

**BLIND TOM'S MOTHER.**

Her Name Is Charity Wiggins and She Is 85 Years Old.

Convinced That Her Talented Son Has Been Prejudiced Against Her by Persons Who Want to Control His Money.

It is not usually known that Blind Tom's mother is alive, writes Annie Rittenhouse in the Philadelphia Press. Her name is Charity Wiggins. She lives in Columbus, Ga., with one of her daughters.

Aunt Charity is 85 years old, and is one of the colored people who belong to the old southern regime. She is courteous, intelligent, deferential and wins the respect of her own race and the white race.

She is looked upon in the light of an oracle by the colored people in Columbus, for she has traveled far and wide with her son, the famous Blind Tom, musician.

Aunt Charity never gets tired of telling of her son Tom. If the northern visitor who frequents the Georgia resorts will go out to the suburbs where she lives Aunt Charity will receive the guest with courtesy and good will and sit and talk to her about her son, the genius of the age.

But Aunt Charity has a grievance, and she will tell you that as soon as she tells you anything about Tom. She says he is not writing to her as often as he should. Aunt Charity believes that the people he is living with at Highlands, N. J., have prejudiced him against her and that is the reason she rarely hears from him.

She probably has a good deal in her favor in this prejudice, for there is something very queer about Blind Tom's being kept so closely and guarded so secretly in that queer old hermitage on the coast of New Jersey.

The natives in that place say that it is as much as a man's life is worth to talk to Blind Tom; that he is guarded like a prisoner. If poor old Aunt Charity knew all about her son that the natives are saying, the old soul would be sorer than she is now. It certainly



AUNT CHARITY WIGGINS. (Better Known as the Mother of the Famous Blind Tom.)

is true that somebody has Blind Tom's money, and his mother has not a bit of it.

She traveled for nine years with Blind Tom, and that traveling was as near Heaven as she will ever get this side of the real Heaven. The other Heaven which she enjoys in this life is the exceeding astonishment she creates in her own race by talking to them for hours in the dusky southern twilight of the wonderful things she saw and the things she heard during these great nine years when she was north. However, old Aunt Charity always winds up with a shake of the head and says: "But I am mighty glad to be back in Georgia!"

Aunt Charity says the reason she has for believing that Blind Tom was prejudiced against her was the same reason that made her leave New York. She was there four years ago, and Tom came to her and said: "Mother, you must go home." "Tom, what put that into your head?" Then he put out his hands as if he would shove her away. He said: "If you don't go we will make you go," and he intimated that the people had told him to say this.

The people were evidently those shrewd ones who knew that if Tom's family had Tom's money there would not be much left for them. Aunt Charity gives it out as a fact that Tom is only 40 years old, whereas the world has always considered him to be a decrepit old man because he has gone out of his sight.

Aunt Charity is not only a character in Georgia as the mother of Blind Tom, but she is the mother of 20 other children. When you ask her the names of her children it is impossible for her to recollect all of them.

Nothing is more pleasant to the visitor to Columbus than to find Aunt Charity and to go out and talk to her about Tom's being imprisoned away from her and hear the stories of his great power.

She is as perfectly sure as she is of Heaven that he is the only great genius that America has produced. With a great deal of interest she tells you of the first day when the little Blind Tom crept to the master's piano and played a tune.

The Atlanta Constitution recently published this excellent picture of old Aunt Charity, which is here reproduced. As this picture shows, she is in perfect health, is as fine as ever mentally, and expects to live to be more than 100, and has only one trouble—Blind Tom's behavior to her.

Very Old Chinese Coins. There are in circulation in China at the present time coins bearing the names of emperors who died 2,000 years ago.

Oldest of British Families. The oldest family in the British Islands is that of Mar in Scotland, which was from 1093.

**LIVE STOCK**

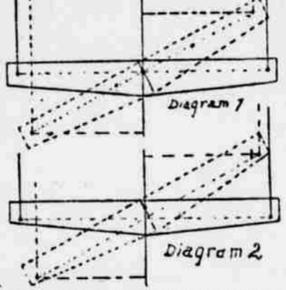
**A QUESTION SOLVED.**

The Doubletree Problem Explained by a Man Who Had Made It a Study.

Under the heading "A Question to Be Solved," a writer asks: When two horses are pulling a load hitched on to doubletree, as usually, with the bolt in the very center and the doubletree can move freely forth and back, and one horse keeps his end a foot ahead, which horse pulls the most—the one ahead or behind?

I answer the one behind when pulling on a doubletree the way they are usually made; but when the tree holes are bored in a "perfect line" there can be no difference.

As an explanation I submit diagrams



**DOUBLETREE PROBLEM EXPLAINED**

which I think will solve the question to any intelligent mind. In both diagrams the solid lines show the position of the doubletree when the horses are working even, and both are the same distance from the wagon tongue, as center line of draught.

Diagram 1 shows a doubletree with holes bored on a straight line, and the dotted lines show the off horse to be ahead, and yet brings each horse the same distance from the center line of draught, and therefore neither horse has the advantage.

Diagram 2 shows a doubletree with holes bored out of line, "as they are usually made," and the dotted lines show the off horse to be ahead also, and farther from the center line of draught than the high horse, and therefore gives the horse that is ahead the advantage.

My reason for saying that the horse behind pulls the most is simply that the holes in the doubletree are bored out of line, and anyone doubting this can easily demonstrate it by placing one end of the doubletree ahead, and measure from the clevis pin to the center line of draught.

In making a doubletree, bore the holes in a straight line and have less balky horses.—Farm, Field and Fire-side.

**The Hog and Its Nose.**

The nose of the hog is an index of the hog's nature and condition. Its shape and texture show that it is designed for nuzzling, for rooting and for overturning things, and this is "the nature of the brute" to perfection, says an exchange. The condition of the animal is in many ways shown in the nose. In the healthy hog the nose is moist, cool and pink in color. To the touch it is elastic. In disease it changes in appearance, becoming pallid or purplish, dry, hot and rigid, or else flabby. Many an experienced breeder can tell at a glance the general condition of a hog from the condition of its nose. When your swine grow listless, and do less nuzzling than usual, and seem to be dozing or sleeping more than usual, inspect their noses, and you are likely to find in them the indications of fever and other troubles.

**Notes on Sheep Management.**

1. Scabby sheep should never be driven upon a public road. 2. Sheds in which scabby sheep have been kept should be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and aired, and should be kept unused for at least four weeks (better two months) before clean sheep are placed in them. 3. Fields in which scabby sheep have been kept should stand vacant at least four weeks (better six or eight) before being used for clean sheep. 4. A drenching rain will frequently serve to disinfect a pasture, but it is well to whitewash the posts against which scabby sheep have rubbed. Even after observing the precautions here given it is not possible to absolutely guarantee that there will be no reinfection, but the probabilities are against it.—Western Plowman.

**Early Maturing Hogs.**

Young pork is always best, as well as the most easily produced. Unless the animal is wanted as a breeder it is not usually kept until a year old. The breeds that mature early will make more pork at less cost at six to eight months old than will those that keep on growing two or three years and attain very heavy weights. But it is still better to keep the breeding sow of some of the coarse, large-boned hogs and then grow litters of pigs from her when mated with some of the small breeds that mature earliest. The half-breeds will make more pork than will the thoroughbreds.

**Dorset Sheep Are Fighters.**

As most people know, a cow or two pastured with sheep will protect the sheep from dogs. But with dairying, as practiced nowadays, it is not every one who can spare a cow to serve as shepherd. A Maryland breeder says the Dorset sheep need neither cows nor shepherds, being abundantly able to fight their own battles. One of the ewes, he says, left the flock to attack a wolf hound, and "made him forget which way he intended to go."

**The Millinburg Steam Laundry . . .**

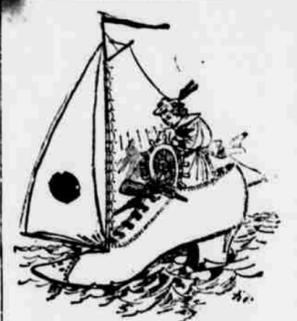
Is fitted out with the latest and very best machinery. The pure mountain water from the new borough plant is now in use. If you were pleased with the work, better give the Laundry a trial now, and note how clean and white your shirts and collars have become.

**All Work Guaranteed To be First-Class.**

Will call for laundry and deliver at your door without any extra charges. Give us a trial.

Wesley Kleckner, Proprietor.

G. A. Gutelius, Agt., Middleburgh, Pa.



**A SUMMER SAIL**

in ladies' shoes is a pleasant voyage afoot. For the pleasure it gives, there's no sail like our sale. Crowds are enjoying it, and securing the prettiest, coolest and best fitting Summer shoes now manufactured, at prices which buyers find it a pleasure to pay. For house or street wear, pleasure or every-day practical purposes, walking, riding, or driving, we supply the ideal shoes demanded by fashion and the dictates of individual taste. Ladies, whoever claims your hands, by all means surrender your feet to these shoes.

**G. H. GIBSON, SUNDRY**

**Notice in Partition.**

In the estate of William Hollenbach, late of Perry Township, Snyder Co., Pa., deceased. To Hannah Hollenbach, widow of William Hollenbach, and to the following named parties: Mary Spiller, (deceased), Elizabeth Spiller, (deceased), John Spiller, (deceased), Perry Co., Pa.; Lydia Becker (nee Hollenbach) (deceased), married with William (deceased) of Chambersburg, Snyder Co., Pa.; and Samuel Hollenbach, (deceased), married with James Spiller, Perry Co., Pa.; William Portzelle, (deceased), married with Elizabeth Spiller, Perry Co., Pa.; Martha Spiller (nee Portzelle) (deceased), married with Wesley Spiller, Perry Co., Pa.; Susan Spiller, (deceased), married with Philip Spiller, Perry Co., Pa.; and William Portzelle, (deceased), married with Elizabeth Spiller, Perry Co., Pa. The above named parties are the heirs at law of the said William Hollenbach, and are entitled to a share of the real estate of said deceased, and where you may attend if you think proper. Jan. 1, 1896. P. S. REEFER, Sheriff.

**A. R. Pottieger, VETERINARY SURGEON.**

SCILSINGROVE, PA. All professional business entrusted to my care will receive prompt and careful attention.

**CAUTION NOTICE.**

Notice is hereby given that we have purchased from Wm. E. Howell, the following named articles which the said Howell pretended at a considerable sale: 1. A horse, prop. w. g. 4. sets of gears, buggy and log wagon. We have left the above property in the hands of W. E. Howell and all persons are cautioned not to reside with the same. ST. LINGER BROS., Middleburgh, Pa., Jan. 14, 1896.

**Shadow and Light**



Blend most softly and play most effectively over a festive scene when thrown by waxen candles. The light that heightens beauty's charm, that gives the finished touch to the drawing room or dining room, is the mellow glow of

**BANQUET WAX CANDLES**

Sold in all colors and shades to harmonize with any interior hanging or decorations. Manufactured by STANDARD OIL CO. For sale everywhere.

**NOBLE ORGAN GRINDER.**

Will Probably Secure the Estate of Earl Poulett.

**THERE ARE TWO CLAIMANTS.**

The Eldest Son of the Earl, Who Has Just Died, Was Discarded by His Father Through No Fault of His Own—An Interesting Life Story.

London, Jan. 24.—William Henry, Earl Poulett, died in this city on Sunday in his 72d year. It is probable that the succession to the title and estates will be disputed.

The deceased earl was thrice married. According to gossip, he made a wager, when a harum scarum youth and traveling about, that he would marry the first woman he met on landing in England.

Accordingly, at Port Sea, in 1849, he married Miss Elizabeth Virginia Newman, daughter of a Landport millionaire. Within a few months she gave birth to a son, whose paternity her husband denied. The couple from that time lived apart, the wife dying in August, 1871. The child, who now calls himself Viscount Hinton, and claims the succession, has long been living in the streets of London as an organ grinder, and his pretensions were always generally repudiated by the deceased earl.

About six weeks after the death of his first wife Lord Poulett married Sophia Johnson, who died in 1875, and out issue living. In 1878 he married Miss Rosa De Melville, daughter of a general recognized as a "millionaire."

The long standing quarrel between the late Earl Poulett and his only surviving viscount has been the material for many a London scandal. Only a month ago the claimant to the succession issued an appeal to the public to take a philanthropic interest in the condition of the poor, among whom he has lived and earned his living. He prefaced it with a brief biographical statement, which is interesting just now, as likely to form the basis of important litigation between him and the son of the late earl by his third wife. In the course of the appeal "the noble organ grinder," as he is known in London, said:

"I am Viscount Hinton, William Turnour Thomas Poulett, eldest son of Earl Poulett, of Hinton St. George, Somerset; hence my title. On the death of the present earl, against whom I hold no enmity whatever, I expect to inherit Hinton St. George, still a magnificent domain of 20,000 acres. The estate is worth £12,000 per annum, which I shall some time enjoy."

"Through certain affairs, which must be nameless, my parents lived apart, my mother enjoying a good income, which died with her. The earl shortly afterward took another wife, who lived for some time. After she left this world he took unto himself another. Certain affairs took place and I was thrown on my own resources. "Friends took care of me and kept me going for a time. I was advised by an old friend to try to win a living in the streets. An organ was procured for me, to which I am compelled to stick, not being able to turn my hand to anything else. The work is very hard, especially during the winter months. Some people think and say it is an idle life. Let them try it. I am earning an honest living with my piano organ."

"I am also learning a phase of life among the London populace which I believe few members of the nobility have had a chance to know. When I take my seat in the house of lords I think I shall come equipped with a better understanding of its duties toward the public than had I squandered a patrimony or idly wasted in inheritance. As one of the thousand or more organ grinders in London, I should say that the proper housing of the poor was more important just now than the multiplication of warships or the adoption of new races of men."

The late Earl Poulett conscientiously involved himself in debt, sold every family possession he could sell and mortgaged the remainder up to the limit, in order that "the noble organ grinder," in the event of ultimate succession to the title and entailed estates, might benefit as little as possible. At one time the courts refused him a certificate of discharge in bankruptcy on the ground of unjustifiable extravagance in living. He made no secret of the reason for his prodigality. The old earl's hatred for him whom he called "the impostor" was intense, and his animosity extended to the wife of the claimant, who has invariably accompanied him with the piano organ about the streets of London.

Lord Poulett died uncertain as to what would be the outcome of his lifelong efforts to defeat the aspirations of Elizabeth Newman's son. The child was born in wedlock, and the claimant's legal advisers have all along asserted him that his claims to the succession cannot be defeated.

**Judge Denounces a Verdict.**

Evansville, Ind., Jan. 24.—In the circuit court here yesterday Judge Baker, on motion of United States District Attorney Wishard, nolleed the case against Cashier Rosenkranz, of the wrecked First National bank, of Mount Vernon, Ind. The district attorney declared his belief that Rosenkranz was not guilty, but that Albert Wade, who was found not guilty by a jury on Saturday last, was the one who wrecked the bank. Judge Baker concurred in this and made the sensational statement that the guilt of Wade was proved by his own admissions on the stand and that the jury was influenced by the wealth and influence behind the man. Judge Baker declared that such verdicts as that in the Wade case is what makes mob law possible.

**The Spanish Philippine Prisoners.**

Washington, Jan. 24.—A Madrid dispatch declares that the Filipino congress at Malolos has authorized the release of the Spanish civil prisoners, and will shortly liberate the military prisoners. Secretary Alger said he had no official information to confirm the statement to that effect. General Otis has been cabled for accurate information respecting the number of these prisoners, but so far he has not given the information.

**Any Girl Can Tell**

A physician who makes the test and is honest about it can tell you that, in many cases, the number of red corpuscles in the blood is doubled after a course of treatment with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

That this means good blood may not be entirely clear from the doctor's statement, but any girl who has tried the pills can tell you that it means red lips, bright eyes, good appetite, absence of headache, and that it transforms the pale and sallow girl into a maiden who glows with the beauty which perfect health alone can give.

Mothers whose daughters grow debilitated as they pass from girlhood into womanhood should not neglect the pill best adapted for this particular ill.

Frank B. Trout, of 103 Griswold Ave., Detroit, Mich., says: "At the age of fourteen we had to take our daughter from school on account of ill health. She weighed only 90 pounds, was pale and sallow and the doctors said she had anemia. Finally we gave her Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. When she had taken two boxes she was strong enough to leave her bed, and in less than six months was something like herself. To-day she is entirely cured, and is a big, strong, healthy girl, weighing 130 pounds, and has never had a sick day since."—Detroit Evening News.

The genuine Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are sold only in packages, the wrapper always bearing the full name. At all druggists, or direct from the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Schenectady, N.Y. 50¢ per box.



The delights of an evening spent around a well-lighted reading table are not half understood. An illustrated magazine with its wealth of illustrations, its stories of adventure and love, its descriptions of travel which carry you to the remotest ends of the earth, and its instructive articles for young and old—these are the first requisites for your own enjoyment and the entertainment and propeeducation of your children.

To secure for you the best and most interesting of the great illustrated magazines at the lowest possible price has been the aim of the editor of this journal. That we have succeeded we leave our readers to judge. A special contract recently entered into with The Cosmopolitan, which seeks to become better known in this neighborhood, has enabled us to offer you a year's subscription to the greatest of the illustrated magazines together with a year's subscription to this journal,

**Both Together One Year for Only \$ 2.00**

In this way you secure your own home paper and an illustrated magazine at a price that is only about a fourth of what some of the illustrated magazines sell for. For three years The Cosmopolitan has indisputably claimed that it reached the largest clientele possessed by any periodical, daily, weekly or monthly, in the world. It was The Cosmopolitan which sent Julian Hawthorne to India to let the world know the real horrors of famine and plague. It was The Cosmopolitan which established at its own cost a great Free Correspondence University which now has over 20,000 students on its rolls. It was The Cosmopolitan which offered a prize of \$3,000 for the best horseless carriage and prizes for best plans for public baths, and best arrangement of sewer and pipe systems for cities. It was The Cosmopolitan which set the presidents of great schools and universities seriously discussing the defects of existing educational systems. It is The Cosmopolitan whose enterprise is always in the lead in advancing the world's civilization.

We have also succeeded in arranging for two additional offers in connection with this journal and The Cosmopolitan.

After placing on your book-table the best of the illustrated magazines in connection with your home paper, probably the most important thing in a household—for every household, in fact—is the proper keeping of accounts. The only thorough system of Self-instruction in Bookkeeping is the "Ellis." It is not only a complete instructor, but with it, neatly put up in a box, go sales-book, cash-book, journal, ledger, bill-heads, statements, bank-book, bills payable and bills receivable, checks, remitting book and every conceivable appliance for beginning and carrying on the business of the farm, the shop, the manufactory or the store. More people fail in business because they do not keep their accounts straight than from any other cause. Farmers and mechanics, husbands and wives, students and professional men, young and old, rich and poor, all need some knowledge of accounting. By the "Ellis System" this is easily acquired through home study.

The cheapest price at which this is sold at retail is \$1.75 (express from Michigan unpaid), but The Cosmopolitan has purchased many thousands of sets so that it may offer them if taken in connection with this paper and The Cosmopolitan.

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