FRIDAY EVENING.

"The Live "ore"

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"Alnays Reliable"

WATER AS A SCIENTIFIC GENIE The Surprising Principle of the Hydrostatic Paradox, and the Great Power That It Enables Man to Concentrate, Though It Creates No New Force.

correspondent in Boston confides his puzzlement over the fact that water at rest presses upward as well as sideways and downwards. Well, the truth is that behind that fact stands one of nature's greatest paradexes, which has made many a thoughtful person rub his eyes on first getting a glimpse of it. I was myself a small boy in a country school, but already a devoted subject of Caliph Haroun-al-Raschid's magic kingdom, when I made the acquaintance of the great and wonlerful genie named the Hydrostatic Paradox.

It is mingled in my memory with Summer morning fragmance and the songs of bobolinks coming in through open windows from fields of newcut hay. The genie made his first appearance to my eyes in the pictured pages of "Parker's Primer of Natural Philosophy." That, I think, was the name; at any rate, I can still see the cover on the book, which was a rich, deep yellow that looked as good to eat as a pumpkin pic. And the book had a delicious smell of its own, too; all new school books bad in those days.

had in those days. The Hydrostatic Paradox genie took me quite off my feet. I not only thought him as wonderful as vere the all-powerful friends that Aladdin summoned out of nowhere, out he even seemed to me to make those Arabian Nights stories almost probable. If science had found him, and was ready to vouch for him. then it did not appear so impossible that there might really be, some-where, mechanical horses, all ready capraisoned, which, upon the turning of a peg in their necks, would fly up into the sky and convey the rider in a single night from China to the centre of Africa. So, for me, philosophy seemed to back up rom

The first amazing thing that this genie of science had in store was his ability to magnify power-so i seemed-without limit. I found out that if I should take a tube an inch across, pour it full of water, and connect it with a tank of water ten eet wide, I would be able, by pressing down upon the water in the tube, with a force of only one pound, to lift an elephant weighing more than seven tons, if I could only manage to make him stand on a platform covering the water of the tank. course, I did not actually try the experiment, not having either the tube, the tank, or the elephant handy, but I believed the word of science that it could be done. I also ignored the detail, which seemed too uninteresting to pause upon in the presence of such a wonder that I should have o push the water in my tube down 1,200 feet in order to lift the elephant

This unattractive detail, however, contained the whole key to the wonder, as we shall see.

Among the marvels that the great Paradox presented to my dazzled mind were pictures of one small boy gleefully pushing a piston and thereby lifting a mountain, and of the same phenomenal youngster mischievously setting to work to split the great earth asunder by running his magic tube down to a spherical ank of water in the center of the globe. I did not, then, stop to consider the various "ifs" and "buts" mvolved, the great fundamental principle, with its glorious possibilicies of illimitable power, being too good a thing to spoil by mortifying jualifications. What boy would miss the fun of bursting the earth, after it had been promised, for a "takeback" like that?

it had been promised, for a "takeback" like that? But later my heated imagination sobered down as the real facts began to make themselves too evilent to be ignored. I percieved that this hydraulic genie could no more manufacture power out of nothing than I could. The water simply acted

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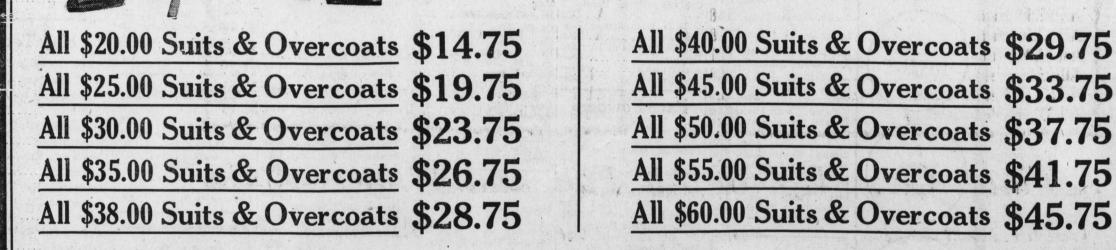
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