while far away the winding Hudson gleamed like a string of silver under the moonlight. Lights in happy homes twinkled like fire-flies through the

gloom of dense woods, giving just that touch of life needed to break the solemnity of forest and mountain.

nent. The taller of the two freed his hand from the other's grasp, the long murderous looking knife was uplifted, but as it descended the other raised Lis pistol and fired; there was the dull thud of a heavy body falling and then, overcome with horror, I lost consciousness.

How I attracted their attention I do not have but added by I become a recommendation.

not know, but suddenly I became aware that the remaining three were standing

over me calmly discussing my proposed death; my blood seemed to freeze in

my veins and into those terrible mo-ments was compressed the agony of

"She has seen the deed done," said the second significantly.
"That dead men tell no tales is just as true and truer of women," said the third, "so I had better make it safe,"

laying as he spoke a murderous hand

on my throat.

With a desperate effort I broke through the spell of horror that had held me; I struck out wildly and encountered a soft resisting body, the lights were extinguished as I opened my eyes, and nothing remained but the sound as of some one hurriedly re-

I never knew till that moment what

a vast amount of stored shricking force

small woman possesses; mine was ufficient in an incredibly short time to

doz a guests, none of whom were re-markable for the careful finish of their

dress.

With a graphic power that has entirely deserted me, or I should make my fortune as a story writer, I related

"It 'does not matter whether I was

15 what had occurred.

## E NOT ITALIANS

Population of One of Rel's Strongholds on though utterly erron-ngland that the Maltese by race, and that their alect of Italians, writes Bowen to the London no Dingli, the present ief justice of Malta—a Maltese—has stated oflows: "It must not be at both English and Italally, for a vast majority on, as much foreign abic or Greek in England ere is good authority for at, at the present day, per cent. of the entire speak Italian, and about ent. can speak English,

nd it is a very interestthe Maltese are mainly iving remnant of the anch of the old Phoenien Carthage and Sicily, ne Carthaginians and of r, the father of Hannitime governor. There radition that Hannibal istoric island was the old in the Meditere Carthaginians of old, the English. Here, and ring island of Gozo, there ensive ruins of Carthenician) temples, and an Carthaginian graves. se of the Maltese lan aginian, i. e., Phœnician. of the Latin poet Plau-

ned "Pœnulus" ("The a Carthaginian speech in his own lanstated by modern Malto be as intelligible to f Chaucer is intelligible of the present time.

ong rule of the Saracens, a for more than two cenmuch mixed with the inguage; but both are mitic races and tongues ebrew, and have no rever with any European subsequent introducas due to the Knights usalem, most of whom French or Spaniards. a (as it still remains to a lingua franca of the and the grand masters official acts (when not tin), and in their courts till the language of the ler the English rule, he language neither of of the Maltese.

### N YOUNGSTERS.

Knocked Out of Them ing for a young man to

out in the world," t-hearted parents may a-twentieths of the life with a surplusage

better. If, in measurwith wiser and older selves, they discover heir own accord, well t, it is desirable, for their t it be knocked out of who is sent to a large ds his level.

a great public school. sches a new pupil his says the New York s the attributes that der, he will be installed of a leader; if not, whate compelled to fall in he next best thing to ire is respectability; either be truly great or

status, be the same probability is that the aits of his character will vn or worn away. Most s of abrasion will be very rough, but when d he begins to see himhim, and not as reirror of self-conceit, he I that he has run the arrived, though by a self-knowledge. Upon ever loving mothers contrary, it is a good s to be knocked about in es men of them.

### COOL THIEF.

How He Happened to in one of the Pittslines was riding the ne of the company's re out of curiosity than motive he watched the ng up the fares, says the tch. The car was very nehow or other there vo persons inside and on this the stockholder disby counting. The num-the indicator when the ected them all, howforty. This rather dazed, and he went out upon a said to the conductor:

better leave something ders?" mean?" queried the

antly. ay. You've not regissay. You've not reg-e than half of the fares

was very red about the k by this time, and he hing about ng about a mistake All the same he rang ore fares—ten short of -and then remarked who had called him know how I missed

" responded the stockood deal of money."

### TWO VIEWS.

Said the cynic to the poet:

"All your song is lying verse
When you take the world and show it
Always better—never worse!
Life is but a cloak of sorrows,
Folding down its somber side
Clese upon the bright to-morrows
That the future has denied.
Fondest wishes, if we gain them,
Greet us with a smile and tear;
Dear desires, if we attain them,
Lose their luster as the near.
You who sing in hapry measure
Aye of light and love and pleasure,
Better keep your fancies furled;
There is such a strain of sadness
Under all the seeming gladness Under all the seeming gladness
In the world!"

In the world!"
To the cynic said the poet:
"Sorrow can not be denied;
You who hate the world, and know it
Only on its darker side.
Life is but a garment: trouble
Is the stormy wind that blows
All the fabrie backward double,
And the gleaming liming shows!
Though this life hath sorrow in it.
"Tis a garden gay with flowers;
They may wear a rose who win it,
In this fair bright world of ours.
If a joy come to thee—share it;
Take thy cloak, and nobly wear it;
Keep thy bitter fancies furled.
There is such a wealth of gindness
Over all the seeming sadness

-Florence May Alt, in Jury.

ONE NIGHT IN NO. 37.

A Story of Ghosts and Rats at Bracing Hall.

"Positively not a room, my dear madam: no, not so much as a closet va-cant," and Dr. Morris smiled blandly, and washed his hand with invisible soap in imperceptible water."

That Bracing Hall was a popular san itarium I was well aware, but I was not prepared for this; what was I to do, should I go at that late hour? I, a maiden lady, an entire stranger in the atskille? I consider that for any man to smile under those circumstances, even in a perfunctory and purely profes-sional way, was nothing less than

"There is No. 37," said an attendant satellite, in exactly the tone in which he might have suggested the North Pole or the equinoctial line, or any other remote and unsubstantial im-

"Yes," repeated the doctor, musingly, as if a novel and pleasing problem had been unexpectedly submitted for his consideration. "Yes, there is No. 37." "Perhaps the lady might not object," continued the attendant.

"Object," said the doctor, suddenly

waking up. "Good gracious, Jones, why should this lady object; why should any one object to No. 37?" The subordinate, was about to speak,

The subordinate, was about to speak, but the doctor stopped him by a wave of his hand. "Let No. 37 be prepared for this lady," he said, giving to his words all the force of royal mandate.

"I wish to know, Jane," I observed to the housemaid who conducted me to

No. 37 half an hour later—
"Please, ma'am," said that young person, interrupting, "my name isn't Jane, it's Sabina."

104-4-30 acres, three miles from

town, Main Road, splen-

from Post Office; cheap

property..... \$ 4,500

Then I am not going to follow the example of your parents and sponsors, who were clearly foolish persons, Jane.
repeat I wish to know what is the matter with this room?"

"Ch, don't ask me, ma'am. I don't wish to frighten you-but-I wouldn't sleep in it-no-not for a hundred thousand million dollars."

"Then you are a very foolish young voman; is it damp?" "Oh, no. madam; the whole house is

"It is the the ahem the Cimix "Well, it is pretty bad, but I don't think it's quite as bad as that," returned

Jane, slowly, with an air of bewilder It was nainful to a lady of my exces

sive refinement, exceedingly painful, but the occasion was urgent, and it was evident that I must sink to a common level of expression if I wished to be un-"It is small, Jane—it is brown—it is "Oh, no, ma'am," answered Jane,

glowing with sudden calightenment, "we don't never have none of them nasty things in our beds." "Then what is it?" "Well, if you must know," replied Jane, with the air of one struggling vainly with the inevitable, "though it is

worth as much as my place is worth to tell you-it's ghosts!" Ghosts—baugh! Really the ignor-ance of the lower classes is colossal; clearly our public school system is far from perfect, but what could be expected from a girl called Sabina? I have always thought there was a great deal in a name, and I don't in the least care what that playwriting person may have said to the contrary. There is something in a name which insensibly

Margaret. "Ghosts, Jane, ghosts, when it has been clearly demonstrated by the Soci-ety for Psychical Research that there

molds the character; mine is Sarah

are no such things as ghosts."
"It was the gambler, ma'am, what lived here before it was made into a sanitarium," Jane went on, with irrepressible volubility; "they was playing poker, an' he was killed, an' every night

every night—his ghost—"
"Jane, enough of this folly—go, my
good girl, and to-morrow I will loan you
a work on the Illogicalness of Supersti-

Being a lady of enlightened understanding and cultivated, indeed, I may say advanced thought, I at once dismissed the foolish story from my mind, and congratulated myself on having se-

eured a comfortable room.
Bracing Hall was built on the highes ange of the Catskill mountains and was femous for the view it commanded of the loveliest section of Rip Van Win-kle land; night now vailed the beauty of the far-stretching mountain-bound-ed interplane, but gradually its fairness became apparent, as the shadows below died under the light of early

Objects dim and shapeless took form and beauty. Every house and hamlet, winding road and mountain streamlet vere won as if from choas into life,

# M. JOHNSON,

ESTABLISHED 1879

# nity of forest and mountain. The moon was up, nature awoke, a breeze swept by bearing the music of a tumbling brook, the melody of murmuring pines, the love notes of a belated bird singing to his mate. How long I had slept I can not tell, when suddenly I was wide-awake with the room brilliantly lit and presenting an appearance totally different to what it had done when I retired. On a sideboard were half-emptied bottles and decanters, and at a table four men were seated deeply engrossed over a game at REAL ESTATE AGENT, CONVEYANGER AND NOTARY PUBLIC canters, and at a table four men were seated deeply engrossed over a game at cards. Great as was my astonishment to find my apartment thus invaded, I seemed to lose all personal considera-tions in watching the feverish anxiety of the players, and in wondering what would happen next. Suddenly their voices were raised in anyer, one of the players accused an

## A SPECULATION!

A SPECULATION!

110 Acres, near Beechy Bay, the proposed Terminus of the Victoria and Goldstream

Branch of the Northern Pacific Railway. Only \$20 an Acre.

Suddenly their voices were raised in anger, one of the players accused an other of cheating, and in a moment, there was a general uproar. The two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were upset, chairs were overturned and then I caught the glitter of a knife and then I caught the glitter of a knife and the Northern Pacific Railway. Only \$20 an Acre.

Suddenly their voices were raised in anger, one of the players accused an other of cheating, and in a moment, there was a general uproar. The two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were raised in anger, one of the players accused an other of cheating, and in a moment, there was a general uproar. The two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were raised in anger, one of the players accused an other of cheating, and in a moment, there was a general uproar. The two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were raised in anger, one of the players accused an other of cheating, and in a moment, there was a general uproar. The two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were raised in anger, one of the players accused an other of cheating, and in a moment, there was a general uproar. The two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were raised an other of the two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were raised and other of the two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were raised and other of the two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were raised and other of the two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were raised and other of the two men were struggling desperately together, glasses were raised and other of the two freed in the player of the tw

### 87-2-160 acres, North Arm Bur-105-1-7-room House, with bath-100-1-12 acres, Esquimalt Dist., Building Lots for Sale. near tramway...... 3,000 rard Inlet, and improveroom, hot and 'cold wat-98-2-74 acres overlooking Esquier, outhouses, gardens, ments, per acre..... 105-3-Lots, San Juan Avenue, malt Harbor ..... stables, beautiful shrub-62-1-6242 acres, splendid farm James Bay ..... \$ 77-2-3 1 5 acres Old Esquimalt acre, garden, orchard, land; 180 acres cleared; bery, and one acre of 104-1-Lots, David and Henry etc., close to Russell Road ..... 5,000 land, prettily fenced, 250 Alder and Cotton-Streets (4) each..... 76-1-6 acres water front on the James Bay, near the sea \$10,000 wood, per acre..... 102-4-Lot, facing the sea, 75x240 3,500 Gorge ..... 103-5- A BARGAIN, 7-room 52-2-100 acres (more or less) 102-3-Lots, facing the sea (6), 0-0-30 acres, house, orchard and House and Lot, bath Shawnigan Dist., with each, 2 back and front.. 2,650 92-3-7-room house and 2 lots. modern improvements; room, etc., 4th St..... 2,250 improvements..... 2,500 102-1-LOT, Business property, suitable for cutting into 103-4-6-room House, Meares St. corner, Douglas street, 106-1-160 acres. Somenos and building sites; sea front, and full size lot, improve-94x112 ..... 50,000 Seymour Dists., desiraetc., etc..... ments, etc ...... 3,000 99-2-Lots, South Turner St. (2) ble location; good land. 1,700 60 acres Cadboro Bay Road, beau-103-3-8-room 2-story House; , each...... 950 tiful building sites..... 57-2-152 acres, Alberni, and imbath, stone foundation, 95-1-Lot, 1 acre, Spring Ridge. lot 90x110, modern finish 6,500 92-5-Lot, Esquimalt Road, on 48-1-Island, all farm lands and Ranches for Sale. 101-1-8-room 2-story House and tram-line, \$ acre ..... 2,625 improvements: 3 hours hot water bath, stables 88-5-Lots, corner Government 104-3-153 acres, Quamichan Disdrive from city; 1 mile TO LET. and loft, etc ...... 3,150 St. (2)..... 12,000 2,000 100-8-7-room House, new, bathby water.... 74-1-Lot, corner, Douglas St. . 7,200 43-3-200 acres, Shawnigan; imroom, hot and cold water. acres cultivated; farm Lots in James Bay, fronting Niway; bath, etc., per house, orchard, barns, stables, etc., per acre... provements, stock, implestable, etc., and lot, close agara and Battery Sts. to Beacon Hill Park.... 3,150 94-3-200 acres, Lake Dist.; 40 100-9-7-room House, new, bath cultivated; 50 swamp; Sheep farm..... 21,000 room, hot and cold wathouse (6 rooms), barn, Acreage Property for Sale. etc., per acre......

### did land for Gardens; water, double walls and rard Inlet, water front .. Lots to suit, per acre. . . 8 250 floors, tile hearths, hard 95-1-3,440 acres Timber and oil finish throughout, a he sea, 15 minutes drive

96-2-73 acres, more or less, Bur-Farm Land; average Timber, 65M per acre. \$100,000 most desirable residence, 93-1-176 acres, close to Cobble South Turner St., near Hill Station, per acre ..

99-1-324 acres (Ladners) New

west Dist.; Lots to suit,

Houses and Lots for Sale.

er, modern improvements, close to Park.. 3,150 100-445 - New House and lot, Hillside Ave., 7 rooms, 3,000 100-2-8-room House, bath and hot and cold water, basements, stone foundation, hot air, heaters, and lot, 60x120, close to the Park (cheap)..... 4,300

98-0-6-room modern house and corner lot, Government street (new)..... 3,650 96-1-6-room 2-story house and 2 Station.... 3,600 92-4-House and lot. Pandora Sayward street..... 2,500 78-1-6-room house, 2-story, bath, pantry, woodshed, etc., and lot, Victoria West. 3,000 77-1-4-room house and 1 acre Lansdowne Road ..... 1,600

month.... bring to my room the doctor, the satellite, Jane Sabina and half a per month ..... house and 2 lots, Sayward St., per month.. 1 office, on Broad St., Architect or Sample Room, per house and lot, Lime Bay, near Russell Station, per month.....

6-room house, fully furnished, for

6 months, from 1st May

"It 'does not matter whether I was asleep or awake in regard to what I saw, although of course I was awake; but I know I heard something hurry away, and I know that I felt something when I struck," I said in conclusion, pausing only through sheer physical inability to utter another word.

Sabina Jane incoherently remarked something to the effect that it was "just what she'd expected of them nasty ghostesses" and then in company with the majority of my visitors disappeared. The doctor looked puzzled and remained silent, the satellite however spoke; he was never a voluble per-

ever spoke; he was never a voluble per son, but on this occasion he confine

"Do you really think it—they—was rats?" I gasped, growing ungrammati-cal in my confusion.

Had I not felt well assured that the doctor was deeply impressed by my ghostly visitation I should have said ghostly visitation I should have said that he smiled, but that of course was impossible at such a moment. Some people I have noticed are afflicted with muscular twitching and when I glanced at him again he was as solemn as a sphinx; even the satellite put his hand before his mouth and coughed in a modest, self-deprecatory way, as if his feelings were too much for him.

"I will bring Mrs. Morris to remain with you until you dress," said the doctor, "and then you had better take a sedative and share her room; to-morrow I will have a thorough investiga-

row I will have a thorough investiga-tion made and if I find that any one is trying to perpetuate a stupid story by playing a still more stupid practical joke, I'll—"

joke, I'll—"

At this point the doctor's voice sank and although his remarks appeared to gain additional energy, I am under the impression they were not intended for my ears or for publication.

The result of the investigation showed that my nocturnal visitors were rats, a small colony of which had evidently enjoyed undisputed possession of a spring mattress for a considerable period. And so the ghost of Bracing Hall was laid, but the oddest part was the satellite's guessing it; for such a man it was quite remarkable, and showed great natural perspicacity; the moment he heard my story, when every one else was quite at sea, he looked at the doctor and said: "Rats."—Mary Hasbrouck, in Drake's Magazine.

Meight of the Earth.

As a matter of fact, the earth has no weight. Weight is the pull of gravity toward a center and when speaking of the weight of the earth we must consider the pull of gravity towards the sun, and in that respect the earth is equally poised. All parts of the earth pressing toward the earth's center equalize each other, so that a tow line would pull the earth thousands of miles out of its orbit. Rather than penetrate an atmosphere of another body so thin that no animal life could exist in it, our earth would make a great circuit to get. earth would make a great circuit to get around it. The almost imperceptible attraction of one of the other planets pulls our earth thousands of miles out of its regular path.—St. Joseph Herald.

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