# BEAT THE COMBINATION. the bighest promitions over given by the the

### CONNODORE HOBBS TELLS NOW DE PICKED EVERY LOCK NADE.

### While in This City in 1848 He Learns Of a New Jerseyman's Offer of \$500 to the Person Opening His Safe.

to the Person Opening His safe.

then on one of Herring's safes in the Mer-chants' Exchange reading room in New York. He started for New York, found Mr. Woodbridge, and accepted the offer. The reward was to any one who would open the lock in thirty days by any instru-ment of their own, or he would let them have the use of the key for \$1 per hour, first having the movable bits taken out and mixed. There being many bits to the key, only one of about 479,000,000 changes would open the lock. A check for \$500 was placed in the safe, and Mr. Hobbs arranged with the janitor to remain at night while he worked. Mr. Woodbridge had so con-structed the lock that if any attempt was made to withdraw the bolt before the tumblers were all in proper position any made to withdraw the bolt before the tumblers were all in proper position any key or instrument which might be in the lock would be fastened there and made immovable. Mr. Hobbs began his work at 9 o'clock in the evening, and at 11 o'clock had all the tumblers in position and ready to be withdrawn. Ho then went to his hotel, and early in the morning sent word to Mr. Woodbridge to be sure and come to the Exchange at 10 o'clock, as something was the matter with the lock. Mr. Wood-bridge thought, of course, that his trap had caught the picking instrument. He sent for the directors and the officials to accompany him. When the men arrived Mr. Hobbs sat by the safe and Woodbridge accosted him with :

ccosted him with: "Hello, Hobbs, what is the matter?" "Something is the matter with the lock. "What is it?"

"What is it?" "Why it won't keep the door shut," and Hobbs threw back the bolt and opened the safe. The check was handed over, and Woodbridge had to provide a big supper, which was an expensive affair in those down

days. Mr. Hobbs had often heard of a wonderful lock in the window of the celebrated lockmaker, Bramah of London, and the lockmaker, Bramah of London, and the offer of 200 guineas to any one who should open it without the key. He left in April, 1851, on the steamship Washington for Southampton, with his box of locks to ex-hibit, and his chest of tools to test the Eu-ropean locks. At the Crystal Palace, the Duke of Wellington was much interested in the exhibition of locks by Mr. Hobbs, and finally the queen, with Prince Albert and the Prince of Wales, came to see the great American locks.

and the Prince of Wales, came to see the great American locks. Mr. Hobbs spent much time in looking at all the Bramah locks in the exhibition, and also stopped at the lockmaker's store window and figured out how he would open it when the proper time came. A Mr. Chubb challenged the American to open one of his locks, and the offer was accepted and the feat performed in thirty-five minutes.

## A RUSSIAN SOLONON.

How a Judge Ascertained the Truth in a Dispute Sefere Him. The St. Peteraburg correspondent of the

a Dispute Before Him. The St. Petersburg correspondent of the London Datily Telegraph sends the follow-ing interesting incident : "That the race of indicial Solomonos is not quite extinct in the nineteenth century, even in Russia, is evident from the following ingenious device imagined by one of them to dis-cover on which side truth and justice tay is a rather difficult case that came before bin last week. In the university town of Dorpat a promic, plodding burgher com-plained to the 'judge of the passe' that be had been defrauded by the defendant of :0 rubles (£2). 'I bought a cow from him--he is a peasant, your honor, he explained, and I first paid for the animal, and then asked him to drive it from the market place into my yard. This he agreed to do. Well, when he had the cow close by my house he refused to budge as step futher un-less I paid him 20 rubles, saying that ho han incide the money a few minutes be-ret.

I paid him the money a few minutes be-fore."
""Where are your witnesses? asked the judge. Witnesses? I have not a single witness. What are the witnesses 'for? Doesn't he know right well, the\_\_\_\_, that I paid him, the\_\_\_.' 'You must not call him names,' interposed the judge. 'Did he pay you the money? asks the judge of the defendant. 'I never asw the color of it, your homor, I didn't. Why if I had, do you think\_-' 'That will do,' exclaimed the judge: 'the plaintiff's claim, unsup-ported by witnesses or evidence of any kind, is null and void. He seems an honest fellow, though, and has evidently lost his 20 rubles. Let's make up a little subscrip-tion for him. I head the list with five rubles. Won't you give something, too?'' inquires the judge of the defendant, who had won tho suit. 'That I will,' eagerly exclaimed the triumphant suitor, 'with a whole heart. Will three rubles do? Here's the note.'''

the note.""
"The judge took the three-ruble note daintily, examined it critically, looked suspiciously at the donator, and said: 'You dare to utter false money in an im-perial court of justice? Have you any more notes of this description? This is a very serious matter, indeed. Where did you got this forged money?" The peasant turned red and white and yellow, gave a series of explanations that contradicted each other, muttered and mumbled and the note. series of explanations that contradicted each other, muttered and mumbled and floundered about from lie to lie, till at last in dispair he cried out. 'If you want to know the whole truth, here it is: This here forged note belongs to the plaintiff. He did pay me 20 rubles for the cow, the rascal, but he paid me in forged notes, and that's one of them.' It comes to what I said, that he didn't pay me at all, and it's he that must go to Siberia for uttering forged notes, not I. I am as inuccent as the babe unborn.'

The judge condemned then and there that innocent peasant to refund the 20 rubles, for the notes were really as good as the best that circulate in the empire of the czars.

### HOW MEISSONIER PAINTS.

At Work Mounted on a Stuffed Horse on Top of a Tower. From the Philadelphia Press.

A correspondent writing of Meissonier ten or twelve years ago gave the following anecdote of the painter while at work on the 1814, which was sold lately in Paris for

ten or tweive years ago gave the following aneedote of the painter while at work on the 1814, which was sold lately in Paris for 3170,000. "One canuot imagine how much pains his 1814 cost him. In a biting cold winter day the writer had gone to Poissy together with the celebrated art critic, Paul Burty. It was snowing, and there was a foot of snow on the ground. We found Meis-sonier on the turret of his chalet, seated in the war costume of Napoleon I, on a stuffed gray horse, and painting the figure of the emperor as it was rendered by a large mirror that stood at some distance from bim. He had been there hours, un-mindfal of the cold, and was perfectly happy, as he said, because he had found the sinister tonces of a Russian landscape. Paul Burty ventured to remark that as he had already finished painting the landscape he might withdraw and continue his work in the studio, without exposing himself to the same disaster that overtook the 'Great Army.' 'How could I obtain in the studio,' Meissonier quite excitedly rejoined, "the right tone and the true effect of Napoleon's gray coat in harmonious contrast with the sombre grays of the sky and the snowy carpet on the ground, and the just value of the flosh tones of the completed what is perfare. "Math on carth are you doing now?' I asked, almost bewildered. 'An old servant of the Emperor has been here,' Meissonier in his studio scraping the same figure of Napoleon, to paint which he had endured so many hours of a freezing tem-perature. 'What on earth are you doing now?' I asked, almost bewildered. 'An old servant of the Emperor has been here,' Meissonier repiled, who was with him in Russia. He had tears in his oyes, and spot of Hau finally said : 'During the found anything inexact in the canvas, the good old man finally said : 'During the remadiers. Moreover, his majesty mever found in the uniform of the Chasseurs, not that other bis overcoat were so hards.' I had painted Napoleon in the uni-form of the Grenadiers, and with the epulettes outside of his over. Were \$170,000.



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HOW THAT FOOR BOY SUFFERED

MY DRUGGIST RECOMMENDED IT.

have effect. The sores com

Dewelers.

Watches and Jewelry.

### **Remarkable Cure of Scrofulous** Humor-Read It.

Nr. Ruby, who makes the following state-ment, is a well known railroad man, run-ning on the Pennagrivania Railroad between Columbia, Penn., and Philadelphia: "I feel that I wish to tell what has been done for us and our little boy by Hood's Bar-saparilla. He is now siz years of age, and, until a short time ago, has ever since birth been a terrible sufferer from scroubled formed. When he had taken two bottles he was entirely free from sorres, having only the sears to abow where they had been. These are gradually disappearing. The little fellow was pread until they were as large as a dollar, and then discharge, only to be followed by others, so that the larger part of his body was one mass of sorres all the time. The scrotula was especially severe on his legs and back of his cars and on his head. His hai was so matted that combing was sometimes impossible. His ears became so thin that we could see through them, and were actually

was so matted that combing was sometimes impossible. His ears became so thin that we could see through them, and were actually AFRAID TREET WOULD DROP OFF. His legs were so bad that sometimes he could not sit down, and it was impossible for him to run about and play like other children. Fre-quently when he tried to walk, his leg would crack open and the blood start from different places. The humor had a very offensive odor, aud caused intense tiching, so that at night we had to the his isnds in mittens or stockings to prevent his scratching and tearing himself. We cannot tell would seem to be the positive duty of an who suffer from any disease or affection caused by impure blood, to at least give Hood's Sarsa-parilla a fair trial. It's many wonderful cures have won for it the title of "the greatest blood purifies ever discovered."

for nearly five years, nor how his terrible con-dition distressed us. We did all we could to relieve him. Twoor three physicians agreed in calling it scrofulous humor, but did not effect

a cure. We tried salves and ointments and other things but without benefit. At last I decided to give him Hood's Sarsaparilla, as

In about two weeks the Sarsaparilla began to

Every Confidence.

The following is from Mr. John Hines, manufacturer of enameled dies, who has carried on business in Philadelphia since Oct. 6, 1866, and whose testimonial in favor of Hood's Samaparilla is certainly worthy of constituention. "One year ago I was laid up sick with proumonia for 14 weeks. When I got over that, my feet and legs swelled, were very much inflamed, and caused me much suffer-ing. The doctor said I had gout, which I did

FROM PHILADELPHIA.

Pretty Good for a Man of 56.

ing. The doctor said I had gout, which I did not believe. I tried a number of cures, of no avail. Then some one asked me to try Hood's Sarsaparilla. I did so. I took it three times a day, before meals. Before I had taken one bottles, which cured me and made me feel well otherwise. I have had no return of the affection. Can walk ten miles every day, which is pretty good for a man B years old. I feel grateful for the good Hood's Garsapa-rilla has done me, and have used my influence with a number of people to try it, and so far with salisfactory results." JOHN HINES, 60 North 30th Street, Philadelphia, Fenn.

- Cancerows Sere.

-Cancerous Sore. "About 7 years ago I had a cancerous sore on my nose, which grow to be very trouble-some and offensive. I concluded to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, and after using two bothles the sors disappeared and healed up entirely. It has been cured for two years with no ap-pearance of its returning. I am now in my eightleth year and enjoying good health. I feel it my duty to recommend Hood's Barsapa-rilla to all persons suffering from similar troubles. Be sure to get Hood's." Jostan HAWXX, Delmont, Westmoreland Co., Penn.

Confirmatory Statement.

"The above certificate is from Josiah Harvey, insurance agent, a gentleman well known throughout Westmoreland county. His statement in regard to the sore and cure

and a superstant of the supers



Take Hood's Sarsaparilla Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only | Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only | Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only | by C. 1. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass. | by C. 1. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.



Dry Goobs.



is the largest shown in the city. Ginghams at 6%c, 8c, 10c, 12%c. Chambrays, 12%c, 16c, 18c, 20c and 25c. All warranted fast colors.

BARGAINS IN PEARL BUTTONS AND RIBBONS.



Shore.

Millinery.

BONTON Oxfords and SI **MILLINERY STORE,** No. 13 East King St., The Largest Assortment of Ladie Children's and Infants' Oxfords and this city. This statement, to some pre-seem to be an idle boast, but to our tomers who have been buying the and Bilppers here for the past in know how trainful it is, as then Largest Stock and Assortment in the this search we have added is granted LANCASTER, PA. mr77-SmdB&F Befrigerators.

Having disposed of the Chubb lock, Mr. Hobbs went into the shop where the Bramah lock was on exhibition and asked Bramah lock was on exhibition and asked the attendant if that was a real lock. The man asked the stranger if he was a lock-smith, to which a negative reply was given. Placing the lock in Mr. Hobbs' hands, the attendant turned to wait on a customer. Mr. Hobbs at once began to feel with his penknife the points of the interior of the lock, when the shopkeeper became annoyed and took the lock. One of the proprietors was called, and attention was called to the challenge, which read: "The artist that will produce an instrument that will pick this lock shall receive 200 guineas reward the instant it is produced." Mr. Hobbs then said that it was generally understood that the offer was to any one who would pick the lock without injuring it, regardless of how it was done, and that if they would not submit it to a test they must take it known to the public as a fraud. Atrangeknown to the whitew of he would make i known to the public as a fraud. A rrange ments were then made for a trial and arbi-trators were chosen. On July 24 Mr. Hobbs began his operation, and on August 23 he exhibited the lock, opened, before the judges. The number of days be was actu-ally at work was sixteen. The key was tried, and the lock was locked and un-locked as before, showing that Mr. Hobbs had done his work without injuring the machanism and the 70 gaineas was waited mechanism, and the 200 guineas' was paid

Mr. Hobbs had been in London but a where time when he received a letter from William Brown of Liverpool, the head of the banking house of Brown. Shipley & Co., requesting him to call at the St. James hotel. There Mr. Hobbs found that Mr. Brown was the inventor of the lock then in use on the bank of the commany. This Brown was the inventor of the lock then in use on the bank of the company. This lock, he thought, was very secure, and he explained that it had many thousand com-binations and only one way to open it. Mr. Hobbs said he thought it could be easily opened, whereupon Mr. Brown again pointed out the impossibility of pick-ing it. Mr. Hobbs said he would look at the lock some time. Five months later Mr. Hobbs received a copy of the proceedings of the Archaeological society of Liverpool, which contained a paper on locks, by William Brown, M. P., in which the same lock was described, and it wound up as

"During the time of the exhibition in London I saw Mr. Hobbs, and described this lock to him. At first he seemed to think he could open it, but after a more thorough explanation was made to him, so that he more fully understood the lock, I again asked him, and his auswer was so evasive that I concluded he could not open it, and I am having another made like it to put on a new safe now being made for our bank."

Mr. Hobbs went to Liverpool and was met cordially by Brown. He said the new safe was just coming in, but the old lock would do as well, if Mr. Hobbs would like to test it, as it was an exact duplicate of the one making for the new safe. Call-ing in his cashier, Brown directed him to lock the safe. Mr. Hobbs then begun to explain what he should do if he should at-tempt to pick the lock. There was no key, but a Tweeneh was not in a hole to throw but a T wrench was put in a hole to throw the bolts when the pointers on the dial were in their proper position. Mr. Hobbs said "You do not think anything of that

wrench, do you?" "No," he said, "we put that on top of

the safe at night." Mr. Hobbs then said: If I wanted to open the safe I should take the wrench and put it in so that I could feel the bolts while

Just then the cashier called Mr. Brown away. He asked to be excused, and turned to go away, but before he reached the door the bolts went back and the safe door came open. Mr. Hobbs called to Mr. Brown saving:

Brown saying: "Don't leave me here with this safe open." When asked how it was opened the great lock expert said: "I don't know. I

great lock expert said: "I don't know. I was turning the pointers and it came open; perhaps it was not properly locked." The cashier locked it again, and to show how easily it could be opened Mr. Hobbs turned his back to the door, and without looking at the lock opened it in less than ten minutes.

ten minutes. Mr. Hobbs was awarded the Telford medal by the Institution of Civil Engineers,

of the truth explain the artistic value of Meissonier's works." Meissonier is said to have contracted a severe complaint, while at work on his picture, in making his studies from horses which were led to and fro for hours through depths of snow and mud. His reward was the drawing of a walking group with more truth of action and movement than can perhaps be found in any other picture ever painted, and almost rivaling the realism of instantaneous photography.

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