A Pertinent Point

PATLY PUT. HAVE YOU TASTED

IF NOT-WHY NOT?

If you are not supplied with "SALADA" when you ask for it, it is because of the larger profit made out of poorer teas.

Sold Only in Lead Packets. Only Grocers Sell It.

The Secret Out.

The evening passed, how, he scarcely new. He had taken a room at the tavern, and while studying to awaken as little curiosity as possible, still took advantage of the darkness to drop into one or two places about town where there was likely to be talk of a more or less gossipy nature. For instance, he stepped into the blacksmith's shop, which he chanced to find open, and stood, a tall and mysterious figure, in the dim background, while the several men and boys grouped about the fire, discoursed town topics, and made vague prognostications in regard to the weather. What good he expected from this move it would have been hard to say, certainly he had no right to expect any, and was as much surprised as it was possible to be, when a drawling voice uttered over his shoulder: That man at Jem Lewis' is an odd

As the tone employed had been loud, the remark was evidently intended not for him, but for the group in the center of the smithy. More and more as-tonished, he stole a look behind him and saw the slouching form of a man, who, as he looked, lounged forward and joined the group in front of him. 'What do you say?" asked the blacksmith, turning a pair of curious eyes towards the newcomer.

"I say that ere man at Jem Lewis' is an odd un." "What man?" cried one voice. And, "Who are you?" cried another.

"I am a fellow as peddles small ware," cried the interloper, carelessly. "I've been about some, and I say as a contribute to this highly intellectooal conversaish that the man what boards at Jem Lewis' farm-house is a curious

"Then you show you don't know anything about it," came in convincing tones from the man who stood next to him: "There is nothing curious about John Staples. I've known him this two year, and because a man is sick that is no reason why he should be called queer."

He means that fellow at Hunter's. He's queer enough, I'm sure. Not once has he stepped out on to the road since he came there; and he's not sick, neither."

'Maybe I do," acknowledged the peddler. sometimes gits names mixed. How does he look, now?"

"I haven't seen him, and I don't know anybody as has. I've only hearn tell of how old Mrs. Hunter had took in a boarder as was a stranger in these parts, and of how particular she was not to let anybody see him, because he was writing of a book and didn't want no interruptions. As if that was any excuse. You might as well say I didn't want to see any one because I am building an L onto my old shanty." "Mrs. Hunter was always a queer un herself," broke in a new voice. "I remember the day when she shut the door in the face of my gal because she wanted to know how many dollars the

old woman had laid up in the bank." "So she might know whether to marry her son or not," laughed the black-

"Wa'al, and was that anything more than natural providence?" The blacksmith's guffaws grew loud-

"Isn't Mrs. Hunter's house the next one to Jem Lewis'?" carelessly interposed the pedler.

Yes, of course, only a mile between

"Then that's how I got the places mixed," said he, slowly turning himself about towards the door. Dr. Cameron, who was watching, instantly left the smithy, and after a little strolling through the streets entered the livery stable. Here he made arrangements for the use of a horse and buggy on the following day, and was just meditating whether he should venture upon a question or two, when that same drawling voice was heard again over his shoulder, saying:

"Is that man still stopping at Hunter's, do you know?" "Can't say," answered the livery sta-ble keeper. "I haven't heard of his

going away."
"I want to know, because I've got a bundle for him, shirts and things what Mrs. Hunter got me to buy for him in Albany. Going up that way to-

"Don't know," with a side glance at Dr. Cameron, who, convinced that this pedler, as he called himself, was likely to be his good angel, stood at the door slowly fitting on his gloves. "Mrs. Hunter made me promise I'd get the things out there before Monday morning: but I can't kill myself. Does Mrs. Hunter come this way to

"Guess not; never see her here." "How about Jem Lewis, is he one of the accommodating kind?"

"Rather; he gets all her mail, I believe, and carries a paper out there every day, that I know." "Then I'll see Jem Lewis when he comes into church tomorrow. You ion't happen to know what the name

of this strange gentleman may be do "No; I drove him out there, but he lidn't tell me his family affairs."

"Didn't he, now? Wa'al, wa'al, its nighty particular some folks be. Now, I'd just take pleasure in telling you all I know. Was he a dark man?"
"Very dark."

"That's good; I thought he was dark; I only caught the least glimpse of him through an open door, but I was sure

he was dark. You see I am particular about it for I had ties to buy and I bought 'em for a dark man. Got a long beard?"

"No, nor a short one. His face is as smooth as my hand." "Better and better, them ties will be sure to suit. Don't you think so, mister?" he asked, as he passed Dr. Cameron on his way out.

But before that gentleman could reply, the odd, shuffling figure was gone; and full of thought and question, the doctor made his way into the street, and so back to the tavern, asking himself whether his purpose in town had been divined or whether all that had occurred was a mere coincidence, as strange as it was acceptable.

The next day was none too pleasant, and as he rose with a blinding headache, he allowed himself to rest through the morning, thinking he would be able to start upon his undertaking at noon. But it was 3 o'clock before he felt fit to drive a team. At 3 o'clock, therefore, he started, and at about 4 approached a farm-house which from its appearance and location he took to be that belonging to the Widow Hunter. He saw it first from the brow of a small hill, and stopped his horse to contemplate it and also to gain some control over his feelings at sight of the imagined retreat of his enemy. The next moment he drove on, but the impression made by the mass of gray sky, and that one low white house with its of smoke rising up against the dull background of the wintry landscape, filled him with an unaccountable chill for which he could not at that instant account. A vague foreboding for the first time seized him which seemed in some way to be connected with the penetrating wind and the menacing skies, and though he recognized it as a weakness, he had half a mind to turn around and go back, rather than face the threatening something hidden in that seemingly harmless landscape be-

But such feelings vanish before an all-absorbing duty, and by the time he found himself within a stone's throw of the house, he had forgotten everything but that he was on the verge of an interview from which he hoped to depart a relieved and contented man. The house was the ordinary white frame one which we see so thickly scattered amongst our native hills and valleys. It had a front entrance and a rear one, and the usual yard behind which stretched fields and meadows with here and there a grove of leafless trees. The windows were few, but those looking towards that part of the road from which he approached were shutterless and he had an uneasy sense of having been seen, though there was no movement visible at any of the casements, and saving the thin line of smoke slanting away from the solitary chimney, there was no sign of human presence in or about the premises.

fore him.

"If I should have been recognized!" he thought, with a sudden recollection of the real relations in which he and

this Molesworth stood. But this possibility seemed so sman that even his uneasy mind refused to entertain it, and driving up rapidly to the front of the house he leaped to the ground, and without stopping to tie his horse, which, by the way, he had been told would stand for any length of time, he advanced hurriedly to the door and knocked. If he had not been seen from the side he was certain that he would not be from the front, as the windows facing the road were protected by blinds, all of which were as tightly closed as if they were never exected to open again. He neverthe

anticipated a speedy entrance. But this pleasing hope lessened moment by moment as no answer came to his first or his second knock. Nor did the third bring any response, though it was forcible enough to stake the door on its hinges, Those within had evidently made up their minds not to hear him, and as this fact became apparent he felt a sense of desolation sweep over him, which the ever-lowering sky and the stretch of dismal landscape before him did not tend to mitigate. It seemed as if the wind became more searching, piercing even to his heart and its secrets. while the silence, which was anything but a Sunday one in the shivering effect it had upon the nerves, filled him with a renewal of those vague apprehensions for which there seemed so little reason in nature.

A fourth and still heavier knock ended his efforts to gain admittance at the front door. If there was no one at home (which he did not believe) he was but wasting his time there; while if the inmates were simply determined not to admit him, all the knocking in the world would not make them change their minds. So, leaving the front door, he walked determinedly around the house to the back entrance, and finding it unlocked, knocked once out of politeness, and without waiting for the response he had so little right to expect, lifted the latch and walked

(To be continued.)

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When thousands of people are taking Hood's Sarsaparila to overcome the weakness and languor which are so common at this season, why are you not doing the same? When you know that Hood's Sarsaparilla has power to the same of the same cure rheumatism, dystepsia and all diseases caused by impure blood, why do you continue to suffer? Hood's cures others, why not you?

Hood's Pills are prompt and efficient, 25c. b Industry keeps the body healthy, the mind clear, the heart whole, and the purse full.-Simmons.

Karl's Clover Root Tea A sure cure for Headache and nervous dis-ases. Nothing relieves so quickly. For sale

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in summer instead of a towel. All Recommend It. Ask you physician, your druggist and your friends about Shiloh's Cure for Consumption. They will recommend it. For sale by W. T.

"Why do you pass so short a time at each bathing place?" "Because I don't want the lady guests at the hotel to say, 'She's worn that dress before.' Mina d's Linimentis used by Physician In this world it is not what we take

up, but what we give up, that makes us rich .- Henry Ward Beecher. Piles! Piles! Itching Piles;

SYMPTONS—Moisture; intense itching and stinging; mostly at night; worse by scratching. If allowed to continue tumors form, which often bleed and ulcerate, becoming very sore. Swayne's Ointment stops the itching and bleeding, heals ulceration, and in most cases removes the tumors. At druggists, or by mail, for 50 cents. Dr. Swayne & Son, Philadelphia, Lyman, Sons & Co., Montreal, wholesale agents.

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Cooked Ham, Canned Beef Tongue, Potted Meats for Sandwiches, Scotch Herring in Tins, Finest Brands of Sardines, Olives, Pickles, Sauces, etc.

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ASSURANCE COMPANY.

In stopping to survey the past fifteen years of our country's history, one can-not but be impressed with the great changes which have taken place. statesman, the merchant the banker, the manufacturer and the progressive agriculturist will tell you that, while foundation principles remain the same, such great advancement has been made in methods, in building up the super-structure of affairs, that what might have been considered a wise and proper course to pursue then, can apply in these late days successfully only as it has been reshapen by the spirit of progress which permeates our whole civilization. It is quite true that if a comparison of business a year ago is made with that of today, the average man of affairs will tell you that he cannot observe any great or material difference—the change having been so gradual and apparently natural, that it is almost lost sight of. But east a glance some years behind; compare, say, the year 1889 with the year 1895, and the contrast is at once apparent and striking. A single illustration will suffice, taken from the neld of life insurance, and in going through the whole range of finance and commerce it is doubtful if any branch could be suggested which would yield a more forceful illustration of that advance-

At the beginning of the year 1880 the total life insurance carried in the Dominion of Canada was \$91,272,126, while by the commencement of this year these already large figures had leen augmented to \$308,061,436, or an increase of threefold. It is interesting to analyze this large increase in respect to the location of the companies interested, i. e., American, British and

Canadian life companies British life companies had..... 33,643,745 had...... 19,789,863 33,911.885

Total.....\$91,272,123 \$308,061,436 Thus while the British life companies have increased their business by but 70 per cent, and the Americans by about 187 per cent, the Canadians have augmented theirs by 370 per cent. To Canadians this cannot but be a pleasing and proud condition of affairs, and it indicates unmistakably that they have perfect confidence in institutions of their own making, managed by their own people, and where their funds are used in promoting, developing, and building up native enterprises. That this confidence has not been misplaced is fully borne out by the past record of most of our Canadian life insurance companies, and by the unexcelled position which they are seen to occupy, when compared with similar institutions in any country in the world. The day was when many a business man was carried away and entirely misled by a comparison of the large assets of some American companies with those of the Canadian companies, the fact being overlooked that, while these institutions had immense assets, they had correspondingly large liabilities, and that the reliable test of the financial standing of a company is a comparison of its assets with its liabilities. When this important test is applied, the Canadian life com-

panies rank very high. Turning attention for a few moments to the growth of individual life insurance companies, a record of great and unexcelled progress is to be found in that staunch, progressive Canadian institution, the North American Life Assurance Company, of Toronto, Ont. At the time of its commencement of business, fifteen years ago, it was felt that there was a place for a home life insurance company, with plans of insurance and methods of conducting business more in accord with the tendencies of the times than many of those then in the field. That the incorporators, amongst whom were the late Alex. Mackenzie, Hon. Alex. Mor-ris. Hon. Geo. Brown, Hon. G. W. Allan, John L. Blaikte, Esq., Hon. D. A. Macdonald, and other eminent gentlemen, were justified in this view is amply demonstrated by the character and extent of the structure which has been reared so steadily and substantially. The following table tak-en from the Dominion Government report on insurance, gives in concise form the company's record year by

Year.	Cash Income.		Assets.		Institution	Insurance in force.	0.	50	Net Surplu
1 28	34 975	1 8	163	1 5	1 8		1 8	0	2.43
82	81,01	16	151,134	5	0		8	,	8,426
383	102,060	83	193,897	270	3,0	439,582	88	15,6	5,641
288	154 400	55	746	20	4.54		38	4 00	6.0
988	184,956	64	405	15	6.075		00	4	5,91
887		64	818	66	6,97		99	*	4,895
888		56	918	25	7.95		9	0	1,065
688		8	012	70	96		8	-	1,864
380		85	3 5	10	10,07	6,514	3	12	7,149
168		3	593	33	11.1	8,181	8	17	7.875
		42	826	00	12,06	080.0	8	22	5,633
603		80		31	13.29	0.192	8	53	7.062
76		95	1 977.383 3	30	14.47	1.253	3	33	8 216

128838888888888

It will be observed that there are no backward steps, but that each suc ceeding year marks a decided advantage over its predecessor. But especially is this the case in the item of surplus. In every undertaking this is conceded to be the true baromenter of success or failure. In a life insurance company a large ratio of surplus to liabilities indicates, first, financial strength, second, ability to make handome profit returns to policy-holders.

The North American Life, although not by any means the largest Can-adian company, can lay claim to the important distinction of having a large ration of assets to liabilities, and consequently a larger net surplus to liabilities, than any other Canadian life

incurance company. The returns by way of profits under ts semi-tontine investment policies, which system the North American was the first Canadian life company to adopt, have always given the holders the greatest satisfaction, while the management have nad unqualified pleasure and gratification in knowing that the company's position and suc-cess fully warranted their payment. The following communication was received recently at the nead office from Mr. F. W. Holt, civil engineer, of St. George, N. B., and is only one of many which the company has receiv-

"The cash results of my tontine endowment policy, No. 2,580, which I have had the good fortune to hold in your company, have been highly satisfac-tory to me, and now that the policy has matured, it is very gratifying to find that all, if not more of the cash results that were represented to me at the time I insured in the North American Life have been fully realized. This experience, together with the liberal treatment that I have always received from the North American L. D. Trompour, jeweler, has removed to 397 Richmond street. Geo. W. Pitt has charge of the watch repairing department.

TO ALT

company to others.'

which, while adhering to sound and

conservative principles has been well

abreast of the spirit and progress of

the age. It was fortunate in having

had, at its organization, and up to the

time of his death, the late Hon. Alex. Mackenzie as its president, in which

office he reflected those sterling quali-

ties of character and executive ability which dominated his whole public

career. And no more worthy succes-

sor to this important position could

have been found than its present in-

cumbent, Mr. John L. Blaikie, a gentle-

man of wide and varied financial ex-

perience, who is closely allied with

several of our most important and suc-

cessful monetary institutions, and who

takes a deep interest and concern in

everything which tends to the still greater success of the institution over

which he presides. Associated with

the president are, as vice-presidents, Hon. G. W. Allan, ex-Speaker of the Canadian Senate, and commissioner of

the Canada Company, and J. K. Kerr,

Esq., Q. C., of the legal firm of Kerr,

To the chief managing officer of the

company, Mr. Wm. McCabe, LL.B.,

F.I.A., who was recently highly hon-

ored by that distinguished body, the

French Institute of Actuaries, by being

elected one of its members, the com-pany's standing as one of the leading

financial institutions of the country,

training and experience of many years

ant features which have contributed to its successful development. In the

company's management Mr. McCabe

surance, extending over a period of

twenty years, enables him to bring

a well matured and valued experience

to play in the discharge of his duty Dr. James Thorburn, the company's

medical director, one of Toronto's old-

est and most successful physicians,

has brought a ripe experience to bear

in the discharge of the onerous and

important duties of his office, and has

displayed therein especial care and

able mortality experienced by the com-

pany is largely due to his watchful care of its interest in the admission

of only a desirable class of insurers.-

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Cameron, states: "I was confined to my bed with inflammation of the lungs, and was given up by physicians. A

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best results. Acting on this advice, I

procured the medicine, and less than a half-bottle cured me; I certainly believe it saved my life. It was with re-

luctance that I consented to a trial, as

I was reduced to such a state that I doubted the power of any remedy to do

Miss Fussanfeather-This is the

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Worms cause feverishness, moaning

and restlessness during sleep. Mother

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ant, sure and effectual. If your drug-

gist has none in stock, get him to pro-

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ing from a hoil his faith is generally

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Disease in 30 mnutes, and speedily ef-

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me any good."

cure it for you.

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AN EGG PROBLEM.

Here is a conundrum that is perplexing the mathematicians of Philadelphia and vicinity: A woman took a basket of eggs to the city for sale, Upon being asked how many she had, she replied: "If I take the eggs out of the basket two at a time

I have one egg left. If I take them out three at a time I have one egg left. If I take them out four at a time I have one egg left. If I take them out five at a time I have one egg and all symptoms of a Diseased Heart. One dose convinces. Sold by W. T. Strong and B. A. Mitchell. left. If I take them out six at a time I have one left, but if I take them out seven at a time I have none left in the basket. How many eggs had she in the basket?

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