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MOTHER:—Fletcher's Castoria is a pleasant, harmless Substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Teething Drops and Soothing Syrups, prepared for Infants and Children all ages.

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The Abolition of Pain

Under this head, Emile Gautier contributes to Le Figaro (Paris) an article on the newer methods of anaesthesia, ending with a description of one, for use in short but painful operations, that is as surprising as it is simple. When we speak of general anaesthesia, writes Mr. Gautier, the public usually thinks of chloroform. Nevertheless, this is not the only drug that will stupefy the nerve centers. Numerous practitioners prefer ether or laughing gas, which were the first anaesthetics used in surgery. There are also ethyl bromid, whose action is almost explosive, the chlorid and fluorid of lime, the chlorid and fluorid of methyl, etc. He does not mention cocaine and its derivatives or substitutes, such as novocaine and stovaine, which are rather local anaesthetics, although used in general surgery as spinal injections, to insensitize the lower parts of the body, while leaving the patient conscious. To quote from the article:—

Just now people are talking about a new anaesthetic, formerly not dreamed to be such, although long in use for non-medical purposes. This "eleventh-hour workman" is simply acetylene, or more exactly oxy-acetylene, the gas of the blowpipe, well known to practitioners of autogenous welding.

Certainly, acetylene, without being a poison, puts you to sleep after one or two minutes of inhalation, as quietly and surely as chloroform or ether. For this purpose mixtures are used, varying from 40 to 60 per cent. of acetylene with 60 to 40 of oxygen, the strongest dose not exceeding 70 per cent. of acetylene. As soon as consciousness is lost, followed by abolition of sensibility and muscular relaxation, the dose is lowered to 20 or 30 per cent., which is enough to keep the patient asleep. If the inhalation is stopped, he recovers rapidly. In two or three minutes, he is himself again, and generally—note this precious detail!—without the nausea and headache that ordinarily accompany waking from chloroform.

It is perfect! I may be pardoned, nevertheless, for expressing a disquieting thought. The oxy-acetylene mixture is terribly explosive. I know that operating-rooms are not generally gas-lighted or oil-lighted; it is even asserted that it is imprudent to administer chloroform in the presence of these illuminants, the fear being doubtless that it may be altered in the presence of volatile residues of combustion. I also know that it is not considered the thing to smoke there. Nevertheless there may always be some distraction, some im-

prudance, some forgetfulness. A catastrophe happens so easily!

The ideal thing would be to produce insensibility without recourse to substances whose use, despite all precautions, is more or less dangerous.

Now, despite appearances, this is not absolutely beyond possibility. Dr. Field Robinson, who has been not only my dentist, but my friend, for many years, when he has to work in the interior of the mouth and finds it necessary to use instruments whose prolonged contact always causes painful spasms, orders his patient to breathe slowly and very quickly. This is all that is necessary, as I can testify, to abolish the irritability of the mucous surfaces of the mouth and diaphragm, and so prevent undesirable reflexes. It would not be possible, it would appear, to extract a tooth in this way without intolerable pain.

Dr. Field Robinson learned this method from one of his teachers—Professor Frank, of Boston University, if I remember aright. It was formerly in current use in America, when not only dentists but even surgeons—Bonwill and Lee, for example—employed it successfully in short operations, such as the opening of an abscess, cauterization, etc. Lately it seems to have been forgotten. But if we may believe a study by M. Guichard, clinical head of the (Paris) School of Dentistry, published some months ago in Odontology, there is a chance that it will again come into fashion.

This hasty respiration, without stopping or slowing up, causes a sort of intoxication, with unconsciousness, and relaxation of the limbs. The face becomes glossy, the circulation alters, so that the pulse sometimes becomes more active and at other times drops to a mere thread. This is the moment to operate; unless autogestation is present the patient will feel only slight pain.

This strange anaesthesia lasts but a moment. There would be no question of using it for craniotomy (opening the skull) or gastrotomy (stomach or intestinal operation). Nevertheless, it is followed by a considerable shock, and can not be used—as is also the case with chloroform—if the heart is not absolutely sound. Children and old people do not bear it well, and they are often even unable to keep up the rhythm of breathing long enough to obtain the desired effect. It is none the less true that the method may render great service in sparing a patient the risk of general anaesthesia, in case of a slight but painful operation.

What, exactly, is the mechanism of this curious phenomenon? Opinions differ. Some believe that there is a

temporary interruption of the regulatory function of the brain, whose source is in the sensitive centers; others suppose that there is some action of the gases accumulated in the blood—oxygen or carbonic acid.

When a Ship is "Overdue"

(By AN UNDERWRITER.)
At Lloyd's yesterday the famous Lutine bell—which is sounded once for a loss and twice for an arrival—was rung to announce the arrival at Lisbon of the sailing vessel John, from Newfoundland, which was overdue, a re-insurance rate of 40 guineas being the latest quotation in the overdue market.

The "overdue" market, in the marine insurance business, is one of those anomalies of nomenclature which arise from time to time through changed conditions.

Look at the "overdue" list in those papers which chronicle shipping matters. Sometimes as many as fifteen vessels figure therein, sometimes only two or three. There have been occasions when no overdue quotations have been recorded.

In almost any one day's list, however, it is seldom that more than one or two vessels are really "overdue." The majority of quotations apply to vessels ashore, in distress, or upon which, for some good reason, an enhanced insurance rate is being quoted.

Thus it appears that to-day an "overdue" is any vessel on which a higher rate than normal is being paid, because, for some reason or other, she is in danger of being lost.

"Overdue" insurances are almost invariably re-insurances, and also they generally cover the risk of "total loss only." If an overdue re-insurance policy covers damage claims as well as total loss, the words "To pay as usual" are added to the policy and also to the quotation in the papers.

A re-insurance is, of course, a policy effected by an underwriter by which he insures against liabilities he has already incurred.

For instance, an underwriter may have accepted an insurance for £5,000 on a vessel, and he may wish to reduce his liability to £2,000. To do this he effects a re-insurance by which another underwriter relieves him of the liability from which he wishes to be free.

"Overdues" are two-edged weapons, and for this reason they are generally dealt in by brokers and underwriters who make a speciality of such matters.

An underwriter may pay an enhanced rate for a re-insurance against total loss on a vessel in distress. If that vessel subsequently arrives the underwriter then has to pay a claim for the damage she has received, but cannot recover under his total loss re-insurance policy, for which, nevertheless, he has paid a high rate.

On the other hand, a vessel ashore may appear likely to be easily refloated, and an underwriter may pay a comparatively low "overdue" rate for his re-insurance. If that vessel ultimately becomes a total loss, the re-insured underwriter will benefit by being indemnified against having to pay for the loss at a comparatively cheap rate.—Daily Mail, Feb. 19.

Bay of Islands Notes

(Western Star.)
Quite a few seals have been caught through the ice with hook and line at outer parts of Bay of Islands this season.

It was reported a few days ago that the ice had broken up inside of Grassy Island, and that the schooners at Woods Island were in clear water.

The herring packing operations at Middle Arm since the closing of navigation, have not been very great owing to the scarcity of the fish. So far as we can learn less than a thousand barrels have been put up. And we have been advised that the pack at Springdale has been only about four hundred barrels.

Nothing compares with Chevrolet for Economical Transportation. mar19,101.eod

Just Folks.

By EDGAR A GUEST

OUT IN THE COUNTRY.

It is nice to live out in the country. From the noise of the city away. 'Twould be nice to live where every landscape is fair—
It only the servants would stay.

It is fine to have acres of garden. With roses that climb on the wall. It is nice to be out where the cows browse about—
But the servants don't like it at all.

The snow on the country is lovely. The trees in their mantle of fleece And the calm of the night are a joy and delight—
But the servants aren't hungry for peace.

The hedgerows are treasures of beauty. There's a charm in the ice-sheeted pond. And the snow drifts which roll are a joy to the soul—
But of these not a servant is fond.

It is nice to live out in the country. Far out where the children can play. Far away from the strife of the harsh city life—
But you can't get a servant to stay.

Chevrolet is the most up-to-date and lowest-price, most fully equipped car in the world—watch Chevrolet lead. may13,101.eod

The Smoke and Lights

SEEN ON FRENCH ISLAND MADE BY PEOPLE SEAL CATCHING.

(Western Star.)
It having been somewhat generally thought that the smoke and lights had been seen on French Island, considerable excitement prevailed and all kinds of stories filled the atmosphere. Upon investigation, however, we find that the smoke and lights were due to people who had gone out there seal catching, from Woods Island, and had remained overnight.

The ice conditions in Bay of Islands this winter have been such that people could not make a survey of the outer islands, and up to date nothing has been located to definitely establish the fate of the missing vessel and her crew of six men.

In the Bananas.

RAT-SIZED CREATURE WITH MONKEY'S PAWS.

From a ship laden with bananas at Hull on February 18, there was landed an animal the size of a rat, of light-fawn colour, with large, luminous black eyes, black markings, paws like a monkey, a long, soft tail that curls up in a knot, and a long, tapering snout.

Mr. R. I. Pocock, former superintendent of the Zoological Gardens, told a Daily Mail reporter that the animal, according to the description, was an American opossum, which lives on insects and small living animals. If it was in a bunch of bananas which was picked its instinct would be to "play possum" and not show itself.

Other creatures that have reached this country in bunches of bananas include a boa constrictor, giant poisonous spiders, young opossums and lizards.

That's the Spirit

North Sydney Tax Payers Warned to Settle up Debts—Mayor's Announcement Has Salutary Effect.

NORTH SYDNEY, March 18.—The pronouncement of the town council on Friday night to the effect that warrants would be issued for the arrest of delinquent taxpayers has caused a noticeable increase in the rate at which money for taxes has been flowing into the town office. While it is not the desire of the mayor and council to resort to stringent or harsh measures in collecting the taxes the money must be procured, and if the people who are behind do not pay up it will be necessary for the town officials to have the warrants issued as much as they may like to do so. The majority of delinquents know this and Saturday and Monday brought a large number of them to the town office.

The following is a statement of the amount of taxes due the town for 1923 and previous years:

Real	\$25,676.56
Personal	6,726.84
Water	6,317.76
Total	\$38,721.16
Collected since Feb. 15, 1924	8,620.04
Balance unpaid	\$34,999.94

Mayor Fynn has posted a notice in the town office to the effect that all persons to whom the town is indebted must have all arrears for taxes settled before they will receive any money.—Sydney Post.

The eyes of the world are on the Chevrolet—watch Chevrolet lead. mar13,101.eod

Happiness Rests On Expression Of Appreciation

A man put his wife up at auction the papers told us some little time ago. Just where it happened is not so important as the fact that the wife stated that never, until he was trying to stimulate the bidding, had her husband uttered one word in appreciation of herself.

Life for that woman must have a black weariness, said a London newspaper, in which the platform of an auction mart would be, in spite of its humiliation, a light shining in the darkness—a way of escape.

Women are said to be as greedy for flattery and compliments as children are for sweetmeats. Perhaps that is true. But the addition of a few chocolates to a "common-sense" diet does no harm; on the contrary, it gives pleasure, and therefore does positive good.

A Poet's Love.
Perhaps the most exquisite story of a husband's appreciation of his wife is that of Dante Rossetti for Lizzie Siddal, who served him as model for many of his loveliest pictures, and whom he married in 1860. Less than two years later Rossetti returned one evening to his house to find his wife dying. Broken-hearted, inconsolable, he thrust into her coffin the only copy of his poems in existence, the beautiful sequence of sonnets and lyrics which she had inspired, and which, seven years afterwards, were recovered from her faithless hand.

There is an equation which states in the bald manner of mathematics that "Absence of blame equals praise." But this negative method of appreciation has nothing to commend it. It brings with it a silent, choking death for romance, a painful doom, a hardness of heart, and, ultimately, such unhappiness as only death or divorce can end.

The converse, of course, is equally true. The wife who is appreciated must herself be appreciative. The husband who finds his attentions received with coldness is not likely to remain attentive; nor will he for ever cast his pearls into the lap of indifference.

More than anything else, mutual appreciation contributes to the happiness of a husband and wife. Appreciation is like the notes of a flute in the orchestra of life—sweet, thrilling, gentle notes that are never obtrusive, yet always strong in an essential part of a perfect harmony.

George Says:

AND THEY ARE ALL BRAND NEW—I refer to the ENGLISH AND AMERICAN CAPS.

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SPOT STOCK:

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Selling at Special Low Price.

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In order to cope with Spring requirements of the Trade, we have now in stock:

- 500 Rolls each 1, 2 and 3 Ply Best Quality Felt.
- 200 Rolls each 2 and 3 Ply Finest Ruberoid and Asphalt Roofing.
- 500 Rolls Sheathing Paper—Local and imported.

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Billy's Uncle



Billy's No Lion Tamer.



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- SPANISH VALENCIA ORANGES35c. Doz.
- MESSINA LEMONS30c. Doz.
- GRAPE FRUIT90c. Doz. up.
- CALIFORNIA ORANGES50c. Doz. up.
- EXTRA FCY. WINESAP TABLE APPLES—45c. Doz. up.

- FLORIDA CELERY, RIPE TOMATOES.
- RIPE BANANAS, FRESH PEARS.
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- CARROTS and BEETS, NEW CABBAGE.
- NEW LAID EGGS, AMERICAN & SPANISH ONIONS.
- NEW YORK CORNED BEEF.
- MONTREAL SAUSAGES.

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