

Safety for Miners.

The mining interests of the United States are greater, if measured by the value of actual production, than those of any other country in the world. The delivery from our coal mines is about one fourth that of the British Islands, but twice as much as that of France or Belgium. In the precious metals we have exceeded all rivals; for although Australia has sometimes equaled us in gold, she seems to have no silver. We are among the foremost in lead, copper and iron. Yet, with all this, so far as the protection to human life is concerned, our mining system is the worst in the world. We may say that for the safety of our miners we have no laws whatever. Elsewhere governments give these matters special attention. Men of the highest order of intellect—for instance, Emanuel Swedenborg—have been honored by positions in the mining bureaus of European countries. Here, the construction and management of mines is left to the capricious whims of owners. Official supervision is unknown. Consequently we have mines that are man traps; houses built underground, even one with a wooden chimney for a doorway. The people are let down in a trap, and the chimney takes fire from the bottom.

The miners themselves are always indifferent to their own risks. A newspaper paragraph recently described how Farley, when examining a mine, was once provided with a cushion seat. The philosopher asked some questions about the gunpowder used for blasting, and in reply received the astounding information that the cushion he was sitting on was merely a bag of the powder. When Sir Humphrey Davy invented the safety lamp it was hoped that the day of colliery fires was past. The explanation of the next great explosion of fire-damp showed that a miner overpowered his lamp and exposed the flame, to light his pipe—thereafter lamps were looked by an inspector as the workmen entered the mines, and an interval of security followed. But it was found that, by means of the Davy, candles could be worked where the fire-damp was constantly issuing. It may be supposed that the owners of mines favored this extension of their working territory. The gas entering through the meshes of the wires, took fire within them, and blazed around the neck of the lamps. It would have warned, if it did not frighten, any truly but miners. They rather liked the phenomenon; it gave such a splendid light. The wires of the lamps became red hot; perhaps they were burnt to pieces; the exact particulars are in debate; but the result was another horrible explosion. Substitutes for the Davy lamp have not yet proved successful. Two French savants made a cold light; a sort of Aurora Borealis, sealed up in glass tubes, worked by an electric battery. It weighed twelve pounds per lamp; and besides the miners said they could not carry it. Two other Frenchmen made a lamp which was air tight, and burned its own oxygen, condensed by pressure. That was heavier and bulkier than the other.

Now let some ingenious American invent a lamp that can be hermetically sealed, using oxygen packed in the solid shape of some of its chemical combinations, and producing in combustion no gas that requires an outlet; and he may be enrolled among philanthropists.

But even that would be no security against wooden chimneys. They must be prevented by legislation. If wood must be used in our mines, let it be rendered absolutely fire-proof. Soak it in soluble silicates, cover it with stone paint, plaster it over with cement. It was the wood-work, nothing else that fed the flames in the Nevada silver mines for weeks together. There a miner left a candle stuck against a post; but the system which fills the mines with wooden supporters and framework was the real cause of that catastrophe, as it was of the Avonvale disaster.

Poor Little Thing.

Poor little thing! Reading, Spelling, Geography, History, Grammar, Arithmetic, Latin and Writing! and only nine years old. Six hour's school confinement to the little growing frame and child brain. "Poor little thing, he's dead. What a dispensation of Providence!" say you? Murder! Blasphemy! most impious! Oh man! oh woman! don't you know you have loaded that little overtaxed child brain until you drove Death in pity to take him? Don't you know you shut the little one from sunshine and fresh air—the very chained limb to the school desk where every symptom of gushing playful childhood was a crime, every boyish laugh, harmless mischief or thoughtless whisper was deserving of punishment—when the little growing, expanding muscles were dwarfed by inactivity, and the brain urged to precocious growth, overtaxed until diseased, stopped, and the little one, still but a baby by slow, and with a weary sigh, ceased the tossings of delirium, and slept the sleep that knows no waking—a long rest. God forgive you, parents.

How many a young man, with expanded brain and exhausted vitality, has succumbed to a cold, and left a widowed globe and little family. "A singular dispensation of Providence." No! no! another monument to mark the work of parents, who, years before, in the dead man's childhood, planted the seeds for the wife's anguish and the orphan's misery, by overtaxing their boy's brain, and by inefficient checking the boy's growth.

Oh, parents, when will you cease to be less kind to your children than to your cattle! You let your young horse run, that the sun's rays and the pure air may develop his frame. You work him in accordance with his years. You don't shut him up in a hot, dark room, and work him to the top of his power. Be just as kind to the little ones as you are to your beasts. Let them run in the sunshine and air until seven, then for five years or more confine them in the schoolroom but half a day. Give the body what it requires, light, exercise and air, half the time, and gradually accustom the brain to its work.

Remember, you owe a duty to your children, not for themselves alone, but for the unborn to come. First health, then education; not education first, to the destruction of health. Do this, and my word for it, you will far less often have occasion to say, "Poor little thing," or mourn the singular dispensation of Providence.—Family Friend.

MOTHERS READ! MRS. WHEELER'S NURSING SYRUP!

FOR Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Colic, Cholera Morbus, Spasms, Wind in the Stomach and Bowels, &c., &c., particularly FOR CHILDREN WHEN TEETHING! AND TO PROMOTE SLEEP.

Call your attention to the above offered, as being superior to any ever before offered for the purpose, which we recommend. For many years I have observed the want of a safe and simple remedy, free from opium, and other noxious drugs, which could be placed in the hands of the mothers, wherever all the very best of the business medical profession could be obtained in their first stages, are they had it. These are the most dangerous of the child's life, and are the most common. They have a tendency to deprive the child of its natural strength, and to produce a permanent functional derangement of the system, which requires but the least exciting cause, and is all too apt to recur. The Period of Teething is the most critical of any during the life of the child, and more children die during this period than at all others combined.

For restoring a quiet, natural and refreshing sleep, from which the child will awake, feeling robust and cheerful.

THE NURSING SYRUP HAS NO EQUAL.

For the benefit of mothers and nurses, we would advise you when the child is restless, frowny, fretful, head hot, face flushed, tongue coated, pulse quickened, to give a few drops, followed by gentle doses of the sensitive Syrup, and the Magical Ointment will soothe your heart.

All we ask is for you to try one bottle, and if you are not fully satisfied after using half of it, return it to the sender and your money. For sale by all respectable and country merchants everywhere, at 25 cents per bottle.

H. F. BENTON, Sole agent for Andover, N. Y.

Supreme Court—County of Allegany—Henry D. Roberts vs. Harriet E. Roberts. Do Harriet Roberts the complainant, you are hereby summoned to appear before the court on the 4th day of August, at Belmont in said County, on the 4th day of August, to defend a copy of your answer on the above-mentioned bill of complaint, which was filed in said County, on the 20th day of July, 1869, and to serve a copy of your answer on the complainant, within twenty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, or the court will grant the bill for the relief demanded in the complaint.—Dated August 4th, 1869.

H. F. SCOTT, Attorney.

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ALISMA, FOR THE HAIR.

CONSTITUTION BITTERS.

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Yonkers & New York, 860,000

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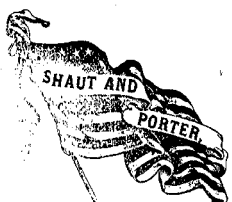
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Our MILLINERY STOCK is complete, and will be kept so. Satisfaction guaranteed, and prices as low as the lowest.

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As CHEAP as can be bought in the County; for

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