MISCELLANEOUS.

East and South

VIA

SOUTHERN PACIFIC CO.'S LINE.

The Mt. Shasta Route.

Express Trains Leave Portland Daily.

South			North.
4:00 P. M.	Leave	Portland	Arrive 9:45 A. M.
7:33 A. M.	Leave	Medford	Leave 7:05 A. M.
10:15 A. M.	Arrive	San Francisco	Leave 5:00 P. M.

Above trains stop only at the following stations: Ashland, Medford, Rogue River, Grants Pass, Roseburg, Drain, Elkton, Junction City, Albany, Tangent, Shedd, Brownsville, Harrisburg, Junction City, Irving, Eugene, Salem, Woodburn, Portland, Oregon City, Gladstone, Oswego, Lake Oswego, Tualatin, Sherwood, Newberg, Dundee, Lafayette, McMinnville, Sheridan, Grande Ronde, Willamina, Sheridan, Dallas, Independence, Monmouth, Junction City, Irving, Eugene.

ROSEBURG MAIL DAILY:

LEAVE:		ARRIVE:	
Portland	8:00 A. M.	Roseburg	5:40 P. M.
Roseburg	6:20 A. M.	Portland	4:00 P. M.

ALBANY LOCAL, DAILY (Except Sunday).

LEAVE:		ARRIVE:	
Portland	5:00 P. M.	Albany	9:00 P. M.
Albany	5:00 A. M.	Portland	9:00 A. M.

PULLMAN BUFFET SLEEPERS.

TOURIST SLEEPING CARS,

For accommodation of second-class passengers attached to Express Trains.

WEST SIDE DIVISION.

BETWEEN PORTLAND & CORVALLIS

MAIL TRAIN (DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY.)

7:30 A. M.	Leave	Portland	Arrive 5:30 P. M.
12:10 P. M.	Arrive	Corvallis	Leave 12:55 P. M.

At Albany and Corvallis connect with trains of Oregon Pacific Railroad.

DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY.

4:45 P. M.	Leave	Portland	Arrive 8:20 A. M.
7:25 P. M.	Arrive	McMinnville	Leave 5:45 A. M.

THROUGH TICKETS to all points EAST & SOUTH.

For Tickets and information regarding rates, maps, etc., call on Company's agent at Medford.

R. KOEHLER, Manager. E. P. ROGERS, Asst. G. F. & P. Agt.

THE LADIES

Southern Oregon are hereby informed that in addition to a large and elegant line of

MILLINERY

we added to my stock the following class of goods, of which I have a full line:

Ladies' Furnishing Goods,

Both Knit and Muslin.

INFANTS' WARDROBES COMPLETE.

As cheap as to be bought any place; also

Children's Short Clothes,

Under 4 years old.

beautiful line

CORSETS,

Consisting of Lisle and Silk

GLOVES,

HANDKERHIEFS

HOSIERY,

Zephyr Shawls,

and many other things too numerous to mention. I have also secured the services of a

FIRST-CLASS DRESSMAKER,

I am now prepared to execute all orders in that line in first-class style at reasonable rates.

Call and see me opposite J. Nunan's on California street.

MRS. P. P. PRIM.

THE WOMEN OF OREGON

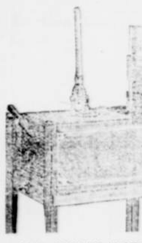
ARE

On a Strike.

They have thrown away the washboard, and say they will use nothing but the

Ladies' Choice Washer

manufactured by W. A. Goodman & Co., Grant's Pass, Oregon.



5,000 NOW IN ACTUAL USE. 5,000

We would ask the ladies of this Western Coast to lay aside their prejudices, give our Washer a fair trial, and be convinced. There is ONE washer in the world that will do good work. We have a combined Machine, Washboard, Tub and Clothes Basket. We sell the Washer on its own merits.

Description and price of washer given on application.

AGENTS WANTED to sell the Ladies' Choice Washer. Ladies can make from $100 to $200 per month. Apply at once for terms.

STEAM SAW MILL

ANDERSON CREEK,

S. S. SMITH, Prop'r.

THE SUBSCRIBER TAKES PLEASURE IN announcing that his steam saw-mill is now running on full time and turning out a large quantity of lumber. He is prepared to fill all orders with dispatch, and at the most reasonable rates. A fine quality of

ALL KINDS OF LUMBER,

including the best rustic, ceiling and flooring furnished on short notice.

☞ Satisfaction guaranteed.

S. S. SMITH.

ASHLAND HOTEL.

CENTRALLY LOCATED.

FIRST-CLASS IN EVERY RESPECT.

This well-known house has been rebuilt with brick and greatly enlarged, besides being

NEWLY FURNISHED

It is centrally located in the business part of town, and a good-sample room for commercial travelers, is fitted up in connection therewith. The table is constantly furnished with the best the market affords.

E. K. BRIGHTMAN, Prop.

Ashland, Oct. 10 1889.

—ASK FOR—

THE BOSS BOOTS

And all of

AKIN, SELLING & CO.'S

UNRIVALED GOODS

BICYCLES

TYPEWRITERS,

CANOES, Etc

CASH OR INSTALLMENTS. BOUGHT, SOLD, EXCHANGED. 400 WHEELS IN STOCK. ALL GRADES AND PRICES, AND ALL WARRANTED. SEND FOR CATALOG AND CLUB DISCOUNTS.

Live Agents Wanted everywhere.

FRED. T. MERRILL,

127 WASHINGTON ST. PORTLAND, OR.

$3000 A YEAR! I guarantee to take any Teacher, Student or Young Man, who can read and write, and who will follow my instructions, and show to earn Three Thousand Dollars a Year in their own localities, after further five days' instruction. I will also furnish the situation or employment at which to earn our three-thousand. No money for me in advance. Easy and quickly learned. I do not care whether you live near or far, I have already taught and put in good paying positions many persons who are making over $3000 a year each. Address, H. B. CABLE, Author and Teacher of Penmanship, Chicago, Ill.

MISCELLANEOUS.

RAW AS BEEFSTEAK.

BABY'S FEARFUL SUFFERING FROM SKIN DISEASE, COVERING ENTIRE BODY, CURED BY CUTICURA.

My baby was taken very sick when he was three months old, and in a few days began breaking out. We employed both of the home doctors, and they could do nothing for him. Then we sent for the best doctor in Eaton Rapids, Mich., and he doctored him for two weeks, and he got worse all the time; and then I took him to Jackson, to a doctor who attends especially to skin diseases, and then he got worse than ever. Then I told my husband that we had better try the CUTICURA REMEDIES any way, did not have any idea they would do any good, but in less than two months giving them to him from the time we began giving them to him he was entirely well and not a spot on him. His hair began growing right off, and we thought he would always be bald-headed. There was not a spot on his whole body, face and head, only his nose and eyes, but what was as raw as beef-steak. So poor there was not anything but bones, and so weak he could raise neither hand nor head.

Mrs. FRANK BARRETT, Winfield, Mich.

Cuticura Resolvent,

BABY'S Skin and Scalp purified and beautified by CUTICURA SOAP. Absolutely pure.

RHEUMATIC PAINS

In one minute the CUTICURA ANTI-PAIN PLASTER relieves rheumatic, sciatic, hip, kidney, chest and muscular pains and weaknesses. Price, 25c.

Trees! Trees!!

HAMMON BROS.

NURSERIES!

We have removed our Nurseries to Medford, where we have secured New Ground, the soil of which is a sandy loam, enabling us without irrigation to grow healthy, thrifty trees with an abundance of fibrous lateral roots without heavy tap roots, to be cut away in digging. We offer

10000 Prune,

10000 Apples,

5000 Peach,

5000 Pears,

10000 Grapes,

And a good assortment of all the leading varieties of fruits.

Trees as Low as any First-class Nursery.

GIVE US A CALL.

Nurseries at east end of Bridge

MEDFORD, OREGON.

$500 Reward FOR AN INCURABLE CASE OF ECZEMA, TETTER, ITCH, PSORIASIS, OR ANY SKIN DISEASE.

Le Richau's Golden Balsam

HEALTH. BALSAM

Le Richau's Golden Balsam No. 1 Cures Chancres, first and second stages; Screech the Legs and Body; Sore Ears, Eyes, Nose, etc., Copper-colored Blotches, Syphilitic Catarrh, diseased Scalp, and all primary forms of the disease known as Syphilis. Price, $5.00 per Bottle.

Le Richau's Golden Balsam No. 2 Cures Gonorrhœa, Mucous Discharges, Rheumatism, Pains in the Bones, Pains in the Head, Back of the Neck, Ulcerated Sore Throat, Syphilitic Rash, Lumps and contracted Cords Stiffness of the Limbs, and eradicates all disease from the system, whether caused by indulgence or abuse of Mercury, leaving the blood pure and healthy. Price $5.00 per Bottle.

Le Richau's Golden Spanish Anodote for the cure of Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Whites, Stricture, and all Urinary and Sexual derangements. Price $2.50 per Bottle.

Le Richau's Golden Spanish Injection, for rare cases of Gonorrhœa, Inflammatory Gleet, Stricture, etc. Price $1 per Bottle.

Le Richau's Golden Ointment for the effective healing of Sores, Wounds, Ulcers, etc. Price $1.00 per Box.

Le Richau's Golden Pills are a nerve and Brain treatment, loss of physical power, excess or overwork, Dyspepsia. Price $3.00 per Box.

Tonic and Nervine, Sent anywhere, C. O. D., securely packed, per express.

THE RICHARDS DRUG CO., AGENTS. 560 and 561 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

—Circulars sent free.—

FARMS

IN SOUTHERN OREGON

Fruit, Grain and Stock Farms

FOR SALE BY

C. B. FITZGERALD,

Gold Hill. - - - Oregon.

Choice Locations and Prices Reasonably Low.

SEND FOR DESCRIPTIVE CIRCULARS

THE HANDSOMEST WORK

DONE AT THE

MOST REASONABLE PRICES

AT THE

JACKSONVILLE

MARBLE WORKS!

We execute Every Description of Work in our line in the most approved style.

Don't fail to call and examine samples and designs and ascertain prices.

AGENTS WANTED. LIBERAL SALARY PAID. At home or to travel. Teams furnished free. P. O. VYCKER, BALTIMORE, MD.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

The Democratic Times

FRIDAY MAY 29, 1891.

TO ADVERTISERS

The TIMES has a circulation of 2500 the largest enjoyed by any newspaper published between Portland and Red Bluff, Cal.—a distance of 600 miles. It therefore offers the best inducements to advertisers. Our list is principally confined to Jackson, Josephine and Klamath counties. Business men should take note of this.

RHINEGOLD.

Beneath the mystic winding stream
The Rhinemaids warbled well the gold;
And, like dim voices in a dream,
Their song a thrilling legend told.

"He who molds a ring from this
Shall rule the earth and air above;
But first he must renounce the bliss
And wondrous joy of woman's love."

So ran the old delusive lay
That set man's heart and brain at strife;
But Love proclaimed a better way.
For he is lord of human life.

First win the woman's priceless grace,
Then weld the ring of virgin gold;
Upon her hand the circlet place;
Then love is power, and both you hold.

—W. J. Henderson in New York Times.

ALL SORTS.

There are 155 students in the Normal school at Drain just at present.

A nephew of Jay Gould is employed on the government works at Bandon.

Fashionable clergymen are now giving orders for the early crop of hay fever to be delivered in time for the European travel season.

James Foster has entered "Ida Martin," two-year-old, by Conner, in the state fair breeder's stake race, three-fourths of a mile.

Sauvie's island, in the Willamette, has been purchased for its hunting grounds, which are famous for swan, geese, ducks and snipe.

Emma Templeton lost a leg some time ago in Linn county, in consequence of her buggy falling through a bridge, and she sued Linn county for $27,000.

Senator Tongue, of Hillsboro, has just received several bars of aluminum, from which he intends to make horseshoes and experiment with them on his trotters.

M. S. Canan, proprietor of the Occidental hotel at Corvallis, and for many years a most respected and enterprising citizen, died suddenly of heart failure, age 69.

Charles W. Palmer, president of the World's Fair, has sent his resignation to Secretary Blaine. It is said he will be appointed minister to China, vice Blair, recalled.

One of the provisions of the new land law runs thus: "A person already the proprietor of more than 160 acres of land in any state or territory cannot acquire a right under the homestead law."

It is said that the party who attempted to rob the Redding and Weaverville stage, and shot Graham, the driver, and later did rob the stage, was tried in Arizona for robbery and received a life sentence.

Within a week forest fires on the lower Michigan peninsula have destroyed property valued at $2,000,000, and left hundreds of families destitute. The loss incurred is so likely to be doubled before the flames were checked.

Farmers have been shipping considerable wheat lately by the narrow gauge railroad to Reno from northeastern California, and the Modoc county farmers are anticipating an opportunity of working off their surplus to good advantages.

Last week in Yamhill county a masked man knocked at the door of a neighbor, and when the door was opened by the lady of the house he took a shot at her, saying, "You talk too much!" The women was shot through the head and the assailant escaped.

Thousand of pigeons are reported in the valley north and west of Eugene. Hunters have killed them by hundreds, parties getting sixty to seventy in a day's hunt. The pigeons are attracted by the newly sown grain. It is not usual to find them in such large numbers at this season.

Professor E. B. McElroy is in receipt of a letter from Newport, stating he can accommodate 500 persons during the state teachers institute to be held in July. The Oregon Pacific has made rates lower than ever before. The attendance promises to be large.

The death of Hon. L. C. Houk, congressional representative from Tennessee, a few days ago, was the result of carelessness that can scarcely be considered less than criminal. A druggist's clerk placed a glass of ice water, called for by Judge Houk on the counter beside another glass containing a solution of arsenic, and the wrong glass was drained by mistake.

Thomas A. Edison was in Chicago a few days ago, and speaking about the world's fair, said he had a novelty in view, although the details were yet hazy. The intention is to have a combination of phonographs and electricity, so a man can sit in his own parlor and see depicted on curtains, forms of players in an opera or drama on a distant stage and hear the voices of the performers.

The 2d regiment of Oregon National Guard, consisting of eleven companies of infantry and one cavalry company, will go into camp at Eugene on June 27th. The regiment is about 500 strong. The pay roll of the men for their time, while in camp, will be about $5,000. The item of transportation to and from camp will be a large one. Altogether the camp will cost the state something near $8,000.

Bernhardt on the stage is only excelled by Bernhardt at dinner. She eats, drinks, sings, pats her dog and drinks again. If any thing happens to displease her she throws something at the dog, calls him to her again, kisses him on the head and asks his pardon. Then she drinks to the health of everybody, including the dog, and falls to eating. And so she continues to tear a passion to tatters until the last raisin has disappeared.

In the college at Corvallis the students are required to work on the farm one hour each day, and any labor they perform outside of that is paid for. The students are instructed in military tactics in order to fit them for the duties of the soldier, if they should at any future time be required to bear arms in behalf of their country. Prof. Letcher is colonel and commandant as well as professor of mathematics and engineering in the state college.—*Oregonian.*

Delaware has passed a ballot-reform law, the twenty fifth state to recognize the necessity of legislation upon this point. The measure is a modified form of the Australian system. It follows the New York law in a provision for separate party ballots, instead of a blanket ballot, but it prohibits the use of pasters, and forbids the use of any except official ballots, which can be obtained only at the polling place. The compartment or booth systems of voting is to be followed, so that a really secret, exclusively official ballot has been obtained.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup should always be used for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhœa. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

Ho! for Butte Creek.

The undersigned will leave Central Point for Eagle Point, Brownsboro, Lake creek and Big Butte every day in the week excepting Sunday, returning the same day, and carrying the mails as also passengers and express matter. I will make connection with the trains each way. My rates are reasonable. I. F. WILLIAMS

Shakes and Shingles.

A supply of the best shakes and shingles has just been received at the TIMES office which will be sold in quantities to suit at reasonable rates.

GENERAL NOTES AND NEWS.

J. M. Vaughn and family have returned to Burns, after a visit among friends in Portland.

Ex-Congressman John Young Brown has been nominated for governor of Kentucky by the Democrats.

The renewal of the triple alliance is confirmed. France has been thwarted in her efforts to keep Italy from entering the bargain.

The development of the Myrtle creek mines and the growing fruit industry of that section will make a good-sized town in that locality in a few years.

Some of the hop raisers of Marion county are plowing up their hop fields on account of their being infected with lice, and are planting them with potatoes.

Oats will be a good crop for the farmers this year. There were but few raised last season, and they are very scarce at present, bringing $1.80 per cwt. in Lakeview.

The Emma Juch Opera Company collapsed last Saturday night in the City of Mexico. Manager Locke is said to be $8,000 behind in salaries and transportation fees.

The drain of gold to Europe has continued. This week's exports of specie have amounted to $7,750,000, bringing the total outward movement since January 1st up to $42,000,000.

A law has been passed in Nebraska banishing mirrors from the saloons of that state. This reform was advocated by the temperance element, but the saloon-keepers did not oppose it.

A wet silk handkerchief tied, with not folding, over the face is a complete security against suffocation from smoke; it permits free breathing and at the same time excludes the smoke from the lungs.

The water is deeper on the bar and the channel more clearly defined than ever at Yaquina bay. The good effects of erecting a jetty on the north side at the mouth of the bay are already apparent.

Over 30,000 people saw Tenny win the Brooklyn handicap. It was one of the grandest races ever seen at Gravesend. Jockey Barnes, who rode Tenny, was carried from the track in a floral horseshoe.

Civil law has successfully and entirely resumed its supremacy at Walla Walla. The men suspected of lynching Hun, the butcher, are in the county jail under an amply armed guard, and all is quiet at the post.

President Harrison is again in Washington. On his trip through the West he traveled 10,000 miles and made 139 speeches. The president and his party speak in the highest terms of the reception they received all along the route.

Governor Hill, of New York, has spoiled a good many campaign stories by stating that he intended being in his seat in the U. S. senate when that body meets in December, and that he has no idea of again being a candidate for governor.

A boy named Willie Prinett was found near Baker city last week with a bullet-hole through his breast. A 44-calibre pistol lay by his side. It is supposed that he committed suicide through grief over having been chastised by his father.

Eastern Oregon sheep owners, having passed through the winter without losses to their flocks, worth speaking of, are now jubilant over their prospects. Shearing in that section commenced a good price being sold at $2.50 per head to be delivered after shearing.

Women never swear, but when a man steps on the hem of her dress and rains a couple of years of expensive trimming, the thoughts which pass through her mind afford the devil as much amusement as though she had let out a string of oaths a mile a half long.

A work train on the Hudson river railroad was blown to atoms by an explosion of dynamite, lately, and twenty men killed and many wounded. A spark from the engine ignited the combustible. The terribly mutilated bodies were blown into the river and thrown all around.

The United States supreme court on May 25th upheld the constitutionality of the original package law passed by congress and also held it was not necessary for Kansas to re-enact its prohibitory law after the passage of the congressional act in order to shut out liquor in original packages.

The constant stream of immigration to the Pacific Northwest shows no sign of abatement. So far southern Oregon has only received a few from the overflow which has settled farther northward. It is time that an earnest effort were made to show the many advantages of this section.

Foreign powers are likely to have the opportunity for which they are itching, to interpose in the Chilian war. The insurgents threaten to bombard Valparaiso, which contains more foreign than Chilian property. This, of course, will not be permitted, and interference, once begun, may go further.

Mrs. Ida Driver, of Brownsville, has brought a divorce suit against her husband, Jas. W. Driver. The defendant is a son of the well-known Rev. I. D. Driver. A daughter of Rev. Driver also has a divorce suit to be disposed of at the next term of the circuit court, making two in one family.—*Albany Democrat.*

Senator Stanford proposes to go into a new business, that of the manufacture of champagne. He has secured the services of Eugene Dumpis, who has made the manufacture of champagne a study for years, and he will superintend the undertaking at Senator Stanford's celebrated vineyard at Vina, Tehama county.

Mr. Parnell is angry over the resolution adopted by the McCarthyites in regard to the Paris fund and the evicted tenants, and declares that it is wilfully misleading in its assumptions. He is preparing a reply in which he expects to throw the blame for the tangling-up of the fund upon the McCarthy faction.

Final proof must be made on all desert-land entries under the Act of March 3 1877, within three years, and when sought to be perfected under Act of March, 1891, within four years from date of entry and publication of notice, and intention to make final proof must be shown in all cases where entrances are instituted since August 1, 1887.

The horse market is pretty dull just now all over the coast, but large draft horses always sell well. The Haggin sale of horses and mules from the Kern county (Cal.) stock farm last week closed Friday with the miscellaneous sale of draft horses, mules and Shetland ponies. There were 207 head sold altogether on that day for an aggregate of $33,000, making an average of $170 a head.

Additional particulars of the terrific hailstorm at Gainesville, Texas, are to the effect that the damage is fifty miles in length and from two to five miles in width. Farmers all lost their entire possessions. Crops were destroyed, and houses, fences and orchards were laid waste by winds. Birds and small animals were killed by thousands by the hailstorm, but no person is reported to have been hurt.

"How to Cure All Skin Diseases."

Simply apply "SWAYNE'S OINTMENT." No internal medicine required. Cures tetter, eczema, itch, all eruptions on the face, hands, nose, &c., leaving the skin clear, white and healthy. Its great healing and curative powers are possessed by no other remedy. Ask your druggist for SWAYNE'S OINTMENT.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve

The best salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positive cures for Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by all druggists.

A GHOST STORY.

"All ghost stories may be explained," said Mrs. Marchmont, smiling rather scornfully, and addressing a large circle of friends and neighbors who, one Christmas evening, were seated round her hospitable hearth.

"Ah! you think so? Pardon me if I cannot agree with you," said Mr. Henniker, a well known Dublin barrister, of burly frame and jovial countenance, famed for his wit and flow of anecdote.

The ladies of the party uttered exclamations in various keys, while the men looked attentive and interested. All that Mr. Henniker pleased to say was wont to command attention, in Dublin at least.

"So you think all ghost stories may be explained? What would Mrs. Marchmont say to our old woman in the black bonnet, Angela?" And the barrister turned to his quiet little wife, who rarely opened her lips. She was eager enough now.

"I wish I could quite forget that old woman, John, dear," she said with a shiver.

"Won't you tell us, dear Mrs. Henniker? Please—please do!" cried the ladies in chorus.

"Nay, John must tell that tale," said the wife, shrinking into herself as it were.

No one knew how it happened that the conversation had turned upon mesmerism, spiritualism and other themes trenching upon the supernatural. Perhaps the season, suggesting old fashioned tales, had something to do with it; or maybe the whistling wind, mingling with the pattering of hail and rattle of cab wheels, led the mind to brood over uncanny legends. Anyhow, all the company spoke of ghosts; some to mock, others to speculate; and here was the witty lawyer prepared to tell a grave tale of his own experience.

His jovial face grew stern. Like the Ancient Mariner, he addressed himself to one in company, but all were silent and attentive.

"You say all ghost stories may be explained, Mrs. Marchmont. So would I have said a year ago; but since we last met at your hospitable fireside my wife and I have gone through a very astonishing experience. We can a tale unfold. No man was better inclined to laugh at ghost stories than I.

"Well, to begin my true tale. We wished for a complete change of scene last February, and Angela thought she would like to reside in the same county as her sisters and cousins and aunts"——

"Dorsetshire, I believe, Mrs. Henniker," interrupted the lady of the house.

Angela nodded.

"I intended to take a house for my family, leave them comfortably settled in it, and run backward and forward between Dorsetshire and Dublin. Well, it so happened that I did leave them for a single day during the three months of my tenancy of the Hall. I had seen a wonderful advertisement of a spacious dwelling house, with offices, gardens, pleasure grounds—to be had for fifty pounds per annum. I went to the agent to make inquiries.

"'Is this flourishing advertisement correct?' asked I.

"'Perfectly.'

"'What! so many advantages are to be had for fifty pounds a year?'

"'Most certainly. I advise you to go and see for yourself.

"I took the agent's advice, and Angela was enchanted with the description I was able to give her on my return. A charming little park, beautifully planted with rare shrubs and trees—a bowery, secluded spot, so shut in by noble elms as to seem remote from the world. The house—such a manson as in Ireland would be called manor house or castle—large, lofty rooms, thoroughly furnished, every modern improvement. My wife, as surprised as myself that a place of the kind should be going for a mere song, begged me to see the agent again, and close with him. It was done at once. I would have taken the hall for a year, but Mr. Harrold advised me not to do so. Take it by the quarter, or at least by the half year, he recommended.

"I replied that it appeared such a desirable bargain that I wished to take it by the year. His answer to this was a reiteration of his first advice. I can't tell you how he influenced me, for he really said no more than I tell you; but I yielded to his evident wish without knowing why I did so, and I closed with him for six months, not a year."

"Glamor, Mr. Henniker!"

"It would seem so, Mrs. Marchmont. We went to the hall, and Angela was delighted with it. The snowdrops lay in snowy masses about the grounds—the garden gave promise of beauty as the season advanced. How the children ran over the house! how charmed we were with every nook and corner of it! Our own bedroom was a comfortable, large room, opening into a very roomy dressing room, in which my wife placed two cribs for our youngest boys, Hal and Jack"——

"Don't forget to say that our bed chamber opened from a sitting room," interrupted Mrs. Henniker.

"Well, for three weeks we all slept the sleep of the just in our really splendid suite of apartments. Not a grumble from our servants—nothing but satisfaction with our rare bargain. I was on the point of returning to dear, dirty Dublin and the Four Courts, when"——

"When? We are all attention, Mr. Henniker."

"Angela and I were sitting in the drawing room under the bed chamber I have described, when a loud cry startled us—'Mother, mother, mother!'

"The little boys were in bed in the dressing room. Angela dropped her teacup and dashed out of the room, forgetting that there was no light in the rooms above us.

"I caught up a candle and followed her quickly. We found the children sobbing wildly. Jack's arms were almost strangling his mother, while he cried in great excitement, 'Oh, the old woman in the black bonnet! The old woman in the black bonnet! Oh—oh—oh!'

"I thought a little fatherly correction would be beneficial, but Angela would not suffer me to interfere. She tried to soothe the little beggars, and in a few minutes they were coherent enough in their story. A frightful old woman, wearing a black bonnet, had been in the room. She came close to them and bent over their cribs, with her dreadful face near to theirs.

"'How did you see her?' we asked. 'There was no candle here.'

"She had light about her, they said; at any rate, they saw her quite well. An exhaustive search was made. No trace of a human being was to be found. I refrained from speaking to the other children, who slept in an upper story, though I softly entered their rooms and examined presses and wardrobes and peeped behind dark corners, laughing in my sleeve all the while. Of course we both believed that Hal had been frightened by a dream, and that his little brother had roared from sympathy. Don't breathe a word of this to the servants, whispered Mrs. Henniker.

"'I'm not such a fool, my dear,' I replied. But pray search the lower regions, and see if Jane and Nancy have any visitor in the kitchen,' she continued. 'She came through your door, mother, from the sitting room,' sobbed Hal, with eyes starting out of his head.

"'Who, love?' asked his mother.

"'The old woman in the black bonnet. Oh, don't go away, mother.'

"So Angela had to spend the remainder of the evening between the children's cribs.

"'What can we do tomorrow evening?' asked she. 'I have it! Lucy shall be put to bed beside Jack. Lucy was our youngest, aged two.

"All went well next night. There was no alarm to summon us from our papers and novels, and we went to bed at 11, Angela remarking that the three cherubs were sleeping beautifully, and that it had been a good move to let Lucy bear the other two company. I was roused out of a sound sleep by wild shrieks from the three children.

"'What! More bad dreams? This sort of thing must be put a stop to,' I said, and I confess I was very angry with the young rascals. My wife was fumbling for the matchbox. 'Hush!' she whispered, 'there is somebody in the room.' And I, too, at that instant felt the presence of some creature besides ourselves and the children. The candle lighted, we again reconnoitered—nothing to be seen in dressing room, bedroom or the drawing room beyond, the door of which was shut. But the curious sense of a presence near us—stronger than any feeling of the kind I had ever previously experienced—was gone. You have all felt the presence of another person unseen. You may be writing—you have not heard the door open, but though your back is toward the visitor, you know somehow that he has entered.

"Quite true, Mr. Henniker—but there is nothing unnatural or unpleasant in that sensation."

"Nothing, of course; I merely instance it to give you some idea of what we felt on that occasion. We were astonished to find the sitting room untenanted. Meanwhile poor Hal, Jack and Lucy shrieked in chorus, 'Oh, the old woman in the black bonnet! Oh, take her away!'

"Poor Angela, trembling, hung over the cribs trying to soothe the children. It was a good while before they could tell what had happened. 'She came again, said Hal, 'and she came close, close to me, and she put her cold face down near my cheek till she touched me, and I don't like her—oh, I don't like her, mother!'

"'Did she go to Jack and Lucy too?'

"'Yes yes; and she made them cry as well.'

"'Why do you not like her? Is it the black bonnet? You dreamed of a black bonnet last night, you know,' said I, half puzzled, half provoked.

"'She's so frightful,' cried Hal.

"'How could you see her? There was no candle.

"This question perplexed the little boys. They persisted that she had a light about her somewhere. I need hardly say that there was no comfort for us the rest of the night. 'If any one is trying to frighten us out of the place I'll be even with him yet,' said I. My wife believed that a trick had been played upon the children, and she was most indignant.

"Next day the cribs were removed to the upper story, and Charlotte and Joanna, our daughters of twelve and fourteen, were put to sleep in the dressing room. We predicted an end to the annoyance we had been suffering. The nurse was a quick tempered woman, who would not stand any nonsense, and Hal's bad dreams would be sternly driven away. We settled ourselves to our comfortable light reading by the drawing room fire. Suddenly there was a commotion overhead; an outcry—surprised more than terrified it rounded to us. Angela laid her book down quickly and listened with all her ears. Fast flying footsteps were heard above, the clapping of a door, then—scurry, scurry—the patter of bare feet down the staircase. We hurried across the hall, and saw Charlotte in her nightgown returning slowly with kitchen stairs with a puzzled expression on her honest face.

"'What on earth are you doing, child?' cried Angela.

"'I was giving chase to a hideous old woman in a black bonnet, who chose to intrude upon us,' panted Charlotte. 'I saw her in our room. I jumped out of bed and pounced her through your room and the sitting room. Then I saw her fairly going downstairs, and I ran after her, but the door at the foot of the kitchen stairs was shut. She certainly could not have had time to open it, and I don't know where she can have gone to.'

"This was Charlotte's explanation of a mad scurry downstairs. Her downright sensible face was puzzled and angry.

"'So you see the little ones must have been tormented by that old wretch, whoever she is. They didn't dream it, father, as you thought. Wouldn't I like to punish her!'

"'What a brave girl!' cried Mrs. Marchmont.

"'Brave? Oh, Charlotte's as bold as a lion! She went back to bed; and when we followed her, in a couple of hours, she was sleeping soundly. But I can't say either of us slept so well. If a trick was being played upon us it was carried out in so clever a manner as to baffle me completely. I need not say that I made careful search of every cranny about the handsome house and offices; and if there was a secret passage or a door in the wall anywhere it escaped me. We had peace for a fortnight, and then the annoyance recommenced.

"Angela's nerve was shaken at last, and she began to whisper, 'There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio'——

"'John, you are making a story,' interrupted Mrs. Henniker.

"'It is every word true. I am coming to an end. Angela, in spite of her disclaimer, did believe in a ghost in a black bonnet. Charlotte believed in her, but did not care about her ghostship. The nurse and cook and housemaid declared they were meeting the horrible appearance constantly, and they were all three in a mortal funk. As to the children, they would not leave off clinging to their mother, and fretting and trembling when evening came. The milkman, the baker and the butcher all told the servants that we would not be long at the hall, for nobody ever remained more than a month or two. This was cheerful and encouraging for me."

"But you had never seen the charming old woman all this time?"

"No; but I saw her in the broad daylight. I had a good long look at her, and a more diabolical face I never saw—no, not even in the dock. I was writing letters in the study about 12 o'clock one morning, when I suddenly looked up, to see the appearance that had excited such a turmoil in my family standing near the table. A frightful face—a short set woman dressed in black—gown, shawl, bonnet—this was the impression I received. But she looked quite human—quite everyday—there was nothing ghostly in her air—only the evil face curdled one's blood. I rose to ring for her, and then I took up a folded newspaper and threw it at her. My motive in so doing was to frighten her which I did frightened my wife so much. Conscious in a creature I did not expect from mere being, as her villainous countenance proved, one of the criminal class. The newspaper fell upon the floor, after apparently going through the figure, and there was a vacuum where it had been. I was not much shaken, however, although my theory of a human trick-ster dressed like a woman seemed overturned."

"Did you tell Mrs. Henniker what you had seen?"

"Naturally I did. At this period we talked of nothing else. She saw the apparition twice herself. Once she entered our dressing room and saw the figure bending over a sleeping child (it faded as she looked); another time she was with me in the drawing room, when she laid down her book and whispered, 'See, see, near the door!' There, sure enough, was the appearance that had visited me in the study in clear daylight. I did not make her out quite as distinctly now because our candles did not light up that end of the long room, or my older eyes were not as good as Angela's."

"What did Mrs. Henniker do?"

"She started up and ran to catch the old woman in the black bonnet."

"And did she catch her?"

"She caught a shiver—nothing more!

"After this I resolved to give up the hall at once, sacrificing four months' rent for the sake of my wife and children, whose nerves would have soon become shattered had we remained. I went to Mr. Harold and told him how disagreeable the place was to us. He was grave and very guarded in manner, confessing that no tenant stayed more than a couple of months at the hall—that his client certainly made considerable in consequence—that he had done his utmost to find out what was wrong with the house, but all in vain. Mr. J—— would not speak about it, and when strenuously urged to explain replied emphatically, 'I shall never tell you the story of that house.'

"We dispissed the servants with handsome presents at once on our return to Dublin, so desirous were we that the children should never be reminded of their terror. I think they have not heard the old woman in the black bonnet spoken of since we left the hall, and the younger ones have probably forgotten her. As to us, we can only say that the mystery is unexplained."—*Argosy.*

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