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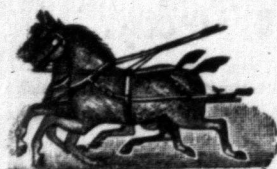
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Important to Breeders and Horsemen



Eureka Veterinary Caustic Balsam

A reliable and speedy remedy for
Cuts, Sprains, Swellings, Sore
throats, etc., in Horses, and
Cows in Cattle. See pamphlet which
accompanies every bottle giving
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It can be successfully used in every
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stimulating applications and blisters
are prescribed. It has no superior.
Every bottle sold is guaranteed to
give satisfaction. Price 75c. per bot-
tle. Sold by all druggists. Prepared
by the Eureka Veterinary Medicine
Co., London, Ont.

Christmas Cake

Orders should be placed early—
Christmas is but a few weeks away,
and this season we will double last
year's sales. First, because our cus-
tomers last year were delighted, and
found our Cake as good, in fact bet-
ter, than represented. Secondly, be-
cause we bought our fruit largely at
inside figures before the last tremen-
dous jump in prices, enabling us to
sell at last year's price, 25c. per lb.

Somerville's
NEXT STANDARD BAKING, CHATHAM
Phone 36.

Chimney Sweep

Owner King and Prince St.
Orders left at Geo. Taylor's
Barber Shop.

James Scott.

The Mystery of Agatha Webb.

By Anna Katharine Green.

Author of "The Leavenworth Case," "Lost Man's Lane," "Hand and Ring," Etc., Etc.

Copyright, 1900, by Anna Katharine Green.

Very different were the recollections
interchanged between two middle aged
Porchester women.

"She was drinking tea at my house
when her sister Sairey came running in
with the news that the baby she had
left at home wasn't quite right. That
was her first child, you know."

"Yes, yes, for I was with her when
that baby came," broke in the other,
and such joy as she showed when they
told her it was alive and well I never
saw. I do not know why she didn't ex-
pect it to be alive, but she didn't, and
her happiness was just wonderful to see."

"Well, she didn't enjoy it long. The
poor little fellow died young. But I
was telling you of the night when she
first heard he was ailing. Philemon
had been telling a good story, and we
were all laughing when Sairey came
in. I can see Agatha now. She always
had the most brilliant eyes in the coun-
ty, but that day they were superbly
dazzling. They changed, though, at
the sight of Sairey's face, and she
jumped to meet her just as if she knew
what Sairey was going to say before
ever a word left her lips. 'My baby!'
(I can hear her yet). 'Something is
the matter with the baby!'

And though Sairey made haste to tell her
that he was only ailing and not at all
ill she turned upon Philemon with a
look none of us ever quite understood.
He changed so completely under it,
just as she had under Sairey's, and to
neither did the old happiness ever re-
turn, for the child died within a week,
and when the next came it died also,
and the next, till six small innocents
lay buried in yonder old graveyard."

"I know, and sad enough it was, too,
especially as she and Philemon were
both fond of children. Well, well, the
ways of Providence are past finding
out! And now she is gone, and Phile-
mon—"

"Ah, he'll follow her soon. He can't
live without Agatha."

Nearer home the old sexton was
chattering about the six gravesites
raised in Porchester churchyard to
those six dead infants. He had been
sent there to choose a spot in which
to lay the mother and was full of the
shock it gave him to see that line of
little stones, telling of a past with
which the good people of Sutherland
town found it hard to associate Phile-
mon and Agatha Webb.

"I'm a digger of graves," he mused,
half to himself and half to his old wife
watching him from the other side of
the hearthstone. "I spend a good quar-
ter of my time in the churchyard, but
when I saw those six little mounds
and read the inscriptions over them I
couldn't help feeling queer. Think of
this! On the first tiny headstone I
read these words:

STEPHEN,

Son of Philemon and Agatha Webb,
Died, Aged Six Weeks.
God be merciful to me, a sinner!

"Now what does that mean? Did you
ever hear any one say?"

"No," was his old wife's answer.
"Perhaps she was one of those Calvin-
ist folks who believe babies go to hell
if they are not baptized."

"But her children were all baptized.
I've been told so; some of them before
she was well out of her bed. 'God be
merciful to me a sinner!' And the child
not six weeks old! Something queer
about that dame if it did happen more
than 80 years ago."

"What did you see over the grave of
the child who was killed by lightning
in her arms?"

"This:

"And he was not, for God took
him."

Farmer Waite had but one word to
say.

"She came to me when my Sissy had
the smallpox, the only person in town
who would enter my doors. More than
that, when Sissy was up and I went to
pay the doctor's bill I found it had
been settled. I did not know then who
had enough money and compassion to
do this for me; now I do."

Many an act of kindness which had
been secretly performed in that town
during the last 20 years came to light
on that day, the most notable of which
was the sending of a certain young lad
to school and his subsequent education
as a minister.

But other memories of a sweeter and
more secret nature still came up like-
wise, among them the following:
A young girl who was of a very
timid but deeply sensitive nature had
been urged into an engagement with a
man she did not like. Though the
conflict this occasioned her and the
misery which accompanied it were ap-
parent to everybody, nobody stirred in
her behalf until Agatha Webb took it
up. She went to see her, and, though
it was within a fortnight of the wed-
ding, she did not hesitate to advise the
girl to give him up, and when the poor
child said she lacked the courage
Agatha herself went to the man and
urged him into a display of generosity
which saved the poor, timid thing
from a life of misery. They say this
was no easy task for Agatha and that
the man was sulky for a year. But
the girl's gratitude was boundless.
Of her father, which was always on

the side of right and justice, the sto-
ries were numerous. So were the ac-
counts, mostly among the women, of
her rare tenderness and sympathy for
the weak and the erring. Never was a
man talked to as she talked to Jake
Cobblesh the evening after he struck
his mother, and if she had been in
town on the day when Clarissa May-
hew ran away with that Philadelphia
rascal many said it would never have
happened, for no girl could stand the
admonition or resist the pleading of
this childless mother.

It was reserved for Mr. Halliday
and Mr. Sutherland to talk of her
mental qualities. Her character was
so marked and her manners so simple
that few gave attention to the intellect
that was the real basis of her power.
The two mentioned gentlemen, how-
ever, appreciated her to the full, and it
was while listening to their remarks
that Frederick was suddenly startled
by some one saying to him:

"You are the only person in town who
has nothing to say about Agatha Webb.
Didn't you ever exchange any
words with her, for I can hardly be-
lieve you could have met her eye to
eye without having some remark to
make about her beauty or her influ-
ence?"

The speaker was Agnes Halliday,
who had come in with her father for a
social chat. She was one of Freder-
ick's earliest playmates, but one with
whom he had never assimilated and
who did not like him. He knew this,
as did every one else in town, and it
was with some hesitation he turned to
answer her.

"I have but one recollection," he be-
gan, and for the moment got no fur-
ther, for in turning his head to address
his young guest he had allowed his



"You are the only person in town who has
nothing to say about Agatha Webb,"
gaze to wander through the open win-
dow by which she sat into the garden
beyond where Amabel could be seen
picking flowers. As he spoke Amabel
lifted her face with one of her sug-
gestive looks. She had doubtless heard
Miss Halliday's remark.

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To The
Parisian Steam Laundry
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And get the best work in the city.
Work called for and delivered.
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Makes Machinery Run smoothly and
cheaply. Saves wear and tear and fuel.
Made by the Vacuum Oil Co., under
the Vacuum process.

SEE FARMERS
Inquire upon your dealer furnishing Vac-
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Notice to riders of bicycles in Chatham.
I have removed all my bicycle machinery
and tools to Ronald block, where I shall be
glad to see old and new customers for all
kinds of repairing, such as bicycle cleaning,
inside and out; sharpening saws, scissors,
knives, skates; repairing locks, keys, um-
brellas, rubber bags. I have the best ma-
chinery for gumming cross-cut saws in the
country. Call and see me.
Let me have your wheel to clean for
winter storing.—Price, 50c.

Harry Church. - La's with
Briar.

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From Barred Plymouth Rocks, and
Black Minorcas, all from the best
selected stock, good healthy birds.
Received first prize at the Feder-
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Price for setting of 13 eggs \$1, special
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All orders promptly filled.

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what is more acceptable than 10 or
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"SALADA"

Ceylon tea in an original case?
Your grocer can Get it for You in
Black, Mixed or Green Tea.

SOUVENIR STEEL PLATE RANGE

"As True as Steel."



THIS is the newest steel plate range—
not made by novices, but by makers
who have for nearly sixty years been
studying stove improvements—and up to
date this steel range is without doubt the
most perfect—made in Canada by Canadians
for Canadians—best adapted to Canada be-
cause it is specially manufactured to meet
the conditions which exist in Canada—
strong, durable and economical—and
the heating capacity is not equalled by
any other range in the world—best
materials and best workmanship—
made for soft or hard coal—natural
gas or wood—a stove that will last a
lifetime and give you satisfaction every
minute you own it—and it's guaran-
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article—Get particulars of it from your
nearest dealer—or write direct to the
makers—sold everywhere.

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Of their ind

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Buggies,
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Sleighs.

The Wm. Gray & Sons Co.

Chatham, Ontario

Subscribe Now.

Mayoralty

To the Electorate of the
City of Chatham

Ladies and gentlemen:

I am a candidate for mayor
for 1901, and I respectfully ask
for your vote and influence.

Faithfully yours,

W. E. McKEOUGH.

Chatham, Ont., 19th Nov., 1900

ALDERMEN.

To the Electors of This City.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am a candidate for alderman for
this city for the year 1901, your votes
and influence are respectfully solicited.
Wishing you all the compliments of
the season, I remain

Yours etc.,

DAVID A. HUTCHISON.

To the Electors of the City of
Chatham.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am a candidate for re-election as
alderman for the incoming year, and
if my past record meets with your ap-
proval, I shall be glad to have your
vote and influence.

W. S. MARSHALL.

To the electors of the city of Chat-
ham.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the request of a number of citi-
zens, I have been induced to offer my-
self as a candidate for alderman
for 1901. Your vote and influence I re-
spectfully solicit.

Yours truly,

JOHN WADDELL,
Grain Merchant.

Dec. 21st, 1900.

To the Electors of Chatham.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your vote and influence are respect-
fully solicited for my election as al-
derman for 1901.

Yours faithfully,

G. G. TAYLOR.

To the Electors of Chatham.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am a candidate for alderman for
1901 and if my past services has met
with your approval, I once more ask
for your support. (Thanking you for
past favors I am,

Yours respectfully,

A. B. McCOIG.

To the Electors of Chatham.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the urgent request of several re-
presentative citizens, I have con-
sented to offer myself as a candidate for
alderman for 1901.

I would like your support.

Yours, W. F. SMITH.

Barrie.

To the Electors of the City of
Chatham.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my intention to again offer my
services as Alderman for 1901.

I trust that my record as alderman
during 1899 and 1900, and as chairman
of the Finance committee in the latter
year is such as to entitle me to your
confidence. If elected, I will, as be-
fore, strive to look after the city's
interests to the best of my ability,
and I respectfully solicit your sup-
port.

Yours faithfully,

S. R. ARNOLD.

SCHOOL TRUSTEE.

To the Electors of Ward No. 2.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am again a candidate for the of-
fice of School Trustee. Your vote and
influence is respectfully solicited.

R. M. PAXTON.

To the Electors of Harwich and
Blenheim.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the request of a large number of the
electors I have again consented to be a
candidate for the office of alderman for
1901. Your vote and influence would be thankfully
received and, if elected, I promise you to
faithfully discharge the duties of said office.
My past record is the best guarantee of good
work in the future.

JOHN VESTER.

To the Electors of the Township
of Harwich.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am again offering myself as a
candidate for the position of reeve for
the coming year. I thank you for the
splendid support you have given me in
the past, and I trust that I may still
retain your confidence, by an honest
endeavor while in office to guard
your interests, and if again elected I
will put forth my very best efforts to
guard your interests honestly and im-
partially. Thanking you for past fav-
ors and wishing you all a Merry
Christmas and a Happy and Prosper-
ous New Year, I am yours faithfully,

B. B. TOLLE.

Posts!

Posts!

J. Piggott & Sons have
on hand a large and well
assorted stock of fence
posts which they are
selling at lowest prices.



Princess Tablets

Are what you want for all forms of
female troubles as infallible remedy
discovered by a foremost female
specialist; guaranteed as a positive
cure; will positively establish the
normal functions; used monthly by
over 50,000 ladies; for sale at drug-
stores, or sent on receipt of price \$1.00.

Ask for Minard's and take no other.