

A TEST OF INTOXICANTS.

Dr. Snoutnose says, that if a man partake of too large a quantity of good sound wine or malt liquor, he usually staggers about from side to side, his gait is very unsteady, and if he come to grief and to Mother Earth he generally falls on one side or the other. If he take too much whiskey, especially that abomination which goes by the name of Irish whiskey, he is almost certain to be seized with an irresistible impulse to fall on his face. If he gets drunk on cider or perry, the latter more especially, he is certain to fall down suddenly on his back, and apparently without any previous warning. He once saw a number of men, who had made too merry at a harvest feast, all fall down in the same manner. He had never witnessed anything of the like kind before; and was not a little amazed as well as amused. The farmer, who was a very shrewd Herefordshire man, told him that that was the effect invariably produced by perry, of which his men had that day partaken liberally. He has since that time seen several isolated cases, which have corroborated the farmer's version of the action of an over-dose of perry or cider. Habitual drinkers of cider or perry are more liable than other persons to paralysis of the limbs; probably this may be due to the sugar of lead with which some cider makers "perfect" their beverage. It would appear, then, according to this very curious but doubtful observation, that the various drinks act on different parts of the cerebro-spinal system, which preside over locomotion, or act upon the various parts in a different manner, or why these varieties in the method of falling?—*British Medical Journal*.

MY MOTHER'S BEEN PRAYING.

In February, 1861, a terrible gale raged along the coast of England. In one bay, Hartlepool, it wrecked eighty-one vessels. Whilst the storm was at its height, the *Rising Sun*, a stout brig, struck on Long-Rear Rock, a reef extending a mile from one side of the bay. She sunk, leaving only her two top-masts above the foaming waves.

The lifeboats were away, rescuing wrecked crews. The only means of saving the men, clinging to the wayward masts, was the rocket apparatus. But it could be adjusted, one mast only. Just as the rocket, bearing the life-line, went booming out of the mortar, the other mast toppled over.

Sadly the rocket men began to draw in their line, when, suddenly, they felt that something was attached to it, and in a few minutes hauled on to the beach the apparently lifeless body of a sailor-boy. Tired and tender hands worked, and in a short time he became conscious. The *Sunday Magazine* may describe the final scene.

With wild amazement he gazed around on the kind and sympathizing friends. They raised him to his feet. He looked up into the weather-beaten face of the old fisherman near him and asked:

"Where am I?"
 "Thou art here, my lad."
 "Where's the cap'n?"
 "Drowned, my lad."
 "The mate, then?"
 "He's drowned, too."
 "The crew?"
 "They are lost; my lad; thou art the only one saved."

The boy stood, overwhelmed, for a few moments; then he raised both his hands, and cried in a loud voice:

"My mother's been praying for me! My mother's been praying for me!"
 And then he dropped on his knees on the wet sand, and hid his sobbing face in his hands.

Hundreds heard that day this tribute to a mother's love, and to God's faithfulness in listening to a mother's prayers.

The little fellow was taken to a house near by, and in a few days he was sent home to his mother's cottage in Northumberland.

WHAT IS LIFE?

This question was raised by the scientists assembled at Boston last week, and it must be confessed that little was done toward answering it. "Life," says the retiring president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, "represents simply the sum of the phenomena exhibited by a living being." "Life is all that cannot be explained by chemistry and physics," he says in the next sentence; but if what chemistry and physics can explain is not life, then the first definition is not true. Many of the phenomena of a living being are explainable by these sciences; so that really the residuum cannot be scientifically explained, is life. If materialistic science cannot explain the phenomena of life, is it not absurd that students of such science should be continually defining what life is, and what it is not? Says ex-President Barker of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, "Life is now universally regarded as a phenomenon of matter, and hence as having no separate existence." What splendid logic! Has a piece of flint or broken pottery, or a clod of clay, life? If not, why did not this philosopher say that life is a phenomenon of "some" matter? Does it logically follow that because life is a phenomenon intimately related to some matter, that it is therefore non-existent except in such relation? Not at all. "Mud is now universally regarded as a phenomenon of swamps, and hence as having no separate existence," is a proposition identical except as to one term, and just as logical as that of ex-President Barker; that is, it is not it the least logical, but a mere absurdity.

Although, as the wise ex-president says, we cannot tell what life is, we can say and prove that there is a great probability that there is such a thing as life disconnected with matter, and that its relations to matter are rather exceptional than universal. A seed loses its life in process of time, and will no longer germinate. What has gone? Certainly not the germ, the albumen, the oil, nor any physical atom, part or particle of weight; yet the seed is dead. On the contrary, a seed that has life, when planted, has the ability to assimilate to itself and transform dead matter into a living organism. Barnyard manure becomes beans, beets, corn, potatoes, capsicums, the cerulean corolla of the morning-glory, the fragrance of the mignonette or of the dianthus. Without the seed, barnyard manure was never known to change into garden vegetables. The true and scientific fact is simply that life must exist before it can be exhibited in connection with matter. Dead matter is never transformed into living matter except through the agency of matter which already contains life. The most crucial experiments of Bastian, and which he claimed showed that life of low grades was producible spontaneously, have all been shown by Tyndall and others to be fallacious. Living bodies universally have their origin in living bodies, and it is an unvarying condition that bodies should be living in order to give life to dead matter. When life has gone out of an organism, it has no longer power to change the form of dead matter, but of itself begins straightway to dissolve into the elements which chemistry and physics alone may explain.

A missionary organized a school at Sylva in Arkansas, and when inquiring for a suitable superintendent for it, was told, "Mr. A—— is the only man in the neighborhood who prays in his family, and therefore the only man fit to be superintendent of your school." Certainly a needed qualification. Two new Sunday schools have just been organized among the freedmen.

Prof. Wilkinson gives the following rules for teachers: 1. Never tell a pupil what you can get a pupil to tell you. 2. Connect what you do tell your pupil with something which he already knows. 3. Never undertake to teach when your pupil is not paying attention. 4. Thoroughly master your subject. 5. Never consider you know a thing until you can say it more than one way. 6. Remember that you teach by what you are. 7. Teach under divine inspiration. S. S. Times.

SAVE YOUR COAL

J. W. ELLIOT'S PATENT SAVER.

The First Object—is to produce the greatest amount of heat from a given amount of fuel, and is gained by an arrangement of the three-way draft passages and some twelve feet of flue pipe, which is bent down and around the base, and the heat is absorbed by the atmosphere through direct radiation from every part of the stove. Also her object of the invention is to secure for heating purposes the greatest possible benefit of the fire contained in the stove, and accomplished by placing around the body of the stove a series of internally projecting pockets overlapping the fire pot, and so turned that the air of the room is admitted into the lower end of the pockets, and, after passing through them, re-enters the room, having become intensely heated through contact with the inner sides of the said pockets, which are immediately over the hottest part of the fire, thereby producing far greater results from a given amount of fuel than any other stove. Second Object—An evaporator which is a part of the stove. The cover becomes a water tank, and is an effective evaporator, the pivot on which it turns is an iron tube screwed into the base of the tank, while the lower end is closed and rests in a pocket inside the dome, thereby producing a greater or less amount of vapor in proportion to the intensity of the heat. Third Object—There is a double heater, by means of which heat can be conveyed to an apartment above, and supplied with sufficient vapor from the tank. Fourth Object—A combined hot air and steam bath can be obtained by closing the damper in the water tank, and causing all the vapor to mingle with the ascending heat. Fifth Object—

The Stove becomes Simplified and easy to Control. All hinges doors and objectionable fittings are abandoned, and are replaced by mica lights with metal tips attached, by means of which the mica may be sprung into place, or removed and cleaned with a dry cloth, or replaced when the stove is red hot, without burning one's fingers. At the base of the mica lights eyelets are placed, through which a constant flow of air causes all the gas or smoke to be consumed or to pass off. Sixth Object—A base plate of cast iron in the place of zinc or other perishable material. The base plate is raised sufficient for the cold air on the floor to pass up through its raised and hollow cone-shape to the stove, and is raised, and by this means a constant circulation is continued until an even summer heat is obtained. The circulation above described causes the floor to remain cool underneath the stove. The stoves are altogether cast iron, and the slow consumption of fuel, the direct radiation from all its heated surface, ensures them to last any number of years and to produce no clinkers or waste.

There are two grates, similar in form to the base of a circular basket. The centre grate is rotated to the right or left by the lever a short distance, and by moving the lever still further to the right or left both grates are worked. To light a fire close all the drafts in the base of the stove open a direct draft in the smoke flue; fill up to the base of the feeder with fine coal, leaving sufficient space for draft, on the coal place the lightwood, leave the tank cover off slightly for draft, until the fire has taken, close the tank cover and open the draft in front.

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