5¢ Package

ASEPTO SOAP POWDER

Same price—and a larger package of ASEPTO than of other washing compounds. Yet ASEPTO does what others don't. It STERILIZES everything washed with it — Makes clothes more healthful — Annihilates all disease germs present in bedding and dishes used in sick-room. Cleans better than soap. Odorless. HARMLESS alike to fabrics and hands.

MANUFACTURED BY
ASEPTO MFG. CO.,
ST. JOHN, N.B.

The Finger of God

By William Beatty.

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(Continued.)

"No, no," stammered the doctor hastily; "no, no, laird, no. You know that could never be. But come your ways in. We must have a word or two in private. Such a home coming as this requires careful management. I'm—I'm unbelievable.'

"Why, zounds, there you are right!" said the Laird of Drum. "A man can't be out of his rights so long and hope to slip into 'em again without a word said. Besides, it would be as well that some one—yourself for choice—should take the news up."

"Yes, yes," answered the doctor somewhat distractedly, pushing the laird hurriedly into the house, as if afraid he might be seen; "yes, yes, I'll see to your beast and the ordering of something for yourself. Step in, man. I'll be with you in a jiffy." Whereupon he thrust the laird into the parlor and went out, muttering, "Good Lord, what a home coming—and what a change!"

When he was come back and his unexpected guest had satisfied the cravings of hunger and thirst they lit their pipes and fell to talk about the manner of the laird's disappearance and of all the wonderful things that had bechanced him since.

"Yes, doctor," said the wanderer as he leaned back in his chair and sighed, but whether from an excess of emotion or drink it would be hard to say; "yes," he nodded, rounding off his story, "I've had a—a hard time of it ever since I was trepanned. For six years I worked as a slave on the plantations before I managed to escape, and when I did it was only to fall from the frying pan into the fire. In fine, man, just when I thought myself at home our galley was brought to by a frigate and I, with others, was pressed into the service of the king. Yes, I've had a bad time of it from first to last. But after all," he sighed again, "it's perhaps just as well that I should have had it. As you once said—you remember our conversation that night, eh? As you said then, I didn't know anything about life. I do now, and, thank God, I think I am none the worse."

Here he paused a moment to look at his companion, as if he would gather his sentiments on that head, but if the doctor had his doubts his countenance betrayed nothing; it was now unreadable.

"Aye; I make no question of that," he responded gravely.

"Well," continued the laird, after a long silence, "I suppose it's no use troubling 'em tonight?"

"Why, no," returned the doctor slowly, as if uncertain how to speak. "Why, no; nor tomorrow either, laird. No." he went on, with a great solemnity; "nor an eternity of tomorrows."

"Good heavens, Leslie! What do you mean?" exclaimed the laird angrily. "I thought you said the wife—confound it, man, if she's married again, say so, and don't beat about the bush!"

"Married again Nay, laird, it's not so bad as that, for this would be a bitter day to her if that had been, but it's bad enough the thing I have to tell. Bear up, man; bear up. Better you should learn it now than later on. Your house is desolate—your wife and bairns are gone."

"Gone!" exclaimed the Laird of Drum, grasping the arms of the chair, his face beginning to purple with the smoldering fires of suspicious anger.

"Dead," explained the doctor in a low voice.

The laird sank back in his seat.

"How"—clearing his throat—"how came they by their end?"

"They—they were drowned at sea a year ago, returning from France, where your daughter had been sent to finish her education."

With a trembling hand the laird reached for the brandy and shook it into his glass.

"I never thought—expected—Your news has shaken me a bit," he said, raising it unsteadily to his lips and swallowing the whole of its contents at a gulp.

"She was an uncommon fine woman, though," he went on, as if the liquor had braced his nerves. "A fine woman, but," with a laugh, "sparing of the bottle. Aye, aye; she was—But you have some one staying with you surely?" he stopped to inquire, failing, as he turned about to listen to an approaching foot in the passage, to note the shocked look on the doctor's face.

"It's only Marks—Captain Marks. You will recollect him. He has been staying at Drum ever since, giving up the sea," said the doctor, rising, but whether for the purpose of calling in the captain or preventing his entry was not apparent.

"Oh, Marks! Why, that's good. We'll make a night of it, eh?" exclaimed the laird.

But the doctor, too overwhelmed to reply, remained standing irresolutely where he was. The change in his old friend confounded him beyond words. His first impulse had been to spare the unfortunate man further pain, but the reckless air and callous speech with which he had dismissed the loss of his wife and children revolted the worthy physician and threw him into a pitiable disorder.

"Come in, man come in!" cried the laird after the seaman, who was backing out with an apology. "Is that the way ye treat an old friend?"

At these words the captain stopped short.

"An old friend, say ye!" said he looking curiously at the doctor and then at the speaker; "an old—my God!" he exclaimed, as the laird, swinging around in his seat discovered his face. "Who is that man?"

"The Laird of Drum," faintly answered the doctor.

"The Laird of Drum!" repeated the captain in a hollow voice.

"Aye, man, come back alive to enjoy my own. I was not drowned as you thought."

"The Laird of Drum," said the captain once more, peering with an affrightened look at the stranger. "I could have sworn, Leslie—and yet, it canna be"—

"Sworn—sworn what?" asked the doctor, startled.

"Aye, curse it, what?" demanded the laird. "I hope, Marks, you are not going to deny that I'm the real simon pure?"

"Why, no, sir; no; I am not," exclaimed Marks. "Now that I look at you I find a resemblance. Ye are changed, man, changed; but, aye, there's something of the laird about ye still. Yet it's marvelous, marvelous!" and he favored the laird with a strange uneasy scrutiny.

"Well, that's better, captain," said the laird as he made room for the seaman at the table and pushed the bottle toward him. "That's better. But you are changed yourself—you're gray as a rat."

"That's little to be wondered at," said the doctor. "Marks here was—was with them when they were lost. He was the only one who escaped."

"Aye, aye; well, well." sighed the laird; it was a sad business—a great blow to me, a great blow. The doctor, here, was just telling me the news when you came in."

"Yes; it was a bad business—a most terrible affair," said Marks slowly. "Did you tell him how it happened?" he asked, turning to the doctor.

The doctor shook his head.

"What's the good?" he replied, with a faint but very significant shrug of the shoulders.

"Aye; what's the good?" echoed the laird. "They're dead and gone, and that's an end of it."

"I don't know about that," returned Marks, but if there's a God in heaven Jack the Batchelor will get his due."

"Jack the Batchelor!" gasped the laird, his face grown livid and drawn.

"Aye," said Marks, "Jack the Batchelor, for it was he that boarded the Dispatch off Guernsey and butchered her crew, and it was one of his men—fiends, rather—I could have sworn a moment ago that you were the very man who scuttled the boat in which your wife and daughter and the young laird were trying to win off. It was that scar misled"—

But here he stopped appalled, scarcely feeling the doctor's grip upon his arm, so frightful was the look upon the face of the man before him.

With a ghastly stare the laird sat eyeing them for a space, his countenance working as with some terrible emotion. Then, of a sudden, jerking his chair from under him, he sprang upright, screaming out as he did so, in a voice full of unspeakable horror and remorse:

"Were they mine? Were they mine?" gripped spasmodically at his throat, lurched forward and fell heavily on the floor. When they lifted him he was dead.

"Surely—surely this is a judgment," said the doctor, trembling, as he shrunk away from the body.

"It is the finger of God," answered the captain solemnly.

(The End)

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local application, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When the tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its natural condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine case out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by Druggists, 75c.
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

PARLIAMENT MAY MEET ON JANUARY 13TH

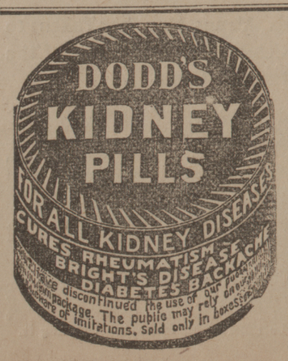
Ottawa, Dec. 9.—At the cabinet council today, there was a discussion on the sessional programme. It was decided that Sir Richard Cartwright would lead in the senate thus disposing of the renewed rumor that he is to retire.

As to the date of opening, about the middle of January, probably the 13th, is the most favored.

WISE BURGLAR

The Preacher—I hope you will abandon crime when you're released from here.

The Burglar—Sure thing. I've got enough of the swag hid away to keep me going the rest of my days.



DENOUNCE PROTEST AGAINST LAURIER

Ottawa Conservatives Are Disgusted With the Whole Affair and Proceedings May be Stopped.

Ottawa, Dec. 9—So pronounced is the dissatisfaction among the Ottawa Conservatives with the protest again Sir Wilfrid Laurier, that it would not be a surprise should the whole proceeding be withdrawn.

From the best information obtainable it would appear that the decision to protest the prime minister's election emanated from the party organization in Toronto, and that not even the defeated candidate in Ottawa, Mr. Birkett, was consulted about it. The petitioner, Menard, is a business partner of P. H. Chabot, whose son, Dr. J. L. Chabot, was the French speaking Conservative candidate. Menard intimates now that he was the dupe of the Toronto clique. in as much as the understanding was that the election of Sir Wilfrid's running mate, Mr. McGiverin, should also be protested.

Dr. Chabot himself is indignant at the turn of affairs. He was taken this afternoon to the Water street hospital to undergo an operation. Before leaving his home he made this statement:

"I consider it scandalous that a protest should have been made against Sir Wilfrid and not against Mr. Hal McGiverin. If there is evidence of any wrong doing in one case, there certainly would be in the other. I may say that at a meeting of the Conservative Association I stated that if there had been wrong doing there should be a protest. A committee was appointed to investigate, but I was given to understand that they decided against a protest. No one consulted me about it. I did make it. Mr. Menard, who filed the protest, never saw me, and I did not talk to him or to my father about it."

A WOMAN'S BACK WAS NOT MADE TO ACHE.

Thousands of Women Suffer Untold Misery Every Day With Aching Backs That Really Have No Business To Ache.

Under ordinary conditions it ought to be strong and ready to bear the burdens of life.

It is hard to do housework with an aching back. Backaches come from sick kidneys, and what a lot of trouble sick kidneys cause.

But they can't help it. If more work is put on them than they can stand it is not to be wondered that they get out of order.

Backache is simply a warning from the kidneys and should be attended to immediately so as to avoid years of terrible suffering from kidney troubles.

Doan's Kidney Pills will cure you in the same way as they have cured thousands of others.

SEVERE PAINS IN BACK.

Mrs. O. Warren, Radisson, Sask., writes: "I was troubled with very severe pains in my back for years. I tried everything I could think of but they did me no good. A friend told me about Doan's Kidney Pills and after taking two boxes, I have not been troubled since."

Price 50 cents per box, or 3 for $1.35, all dealers or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

When ordering specify "Doan's."

DISASTROUS YEAR FOR PORTLAND

The present year has been a disastrous one for Portland, because of the fires in the city. Besides the usual number of ordinary blazes there have been four big fires with an aggregate loss to date, as shown by the records compiled by the local insurance offices, of $1,242,489, exclusive of the losses at the Grand Trunk pier fire Friday morning, which were estimated at approximately $500,000. This exceeds the total loss in Portland for the ten years ending Jan. 1, 1908, by $34,000. The insurance losses for the decade previous to this year amounted to $1,708,478, of which $1,041,996 was on what could be termed contents. The premium income on Portland business averages $275,000 during the year, which would give a ratio for the period for over 62 per cent.. This year's losses, not including the Grand Trunk fire, increased the ratio to over 96 per cent., leaving a margin of less than four per cent. out of which to pay all expenses. The losses on account of Friday's fire thus increase the losses for the past 11 years to 14 per cent. more than the estimated premium receipts.

'A clergyman writes: "Preventics, those little Candy Cold Cure Tablets are working wonders in my parish." Preventics surely will check a cold, or the Grippe, in a very few hours. And preventics are so safe and harmless. No Quinine, nothing harsh nor sickening. Fine for feverish, restless children. Box of 48 at 25c. Sold by all druggists.

NEW OPERA HOUSE FOR MONCTON NOW ASSURED

Moncton Times.)

For some time there have been rumors that Messrs. Torrie & Winter intended erecting an up-to-date play-house in this city and plans have now sufficiently matured to warrant a definite announcement. Messrs. Torrie & Winter have purchased a block of land from G. B. Lutz just south of the bowling alley on Lutz street and will commence at once the erection of a theatre.

It is expected to commence work on the foundation in a few days, and the lumber used in the curling rink during the summer is being hauled to the site of the proposed new building. The seating capacity of the new theatre will be about one thousand, and the stage is to be one of the largest and best fitted up in the three provinces. The new house is to be built in a modern style and the equipment will be adequate to the requirements of a first-class play house. Special attention is to be given to the scenery.

POPE MAY APPOINT A CANADIAN CARDINAL

London, Decc. 9—January 8 has been officially fixed for the next Consistory. On this occasion his Holiness will probably appoint twelve cardinals to fill the vacancies in the sacred college, and it is stated that Canada will be honored with a cardinal for the first time.

VERIFIED

He often said she was a peach—
And after they had parted
He still insisted she was one,
For she was stony-hearted.

Fashion Hint for Times Readers

CUT-OUT WORK IS PARTICULARLY SMART.

Broadcloth sufficiently firm not to ravel at the edge is often cut out in big motifs, heavy net being laid beneath the cut-out pattern. The two fabrics are held together by mending tissue which has been laid under the cloth and cut out along the edges of the pattern. A hot iron presses the cloth firmly to the net. The cut-out design taken from the cloth, with the tissue beneath it, is applied solidly to the net sleeve as a trimming.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN IS ONLY BAR TO SEPARATION

Dr. Currey and His Wife Are Willing to Part Company But Neither Will Give Up the Children So the Suit Goes On.

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 9.—At the suggestion of Judge Gregory, counsel in the Currey divorce case held a conference at noon today with the object of trying to arrange a settlement, but it resulted in failure. Both sides were willing to have a separation, but they failed to agree as to the custody of the children, and the hearing is being continued. The end of the case is not yet in sight.

At this afternoon's session, Dr. Currey was subjected to a severe cross-examination at the hands of Mr. Teed. It was a sharp conflict all the way through.

Referring to the judge's appeal for a settlement, Mr. Skinner said that he had discussed the matter at noon with Mr. Teed. The only terms that his client would accept were that the couple have a legal separation and that Mrs. Currey have the custody of the boy Willie and the husband the other children, she to have the privilege of seeing them. Mr. Teed said that his client was willing to have a separation, but she wanted to have the question as to who should have the custody of the children settled by the judge. She would not give up her rights to the children until ordered to do so by the judge, nor would she agree to any settlement that made it necessary for her to surrender the children.

After hearing the statements of counsel his honor ordered the hearing to proceed.

Didn't Change Servants Often.

Dr. Currey was first questioned in regard to his statement that it was impossible to get servant girls to remain on account of his wife. He had been keeping house thirteen years and counsel elicited the information that one girl had remained nine years, one two years, one six months and another eighteen months. He said he had never discharged a servant girl, but had persuaded a number of them to remain.

The witness stuck to his statement that he had caught one of his servant girls in a compromising position with a man.

"You knew this happened," said Mr. Teed, "yet you begged her to remain?"

"Yes," admitted the witness.

The witness was next interrogated in regard to his action in shutting off his wife's credit. He stated that all he did was to tell merchants that his account would be cash in the future, and had not mentioned the name of his wife.

Witness was asked to produce some of his bills and also letters which passed between him and the firm of Hanington & Hanington, and promised to do so tomorrow.

He denied emphatically that he had ever laid violent hands on his wife. He was unable to recall an occasion when John Flood had visited his house, and declared he did not even know the man. He did remember having a visit from Carson Flood, however. He came on a Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. Witness was not in his night clothes at the time, nor did he have hold of Mrs. Currey by the back of the neck dragging her about the floor. He did not on any occasion damn his wife and call her a liar, as alleged, but he may have spoken in loud tones. The reason he spoke loud was because his wife had jammed the door on his thumb.

Court adjourned at 4.30 until tomorrow morning.

MONCTON NEWS

Enquiry Finished in Two I. C. R. Smash-ups Yesterday.

Moncton, N. B., Dec. 9.—J. T. Hallisey, I. C. R. superintendent, of Halifax and St. John division, today concluded his investigation into the cause of the C. P. R. wreck at St. John last week, and also the inquiry into the I. C. R. smash-up at Norton Monday night last, and left this afternoon for his home in Truro.

Yesterday Superintendent Hallisey took the evidence of the train crews concerned in the smash-up on Gibson's freight special at Norton.

In the C. P. R. wreck the testimony of J. H. Stewart, driver, and Byron Colpitts, fireman, was given. The result of the investigation will not be known for some days.

Charles E. Spencer, of the I. C. R. offices, received a telegram this afternoon informing him of the death of his daughter, Miss Mary Evelyn Spencer, which occurred this morning at Ashmont (Mass.) Deceased was born in Moncton and was twenty-eight years old. She was a graduate nurse, having been formerly employed on the Moncton hospital staff, but of late years has lived in the States. Her parents and several brothers and sisters survive. The body will likely be brought to Moncton for interment.

W. B. DICKSON SAYS HE IS NOT GOING AWAY

W. B. Dickson, M. P. P., for Albert county, was in the city yesterday to attend a meeting of Conservatives from the different provincial centres.

When asked last evening if he would make any statement regarding the current rumors that he was about to leave for the west or move to Nova Scotia, Mr. Dickson said he had no intention of leaving Hillsboro at present. Beyond that he had no information to give for publication.

George L. Brittain, carpenter, of Carleton, has been appointed government inspector of the New South Rodney wharf extension which is being built by D. C. Clark, under contract.

GOOD HOME MADE BLOOD MEDICINE

This Prescription Makes the Kidneys Filter the Poisonous Auduric Acid From Blood and is Easily Prepared by Anyone.

Nothing will remain undigested or sour on your stomach if you will take Diapepsin after your meal. This powerful digestive and antacid, though as harmless and pleasant as candy, will digest and prepare for assimilation into the blood all the food you can eat.

Eat what your stomach craves, without the slightest fear of Indigestion or that you will be bothered with sour risings, Belching, Gas on Stomach, Nausea, Bad Breath, Water Brash or a feeling like you had swallowed a lump of lead, or other disagreeable miseries.

If you will get from your pharmacist a 50-cent case of Pape's Diapepsin you could always go the table with a hearty appetite, and your meals would taste good, because you would know there would be no Indigestion or Sleepless nights or Head ache or Stomach misery all the next day; and, besides, you will not need laxatives or liver pills to keep your stomach and bowels clean and fresh.

Pape's Diapepsin can be obtained from your druggist, and contains more than enough triangles to cure the worst dyspeptic. There is nothing better for Gas on the Stomach or sour odors from the stomach or to cure a Stomach Headache.

You couldn't keep a handier or more useful article in the house.

There is now plenty of out-door skating and Lily Lake, Marble Cove and other places about the city have attracted large crowds. The ice of Lily Lake has seldom been in better condition. Among those at Lily Lake yesterday afternoon was the little speed king, Fred. Logan. Those who saw him say he is going in good shape.

Only One "BROMO QUININE," that is
Laxative Bromo Quinine
Cures a Cold in One Day, Grip in 2 Days
E. W. Grove on every box. 25c

100 Dozen Black Felt Hats

GO ON SALE TODAY AT

50 Cents Each

Our Colored Felt Hats at 25c each

ARE THE BEST VALUES EVER OFFERED.

MARR MILLINERY CO.
Moncton, N. B.
Branch at 163 Union, corner Coburg Street, St. John, N. B

A HEALTHY HAPPY FAMILY

Since Child's Life was Saved by Psychine.

Mrs. E. Obediah of Ohswekin, Ont., declares that Psychine saved her child's life. It was then suffering from Pneumonia. This was in March, 1907. On August 11th, 1908, 17 months after, she wrote:

"The condition of my family's health is decidedly good. I give Psychine to each member of my family, eight in number and I consider their good health is due to Psychine which we recognize and believe to be the greatest of Tonics. My husband and myself pin our faith to Psychine because it has done so much for us in times past when hard pressed with sickness. I would be glad if you referred me to any skeptical person and you can use my name for this purpose."

No words of ours could be stronger! This is only one of the thousands of testimonials we have. Psychine is the greatest of tonics for the throat, lungs and stomach and no home should be without it. Sold by all druggists and stores at 50c and $1.00 bottle. Free trial on application to Dr. T. A. Slocum, Limited, Toronto.

TRIAL FREE.

Send this coupon to Dr. T. A. Slocum, Limited, Toronto, and receive a trial bottle FREE.

PSYCHINE (PRONOUNCED SI-KEEN)
THE GREATEST OF TONICS FOR HEALTH AND ENERGY

FREDERICTON GETS EXHIBITION GRANT

Local Government Will Contribute $5,000 to This Year's Fair

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 9.—The government this afternoon announced their decision that Agricultural Society No. 34, of this city, has been awarded the provincial exhibition grant of $5,000 for the Fredericton exhibition of 1909.

George J. Drummond and John J. Drummond, of the Canadian Iron Corporation; W. T. Parsons, mining engineer, and W. Brown, an expert on steel, will interview the government tomorrow morning in reference to the proposed development of the iron deposits in Gloucester county. The government will be asked to assist in the construction of a line of railway from Bathurst to the mines, and there will be other concessions asked for.

Members of the government look upon the company's scheme of development with favor and will be disposed to grant them any reasonable encouragement.

Tomorrow afternoon the members of the board of education will pay an official visit to the Normal school. It is expected that the business of the government meeting will be concluded tomorrow evening.

Mr. Morrissy is still holding down his portfolio of chief commissioner, but according to reports his position is by no means secure. The sore-head element is demanding his official head and Hazen is in a quandary as to just what he should do under the circumstances. It is not believed that he will take any decided action at present.

A cable from Jargua, Brazil, states that the bark Carrie L. Smith is a total wreck. She was commanded by Capt. Joseph A. Reid, father of Mrs. R. P. Allen, of this city. She was 600 tons register, and was owned by J. Nelson Smith, of Coverdale (N. B.)

Pokiok Man Suicides.

A tale of suicide comes from Pokiok, in the upper end of the county, and the victim is Charles Brimer, well known in that section of the county.

Mr. Brimer had been troubled with insanity for years past, and several times had been confined in the Provincial Hospital at Fairville. He was last released from that institution about a year and a half ago, and was thought to be perfectly harmless.

About a week or so ago he was missed from the home of his nephew, Harry Morse, a harness maker at Pokiok, with whom he lived, and two days later a search was made for him and Hanford Burden and a companion made the gruesome discovery at a lumber camp on the Pokiok stream. Outside the camp Brimer had placed a couple of blocks near each other and running a plank along from one to the other he had climbed up, tied a rope to the limb of a tree above, leaving a loop hanging down to over five feet above the plank. He then placed his head through the loop and allowed one foot to go down on each side of the plank, making it so that death must have taken some time.

BOARD OF HEALTH MET YESTERDAY

Practice of Using Coaches for Conveying Patients to Epidemic Hospital Must Be Stopped.

At a meeting of the Board of Health yesterday afternoon it was decided that the use of coaches or other closed vehicles for taking patients suffering from contagious diseases to the epidemic hospital must be stopped. The request of the school board to the department of agriculture for the use of the port physician's launch to convey children on Partridge Island to the city schools was dealt with and it was decided to have the launch thoroughly disenfected before putting it to that use.

The marked superiority of the Ceylon planter's agricultural methods, the adoption of automatic machinery in every process imparts to "Salada" Tea a delicious flavor and strength that makes it very economical to use. 95

The Times Daily Puzzle Picture

"I wonder whether it is going to snow or rain."
Find his dog and the weather man.

ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE.
Lower left corner down; head at hunter's back.