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There was never a time in the history of our country when the demand for inventions and improvements in the arts and sciences generally was so great as now. The convenience of mankind in the factory and workshop, the household and on the farm, as well as in official life, require continual accessions to the apparatus and implements of each in order to save labor, time and expense. The political change in the administration of our government does not affect the progress of the American inventor, who is urged on the alert, and ready to perceive the existing deficiencies, does not permit the affairs of government to deter him from quickly conceiving the remedy to overcome existing discrepancies. Too great care cannot be exercised in choosing a competent and skillful attorney to prepare and prosecute an application for patent. Valuable interests have been lost and destroyed by innumerable instances by the employment of incompetent counsel, and especially in this advice applicable to those who adopt the "No patent, no pay" system. Inventors who entrust their business to this class of attorneys do so at imminent risk, as the breadth and strength of the patent is never considered in view of a quick endeavor to get an allowance and obtain the fee. THE PRESS CLAIMS COMPANY, JOHN W. WEDDING, General Manager, 615 F Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., representing a large number of important daily and weekly papers, and general periodicals of the country, was instituted to protect the interests of the inventor from the methods of the unscrupulous trade-mark, labor copy-right, and preference, infringement, validity reports, and gives especial attention to rejected cases. It is also prepared to enter into competition with any firm in securing foreign patents. Write for instructions and advice. JOHN WEDDING, 615 F Street, Washington, D. C.

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# PENSONS

IF YOU WANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRESS CLAIMS COMPANY, JOHN W. WEDDING, GENERAL MANAGER, 615 F STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

# A Gentleman

Who formerly resided in Connecticut, but who now resides in Missouri, writes: "For 30 years past, my wife and I have used Ayer's Hair Vigor, and we attribute to it the dark hair which she and I now have, while hundreds of our acquaintances, ten or a dozen years younger than we, are either gray-headed, white, or bald. When asked how our hair has retained its color and fullness, we reply: 'By the use of Ayer's Hair Vigor—nothing else.'"

"In 1868, my affianced wife was nearly bald, and the hair left falling out every day. I induced her to use Ayer's Hair Vigor, and very soon she not only checked any further loss of hair, but produced an entirely new growth, which has remained luxuriant and glossy to this day. I can recommend this preparation to all in need of a genuine hair-restorer. It is all that is claimed to be."—Antonio Alarum, Bastrop, Tex.

# AYER'S HAIR VIGOR

COURAGE IN SURGERY.

Why Experienced Practitioners Are Cool While Operating.

An old surgeon, engaged for the moment in dissecting a cold-rod quail, and making it must be confessed, only an indifferent job of it, had been listening to the conversation of his table companions who were discussing the cunningness and nerve displayed by the average practitioner of surgery under such circumstances as the New York Herald. Both agreed that the poise and coolness shown by surgeons at times were extraordinary and hard to understand.

"Now, friends, if you will permit me," interrupted the surgeon at this point, "I would like to tell you that there is nothing extraordinary about it. The 'nerve,' as you call it, is the surgeon's confidence. It is not a display of coolness which has been put on for that occasion, or an exhibition of courage summoned up for an unusual emergency, but simply the normal demeanor of a practical, matter-of-fact man who knows what he has to do and how he is going to do it.

"The trouble with many people who marvel at what they call a surgeon's courage is that they fail utterly to comprehend the conditions under which he performs his work. They imagine that he is experimenting, or that he doesn't know his ground, or that he will cut something that he ought not to cut. Nothing is further from the fact. No moment in science or mechanics is preceded by more accurate knowledge of its results than the average operation in surgery. There is no such thing as guesswork about it. The operator knows he is performing an operation which is based upon an exact science. He follows rules which apply to all that class which have produced certain effects in given instances will do so in all others.

"Why, then, should there be any need in his work for extraordinary courage? There are cases, of course, so critical or so unusual as to excite even the calmest and most self-contained operator, and when these are under treatment the surgeon's confidence is frequently taxed to their utmost limit. To the man who, in such a case, can wield the knife without a tremor, when life itself depends upon the accuracy and delicacy of his touch, we must award the praise due to real heroes. But in the average case, say of amputation or of skull fracture involving cranial operations, the surgeon has the most complete confidence in his power to succeed, and more than the courage of an intelligent, sincere man, who knows his duty and has learned how to perform it. His technical knowledge of anatomy and his methodical habit of work accustom him to conditions which alarm and excite non-professional minds, and he goes about his task with a certain quiet vigor and confidence, and the result of his movements which the observer is quite likely to mistake for a marvelous courage summoned up for that particular occasion, it is courage of a certain sort. I confess—the courage of absolute confidence in the infallibility of the science he represents."

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# ALL-BEN-ALI, THE COBBLER.

How He Lost His Wife and His Faith at the Same Time.

All-Ben-All was and is a renegade. He believes in three gods, and drinks spirits of wine, corn and rye. He also believes that women have souls and that, while there are many hours in the day, it is better to pray than to put his thumb in his nose and spreads his fingers out, which is his Turkish way of expressing derision. Once upon a time he owned seven slaves, four of whom were white. Great men were his friends. Now he cobbles shoes, says Vance Thompson in the New York Advertiser.

He might have been a happy man to this day had it not been for that devil of an Alibiades. All-Ben-All was sitting on his feet, looking through the open door out on the blue waters of the Bosphorus and the low sandy shore beyond when the Greek came up. He was a low-browed Greek. He was peddling slippers with long red points which curled over like rams' horns. All was absorbed in gazing at his seven female slaves. He kicked the Greek in the back violently two or three times, but otherwise ignored his presence.

The subtle Greek departed. Under his low brow he devised this revenge. He wrote a letter to the sultan.

"We'll see about this," said the sultan. "Messour, off with Ben All's head and bring me his seven nice wives."

Messour returned in half an hour, the seven slaves, of whom four were white, trailing after him.

"Ben All is dead," he said.

Messour kicked Ben All, by bribes, had secured his escape and, disguised as a slave of tobacco, was stored away in a hole of a recessed tunnel for New York. He is in New York now to prove that this tale is no lie. He cobbles shoes. At times he drinks strong spirits. Then he curses the con-

# A Bright Lad,

Ten years of age, but who declines to give his name to the public, makes this authorized, confidential statement to us:—"When I was one year old, my mamma died of consumption. The doctor said that if I, too, would soon die, and all our neighbors thought that I did not die, I would never be able to walk, because I was so weak and thin. My father found and broke under my arm. I burst my finger and it gathered and threw out pieces of bone. If I hurt myself so as to break the skin, it was sure to become a running sore. I had to take lots of medicine, but nothing has done me so much good as Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It has made me well and strong."—T. D. M., Nottawar, Kans.

# AYER'S Sarsaparilla

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Cures others, will cure you.

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convince the skeptic and point the way which will lead to VIGOROUS HEALTH FOR MEN.

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When we receive the statement of a man who has prepared a full and complete report of his case, and who has been cured by the use of Dr. Harris' Pastille, we are so positive that it will give perfect satisfaction to every man who enters into our trials, that we are ready to make a special effort to cure every man who enters into our trials. We are so positive that it will give perfect satisfaction to every man who enters into our trials, that we are ready to make a special effort to cure every man who enters into our trials.

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