

heard the doctor say that that would be all right; they should have it arranged exactly as they desired. He would take care of me and of their wishes. Exactly as they desired! Aha! But, be still, wild and vindictive spirit, was not all this one hundred and fifty years ago?

He bade me rise and follow him. He spoke compassionately as it struck me, and I thought him a noble-hearted man, whose goodness could have converted Mollere. I have since understood that he had observed, in his keen professional way, my respect for and gratitude to my custodians, and regarded me, not unnaturally, with that mild benevolence common among the savage tribes of his far-off land and forgotten ago towards those specially afflicted by Heaven in the bereavement of their reason. This probably accounts for the fact that he considered it superfluous to make inquiry as to my ailment, or as to the symptoms of which I was conscious, an omission which struck me at the time as strange. In obeying him as well as the little coat would allow, I supposed my dear kind friends would accompany us to my hygienic bower. Something to that effect was suggested, but the most crafty of the two—if, indeed, Beelzebub be wiser than Lucifer—promptly expressing acknowledgment of the thoughtful permission, recollected that he had pressing business in another place, and gracefully complimented the man of healing by the most earnestly spoken assurance that he had no hesitation in trusting the invalid in the Hospital's care. He had not, not the slightest. He then affectionately assured me that he would return in the morning to see how comfortable I had been made. Probably from inability to procure such twenty-million double magnifying microscopes as could assist him to that optical feat, he did not so return. Consequently there was no use the next day for the broken rung of a chair secreted under my pillow—that's what they called it—and the case which I had arranged for the accident ward never gladdened the lecturers there. On the whole, I think he was the wisest.

They, the Samaritans, having thus departed, we, the victim and the executioner, went up stairs. There had been some previous instructions given to a female domestic for preparation of the bower, a fresh vase of flowers, perhaps, or a softer quilt of eider; these little attentions are cheering to an invalid. I entered it with pleased anticipation.

I had never previously appreciated that magnificently conceived hiatus in the great Florentine's Inferno representing the swoon of the poet on his introduction to the Ninth Circle of Hell. But I do now, and though I am not Dante and the Hospital was not Hades, I feebly imitate it above by the asterisks there displayed. For I did swoon—a revolving swoon like Bailey Junior's and Mrs. Gamp's combined in Mr. Fips' chambers at Austin Friars. I found myself in a moderately large, cleanly whitewashed room, lit by the ghost of a lamp which had been deluded into hospital like myself to flicker there into darkness even as should I, and containing four small iron bedsteads, three chairs, two little tables, and a nondescript cupboard in which I afterwards found that the authorities kept bandages and the patients secreted butter. One of the two centre beds was vacant, and had been "arranged" for me. It was to such a bed methinks that Procrustes must have consigned his guests preparatory to cutting them short to fit it at either end according as their caprice might dictate. If it were, no wonder so many of them in reckless desperation cried "heads." The mattress was composed of straw,—I know that, for there were visible all over its uncouth, coarse, and most dingy surface a chain of Great Lakes, so to speak, bubbling up through the sacking. But I hope that no baser animal than man is compelled by the barbarity of his or her keeper to rest upon straw so diabolically inelastic in stable or in byre. Every straw there would have stood unsupported upon its own end, and if I wished a "barring out," in five minutes I might have a stockade across the doorway unassailable save by artillery. There was a pair of sheets over it, between which I was to sleep, and over these a blanket and a counterpane. I give these strange pieces of furniture conventional names for the sake of lucidity, not by any means as indicating that they remotely resembled the articles we, here and now, use for the same purpose. I had previously been disposed to think that our damask and dimity of the collier's fore-castle was not all that could be desired, that occasionally the shanty bedding might have been of more stainless purity. I wronged both and apologize. They were at worst but crumpled rose leaves. Positively the filthiest and most repulsive couch upon which I could have pictured a ghoul fresh come home from the cemetery reposing his gorged carcase was not more abhorrent than this which fell to me. I wonder still how many generations sleep and die upon this "linon" before they wash or change it. I wonder who slept on it before me and what ailed him. I wonder how many corpses it had borne. I didn't wonder at all whose would be the next. My mind was made up. I had been betrayed by my trusted friends; sweetness was no longer in the south wind,

sunshine in the sky, the fields no more were green. The light had died out of life, and I would die too. After all it was an ingenious and a speedy mode of self-destruction.

For all that, instinct compelled me to divest myself only of so little of my clothing as would permit of no portion of my person coming in contact with my shroud. I slept in my hat. I had no gloves, but I put my hands in my boots. A woman, presently entering with a small phial, said: "Take that!" Oh yes, *accipe hoc!* said the Templar when he poignarded his friend. The action discovered the singularity of my mittens. I was not sufficiently *bien ganté*, as it seemed, for the lazaretto, for she took them away with indignation. All that night through I had to keep my fingers in my mouth. "That" was supposed to be a soporific. Not all the opium that De Quincey ever chewed, and he was the champion chewer of them all, could make a man sleep in his shroud, with his fingers in his mouth and his hat on. So I lay through the long watches and the plentiful strange noises of the night and longed for the dawn.

I wonder what rosy-fingered Aurora thought of us when she peeped in next morning. Did she go home that night with the comforting assurance to her Old Man that after all he might as well make up his mind to become that grass-hopper, for that grass-hoppers are better lodged than men? The morning began before six, and began with a stir and a clatter and a rustle ten times more irritating than even hat or gloves. This was the nice quiet place where I should so calmly repose. Why, Morpheus himself couldn't get a wink in it. Strange beings fluttered in and out our rooms with aimless remarks to my companions and impertinent inquiries as to myself until, like Mr. John Lewsome in his delirium, I seemed to see a phantasmagoria of 40,000 tormentors. I was now beginning to be very ill indeed; that typhoid, that kind beneficent typhoid, had called at last to release me. Presently a motherly kindly-voiced woman brought a basin and sponge and washed my face and hands. Presently she gave me a drink of milk. Ah! so did Jael to Sisera, and what did it all end in?

To be continued.



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Engagement of MRS. JAS. A. OATES and her great COMIC OPERA COMPANY. THURSDAY, MAY 18TH. DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT. FRIDAY, MAY 19TH. DESSERT. PRIMA DONNA OF A NIGHT. SATURDAY, MAY 20TH. LA BELLE SAILAGE. MONDAY & TUESDAY, 22ND & 23RD. LITTLE FAUST, and BIG MAPPINTO. For particulars see bills of the day.

Admission: Private Boxes, \$5.00; Dress Circle, 75 cents; Family Circle, 50 cents; Pit, 25 cents. Reserved Seats can be secured at PRINCE'S Music Store. 3-20a

Patronised by Her Majesty the Queen.

MRS. SCOTT SIDDON'S Will give Three Entertainments at the MECHANICS' HALL. Under the auspices of the Mercantile Library Association on THURSDAY EVENING, 25TH MAY, FRIDAY EVENING, 26TH MAY, AND SATURDAY EVENING 27TH MAY. The Entertainments will consist of READINGS from SHAKESPEARE, SHERIDAN, TENNYSON, SCOTT, and WHITTIER.

The Programme will be changed each night. Doors open at half-past 7; Readings at 8; Carriages at a quarter to 10. Tickets 50 cents; Reserved Seats (numbered) 75c. The sale of Tickets will commence at 10 o'clock a.m., Saturday, 20th May, at the Music Store of H. Prince, Notre Dame Street, to whom all orders may be addressed for those outside the City who cannot attend the sale. Attentive Ushers will direct to seats and provide for the comfort of the audience. 3-20a.

MECHANICS' HALL. TWO NIGHTS ONLY.

Monday and Tuesday, 22nd and 23rd May, Miss JEANIE WATSON.

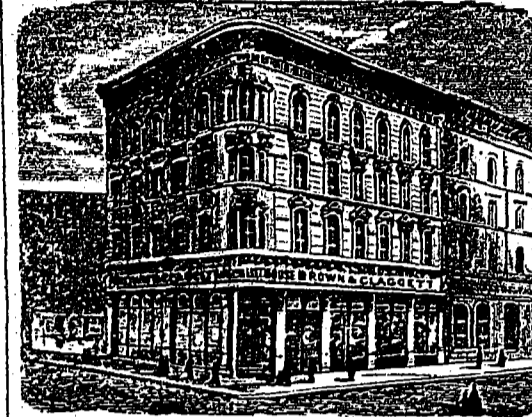
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THE CELEBRATED COMIQUE & PIANIST. WILL GIVE TWO of her POPULAR ENTERTAINMENTS as above.

Admission, 25c.; Reserved Seats, 50c. Doors open at 7:30; commence at 8. Reserved Seats may be secured at Prince's Music Store. FRANK KNIGHT, Business Manager.

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CORPORATION OF MONTREAL. ROAD DEPARTMENT. TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tenders for Small Sewers," will be received at the Office of the City Clerk until Noon on MONDAY, the 22nd instant, for the construction of Small Sewers in the undermentioned Streets or Sections of Streets, according to specifications and sections on view in the Office of the undersigned.

STREETS. SEWERS 3 X 2 EGG-SHAPED. Great St. James Street—From McGill Street to St. Francois Xavier Street. St. Dominique Street—From end of present drain to Ontario Street. Stanley Street—Throughout the length of said Street. Seaton Street—From Mignonne Street to Logan Street. Logan Street—From Sydenham Street to Seaton Street.

2 FEET CIRCULAR. Languechete Street—From Berri Street to St. Hubert Street. St. Helen Street—From end of present drain to a short distance S. E. of Recollet Street. Notre Dame Street—From end of present drain to Mr. Aylwin's property. Sanguinet Street—From end of present drain to Marie Louise Avenue. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted. The Road Committee reserve the right of accepting tenders for one or more Sewers.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that it is proposed to construct the above-mentioned Sewers during the present season, and proprietors or tenants in the above-mentioned Streets or Sections of Streets may avail themselves of the opportunity of making their private drains from their houses or yards into the said common Sewers; and proprietors in the said Streets objecting to the construction of said common Sewers, are hereby notified to file such objections with the Road Committee, or City Surveyor, on or before the said twenty-second day of May instant. By Order, P. MACQUISTEN, City Surveyor.

CITY SURVEYOR'S OFFICE, City Hall, Montreal, 13th May, 1871. 3-20a

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, OTTAWA, 14th April, 1871. Authorized discount on American Invoices until further notice: 10 per cent. R. S. M. BOUCHETTE, Commissioner of Customs.

The above is the only notice to appear in newspapers authorized to copy. 3-16 ff.



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SAVAGE, LYMAN & CO., 271 Notre Dame Street. 2-23zz

HOUSE FURNISHING HARDWARE.

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