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THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.

1877

We cut the following sketch from the FREDONIA CENSOR, being a part of the best history of that Institution ever published:

Sketches from the History of the Underground Railroad.—No. XIII.

THE ESCAPE OF JIM AND HIS COMPANIONS—NIGHT MEETINGS AMONG THE SLAVES—AN ANGRY SOUTHERNER IN FREDONIA.

Three fugitives arrived at our station about 8 o'clock one night in January, 18—. They came in a sleigh, covered with robes and blankets so that no person was to be seen. The load had the appearance of a load of grain protected from the snow on a stormy day. They had been pushed forward from Painesville, Ohio, in a very secret way, changing conductors every day, or at midnight as was the case sometimes; the conductor who brought them to our place, had started in the afternoon and had driven 20 miles through the drifting snow. As the night was dark and the road toward Black Rock not well beaten, we thought we might venture to wait until 5 o'clock in the morning before we sent them forward. They had been obliged to deviate from the most direct line two or three times, being closely chased by an experienced hunter who had "bought them running," or at his own risk. Our detectives had misled the fellow, and although we hoped he had become discouraged and gone home, we determined to be careful, and it was well we did.

Rev. Mr. F— was in our village that evening on a visit to his brother who lived there. Mr. F— kept a station on the U. G. R. R.,

in Chautauqua Co., therefore I invited him to have a talk with the fugitives, and also to give us the benefit of his counsel about getting them through. One of the boys, named Jim, gave us an interesting account of their adventures. He was a shrewd fellow, and had not intended to run away until the day they started, when he decided to come for the sake of the other two, for, said he, "They couldn't come without me, they didn't know how." They were his particular friends; he thought a "heap" of them, and their mother had learned that they were to be sent South in a drove soon after Christmas. The two boys had always been kept on the plantation, had seldom been beyond its boundaries, while he (Jim) had been a kind of sub-overseer, had been sent to market to assist in driving mules, sometimes had charge of a gang of hands, and was therefore more competent to "find the way out" than the other boys were, and was finally persuaded by their old mother to go with them.

They had been provided with passes to spend Christmas with their relatives on another plantation, but hoping to find friends in another direction they started towards the Ohio River, sixty miles off. The Christmas festivities, which were being celebrated by the slaves on all the plantations, enabled them to supply themselves with food and shelter at the slave quarters along the way. The weather was unusually cold and they expected trouble in crossing

DR. PETTIT'S MEDICINES.

DR. PETTIT'S CANKER BALSAM!

Having, through an extensive medical practice, devoted much consideration to the treatment of that painful and dangerous disease,

NURSING SORE MOUTH,

Also, the remote and proximate diseased influence on the numerous fibres and nervous tissues, suffering under diseased action, with the repeated failure in the use of the usual curative applications of borax, vegetable styptics, solutions, washes and tinctures, I commenced a series of experiments, aided by close observation, and a knowledge of the origin of the distressing symptoms accompanying the disease, which resulted in the combination of the "CANKER BALSAM." This is the article I have used in my practice, with *unfailing success*, for twenty years. It always cures "THE NURSING SORE MOUTH"—the most aggravating cases yield to its soothing influence and healing power. The occasional use of mild, saline cathartics is often appropriate. For the cure of

INFANTS' SORE MOUTH AND SORE NIPPLES,

It should be applied with a feather; a few applications will effect a perfect cure—it never fails. The Canker Balsam applied to Inflamed or Swelled Gums, particularly to the gums of CHILDREN WHEN TEETHING, will afford immediate relief; frequent application will reduce the inflammation and keep the patient quiet.

CANKER in the *mouth, throat, stomach or bowels*, accompanying

CANKER RASH OR SCARLET FEVER,

Requires but a few doses of this remedy to remove it entirely.

ENLARGED TONSILS.—The use of the *needle and knife*, so much dreaded by children, is entirely superseded by a new application of this *safe, easy and powerful* remedy.

Irritation of the Bronchia, better known as that uneasy sensation usually termed "tickling in the throat," producing COUGH, is relieved by the use of this remedy—relief is instantaneous.

Small spots of CANKER appearing on the tongue, lips and cheeks, are cured by applying a single drop of this article at a time, seldom requiring a repetition.

For removing HOARSENESS, nothing can compete with this article; the usual remedies, such as hot drinks, hoarhound candy, cough lozenges, etc., bear no comparison with it; exceedingly pleasant in its taste, mild, though active in its effects—it is administered to children or adults, attended with less unpleasant results, and more certainty of restoring a healthy action of the mucous membrane than any medicine heretofore known.

DIPHTHERIA.

Use the CANKER BALSAM freely as a gargle. It has never been known to fail when used in its early stages.

BURNS AND SCALDS.

Saturate a linen cloth with PETTIT'S CANKER BALSAM, and lay upon the Burn. It will never blister.

PRICE TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.

E. M. PETTIT, Supt. American Eye-Salve Co.,

FREDONIA, N. Y.

PETTIT & BARKER, Proprietors,

Central Avenue, FREDONIA, N. Y.

the horses and take care of the old man when he gets drunk, and of course they hear it all, and when we have a meeting they tell all about it. We can't understand what it all means, but one thing is sure, they get madder and madder every time, and when they come to blows, I always intended to help the side that would help us, which ever that was."

A few weeks after this I was reminded of what Jim had said about those meetings in the night, by reading in one of our popular magazines an incident related by a slaveholder to a gentleman who was visiting at his plantation in the Sea Island cotton region. The slaveholder, whose name was Poindexter, said to his friend, Mr. Hill, "I am exceedingly perplexed about what course to pursue with my negroes. I was surprised and not a little amused by what I saw last night. My boy Tom oversees all my hands on this plantation, is the best manager in the county, makes the best crops with the least trouble; he never whips, and there is no skulking and no sham sickness. He is a Baptist preacher, and all the slaves for miles around come every Sunday to hear him preach. There is as Tom says a 'powerful revival' in these parts, and he has many times during the past month asked for a pass to go to an Island near at hand to hold a meeting in the night, and as he is always on hand in the morning I usually let him go. Having noticed an unusual sadness in Tom's countenance of late, and other things in his deportment that seemed peculiar, my curiosity was excited and I concluded to follow him last night to witness his manner of holding his meeting. He crossed the narrow inlet to the island on the trunk of a fallen tree,

and instead of going towards the plantation he struck into a narrow path leading through thick bushes towards a dense forest. I managed to follow him nearly half a mile into the woods, when I saw the light of a large fire shining on the tall trees. A few men were sitting around on logs, and others constantly coming, but no women or children. I hid myself near the cleared spot and waited until almost midnight, when I saw a man approach the fire towards whom the negroes (as many as a hundred had arrived,) showed a marked respect. He immediately stepped on to a stump and commenced a speech, having first called on Tom to say if any spies were about. Tom's answer being satisfactory, he said, 'I have come a long way to-night to hear your decision. Tom, we will hear from you.'

"Tom came forward and said in a firm voice, 'I cannot consent to this rising. It can do no good. True, word comes all the way from Virginia and Missouri, that if we will commence here where there are few white folks, we can make a good start and soon an army will fill the land and nothing can stand before us; but, my friends, it isn't so. We can do nothing to better our condition;' and after repeating a part of the Sermon on the Mount he sat down.

"Then the stranger came forward. He was very black, his face shone in the light of the fire. He stood like a statue, his eyes turned toward the heavens for so long a time that the silence seemed painful. Then the tears started from his eyes; he commenced in a low, musical tone, 'It's all over, no man will stand by me! God help us!' He then began to speak of the injustice of slavery, the cruelties, the

DR. PETTIT'S MEDICINES.

DR. DARWIN'S HOOF OINTMENT.

In offering this article to the public, the proprietor takes the liberty to say that a class of diseases incident to the Hoof of the Horse and destructive to the use of the animal, or greatly depreciating his value as a roadster, may be cured by a proper and discreet application of the Hoof Ointment, or, that which is better, if applied in proper time, may be prevented. The horse which is kept on dry food, and when at rest stands on a dry floor, is liable to a feverish state of the foot, causing the hoof to become contracted, hard and brittle, and consequently liable to crack, forcing an unnatural pressure upon the Navicular Joint, Collin Bone and Bars. The delicate frame-work of the foot becomes diseased, and the horse is crippled and stiff in his movement, and often becomes useless or nearly so to his owner, to prevent which, a more rapid growth of the horny portion of the foot needs to be excited, and the hoof rendered more soft and elastic, and brought to its original shape and size. To effect this, the Hoof Ointment should be applied to the Coronary Ring, (the point between the hair and hoof,) once in three days. In a few days the hoof will become soft and elastic, and an entire new hoof, sound, smooth, and of its original shape, will be grown in from three to six months; during which time the horse may be kept at moderate labor, due attention being given to his shoeing, leaving out the nails toward the heel.

Prevention Better Than Cure.

By applying the Ointment two or three times per month, the inflammatory action which causes the disease will be abated, and a sound and healthy hoof constantly secreted. Care should be exercised, and his floor and bed kept clean and dry as circumstances will allow. Sand and Quarter Cracks require no other treatment than the application of the Ointment as directed. Cutting the foot above the crack should never be allowed. Apply the Ointment and allow the horse to stand quietly upon a dry clean floor until the new hoof has grown an inch or more, when, if desired, he may be put to moderate work, but not to hard drafts.

The proprietor deems it useless to add Testimonials and Certificates, thinking it sufficient to say, "Try it at his expense if it fails to do as he promises." He will state three cases which came under his own eye, and which he can vouch for or substantiate.

SAND CRACKS.

The first is of a QUARTER SAND CRACK. The hoof was cracked from the shoe to the hair, and along the coronary ring to the heel, and the entire quarter was loose. By treating it with the Ointment as directed, the horse was put to work in four weeks, and has not lost a day's work in eight months since. His foot now (March, 1854.) is sound and smooth, and pronounced by his blacksmith to be as soft, tough and pliable a foot as he drives a nail in.

THRUSH.

The second case is of the THRUSH. The horse's foot seemed to be entirely rotten, and the stench arising from it was so bad, that the blacksmith almost refused to shoe him. By applying the ointment as directed, the disease was entirely cured by loosing the diseased frog and its dropping off and forming a new, sound frog, perfectly healthy.

CONTRACTED FEET.

The third case is of CONTRACTED FEET. This case seemed to baffle the usual practice of taking off his shoes and letting him run to pasture for a season, for when taken up and his shoes put on, his feet seemed to grow worse instead of better; in fact, he became useless, and almost worthless. Two months application enlarged his feet to their natural size, and the horse can be driven to the top of his speed without flinching, upon the plank or pavement.

The Hoof Ointment, in addition to its soothing and healing qualities, has a tendency constantly to secrete and excite a more rapid growth of the crust or wall of the foot, and thus overcome the effects of standing upon dry floors, hard driving upon pavements and plank roads, either of which tend to dry up, harden and make brittle the hoof, causing frequent shoeing, thus continually cutting off the hoof and leaving the horse without that which Nature gave him to stand upon.

PRICE, 50 CENTS.

All Orders for DR. PETTIT'S MEDICINES, addressed to
PETTIT & BARKER, Central Avenue,
FREDONIA, CHAUTAUQUA Co., N. Y.

licentiousness, the degradation; and such impassioned eloquence I never heard from any man as he exhibited when in his final appeal he called upon them to avenge themselves even though there were no hopes of success. He then walked away in another direction from whence he came.

"When he was gone, Tom arose and said, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord. I hear that a great many white people pray that God will come down and deliver us, and he will come sure.— Let us pray.' They all knelt while Tom prayed, not for the destruction of their enemies, but that they might repent and deliver the poor slaves from bondage. I came away before he closed his prayer."

The next morning about two hours before daylight, our train crossed the creek on the ice, carrying Jim and his companions towards Canada. Mr. F. was up and saw the fugitives start, and about sunrise he left for home. When passing the watering trough at the west end of the village, a man was there letting his horse drink. The man spoke to Mr. F., and said, "Do you live here, sir?" "No," said Mr. F.— "Are you acquainted about here?" "Yes," replied Mr. F.— "Well, can you tell me if there are any Abolitionists in this town?" "There may be," said Mr. F.—, "though I could hardly tell who they are. My brother says, 'we are all Democrats here.'" Mr. F.— had mistrusted the fellow at first sight, and the slave catcher, for it was he, thought, no doubt, that F.— was not an Abolitionist, else he would know more about it than he seemed to, so he told his business and offered to pay him handsomely if he would help find the fugitives. "Which

way did you come?" said F.—. "From the village of Fredonia," was the reply. "I hired this horse there and supposed I was on the right track, but have not been able to trace the fugitives anywhere this side of that town."

"Did you call on Dr. ———?"

"No. Where does he live?"

"Just out of town, about a mile from where you got your horse. He is a man that would interest himself in your affairs, and could obtain for you more information than all the rest of the people between here and his place."

After getting particular directions so as to find the Doctor's place, the slave hunter thanked Mr. F.—, turned about and drove with all speed, but it was noon when he reined up in front of the said Doctor's house. He was soon seated at the hospitable old fireplace, but without waiting to get warm he made his business known, and asked if the Doctor could ascertain and let him know anything about where to look for the fugitives; "for," said he, "I traced them to a place a mile or two west of here, since which I can hear nothing about them." The Doctor was some time getting a full description of them and then said, "I think I know pretty near where they are now." "Well," said he, brightening up, "you will do me a great favor."—"Well," said the Doctor, "they left here about noon yesterday, and I calculate they are crossing the river at Black Rock about this time." "Ah! ah! That is the information you are so well prepared to give!" The scene closed with some tall Southern profanity, which was cut short by a request from the lady of the house; she desired him to warm himself as soon as possible and retire, for she did not like to have the children listen to such language. By the next stage he went to Buffalo, but he was too late. Jim and the boys were safe under the protection of the British Lion.

TESTIMONIALS.

GENTLEMEN—I enclose you this letter (one of many,) believing it my duty to do so that you might know the reputation Pettit's Eye Salve is gaining in this section. I have several letters from other parties who have used it, they all speak in the same terms of the Salve. Very Respectfully,

D. V. McCORKLE,
Druggist, Chattanooga, Tenn.

ATHENS, TENN., Jan. 27th, 1869.

D. V. McCORKLE, Esq., Chattanooga, Tenn.
DEAR SIR.—I enclose one dollar for four boxes more of Pettit's Eye Salve, per mail.

It is gradually restoring the eyes of my daughter, who has suffered with sore eyes for more than two years, and after we had tried almost everything else and failed, including cauterization of the lids. For six months before commencing the use of the above Eye Salve she was almost totally blind, could only discover the bulk of a person in the doorway; but can now, after a little more than a month's use of it, tell the hour on the face of the clock, and it seems that she will certainly be fully restored to sight. It is certainly a wonderful change under Providence after years of suffering.

Very Truly Yours,
A. H. GREGORY.

E. M. PETTIT, Supt American Eye Salve Co. :—For the enclosed 25 cents please forward me a box of the American Eye Salve.

Two years ago I was very much troubled with weak and inflamed eyes; I obtained a box of your Salve, and to my great pleasure found that it was *all* that it was recommended, and now send for another box.

Yours Respectfully,
Miss LAURA A. MALLORY,
Hamden, Del. Co., N. Y.

REGISTER OFFICE, U. S. TREASURY,
Jan 23, 1868.

AMERICAN EYE SALVE Co.—Please find enclosed 35 cents, for which send me a box of Dr. Pettit's Canker Balsam.

I have been buying the Eye Salve, which my wife finds helps her eyes more than any thing she ever used before, and I have bought two boxes and sent North to her sister.

I called on all Druggists here for the Balsam, and they have none. Two have written to New York for it, so they say, but have not received it.

I now make direct application to you, 25 cents for Balsam, and ten cents for postage, sent by mail. Please remit on receipt of enclosed. Yours,

WM. BLASLAND.
P. S.—Balsam, not Salve.

SHARON, March 6th, 1867.

AMERICAN EYE SALVE Co. :—Please find enclosed one dollar and thirty cents, for which please send the worth of it in Dr. Pettit's American Eye Salve, as I think it the best medicine for the eyes that I have found, and if it continues to do as well as it has done it is likely I shall send for more to use in practice. Please send it all in one box, as it will come some cheaper. Please direct to "James Randolph, Sharon, Noble Co., O."

Respectfully Yours,
JAMES RANDOLPH.
Save enough to pay postage.

DOUBLE PIPE CREEK, Carroll Co., Md.,
Dec. 12th, 1867.

AMERICAN EYE SALVE Co., Fredonia, N. Y.—Enclosed please find (\$1.75) one dollar and seventy-five cents, for which please send one dozen boxes Dr. Pettit's American Eye Salve, to the address below. I sold him one box some time ago, and now he wants a dozen boxes for himself and friends. He says they won't do without it; that it is the best Eye Salve they ever used.

Yours Respectfully,
WILLIAM H. RENNER.

Send to the address of "Levi Baker, Johnsville, Frederick Co., Md."

WEATHERLY, Carbon Co., Pa.,
June 1st, 1868.

AMERICAN EYE SALVE Co.—Having opened a Drug Store in this place, I would like to keep some of your Eye Salve for sale. Having used it myself, I can recommend it favorably. I would like to have one dozen boxes to begin with; I will send you the money on receipt of goods and bill, or you can send them C. O. D.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am your obdt serv't,

DR. J. B. TWEEDLE,
Weatherly, Carbon Co., Pa.

SOUTH HADLEY FALLS, Mass., April 12, 1869.

AMERICAN EYE-SALVE Co.—I enclose \$3 00 and want you to send me some Eye Salve.—I had some from you last summer and it did wonderful cures. It cured sore eyes for eight persons that were nearly blind for a long time. My friend, Horace White, was visiting me two years ago. I had sore eyes and he sent me one box by mail and it cured me. Send by Express. Truly yours,

E. C. WHITE.
Note: Horace White of Laona.—Am. Eye Salve Co.

PETTIT'S EYE SALVE

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