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The FUNERAL DIRECTOR

VOL. IV.

MONTREAL, MARCH 15TH, 1890.

No. 3

English Mummies.

Rev. W. Gover, Hon. Canon of Worcester, writes to *The Times*:—"In 1849-50 I was curate resident in the rectory of St. Andrew's, Holborn. One day the grave-digger told me that there was a perfect body under the church, and offered to show it to me. I fell in with his offer. A wide passage north and south divided the space under the floor of the church, and opened by iron gates to the churchyard. On each side were ranged coffins east and west, piled one on the other to the ceiling, and chained together when belonging to one family, with a few scant spaces between the piles. We edged in between two piles. Then the rows of piles gradually decreased in height, and a brown dust, the decomposition of the lower coffins, grew thicker and deeper beneath our feet as we pushed on. We made our way almost close to the south-west end, where the coffins had disappeared and their mouldered dust rose knee deep. Among this the grave-digger searched, and, after removing it to the depth of several inches, exposed the face, head, and bust of a woman, apparently young, with long hair. The corpse was a dull cream colour. The hand, which I took in mine, felt plump and soft."

Mr. J. Graham Churcher writes.—"Upon the removal of the bodies from the vault of the Church of St. Benet, Gracechurch, at the corner of Fenchurch Street, in 1867 (of which at that time I

was churchwarden), we came upon a coffin over a hundred years old, which, on being opened, was found to contain the body of a girl in a perfect state of preservation—skin, hair, &c., exactly as perfect as in life, but within ten minutes of exposure to the air it was resolved into a grey powder, the whole of which could have been contained in a breakfast cup. This, of course, was no case of embalming, but of being hermetically closed."

Mr. J. Seymour Haden writes:—"Sixteen years ago, while making experiments with various substances possessed in a greater or less degree of this property, I found that, given the presence of air, oak sawdust would preserve a body, and oak charcoal (and perhaps any other charcoal recently burned) would cause its disappearance. In a church in the Minories, some years afterwards, I saw just such a box which had in it the mummified head of that Duke of Suffolk who was the father of Lady Jane Grey, and who had been beheaded in the Tower close by. Now, of that nobleman's head there is a fine portrait in oils, by Holbein, which, singularly enough, was exhibited at the Old Master Exhibition of the Royal Academy, in the very year in which the actual head was discovered in the Minories, so that anyone taking the trouble, as I did, to go from one exhibition to the other, might see for himself the likeness between the two. In that case, though the colour of the skin was dark, its follicles were well preserved, while at the back

of the neck were two distinct 'chops,' by no means in exact parallelism."

The Prebendary of Hereford writes:—"Gilbert Ironside, Bishop of Hereford, who had been Warden of Wadham, and Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, in the trying times under James II., died in 1701, and was buried in the city church of St. Mary, Somerset, where the Bishops of Hereford had a house. The church was taken down, under the Union of Benefices Act, in 1867, and Bishop Ironside's body now lies beneath the same grave stone in Hereford Cathedral; but it was necessary to identify the coffin, which was of lead only, without inscription, and which did not lie immediately beneath the stone. This was done under the direction of the learned and accomplished rector, the late Dr. Stepping, who told me that the coffin was found to be filled with sawdust. Some of this was removed from the hand, but as no episcopal ring was seen, the face was uncovered, and was in perfect preservation, recognised at once from the Bishop's portrait."—*Undertakers' Journal, London, (Eng.)*

HERE is a unique specimen of a medical certificate of death. It was tendered by a native apothecary at a recent inquest in India:—I think she died or lost her life for want of food or on account of starvation, and perhaps for other things of her comfortables, and most probably she died by drowning.



WE TAKE NO BACKWARD STEP!

WE KEEP UP WITH THE TIMES!

Our latest improvement, THE SLIDING PANEL, on Cloth Caskets has been endorsed by the trade, and we are filling orders for them promptly.

We were the first to introduce this improvement on Caskets into Canada.

The following are a few of other improvements introduced by us lately for Cloth Caskets:

⊗ THE PATENT FASTENERS, ⊗ METALLIC LININGS, ⊗
 THE NEW RIBBED AND OTHER MOULDINGS, ⊗ THE SLIDING PANEL,
 ⊗ ⊗ THE ROUNDING TOP, &c., &c., ⊗ ⊗

TOGETHER WITH SEVERAL OTHERS, SUCH AS

⊗ CLOTH FOLDING STOOLS, ⊗ ARM DRAPES WITH SPRINGS, ⊗
 ROUND PANELS ON VARNISHED CASKETS, ⊗ NEW PANEL CATCHES, &c., &c.

PATRONIZE HOME ENTERPRISE!

**Semmens, Ward & Evel,
 HAMILTON, TORONTO, & MONTREAL.**

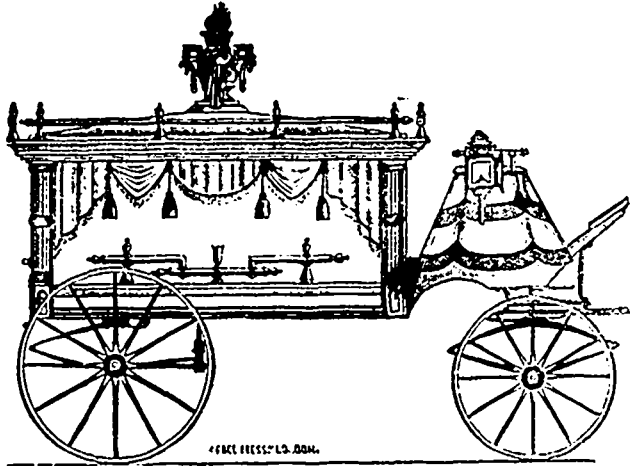
B. J. NASH.

COR. OF YORK & TALBOT STS.

A. B. GREER.

B. J. NASH & CO.,
OF LONDON, ONT.

Are the only firm in Canada who make a specialty of Hearses. Having done so for the past fifteen years, their experience enables them to furnish Hearses, which for style and finish, are superior to anything in the Dominion.



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Professional Undertakers will consult their best interests by sending for Catalogue, Prices and Terms, before purchasing Hearses.

JAS. HAY & CO.,

HEAD OFFICE AND FACTORY:

WOODSTOCK, ONT.

BRANCHES:

New York City, Hoboken, N.J., Winnipeg Man.,

MANUFACTURERS OF

FURNITURE

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, VIZ.,

Bedroom Setts, Bedsteads, Sideboards, Book Cases, Desks, Dining and Centre Tables, Whatnots, etc.

Also Wood, Cane and Perforated Seat Chairs and Rockers of every description. Headquarters for Reed and Rattan Chairs, Rockers, Cribs, Cradles, Whatnots, Fancy Tables, Wall Pockets, Fancy Baskets, Ottomans, Fire Screens, and Baby Carriages of the latest designs. Also, manufacturers of every description, size and quality of Chair Cane.

Write for cuts and prices.



PERSONAL

Mr. J. Zingshien was in town a few days ago.

Mr. A. H. Swarts is filling up the blank pages.

Mr. Geo. H. Rogers is still hustling around.

We had a visit from Mr. Bowman of Dundas, Ont.

Commercial men report the furniture trade quiet.

Mr. Mason, of Seaforth, called on us when in the city.

Mr. James Steel has just returned from a very successful trip.

Mr. Wm. Hinton was in the city the early part of this month.

Mr. A. Malcolm, of Kincardine, was in town for a few days.

The newly-married man was in the city lately, and he is looking well.

Mr. J. Phinn is still selling Western varnish in the midst of several varnish factories.

Don't you want a good recipe to make embalming fluid? If so, send along your three dollars.

Mr. Wm. Douglas has recovered from the "grip," and is "gripping" on to all the orders he can.

Warden & Hick is the name of a new firm, which has started to make Woven Wire Beds, in Montreal.

Mr. J. Mundle, of Elora, was visiting the furniture trade in this city during the latter part of February.

The prospectus is out for a new furniture factory at Waterville, Que. Messrs. Gales and several others are the originators.

Mr. Eddy, representing P. Schneider, Sons & Co., dealers in Upholsterers' Supplies, made quite a successful trip on his way down from the West.

Curious Advertisements.

Speaking of Quebec (says the London, Eng.), *Undertakers' Journal*, reminds us that we have just received a newspaper cutting from that sulubrious and economical island. It contains two advertisements in curious juxtaposition, and we do not at all object to give them the extra circulation afforded by insertion in our columns:—

Why Live, when you can be Buried so Cheap?

Trial has proved that the CHEAPEST and BEST PLACE in the Island for all FUNERAL REQUISITES is at MAUGER and PIRIAUX, Undertakers, Vale Road, St. Sampson's. Funeral services for hire.

MISS NANCY COUGOURD, BONE-SETTER, COGNON, VALE (near St. Sampson's Harbour).

AN INVESTIGATOR of monumental brasses has discovered the record of one "William Stratton, of Padington, buried the 18th of May, 1734, aged 97, who had by his first wife 28 children, and by a second 17; own father to 45, grandfather to 86, great grandfather to 97, and great great grandfather to 23; in all 251."

PETER SCHNEIDER, SONS & CO'Y,

543 CRAIG STREET, MONTREAL,

***** UPHOLSTERY GOODS. *****

— FULL RANGE OF —

*BROCOTELLES, SILK PLUSHES, RAW SILKS, SPUN SILKS,
GIMPS AND CORDS.*

MOHAIR PLUSHES EMBOSSED AND CRUSHED, &c., &c.

CURIOUS EPITAPHS.

(From the Undertakers' Journal of
London, Eng.)

A few years ago, when on a visit to Nottingham (says a correspondent), I was shown the following curious epitaph which stood in fairly good preservation in the churchyard of St. Nicholas, in Castle Gate. I copied it as follows:—

Here lies a marksman, who with art and skill,
When young and strong, fat bucks and does did kill,

Now conquered by grim Death (go, reader, tell it!)
He's now took leave of powder, gun, and pellet.
A fatal dart, which in the dark did fly,
Has laid him low, among the dead to lie.

If any want to know the poor slave's name,
'Tis old Tom Booth, ne'er ask from whence he came.

Tom Booth, I soon discovered, had been in his own day a notable character, being a grand master in the art of deer-stealing, a sort of modern Robin Hood in a much modified form. His exploits were both numerous and daring, and Thoresby relates what was perhaps his *chef d'oeuvre* as follows:—"In Nottingham Park, at one time, was a favourite fine deer, a chief ranger, on which Tom and his wily companions had often cast their eyes; but how to deceive the keeper while they killed it was a task of difficulty. The night, however, in which they accomplished their purpose, whether by any settled plan or not is not known, they found the keeper at watch, as usual, in a certain place in the park. One of them, therefore, went to an opposite direction in the park, and fired his gun to make the keeper believe

he had shot a deer; upon which away goes the keeper in haste to the spot, which was at a very considerable distance from the place where the favourite deer was, and near which Tom Booth was skulking. Tom, waiting a proper time, when he thought the keeper a sufficient distance for accomplishing his purpose, fired and killed the deer, and dragged it through the river Leen undiscovered." This incident may also serve to show the extent of Nottingham Park as it was. Booth, after tempting the gallows for a considerable period, died a natural death in 1752, at the ripe old age of 75, and the present stone, which had been ready some time, was then erected over his remains.

The following quaint old relic of a bygone age may be seen, in the form of a tombstone in the porch of East Bridgford:—

IF
YOU
WOULD
HIS . REC
TOR . KNOW
READ . THE . LINE
S . THAT . IS . BELOW

The legend thus referred to runs as follows:—

HERE . LIETH . BUR
IED . THE . BODDY . OF
MARGARET . WIL
KINSON . THE . WIF
E . OF . JOHN . WILKIN
SON . WHO . DEPAR
TED . THIS . LIFE . THE
14 DAY OF AUGUST
ANO DOM . 1670.

The following example is taken from the Landsdowne MS. 98:—An Epitaph made by William Grey, lying on his deathe bed and by him appointed to be set on his tombe.

Lo here Lyeth Grey, vnder the grounde,
Among the greedy woormes,
which in his life-tyme never founde
but strife and sturdy stormes,
And namely through a wicked wife,
as to the world appeares,
She was the shortener of his iife
By many daies and yeres.
he might haue lived long, god wot,
his yeres they were but yong:
of wicked wifes this is the lot
to kill with the spiteful tong;
Whose memory shall still remaine
In writeng here with me,
That men might know whom she hathe slayne.
And say "the same is she."

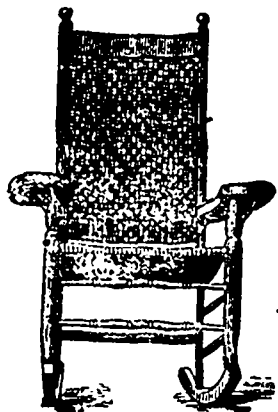
AN ANSWER.

If that thy wicked wife had sponne the thred,
and were the wever of thy wo,
Then art thou double happy to be ded,
as happely dispatched so.
If rage did cause thee causeles to complaine
and madde moode mover of thy mone,
If frensy forsed on thy testy brayne,
Then bleste is she now to live alone.
So whether were the grounde of others griefe,
Because so doubtfull was the dome,
Now deathe hathe brought your paine a right
relief;
And blessed be ye bothe become;
She, that she lives no longer bounde to bere
The rule of suche a froward hed;
Thow, that thou livest no longer, fane to feare
the restlest rampe that thou hadst wed.
Be thou as glad, therefore, that thou art gon,
As she is glad, she dothe abide;
for so ye be a-sonder, all is oofi;
A badder matche in no case can betide.

Epitaph on Dr. Madan, Bishop of
Peterborough, 1813:

In sacred sleep the pious Bishop lies,
Say not in death—a good man never dies.

ESTABLISHED 35 YEARS.



G. ARMSTRONG & CO.,

VICTORIA SQUARE, MONTREAL.

SHAKER CHAIRS

AND

BABY SLEIGHS.

THEY ARE THE BEST AND THE CHEAPEST.

SEND FOR OUR CATALOGUE AND WHOLESALE PRICE LIST.

From a brass in Painswick Church, near Stroud, Gloucestershire :—

In Memory of Mary Loveday,
youngest daughter of James and
Hester Loveday, who departed this life
on the twentieth day of February, 1779,
Aged 54 years.

Pain was my portion, Physic was my food,
Groans my devotion, Drugs did me no good;
Christ, my Physician, knew which way was best
To ease my pain and sett my soul at rest.

In Wetheral Churchyard, near Carlisle:

"In this vain world short was my stay,
And empty was my laughter;
I go before to lead the way,
And thou comes jogging after."

Made Her Own Grave Clothes.

When Mrs. Harriet White was admitted, two years ago, into Croydon (Eng.) Union, she gave her age as 105 years, but the settlement officer ascertained that she was born at Greatham, a village near Amberley, Sussex, in 1788. She was twice married, her second husband dying some twenty-two years since. She has left a daughter seventy-five years of age, and two sons aged respectively seventy-three and seventy-one years. With the exception of blindness, she was quite recently in the possession of her faculties. She brought with her into the infirmary a parcel containing the articles of clothing she wished to be buried in, prepared more than thirty years ago, and her desire in this respect will be carried out to the letter.—*London Undertakers' Journal.*

DON'T FRET about what your reputation will be after death. Tombstones are mighty charitable.

The Last Survivor of Coruña.

In April last, Thomas Palmer, the last man of Sir John Moore's army, was buried in Weston-super-Mare (Eng.) Major Shanks (through whose exertion it was that the old soldier had such a splendid funeral, and who bore all the expense of the military display) set to work to collect the necessary funds for a monument, and soon obtained enough for the very beautiful cross which was recently erected in the cemetery. The cross is of the best Sicilian marble, and is the work of Messrs. Cox Brothers, of the Boulevard, to whom it does the greatest credit. The following inscription, in imperishable led letters, is placed on the face of the steps at the foot of the cross :—

In Memory of
THOMAS PALMER :
Born 20 November, 1789; Died 20 April, 1889;
He served for 8 years in the
32ND REGIMENT,
And was present with his Corps at Copenhagen, 1807.
Coruña and Flushing, 1809;
Badajoz, Salamanca, and Madrid, 1812.
He was the last survivor of the army which fought at Coruña
under
SIR JOHN MOORE.
"Then was the proof of British courage seen."

"Fight the good fight of faith."

Major Shanks is also about to place, at his own expense, a very handsome memorial brass in the church of Stoke Courcy (or Stogursey) where Palmer was born. The engraving was done by Messrs. Willett & Son, of Bristol, who took great interest in the work and have executed it in first rate style. We understand the design for this memorial was drawn by Major Shanks, and this will perhaps account for the fact that the "Colours" (both Queen's and Regimental) are correctly represented. It is but seldom that these flags, more especially the Union Jack, are properly drawn or made. We think that Palmer's

former regiment, now in India, ought to feel much indebted for the warm interest taken by Major Shanks in their old comrade, but for which the veteran might have died unnoticed and uncommemorated. Never was a private soldier so honoured in his funeral and in these mementos as Palmer has been.—*London Undertakers' Journal.*

Silk Ribbons.

Those of our lady readers who would like to have an elegant large package of extra fine Assorted Ribbons, (by mail), in different widths and all the latest fashionable shades, adapted for Bonnet Strings, Neckwear, Scarfs, Trimming for Hats and Dresses, Bows, Fancy Work, &c., can get an astonishing big bargain, owing to the recent failure of a large wholesale Ribbon Manufacturing Co., by sending only 25 cents (stamps), to the address we give below.

As a *special offer*, this house will give *double* the amount of any other firm in America, if you will send the names and P. O. address of ten *newly* married ladies when ordering, and mention the name of this paper. No pieces less than one yard in length. Satisfaction is guaranteed, or money cheerfully refunded. Three packages for 60 cents. Address: LONDON RIBBON AGENCY, JERSEY CITY, N. J.

THE DEATH rate of twenty-eight of the largest towns in England and Wales for a recent week was 25.3 to the 1,000, varying from 21.3 at London to 38.6 at Manchester.

HE: Darling, *will you love me when I'm gone?
Undertaker's fair daughter: Yes, if you give father your funeral.—

J. GIBBARD & SON,
NAPANEE, Ont.,
Wholesale Furniture Manufacturers.

LEADING HOUSE IN CANADA FOR

LADIES' WRITING CABINETS, PARLOR AND MUSIC
 CABINETS, PARLOR AND FANCY TABLES.

The Latest American Designs in above Lines in WALNUT, OAK, IMITATION
 and SOLID MAHOAGANY.

There are no Dead.

There are no dead - the living steal away,
 Like twilight endings of departing day,
 Into a realm of mystery, whose light
 Is unrevealed to any human sight,
 However near we look or hard we pray.

Yet blackest night is never night alway;
 Through thickest storm must pierce some
 sunny ray.

And, though the soul through death's dark
 door takes flight,
 There are no dead!

Come back, ye souls, to where your bodies
 lay;

Proclaim to us life's secret, if you may—
 But ghosts return not in the soul's despite;
 And yet, 'tis strange, on this most solemn
 night,

The silent gravestones move and voices say,
 "There are no dead."

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

WE CALL THE ATTENTION of our readers
 to our advertisement in another column.
 We offer, in addition to a receipt for this
 paper, which has been published three
 years, a recipe for a first-class Embalming
 Fluid. Many of the Undertakers are
 tired of paying for fluid. They get from
 different quarters many recipes which
 they suppose are good, but which, in
 reality, are worthless, *and worse*. We
 now propose to give them a genuine
 first-class recipe for three dollars, which
 just pays us for the paper for three years,
 so we actually give the recipe for nothing,
 but we have the satisfaction of knowing
 we are helping the Undertakers.

This offer is open till the last of Janu-
 ary, 1890.

Undertakers who have partly paid for
 the paper, can have the recipe by paying
 the balance of their subscriptions to
 December, 1889.

D. R. NELSON & CO.,
 32 Victoria Square.

A Lost Art.

The following anecdote is from the
 "Reminiscences and Opinions" of Sir
 Francis Hastings Doyle. While Mr.
 Grenville was talking to a friend belong-
 ing to a former epoch, a serious
 distortion passed across the old man's
 face. Mr. Grenville was quite alarmed,
 and fancied a fit of some kind must be
 coming on. "Oh, you need not be
 frightened," exclaimed the visitor, re-
 covering himself: "I am all right! But
 you see, when I first entered upon life,
 it was considered a gross act of ill-breed-
 ing to sneeze in company. You had to
 master the tendency somehow or other,
 and the result is that for me and my
 contemporaries sneezing has become a
 lost art. I only wish I could reacquire
 it now; but, alas, it is too late!"

Motherhood.

A child may come into the world
 perfect or blemished, pretty or plain;
 it matters little or nothing to this all-
 indulgent heavenly passion of mother-
 hood. She is there to be to it the love
 of Heaven incarnate; the visible spirit
 of supreme and exquisite acceptance
 which exists elsewhere invisibly behind
 all troubles of the world, to make the
 best of our merits and the least of our
 faults and failings. It is her child - that
 is enough. It will be lapped from its
 first breath in the royal purple of
 passionate affection; it will be fed from
 a bosom which can lull it to slumber
 with sweeter music than kings could
 command.

A CERTAIN gentleman lost his wife; and
 a young miss of six who came to the
 funeral, said to his little daughter, "Your
 pa will marry again won't he?" Oh, yes,"
 was the reply. "but not until after the
 funeral."

J. W. HANNAH & CO.

Victoria Square, Montreal,

MANUFACTURERS OF

PARLOR SUITES,

Easy Chairs, Lounges, &c.

UPHOLSTERERS' SUPPLIES OF ALL KINDS.

Write for Prices.

A Rare Case.

Two deaths in one house, both in the
 same family; two different Undertakers;
 the two funerals at the same hour and
 day, and the two Undertakers don't re-
 cognize one another. This occurred in
 Montreal about two weeks ago.

TORONTO'S RECORD in the monthly
 statement of mortality statistics pub-
 lished by the Department of Agri-
 culture at Ottawa continues to be a most
 favourable one. Last month its death
 rate was only .86 per thousand of
 population, and this record is beaten by
 only six of the twenty-eight other cities
 and towns given in the list. It is some-
 what remarkable, moreover, in view of
 the fact that the weather of last December
 is generally considered to have been un-
 healthy, that the deaths in Toronto were
 much fewer in number in this city than in
 the same month of the previous year. In
 December, 1888, they numbered 211;
 December, 1889, only 154.

SEE OUR ADVERTISEMENT.

SEMMENS, WARD & EVEL.

TRY OUR METALLIC LININGS.

SEMMENS, WARD & EVEL.

OUR CLOTH GOODS ARE THE BEST

SEMMENS, WARD & EVEL.

FOR VARIETY WE EXCEL.

SEMMENS, WARD & EVEL.

ANYTHING IN THE UNDERTAKING LINE

SEMMENS, WARD & EVEL.

The Best Method of Disposing of the Dead.

"Sanitary Entombment," a brochure by Rev. Chas. R. Treat, of N. Y. city, discusses the important question of the best method of disposing of our dead, viewed from the standpoint of the public health. In his pamphlet the author traces the origin and growth of the custom of churchyard burying, and points out that civilized and Christian society are responsible for the practice. So late in the world's history as the opening centuries of the Christian era, the universal opinion was that the dead should not be brought into proximity with the living. Accordingly the practice definitely demanded by the "Twelve Tables" became universal, not to bury within a "city" or any group of human habitations. The first step in the wrong direction seems to have been taken at the dying request of the first Christian emperor, who was interred at the entrance of the Church of the Holy Apostles, in Constantinople. The tendency, however, to follow this example, and to secure similar interment in holy earth, was stubbornly resisted; and it was not until the latter part of the sixth century that burials were permitted within towns or cities, and it was not until the eleventh century that burials were permitted in churches. About the close of the last century an agitation arose which has been going on more or less steadily ever since. During these one hundred years much valuable testimony has been brought together. Less than fifty years ago Dr. Elisha Harris brought this serious indictment against the burial ground connected with Trinity Church, New York: "Trinity churchyard has been the centre of a very fatal prevalence of cholera, whenever the disease has occurred as an endemic near or within a quarter of a mile of it. Trinity Place, west of it, Rector Street on its border, the streets west of Rector, and the occupants of the neighboring offices and commercial houses, have suffered severely at each visitation of the pest, from 1832 to 1854." Of course, the evil results are more manifest and glaring where the population is most dense; still where the population is sparse the evil is not abolished but only diluted. On this point Sir Henry Thompson has given emphatic testimony. "No dead body," says this eminent authority, "is ever placed in the soil without polluting the earth, the air, and the water above it and about it." Similar testimony is given by Dr. Holland, who says "that the best situated cemeteries may be so mismanaged as to become unsafe; that cemeteries should not be too near dwellings; that they should not be over-crowded; that the soakage from them should be carefully guarded against; and that wells near

burial-grounds are unfit sources of drinking water."

The danger to the public health of the present method is twofold; first from the impregnation of the drinking water with the poisonous compounds which result from decomposed bodies, and second, from the propagation and dissemination of those living organisms which science has demonstrated to be the cause of some of the most deadly diseases which affect mankind. Here, again, Sir Henry Thompson is called to witness. He says: "I state, as a fact of the highest importance, that, by burial in earth, we effectively provide—whatever sanitary precautions are taken by ventilation and drainage, whatever disinfection is applied after contagion has occurred—that the pestilential germs, which have destroyed the body in question, are thus so treasured and protected as to propagate and multiply, ready to reappear and work like rule hereafter for others. The poisons of scarlet-fever, enteric fever (typhoid), small-pox, diphtheria, and malignant cholera are undoubtedly transmissible through earth from the buried body." This opinion is supported by the statement of Dr. James McKellar, a member of the American Public Health Association, who declares: "We believe that the horrid practice of earth burial does more to propagate the germs of disease and death, and to spread desolation and pestilence over the human race, than all man's ingenuity and ignorance in every other custom." Acting now on the principle that the true physician is the man who, having diagnosed the disease, proceeds to prescribe the remedy, our author turns his attention to the actual and possible methods of disposing of the dead. Here there is not much choice—to throw them into the sea, to allow carnivorous birds and beasts of prey to devour them, to burn them, to bury them out of sight, to embalm, to entomb, cover the possible methods of disposition. The first two, not to say three, are so shocking to the tender sentiments that they are not likely ever to prevail. Burying is prejudicial to the public health, embalming is too expensive and involves too much mutilation, and only entombing meets the requirements of the tender sentiment, the demands of the public welfare and the question of expense. Instead, therefore, of burying or embalming the bodies of the dead, he would desiccate them in an atmosphere from which all moisture had been extracted by artificial means. To accomplish this mausoleums shall be erected in the suburbs of large towns and cities, extensive and handsome edifices that will provide sanitary sepulchres for the dead. Each sepulchre shall be so constructed that anhydrous air could enter or be made to enter, and withdrawn, laden with

moisture and morbid matter, which it would convey to a separate structure, where a furnace would complete the sanitary work that the anhydrous air had begun, and return to the external atmosphere nothing that would be noxious. The feasibility of this scheme, in so far as controlling the decomposition of bodies is concerned, is demonstrated by the fact that in upland regions, and where the air is naturally dry, the bodies of the dead do not share the fate of those in moist atmospheres. Among others the following instance is quoted. "A cave was not long ago discovered high up among the Sierra Madre Mountains, within which was found, where they had rested undisturbed for many years, the lifeless figures of a little aboriginal household, dried and undecayed. Father, mother, son and daughter, one by one, as death had overtaken them, had been brought thither, bound so as to keep in death the attitude that had marked them when at their rest in life, and there they bore their silent but impressive witness to the beneficent action of the unmoist air that had stayed decay and kept them innocuous to the living that survived." What will be the outcome of the agitation which is being promoted by the Association of which Rev. Mr. Treat is a member, cannot at this early date be certainly foretold. There can be little doubt, however, that this question of properly disposing of the dead is pressing to the front, and that it will soon constitute one of the leading problems with which promoters of the public health will have to deal. The present method may die hard, but die it must, if once a consensus of scientific opinion is declared against it. While we cannot but cherish tender feelings towards our dead, feelings which manifest themselves in a reverent care for their lifeless bodies, we must accept the doctrine that our first duty is to care for the living.

How Lepers are "Buried."

The *Tablet* publishes the diary of the lay brother who was with Father Perry during his last work and illness and death. Incidentally Brother Rooney gives a gruesome glimpse of the conditions under which life is led in the French penal settlement. "The convicts," he says, "are not buried in this burial-ground, but thrown into the sea. This keeps the sharks about, and thus prevents the convicts from trying to escape by swimming. Three or four were thus thrown into the water each day while we were there, nearly all victims of dysentery. One of the three islands is peopled with lepers."

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SEVERAL gentlemen from the West are in Kingston, looking for a site to build a coffin factory.

OWING TO the draft of the Act of Incorporation having arrived too late, we are compelled to reserve our editorial comments until next issue.

WE HOPE to see the Canadian Hearse Builders to the fore, with a show of their best hearses, at the Exhibition, to be held in Montreal in September next.

WE REGRET to announce that our old friend, Mr. Thomas Gliddon (of the *Casket*), is still confined to his home by sickness, but we sincerely trust in our

next issue to chronicle the fact that our esteemed *confrere* is able to resume his duties in the editorial chair.

IN ONE of the towns East, near to the line which separates us from Uncle Sam's domains, two men are in partnership as Undertakers. One is a policeman and the other is a carriage maker. One is ever on the beat looking for door drapes, and the other is ready to "roll the old chariot along!"

DAME RUMOR reports two other companies about starting to manufacture coffins and caskets in the West. Ontario leads the other Provinces in the number of such factories, having four now in operation. This Province has one at Three Rivers; and there is another at Amherst, Nova Scotia. We fear it will deplete the population of the Dominion very rapidly to keep those eight factories all running full time.

It is almost a year since the Dominion Burial Case Association became *non est*—that is, in so far as they were under written agreement with the Ontario and this Association, and during that time there have been no marked changes in their attitude towards the different Associations, or with individual Undertakers. The several manufacturers maintain very much the same business terms and prices as heretofore.

WE REGRET to learn there were not enough applicants for diplomas sent in to Mr. Hoyle to enable him to call together the Board of Examiners. Many of the young men who must be connected with the business in one way or another, and who will in the future, no doubt, be proprietors, should make an effort to secure a diploma. It would give the public more faith in their ability to perform their duties than anything else possibly could.

THE OTHER day, one of those fellows who had the "grippe," and who carries the "grip," and who lives by "gripping," came into our *sanctum sanctorum* and enlarged somewhat as follows:—"What's the matter with the trade papers? all

clippings! all clippings! not enough editorial matter!" We do not speak for the American trade papers, such as the *Casket* or the *Sunnyside*, because they are wealthy—but the FUNERAL DIRECTOR finds the *clippings* very scarce, and the amount of editorial matter must correspond—a cheap coffin for a cheap funeral.

THE TENDENCY at the present time in the carrying out of funerals, is to avoid as much display on the public streets as possible. The furnishing of hat and shoulder scarfs for pall-bearers, draping carriage and hearse lamps, craping the whips, &c., are now very seldom asked for; but, as far as we can learn from different sources, the demand for fine funeral goods is on the increase. So, while there may be less show on the streets, there is more at the home—in the way of a fine casket, supplied with all the numerous trappings that undertakers usually keep.

THE PROVINCE of Quebec Funeral Directors' Association should have held its Annual Convention in February, as on former occasions. By changing the time to September next, they have made a bad precedent. If the Exhibition were held every year, no doubt September would be a very suitable month; but as the Exhibition is held every five years, it is not to be expected the annual meetings can be changed one year to hold it in February during the Carnival, and once in five years to have it during Exhibition week. Most of the Funeral Directors live within 100 miles of the city, and would have come to the meeting had it been ably arranged by the Executive.

IN TOWNS and cities where undertakers are in opposition, they are very often induced by any customer they may have to reduce the price of their coffins or caskets sooner than lose said customer. It is very difficult to make a set rule to suit every case; but if undertakers would grade their coffins and caskets as to price, it would greatly assist them in bargaining. At the present time, cloth caskets are in demand by the rich, both here and in the States, and the varnished coffins and cask-

ets might be put down as good—better—best! Should you be called on to bury a tramp, you would use a common coffin; and if an order were sent you to bury one of the most wealthy in your locality, you would doubtless use a fine cloth casket. You would not reverse this order of selling coffins and caskets if you could, because the arrangements for neither the one nor the other would be in good taste. Both should be buried decently and respectfully—the one in a cheap but neat coffin, the other in a fine cloth casket, with mountings to suit the taste and pocket of the purchaser. In a word, do not sell fine goods too cheap; at the same time, keep cheap goods for cheap customers, and you will find the cheap line will always help you to sell better goods.

A Hearse Full of Pigs.

The following is a good story. A friend of mine knows the narrator, and assured me it did actually occur only the other day near Birmingham, England:—A thrilling story reaches me, the scene of which lies in the heart of our city, and the principal character in it a well-known local undertaker. He had received a commission to convey a dead body to Meriden for burial, which duty he performed with due solemnity, and then started on his return journey. After proceeding some distance he came to what is always a loadstone to a traveller on a country road, a cosy hostelry. He entered, and was soon enjoying a glass of something warm with a relish which showed that, although connected with the export trade to unknown worlds, he took a considerable interest in the good things of this. He was presently joined by the landlord, and after some conversation was invited by that individual to have a look round the place. In doing so he was struck by the healthy and trim appearance of a litter of young pigs. He enquired their price, and the landlord, noticing that they had made a favorable impression, quoted rather a high figure. Ultimately they became the property of the undertaker, who, no doubt, trusted to his increased revenue from the Russian influenza branch of the business to pay the piper. The next question was how to get them home; having paid so much

for them he felt unwilling to lose sight of them. A lucky thought; it was now dark and the roads were quiet. He would put them in the hearse; that would save time and expense. Having done so, he resumed his journey, and stopping to make two or three calls on his way, found on reaching home that the family had gone to bed. He drove the hearse into the yard, and unlocked the door to get a light, but unfortunately on entering the kitchen he fell asleep on a chair. In the meantime the noise made by the horses in the yard awoke the hostler, who came out with a lantern and went in the direction of the hearse, from which sounds of an awful description were emanating. With much trepidation he opened the door of the chamber of death, and then with a scream of pain and horror he rushed into the street. It appears that when he opened the hearse door one of the forgotten and hungry pigs, thinking a supply of food had arrived, gave his hand a grip the reverse of affectionate, and at the same moment two others jumped out, alighting on his shoulders. The day was far advanced when the undertaker had succeeded in restoring peace and order in his domestic circle.

“La Grippe.”

A comparison of the Government mortuary statistics for January last with those of the preceding December shows very plainly the work of “La Grippe,” which was at its worst in the former month. The following table gives the number of deaths per thousand of population in some of the chief cities of the Dominion:—

	Dec. 1889.	Jan. 1890.
Montreal.....	1.71	3.00
Toronto.....	.86	1.74
Quebec.....	2.15	3.74
Hamilton.....	1.17	2.06
Ottawa.....	1.62	2.31
St. John, N. B.....	1.49	2.16
Halifax.....	1.76	2.38
London.....	.86	2.05
Winnipeg.....	1.60	2.65
Victoria B. C.....	.81	2.00
Kingston.....	1.27	3.66

Among the twenty-nine places from which returns are received, St. Thomas and Peterborough are the only ones in which there was no increase in the mortality.



DEAR SIR,—I notice in your last month's issue that Mr. Jas. Stevenson is still dissatisfied with my assertion that “there are some (embalmers) in towns and villages quite equal to their city confreres, but the number is comparatively small.” He asks for figures for comparison. For my part, I do not know how figures can prove a man's ability to embalm. However, we will take say twelve of the principal Undertakers in Montreal, and I can assert, without fear of contradiction, that those twelve know more about embalming than any other twelve Undertakers in the towns and villages in the Province of Quebec, and I believe it is about the same in the West. I should think any dozen Undertakers in the City of Toronto, who do nothing for a living but undertaking, and have a large practice, should certainly know more about embalming than any twelve Undertakers in the towns or villages in Ontario, who generally have some other business to attend too. There is no reason why an Undertaker in the country should not be as competent as his city confrere (or brother), but he does not have the same amount of practice, and “practice makes perfect” every time. Some of the country Undertakers do not have more than a dozen funerals in a year, any way?

Yours, ANTI-HUMBUG.

A Cemetery Company's Contract for a Caretaker.

The following will be found interesting:—Q.—1. Have the directors of a joint stock company legal authority, say three months previous to their annual meeting, to engage or hire a servant as caretaker of a cemetery—services to commence after their annual meeting, and if a new board should be appointed or elected at said meeting, for the same company? 2. Is said bargain or agreement written and signed by a committee appointed by a full board to contract such engagement? 3. Will it hold legal and binding on the new board? Ans.—1. We think so. 2. Not necessarily, so far as we can see. 3. Most probably so.

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M. Nolan, of Toronto, has sold out and transferred to J. A. Gormaly, of that city.

The proposed "Act," as promised in your last issue, is printed for the benefit of the members. A free and full criticism of its provisions is requested by the Secretary and the Legislative Committee.

We would like a list of those who subscribe to the FUNERAL DIRECTOR, in order that we may supply non-subscribers, who are members of the Association in good standing, with a copy of the "Act."

The Secretary has been promised a few more copies of the official Text Book, which he will forward on arrival to those who have written to him to secure this valuable work.

If the Editor of the FUNERAL DIRECTOR, or any reader of its columns, knows the name or residence of the Secretary of the Dominion Baggage Masters' Association, we should feel obliged for the information.

W. H. HOYLE,
Secretary U. A. of Ontario.

An Act respecting Undertaking, Embalming and Organic Chemistry.

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as "The Undertakers' Act"

2. The Undertakers' Association of Ontario, incorporated under Chapter 167 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1877, may establish a College of Embalming and Organic Chemistry, for the instruction of pupils by competent and approved teachers in the science of Embalming and Organic Chemistry, which said College, when Established, shall be known as The Ontario College of Embalming and Organic Chemistry.

3. The Ontario College of Embalming and Organic Chemistry shall have power to acquire and hold real estate, not exceeding at any time in annual value five thousand dollars, alienate, exchange, mortgage, lease, or otherwise charge or dispose of the said real estate as occasion may require, and may erect buildings for the purpose of accommodating lecturers on Embalming and Organic Chemistry, or for a library, embalming museum, or specimen room, or for other purposes, for the use of the members and associates of the said College, and all fees paid under this Act shall belong to the College for the purposes of this Act.

4. (1) There shall be a Council of the College, to be called the Executive Council, which shall consist of thirteen members of

the said Undertakers' Association of Ontario, who shall be elected as hereinafter provided, and shall hold office for one year, and the Council shall, subject to the laws thereof, have sole control of the real and personal property of the College, and have authority to grant certificates of competency to conduct the business of embalming and the care of the dead, and to be registered subject to the provisions of this Act.

(2) Until other persons be elected as hereinafter provided..... shall be the Council of said College.

(3) The first election of the said thirteen members as Council of said College shall take place at the first annual meeting of the said Undertakers' Association of Ontario to be held after the passing of this Act, and the Secretary of the said Undertakers' Association of Ontario shall act as returning officer at said election, and the persons qualified to be elected as said Council at such election shall be members of the said Undertakers' Association of Ontario who are actively engaged, on their own account and as proprietors, in the occupation of an Embalmer and Undertaker, and are in possession of a diploma from the Board of Examiners of said Undertakers' Association of Ontario, or the holder of a diploma from any other College of a like nature, irrespective of the County in which said diploma may have been granted; and all members of the Undertakers' Association of Ontario who are in good standing and having paid the annual fee, shall be eligible to vote at said election of said Council.

5. A member of the Council may at any time resign, by letter directed to the Secretary of the said Undertakers' Association of Ontario, and in the event of a vacancy occurring, the remaining members of the Council shall fill up such vacancy from the qualified members of the said Undertakers' Association, and such person so appointed shall hold office for the expiration of the term.

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6. The Council shall, at their first meeting, elect from among themselves a President and Vice-President, and such other officers as the Council may consider necessary, and the Secretary of the Undertakers' Association of Ontario shall perform the duties of Secretary and Registrar for the said Council.

7. The Council shall hold at least two sittings in every year, the first meeting in the month of February, and the second meeting in the month of September, for the purpose of granting certificates of competency, at such time and place as they may by resolution appoint, of which due notice shall be inserted for one month in *The Funeral Director*, or some other paper of the said Undertakers' Association, and at least one insertion in two newspapers published in the city of Toronto.

8. The Council of the said College shall, subject to the supervision and disallowance thereof by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, have authority to prescribe the subjects upon which candidates for certificates of competency shall be examined; to establish a scale of fees, not to exceed twenty-five dollars, to be paid by persons applying for examinations; and to make by-laws, rules and orders for the regulation of their own meetings and proceedings

and those of the College; and for the remuneration and appointment of examiners and officers of the College; and for defining the duties of such examiners and officers; and for the payment of remuneration or indemnity to the members of the Council in attending the sittings, or in attending upon the business of the College; and in respect to any other matters which may be requisite for the carrying out this Act; provided always, that no more than five cents per mile for travelling expenses, or more than three dollars per day for such days only as he shall be in actual attendance upon the business of the College, including going to and returning from such sitting, be allowed to any member for such expenses and remuneration.

9. The Examination of the College may be conducted by the members of the Council and Provincial Board of Health or by persons appointed by.....

10. Subject to the rules, regulations and by-laws of the Ontario College of Embalming and Organic Chemistry, the following persons and no others may be admitted as candidates for certificates of competency:—

(a) Any person who shall furnish to the Council of the College satisfactory evidence of having in pursuance of a binding

contract in writing for that purpose, served as an apprentice to a regularly qualified undertaker and embalmer for a term of not less than three years, and who has attended two courses of lectures, the first in any College or School of Embalming and Organic Chemistry approved by the Council, and the second or senior course at the Ontario College of Embalming and Organic Chemistry (such course to comprise the following subjects, namely:—Rules and regulations of the Provincial Board of Health, in so far as they apply to the undertaking calling; organic chemistry; the laws of decomposition; the care and preservation of the dead between death and interment; the care and protection of the public health from contagious diseases in conducting funerals, and such subjects as may from time to time be ordered by the Council), and who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years. The Council shall have power to fix and determine from time to time a curriculum of studies to be pursued by the candidates.

Sub-section 1.—This section shall not apply to such persons who are actually apprenticed without such binding contract in writing to an undertaker and embalmer prior to the passing of this Act, but such time as he may have served shall be counted as though served under this Act

Sub-section 2.—The period occupied in attending the first of the said courses of lectures may be counted as part of the term of apprenticeship.

(b) In case any person, who has apprenticed himself as aforesaid, shall by reason of the death, failure in business, or removal of his employer, or from any other cause satisfactory to the Council, be unable to complete his term of apprenticeship with such employer, such person shall be at liberty, when and as often as this may happen, to enter into a new contract to complete the remainder of his unfulfilled term with any other regularly qualified undertaker and embalmer.

11. Every person who may hereafter be desirous of becoming apprenticed as aforesaid, shall, before the term of his apprenticeship begins to run, for the purpose of this Act furnish to the Secretary of the Undertakers' Association of Ontario a certificate, or other evidence satisfactory to the Council, shewing that prior to the commencement of his apprenticeship he has passed through the different forms required by the Public School Act, and that he has passed through the highest Reader taught in the Public Schools in Ontario. This section does not apply to persons who have already commenced their apprenticeship, providing that application from such apprentices be made not later than twelve months from the passing of this Act.

12. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to make and keep a correct register, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, as shewn in Schedule "A," of all persons who may be entitled to be registered under this Act, and to enter opposite the names of all registered persons who have died a statement of such fact, and from time to time make the necessary alterations in the addresses of persons registered under this Act, and to cause to be printed and published, on or before the first day of September in each year, an alphabetical list of the members who were, on the first day of August of that year, entitled to advertise themselves as holders of diplomas from said College.

13. Any person having passed such examination as aforesaid to the satisfaction of the Council, shall be entered upon the roll of registered qualified undertakers and embalmers, and shall become a member of the College.

14. All persons approved of by the Council of the College who hold certificates from any other School or College of Embalming and Organic Chemistry in the

Dominion of Canada or elsewhere, may be registered as members of the Ontario College of Embalming without passing the examination prescribed by this Act.

15. No name shall be entered in the register except persons authorized by this Act to be registered, nor unless the Secretary is satisfied by proper evidence that the person claiming is entitled to be registered; and any appeal from the decision of the Secretary may be decided by the Council of the College; and any entry proved to the satisfaction of the Council to have been fraudulently or incorrectly made, may be erased from or amended in the register by order of the Council.

16. Upon any person being registered under this Act, he shall be entitled to receive a certificate in the form of Schedule "B," or the like effect, under the corporate seal of the College and signed by the President and Secretary.

17. There shall be paid to the Secretary of the Undertakers' Association of Ontario, for the uses of the College and other requirements of the profession, on the first day of September of each year, by every person registered or in affiliation with the Undertakers' Association of Ontario, and carrying on business as an undertaker and embalmer, the sum of two dollars; provided in case such person shall carry on business in more than one locality, the further sum of two dollars shall be payable by him as aforesaid for each additional place of business; and provided also, that all employers or assistants, who manage or have charge of such additional places of business, shall be legally qualified undertakers and embalmers.

18. Any person registered under this Act and no other person shall be entitled to be called or advertise himself as an embalmer, or as a party qualified to prepare cadavers for shipment on any of the railways in Ontario, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Provincial Board of Health, and the by-laws of the Baggage Master's Association of Canada, that may from time to time be ordered by the said Provincial Board of Health and the said Baggage Master's Association of Canada.

19. Upon a resolution of the Council of the College being passed, declaring that any person, in consequence of his conviction for any offence, or offences, against this Act, is, in the opinion of the Council, unfit to be on the register under this Act, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may direct that the name of such person shall be erased from the register, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to erase the name accordingly.

20. Every undertaker and embalmer, and advertising as such and carrying on business as such on his own account, shall display his certificate in a conspicuous position in his place of business.

21. Every person having been registered under this Act as a duly qualified undertaker and embalmer, shall, on retiring from business as an undertaker and embalmer, give the Secretary notice in writing of the same, and his name shall be erased from the register of duly qualified undertakers and embalmers, and he shall cease to enjoy any of the privileges of the College, and in default of such notice he shall remain liable for his annual registration fee; provided, that it shall be lawful for any such person to resume the business of a duly qualified undertaker and embalmer at any time after retiring therefrom as aforesaid, upon giving notice in writing to the Secretary of the College of his intention so to do, and upon payment to him of the then current annual registration fee.

22. In consideration of the public health and the safety of the community, in all cases where there is any suspicion of death being caused from poisoning, the medical attendant of any deceased person shall give to an undertaker and embalmer registered under this Act a certificate of the cause of death, and shall state in said certificate whether, in his opinion, the death was caused by poison or not; or in case a Coroner has had charge of the body of a deceased person, he shall also be bound to give the undertaker and embalmer a like certificate, before the undertaker and embalmer shall proceed to embalm the said body, or take any means to check decomposition of the body by the injection of any antiseptic fluid into the same; and the said undertaker and embalmer shall be compelled to give to the baggage-master or his assistant at the railway station, on the shipment of a cadaver, a certificate that the same has been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Provincial Board of Health.

23. No person, except he be registered under this Act, shall advertise in any way to lead the public to believe that he is an embalmer, or that he is a person duly qualified to carry out the rules and regulations of the Provincial Board of Health as to the disposition of bodies dying from contagious disease, and any person so doing (besides any other penalties to which he may be liable) shall be subject to the penalties prescribed by section 24 of this Act.

24. Any person transgressing any of the provisions of this Act shall, for the first offence, incur a penalty of twenty dollars

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and costs of prosecution, and for each offence committed subsequent to such conviction a penalty of fifty dollars and costs of prosecution, to be recovered in a summary manner before one or more Justices of the Peace or Police Magistrate, on oath of one or more credible witnesses, one moiety to belong to the prosecutor, and the other to be paid to the Secretary for the use of the College.

25. In any prosecution under this Act, it shall be incumbent upon the defendant to prove that he is entitled to practice as an embalmer, and to assume the title of embalmer, and the production of a certificate purporting to be under the hands of the President and Secretary, and under the seal of the College, shall be *prima facie* evidence that he is so entitled; but nothing in this section shall be construed as in any way amending or qualifying section 26 of this Act.

26. Upon the decease of any person legally authorized and actually carrying on the business of embalmer at the time of his death, it shall be lawful for the executor, administrator or trustee of the estate of such person to continue the business if and so long as such business is *bona fide* conducted by an undertaker and embalmer registered under this Act; provided such executor, administrator or trustee continues to pay the annual registration fee of two dollars.

SCHEDULE "A" Section 12.

Name.	Residence.	Qualification.	Remarks.

SCHEDULE "B" Section 13.

We hereby certify that C. D., having complied with the requirements of "The Undertakers' Act," was, on the day of A. D. 18 duly registered as a duly qualified undertaker and embalmer, and is authorized to carry on the business of undertaking and embalming in the Province of Ontario, from the day of 18 to the day of 18



(Signed)

Secretary of The Ontario College of Embalming and Organic Chemistry.

(Signed)

A Cargo of Mummified Cats.

A consignment of nineteen and a half tons of embalmed cats from Beni Hassan, Central Egypt, has just reached Liverpool. In this parcel there are remains of about 180,000 cats. They were discovered by an Egyptian fellah employed in husbandry, who fell into a pit, which, on further examination, proved to be a large subterranean cave completely filled with cats, every one of which had been separately embalmed and dressed in cloth, after the manner of Egyptian mummies, all being separately laid out in rows. Specimens of these have been taken by Mr. Moore, the curator of the Liverpool Museum, where they can be seen. The remainder are about to be employed as manure. The Rev. H. H. Higgins and Mr. Moore fix the date of their interment at 2,000 years before Christ. A correspondent writes :

The totem of a section of the ancient Egyptians was the cat; hence when a cat died it was buried with all honors, being embalmed, and sometimes fully decorated, and, in short, had as much attention paid to it as a human being. It had long been believed that a cat cemetery existed on the east bank of the Nile, and in the autumn of 1889 a lucky Egyptian, as stated above, found this ancient burial ground at Beni Hassan, about 100 miles from Cairo. Laborers were soon at work, and dug out hundreds of thousands. Some were quickly sold to local farmers, and other lots found their way to an Alexandrian merchant, thence by the steamer *Pharos* and *Thebes* to Liverpool, where they were knocked down at £3 13s. 9d. per ton to a local fertilizer merchant. The auction was only known to the 'trade,' but even the 'bone' buyers looked nervously at the sample. The broker knocked the lot down with one of the cat's heads for a hammer."

IF THE ancient Egyptians could have looked ahead a few thousand years and seen the desecration their tombs were to suffer at the hands of Western vandals, life would not have been worth living, nor mummification worth dying for. Not only are the sepulchres of the Pharaohs and the Ptolemys invaded, but even the relics of the sacred cat tribe are not allowed to rest in peace. A cargo of 180,000 feline mummies has just been knocked down at auction to a Liverpool fertilizer merchant at \$20 a ton.

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Funeral of a Jewish Rabbi.

Dr. Nathan Marcus Adler, Chief Rabbi of the Polish and German Jews in England, whose death was recently announced, was buried in the Jewish Cemetery, near Willesden Green (Eng.) on January 24th. The body was brought from the West Brighton Station by express train to London Bridge, where it was met by a large number of Jews, rich and poor, wearing some signs of mourning. There were five mourning coaches following the severely plain hearse, and the procession moved across London Bridge, making a detour in order to pass the building in Duke's Place where the Chief Rabbi ministered for so many years. The procession did not halt, however, nor any was ceremony observed at the synagogue. It passed across the city to Charlotte Street, Portland Place, where are the offices of the United Synagogue, and one of the entrances to the Central Synagogue. Here were assembled several hundreds of gentlemen, representing nearly the whole of the Jewish communities. At Charlotte Street the long line of private carriages, apparently nearly 200 in number, joined the hearse and mourning carriages from the city, and the imposing procession journeyed west to the United Synagogue Cemetery at Willesden. This is a grand open space of twelve acres, beautifully kept, and as yet but scantily tenanted. Bodies of school children from the Jewish hospitals and schools, each contingent bearing a mourning banner, lined the main avenue from the "Hall" or chapel to the grave. Amongst the numerous spectators were a few English ladies. The weather was very cold and stormy, and the little waiting room near the hall

was crowded to the lowest step. The hall is a small plain building, with Hebrew inscriptions on the walls, and the only furniture besides the stoves and side benches were a couple of boxes for the poor, and the hand platform on wheels, used as a bier. Upon this the coffin was placed, the gale at the time howling wildly outside, and beating the ivy against the windows. The building was crowded with the gentlemen who had formed part of the procession from town, and many were crowded out. There were no flowers nor ornaments upon the coffin, the Jewish custom strictly enjoining plainness. The Rev. M. H. Hast, Reader at the Great Synagogue, was the officiating minister at the brief but impressive service. In the hall he recited with power the Psalm proper for the occasion, the recitation really amounting to a dramatic piece of unaccompanied singing. The coffin was then carried towards the place of interment, a few paces along the main walk. A halt was made midway, however, for the recital by the minister of the prayer for all who had not been to the burial-ground for thirty days. Without any delay or office the coffin was lowered into the grave (a mere excavation in the clay), the minister saying "May he come to his appointed place in peace." The sons of the deceased threw earth upon the coffin. The Jewish service for the burial of the dead enjoins that the congregation shall pluck grass from the turf on leaving the grave, the minister reciting: "And they shall blossom forth from the ruins like the grass of the earth." "God remembereth that we are but dust." It is also understood that all present shall wash their hands, reciting "Death will be destroyed for ever, and the Lord God will

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wipe away the tear from every face; and the reproach of His people He will remove from off the whole earth; for the Lord hath spoken it." On returning to the hall the sons of the deceased, during a short service, recited the mourners' "kaddis," a prayer which they will offer morning and evening for twelve months, and thereafter on each anniversary of the death of their father. By the Levitical law, the sons of the deceased being "Kohanim" (descendants of the High Priest Aaron) were allowed to stand by their dead in the hall, but were debarred from approaching the grave near which other bodies were buried.

A BLASTED HOPE.—The Pastor—"Ah, yes; but we should not grieve too much, considering the ripeness of years your grandmother had attained." Sorrowing Granddaughter—"Anither year an' we shouldna hae mindit it a bit. But it was that provoking to hae her decim' at ninty-nine. We had so set oor hearts on her being a cen-cen-turion, an', noo, oh, oh." Collapse of pastor.

THE DANGER OF TAPPING.—After a consultation, several physicians decided that a dropsical patient should be tapped. Upon hearing of the decision of the doctors, a son of the sick man, who had been remarkable for his devotion to John Barleycorn, approached him and exclaimed—"Father, don't submit to the operation, for there was never was anything tapped in our house that lasted more than a week."

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HERE is a birth intimation that will touch the heart of every father with its simple pathos:—"In this city, August 9, the wife of Wm. Lea, of a son—not twins this time."

THE WIDOW of the late Councillor Morgan, a cheesemonger, is so deeply affected by the loss of her husband that when playing the piano she only strikes the black keys.

"Is ALL over?" inquired a weeping friend of an undertaker whom he met coming out of the house. "Oh, no," responded the cheerful undertaker, "the funeral takes place day after to-morrow."

A KIND PHYSICIAN, wishing to soothe the last hours of a poor woman he was attending, asked her if there was any-

thing he could do for her before she died. The poor soul, looking up, replied—"Doctor, I have always thought I would like to have a new bonnet before I died."

IN KENTUCKY a ploughman became enamoured of a milkmaid on a neighbouring farm. His addresses were rejected; and the disappointed swain, full of melancholy and vengeance, procured a rope—went to the farm—and tied all the cow's tails together!

A MAN lately walked into the office of a Judge of Probate, in a neighbouring State, and asked, "Are you the Judge of Reprobates?" "I am the Judge of Probate." "Well, that's it, I expect. You see, my father died detested, and he left several little infidels, and I want to be their executioner!"

A PHYSICIAN attending a lady several times had received a couple of guineas each visit; at last, when he was going away, she gave him but one, at which he was surprised. "I believe, madam," said he, looking on the floor, "I have dropped a guinea." "No, sir," replied the lady, "it is I that have dropped it."

THEY WERE at a funeral. "You seem deeply affected, Madam," said one. "Y-yes," sobbed the other. "I-I used t-to—boo-hoo—p-play with the corpse w-when it was y-younger."

THE FOLLOWING inscription is to be read on a grave-stone in Pere Lachaise. "Here lies Gabrielle X., my adored spouse, an angel; I shall never get over her loss! * * * Here lies Henrietta X., my second wife, an angel also!"—*New York Ledger.*

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