"AH! THAT'S THE QUESTION."

An Amazing Temperance Tale Told by a Nassau Street Barber.

"You're a reporter?" observed a new barber as a *Sun* man leaned back in his chair. "I've done considerable writing myself," he continued, as he filled the reporter's eyes with lather. "Yes, indeed. I've written a poem that was published in the *Barbers' Journal*, and I am at work on a temperance story that will paralyze the rumsellers. Shall I repeat it?"

As the barber had by this time begun operations on the reporter's chin with his razor, protestation would have been unavailing, and the author continued:

"It begins like this: In a lonely house—a small house furnished bare—there sat a thin, pallid woman dressed in meagre garments, through which the cold wind blew in fitful gusts. Around her were huddled three thin, pale, half-starved children. There was no food in the pantry, no fuel in the stove. Why was this the case? Ah! that's the question.

"In a low grog-shop in the neighboring hamlet, surrounded by a crowd of drunken men, there sat a being that had once been a man. He was besotted with rum. His bloated face was buried in his red hands. He was asleep. He was a drunkard. Why was he a drunkard? Ah! that's the question.

"'Mother, why doesn't father come home?' asked one of the three pale children of the pallid woman in the lonely house. Ah! that's the question.

"'I will start out for him and bring him home, mother,' exclaimed the child.

"'Brave boy!' replied the parent, between her sobs. And so into the cold, dark night the fearless child went out. But why was this midnight and perilous journey necessary? Ah! that's the question.

"A tap at the door of the grog-shop. A deep mutter among the men whose unlawful amusement it had interrupted. The door opened and the child walked in.

"'Father!' he cried, as he leaned over the sleeping wretch, 'will you come home with me? Ah! that's the question.

"Father and child—drunken beast and pure innocence—hand in hand pursued their lonely way over the dark and rocky road that led to the deserted home. By the side of the path was a steep precipice. Here the twain paused. The man sat down to think. What thoughts, think you, were passing through his rum-crazed brain? Ah! that's the question.

"They were awful thoughts—thoughts of murder! He had been torn away from his haunts by the firm, pale hand of his little child. His wife had set a spy on his track. The insult should be wiped out. But how? Ah! that's the question.

"Five minutes of silent but awful meditation suffice. Starting to his feet, the enraged man grasped his little son by the waist, and held him at arm's length over the steep precipice.

"'Father,' murmured the child plaintively, 'shall I ever see mother again?' Ah! that's the question.

"'I don't see why little Johnny does not come home!" exclaimed the pallid woman in the lonely house as the first streaks of dawn lit up the empty pantry shelves. Can any harm have befallen him?' Ah! that's the question.

"Dawn saw a pale man, trembling at every joint, gazing with bloodshot eyes over a steep precipice at a little heap of clothes lying on the cruel rocks below. The drunkard's brain reeled with horror. Had he murdered his child? Ah! that's the question.

"In a solitary cell in the Blackwell Island Insane Asylum there sits a pale, thin man, with long white hair and vacant eyes. All day long he moans aloud, 'Why did I do it? Oh! why did I do it?' Ah! my friend, that's the question.

"I think that will produce an effect," continued the barber as he finished the narrative. The story is a true one, and I have written it in poetry as well as in prose. If you will come in tomorrow I will give you a copy of the verses. Thank you. Very much obliged, sir. I'll have them copied out for you. Brush here. Next."—*New York Sun.*

An Industrious Housewife.

After the funeral of Mrs. Fenn, of Terryville, Conn., a few days ago, her husband, an octogenarian, found a half dozen shirts made by his aged partner and carefully laid away. Soon afterward he found six more in another place, and, remarking that a dozen shirts would probably last him as long as he lived, he sent them out to be laundried. Last week, while rummaging about the house for something he had mislaid, he found another half dozen shirts. Surprised at this, he began a systematic search and brought to light ninety-seven of the indispensable garments, all showing the careful needle-work of his estimable wife. The shirts are of fine muslin, and the work on them is of the finest description, and all done by hand. Ladies who have seen them marvel at the exactness of the stitching. Mr. and Mrs. Fenn were a quaint old couple, wealthy and without children. It had always been a remark that Mrs. Fenn, unlike most old ladies, never was engaged in knitting, but always took her sewing with her when she went out to spend the afternoon.

Very Busy.

"Busy now, Mozart?"
"Yes; up to my chin in business."
"What's your trade?"
"I'm a violinist."

To Those Interested.

HASTINGS, Mich., April 22, 1889.
Rheumatic Syrup Co., Jackson, Mich:

GENTS—This is to certify that I had been troubled with rheumatism in all its forms for the past twelve years, and was confined to my bed at various periods from three to six months at a time, and I could get about only by the aid of crutches. I employed several first-class physicians of this city, none of whom effected a cure or gave temporary relief even.

About two years ago I was induced to try Hibbard's Rheumatic Syrup, and, after taking a few bottles I experienced relief, and now consider myself cured. I unhesitatingly recommend this medicine for rheumatism. I know what it has done for me, what physicians could not do, i. e., cured me of rheumatism.

MRS. H. J. KENFIELD.

Ask your druggist for it.
I certify to the above statement.
FRED L. HEATH, Druggist.

Not a Silent Partner.

"John," said a fond wife as she laid down the paper which she had been reading, "what is a silent partner?"

"A silent partner, my dear, is a member of a firm who takes no active part in its business. The active partner or partners do the work and he gets his share of the profits."

"I see. By the way, isn't marriage a partnership?"

"It undoubtedly is."

"And you are the active partner and I the silent one. You carry on the business of the concern. Where is my share of the profits?"

"Ah, my dear, you are not the silent partner. You talk too much for that."—*Boston Courier.*

ery Risky Indeed.

To tamper with symptoms indicative of growing kidney disorder; to neglect for a brief time needful stimulation of the renal organs when their inactivity points, as it always and unmistakably does, to their eventual permanent disease, is certainly very risky indeed. This is, however, a risk that many persons perceptibly drifting into Bright's disease, diabetes, catarrh of the bladder, etc., constantly incur. To those who read, reflect and heed the lessons of recorded experience, the advisability of using Hostetter's Stomach Bitters as a diuretic needs scarcely more than a suggestion. No fact is more generally admitted by the medical profession and the public than its efficacy for the prevention of serious renal disease. The unmedicated excitants of commerce, no matter how pure, bear in mind, react prejudicially upon the kidneys when inactive. The Bitters subdues malaria, constipation and rheumatism.

How She Loved Him.

He (just married)—You say your love for me will never die; my own Kate?

"No, my ownest George, never, never, never."

"And you will never want to get a divorce from me!"

"No, indeed, George," she answered, as she hid her head lovingly in his bosom; "why should I ever want to get a divorce from you? Why, you are not worth a cent, and so what alimony could I get from you? No, George, I shall never seek a divorce."

The Best Testimonial

Yet published for any blood medicine is the *printed guarantee* of the manufacturers of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, which *warrants* that wonderful medicine to benefit or cure in all cases of those diseases for which it is recommended, or money paid for it will be returned. It cures all diseases arising from torpid liver and impure blood, and their names are *legion*. All Skin, Scalp and Scrofulous affections, Eruptions, Sores and Swellings, Salt Rheum, Tetter, Erysipelas and kindred diseases are among those in which the "Discovery" effected marvelous cures.

WHEN everything else fails Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy cures. 50 cents, by druggists.

A Helpful Little Maid.

Her parents think Elsie the cutest child in the world, and certainly for a five-year-old this fairy is wonderfully handy about the house. She has a great ambition to be helpful, however much in the way she may happen to get in her laudable but naturally not yet very effective desire to make herself useful. The other day her father had a gentleman friend to dinner, and after the repast told the little girl to fetch a couple of cigars from his box. "Did you find them, Elsie?" he asked, as she returned. "Yes, papa, and I bit the ends off for you."—*Buffalo Courier.*

"THE days of miracles are past." That may be, and yet some of the most wonderful things ever witnessed by the human family have occurred within the last decade. Not the least of these wonders is the success which the agents of B. F. Johnson & Co., Richmond, Va., are meeting. Write them for particulars. They will show *you* how to work wonders.

A 10c. smoke for 5c.—"Tansill's Punch."

Salt Rheum

Often causes great agony with its intense itching and burning. Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier, cures salt rheum, and all skin diseases. It thoroughly cleanses, renovates, and enriches the blood. Give it a trial.

"After the failure of three skillful physicians to cure my boy of salt rheum, I tried Hood's Sarsaparilla and Olive Ointment. I have now used four boxes of Ointment and one and a half bottles of Sarsaparilla, and the boy is to all appearances completely cured. He is now four years old, and has been afflicted since he was six months of age." MRS. B. SANDERSON, 56 Newhall Street, Lowell, Mass.

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100 Doses One Dollar

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Ely's Cream Balm WILL CURE CATARRH
Price 50 Cents.
Apply Balm into each nostril.
ELY BROS., 56 Warren St., N. Y.

Anecdote of Beethoven.

Beethoven, although it must be conceded that he had every right to be vain, never took the trouble to hide his feelings, and when his ire was aroused—and that is with men of genius more easily done than to allay it—he expressed himself very clearly indeed. Thus you may see at Heiligenstadt, near Vienna, where they are now forming a sort of Beethoven museum like the Mozarteum at Salsburg, a sketch of a chateau in Nether Austria, where, a few years before his death, Beethoven used to compose.

It belonged to Beethoven's brother, a chemist, who had made some money and was rather fond of displaying his wealth. This brother called upon Beethoven and left a card, upon which he had engraved his name: "Jean von Beethoven, landed proprietor." This innocent vanity so enraged Beethoven that he returned the call upon his brother, when he knew he would not be at home, and left his card: "Louis von Beethoven, brain proprietor."—*Temple Bar.*

Hibbard's Rheumatic and Liver Pills.

These Pills are scientifically compounded, uniform in action. No griping pain so commonly following the use of pills. They are adapted to both adults and children with perfect safety. We guarantee they have no equal in the cure of *Sick Headache*, Constipation, Dyspepsia, Biliousness; and, as an appetizer, they excel any other preparation.

He Wasn't a Chip of the Ould Block.

Mr. Flanagan—Oi don't know phwat Oi wull du wid me bye Micky. Faith, he's a bad young spalpeen.

Mr. O'Rourke—Phwat hez he been afther doin'?

Mr. Flanagan—Sure, he kim home last noight rollin' a beer keg that he'd sthole from the saloon av the Dootchman beyant.

Mr. O'Rourke—Sure, he's a cliver bye, is Micky.

Mr. Flanagan—That's phwat Oi t'ought, an' Oi was just afther tellin' him he wuz a chip av the ould block whin Oi diskivered the keg wuz empty.

Mr. O'Rourke—Oi hope ye tached him a lesson for thavin'?

Mr. Flanagan—Begobs, Oi think he's a-howlin' yet from the bastin' I give him.—*America.*

His Mind Had Changed Too.

"Puffessor, I's 'bout come to the conclusion dat you's triflin' wid me. Heah we bean 'gaged mo'en seben yeah now."

"Yes, Missus Wubbelby, but you's prob'bly 'ware dat de physology state dat de human body change once eber seben yeah; so 'cordin' to science I hain't de same person wot mek de 'gagement wid yo'."

"Yes, but de min' don' change ef de body do."

"Wall, my mind's changed."

For Rickets, Marasmus, and all Wasting Disorders of Children

Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil, with Hypophosphites, is unequaled. The rapidity with which children gain flesh and strength upon it is very wonderful. "I have used Scott's Emulsion in cases of Rickets and Marasmus of long standing. In every case the improvement was marked."—J. M. MAIN, M. D., New York. Sold by all Druggists.

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STRANGE as it may appear, there is nobody fresher in company than the old salt.

ST. JACOBS OIL
TRADE MARK
THE GREAT REMEDY FOR PAIN
IT CONQUERS PAIN.
Relieves and cures RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, Sciatica, Lumbago. HEADACHE, Toothache, Sprains, BRUISES, Burns and Scalds.
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"Thus it was the Swift's Specific
Brought unto the world its blessing;
Over land and over water
Went the priest and Uanita,
Bringing to the people tidings
Of relief from blood contagion—
Of a salutary agent
That would purge them of all poison."

—EXTRACT FROM POEM OF "UANITA."

Took Off His Under Lip.

Eight years ago a cancer came on my lower lip. I had it cut out while it was yet small, and it healed up apparently, but soon broke out again and commenced eating very rapidly. It took off my under lip from one side to the other and down to my chin. I had it treated by burning, and got so weak that I did not think that I could stand it much longer. After much suffering I discarded all other treatment and began taking Swift's Specific, and the cancer soon began to heal, and in a short time it was completely healed and I was entirely well. It is now over three years since I got well, and there has been no sign of any return of the disease. I know it was cancer, and I know it was cured alone by S. S. S.

E. V. FERRAND, Ruston, La.

S. S. S. cured me of malignant sore throat and mouth, caused by impure blood. The trouble extended down to my left lung, which was very sore. The doctors practiced on me for three years without relief, when I left them and took S. S. S. Four bottles cured me. BEN RILEY, Meridian, Miss.

Treatise on Blood and Skin Diseases mailed free. SWIFT SPECIFIC COMPANY, Drawer 3, Atlanta, Ga.

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A WET HEN

The man who has invested from three to five dollars in a Rubber Coat, and at his first half hour's experience in a storm finds to his sorrow that it is hardly a better protection than a mosquito netting, not only feels chagrined at being so badly taken in, but also feels if he does not look exactly like

We offer the man who wants service (not style) a garment that will keep him dry in the hardest storm. It is called TOWER'S FISH BRAND "SLICKER," a name familiar to every Cow-boy all over the land. With them the only perfect Wind and Waterproof Coat is "Tower's Fish Brand Slicker."

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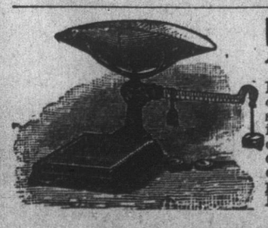

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CATARRH
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ASTHMA. Popham's Asthma Specific. Relief in TEN MINUTES. WM. GLEGHORN, Gardner, Ill., writes: "I have not had to sit up an hour for three years. I hope the man that invented the SPECIFIC may have everlasting life and God's blessing while he lives." Sold by all druggists. $1 per box by mail, postpaid. *Trial package free.* Address T. POPHAM, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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