

Peonies as a Medicine.

Peonies were originally esteemed less for beauty of bloom than for value as a medicine.

Didn't Know Frogs.

A dignified army captain was once stationed in quarters near a pond in which were many bullfrogs.

The captain had never heard bullfrogs, and in the middle of the night, fairly distracted by their continuous howling, he descended the stairs in his robe de nuit, and said to the sentry:

"Sentry, tell the sergeant of the guard to drag the cow out of that marsh."

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies.

A Broken Guarantee.

"I never guaranteed the horse not to balk. I merely said that he would stand anywhere."

HOUSE WORK



Thousands of American women in our homes are daily sacrificing their lives to duty.

In order to keep the home neat and pretty, the children well dressed and tidy, women overdo. A female weakness or displacement is often brought on and they suffer in silence, drifting along from bad to worse, knowing well that they ought to have help to overcome the pains and aches which daily make life a burden.

It is to these faithful women that LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND comes as a boon and a blessing.

As I was not able to do my own work, owing to the female trouble from which I suffered, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound helped me wonderfully, and I am so well that I can do as big a day's work as I ever did. I wish every sick woman could try it.

FACTS FOR SICK WOMEN.

For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness, or nervous prostration.

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.

SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills. They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER.

They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable. SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE. Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature. REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.



SYNOPSIS.

Giles Dudley arrived in San Francisco to join his friend and distant relative Henry Wilton, whom he was to assist in an important and mysterious task, and who accompanied Dudley on the ferry boat trip into the city.

CHAPTER XIX.—Continued.

At this Eppner gave a blast like a cornet, and, waving his arms frantically plunged into a small-sized riot. I had entrusted him with 5,000 shares of Crown and Diamond to be sold for the best price possible, and he was feeding the opposition judiciously.

At this I signaled to Wallbridge, and with another fellow he started an opposition riot on the other side of the room from Eppner, and fed Crown Diamond in lumps to the howling forces of the Decker combination.

There was a final rally of the Decker forces, and the call closed with Crown Diamond at 63. I had sold 12,000 shares.

I was pleased at the result. Doddridge Knapp had trusted me with the shares with the remark: "I paid 50 for 'em and they're not worth a tinker's dam. I got an inside look at the mine when I was in Virginia City. Feed Decker all he'll take at 60. He's been fooled on the thing, and I reckon he'll buy a good lot of them at that."

I had sold Doddridge Knapp's entire lot of the stock at an average of over 65, had netted him a profit of \$15 a share, and had, for a second purpose, served the plan of campaign by drawing the enemy's resources to the defense of Crown Diamond and weakening, by so much, his power of operating elsewhere.

By the time Omega was reached I had the plans full in hand.

The assault on Crown diamond had caused a nervous feeling all along the line, and under rumors of a bear raid there had been a drop of several points.

Omega felt the result of the nervousness and depression, and opened at 75.

There was a moment's buzz—the quiet of a crowd expectant of great events. Then Wallbridge charged into the throng with a roar, I could not distinguish his words, but I knew that he was carrying out my order to drop 5,000 shares on the market.

At his cry there was an answering roar, and the scene upon the floor turned to a riot. How the market was going I could only guess. At Wallbridge's onset I saw Lattimer and Eppner make a dive for him and then separate, following other shouting, screaming madmen who prousted about the floor and tried to save themselves from a mobbing. I heard 70 shouted from one direction, but could not make out whether it set the price of the stock or not. The din was too confusing for me to follow the course of events.

At last Wallbridge staggered up to the rail, flushed, collarless, and panting for breath, with his hat a hopeless wreck.

"I sold down to 71—averaging 73, I guess—and she's piling in fit to break the floor," he gasped.

"Did Lattimer and Eppner get your stock?" I could not help asking.

"They got about 3,000 of it. Rosenheim got the rest."

"Where is it now?" I asked. "Sixty-nine and a half."

I meditated an instant whether to use my authority to throw another 5,000 shares on the market. But I caught sight of Decker opposite, pale, hawk-like, just seizing an envelope from a messenger. He tore it open, and though his face changed not a line, I felt by a mysterious instinct that it brought assurance of the aid he sought.

"Buy every share you can get," I said promptly. "Don't get in the way of Lattimer or Eppner. Put on steam, too."

A moment later the clamor grew louder and the excitement increased. I heard shouts of 75, 78, 80 and 85. Decker's men had entered into the bidding with energy. The sinews of war had been recruited, and it was a battle for the possession of every block of stock.

Thus far I had followed closely the plan laid down for me by Doddridge Knapp, and the course of the market had agreed with the outlines of his prophecy. But now it was going up faster than he had expected. Yet I could do nothing but buy. I dared not set bonds to the bidding. I could only grip the railing and wait for the end of the call.

At last it came, and "Omega, one hundred and five and three-quarters" was the closing quotation. I feverishly took the totals of my purchases from the brokers and gave the checks to bind them. Then I hastily made



"UM—THE PRICE WENT UP PRETTY FAST."

my way through the excited throngs that blocked the entrance to the Exchange, brought thither by the exciting news of "a boom in Omega," and hurried to the office.

Doddridge Knapp had not yet come, and I consumed myself with impatience for ten minutes till I heard his key in the lock and he entered with a calm smile on his face.

I gave him my memoranda and tried to read his face as he studied them.

"You did a good job with Crown Diamond," he granted approvingly.

"Thanks," I returned. "I thought it wasn't bad for a stock that was not worth mentioning. And here is 7,000 shares of Omega bought and 5,000 sold. That scheme worked pretty well. We made 2,600 by it. Um—the price went up pretty fast."

The King of the Street looked sourly at the figures before him. "You ought to have got more stock," he growled.

This was a shock to my self-congratulation over my success, and I gave an inquiring "Yes?"

"As I figure it out," he said, "somebody else got 7,000 shares and odd. There were over 15,000 shares sold in your board."

I murmured that I had done my best.

"Yes, yes; I suppose so," said my employer. "But we need more."

"How much?" I asked.

"I've got a little over 48,000 shares," he said slowly, "and I must have near 60,000. It looks as though I'd have to fight for them."

"Well, Decker isn't any better off than you," I said consolingly.

"He's ten or fifteen thousand shares worse off than I am."

"And he's put a fortune into Crown Diamond, and is pretty well loaded with Confidence."

"True, my boy."

"And so," I argued, "he must be nearer the bottom of his sack than you are."

"Very good, Wilton," said the King of the Street with a quizzical look. "But you've left one thing out. You don't happen to know that the directors of the El Dorado Bank had a secret meeting last night and decided to back Decker for all they are worth."

"Rather a rash proceeding," I suggested.

"Well, he had three millions of their money in his scheme, so I reckon they thought the tall might as well follow the hide," explained my employer.

"The only thing to do then is to get a bank yourself," I returned.

Doddridge Knapp's lips closed, and a trace of a frown was on his brows.

"Well, this isn't business," he said. "Now here is what I want," he continued. And he gave directions for the buying at the afternoon session.

"Now, not over 125," was his parting injunction. "You may not get much—I don't think you will—though I have a scheme that may bring a reaction."

Doddridge Knapp's scheme for a reaction must have been one of the kind that goes off backward, for Omega jumped skyward on the afternoon call, and closed at 130. And I had been able to get a scant 1,500 shares when the call was over.

"I did better than you," said Doddridge Knapp, when I explained to him the course of the session. "I found a nest of 2,500 and gathered them in at 120. But that's all right. You've done well enough—as well as I expected."

"And still 8,000 to get," I said.

"Nearly."

"Well, we'll get them in due time, I suppose," I said cheerfully.

"We'll have 'em by Monday noon."

though I wished that she had delayed her appearance, and looked regretfully after Luella.

"I want to thank you for your heroism the other evening," she said.

"Oh, it was nothing," I answered lightly. "Any one would have done the same."

"Perhaps—but none the less we are all very grateful. If I had only suspected that anything of the kind could have happened, I should never have allowed them to go."

I felt rebelliously glad that she had not suspected.

"I blame myself for it all," I bowed. "It was very careless of me."

"I'm afraid so, after all the warning you have had," said Mrs. Knapp.

"But as it turned out, no harm was done," I said cheerfully.

"I suppose so," said Mrs. Knapp absently. Then she spoke with sudden attention. "Do you think your enemies followed you there?"

I was taken aback with the vision of the Wolf figure in the grimy passage, a feld in the intoxication of opium, and stammered for a reply.

"My snake-eyed friend made himself a little familiar, I'm afraid," I admitted.

"It is dreadful that these dangers should follow you everywhere," said Mrs. Knapp with feeling. "You must be careful."

"I have developed eyes in the back of my head," I said, smiling at her concern.

"I fear you need more than that. Now tell me how it all happened, just as you saw it. I'm afraid Luella was a little too hysterical to give a true account of it."

I gave her the story of the scene in the passage, with a few judicious emendations. I thought it hardly worth while to mention Doddridge Knapp's appearance, or a few other items that were more precious to me than to anybody else.

When I had done Mrs. Knapp sighed. "There must be an end of this some day," she said.

"I hope the day isn't far off," I confessed, "unless it should happen to be the day the coroner is called on to take a particular interest in my person."

Mrs. Knapp shuddered.

"Oh no, no—not that way."

"Then after a pause, she continued: "Would you not rather attack your dangers at once, and have them over, than to wait for them to seek you?"

I felt a trifle uneasy at this speech. There seemed to be a suggestion in it that I could end the whole matter by marching on my enemies and coming to decisive battle. I wished I knew what she was hinting at and how it was to be done before I answered.

"I haven't felt any particular disposition to hunt them up," I confessed, "but if I could cut off all the heads of the hydra at once it would be worth while. Anything for peace and quiet, you know."

Mrs. Knapp smiled.

"Well, there is no use challenging your fate. There is no need for you to act, unless the boy is in danger."

"Oh, no, none at all," I replied unblushingly.

"And we'll hope that he will be kept safe until the danger has passed."

I hoped so devoutly, and said as much. After a few more words I took advantage of the lull to excuse myself and make a dive into the next room where I espied Luella.

"Yes, you may sit down here," she said cheerfully. "I want to be amused."

I was not at all certain that I was flattered to be considered amusing; but I was willing to stay on any terms, so we fell into animated conversation on nothing and everything. In the midst of this entertaining situation I discovered that Mrs. Knapp was watching us, and her face showed no easy state of mind. As I caught her eye she moved away, and a minute later Mr. Carter appeared with—

"Excuse me, Miss Knapp, but your mother would like to see you. She and my wife have some conspiracy on hand."

I was pleased to see that Luella did not take the interruption gratefully, but she surrendered her place to Mr. Carter, who talked about the weather with a fertility of commonplaces that excited my admiration.

But as even the weather has its limits as a subject of interest and the hour grew late I suppressed a yawn and sought the ladies to take my leave.

"Oh, must you go?" said Luella, rising. And, leaving Mrs. Carter to her mother, she walked with me to the hall as though she would speak with me.

But once more alone, with only the hum of voices from the reception-room as company, she fell silent, and I could think of nothing to say.

"It's very good of you to come," she said hesitatingly.

My mind went back to that other evening when I had left the door in humiliation and bitterness of spirit. Perhaps she, too, was thinking of the time.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Lost in the Telephone.

Henry Abraham has calculated the maximum effectiveness of the telephone for a sound of given pitch and a current of measured intensity. The result shows that there is great room for improvement in this respect. Notwithstanding the apparent extreme sensitiveness of the best telephones, they are, after all, surprisingly ineffective, since they transmit to the ear in the form of sound-waves less than a thousandth part of the energy received from the line.

New Method of Shaft Sinking.

A method of shaft sinking has been tried in France in which cement slurry is forced through boreholes into soft fissured strata in order to form a wall of concrete within which sinking can be performed.

A SIMPLE SAFEGUARD IN BUYING PAINT.

Everybody should know how simple and easy it is to avoid all uncertainty in buying paint materials. There are many so-called white leads on the market, which contain chalk, zinc, barytes, and other cheap adulterants. Unless the property owner takes advantage of the simple means of protection afforded him by reliable white lead manufacturers, he runs great risk of getting an inferior and adulterated white lead.

It is to protect the paint-buyer against fraud and adulteration that National Lead Company, the largest makers of genuine Pure White Lead, place their famous "Dutch Boy Painter" trademark on every keg of their product, an absolute guarantee of its purity and quality. Anyone who wants to make a practical test of white lead, and who wants a valuable free book about painting, should address National Lead Company, Woodbridge Bldg., New York, and ask for test equipment.

AUTOMOBILE SHOP TALK.



"What was your record across Jersey?" "One country constable and a cow."

Laundry work at home would be much more satisfactory if the Night Starch were used. In order to get the desired stiffness, it is usually necessary to use so much starch that the beauty and fineness of the fabric is hidden behind a paste of varying thickness, which not only destroys the appearance, but also affects the wearing quality of the goods. This trouble can be entirely overcome by using Defiance Starch, as it can be applied much more thinly because of its greater strength than other makes.

Ethergram.

Language grows apace with the victories of applied science. Consider for a moment how many words in the ordinary work-a-day vocabulary were unknown a quarter of a century ago and are the natural product of discovery and invention. With the perfection of wireless transmission of intelligence there obviously came need of a word designating a message conveyed by the new method. "Ethergram" has been suggested and, in fact, is being used in Great Britain. If not, why not?

Boy Grades the Clergy.

Bishop Potter, at an ecclesiastical dinner in New York, read a Cooperstown schoolboy's essay on "Clergymen." The essay, which created much amusement, was as follows:

"There are 2 kinds of clergymen: Bishops, rectors and curats. The bishops tells the rectors to work and the curats have to do it. A curat is a thin married man but when he is a rector he gets fuller and can preach longer sermons and becomes a good man."—Washington Star.

Satisfied.

"Look here!" grumbled the old farmer. "This here almanac is a fraud. It predicted snow for yesterday and, by gum, it was hot as blazes all day."

"But my dear sir," responded the bland almanac peddler, "it snowed up at the north pole yesterday."

"The old farmer's jaw fell. "It did?" he drawled slowly. "Wal, I reckon the almanac is all right then. It did tell the truth, didn't it?"

MOTHER AND CHILD

Both Fully Nourished on Grape-Nuts.

The value of this famous food is shown in many ways, in addition to what might be expected from its chemical analysis.

Grape-Nuts food is made of whole wheat and barley, is thoroughly baked for many hours and contains all the wholesome ingredients in these cereals.

It contains also the phosphate of potash grown in the grains, which Nature uses to build up brain and nerve cells.

Young children require proportionately more of this element because the brain and nervous system of the child grows so rapidly.

A Va. mother found the value of Grape-Nuts in not only building up her own strength but in nourishing her baby at the same time. She writes:

"After my baby came I did not recover health and strength, and the doctor said I could not nurse the baby as I did not have nourishment for her, besides I was too weak."

"He said I might try a change of diet and see what that would do, and recommended Grape-Nuts food. I bought a pkg. and used it regularly. A marked change came over both baby and I."

"My baby is now four months old, is in fine condition, I am nursing, her and doing all my work and never felt better in my life." "There's a Reason."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.