

DARBY'S
PROPHYLACTIC
FLUID.

A Household Article for Universal
Family Use.

For Scarlet and
Typhoid Fevers,
Diphtheria, Saliv-
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Sore Throat, Small
Pox, Measles, and
all Contagious Diseases. Persons waiting on
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THE BRECKENRIDGE NEWS.

A Free Press, a Free Ballot, and Free Speech, are the Birthright of Freemen.

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ous during the past fortnight that not merely
did the theatrical ghouls on that particu-
lar evening, but the manager (who was
honest according to his lights and means)
paid up some portion of old arrears.
Mr. Pelham Vane walked ponderously
into the bar-parlor at a quarter to eleven
o'clock, buttoned to the chin, and wearing
a hat of suspicious gloss.
"Good-evening, gentlemen," said Mr.
Vane. The company murmured a respect-
ful answer, the faces of the guests were
vacant, and their eyes looked anywhere
rather than at Mr. Vane. The gentleman's
arrival had put a sudden finish to an ant-
ipated discussion upon his artistic style,
his personal bearing, and his antecedents,
and for a moment the Mudpoollans, who
were not a rapid people, had no other topic
ready.

Riper, the miller, had somewhat exceeded
in his positions, and in those circumstances
was apt to play the hard-headed fellow, not
to be put down by clamor, and determined
to express his own convictions. His com-
panions had been content to let him talk
noisily to himself in a corner until now, and
Riper, observing the lull, but being too far
gone to take cognizance of its cause, ad-
dressed the conclave.
"Now you'll listen to reason," said the
miller, with a corkscrew motion of the
thumb. "Basset? He's no more like
"Gomery Basset that I am—no more like
than chalk is like cheese."
Mr. Pelham Vane turned and surveyed
the speaker with a startled look, and it
was plain to every body except the drunken
miller that the actor recognized himself as
the subject of discourse.
"Gomery Basset," pursued Mr. Riper,
rejoicing in the silence, and feeling that he
had at last secured an audience, "was the
very finest actor ever lived. That's what
he was. And as for this fellow, why—"
Mr. Story, the ironmonger, drove an ac-
cidental elbow into the miller's ribs, and Mr.
Riper, who was quarrelsome in his cups,
changed his theme, and heaped abuse upon
his neighbor. The onlookers breathed more
freely.
"Scotch whiskey hot, Mr. Povey, if you
please," said the tragedian, in tones that
filled the room, and left a mellow tinkle
among the glasses on the shelves. There
was silence again, and the magnificent,
shabby man turned to the miller. "I believe
I heard you make a very complimentary
reference just now to my old friend Mont-
gomery Basset, sir," he said. "May I ask
where you saw him play?"
"I don't know what that's got to do with
you," returned the miller.
"I beg your pardon, sir," said the player.
"I was under the impression that I addressed
a gentleman."
"That serves you right, Riper," said the
ironmonger, and an affirming murmur went
round the room.
"Not as I mind answering the question,"
said the miller, feeling himself in a marked
minority. "I seen him in Southampton at the
last time he played there. And I say again
—meaning no offense to anybody—he was
the best actor as ever lived, bar none. And
what I say, I stick to."
Now there was in this an intentional and
obvious insult to the player, and one of the
company tried an emolument.
"Present company is always excepted."
"I don't except nobody, and nor present,"
said the miller, obstinately. "What I say is,
the late Gomery Basset was finest actor
ever was in the world."
"I am proud to hear you say so, sir," cried
the player, in his ponderous tones. "Basset
was my dearest friend." The miller looked
at him with scornful incredulity. "I am
proud to hear you say so, sir," said the
player again. "Another Scotch hot, if you
please, Mr. Povey."
When one came to look at Mr. Pelham
Vane, one found signs of wreckage by drink
upon him. When he lifted his glass to his
lips, his hand shook terribly, and his eyes
glistened on the glass, before he drank it,
with a whiskey-and-water gleam.
"Gomery Basset," said the disagreeable
miller, "was a gentleman."
"He was, sir," assented the player. "One
of Nature's noblemen."
"He'd have scorned to have come anear
a place like this," said the miller. "He
could ha' kept his carriages and his horses
if he'd ha' minded to."
"He had a soul above ostentation," said
Mr. Pelham Vane.
"He'd got a soul above you," said the
drunken miller. "You a friend o' Gomery
Basset's? Why, he wouldn't ha' looked at
you."
The player made a step forward, with his
right hand clapping at the breast of his tight-
buttoned, threadbare coat.
"This is the first occasion," he said, in
his slow-rolling, noble tones, "on which I
have heard poverty and misfortune insulted
in the presence of an assemblage of English
gentlemen."
"Riper," said Mr. Bonner, the linen-
draper, "if you don't know how to behave
yourself, there's them as does."
Gall, the saddler, started audibly that he
had been Riper. "And I hope, sir," said
Mr. Gall, addressing the player, "that you'll
have one with me, sir, if it's only to take
the taste out of your mouth."
"I thank you, sir," said the player actor.
"Scotch hot, Mr. Povey, if you please. I
have the pleasure of taking it at this gen-
tleman's expense." The host headed him
to the mixture, and he bowed round, glass in
hand. "Gentlemen," he said, "I hope, as
gentle W.D. has it, that we shall drink down
all our unkindness. So far as I am concerned,
I can assure you that no praise of my dear
old friend Basset can offend me. I know
him, gentlemen, in his boyhood. I watched
his dawning genius. I stood by him in the
hour of his success; and to me alone is
intrusted the secret of his retreat. I was,

and am, so poor as you see me, his bosom
friend."
"Look here, I don't care," cried the
drunken miller, rising and struggling with
the friends who endeavored to keep him
down. "I'm not going to sit still all night
long and hear this fellow bounce and brag
and talk nonsense. Him a friend of
Basset's? I tell you to your face," he cried,
shaking his fist at the player, "he wouldn't
ha' looked at you, or spoke to you, or any
thing like you. Don't tell me."
Mr. Pelham Vane saw that the general
feeling of the assemblage was with him
and against the miller. He felt that it
would cost but little to be courteous.
"I would be a friend of Mont-
gomery Basset's, gentlemen," he said
therefore, "to wrangle in his name in the
parlor of a public hostelry. Scotch hot, Mr.
Povey, if you please." A hand was laid
upon him from behind. "Thanks, dear boy,
at this gentleman's expense, Mr. Povey."
A commercial gentleman from London,
a young man of much experience of life,
and highly respected in Mudpool for his
business and his social qualities, was seen
at this juncture to draw forth a memoran-
dum-book and to scrawl a line upon a blank
page. This he tore out, and having folded
it threw it across to the drunken miller.
"Can't make it out," said the miller to
his neighbor. "Was he say?"
The neighbor, with raised eyebrows,
glazed at the brief scroll and whistled.
Then he whispered behind his hand to the
miller, and the miller laughed scornfully.
"I say, mister," he cried, reaching out a
hand towards the player, "perhaps you'll
say you are Basset in a minute. There's
a cove in the room to back you."
The actor glanced round swiftly, and for
a moment his watery glance rested on the
young man from London, but he said nothing.
"That Basset?" cried the miller. "Look
at him."
For once in his life Mr. Riper created a
sensation, and every man in the room
stared from the actor to him, and from him
to the actor. Mr. Pelham Vane, adding a
little cold water to his gin to reduce its
temperature, took it at a gulp and pushed
the glass towards the landlord. It was
noticed afterwards how pale he grew and
how his hand shook at this juncture.
"That's Montgomery Basset, is it?"
cried the miller, jeeringly, with his head
craned over the table in the direction of the
commercial man from London.
"Yes, sir," thundered the player's voice,
"I am Montgomery Basset. Myself am
Naples. Ruined by the devices of my only
child, cast forth so low that wrens make
prey where eagles dare not perch! I
thought my spirits were stronger than my
shames, but I am vanquished."
And the great tragedian, turning, flung
his arms upon the mantelpiece and dropped
his head upon them, scattering a pot or two,
and making havoc with a dozen of long
pipes. The company sat and stared at this
with a look at once amazed and guilty.
The saddler was the first to recover, and he
rising from his seat, put his hand in his
pocket, and withdrawing it, dropped some-
thing with a jingle in the landlord's palm.
Then he cast his head with a shamefaced,
sideway nod in the direction of the fireplace
over which Mr. Montgomery Basset leaned
with heaving shoulders, and with another
shamefaced jerk directed to the company
at large, he took himself out of the room.
The ironmonger rose also, and from his
pocket drew a something which jingled
into the landlord's palm. Then arose the
drunken miller and went through the same
pantomime, and in a minute or two the
room was clear of every body but Mr.
Montgomery Basset and the landlord. Mr.
Basset's shoulders were still heaving con-
vulsively, and his head was still resting on
the mantelpiece amid the debris of the
pipes, when the landlord touched him on
the arm, and the actor, slowly gathering
himself into an erect posture, picked up
his hat, and, with one hand covering his
eyes, began to grope his way from the room.
"Before you go, sir," said the landlord,
feelingly, "it's an inappropriate moment
for it, but it may be the only one, and the
gentlemen of the town, sir, who have seen
your performance, sir, desired to present
you with a little testimonial, sir. The sums
are here as I received them, and perhaps
if you will buy for yourself, sir, some little
remembrance of the place—a pin, or a ring,
or any thing of that sort that may please
you—you will fulfil the intentions of the
subscribers, sir."
Mr. Montgomery Basset's outstretched
hands accepted the money the landlord
slipped into it, and a minute later he was
gone. Mudpool saw him no more; and if
his landlord found the little bundle of soiled
linen a poor payment for a fortnight's lodg-
ing, why every body knew how disturbed
the great tragedian had been by his unex-
pected recognition, and nobody thought
very ill of his forgetfulness.

CHAPTER XIII.
"Go light, ye thief," said Mr. Cassidy,
addressing Mr. Hogan, "or else ye'll wake
the baby. The campaigning ways stick
to ye still, and ye destroy the harmony of
marriage life with no more compunction,
be jingo, than ye'd feel on walking into a
den of wild bachelors. What's the news?"
"There's nothing particular," said Mr.
Hogan, seating himself, "barrin' that I've
got the model for your evening class I could
ye of. The Reverend Stanley Vyvan, of the
Lord be good to us. He had a rural
deceit in Yorkshire, he says. He'll be
here at eight this evening, and if ye don't
find him the identical man ye want, I'm
mistaken."
"We'll see," said Cassidy. "Cameron's
coming round to-night to see how we are
getting along with the class, and his wife

will be up to compare the boys. When are
you going to be married, Hogan?"
"At the beginning of the Greek kalends,"
said Hogan.
"With these shining examples of domestic
felicity before ye?" demanded Cassidy.
"Who'll be that at the door?" A pause and
then a tap. "Come in."
"Mr. and Mrs. Cameron, sir," said the
maid.
"Welcome, me boy. Mrs. Cameron, ye
haven't forgotten Hogan. Jans, ask Mrs.
Cassidy to come here. And how are you,
Jack junior? How the boy grows, Mrs.
Cameron! Oh, ye're here, Matilda. Just
send up stairs for Horace Cassidy, Esquire,
will ye? Ye'll take it active in the pewter,
won't ye, Jack? Go on smokin', Hogan.
Both the ladies are smoke-drifts."
Mrs. Cassidy having welcomed the guests,
ran up stairs, and returned presently with
her eldest son, who wore a prodigious rolled
curl upon his forehead, and was absurdly
like his father.
"Shake hands with Jack, Horace me
boy," cried the proud parent. "I hope ye'll
be as good friends as your fathers were
before ye. But ye'll be getting too big a swell
to know us much longer, Cameron,
though maybe when ye're in the Forty
ye'll put in a word for a dab of poor old
Cassidy's now and then, and get the com-
mittee to hang me where I can be seen."
"Relly upon my influence," said Cameron,
with a lory air. At that every body
laughed, and the three men sat down to
smoke, while the ladies talked millinery.
"We're going to have a swell model to-
night," said Cassidy. "Hogan found him,
and proclaims him the most picturesque old
blackguard in the world."
"He's a beard this long," said Hogan,
stretching his arms abroad, "and a fine
high, bold forehead, and barring that, was
a trifle red about the nose, he'd be a won-
derful John Baptist."
"Well," said Jack, "we'll come and look
at him." There was the faintest memory
in the world of an old limp in his gait as
he arose and crossed over to his wife. "Come
along, little woman, or we shall be late for
dinner. You won't forget to-morrow's din-
ner, Mrs. Cassidy? That's chiefly what we
called for. We know where your head fails
you, Bill. No memory."
Cameron and his wife went away, taking
their boy with them, and Mrs. Cassidy re-
turned to look after the dinner.
"They're a happy couple, Bill," said Ho-
gan when the two men sat alone again.
"They are, then," returned Cassidy, "and
so they ought to be, to make up for all
their troubles. There's only one thing on
the dear girl's mind at all, and that's her
blackguard of a father. He's been heard of
once or twice since their marriage, and I
believe she'd forgive him now if she could
find him. But I fancy he's gone under
long ago, and I could bear to think that
without wantin' to give a very large order
for black clothes, either."
"I'm not dyin' to see him," said Hogan,
pulling placidly at his pipe, "if only half
I've heard of him's true."
"Hallo! he's dinner gain to be laid,"
said Cassidy. "Of course ye'll stop and
eat a bite with us, Hogan. I'll just step
round and give the orders to the butler."
Mr. Cassidy presiding at his own family
table was a pleasant spectacle, and the din-
ner went merrily as a marriage bell. A pipe
and a cup of coffee prepared for the eve-
ning's labors, and while the friends sat
chatting, the maid brought up a singularly
dirty looking piece of rough cardboard on
which was written, "Rev. Stanley Vyvan."
"Now tell me," said Hogan, "what you
think of me as a model-hunter."
The two went down together and encoun-
tered in the hall a bent and tottering old
man with a great beard.
"This way," said Cassidy, and the man
followed, stepping slowly and with difficulty.
"Have ye ever been a model before?"
"That degradation is reserved for me,"
said the new model, in deep and husky
tones.
"Eighty odd years of sorrow have I seen,
and such hard joy wreek it with a weak ar-
ten, but it has never yet fallen to my lot to
earn my living by any menial service."
"Has he been drinking?" asked Cassidy,
aside.
"No, I think not," responded Hogan.
"That's his regular form, me boy. He
never speaks except with a verse out of
Scripture."
The students began to turn in by ones
and twos, and the model being arranged,
work began, enlivened, after the manner of
stated labor, by the singing of popular
airs and the whistling of operatic selections.
"He's picturesque enough, isn't he?"
said Hogan, in a whisper.
Cassidy had begun to regard the model
with new interest, and he answered Hogan
only after drawing him away into a distant
corner of the room.
"I believe ye've made a find with a ven-
geance," said he, then. "He's amazingly
altered, with the hair about his face and
the baldness that's set in. But I ought to
know that nose and those eyes, and I be-
lieve it's no less than Montgomery Bas-
sett!"
"Rubbish!" said Hogan.
"I'm not so sure of that, me boy," an-
swered Cassidy. "Give him a black wig
and shave him, and he might be as like as
two peas."
"That's not Basset," said Hogan, con-
temptuously. "He said he was eighty and
odd just now, and he looks every inch of
it."
"Well," said Cassidy, resignedly, "he's
here now, whoever he is. You'll see if
Cameron spots 'em."
Cameron at that minute appearing, Cas-
sidy welcomed him with a manner some-
what forced and unnatural.
"What d'ye think of the model, Jack?"

"He'll do well enough," returned Cam-
eron, unceremoniously, and walked round the
room from easel to easel glancing at the
work.
"Well, now," said Hogan with a laugh,
"Vyvan's Vyvan still, isn't he?"
"I'm glad I was wrong," answered Wil-
liam.
A notable silence stole over the room,
and the master of the life class, turning
round, saw that the model had shifted his
position slightly. The students were all
staring at him, but not a pencil was at work.
Cameron was directly in front of the mod-
el's throne, and the Reverend Stanley Vy-
van was moving slowly towards him with
head and hands only. The painter looked
up and caught the model's eyes. He fell
back with outstretched hands, and then
dashed forward just in time to seize the
bar of a halberd the model snatched up
as the blade swept round at him, and the
striker towered at full height on the throne.
"Be Moses," roared Cassidy, "it's Basset,
after all!"
There was no struggle to speak of. Cam-
eron had the halberd