

A POINTER.



When looking around for Christmas presents do not forget that a picture nicely framed is useful, ornamental, a source of pleasure, and can be had all the way from 50c upwards.

E. N. HUNT
190 DUNDAS STREET.

HONORE'S FATE.

"Does Mrs. Payte's servant help you a little now?" inquired Honore, when at last she rose to take her leave.
"Yes, she does, indeed, Miss Craven—
a little. She is growing rather kind to me, but Mrs. Payte—she is not odd? I can never understand her."
"No, it is not easy, indeed," smiled Honore. "When will your father be home, Marie?"
"Oh, he is away, Miss Honore. Did you not know?"
"Indeed, I did not."
"I thought you would, Miss Craven, because he was sent for by Mr. Keith a week ago."

Marie made a pause here, without knowing it, wondering at the softened brightness of Honore's eyes.
"A week ago, Miss Craven, he read an advertisement for a photographer's assistant, a long way off—more than 35 miles—and rather fancied he might do, because he understands his work so well; so we managed to get the money for his railway ticket, and he went. They—they told him, before they asked him a single question, Miss Honore, that he was too old; and so he walked home, for he had no other ticket. It was quite the middle of the night when he came in here, so jaded and white I hardly knew him, and his boots all worn to the ground."

"Then where is he now, Marie?" asked Honore, her eyes dim with pity.
"Now, Miss Honore, the girl said in a brighter tone, he is at Westleigh Towers. Mr. Keith seemed to have learned of his disappointment, though father himself did not know now, and the very next day he sent for father to go over there with his camera, and he wanted several photographs taken, and father was to go prepared to stay for a time. Oh, Miss Honore, he was just like a boy that day, and—and yet was ashamed before me of being so happy, because—poor father!—I was not going. As if it was not more to me than going myself, for him to get Miss Honore," added the girl, presently, seeing the tears slowly gather in Honore's beautiful eyes, "rather sent me a likeness of Mr. Keith. Perhaps he ought not to have done it; but he did; he knew I should not show it about, but keep it sacredly and value it, as he sent it. Will you see it, Miss Craven?"
"No, thank you, Marie," said Honore, quietly.

"Oh, do," urged Marie, drawing the photograph from between the leaves of a book which lay beside her on the couch, and unfolding it from its silver paper. "Do look, Miss Craven, I think father has taken it beautifully."
So Honore took the picture in her hands, but it was many minutes before the figure grew distinct before her misty eyes. The photograph had evidently included Royden, without his knowledge. He was sitting in a deep thought, his eyes fixed gravely on the fire, his dogs lying about the rug at his feet.

To one who did not know him it was the photograph of a very handsome man, thoroughly artistic in the unconscious grace of attitude. But to one who knew him it was far more than that. To Honore, the face, in its thought and patience, and yet in its power and strength, for that minute seemed to be really with her.

"Well, Honore, how much longer are you going to stay here?"
She gave back the likeness with a stifled sigh, yet was glad to be called away before she could speak of it.
"I am coming, Mrs. Payte, in one minute."

The little old lady was pausing at the kitchen door, evidently considering that to tread beyond the threshold would contaminate her, and holding her handkerchief to her nose, as if the air of the clean little room were poisonous.
"That lazy girl always detains you when you come here," she grumbled, holding her shabby brown dress about her ankles, lest the floor should sully it. "She never exerts herself for anyone; why should you exert yourself for her?"

"Mrs. Payte," cried Honore, her eyes brilliant with sudden passion; "you are unjust, and I will not listen to such words of Marie in her helplessness and her pain. She never detains me. I stay here because I like to stay. I am very glad when I can stay with her, and it does me good, because she is so patient and so gentle. She would exert herself for everyone, if she were able, and be far more useful to me, if I were ill, than ever I have been to her."

WE HAVE IT....

—That so much talked about, celebrated....

Ralston's Health Club Breakfast Food

which has the indorsement of its president as a perfect food, being delicious, and only takes five minutes to cook. We keep it, and if you have not tried it, please do so on our recommendation, and you will be delighted.

Ralston, Scandren & Co.
30 DUNDAS STREET.

The little old woman in the doorway had dropped her dress and was breathing the plebeian air in gasps. She had seen a flash of Honore's anger before, but never passionately roused, as now. And to hear her class herself so humbly with that poor creature! How beautiful she looked too, with one hand lying gently on the head of the sick girl.
"You don't look at all likely to be ill," chuckled the old lady, "so how can we judge? Are you coming away now?"
"I will follow you," said Honore.

Left again, she stooped beside the couch and comforted Marie, who was trembling still in her nervous fear. Then, when she had brought a smile at last to the pallid, troubled face, she rose to go. Mrs. Payte met her fiercely in the doorway of Mrs. Disbrow's room.
"Do you recall all you said to me before that woman?"
"I am very sorry I spoke so hastily," said Honore, "but I cannot recall a single word I said."

"Very well, then," retorted the old lady, "don't, are you going home now?"
"Not unless you wish it. I have an hour's liberty still. Will you let me stay?"
"Oh, stay by all means, or I shall be favored with Selina's groans all evening. What does the doctor say about that girl downstairs? Will she get well?"

"I fear not," said Honore pitifully. "He says she needs care and rest, and ease and nourishment, and all these things, we know, are beyond her reach."
"He orders her port wine, I suppose, and beef and mutton—doctors always do when their patients are poor. If you can stay, child, I'll put on my shawl and make a 'all or two'."

"Honore," said Mrs. Disbrow, smiling, when the restless little lady had bustled out of the room, "hard as she is herself, she takes care that her servant shall help that poor girl; and all I dare say, nourishing things will be sent in to her. Edna is very strange, but I understand her."
Honore almost unconsciously breathed a sigh of relief. The one great pain, to her generous and compassionate nature, was the feeling that this patient invalid, for her only companion, one who was so hard, and cross, and dissatisfied. To know that this thought need not harass her now, was a relief indeed; and for the remainder of her stay at East Cottage she was as bright as one of those rare sunbeams which looked in now and then at the calm, submissive face upon the pillows.

CHAPTER XVII.

"Mrs. Payte,"
Mrs. Trent's eyes turned languidly to her drawing-room door when this visitor was announced that afternoon, but she made no advance to meet her. "A cold day, she remarked indifferently, as she touched the little old lady's hand with her soft fingers.
"Cold, is it?" returned Mrs. Payte, looking inquisitively at Theodora, who was making an elaborate process of collecting her wools before she rose. "I did not notice. I feel not enough myself, for I have been put out."
"Utter silence. Such a plain hint that the feelings and temper of Mrs. Edna Payte were matters of supreme indifference to the ladies at Westleigh. That the bold little visitor herself for a moment was non-plussed—only for a moment, though."
"Yes, I have been put out," she resumed, sitting—she was unusually still, and making strenuous use of her eyes, "by Honore Craven."

"Indeed?"
A faint and languid sign of interest at last.
"She is at my house now, dancing attendance, forsooth upon my sick friend, but it is not that nonsense that put me out. It was her ridiculous determination not to make any effort to be agreeable to Lady Lawrence when she arrives. Bless me, why should one of the family—however insignificant a one—retire, and leave greater chance to the others?"

"Why, indeed?"
This was all Theodora could say, in the very decided pause which the rapid little speaker made; but her face was growing full of interest now.
[To be continued.]

SUICIDAL DYSPESIA

Positively Averted by Using Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets.

Does Dyspepsia kill?
Yes! In thousands of instances Dyspepsia has given the invitation to death.

This may be a startling statement. But it is a true one.
Dyspepsia unchecked causes a melancholy, hopeless feeling. Soon this merges into dark and dreary despondency. Then follows insanity—which is the second stage of despondency.
The inevitable tendency of all who suffer from melancholy insanity is to commit suicide. In nine cases out of ten they succeed.

Thus Dyspepsia leads to death.
Now, there's not the least necessity for this. It need not be so, and can be prevented as easily as you can fall asleep. There's no secret about how it is done. Simply use Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets—one or two after each meal—for a couple of weeks, and the thing is done.
Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets are a perfectly perfect digestive. They digest the food themselves; they don't need help.

Sometimes Constipation accompanies dyspepsia and indigestion. In each box of Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets is a supply of smaller tablets that are the most perfect bowel regulators ever made. Taken with Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets they fit the bowels to perform their duty, which is supplementary to the digestive process.

Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets have never failed, never will fail, cannot fail to cure any case of indigestion, dyspepsia or other stomach trouble. They digest the food, strengthen the stomach, and banish dyspepsia and indigestion, naturally and rapidly.
Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets, each box containing a full double treatment, can be purchased from all druggists, at 50 cents a box, or will be sent on receipt of the price, by the Dodds Medicine Company, Limited, Toronto.

The True Remedy.

Wm. Duggan, St. Albans street, Toronto, says: "We won't keep house without Ralston's Food Syrup and Tolu for consumption, coughs, colds, croup or bronchial troubles. Experimented with many others, but never got the true remedy until we used Ralston's Food Syrup and Tolu. No other remedy can take its place in our home, as in it we have a certain and sure cure for coughs, colds, croup, whooping cough, etc. We would not be without it in the house."

It is idle to experiment with other remedies, even if they are urged on you as just as good as "Ralston's Food Syrup and Tolu." They are not as good, because this remedy has a record of cures, and besides, is guaranteed. It never fails to satisfy. 35 cents.

Middlesex County Council.

Wm. McLeod Appointed High Constable of Middlesex.

Handsome Rate for County Debentures—Treasurer's Report of Finances—The Toll Road Remains for the Present.

FRIDAY'S SESSION.

The county council resumed at 2 p.m., and the members lost no time from that hour until 6 o'clock, when an adjournment was made. A number of important matters were disposed of, one of which was the appointment of the high constable. There were fourteen applicants, and eight ballots were taken before a majority of the council was secured. Wm. McLeod, formerly of Lucan, but now of the city, was declared elected by the following vote:

A. C. Attwood	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B. F. Waterworth	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
J. B. Simpson	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
J. A. Hughes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
J. N. Dods	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
J. G. Pritchett	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
R. W. Ward	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Samuel Glass	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
C. F. Cape	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
S. Spicknell	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
John Spence	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
J. B. Parsons	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wm. McLeod	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

The report of the special committee on the petition of the Port Line road was discussed at length. It recommended that the county council grant \$6,000 towards its purchase. A deputation from the city, composed of Mayor Little, Ald. Parnell, Taylor, Carrothers and Bennett, waited on the council regarding this matter. Mayor Little pointed out that tolls were a disgrace to the township of London, and a relic of the dark ages. The council decided to set apart \$1,000 towards the purchase of the road, and if the county council would contribute \$6,000, the township council and the city council would contribute the remainder. He felt sure that the abolition of toll roads would be a great benefit not only to the citizens, but to every farmer in the county.

After much discussion a vote was taken on the committee's report, resulting in a tie. The council then adjourned until next week. Yeas—Councilors Stewart, McLeod, Campbell, Webster, Hardy, Bennett, Morgan, and Warden Leitch—8. Nays—Councilors Elson, Jackson, Duffin, Hodgins, Bradley, McLachlan, Murray, Burch—8. Laid over.

Mr. C. C. Hodgins and Mr. Morgan moved a vote of thanks to Mayor Little and the council for the copies of "Illustrated London," which was made an item of the council's standing vote. Mr. Simon McLeod, in speaking of Mayor Little, said he had done more to influence the council's affairs than any man who ever came before it. He was sure that if the mayor could persuade the other half of the council to vote for the purchase of the road, he would confer a benefit on the county.

The second report of the jail committee was adopted. It recommended that the county council should be awarded as follows, provided the parties enter into bonds for the fulfillment of the contract: Wood—George J. Gentry, \$1,500; at \$14 per cord; D. McPherson, 35 cords, at \$4.24 per cord. Beef—George F. Morris, hindquarters 1 1/4 per pound. Groceries, W. Lawson; bread, Wm. West, 2 1/2 per pound.

BIG PRICE FOR DEBENTURES.
The report of the special committee on the petition of the toll road was discussed at length. It recommended that the county council grant \$6,000 towards its purchase. A deputation from the city, composed of Mayor Little, Ald. Parnell, Taylor, Carrothers and Bennett, waited on the council regarding this matter. Mayor Little pointed out that tolls were a disgrace to the township of London, and a relic of the dark ages. The council decided to set apart \$1,000 towards the purchase of the road, and if the county council would contribute \$6,000, the township council and the city council would contribute the remainder. He felt sure that the abolition of toll roads would be a great benefit not only to the citizens, but to every farmer in the county.

Councilor Hodgins, chairman of the committee, congratulated the council on the excellent standing of the county financially. The report was unanimously adopted. **RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.**
A statement of the receipts and expenditures of the county of Middlesex for Dec. 21, 1896, to Dec. 3, 1897, was submitted and ordered to be printed in the minutes. The receipts were: From county rate—Adelaide, \$3,599.74; Biddulph, \$1,738.25; Dorchester, \$4,003.57; Elfrid, \$3,938.23; Lobo, \$4,480.86; London, \$3,689.44; McGilguy, \$2,978.75; Metcalfe, \$2,329.25; Mossa, \$3,018.86; Nissouri, \$3,608.44; Westminster, \$6,223.10; Williams East, \$3,291.39; Williams West, \$2,329.25; Parkhill, \$4,517.77; Alisa Craig, \$216.60; Glenice, \$907.16; London West, \$855.25; Lucan, \$285.87; Newbury, \$272.77.

From various lands tax, \$2,466.48; from provincial government re-administration of justice, \$6,628.61; government grant to schools, \$5,571; proceeds of sale of debentures, \$21,000. These, together with various other sums and a balance of \$28,161.60 remaining over from 1896, bring the total up to \$134,257.07.

The disbursements for the same period were \$53,495.84, of which \$31,837.20 was devoted to the redemption of debentures and coupons, \$2,226.65 to cost of administration of justice; paid to constables, \$2,476.09; maintenance of county gaol, \$3,353.61; legislative grant to public schools, \$5,571; county grant to high schools, \$5,060.69; maintenance of patients in hospital, \$1,561.54; maintenance of House of Refuge, \$4,004.54; municipal government expense, \$4,803.61; erection and maintenance of bridge, \$19.88. The balance remaining is \$50,761.23, which includes the uninvested part of the sinking fund, and stands to the credit of the county in the Bank of Toronto.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.
On motion of H. Hardy, the usual grant of \$25 was given to provide a Christmas dinner for inmates of the House of Refuge.

On motion of D. B. Burch and P. Elson, the county commissioner was empowered to sell or remove certain sheds or structures and portions of fence in the court house grounds, as in his opinion are not necessary, without undue expense, and portion of the court house square be seeded and ornamented with shrubs and trees.

The first report of the petitioning committee was adopted. In reference to certain sheds or structures and portions of fence in the court house grounds, as in his opinion are not necessary, without undue expense, and portion of the court house square be seeded and ornamented with shrubs and trees.

Regarding the petition and deputations re the annexation of the land west of the city, the clerk was instructed to draft a petition in support of their contention, and forward it to the proper authorities.

On motion of C. C. Hodgins and D. F. Stewart, the treasurer was instructed to pay to the treasurer of Alisa Craig \$15.44, being an equivalent to the county tax on the sum of \$10,000, which was the amount of the reduction of the equalization of that village and that the equalization for 1897 be corrected by having the \$10,000 struck therefrom in the proportion of six to four—six from Middlesex proper and four from the Huron portion of Middlesex.

The House of Refuge committee recommended heavy fines, the payment of \$100.82, the price of the refrigerator for the refuge, and that \$100 be granted towards the maintenance of the two insane and destitute children, the face, Colby family in Biddulph. Adopted.

The second report of the board recommended that the following amounts retained from contractors for non-completion of contracts, be paid: Samuel Pierson, \$94; L. Hardy, \$21; Robt. Patterson, \$22.

The engineer was recommended to ascertain whether or not the proposed bridge on the town line between Adelaide and Strathroy is within the meaning of the act as a county bridge and report at the January session. The engineer was empowered to act in conjunction with the other parties concerned respecting the erection of bridges proposed in this report. All of which was adopted.

TERRIBLE STORY

Told by an Elgin County Girl—Alleged Cruelty of a Stepmother.

The fourteen-year-old daughter of a farmer who resides in Southwold tells a terrible tale of abuse, says the St. Thomas Times. Thursday night about 8:30 o'clock she was found in the woods near the city limits by a farmer. The girl refused to go home, but consented to go to the residence of her aunt, who lives on Walnut street. The girl presented a terrible sight. She was dressed in a light summer dress and wore a pair of boy's heavy shoes, but no stockings. She had a large scar across her face, and her mouth was badly swollen. She says early in the morning her stepmother struck her across the face, with a horse-whip, and otherwise ill-treated her. She ran away from home, and secreted herself in the woods, where she remained all day. She says that her stepmother misused the children shamefully. It is alleged that one child is in an asylum owing to abuse received, and that another is paralyzed. Constable Fairbrother has the matter in hand, and it is likely the woman will be summoned to appear in court.

EXCEEDS \$1 A VOTE.

Expense of Running Seth Low's Campaign in New York.

New York, Dec. 11.—The statement of J. Kennedy Tod, treasurer of the Citizens' Union, that the campaign for Seth Low had cost \$148,000, or nearly a dollar for each vote cast for him, aroused surprise among veteran politicians. The maintenance of the assembly district headquarters in the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx cost \$33,000, or nearly \$1,000 for each district. The committee on literature spent \$14,000, which sum went to pay for 751 posters, 33,155 placards, 999,900 handbills, 577,783 cards, 436,454 pamphlets, 21,600 books and 91,000 lithographs. These books were printed in various languages.

The speakers in the present city of New York cost \$13,000. The cost of the work done at the polls on election day, with the preparation thereof, was \$30,000.

The \$148,000 mentioned by Mr. Tod does not include the money spent in Mr. Low's behalf. The Brookfield Republican organization and the citizens' committee of 50, of Brooklyn, conducted independent campaigns, and their outlay was probably \$50,000 more.

The Windsor St. Andrew's Society elected its officers by acclamation. F. Macpherson is president; Dr. Wm. McEachran, vice-president; George Bartlett, treasurer, and Andrew Braid, secretary. The constitution was amended to permit of the creation of the office of bard, and Robert Barr, father of Luke Sharp, was elected.

Palmer Cox's

Xmas Books

FREE

To Children.

The Abbey Effervescent Salt Company have purchased a large number of Palmer Cox's "Brownie" Series of Christmas Books, and want to give them to the children as Christmas gifts. These books are exactly similar to those sold at book stores. They are written by E. Yeale, the Fairy Tale author, and are prettily illustrated by the famous Palmer Cox. Each book is bound in a colored paper cover, also illustrated by Palmer Cox. There are twelve books in the series. Only one will be sent to any one address, but you may have your choice. The books are as follows:

Busy Brownies	Monkey's Trick
Funny Foxes	Fox's Story
Cock Robin	Jolly Chinese
Birds' Wedding	Jack the Giant
Merry Mice	Rival Babies
Bonnie Birds	First Trousers

Only two conditions need be observed in replying to this advertisement. Mention this paper, and inclose a one cent stamp to pay the actual cost of postage for mailing the book you may select. Write your name and address plainly. Address

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(LIMITED),
Montreal, Canada.

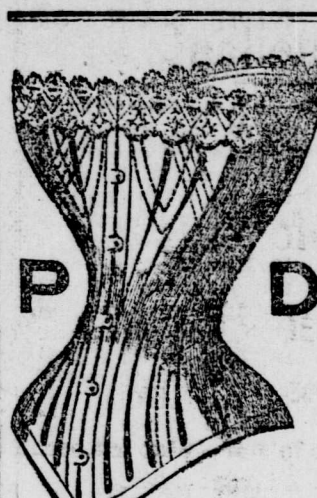
Abbey's Effervescent Salt is a standard English preparation which has been introduced into Canada within the past six months. It was introduced and prescribed for years by English and European physicians before it was introduced here. It is now prescribed by the most eminent Canadian physicians because of its excellence and great worth. The daily use of Abbey's Effervescent Salt will keep you in good health, and give you a regular of health. Your druggist will supply you with it at 60 cents a large bottle. Trial size, 25 cents.

WE DON'T KEEP Furniture! WE SELL IT!

'Tis true we make and handle it, but our fine quality of goods and extremely low prices don't allow the stock to remain in our showrooms long. Our increasing trade is evidence of the growing popularity of our store. We extend thanks to our many customers for their liberal patronage during the year now closing, and hope, by fair dealing and continued low prices, we will not only retain our old friends but secure many new ones. Young people about to start housekeeping **WILL MAKE A BIG MISTAKE** if they do not make a thorough inspection of our well-stocked warerooms before purchasing. Our furniture is of the grade that is always the wisest and most economical to buy.

John Ferguson & Sons

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French **P. D.** Corsets.

10 GOLD MEDALS.

P. D. CORSETS are in the lead, again having received the **FIRST PRIZE** at the Universal Exhibition, in Brussels, 1897. To be obtained in all leading drygoods stores.

SATURDAY

NIGHT'S CHRISTMAS is, without doubt the finest Canadian publication. It has 40 pages of reading, stories, sketches, poetry and beautiful illustrations by such writers as Charles Gordon Rogers, E. Pauline Johnson (Tekahionwake), W. A. Fraser, W. E. Tupper, Kathleen Sullivan, Grace Sandys Denison, E. E. Sheppard, "Maack," of TORONTO **SATURDAY NIGHT**, Keppel Strange, with illustrations by F. H. Bridgen, J. E. Laughlin, F. S. Challener, C. H. Kahrs and others. Some of the literary features of **SATURDAY NIGHT'S**

NIGHT'S

Christmas are admirable. For instance the beautiful illustrated account of the St. Lawrence River—the Pleasure Vein of a Continent; the account of a visit to the graves of Three Great Canadians, Sir John A. Macdonald, Hon. A. Mackenzie and Hon. George Brown, with photos of the graves and the living persons. The Climate of Canada—an article that will help to set Canada right: We're not a country of "snows" entirely. And the two lithographs of farm life in 1837 and in 1897. They are, and will be, historical. Don't miss them. Fill your living rooms with sunshine or send them to friends.

Buy of your newsdealer or send 50 cents to the Sheppard Pub. Co., Limited, "Saturday Night" Building, Toronto, and get a copy of **SATURDAY NIGHT'S**

CHRISTMAS.

RUBBERS & OVERSHOES

1853—FORTY-FOUR YEARS—1897

THE CANADIAN RUBBER CO.'S

RECORD IN MAKING RUBBERS.

RESULT:

Rubbers that "WEAR" and are "UP TO DATE" as their immense sale and popularity proves

STANDARD NEVER LOWERED.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Feather and down cushions, 50 cents each. Large stock of goose feather pillows and mattresses. Fancy rockers, bedroom suites. Stoves bought and sold at the Feather Bed and Mattress Cleaning Factory, James F. Hunt & Sons, 563 Richmond street North. Telephone 997.

Just arrived, a fine lot of new Extension Tables, polished oak, ash and elm, beautifully finished, the latest pattern and latest popular price—low, at Wm. Trafford's, 95 and 97 King street.

The Wabash Railroad.

With its superb and magnificent train service is now acknowledged to be the most perfect railway system in America, the great winter tourist route to the south and west, including the famous Hot Springs of Arkansas, Old Mexico (the Egypt of the new world), Texas and California (the land of sunshine and flowers). Passengers going by the Wabash new line reach their destination in advance of other routes. Wabash trains reach English and European cities before any other railroad in the world. Detailed information will be gladly furnished by any railroad agent or J. A. Richardson, northeast corner King and Yonge streets, Toronto.

Phone 644 for Yeoman's Weather Strips.

THE COLLECTING MANIA.

"We are all watching for Madge; she promised to go by our house with her collection." "Collection? What is she collecting?" "Dudes."

Keep Minard's Liniment in the house. Do not lose courage by considering your own imperfections, but instantly set about remedying them; every day begin the task anew.

None So Excellent.

"I have been troubled with sick headache for over a year. Lately I have used Laxa-Liver Pills, and find that they help me more than any other medicine I have ever taken. They are an excellent pill, causing no pain or griping, and leaving no after ill effects." Miss Mary Ellen Hicks, South Bay, Ont.

Help somebody worse off than yourself, and you will find you are better off than you fancied.
THERE is not a more dangerous class of disorders than those which affect the breathing organs. Nullify this danger with Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil—a pulmonary acknowledged efficacy. It cures soreness and lameness, wheezing and external, as well as swollen neck and creak in the back; and, as an inward specific, possesses most substantial claim to public confidence.