THE EVENING HERALD-SUPPLEMENT.



BY JOHN BROWN, M. D.

examined Afric. There was no doubt it tasto back, and tratted up the stair must kill her and so a. It could be removed-it might never return-it would to the close give her specify relief, she should have it that mare, had been sent with done. Size curtaind, looked at James, her weather-worn curt, to Howgrate. and said, "When?" "To-morrow," said the kind surgeon a man of few words She and James and Rab and I retired. I noticed that he and she spoke little, but seemed to anticipate everything in each and her exet other. The following day, at noon, the students came in, hurrying up the great stair. At the first landing-place, on a small, well-known blackboard, was a bit of paper fastened by wafers, and many remains of old wafers beside it. On the paper were the words, "An operation to-day. J. B. Clerk."

Up ran the youths, eager to secure good places; in they crowded, full of in-terest and talk. "What's the case?" "Which side is lt?"

Don't think them heartless: they are neither better nor worse than you or I; they get over their professional horrors, and into their proper work-and in them pity, as an emotion, ending in itself or at best in tears and a longdrawn breath, lessens, while pity as a motive is quickened, and gains power and purpose. It is well for human nature that it beso.

The operating theatre is crowded: much talk and fun and all the cordinatty and stir of youth. The surgeon with his staff or assistants is there. in comes Ailie; one look at her quiets and abates the eager students. That beautiful old woman is too much for them; they sit being, was everywhere; never in the down and are dumb, and gaze at her, way, never out of it; Rab sub-ided un-These rough boys feel the power of her der the table into a dark place, and was presence. She walks in quickly, but motionless, all but his eye, which folwithout haste; dressed in her mutch, lowed everyone. Allie got worse; beher neckerchief, her white dimity short (gan to wander in her mind, gently; gown, her black bombazine petticont, showing worsted stookings and James, rapid in her questions and sharp her carpet-shoes. Hehind her was at times. He was vexed, any said. "Sh James with flat. James sat down in was never that way afore; no, never, the distance and took that huge and For a time she knew her head was noble head between his kness. Rab wrong and was always asking our looked perplexed and dangerous; for parton,—the dear gentle old woman ever cooking his ear and dropping it as

fast. Allie stepped up on a seat, and laid eame that terrible spectacle herself on the table, as her friend, the surgeon told her: arranged herself, gave a rapid look at James, shut her sives, rested herself on me, and took my hand. The operation was at once begun: it was nece arily slow; and chloroform—one of tool's best gifts to his suffering child to —was then unknown. The surgeon did his work.

**Conting more touching, or in a sense more arrangely beautiful, did 1 ever

Next day, my master, the surgeon, aways very ready to turn, and com-

and hat doubtless her own dim and placks meditations and confusions on the absence of her master and Rap, and her ununtural freedom from the read

For some days Allie did well. The wound healed "by the first intention; for an James said, "Our Altics skin ower dean to bell." The students comrequiet and anxious and surrounder ar had. She said she liked to see theh coung, honest faces. The surgeon drough her, and spoke to her in his by a short, kind way, pitying her through his eyes, hab and James outto the frage-dab being now recon hed and even cordial, and having ale up his much that as yet nobed required worvelny but as you may

No far well; but, four days after the pecation, my patient had a sudden and ong shivering, a "groossin"," as she iled it. I saw her soon after; her ve were too bright, her cheek colored. he was restiess, and ashamed of beir the balance was lost; mischief had count. On looking at the wound a nsh of red told the secret: her pulse was rapid, her breathing anxious and nufcle: she wasn't herself, as she said and was vexed at her restlessness. We teled what we could. James did every was more demonstrative in her ways to har delicion set in strong, without

This surgion did his works more strangely beautiful did I even The pale fac showed its pain, but was witness. Her tremplous, rapid, affecstill and simu. Rabs soul was working thousts, organ Scotch voice, the swift within him; he saw something strange nimes, bewildend mind, the baffled was going on bise! flowing from his uttermen, the bright and perious eye; mistress, and she and bright his ragged some wild words, some household cares, car was upon Il aportunate; he growled something for James, the names of the and gave now and then a sharp, im- dead. Dob called rapidly in a "fremyt" patient yelp he would have liked to vote and he starting on surprised, and have done so thing to that man. But slinking off us if he were to blame and he startley on surprised, and James had him firm and gave him a somehow, or had been dreaming he glower from time to time, and an inti- heard, many enjoy questions and bemation of a possible kiels-all the better secuhings which James and I could make

for James, it kept his eye and his mind nothing of, and on which she seemed or all, and then sink back underoff Allla.

I WEST OUT.

It is over; she is creased, steps gently | stood. It was very sad, but better than and descently down from the table, looks many things that are not called sad. for James; then turning to the surgeon James hovered about, put out and and the students, she curtaies and in interable, but active and exact as evera low, clear voice, begs their pardon if read to her, when there was a full she has behaved 111. of us-wept like children; the surgeon happed her up carefully-and, resting on James and me, Ailie went to her room, Rab following. We put her to like a man, and deating over her as his bed. James took off his heavy shoes, "ain Ailie." "Allie, ma woman!" "Ma crammed with tackets, heel-capt and toe-dapt, and put them carefully under the table, saying, "Maister John, I'm for name o' yer strange nurse bodies for Ailie. I'll be her nurse, and I'll gang about on my stockin' soles as canny as And so be did: and handy and pussy." clever, and swift and tender as any woman, was that horny-handed, snell peremptory little man. Everything she got he gave her; he seldom slept; and often I saw his small shrewd eyes out of the darkness fixed on her. As be-

fore, they spoke little.
Rab behaved well, never moving, showing us how meek and gentle he could be, and occasionally in his sleep letting us know that he was demolishing some adversary. He toor a walk with me every day, generally to the Candlemaker Row; but he was somire and mild: declined doing battle, though some fit cases offered, and indeed submitted to sundry indignities; and was

The students-all short bits of the Psalms, pross and metro, chanting the latter in his own rude and serious way, showing great knowledge of the fit words, bearing up "ain Aille." "Aille, ma woman!" "Ma nin bonnie wee dawtie!"

The end was drawing on: the golden bowl was breaking; the aliver cord was fast being loosed-that animula blaudula, vagula, hospes, comesque, was bout to flee. The body and the soulcompanions for sixty years-were being sundered, and taking leave. She was walking alone through the valley of that shadow into which one day we must all enter-and yet she was not alone, for we know whose red and staff

were comforting her.
One might she had Taken quiet, and, as we hoped, asleep; her eyes were shut. We put down the gas, and sat watching her. Suddenly she sat up in bed, and taking a bed-gown which was lying on it rolled up, she held it eagerly to her breast—to the right side. We could see her eyes bright with a surprising tenderness and joy, bending over this bundle of clothes. She held it as a woman holds her sucking child; epen-

night gown impatiently, and holding it close, and brooding over it, and murmuring foolish little words, as over one whom his mother comforteth, and who sucks and is satisfied. It was pitiful and strange to see her wasted dying look, keen and yet vague-her immense love

"Preserve me," grouned James, giv-ing way. And then she rocked back and forward, as if to make it sleep, husbing it, and wasting on it her infinite fondness. "Wae's me doctor; I dedare she's thinkin' it's that bairn. "What bairn?" "The only bairn we ever had; our wee Mysic, and she's in the Kingdom, forty years and mair. It was telling plainly true; the pain in the breast, telling its urgent wory to a bewildered, ruined brain, was misread and mistaken; it suggested to her the uneasiness of a breast full of milk, and then the child; and so again once more they were together, and she had her air wee Mysic in her bosom.
This was the close. She sank rapidly:

the delirium left her; but, as she whispered, she was "clean silly;" it was the lightening before the final darkness After having for some time lain still, her eyes shut, she said: "James!" He came close to her, and lifting up her calm, clear, beautiful eyes, she gave him a long look, turned to me kindly but shortly, looked for Rab but could nos see him, then turned to her husband again, as if she would never leave off looking, shut her eyes, and composed herself. She lay for some time breathing quick, and passed away so gently, that when we thought she was gone, James, in his old-fashioned way, held the mirror to her face. After a long pause, one small spot of dimness was breathed out; it vanished away and never returned, leaving the blank clear turkness of the mirror without a stain. What is our life? It is even a vapor, which appeareth for a little time, and

then vanisheth away. Rab all this time had been fully awake and motioniess; he came forward beside us; Allie's hand, which James had held, was hanging down; it was soaked with his tears: Rab linked it all over, carefully looked at her, and returned to his place under the table. James and I sat, I don't know how ong, but for some time, saying noth ing; he started up abruptly, and with some noise went to the table, and put-

ting his right fore and middle fingers each into a shoe, pulled them out, and put them on, breaking one of the eather latchets, and muttering in an ger, "I never did the like o' tha tafore!" I believe he never did; nor after "Rab!" he said roughly, and pointing with his thumb to the bottom of the bed. End leapt up, and actiled himself; his hend and eye to the dead "Mister John, ye'll wait for me," said the enerier; and disappeared in the darkness, thundering downstairs in his heavy shoes. I ran to the front win-dow; there he was, siready round the house, and out at the gate, freeing like

a shadow. I was afraid about him, and yet not afraid; so I sat down beside Rab, and being wearled, fell asleep. I woke from sudden noise outside. It was November, and there had been a heavy fall of snow. Rab was in state quo; he heard the noise too, and plainly knew it, but never moved. I looked out; and there at the gate, in the dim morning-for the sun was not up-was Jess and the part-a cloud of steam rising from the rendy at the door, and came up the stairs, and mot me. It was less than three hours since he left, and he must have posted out-who knows how-to Howgate, full nine miles off, voked Jess and driven her astonished into town. He had an armful of blankets, and was streaming with perspiration He noticed to me, spread out on the floor two pairs of clean old blankets having at their corners. "A. G., 1794," in large letters in red worsted. These were the initials of Alison Grasme, and James may have looked in at her from without-himself unseen but not unthought of-when he was, "wat wat, and weary," and after having walked many a mile over the hills, may have seen her sitting, while "a" the lave were sleepin';" and by the firelight working her name on the biankets, for her ain James' bed.

He motioned Rab down, and taking his wife in his arms, laid her in the blankets, and happed her carefully and firmly up, leaving the face uncovered; and then lifting her, he nodded again sharply to me, and with a resolved but utterly miserable face strode along the passage and downstairs, followed by I followed with a light; but he didn't need it. I went out, holding stupidly the candle in my hand in the calm frosty air; we were soon at the gute. I could have helped him, but I saw he was not to be meddled with, and he was strong, and did not need it. He laid her down as tenderly, as safely, as he had lifted her out ten days beforeas tenderly as when he had her first in his arms when she was only "A. G." sorted her, leaving that beautiful sealed face open to the heavens; and then taking Jess by the head, he moved away. He did not notice me, neither did Rab, who presided behind the I stood till they passed through the long sludow of the College, and turned up Nicholson Street. I heard the solitary cart sound through the strocts, and die away and come again; and I returned, thinking of that company going up Libberton Bras, then along Roslin Muir, the morning light touching the Pentlands and making them like on-looking ghosts; then down the hill through Auchindiany Woods, past "haunted We dhouseleer" and as daybreak came awaping up the bleak Lammermuirs, and fell on his own loor, the company would stop, and James would take the key, and lift Allie up again, laying her on her own bed, and, having put Jess up, would return with Rub and shut the door.

James buried his wife, with his neighbors mourning, Rab inspecting the solemnity from a distance. There was snow and that black ranged bala would

look strange in the midst of the awelling spotless oushion of white. James looked after everything; then rather The Food of the Augie-Saxon Men of auddenly fell til and took to bed; was insensible when the dector came, and soon died. A sort of low fever was prevalling in the village, and his want of sleep, his exhaustion, and his misery made him apt to take it. The grave was not difficult to re-open. A fresh fall of snow had again made all things white and smooth; Rab once more looked on, and slunk home to the stable.

And what of Rub? I asked for him the good-will of James' business, and was now menter of Jess and her cart. "How's Rab" He put me off, and said rather rudely, "What's your business wi' the dowg?" I was not to be so put off. "Where's Rab?" He, getting son-fused and red, and intermeddling with his hair, said, "'Deed, sir, Rab's deid." "Dead! what did he die ef?" "Weel, sir," said he, getting redder, "he didna exactly dee; he was killed. I had to brain him wi' a rack-pin; there was nas doin' wi' him. He lay in the trevies wi the mear, and wadna come oot. 1 wad tak naething, and keepit me frae feedin' the beast, and he was ave gur gurrin', and graf gruppin' me by the legawas laith to make awa wi' the auid dowg, his like wasna atween this and Thornhill-but, 'deed, sir, I sould do naething else."

I believed him. Fit end for Rab, quick and complete. His teeth and his friends gone, why should he keep the peace, and be civil?

Sufe Unto the End.

If any sincere Christian east himself with his whole will upon the Divine Presence which dwells within him, he shall be kept safe unto the end. When did we ever set ourselves sincerely to any work according to the will of God and fall for want of strength? It was not that strength failed the will, but that the will failed first. If we could but embrace the Divine will with our fast to it, we should be borne along, as upon the river of the water of life --Cardinal Manning.

Prayer is the door forever open between earth and heaven. Sooner than sound can reach a human ear through this lower atmosphere, the longing desire of the spirit rises to the heart of the eternal Friend. Whether we believe it or not, we are living in an invisible world, where our wishes are understood before our words are spoken.-Lucy Larcom.

WHITTLING PARTIES.

How Ruralists in Northeastern Pennsylvania Amuse Themselves in Winter. Whittling parties are all the rage this winter in the rural districts of northeastern Pennsylvania. They have taken the place of apple bees and other dinner was served with much ceresocial amusements, and they are the mony. At the hour a stately process young men and maidens now have. The eral musicians, followed by the stoware the descendants of Yankee farmers. and their families having been invited 9 pheasants, 56 partridges, 48 woodcool or other useful things, and he appoints three disinterested men of good judgment to decide on the merits of the final, and the things shaped out of wood that evening become the property of ago.-American Analyst. the giver of the prizes. The only implements allowed in the contests are a ackknife and a file, and the work must be finished within two hours.

Rosy-checked girls compete with the young men for the prizes. Some of them are expert with the jackknif and can whittle faster and to a better purpose than their competitors of the other sex. In Palmyra township one night last week a bright-eyed girl of nineteen whittled, filed and sandpapered out of n piece of ash as shapely a rolling pin the most particular housewife could wish for. She did the work in an hour and twenty minutes, and she won the first prize in a company of seven competitors. If the prize giver decides to get his guesta to work on hickory ax helves, they have to submit to it; if there are more women than men competitors, the giver of the party almost invariably favors the former by selecting something that will be easier to whittle than an ax helve. While the whittlers are busy the non-whittlers have a folly time in other parts of the house playing cards and chatting, and occasionally peering into the kitchen to see how the contestants are getting along with their work. The kitchen is cleared as soon as the prizes have been awarded, suppor is served in the front rooms, and by midnight the whittlers and their companions are on their way

The Curilog Sword Souks There is a little reptile belonging in Madagascar known as the scimitar snake, that is the curling sword. Running along the back from head to tail is a blacklah, horny substance, which bends with the convolutions of the snake's body as readily as would a well tempered steel spring, and throughout its entire length it bears an edge as hard as flint and sharp as a razor. They are not poisonous, but when one of them springs on a man, which he likes very well to do. he will soon have a leg off unless eraciced on the pate. Some snake specialists claim that the presence of this reptile on the island is the reason there are no large quadrupeds to be found there at present, the curling sword in back ages having taken off begs faster than they could be created.

DINING A THOUSAND YEARS AGO.

Weatth Was Served in Abundance.

A thousand years ago, when the disner was ready to be served, the first thing brought into the great hall was a Movable frestles were brought, on which were placed boards, and all were carried away again at the close of the meal. Upon this was laid the table-There is an old Latin riddle of the Eighth century, in which the table "I feed people with many kinds next week at the new earrier who got of food. First, I am quadrapted, and adorned with handsome clothing; then are robbed of my apparel and lose my

The food of the Anglo-Saxon was largely bread. The bread was baked in round, flat cakes, which the supersti-tion of the cook marked with a cross, to preserve them from the perlis of the fire. Milk, butter and cheese were also beaten. The principal ment was bacon, as the acoms of the oak forests, which then covered a large part of England, supported numerous droves of swine. Our Auglo-Saxon forefathers were not tempit him wi kali and ment, but he only hearty enters, but also deep drink-

The drinking horns were at first literally horns, and so must be imme-diately emptied when filled; later, when the primitive horn had been repinced by a glass cup, it retained a tradition of its rude predecessor in its shape, so that it, too, had to be suptled at a draft. Each guest was furnished with a spoon, while his knife he always carried in his belt; as for forks, who dreamed of them when usture had given man ten fingers? But you will see why a servant with a basin of water and a towel always presented himself to each guest before dinner was served and after it was ended

Boasted meat was served on the soft or rod on which it was cooked, and the guest out or tors off a piece to suit himself. Bolled meat was laid on the calces of bread or later, on thick slices of bread called "trenchers," whole love, cleaving to it and holding fast to it, we should be borne along, as upon the river of the water of life—

sinces of themse were to carve the meat on, thus preserving the table cloth from the knife. At first the trencher was eaten or thrown upon the stone floor for the dogs who crouched at their mas-ter's feet. At a later date it was put in a maket and given to the poor who gathered at the manor gate.

During the latter part of the Middle Ages the most consplcuous object on he table was the saltcellar. This was generally of sliver, in the form of a ship. It was placed in the center of the ong table at which the household gathered, my lord and lady, their family, and guesta, being at one end and their retainers and servants at the other. No one's position in regard to the sait was a test of rank-the gentlefolks sitting "above the salt" and the yeomanry

In the houses of the great nobles most popular evening diversions the sion entered the hall. First came sevesire to become skillful with the jack- and bearing his rod of office, and then knife got to be a craze in some heigh-came a long line of servants carrying borhoods. Nearly all of the whittlers different dishes.

Some idea of the variety and profusion and therefore, says the New York Sun. may be gained from the provision made handle the jackknife with dexterity by King Henry III. for his household at The whittling contests take place in Christmas, 1254. This included 81 oxen, the farmhouse kitchens, the whittlers 100 pigs, 856 fewls, 39 hares, 50 rabbits, Englan End of Catawissa Valley by the man who gives the party He 59 plovers and 5,000 eggs. Many of our furnishes all the wood, and he puts up favorite dishes have descended from the prizes of two dollars and one dollar Middle Ages. Macaroons have served for the most perfect and second best ax as dessert since the days of Chaucer. helve, hammer handle, potato masher, Our favorite winter breakfast, griddle cake, has come down to us from the faraway Britons of Wales, while the boys have innched on gingerbread and work turned out. Their decision is girls on pickies and jellies since the time of Edward II., more than 500 years

> Stub Ends of Thought. The kiss of massion is silent; the kiss of love is murmurous, and the everyday kiss is explosive.

The devil is the one perfect imper

Half the world tries to make the ideal real, and the other half tries to make the real ideal.

A good man cannot hide it.
Adversity is a grindstone that puts an Furniture A good man cannot hide it.

edge on us. Virtue being its own reward, some people don't care to earn it. The richest men don't always know

how to be rich. The earth is filled with broken si-Conservation is contentment half in

blossom. - Detroit Free Pross. The Academy Restruesant. The Pettaville headquarters for Shenan-

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Mr. David M. Jordan

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This is from Mr. D. M. Jordan, a re-tired farmer, and one of the most re-spected citizens of Otsego Co., N. Y. "Pourteen years ago I had an attack of the gravel, and have since been troubled with my

Liver and Kidneys gradually grawing worse. Three years ago I got down so low that I could scurcely walk. I looked more like a corpse than a fiving being. I had no appettle and for five weeks I are nothing but gracel. I was badly emactated and had no more color than a marble statue. and had a strangardia was recommended and I thought I would try it. Before I had finished the first bottle In dead that I felt better, suffered less, the irritanium atten of the bindind I began to feel hungry. After

Hood's Sarsaparilla I feel well and any well. All who know memaryolto see mo so well." D. M. Johnan HOOD'S PILLS IN the hest afterdinner PIRS,

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