLICY-HOLDERS, \$50,000.

OFFICERS:  
PRESIDENT—SIR FRANCIS HINCES, K. C.  
M. G., Finance Minister of Canada.  
VICE-PRESIDENTS—HON. W. M. P. HOWLAND, C. B., Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.  
HON. W. M. McLELLAN, President Canadian Bank of Commerce.  
Issued—Over 500 Policies first half year.  
This Association issues all the most approved forms of Policies—all non-forfeiting by charter, is a principle of non-fortuitous more favourable to assured than that of any other company.  
A strong Company when combines strength of capital, character and local influence and provides life insurance at the lowest safe rates without delusive promises of dividends, making a good dividend certain by decreasing the premium.  
By its organization it enables its policy-holder to deal with his own neighbors, stockholders in the Company,—men whom he knows will do justice to his family after he is dead, and also provides that his funds will be invested to develop the resources of his own country and locality.  
A Company with Capital enough and breadth enough to be safe beyond question with national extent and prestige, and yet a home Company throughout the Dominion.  
The fullest information will be cheerfully furnished on application to  
**WILLIAM McCABE,**  
General Manager, Toronto

**HARTILL & CO.,**  
DEALERS IN  
**FURNITURE.**

241 YONGE St.  
**JOB WORK**

**EVERY,**  
**NEATLY,**  
**CHEAPLY,**

**DESCRIPTION**

**EXECUTED**  
AND  
**Expeditiously**

AT THE  
**"PURE GOLD"**

**OFFICE.**

**TORONTO**  
ITS  
**HISTORY & INSTITUTIONS.**

Masonic,  
Odd Fellows,  
Foresters,  
Orange,  
Temperance,  
Literary, &c

TORONTO.

**WILLIAM McCABE,**  
General Manager, Toronto

**ÆTNA**  
**Life Insurance Company,**  
OF HARTFORD CON.

HEAD OFFICE FOR WESTERN CANADA,  
NO. 2 TORONTO ST., TORONTO.

Incorporated 1830. Commenced business in Canada in 1850.

Accumulated Assets, July 1, 1871:  
Over ..... \$16,000,000  
Annual Income ..... 6,000,000  
Surplus over all Liabilities ..... 3,000,000  
Deposited with Canadian Government ..... 100,000  
Already paid to Widows and Orphans in Canada, nearly ..... 200,000

ALL POLICIES STRICTLY NON-FORFEITING.

No money paid to this Company can ever be lost by discontinuing payments after the second year. The policy remains good, on application, for more insurance than the Cash paid in.

*This Old, Reliable and Most Successful Company affords great advantages in Life Insurance.*

An Annual Revenue of over \$6,000,000  
OVER \$16,000,000 SAFELY INVESTED AT INTEREST.

**JOHN GARVIN,**  
Manager.  
Toronto, Dec. 22, 1871.

**T. CLAXTON,**  
DEALER in first-class Violins, English, German and Anglo-German Concertinas, Guitars, Flutes, Pipes, Bows, Strings, Instruction Books, etc.

197 YONGE STREET.  
Special Attention given to Repairing and Tuning every description of Musical Instruments.

**W. SHISTEL,**  
**CONFECTIONER**  
AND OYSTER DEALER.  
No. 145 YONGE STREET, TORONTO.

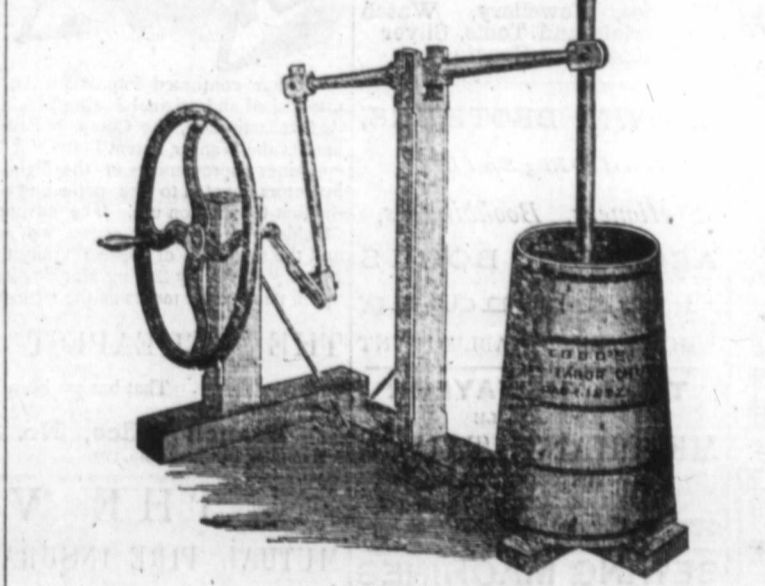
**WILLIAM BROWN**  
Fruit and Vegetable Store,  
11 RICHMOND ST. EAST,  
DEALER in Confectionery, General Provisions,  
Beacon, Lard, Butter, Eggs, &c.

**W. D. McINTOSH,**  
Wholesale and Retail Dealer in  
**FLOUR & FEED,**  
Grain, Oat and Wheat Meal, Split Peas, Cornmeal, Buckwheat Flour, and Glasgow Horse-meal,  
No. 209 Yonge St., opposite Albert St. TORONTO.



**"PURE GOLD"**

Now is your time.  
**FARMERS.**  
If you want to bring **BUTTER** quick and want to do away with the **HEAVY LABOUR** in churning, get one of **TODD'S EASY LABOR CHURNS; OR, CHURNING MACHINES.**



This is a Machine to be attached to a any Dash Churn, and a CHILD 5 YEARS OLD CAN DO THE CHURNING OF 50 COWS WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE.

Todd's Patent Dash goes with each Machine, and will bring Butter out of the Butter Milk of any other Churn.

Call at the Office and see for yourselves, corner of Church and Front Streets, where the **MACHINES, CHURNS, AND COUNTY RIGHTS ARE FOR SALE.**  
**J. C. TODD,**  
Corner of Church, Wellington and Front Streets, Toronto.

**SUBSCRIBE!**

**FOR**

**"PURE GOLD"**

**\$2**

**Per**

**YEAR**

**IN ADVANCE.**

**FARMERS.**  
Now is your time.

Wholesale and Retail  
**DEALER IN FLOUR**

Oatmeal, Corn Meal, Buckwheat Flour  
Oats, Bran, Shorts, &c., &c., &c.

**S. MEADOWS,**  
Plumber Steam & Gas Fitter  
Patentee of the

**CORRUGATED SILVER-PLATED**  
REFLECTOR.

IMPORTER OF GASOLINERS.  
Old Steam Gauges tested and repaired.

**No. 27 Queen St. West,**  
TORONTO. 1-3m

**No 77 QUEEN STREET WEST.**

**1843 The Pioneer Publishers 1872**  
OF CANADA  
OFFER

**INDUCEMENTS**  
To Agents, male and female, in every part of the Dominion.  
**\$25 to \$40 a Week** easily earned.

**Ladies Most Successful.**  
Among their few Books are—  
*Mrs. Moodie's Roughing it in the Bush.* Re-edited and improved. \$1 75 and \$2 25.  
*Mrs. Kelly's Captivity among Sioux Indians.* \$1.  
*Siege of Derry,* with PUNSHON'S graphic Introduction. \$1 and \$1 50.  
*Dr. Naphey's Transmission of Life.* \$2.  
The same Author's *Physical Life of Woman.* \$1 50. &c., &c.

or circulars and terms, apply to  
**MACLEAR & CO.**  
Victoria Hall, TORONTO.  
Melinda Street. 1-3m

**TO TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.**  
**DECORATIVE PAPER HANGINGS**  
IN  
EVERY STYLE.  
**DESIGNS FURNISHED,**  
{AND}  
{OR}  
WORK EXECUTED.

Painted & Gilt Linen Window Shades  
FOR  
**LODGE ROOMS**  
AND  
**SOCIETY HALLS,**  
MADE TO ORDER,  
UP TO 120 INCHES WIDE.

CALL AND EXAMINE STOCK  
**J. EDWARDS,**  
Importer and Manufacturer,  
186 YONGE STREET, TORONTO.  
Toronto, Jan. 5, 1872. 2-3m

**VICTORIA WOOD YARD**  
VICTORIA ST., TORONTO.

**OLIVER & THOMPSON**  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL IN  
**COAL, WOOD AND LUMBER!**

**OLIVER & THOMPSON**  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL IN  
**COAL, WOOD AND LUMBER!**

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL IN  
**COAL, WOOD AND LUMBER!**

**PURE GOLD**  
SERIES OF  
*Canadian Tales.*  
No. II,  
PRICE, ONLY 25 CENTS.

**A LIFE WASTED**  
BY  
**T. J. VIVIAN.**

**J. K. VICK,**  
**WATCHMAKER**  
**NO. 57 Yonge Street**

Next Door to A. W. Russell's Wholesale Watch Depot,  
Up-stairs, over *Vickers' Express Office.*  
TORONTO, O.  
Work done for the Trade.  
Dec. 21

**DRUIDS.**  
Any person or persons residing in the City of Toronto, Members of the above Ancient Order, would oblige by calling at the office of  
**RICHARDSON & PUNCHER**