

THE RETIRED BURGLAR

A Singular and Most Unfortunate Mishap, with an Unexpected Ending

"In a house that I was looking over in a town up the State one night," said the retired burglar. "I came across something that I never struck but that once in all my experience, strange as it may seem; and that was a lot of wedding presents, all just as they were arranged for display. When I turned my lamp into the room I wished I had bought a horse and wagon; there was a good deal of it that would not have been of any earthly use to me, but it seemed a pity to leave any of it behind. But if I couldn't carry it all off I could have the fun of picking, and I started to look the things over. They were arranged on tables and chairs and on the floor around three sides of the room; on the side opposite to the side that I had come in at, and on the side to the right and left; running around these three sides in a sort of irregular order. On the side where I was there were a few chairs. I thought I'd start in on the left and work around to the right, and I started from the door and had gone about three steps when I went down through the floor, as it seemed to me, but what I had really done was to step down through an open register. I suppose somebody must have dropped something down through it and have taken it out to get it and forgot to put it back.

"There was a wire screen under the register over the pipe opening, to keep things from dropping down the pipe, but it was very fine light wire, and it didn't stop me at all; I just slid down into the pipe, pushing that under my feet. When I dropped into the pipe I had been facing to the left; in some way as I went down I got skewed around so that when I got down as far as I did go I was facing to the front; that is, toward the centre of the room. The pipe didn't go straight down, but with a curve. I had thrown up my hands as I went down, and I suppose I might have gone plumb to the furnace if I hadn't clutched at the edge of the register opening and hung on. A minute before I was going to take my pick of a roomful; now where was I?

"I had started across the room carrying my tool bag in one hand and my lamp in the other. The shock when I went down had shaken the bag out of my hand, but I had held on to my lamp, though it was lying on its side now with my fingers clutching through the handle. The falling of the tool bag and the striking of the lamp on the floor and the scraping of the wire gauze down though the tin pipe must have made all together a good deal of noise, and I expected every minute to hear somebody moving about up stairs and coming down to haul me out, but nobody did come, and I set my lamp up straight, and after I waited a minute or two more I started to see if I could haul myself out.

"As I lay in the pipe my head was below the level of the floor; by a great effort I could raise myself so that the upper half of my head was above the opening, but no higher; there was no room for play; when I got that high I found myself with my elbows close to my body and fairly wedged into the pipe; I couldn't get any higher.

"I let myself down again, and after a while I pulled myself up again, and held on by one hand and held up the lamp and swung it round on the things. Then I let myself down again, and wondered what I was going to do. It wasn't only uncomfortable there in the position I was in; it was mighty hot and unpleasant every way. If I let go I didn't know but what I'd slide down against the furnace, and of course I couldn't stand it for an indefinite length of time, and when I'd been in the pipe I should imagine about two hours I made up my mind that I wouldn't try to stand it any longer; I'd got to come out some time, and I might just as well come out then; in fact, better, for while the chances of my getting away at all were mighty small, they would be better at night than they would be in the daytime.

"So I made up my mind to kick on the pipe and wake up the house and have the thing settled. So I kicked; once, twice, and then I kicked again; and by snakes! I kicked the pipe open at my feet: there was a joint there, and I'd kicked it apart; and the sections I was in sagged down with my weight, and I slid out on the cellar floor. The sagging down of that part of the pipe detached it from the part above and it fell on the cellar floor alongside of me. That made noise enough to wake everybody up; there couldn't be any doubt about that.

"I went out by the same cellar window that I came in by. It was the first and only such lot of stuff that I ever struck, and I never got a thing out of it; in fact, I added something to it myself—a set of tools and a dark lantern."—N. Y. Sun.

The Intelligent Agriculturist.

"Got any cow bells?"
"Yes; step this way."
"Those are too small. Haven't you any larger?"

"No, sir; the largest ones are sold." Rusticus started off, and got as far as the door, then the clerk called after him: "Look here, stranger, take one of these small bells for your cow, and you won't have half the trouble in finding her; for when you hear the bell you will always know she can't be far off."

The farmer bought the bell.—Texas Siftings.

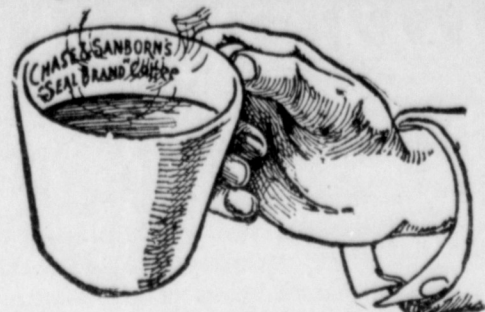
You would give thousands to get rid of that bad case of catarrh, and still you are loathe to invest twenty-five cents in a box of Hawker's catarrh cure, which will cure and save your thousands.

Think of the consequences of a neglected cough for cold. Do not court them, but get at once a bottle of Hawker's balsam of tolu and wild cherry, a sure cough cure.

Facial neuralgia is promptly relieved by a free application of Dr. Manning's German remedy, the universal pain cure.

A pleasant cure for coughs and colds, Hawker's balsam.

Chase & Sanborn's



Seal Brand Coffee

Universally accepted as the Leading Fine Coffee of the World.

The only Coffee served at the WORLD'S FAIR.

CHASE & SANBORN, BOSTON. MONTREAL. CHICAGO.

HERBINE BITTERS

Cures Sick Headache

HERBINE BITTERS

Purifies the Blood

HERBINE BITTERS

Cures Indigestion

HERBINE BITTERS

The Ladies' Friend

HERBINE BITTERS

Cures Dyspepsia

HERBINE BITTERS

For Biliousness

Large Bottles, Small Doses. Price only 25c. For sale all over Canada. Address all orders to

For sale in St. John by S. McDIARMID and E. J. MAHONEY, Indianapolis.

GERARD G RUEL,

BARRISTER, &c.

Walker's Building, Canterbury Street, St. John, N. B.

Progress Print

FOR QUICK, NEAT AND REASONABLE WORK

DEAFNESS

An essay, describing a really genuine cure of deafness, ringing in ears, etc., no matter how severe or long standing will be sent post free. Artificial Ear-drums and similar appliances entirely superfluous. Address:

THOMAS KEMPE, Victoria Chambers, 19 Southampton Building, Holborn, London

Worth A Trial

Hundreds of business men in this city read PROGRESS who do not advertise in any paper. They do a certain amount of business and don't the power of printer's ink to increase it.

Isn't it worth a trial? Think about it, and if you conclude to try advertising, come to PROGRESS. We will give you a handsome, well written advt., a splendid circulation, and if the people want your goods then there should be no doubt about the result.

Try it.

Delicate Females who are suffering from General Debility, Anemia and all diseases of their sex, will derive great benefit from the use of

Puttner's Emulsion

It improves the Digestion, Purifies the Blood, repairs the waste that is continually going on, and completely removes that Weak, Languid and Worn out feeling.

CAFE ROYAL,

Domville Building, Corner King and Prince Wm. Streets.

MEALS SERVED AT ALL HOURS.

DINNER A SPECIALTY

WILLIAM CLARK

HUNTING SPRUCE GUM.

An Industry That Gives Employment to Hundreds of Active Men.

At this time of the year, and all through the winter months, the spruce gum industry gives employment to hundreds of men in the forests of Maine, New Hampshire, northern New York, and Canada. For many of the former it forms an only source of income during the late fall and winter season. An experienced "gummer" makes on the average \$2.50 a day. His outfit is small, and the work is considered particularly healthy. He first equips himself with a course meal bag, sewed up at the open end, and with a hole cut out of the centre large enough to permit of its being drawn over his head. This large opening is usually bound around and stayed with leather. The bag in this way forms two pouches, one of them falling down in front and the other over the back of the gummer. In one of the pouches he stores away certain needed tools, as hammer, hatchet, large knife, and so forth; in the other such a supply of food as he thinks will be needed. The food consists mostly of canned meats, a box of baked beans, tea and bread. These he warms and prepares over a fire.

The gummer's stay in the forest depends, of course, on his success in finding a ready supply of gum—sometimes it is only one or two days, sometimes two or three weeks. During recent years so many men have gummed over these forests that there are now certain well-known spruce camps, made of boughs and extremely rough and primitive, yet they furnish very comfortable quarters for the men at night. It is a tradition among the gummers that no one has ever yet taken cold from lying out in the spruce forests, however exposed his condition or intense the cold. Certain it is that they endure rain, snow, and cold with a glowing health that would put the trained athlete to the blush. The old, expert gummer loves his work, and it is a local saying that the men "live eight months in the year in order to gum the other four."

The greatest quantity of gum lies in rifts which run up and down the trunk of the spruce tree. An expert gummer will sight a rifted tree by the slightly oval round of its trunk even before he is near enough to see the rift. Often a tree has to be felled to get at the gum lying in the rift, but if possible the trees are climbed. This rifted gum is usually a little hard and dark, but it is perfectly marketable. The best quality is found near the top, and exudes in small, bubble-blisters. This is quite plastic and light colored. A tree must be three or four years old before the gum is hard enough for use, and a single tree may yield as much as \$5 worth at one time. The gum is carried out of the forests in the meal bag pouches, which hold from 100 to 150 pounds each.

In most regions the gum is sorted to a "first class" and "second class" either in the forests or near them. The first quality brings from 75 cents to \$1 a pound, and the second—the hard, dark gum—from 12 to 50 cents. This second-class goes through the steaming process.

The backwoods manufacturing process is a separate industry. Hot steam is led from a small boiler over an immense tin pan. A layer of spruce boughs is put above the pan, then a layer of second-class gum; then again alternating layers of spruce boughs and gum. The steam melts the hard gum which filters down through the boughs into the pan. This melted product runs from the pan through an inclined trough into a large receptacle, where it cools to the consistency of sorghum, when it is taken out, pulled and stretched in the same way as old-fashioned molasses candy. After the stretching it is rolled on a board or table, and little pieces are snipped off with sharp shears and wrapped in bits of colored paper for the chewing public.

While the second-class gum is used only for chewing, the better quality is bought largely by druggists and is used for medicinal purposes. The farmers' daughters get 50 cents a day for pulling gum, and regard it as quite an aristocratic as well as remunerative calling.

One little town near the Rangeley Lakes system, a town six miles square and with a total population of about 250 souls, sends out from its solitary two-windowed store over 35,000 pounds of this gum each year. The railroad company, when running excursion trains from Lewiston to a point some six miles south of the Rangeleys, advertise in immense letters on its posters a stop at this little town. The poster reads: "Thirty minutes' stop at B—the centre of the great spruce gum industry."

This is the town's sole enterprise, besides farming, and the tiny store has over its door the two words, "Spruce Gum."—N. Y. Sun.

Over 150 ambulances are provided in London for the transport of persons injured or suddenly taken ill in the streets. Four persons are killed weekly in the streets of the metropolis, and a score or two are injured.

Traffic through the Emperor William Canal has not yet realized even the most modest expectations. There is no longer any doubt that with existing dues no great increase of traffic is to be expected.

TAKE NOTICE.

During the year the space devoted to advertising MINARD'S LINIMENT will contain expressions of no uncertain sound from people who speak from personal experience of the merits of this best of Household Remedies.

C. C. RICE, DRUGGIST.

LOST OR FAILING MANHOOD,

General and Nervous Debility,



Weakness of Body and Mind. Effects of Errors or Excesses, Old or Young. Robust, Noble Manhood fully Restored. How to enlarge and strengthen Weak, Undeveloped Organs and Parts of Body. Absolutely unfailing Home Treatment—Benefits in a day. Mentistry from 20 States and Foreign Countries. Write them. Descriptive Book, explanation and proofs mailed (sealed) free.

ERIE MEDICAL CO., Buffalo, N. Y.

trust him

You want Scott's Emulsion. If you ask your druggist for it and get it—you can trust that man. But if he offers you "something just as good," he will do the same when your doctor writes a prescription for which he wants to get a special effect—play the game of life and death for the sake of a penny or two more profit. You can't trust that man. Get what you ask for, and pay for, whether it is Scott's Emulsion or anything else.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Belleville, Ont.

50c. and \$1.00

CANADIAN EXPRESS CO.

General Express Forwarders, Shipping Agents and Custom House Brokers.

Forward Merchandise, Money and Packages of every description; collect Notes, Drafts, Accounts and Bills, with goods (C. O. D.) throughout the Dominion of Canada, the United States and Europe. Special Messengers daily, Sunday excepted, over the Grand Trunk, Quebec and Lake St. John, Quebec Central, Canada Atlantic, Montreal and Sorel, Napesee, Tanworth and Quebec, Central Ontario and Consolidated Midland Railways, Intercolonial Railway, Northern and Western Railway, Cumberland Railway, Chatham Branch Railway, Steamship Lines to Digby and Annapolis and Charlottetown and Summerside, P. E. I., with nearly 600 agencies. Connections made with responsible Express Companies covering the Eastern, Middle, Southern and Western States, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and British Columbia.

Express weekly to and from Europe via Canadian Line of Mail Steamers. Agency in Liverpool in connection with the forwarding system of Great Britain and the continent. Shipping agents in Liverpool, Montreal, Quebec and Portland, Maine. Goods in bond promptly attended to and forwarded with dispatch. Invoices required for goods from Canada, United States, and vice versa.

J. R. STONE, Asst. Supt.

H. C. CREIGHT, Asst. Supt.

DOMINION Express Co.

Money orders sold to points in Canada, United States and Europe

REDUCTION IN EXPRESS RATES

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| To Windsor, Hampton and intermediate points, 10 lbs. and under | 15 |
| To Sarnia, Annapolis, Digby, Hoyt, Pictouville, Harvey, Fredericton and intermediate points, 10 lbs. and under | 15 |
| Over 10 to 15 lbs. | 20 |
| To St. John, Digby and intermediate points, 3 lbs. and under | 15 |
| Over 3 to 5 lbs. | 20 |
| Over 5 to 10 lbs. | 25 |
| To Woodstock, Newburg, Jct., Meadows, Macan, Fort Elgin and intermediate points, 3 pounds and under | 15 |
| Over 3 to 5 lbs. | 20 |
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| To London, River Herbert, Joggins, Bath, Halifax, Dartmouth and intermediate points, 3 lbs. and under | 15 |
| Over 3 to 5 lbs. | 20 |
| Over 5 to 10 lbs. | 25 |
| To St. Leonard's, Edmundston and intermediate points, 2 lbs. and under | 15 |
| Over 2 lbs. and not over 5 lbs. | 20 |
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