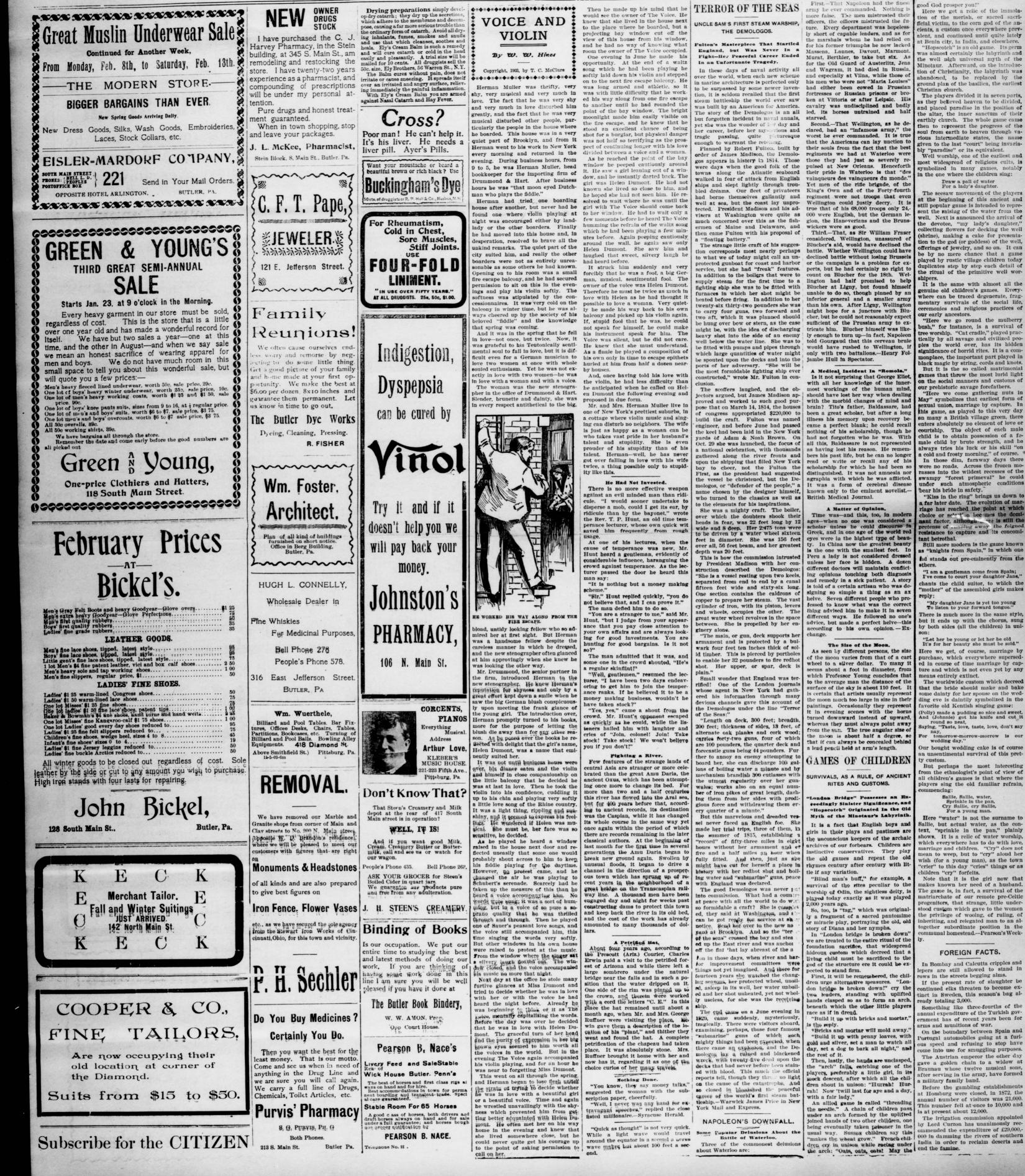
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Draw a pail of water For a lady's daughter

at the beginning of this ancient and still popular game is intended to repre-sent the raising of the water from the well. Next is announced the arrival of the devotee, "my lady's daughter," collecting flowers for decking the well (shrine), making a cake for presenta tion to the god (or goddess) of the well offerings of jewelry, and so on. It can be by no mere chance that a game played by rustic village children today duplicates step by step each detail of the ritual of the primitive well wor

It is the same with almost all the genuine old children's games. Everywhere can be traced degenerate, frag mentary survivals of the social life ies and religious practices of

bush," for instance, is a survival of tree worship. "Cat cradle," played practically by all savage and civilized peo-ples the world over, has its hidden significance of horrid rites. It is a com monplace, the important part played in black magic by string, cords and knots. But it is the so called matrim games that throw the most lurid light on the social manners and customs of

our prehistoric savage forefathers. "Here we come gathering nuts i May" symbolizes that earliest form of sexual union, marriage by capture. In this game, as played to this very day on many a British village green, there enters absolutely no element of love or courtship. The object of each male child is to obtain possession of a fe-male child by brute strength, and he always tries his luck or his skill "on a cold and frosty morning," of course. In those dim, faraway days there were no roads. Across the frozen mo-rasses into the wildest recesses of the swampy "forest primeval" he could under such atmospheric conditions pheric conditions

"Kiss in the ring" brings us down to Ariss in the ring brings us down to a far later date. The evolution of mar-riage has reached the point at which choice or set to be mes the domi-nant factor, although away the folgaed istance to capture and its con

Still more modern is the game known as "knights from Spain," in which one hd stands out pre-eminently from the

"I am a gentleman come from Spain; I've come to court your daughter Jane,