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I, DR. SAMUEL PITCHER, *of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of* "CASTORIA," *the same that has borne and does now bear* Chas. H. Fletcher. *on every the fac-simile signature of* Chas. H. Fletcher. *wrapper. This is the original* "CASTORIA" *which has been used in the homes of the Mothers of America for over thirty years.*
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THE ELDER DAYS.

When teeming furrows feel the quickening rays,
When russet brakes unroll each downy coil
And lift their crumpled figures from the soil,
Back to their haunts in sylvan nooks and ways
Steal the blithe spirits of the elder days—
Light hearted Pan to cheer the shepherd's toil,
Sweet Iris laughing through her watery spoil,
And Echo piping reedy notes of praise.

Slow, slimy wreaths their circling courses take
From fires that smolder in the clearings gray
Like smoke of altars heaped for Kore's sake.
And so beside the parting roads I lay
My bit of honeycomb and wheaten cake
For great Demeter, wandering this way.
—Emily Huntington Miller in Literature.

BUSINESS WAS BUSINESS.

How a Paymaster In Our Navy Took a Fall Out of the Bank of England.

The late Paymaster Clark of the United States navy, of Delaware, was attached to one of the ships on the European station during the period of the civil war. It may have been the Kearsarge, but it is not important. She was an armed vessel and had been long at sea and came in for coal, provisions and to give the men a liberty day on shore. To meet these and other expenses it was necessary to have some £3,000 (men are paid in the currency of the country they may be in when on foreign stations) and Paymaster Clark drew sight drafts on the subtreasury of New York through the government agents, J. S. Morgan & Co., bankers, in old Broad street, London. Accompanied by the vice consul, he went to the Plymouth branch of the Bank of England, and, presenting his drafts, asked to have them changed for notes and gold. The bank manager, not content with exercising proper commercial scrutiny, was very nasty and finally said:

"Well, I do not know the subtreasury. I do not know the paper nor you, and I have never had business with the gentleman who is United States vice consul here, so I won't cash your drafts. You say J. S. Morgan will indorse them. You had better go up to London and let him cash them."

Mr. Clark went out to the telegraph office, put himself in communication with Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Morgan went to the Bank of England in London, the manager sent word to the Plymouth branch manager and that gentleman came personally to the Royal hotel and with his hat in hand begged to be of service to Paymaster Clark in any way that gentleman would suggest. The apparently placated paymaster, accompanied by his clerk, accompanied the bank officer to the bank. The drafts were duly passed over and a large bundle of Bank of England notes placed before the paymaster.

"What are these?" said Clark.

"Those are Bank of England notes."

"Yes, I see they are notes signed by Frederick May that the bank will pay bearer, etc. Well, I do not know Mr. May, and of course I do not know you. This paper may be good, but I have no assurance of that. I'll trouble you for the gold."

The humiliated bank manager had to hunt it up, and Paymaster Clark carried it down to the boat in triumph. "I would have preferred part of the money in notes," he said, "but I couldn't refuse the chance of getting even."—Philadelphia Times.

A SHREWD LITTLE GIRL.

She Prompted the Question Which Saved an Old Woman's Life.

Elizabeth Janfield, afterward Lady Falkland, was called an "odd child." Sometimes her father, who was a judge, took her with him to court. On one of these occasions a woman was brought before him on a charge of witchcraft. It was said that she had bewitched two or three persons to death. The frightened creature, when asked if this were so, fell on her knees, and, weeping, confessed that the accusations against her were true.

"Did you bewitch —— to death?" asked the judge.

"Yes," was her reply.

"Did you come in the form of a black cat and breathe on him so that he languished away?"

"I did."

And then the grave judge heard a whisper at his ear, and his little daughter—she was only 10 years old—begged him to ask the woman if she had bewitched John Symondes to death.

The question was put and immediately answered in the affirmative. How had she done it? Then she told one of her former stories, at which all the company laughed. The reason of the merriment was that John Symondes was the judge's brother-in-law and at that moment was standing near him in court. The judge then asked why she had made such a statement.

"Alas, sir, I knew him not," replied the woman. "I said so because you asked me."

"Are you no witch?"

"No; God knows I'm not."

"Nor did you ever see the devil?"

"No, never in all my life."

On further examination she said she had been told that if she did not confess she would be tortured until she did, but that if she admitted all the accusations mercy would be shown her. She was thereupon acquitted, and she owed her release and probably her life to the shrewdness of a little girl.—Youth's Companion.

The Englishman's Sports.

English officers carry their tools for tennis, polo and golf with them to war as religiously as they carry their swords and pistols. But that is not to be wondered at, since they carry these toys everywhere that they go except to bed. If they go to luncheon at a country house or start on a fishing or shooting trip or for a run on the continent, wherever they go, even upon purely business trips, they are sure to carry their tennis rackets at least, for every Englishman plays tennis, whether he be an admiral on the China station or a general in India, a shopkeeper in a village or a clerk in the city. No man over here is too exalted or important to play tennis once a day as a means of indulging in the open air and exercise, the getting of which is a madness with these people.—London Letter in Providence Journal.

A Bit of History Recalled.

"I was disgusted with the captain of the company," remarked Mr. Squinford. "Miss Jordle made the flag presentation speech in a clear, distinct voice that could be heard by everybody in the crowd, but Captain Scudsby mumbled his words in so low a tone that I couldn't hear a word he said, and I stood within six feet of him. A man ought to be able to rise to the occasion as well as a woman."

"Yes," absently responded Mrs. Squinford. "That reminds me of the time when we were married. I spoke my vows, as you remember, in a clear, distinct voice, and you mumbled something I couldn't understand, although I stood within considerably less than six feet of you."

Mr. Squinford mumbled something, but seemed unable to rise to the occasion, and the conversation closed.—Chicago Tribune.

Provisioning a Big Steamer.

The quantity of food used in a 20 days' trip per an ocean greyhound, Bombay to London, with about 550 passengers, consists of: Eggs, 32,000; meat, 23,000 pounds; vegetables, 8,200 pounds; potatoes, 9 tons; ducks, 1,200; game and poultry, 1,400 head; fish, 11,000 pounds; flour, 44 barrels.

TWO SHARK STORIES.

Horrible Encounters Under the Water With Man Eating Monsters.

"One of the most horrible predicaments a diver was ever placed in," said Mr. Sully, the famous Newport diver, "must have been that of one of whom I once heard who had to investigate a wreck that had carried to the bottom with her a number of cattle. When he blew off the hatches, the bodies floated up, and with a rush a school of hungry sharks attacked them. They were all around the diver, fighting and struggling, and he was in mortal terror lest his air pipe should be bitten in two in the midst of the fearful struggle that was going on. At length, unable to bear the suspense any longer, he signaled to be drawn up, notwithstanding that he would have to pass through the thick of the fierce monsters. In his passage to the surface he brushed close past the sharks, and one of them made a vicious grab at him. It missed his arm, but caught his fingers, and his hand was badly mangled. Perhaps, however, he was glad to get off as cheaply as he did.

"An American diver once told me a blood curdling story of a fight with a shark waged by a man named Hallett. The latter, it is said, was working in one of the old fashioned bells, and while he was being lowered one day he saw below him a black object. In a second or two he recognized that it was a shark, and, [illegible] horror, the bell trapped the mon[illegible] that man and shark were rubbing against each other in the closest possible proximity. The shark grew alarmed, and in swinging viciously around knocked Hallett from his seat. The diver had in his hand a small sharp saw, and, fearing that the shark would make short work of him, he seized one of its fins and plunged his saw deep into its body.

"Then a terrible struggle began. In the confined space the shark could not get at the diver without shaking off the hold that the latter had got, and the latter, seeing that his only hope was to retain his hold, clung on desperately, all the time driving his saw time after time into the body of the maddened sea tiger. Hallett had contrived to make a signal, and just as his senses were leaving him he felt himself rising. When the bell was dragged out of the water, man and shark rolled out in a blood stained heap, but the man had conquered. When he came to his senses, he found that a torn and wounded hand was all the injury he had received in the awful encounter, but the shark was dead."—Chums.

A Startling Signal.

When Bismarck was Prussian delegate to the federal diet at Frankfort, he took apartments in the house of a patrician who held the Prussians in great repugnance, and when Bismarck applied to him to have a bell fixed up in his servant's room, he answered that if Bismarck wanted a bell he must get it fixed himself. A few days later a loud report of firearms was heard to proceed from the delegate's room. The landlord rushed up to his lodger's apartments, and, bursting into Bismarck's study, found him seated at his desk before a great pile of documents calmly smoking his pipe. There was a pistol lying on the table, still smoking at the barrel.

"For the love of heaven, what has happened?" asked the frightened landlord.

"Nothing, nothing," answered Bismarck quietly. "Don't disturb yourself. I was only calling my servant. It is a very harmless signal, to which you will have to accustom yourself, for no doubt I shall want oftentimes to use it again."

The bell was fixed up next day.

English Farmers Fifty Years Ago.

Gigs would be got ready soon after the early dinner, arrival being timed for 3 or 4 o'clock. The gentlemen would take a farming survey, the ladies chat over needlework, at 5 o'clock tea, if tea it could be called, awaiting hosts and guests. The first course of this elaborate regale consisted of home cured ham, that incomparable Suffolk ham pickled in spice, and harvest beer—harvest beer, itself clear as sherry and twice as strong—was drunk with this dish. Next came the strongest of tea and the richest of cream with rusks, also a Suffolk specialty, and cakes equally unrivaled. The tea things removed, hot water and spirit decanter would be brought out, pipes smoked, thereby apparently digestion being restored. Seldom did any one seem the worse for such prolonged eating and drinking.—"Reminiscences of Bentham Edwards."

Your Neighbor's Umbrella.

What ought to be done, ought to be done. He who borrows an umbrella ought to return it because it is borrowed. Umbrellas are for rainy days, and the borrower ought to be willing to carry an umbrella on a fair day in order to get it returned to its owner in time for him to use it on the next rainy day. So long as he is in debt and could pay the debt by dispensing with a little vanity or by a little exertion and yet does not discharge his debt he is not strictly honorable. The umbrella is not "only an umbrella," it is a point in morals. Many a man has started upward or downward in life from the day he struck an attitude toward his neighbor's umbrella.—Sunday School Times.

Justifiable Indignation.

One evening John Scott (Lord Eldon) had been slipping rather too freely of the convivial bowl with a friend in Edinburgh, and upon emerging into the air his intellect became considerably confused. Not being able to distinguish objects with any degree of certainty he felt himself quite capable of losing his way to his own home. While in this perplexity he saw some one coming toward him whom he asked, "D'ye ken whaur John Scott bides?"

"Whaur's the use of your speering that question? You're John Scott himsel'."

"I ken that," answered John indignantly, "but it's no himsel' that's wanted—it's his house."

She Cheated.

Said an indignant mother to her little son, "Why did you strike little Elsie, you naughty boy?"

Dick (indignant in his turn)—What did she want to cheat for, then?

"How did she cheat?" asked mamma more mildly.

"Why," explained Dick, "we were playing at Adam and Eve, and she had the apple to tempt me with, and she never tempted me, but went and ate it up herself."—Exchange.

Turning the Tables on Him.

Facetious Student—Excuse me, professor, but were any of these cannibals vegetarians?

The Professor—Probably not at that time. But I have no doubt if the class before me had visited these flesh eaters the latter might have speedily acquired a taste for cabbage heads and fresh greens.—New York Telegram.

Tardily Acknowledged.

"What are the graves of Adams and Otis marked by big rocks for?" asked the visitor to the Granary burying ground.

"Because they were bolder men than most of their contemporaries," said the Bostonian proudly.—Boston Commercial Bulletin.

First Thought.

First Young Girl—Would you like to be a princess, Emmy?

Second Young Girl—Oh, no; a princess' age is in every calendar.—Fliegende Blatter.

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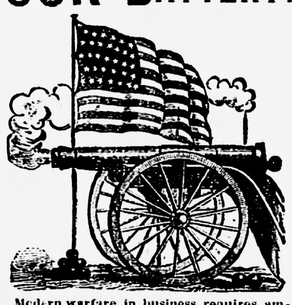

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—DEALER IN—
Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machines,

Ball-bearing, very latest improvement—excels all others.

Buggies, Stick Wagons and Daytons, Prices to suit the times.
Orders taken for FURNITURE and STOVES of all kinds.

LIVERY TEAMS FOR HIRE, with or without driver.
HANDY TO RAILROAD STATION.

SURETY BONDS FURNISHED.
FIDELITY AND DEPOSIT CO., OF MARYLAND.
Home Office, N. W. Cor. Charles & Lexington Sts.,
BALTIMORE, MD.
RESOURCES, December 31st, 1897:

PAID-UP CAPITAL	$1,000,000.00
SURPLUS	1,000,000.00
RESERVE REQUIREMENT	463,427.18
UNDIVIDED PROFITS	37,099.15
	$2,500,524.33

THE OLDEST AND STRONGEST SURETY COMPANY IN THE SOUTH.
BECOMES SURETY ON BONDS of Executors, Administrators, and in all undertakings in Judicial Proceedings. Does nothing to conflict with the business of lawyers.
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HERMAN E. BOSLER, Secretary and Treasurer. EDWIN WARFIELD, President.

CHEAPEST AND BEST LIQUOR STORE,
T. C. GRIMES, Propr.,
(John U. O'Brien's Old Stand, Across the River.)
ELLICOTT CITY, - - - MARYLAND.
THIS STORE is now stocked with the following brands of Whiskies, at bottom prices MONTICELLO (TEN YEARS OLD,) VIRGINIA CLUB, BAKER'S PURE RYE, CHESTER CREEK, OLD CABINET AND OTHERS.
—ALSO—
CHOICE BRANDS of WINES, GINS and BRANDIES.
ADONIS BOTTLED BEER WHOLESALE OR RETAIL.
ICE COLD BEER Always on Draught. CIGARS AND TOBACCO. All Orders left Promptly filled.

LIVERY AND UNDERTAKING
The Livery and Undertaking business of the late Clinton Easton will be continued by the undersigned. Calls to take charge of FUNERALS in Howard and adjoining counties attended to on the shortest notice and at any distance on the most REASONABLE TERMS.
METALIC COFFINS and BURIAL CASES of the most approved and tasteful designs. I ask a trial of the public, as I will guarantee satisfaction in all cases.
EMBALMING SKILLFULLY PERFORMED.

THE OLD STAND, MAIN STREET, ELLICOTT CITY, MD.
MILTON EASTON, Manager. | MRS. ANNIE EASTON.

EVERYTHING
—IN THE—
BOOT AND SHOE LINE
AT KIRKWOOD'S,
MAIN STREET, ELLICOTT CITY, MD.
FALL AND WINTER GOODS. LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S SLIPPERS, HATS, CAPS, &C.
LATEST NOVELTY IN A SHOE SOLE!
REYNOLD'S "ALWAYS READY" SOLE,
Durable, Flexible and Water Proof, and you can put them on yourself at a cost of 35 cents
KIRKWOOD--ELLICOTT CITY

WILBUR'S SEED MEAL FOOD.

WILL PUT ANIMALS IN GOOD CONDITION QUICKLY.
WILL MAKE MILCH COWS GIVE MORE MILK.
WILL WARD OFF DISEASE.
WILL FATTEN ANIMALS IN A NATURAL WAY.

5 lb. Box	$ 1.00
15 lb. Pail	2.50
25 lb. Pail	3.75
50 lb. Cabinet	7.00
500 lb. Cabinet	13.00
1,000 lbs.	110.00
2,000 lbs.	200.00

Large Concerns Use it Because it is Profitable to do so.
WE DEAL IN AND SOLICIT CONSIGNMENTS OF FANCY POULTRY FOR STOCK USE.
We mention
Adams Express Co.
Baltimore Transfer Co.
Union Transfer Co.
N. C. Railway.
Baltimore City Fire Department
Fire Insurance Salvage Corps.
S. B. Sexton & Son.
Knox Express, Washington, D. C.
The Larger Dairies, the Larger Brewers, the Larger Stock Dealers.
S. M. SIBLEY & CO., 229 S. HOWARD ST., BALTIMORE, MD.

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