

yells in agony, immediately a crowd gathers around and commences to sing so that the howling will not be heard. The wounds are dressed and the patients regain their health; if not, another doctor is called in. "No cure no pay," is their motto. A tree is often used as an operating table and the thicket is the operating theatre.

No skin is ever sewed by thread, even in scalp wounds. A peculiar strip of roof is laid on the cut and the wound, after being attended to, quickly heals up and the root becomes grown-over.

When diagnosing the case, the patient's arm is held and the pulse noted; he declares the pulse beats are evil spirits running up which he can cure and placing his hand over the brow of the patient he quickly finds out if it be warm that he has fever and if cool, some disease with which he is well acquainted. He has some knowledge of human anatomy; especially the blood vessels containing arterial blood (spirits they call them); the true spirit is the Basilic Vein which he opens when he calculates it is needful.

He carries out his dissecting strictly private. He robs the graves for his "stiffs" and keeps them hidden. If caught dissecting the human body, he receives his death sentence and all his family found at home, so he takes awful chances.

In conclusion I would point out that many wonderful cures have been made by these doctors and they have a knowledge of herbs, drugs, etc., which would be of great service to all medical men.

P. L. SEME,

Med. 15.

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**SMOKE**

# BLACK CAT

**VIRGINIA**

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