Select Literature.

Apparent Death.

A Wonderful Feat Performed by Fakirs in Persia and Hindustan.

SIR CLAUDE M WADE'S NARRATIVE OF A CASE WITNESSED BY HIM—A MAN BURIED ALIVE FOR FORTY DAYS RESUSCITATED IN HALF AN HOUR.—THE SYSTEM OF DISCIPLINE ESSENTIAL TO PROFICIENCY IN THE ART OF DEATH-SIMULATION.

Scribner for December.]

(Concluded.)

In addition to the dietetic preliminaries, there are others which are partly gymnastic and partly emotional. The desciple must habituate himself to walking very slowly, in order to lessen the frequency of his respiration; he must lie down and rest as often and as long as possible. He must keep eternal silence and meditate incessantly on the nature of 'Om,'—the ocean of being into which, as a grain of salt, he is by and by to be absorbed. He must indulge in incessant prayers, in order to keep his whole system in a drowsy condition. Cases are on record in which Hindu devotees have repeated, but as inaudible as possible, the mysterious syllable 'Om' no less than 12,000 times a day. There are certain other words, however, with which the monotony is varied, and which are regarded as sleep-inducing. Among them are 'Soham,' 'Bam,' 'Lam,' 'Ram,' 'Yam,' and 'Ham'—all pronounced with the 'a' open, as in the English 'all,' and repeated in different orders of succession as many as 6 000 times per day.

After these exercises have been thoroughly practiced, the desciple must learn to remain for three hours in a position styled 'siddhasana'—which consists in sitting with the left heel under the body and the right heel advanced, and holding the big toe of the right foot with his right hand, and that of the left foot with the left hand, which causes the lower part of his face to rest firmly against the breastbone. He must also accustom himself to standing on his head, and to other gymnastic exercises of a type specially calculated to develop an obstinate endurance in maintaining himself in one given position. Simultaneously with this regimen, he must habituate himself to the practice of inhaling the air and retaining it for as many minutes as possible, taking care to breathe in very slowly, and to expel the volume with double deliberation. The inhalation must consume twelve seconds; the exhalation, twenty-four seconds. He next learns to breathe only through the nostrils then to inhale and retain atmospheric air; finally, to inhale with one nostril and exhale with the other.

It will be observed that one of the main tendencies of the fakir system of gymnastics is to bring the involuntary process under the control of volition. These respiratory exercises are not particularly difficult, as the curious student may ascertain from a few experiments. I have personally had very little practice in exercises of this kind; but I can repeat, without inconvenience, and slowly and distinctly, two stanzas of Poe's 'Raven' at a single breath, the whole amounting to about 170 syllables involving an equal number of vocal impulses and occupying about three minutes in pronunciation; and I presume that there are many elocutionists who are able to transform a single expiration from the lungs into 300 or 400 separate vocal impulses.

Having perfected himself in these minor exercises, the desciple must submit to twenty four incisions of the ligatures of the tongue, one every week. Immediately after these incisions the tongue is stroked and pulled, and carefully rubbed with astringents. The object of this cutting and manipulation is to lengthen the tongue and render it pliable. He now practices turning that member over backward, and closing the throat with its point, having previously inhaled as large a volume of air as the possible distention of his lungs and epigastrium will admit. The next step is to habituate himself to living with the nasal passages and the ears stoppered with wax.

These are the main exercises upon which the fakir relies for protection in his art. Upon examination of them, as constituting a regimen, the inquirer finds them to consist of three separate groups, all tending to a single purpose.

The first group, including the dietetic rules, is strictly physiological, and tends to establish a nutrition abounding in heat-formatives, while very unexciting.

The second group, which includes the surgery of the tongue, tends to develope a peculiar obstinacy and persistence of volition, and to bring the involuntary processes under the control of consciousness. The extent to which the latter may be carried is illustrated by the case of Col. Townsend, an Englishman, who was examined by the best physians of his day, and whose ability to arrest the vital fuctions so completely as to present in his own person a perfect similitude of death, and to recall himself to life by mere effort of will, is scientifically attested. 'Man doth not yield himself to the angles,' says strange Joseph Glanvil, 'nor unto death utterly, save only through the weakness of his own feeble will;' and facts occasionally occur, which serve to intimate that there is a kernel of truth in the apothegm of that ancient mystic,—one, by the way, that Poe had an affectation of quoting. Physiologically, the question resolves itself into this: Can the nerve-centres of the conscious life be brought under the control of volition? Theorists say they cannot. Facts say they can. Of the two it is generally better to credit the testimony of the facts.

The third group of exercises practiced by the fakir has a special tendency to induce a nervous state analogous to that known as mesmeric slumber. The curious reader who will experiment as to the physiological effect of the regular and measured pronunciation of the vowel 'o,' followed by the labial liquid 'm,' will find that the Hindu mystic by no means overestimates the sleep-inducing property of the combination; and that the full 'a' (as in the word 'fall'), similarly followed by 'm' is scarcely less potent in its nervous action. Observe, also, how deftly the fakir intermingles a vigilent volition with these sleep-inducing exercises, by prescribing for himself a mathematical accuracy as to the number of repetitions of the mystic 'Om,' and by taking care to arrange 'Soham,' 'Bam,' 'Lam,' 'Ram,' 'Yam,' 'Ham,' in different ways, and to allot a given number of repetitions to the different permutations.

The tendency of a culture of this special type is to induce that lethargy of the vital and muscular functions which is the primary condition of sleep, while maintaining in normal intensity the activity of those centres of brain appropriated to consciousness and violition; and, with what is known of the results attainable by morbid culture in a given direction—witness the phenomena of spiritualism,—it would be wholly unsafe to prescribe the limits of morbid function to which the Hindu mystic may attain. Sir Claude M. Wade testifies that in the case examined by him there was no indication of life, except that the coronial region of the brain still developed heat, that the restoration to light is an important factor in the process of resuscitation, is evidenced by facts. Drown flies in wine, and cork them in a bottle of Maderia for a period running into months; then lay them in the sunshine to dry, and they will 'come to,' perform their toilets with their fore legs, trim their wings with their hinder ones, and walk away about their business again. Bottle cerastes in dried sand for years; then put the withered creatures in the sun and they will crawl off. To ascend from insects and serpants to higher organisms, cats have been resuscitated after lying frozen stiff for ten hours; and it is very probable that a man might be resuscitated under similar circumstances, provided that the attempt was begun before the cardiac ganglion and other nerve centres indispensible to life had become disorganized. The difficulty with human beings, or with any adult among the higher animal, lies in the unstable equilibrium of their nervous systems, correlative with the extreme complexity of the latter; and consequent upon this, in the extreme facility with which those centres become damaged beyond possibility of repair.

It is not many years since a London swindler and his confederate, who was able to counterfeit 'rigor mortis,' practiced extensively on the insurance companies of the British metropolis. The trick was at last detected, however, and the rigor of the law was substituted for that of the grim sculptor who finally transforms all men into marble. Muscular rigidity has been shown, by the most recent physiological researches, to be really analogous, in many respects, to cadaveric rigidity. Not the least important point of resemblance lies in the association, in both cases of apparently exalted muscular irritability with entire loss of innervation to the muscle. If this loss be voluntarily induced, by means of such intense mental absorption as we have seen to be assiduously cultivated by the Hindu mystic, we may approximately understand the secret of the fakir.

Miscellaneous.

The Modern Meaning of Sunday Rest.

Beyond and above anything which sanctions Sunday as the Lord's day the periodic rest is marked out as the great natural law by which the forces of life are to be conserved to the best results. Men have never as now demanded this rest. The men who carry the burdens of the world's great industries, the men who go from counting rooms to homes with their heads aching, the men who have to work intensely as the condition of working at all, are quite as much to be considered as those who do not carry to their pillows a thousand anxieties. God has always provided rest for men in the natural order, and whenever they work seven days in the week they pay the penalty. The tender point is the unwillingness of some to concede that each one shall have the rest which he thinks that he needs. The restraint of social usage points to church-going, but the weary seamstress, the exhausted clerk, the devitalized mechanic, the artisans of every class, not less than the tired brain workers, need, perhaps, something just the reverse. Some need sleep, some sunshine, some domestic cheer, some an awakening book, some the patch of fresh grass or the forest ramble, some the inspiration of friends, some the quiet of prayer, some the words of the spiritual teacher, some the great sacrament of spiritual refreshment. This large liberty is granted by the State, and is practically taken by its citizens; but the friends of Christianity, appreciating what sweetness and light Christ puts into life, have hardly yet recognized what a sad, weary world we live in; how much the religious life depends upon the vitality of the people, or how closely sanity of mind and soul is connected with a healthy and restful body. The liberty to rest as each one thinks best on Sunday, and thereby not to cease to be respectable, is slowly gaining ground with good people, and all true advance into the higher uses of Sunday is based upon this concession on the part of those controlling the institutions which are the bulwarks of the Christian faith.—*Atlantic Monthly.*

Why Canada is Kept Back.

An American gentleman, who has been travelling in Canada, in a letter to the Boston *Post* gives among other reasons why Canada is handicapped in the race of progress, the following, which those acquainted with some parts of this country will be ready to vouch for as not being exaggerated:

'In nearly every county, a few traders or lumber merchants, monopolize business. They are generally selfish and narrow-minded. They hold mortgages on three-fourths of the farms, and the farmers are compelled to be their obedient servants. They will not brook opposition, and unite too often to crush out healthy competition. What are the consequences; It will be found that the farmer, unless he happens to be in the vicinity of a large town or city, or unless he is fortunate enough to be forehanded, the case with but few, instead of being paid in cash for his produce is paid in trade; that means he must take the trader's goods at exorbitant prices. Again the laborer or mechanic is paid in exactly the same way, or at least largely so. Is it any wonder then that young people, who hear that elsewhere cash payments are the rule, get tired of receiving nothing else than flour or tea, flannels or cottons, for their hard labor, and so betake themselves to the United States? It is surprising that the evil should have been so long tolerated, and that the press of the Province, generally enterprising, should be silent on the question, instead of awakening public opinion to bring some pressure to bear on Legislatures to suppress by some restrictions this great evil. There is no doubt such a

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BOSTON AND	General Mdse. Rate per 100 lb. CLASS. 1st	2d	3d	4th	Flour, Meal, Apples and Potatoes. 1000 bbl. lots. ₩ Bbl.	Under 1000 bbl. ₩ bbl.
	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.
Annapolis	32	26	22	16	22	26
Roundhill	36	30	24	18	24	29
Bridgetown	37	30	25	18	25	31
Paradise	39	32	26	19	26	22
Lawrencetown	41	34	27	20	27	34
Middleton	42	34	27	20	27	34
Wilmot	42	34	27	20	27	34
Kingston	44	36	29	22	29	37
Aylesford	45	37	31	22	30	38
Berwick	45	37	31	22	30	38
Waterville	45	37	31	22	30	38
Cambridge	45	37	31	22	30	38
Coldbrook	45	37	31	22	30	38
Kentville	46	37	31	22	30	38

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In the county of Annapolis, containing 149 acres of land; it cuts from 25 to 30 tons of hay, good pasturage, a young orchard, bearing from one hundred and fifty to two hundred barrels of apples, yearly, well watered, comfortable buildings.

For further particulars apply to

MARY E. WHEELOCK.

Lawrencetown, April 5th, 1881. 1m

Windsor & Annapolis Raiw'y.

Spring Arrangement.

Time Table,

COMMENCING

MON., 4th DAY APRIL, 1881.

Miles.	GOING WEST.	Express, Mon. Wednesday and Saturday only.	Passengers and Freight Daily.	Passengers and Freight Daily.
		A. M.	A. M.	P. M.
0	Halifax—leave	7 45	7 45	3 00
14	Windsor Junc—leave	8 24	8 37	3 50
46	Windsor	9 40	10 55	6 15
53	Hantsport	10 00	11 19	6 37
61	Grand Pre	10 22	11 46	7 05
			P. M.	
64	Wolfville	10 30	12 02	7 17
66	Port Williams	10 35	12 12	7 25
71	Kentville—arrive	10 50	12 30	7 40
	Do—leave	11 05	12 55	
83	Berwick	11 36	1 43	
88	Aylesford	11 50	2 04	
		P. M.		
95	Kingston	12 04	2 29	
98	Wilmot	12 12	2 42	
102	Middleton	12 23	2 58	
108	Lawrencetown	12 40	3 26	
111	Paradise	12 48	3 39	
116	Bridgetown	1 01	4 04	
124	Roundhill	1 20	4 32	
130	Annapolis—arrive	1 40	5 00	
	St. John by Steamer	7 30		

Miles.	GOING EAST.	Passengers and Freight Daily.	Passengers and Freight Daily.	Express, Mon. Wednesday and Saturday only.
		A. M.	A. M.	A. M.
	St. John—leave	.....	.....	8.00
				P. M.
0	Annapolis—leave	7 20		2 20
6	Round Hill	7 57		2 42
14	Bridgetown	8 23		02
19	Paradise	8 45		3 16
22	Lawrencetown	8 59		3 25
28	Middleton	9 30		3 42
32	Wilmot	9 47		3 53
35	Kingston	10 09		4 02
42	Aylesford	10 34		4 16
47	Berwick	10 58		4 30
59	Kentville—arrive	11 52		5 02
		P. M.		
	Do—leave	6 30	12 30	5 12
64	Port Williams	6 50	12 48	5 27
66	Wolfville	6 57	12 58	5 33
69	Grand Pre	7 10	1 14	5 41
77	Hantsport	7 36	1 41	6 05
84	Windsor	8 15	2 30	6 27
116	Windsor Junct	10 15	4 35	7 50
130	Halifax—arrive	11 00	5 25	8 25

N. B.—Trains are run on Railway Standard Time—15 minutes added will give Halifax time.

Steamboat Express Trains run on Mondays Wednesdays and Saturdays only.

Steamer "Empress" leaves St. John at 8 a. m. every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, for Digby and Annapolis, and returns same days, on arrival of 7.45 a. m. Express Train from Halifax.

Western Counties Railway trains leave Digby every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, at 4.00 p. m., on arrival of Steamer Empress, from Annapolis, and every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, at 12.30 p. m., for Yarmouth and Intermediate Stations, and leave Yarmouth at 7.45 a. m., daily, for Digby, connecting on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday with Steamer Empress, for Annapolis and Halifax.

International Steamers leave St. John every Monday and Thursday at 8 a. m., for Eastport, Portland and Boston.

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Through Tickets may be obtained at the principal Stations.

P. INNES, General Manager.

Kentville, March 31st, 1881.

NOTICE of ASSIGNMENT.

NOTICE is hereby given that

George H. H. McLean, of Margaretville,

in the County of Annapolis, Trader, on the 28th day of March, A. D., 1881, assigned to me by Indenture, all his Stock in trade, personal property, effects, choses in action, book debts, and securities of every kind and description, in trust for the payment of such of his creditors as shall execute the same within three months from the date thereof, according to the terms and conditions of the trusts therein mentioned.

The said Indenture lies at my house, where it can be inspected and signed by the said parties interested, and that the same is also recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Annapolis.

THOMAS McLEAN,
Assignee.

Dated at Margaretville, 28th day of March, 1881. 50 2m

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This, with our usual stock of SHELF AND HEAVY HARDWARE, makes one of the best assorted stocks in the Province.

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Rubber Buckt

PUMPS

THE subscribers wish to announce to the public that they have ordered a large stock, and are prepared to fill orders with promptness.

Satisfaction guaranteed. Parties can be supplied with pumps complete, or in parts to suit by addressing

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Bridgetown, August 17th, 1880. n19tf

EXECUTRIX'S NOTICE.

ALL persons having any legal demands against the estate of Dr. F. W. B. HARDING, late of Middleton, deceased, are requested to render the same, duly attested, within six months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to said estate, are requested to make immediate payment to

ELLEN S E. HARDING,
Executrix.

Middleton, Nov. 10th. 1880.

CARD.

Edmund Bent

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ENCOURAGE HOME MANUFACTURE.

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Of ITALIAN and AMERICAN Marble.

ALSO:

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Having erected Machinery in connection with J. B. Reed's Steam Factory, we are prepared to Polish Granite equal to that done abroad

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WHICH WE WILL SELL LOW FOR CASH.

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LEATHER! BOOTS & SHOES!

Of Every Description.

THROUGH my long years of experience I feel confidant at the beginning of a New Year, in calling attention to my present facilities to supply Harnesses, &c., at the very LOWEST PRICES:—

1st, I import mountings direct from manufacturers.
2nd, I manufacture the Leather
3rd, I employ the best workmen in the County.
4th, Am satisfied with a small margin.

I am thankful to my many patrons, and wish them in the coming year every prosperity, and that there may be a growing demand for first-class Harnesses.

COARSE BOOTS,

UPPER, GRAIN AND WAX, CALF-SKINS, SOLE LEATHER, ETC.

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as he hopes his Sales will increase under the New Tariff. He has his FACTORY fitted up with the MOST IMPROVED MACHINERY, and is running full time. He also intends adding to his now large STOCK, and can offer better inducements to Customers.

PARLOR FURNITURE, in Suits, from $60.00 to $120.00.

BEDROOM SUITS, in Pine, from $25.00 to $40.00. A good suit for $28.00.

SOFAS, $19.00 to $24.00.

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CENTRE TABLES, in solid Walnut, $8.00 to $10.00.

CENTRE TABLES, in Marble Tops $14.00 to $16.00.

BEDSTEADS, $2.50 to $3.00.

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Please call and examine my STOCK, and you will find as good an assortment as is generally kept in large Cities, and as things are hard I will sell at Prices that will DEFY COMPETITION.

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Artificial Stone Works.

Annapolis, N. S., Feb. 16th, 1881.

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$2 Watches, Stem Winders $2.50. White Metal Hunting Case $3. Imitation gold $6. Solid gold $12. Chain 25 cts and best for one or two months purposes. Valuable Catalogue free. Thompson & Co. 1d Nassau, N. Y.

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PROMPTLY RELIEVING

Pain and Inflammation,

FOR EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL USE.

FOR its quick and sure healing properties it has no equal. For its relieving and allaying inflammation no medicine has ever been compounded equal to it. It is perfectly safe to use at any and all times, and a quick and thorough cure from such complaints as Pains in the Chest, Shoulders, Back and Side, Burns, and Scalds, Sprains, Strains, Bruises, Rheumatism and Neuralgia Pains, Swellings of the Joints, Stiff Joints, Stiff Neck, Contracted, Muscles, Spinal Affections, White Swellings, Chafes, Callouses, Galls, Bunions, Chilblains, Corns, Frost Bites, Poisoning by Dogwood, Ivy, Bites, Stings of Insects, Chapped Hands, Ringworms, Salt Rheum, Tetter, Pimples, Itching, Dry Scaly Eruptions of the skin, Scald Head, Outward Humors, of all kind, Hemorrhoids, Piles, Numbness, Worms, Ague in the Face, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, Coughs, Croup.

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It relieves Pain. Good for Swollen Limbs. Physicians Prescribe and Use It.

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Mr. H. R. Stevens,—Dear Sir: I have lately witnessed decidedly good and striking effects of your FAMILINE in a case of *Erysipilas* of nearly three years' standing. When I first saw my patient, a lady of nearly 50 years of age, she was complaining of a severe swollen condition of her feet; the skin was tense and angry looking, painful on the slightest motion, and likely to burst at any moment. She had tried many remedies without relief, and my first treatment failed in its effects. I suggested that the feet be painted with FAMILINE morning and night and then enclosed in soft cotton dressing. When I saw her last, about three days ago, the pain had wholly vanished, the swelling reduced to almost the normal condition, and the inflammation subsided. With proper care as to diet, and slight constitutional treatment, I think she has nothing to fear from her old disease in the future.

I ought to state that I was led to try FAMILINE in this case, simply on the recommendation of my wife, who had been pleased with its effects in a severe case of *burn*, also in a painful backache, resulting from a settled cold. Notwithstanding that it professes to be a "proprietary" article, I cannot conscientiously deny its admirable composition and efficiency.

I am yours truly,
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Familine.

For Croup and Sore Throat.

your FAMILINE in constant use in my family for more than a year, and find it an invaluable remedy for the many complaints for which it is recommended, the chief of which, in my family of four small children, seems to be *Croup.* Were it not for your Family Balsam, I should hardly dare close my eyes in sleep. It instantly relieves *Croup*; also is an excellent medicine for *Coughs* and *Sore Throat.* Too much cannot be said in praise of it. I have recommended it to many others, who have tried it with equally good results.

Very gratefully,
MRS. WM. WHALLEN,
41 Newman St., South Boston, Mass.

Price 25c. and 50c. per Bottle.

PREPARED BY

H. R. STEVNS,

Proprietor of Vegetine, Boston, and Toronto, Ont.

FAMILINE is sold by all Druggists.

IMPORTATION OF

FALL DRY GOODS.

1 CASE EACH OF Black Silk Velvets, Colored Silk Velvets, Bl'k and Col'd French Silks, Colored Satins, Lace Mitts and Ribbons, Straw Hats, Hat and Bonnet Shapes, Dress Trimmings and Ornaments, French Wove Corsets, Ladies' Belts, Book Muslins, I. R. Braces, Scotch Tweeds, Waterproof Coats, Ginghams and Dark Galateas, Oxford Shirtings, Table Damasks and Towels, Towellings, Pillow Cottons, all widths, English White Cotton, Gentleman's Scarfs & Ties.

2 Cases each of Dress and Ulster Buttons, Fashionable Dress Materials, Lining Cottons, Bleached Sheetings.

3 Cases Knitting Yarns; 8 Cases Prints; 14 Cases Cotton Swandsdown Flannels; 1 Bale Fine American Unbleached Cotton.

WHOLESAIL AND RETAIL.

Manchester, Robertson & Allison.

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$72 a week. $12 a day at home easily made. Costly outfit free. Address True & Co., Agusta, Maine.

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DENTAL and Toilet Goods, School Books and apparatus, &c., Stationery &c., Fine and Fancy do, Jewelry and Silver Ware warranted Goods.

TERMS CASH, NO CREDIT.

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Middleton, Jan. 3rd, 1880.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

IN order to meet the demands of our numerous customers, we beg to announce that we have added to our extensive

Slipper and Larrigan Factory

the necessary Machinery for the Manufacture of

Men's, Women's, Misses', & Children's

BOOTS AND SHOES

in all the leading styles.

By continuing, as in the past, to use first quality of material, we hope to merit a liberal share of public patronage in our new branch of business, as well as a continuance of public favor in our old business.

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O. R. O.

COLLAR!

Best Now in Use, Largest Stock in Town, All Sizes.

New Jewellery—Rings, Brooches, Ladies Sets, Cuff Buttons and Shirt Studs, Fancy Goods, &c.

I will from this date to Sep. 30th sell for CASH at SMALL ADVANCES ON COST balance of Summer and Spring Goods.

EXPECT BARGAINS—As a special inducement I offer ten per cent. discount on all bills paid in full with CASH before 30th inst.

J. W. TOMLINSON

Lawrencetown, July 15th, 1880

Encyclopedia Britannica.

Subscriptions will be taken at this office. Payments are made very easy and extend over a period of five or six years, enabling a person of very moderate means to secure this invaluable work.

$66 a week in your own town. Terms and $5 outfit free. Address H. Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine.

COME TO THIS OFFICE FOR YOUR BILLHEADS.

Joker's Corner.

Whiskey and Soda.

How an old Preacher lost his Coat-Tails—a strange Predicament.

An amusing trial has just taken place before a Little Rock magistrate. Rev. Mr. Wiley, an old gentleman who preached to his slaves before the war, and who, since the emancipation of slaves, has been engaged in the work of reconstructing white sinners who were demoralized by the rebellion, came to this city several days ago. He went into a tinner's shop to buy a coffee-pot, and after making the purchase, seated himself on a bench. It was not intended that the bench should be used exclusively as a settee, for on the edge was arranged a long knife, used for cutting sheet tin. Under the bench was a kind of treadle, which when pressed, operated the knife. The old gentleman wore a long-tailed, brown jean frock coat, and in one pocket was a bottle of whiskey, in the other a pound of soda. Lifting his coat tails, he naturally shoved them back. The weight of the whiskey drew them over the edge of the bench, immediately under the knife.

'This is a curious business,' he said, 'makin' coffee-pots and mendin' biles. If my wife was to come in here, the glitterin' of all this tinware would make her mouth water. When you string out a lot of tin before a woman you make her squint. Well, I believe I'll be a-goin.' It's gettin' along toward the shank of the evenin.'

In attempting to get down the old gentleman unconsciously pressed the treadle. The knife descended and cut off his coat-tails so close that his coat looked like a roundabout.

'What the devil—may the Lord forgive me for using such a word—but I still say what the devil made you cut off my coat tails?'

The tinner gathered up the remnants that nothing might be wasted, and explained to the old minister that he himself was solely to blame as he had pressed the treadle.

'That's a nice yarn. You put that thing out there to ruin me. Now you've got to pay for it.'

He swore out a warrant, and had the tinner summoned to appear before a Justice of the Peace. When the trial came off the old man related how he had been deprived of his coat tails, grew enthusiastic, and declared that he had always heard that the devil's machine shop was in Little Rock, but that he did not know why he should have been selected as a victim. The tinner explained, and the Justice, much amused, asked:

'What was in your coat tail pockets?'

'A bottle of whiskey and a pound of soda.'

'Don't you know a minister of the Gospel should not carry whiskey in his pockets? Why did you have the whiskey, which you must acknowledge was prima facie evidence that you had been drinking?'

'Wall, I'll tell you. I got the whiskey for communion purposes. It's all right to talk about wheat bread and wine, but if you want to please my congregation you have to spread out corn bread and whiskey, and plenty of it.'

Failing in his suit, the old man declares that he will take it to a higher court, avowing that he is too old to be fooled with by a machine put in operation by the devil.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

He Stood the Test.

The other morning a young man of affable manners presented himself at the box-office of a variety show at Petaluma, and requested a press-pass.

'You don't claim to be a journalist, do you?' asked the manager, glancing suspiciously at the good clothes and innocent expression of the applicant.

'Yes, I do, though; I'm on the Fleatown *Snapper.*'

'Hum! What is your department?' growled the manager. 'I was a newspaper man myself once.'

'I do the 'Answers to correspondents,' asserted the youth.

'Do, eh? Lemme see! What was the fastest mile ever skated backward for money in the United States?'

'That question is always signed Nimrod,' said the young man, promptly; 'and the answer is, 'Died in Brazil, 1446.'

'Correct,' said the manager. 'When was Cleopatra hung?'

'Trim with deep ruching, and bake before a quick fire.'

'Did Oliver Cromwell have a blue wart on his chin?'

'B takes the trick, of course.'

'Was Queen Elizabeth bandy-legged, or only bandied in one leg? And how do you take ink stains out of marble?'

'Inquire at any hardware store. Patagonia was discovered by Benjamin Franklin in 1293.'

'That settles it,' said the manager, promptly shelling out a private box check. 'I see you've got 'em all by the heart. Pass right in!'—*San Francisco Post.*

—A Baltimore detective was singularly fortunate while he was out hunting for a man who tried to wreck a freight train recently by means of a cross-tie. He dressed himself up as a tramp, and as he was walking around in that character at night he was stopped by a genuine tramp with a revolver and a demand for his money. The detective recognized in the tramp the criminal he was looking for, and pretending to be scared, he replied: 'Why, you don't think I've got anything worth robbing me of, do you? I've been on the road for four months. I've come all the way from Ohio, and I want to get to New York. I ain't as well fixed as you, though I'm on the same lay. I had a pistol, but had to sell it to get grub.' The tramp agreed to temporary partnership, and pocketed his pistol, and the detective seizing his arm, presented his pistol and handcuffed him.

Man's Self-Importance.

Mrs. Jameson, in more instances than one, shows her belief in self importance being man's prime quality. Here is one thing that breathes a hard spirit. 'Personal vanity in a man is sheer, unmitigated egotism, and an unfailing subject of ridicule and contempt with all women, be they wise or foolish.' The Countess of Blessington, who was almost as wise as she was handsome, has left a few out spoken opinions, of which one is that 'Self-possession and dignity ought to characterize a man of birth and genius, and a poet should never be gay nor flippant.' Here is a stinger: 'Men can pity the wrongs inflicted by *other* men on the gentler sex, but never those which they themselves inflict on women.' Though the following would apply equally well to women, it is worth remembering as showing