

Virginia has many characteristics of dialect, most of them as fascinating as they are peculiar. The trouble they made for two Northerners is humorously told in the latest of Julian Street's delightful American Adventures, "Richmond and Other Places" in this week's

Collier's
THE NATIONAL WEEKLY

OPERATION CURES CHILD IMBECILE

Robert Horner, 9, of Gloucester, N. J., Relieved of Brain Pressure

SUFFERED FOUR YEARS

Famous Specialist With Knife Made Healthy Boy of Seemingly Helpless Case

The wondrous power of the surgeon's knife in the hands of a skillful man has again been proven. It has accomplished the impossible, and has transformed little Robert Horner, nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Horner, 24 South Buey street, Gloucester, N. J., from a state bordering on imbecility to a normal boy in less than two months.

For four years Robert had been subject to epileptic fits, sometimes twenty-two of them in a single day, which had almost made him a hopeless degenerate, according to his Gloucester physician, Dr. R. T. Fox. The fits, it was found, were brought on by pressure of the child's brain, caused by an injury of the skull when Robert, a boy of five, fell from the front steps and dashed his head on the pavement. The fits started immediately afterward.

During the Clinical Congress of Surgeons of North America in this city a famous Philadelphia surgeon, who requested that his name be withheld, removed part of little Robert's skull at the Lahnemann Hospital to relieve the pressure. Today the boy is well, and the fits have ceased. He has had a few spells since the operation which took place October 26, according to his mother, who says the boy is now almost as healthy as the other children of his age. He can get him out of them by saying a few quiet words to him, and that no stranger would know that anything was wrong at all.

"It is surely wonderful, and we can hardly believe it is true," said the glad mother today, as she stood with her hand caressingly on the shoulder of sturdy little Robert. "He has not had any serious spells since the operation. And he was so brave about it, too. He went into the operating room just like a little man, didn't seem a bit afraid. I promised that if he would go and have the operation I would give him an Irish Mail. He had not been from the ether long either when he said, 'Where is the Irish Mail?'"

Robert's mother knew that in the condition he was in, before the operation, an Irish Mail would be dangerous for him to play with. He has the little wagon now, and incidentally has "the time of his young life with it, too." It is in the dining room of the Horner home, and nothing Santa Claus can bring this year will make little Robert any happier than that Irish Mail of when he was able to use it after the operation.

A great horseshoe shaped scar is slightly visible in the left side of the boy's head where the great brain specialist cut part of the skull away, to relieve the pressure. The hair is growing over the scar so that in a few weeks or months there will be no noticeable sign of the delicate operation which is giving to the country a useful child instead of a helpless man with no mentality.

Dr. R. T. Fox, the boy's physician in Gloucester, calls the operation marvelous. He feels happy over the achievements of the Philadelphia surgeon, for it was Doctor Fox who first advised a visit to Philadelphia, and he says he would have felt a little responsible had there been any bad results instead of good ones.

"It was a very successful operation," said Doctor Fox. "The results are wonderful. The boy is almost normal now, and I think he will be able to go to school in the fall. The fits were beginning to tell on the boy, and his mental expression was becoming that of an imbecile. But now he is like a different boy. His expression is changed in less than two months, and now he has no real spells. He used to have as many as twenty-two a day. Now he is like another boy."

ON TRIAL FOR MURDER OF BEAUTIFUL WIFE

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The question of Small's guilt may hinge upon evidence showing whether his wife ate two or three meals on the day of the murder. If she ate three, Small stands a good chance of acquittal. If only two, the accused man will have a hard fight to prove his innocence, despite an apparent confession.

On a joint life insurance policy, by which Small came into \$20,000 through his wife's death, the State will rest most of its weight. Small, when captured in a Boston hotel after the crime, attempted to destroy the papers which furnish damaging circumstantial evidence against him.

On the 29th of September the small cottage, on the shore of Lake Ossipee, was destroyed by fire. Villagers who gathered to witness the spectacle were horrified when the embers cooled, the body of Mrs. Small, one of the most beautiful women in the community, was found in the ruins. Investigation showed that she had been strangled and shot through the head; that the fire had been set by a time bomb. Small left his home shortly after lunch the day of the crime. If the murdered woman's statement, which was examined at Mountainview College, showed that she ate three meals, a perfect alibi, for it will show that she was murdered after he left.



ROBERT HORNER

Gloucester, N. J., boy, who was operated on at the recent congress of surgeons in this city and has made an almost miraculous recovery.

TWO HELD FOR MURDER OF GUARD AT DU PONT'S

Foreigners Accused in Death of Joseph H. Westcott at Carneys Point

WILMINGTON, Dec. 26.—New Jersey officials and the detectives of the du Pont Powder Company are endeavoring to unravel the mystery surrounding the death of Joseph H. Westcott, the du Pont guard who was found murdered at Bevis tract near Carneys Point.

Two foreigners are under arrest, and the police are looking for several other men whom they believe were implicated. When the body of Westcott was found there were not only two bullet holes in it, but there was also a heavy stick of wood penetrating his skull and this would have been sufficient to cause death.

Leading from the place where the body was found to the hut of the foreigners were horse and wagon tracks. The horse's shoes were peculiar and similar ones were found on a horse in possession of the foreigners. The authorities are of the opinion that the guard was murdered and the body taken to the place where it was found.

In the home of the suspects were found bundles of bloody clothing, but the men declared that they had been killing chickens and this was chicken blood. The stains will be tested to find if they are human blood.

What puzzles the authorities most is the absence of a motive. Westcott came from Mappaburg, Va., but previous to that time had been living in Accomac in the same State. He was popular with the guards and others about the plant and so far as known had no enemies.

Americans Remember Berlin Children

BERLIN, Dec. 26.—The American Chamber of Commerce in Berlin, says the Overseas Agency, gave Christmas presents to 1000 children of Berlin. The American Ambassador, James W. Gerard, and General von Kessel, commander in Berlin, were present.

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FIVE DEAD, SCORE HURT IN HOLIDAY CASUALTIES

Boy, Trying Out New Sled, Killed in Crash Against Railway Bridge

SAILOR DIES FROM GAS

Man Falls Dead After Delivery of Christmas Gift—Another, Lonely, Commits Suicide

Christmas brought a heavy toll in tragedy and sorrow in Philadelphia. Five persons were killed and more than a score injured, many of them seriously, in many accidents in different sections of the city. There was one suicide recorded.

A seven-year-old boy lost his life while trying out a new sled given him for Christmas, and a man fell dead while in the act of delivering a present. The man who committed suicide became despondent after finding a Christmas tree, it is said, and inhaled gas. He was William Ashcraft, sixty years old, of 1622 North Tenth street. The body was found beneath a small tree with which he had decorated his room.

The boy was Bernard Muldoon, of 24 Union road, Ashbourne. He was riding on his new sled when it crashed into a railway bridge; his skull was fractured.

Frank Albertson, twenty-eight years old, of 3447 Market street, fell unconscious while delivering a present at 2418 Waldron street. He died at the Presbyterian Hospital from acute indigestion.

WOMAN FALLS DEAD
Collapsing after a few hours' illness, Mrs. Mary Miller, fifty-five years old, of 547 Leaningstone avenue, Roxborough, fell dead in the parlor of her home.

J. Clements, twenty-five years old, a sailor on the battleship Montana, was accidentally asphyxiated while in a hotel at 29 North Tenth street. His companion, A. Matting, also a sailor, was found unconscious from gas, but was revived at the Lahnemann Hospital.

Many accidents were reported in different sections of the city. Two-year-old Ralph Dawson, of 2131 East Clearfield street, was seriously burned when his dress caught fire while playing about a Christmas tree. The child is in the Frankford Hospital.

A woman and a man were injured when an automobile in which they were riding was struck by a Willow Grove car at Ogontz and Haines streets. They were Mrs. Charles Kolb, of 4231 Germantown avenue, and J. Hartling, of 6025 Park avenue. Both were taken to the Jewish Hospital suffering from cuts and bruises.

HURT IN TROLLEY CRASH.
Two women were injured when two trolley cars collided at Eleventh street and Girard avenue. They were Mrs. Della Dougherty, forty-eight years old, of 25 Congrove street, and Clara Chambers, negro, of 1821 Parrish street. They were taken to St. Joseph's Hospital.

While riding a bicycle at Broad street and Snyder avenue, twelve-year-old Edward Livingston, 1323 South Sixteenth street, was knocked down by an automobile. He suffered severe bruises about the body and was taken to St. Agnes' Hospital.

Nicholas Nicholas, thirty-seven years old, of 654 North Market street, was hit by an elevated train at Portieth and Market streets. He was taken to the Presbyterian Hospital and will recover.

King James, who said he came here a few days ago from North Carolina, was found unconscious at Fisher's lane and Aylmer pike. He was almost frozen to death. He said he had been hit by a street car.

A man, believed to be Samuel Miller, of 610 West Rittenhouse street, was found unconscious at Chelton avenue and Greene street early today. He was sent to the Germantown Hospital.

Car Knocks Bread Out of Wagon.
Residents in the neighborhood of Allegheny and Aramingo avenues were treated to a bread and roll shower today when the baker wagon of Samuel Comer, 521 North Second street, was struck and wrecked by a trolley car. The horse was knocked out of the shafts. Comer was thrown out and taken to the Episcopal Hospital suffering with painful injuries, including cuts on leg and head. Persons in the car escaped injury.

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NOAH SHEPARD

Mr. Shepard, who formerly was a resident of Philadelphia, is backed by virtually all the interests of San Juan for Treasurer of Porto Rico. President Wilson is to make the appointment of a Treasurer soon.

NEW YEAR'S BENEFIT FOR GERMAN RED CROSS

Captain Louis H. Schmidt Is Arranging Mammoth Vaudeville Entertainment

A notable array of stars will participate in a mammoth vaudeville entertainment at the Metropolitan Opera House on New Year's afternoon and night for the benefit of the German Red Cross work. The undertaking was planned by Captain Louis H. Schmidt.

Among the forthright celebrities who will appear on the bill are Louis Mann and company, introducing his latest success, "Koma Warriors," a one-act satire; Henry E. Dixey, in his vaudeville-dramo-monologue; Marie Nordstrom, the popular comedienne, in "Bits of Acting"; Vivienne Segal, of "The Blue Paradise" company; Sigmund Romberg, the famous Viennese composer, in a unique pianologue; Barbara Schaffer, the German prima donna, in a repertoire of Teutonic vocal classics, and others.

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PORTO RICO TREASURER MAY BE PHILADELPHIAN

Two Parties Want President to Favor Noah Shepard, Spanish War Veteran

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Dec. 26.—Aided by endorsements of both Unionist and Republican parties of Porto Rico, friends here are endeavoring to secure the appointment of Noah Shepard, formerly of Brooklyn, as Treasurer of Porto Rico. Action by President Wilson on the Porto Rican treasurership is expected in the near future.

Mr. Shepard has the backing of the leading commercial interests of the island, and has been endorsed for this presidential appointment by the Chamber of Commerce of San Juan and the Insular Chamber of Commerce of Porto Rico, as well as leading native banks.

His appointment is favored by Prof. S. D. Grouser, formerly treasurer of Porto Rico, now professor of economics at the University of Missouri.

Mr. Shepard was born in Brooklyn forty years ago, but long lived in Philadelphia. He served in the Forty-seventh New York Volunteer Infantry in the Spanish-American War, and is vice commander of a camp of veterans and president of the "American Flowers of '98," a Porto Rican organization.

He is a statistician, political economist and of some note as a student of government.

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