Told at a Tunnel's Mouth_

A group of navvies waited for the re lief party at the mouth of a tunnel. Sing us a song, Sam !" said one. "Got a cold, Bill; try the new

A loud laugh followed this remark, and that for two reasons; one was Sam's cold, which was not strange, seeing that for fourteen hours they had worked (as only English navvies can) in that long tunnel, at times half choked with smoke and steam, and then half frozen with the bitter winter wind; the other reason was his suggestion for the fresh hand to sing, whose strange, silent manner had not made him a favorite in the rough but hearty gang of navvies. Once Sam had watched and saw him reach over a part of his dinner to a mate who was "not up to the mark," when the said mate could not swallow the hard fare he had provided himself with; and Sam wished to know more, through. being, as he would have said, "kinder curus on such p'ints," so he asked.

"Per'aps you'll oblige?" "How long have we got, mate?"

"Matter of half-hour before the relief comes."

"I'll sing you a song at last, if you'll hear a story first.' "Hear! hear!" said Sam; and the rest agreed. So the new hand placed himself a little nearer the middle of the group, and leaning on his pick, be-

"Bargain is a bargain, mates, and I know why I am quiet-like now, you will before I have done. Once I had as nice a home as any man need wish for, and the girl I brought to it was th e right sort, I can tell you; none of your flashy, dressy, empty-headed ones it; so she gave in.

couldn't get her to go out for pleasure | mammy. with me, for she said: 'Fair's fair; I keep away from one place to please you, I keep away from others to please myself.' and I thought there was something in that, don't you?

The men made a murmur, half yes, half no, and seemed to grow more attentive; it was level with their understand-

He went on, how glad Alice was, to be sure; why, on till I got to this place; and if I'm that child, I believe she would have quiet, it is because I think of them. worked her fingers to the bone for it. Ever as I work the sense of His pre-Some folks talk as if our little ones | sence is with me; their dying words are were a curse to us; why, mates, them in my ear. O mates, take my story as says so are worse than a jackdaw, and as empty as a bag of wind; they ain't got no heart themselves." "No; they're all jaw," said Sam.

"Well, anyway, we didn't call Meg a curse by a long stretch; she crowed and grew, and every year bound us more together; for whatever little differences we had in other things we were one on the baby-she was the best in the world. But while Meg grew strong the mother grew weak, until she was thin as a shadow; then I asked the doctor, who said she wanted change of air. I asked her if she would like to go and see her mother, and take Meg; lor, how pleased she was. So she went, and I saw her off.

"How I got on without her I don't know; badly enough it was. When she came back little Meg was four years old. Mates, I didn't know the wife, so | They safely rest, where'er I rove. white and ill she was; but the child our lives. To make the story short, while I hoped and hoped Alice would mend, she didn't, and the sight of her face, so ghost-like, kind of haunted me -she was queer and lonely like, and- His blood can pardon, and his love can well, lads, I took to drink!"

The fresh hand's voice quivered a little, but he grasped the pick firmer, and continued : "Most every night I kept away from home, not because I hated it, boys, for my heart was there, but I just could not bear to see Alice; somehow death appeared written in her face, and I wanted to give him plenty of room-I was not ready for him. The neighbors kept the place and Meg tidy, and I took home what was left after paying score at the 'Lion.'"

at the speaker, for the tears had plications cure ANY CASE OF EXCORIATED gathered in his eyes and were rolling in little channels down his cheeks.

"One night there was a noise in the bar at the 'Lion.' Somebody sung out Mind the little 'un; then there was a fiall and a cry-Meg's cry-and I ran out to see the landlady catch her up, and the blood flowing from a great gash in the forehead. 'Pure accident,' some one said; but I caught hold of Meg, the landlady bound her up somehow, and I rushed home with her-home to her mother, and the sight of her child seemed to put life into Alice; she fondled and sang to the little one in a way that almost broke her heart. The doctor came and bound her head up but the little eyes were fast closed, and he gave no hope.

"Once she opened the little eyes, gave one stare wild enough to shudder at, and then closed them so we sat, Alice with her on her breast in bed, and I on a chair by the side."

"John," said Alice, "I don't think I shall be here long, and I want to talk to you a bit; will you listen?

"I nodded, for I could not speak. "Before I knew you, John, I used to read my Bible and pray to God since then I have given it up; you did not like it, John, but I have got to die; and it's all dark now, husband. What am I to do?"

"I kept quite still: what could I "John, I am too weak to read now; won't you read a bit to me and give me a little comfort before I die lit there is it to the youngest child, as per directions. The sale of this medicine is unprecedent-

"Not for years had I touched the a single report of failure to do its work in book she spoke of, and where to find it now I did not know; but I hunted round, cents. Try it and be convinced for I thought if this will give her ease, I am bound to try; and at last I found it behind the tea-tray; and I asked her where to read and she said anywhere. CARTER'S—Just received a the MIRAMI-CHI BOOKSTORE. Though the duties paid are high we sell at the old prices.

into a house in which a little child lay dead; how the people mocked and jeered him when he said she slept; and I lookat our poor Meg, so white and pained. wondering if he could come to her -how Jesus took that little girl's hand, her cold, dead hand, and said

"Arise." "Oh John, if He were only here to speak to Meg and make her well," said

"Perhaps its only a tale," I said-"No John," said Alice. "When I was well I could live and not think much of Him: but since I have been ill He seems so real to me sometimes; even now, John, I believe he is here."

"Mates, that was a cold, dark night, and the wind howled outside, the fire was all but out and the candle flickered with the draught. 1 tell you I felt bad, for her words did seem so full of meaning and her eyes almost looked me

"John, if He's here, He can save our Meg. John, dear, won't you ask Him? Won't you pray?"

"Alie, I can't; I don't know how." "Husband, look at the darling think of her-of her, John, try. O John, try.'

The whole group of navvies gathered round him here with open eyes and strained ears, watching eagerly for what was coming.

"I don't know what voice whispered back her words like an echo; but I heard, and fell upon my knees, crying shall keep you to your word: if you don't to the Lord-if he was there-to have mercy on my sinful soul, and to heal our little lamb. O mates, how I did cry, to be sure ! and how I did hope it might be true that He was there; for I felt sure, if He was, He would help us -the old story I had learned years bebut a right down decent, hard-working | fore and forgotten so long—the story of maid she was. But she was religious. His cruel death, seemed to rise like a Always wanted to go to church or chapel, strange bright picture in the awful or what-not, on the Sunday, and I stillness of the room; how He died for didn't care for that; so I told her, Alice, sinners, that such might be brought says I, 'you have married me, and back to God-this broke down my you'll have to stick to me, or else hardened heart. Just then, while I there'll be a row.' Well she begged was on my knees and the tears of to go, but I would not hear a word of penitence were on my cheeks, Meg, and dear little Meg, opened her eyes once "So we went on for more than a year; more 'O Father, I have had such a I was middlin' steady, and she kept the | beautiful dream,' she said : 'the Lord home up well, only I noticed she was whom mammy loves has come, and less happy-like; and if I stopped her called to such a lovely house your poor Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., going to church or chapel on Sunday, I tired Meg. Father take care of dear

"The little eyes grew more weary, closed at last, and, with one long sigh, Meg was gone to the lovely home."

The rough men were touched, indeed as he stopped to gasp down his emotion. "Lads, the mother went before long, Sarsaparilla clinging to the Lord whom Meg saw resting on His Word as she passed through the Valley of the Shadow into the Light beyond. The old place was "Soon after that Meg was born, and too full of sorrow for me, so I wandered home to your hearts-home to your wives and little ones, and with them seek the Saviour, whose love so strangely made me turn from evil unto God."

Not a word had interrupted him all through; but now Sam'svoice was heard, but little above a whisper; "Mate, we want the song." John cleared his voice a little, and as

he men hushed down again, sung: "I stay a little while below: The changing seasons come and go, but Christ, my joy, heals every woe. In him I live and fear no woe.

"The night is dark and sad to me, ut even in the gloom I see my Saviour bright who died to free, My soul from misery."

"Though he has taken those above, Who once had cheered me with their Clad in the robe his hands have wove,

"So still to him my steps do tend; was brighter than ever, the sunshine of His power is present to defend; on His sweet mercy I depend; His love to me will never end.

"Friends, come to him just as you are; His arms of mercy reach as far as ever son of man can need;

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as for external use, and is believed to be immeasurably superior to anything ever made. Will save you much suffering and many dollars of expense. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. -Ask for Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil. See that the signature of S. N. Thomas is on the wrapper, and the names of Northrop & Lyman are blown in the bottle, and Take no other. Sold by all medicine dealers. Price, 25 ets. NORTHROP & LYMAN, Toronto,

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LACTO-PHOSPHATE This medicine can undoubtedly be used with greater success than any other remedy now known, in cases of Consumption, Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, Scrofula, Chronic Rheumatism, General Debility, Wasting Diseases of Children and Adults, and whenever it is necessary to increase the vital forces and build up the system.

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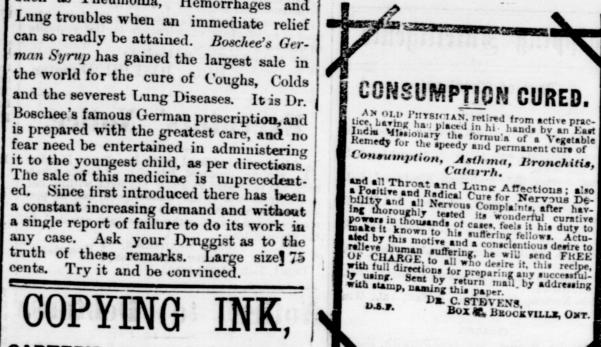
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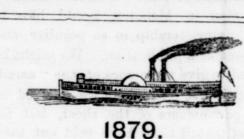
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Travelers' Column.

St John, July 9 1877.

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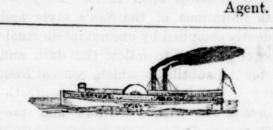
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