

ALL THE NEWS IN
The Democrat,
\$1.50 PER YEAR.

Ladies! Do You Contemplate
Cleaning Your
Lace Curtains?
IF SO, We guarantee to clean them, Make Them Look As
Good As New, and not damage them in the least, and the price
will be right at
The Manchester Laundry.

A SAVORY AROMA
that is an appetizer, as well as
a tickler of the palate, arises from
the rich and nourishing soups that are
made for the edification of the epicure
and will suit the pocketbook of the
economical. Our fine canned
soups, as well as our choice canned
goods of all descriptions, are of the
best brands, and all of recent can-
ning, fresh, nourishing and palatable.



A. E. PETERSON.
PURITY.
In flour ought to be an important consideration in every family. Pure
flour really doesn't cost any more than flour that isn't strictly pure. In
making
WHITE PEARL
(High Patent.)
every grain of the wheat is thoroughly cleaned before grinding, and is
converted into flour in a hygienically clean modern mill. The flour is
purified, treated and sifted through delicate silk cloths before it is sack-
ed. Absolute purity is thus assured.

QUAKER MILL COMPANY.
Makers of Pure Flour.

Harvest Time,
Is coming and I have a full supply of
**Machine Oils and
Axle Grease.**
Respectfully,
Geo. S. Lister.

Those
Qualities
of Style and
Service
so universally demanded by 20th
Century buyers of Men's Trousers
are today, found only in the
best garments—the product of
skilled labor and exclusive fabrics.
Look for the "R & W" trade-
mark.
**THE NEW MODEL
"R & W" TROUSERS
FOR 1902--**
combining long-wearing features
with irreproachable correctness of
cut and fit—commend themselves
to all purchasers. Our line is now
complete—both as to price-range
and patterns.
Allen & Storey.

**THE TRAGEDY
OF THE
TORCHESTER
GHOST**
By W. W. JACOBS

I wanted a few nights to
Christmas, a festival for
which the small market town
of Torchester was making ex-
tensive preparations. The narrow
streets, which had been thronged
with people, were now almost deserted, the
Jack of London, with the remnant
of breath left him after his
evening's exertions, was making feeble
attempts to blow out his naphtha
lamp, and the last shops open were
rapidly closing for the night.



In the comfortable coffee room
of the old Bar's Head half a dozen
guests, principally commercial travel-
ers, sat talking by the light of the fire.
The talk had drifted from trade to
politics, from politics to the stars, and
so by easy stages to the supernatural.
Those ghost stories, never known to
fall before, had fallen flat; there was
too much noise outside, too much light
within. The fourth story was told by
an old hand with more success. The
streets were quieter, and he had turned
the gas out. In the flickering light
of the fire as it shone on the glasses
and danced with shadows on the walls
the story proved so enthralling that
George, the waiter, whose presence had
been forgotten, created a very dis-
agreeable sensation by suddenly start-
ing up from a dark corner and gliding
silently from the room.

"That'll do, Hirst," said another man.
"It's not a subject for jesting," said
a little old gentleman who had been an
attentive listener. "I've never seen an
apparition myself, but I know people
who have, and I consider that they
form a very interesting link between
us and the after life. There's a ghost
story connected with this house, you
know."

"Never heard of it," said another
speaker, "and I've been here some
years now."
"It dates back a long time now,"
said the old gentleman. "You've heard
about Jerry Bundler, George?"
"Well, I've just heard of it and end,
sir," said the old waiter, "but I never
put much count to 'em. There was one
chap 'er said he saw it, and it was the
governess's kid himself."

"My father was a native of this
town," said the old gentleman, "and
knew the story well. He was a truth-
ful man and a steady churchgoer, but
I've heard him declare that once in his
life he saw the apparition of Jerry
Bundler in this house."
"And who was this Bundler?" in-
quired a voice.
"A London thief, pickpocket, high-
wayman, anything he could turn his
dishonest hand to," replied the old
gentleman, "and he was run to earth
in this house one Christmas eve some
eighty years ago. He took his last
supper in this very room, and after he
had gone to bed a couple of Bow street
runners, who had followed him from
London, but lost the scent, went up
stairs with the landlord and tried the
door. It was stout oak and fast, so
one went into the yard and by means
of a short ladder got on to the window
sill while the other stayed outside the
door. Those below in the yard saw
the man crouching on the sill, and
then there was a sudden crash of
glass, and with a cry he fell in a heap
on the stones at their feet. Then in
the moonlight they saw the white face
of the pickpocket peering over the sill,
and while some stayed in the yard others
ran into the house and helped the
other man to break the door in. It was
difficult to obtain an entrance even
then, for the door was barred with
heavy furniture, but they got in at
last, and the first thing that met their
eyes was the body of Jerry dangling
from the top of the bed by his own
handkerchief."

"Which bedroom was it?" asked two
or three voices together.
The narrator shook his head. "That
I can't tell you. But the story goes
that Jerry still haunts this house, and
my father used to declare positively
that the last time he slept here the
ghost of Jerry Bundler hovered
around the top of his bed and tried to
strangle him."

"That'll do," said an uneasy voice.
"I wish you'd thought to ask your fa-
ther which bedroom it was."
"What for?" inquired the old gentle-
man.
"Well, I should take care not to
sleep in it; that's all," said the voice
shortly.
"That's nothing to fear," said the
other. "I don't believe for a moment
that ghosts could really hurt one. In
fact, my father used to confess that it
was only the unpleasantness of the
thing that upset him and that for all
practical purposes Jerry's fingers
might have been made of cotton wool
for all the harm they could do."
"That's all very fine," said the last
speaker again. "A ghost story is a
ghost story, sir, but when a gentleman
tells a tale of a ghost in the house in
which one is going to sleep I call it
blamed ungentlemanly."
"Pooh! Nonsense!" said the old gen-
tleman, rising. "Ghosts can't hurt you.
For my own part, I should rather like
to see one. Good night, gentlemen."
"Good night," said the others. "And
I only hope Jerry'll pay you a visit,"
added the nervous man as the door
closed.
"Bring some more whisky, George,"
said a stout commercial, "I want keep-
ing up when the talk turns this way."
"Shall I light the gas, Mr. Mal-
colm?" said George.
"No; the fire's very comfortable,"
said the traveler. "Now, gentlemen,
any of you know any more?"
"I think we've had enough," said
another man. "We shall be thinking
we see spirits next, and we're not all
like the old gentleman who has just
gone."
"Old humbug!" said Hirst. "I should
like to put him to the test. Suppose
I dress up as Jerry Bundler and go and
give him a chance of displaying his
courage."
"Bravo!" said Malcolm, huskily
drowning one or two faint "noes."
"Just for the joke, gentlemen."
"No, no; drop it, Hirst," said another

man.
"Only for the joke," said Hirst, some-
what eagerly. "I've got some things
up stairs in which I am going to play
in 'The Ritual' knee breeches, bu-
dies and all that sort of thing. It's a
man."

"You can go if you like," said one of
the others, with a faint laugh. "We'll
wait here for you."
The stout traveler walked toward the
door and took a few steps up the pas-
sage. He stopped at the top of the
stairs, and he walked slowly to the
end and looked down fearfully toward
the glass partition which shut off the
bar. Three times he made as though
to go to it; then he turned back and
glancing over his shoulder, came bur-
riedly back to the room.
"Did you see it, sir?" whispered
George.
"Don't know," said Malcolm shortly.
"I fancied I saw something, but it
might have been a man in the
mood to see anything just now. How
are you feeling now, sir?"
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"Not at all," said Malcolm, smiling
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"I'm going to bed," said Hirst, notic-
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