THE FIFTH TABLET CARRIED A DOSE THAT WAS FATAL

the Doctor Had a Premonition That Misfortune Had Overtaken a Wealthy Planter-How the Story of the Crime Leaked Out.

The story was told by a police com-New Orleans recently on a visit.

"The most ingenious murder I ever knew anything about," he said, "was committed by a young physician. He was a rising practitioner at a place where I formerly lived, and, with your permission, I will speak of him simply as Dr. Smith.

"About a dozen years ago, as nearly as I remember, this young man went on a visit to a relative in a neighboron a visit to a relative in a neighboring city, and one afternoon, on the third-or fourth day of his stay, he startled a lady member of the household by remarking that he had a feeling that some misfortune had overtaken a wealthy planter whom they both knew very well, and whom I will call Colonel Jones. The colonel was a prominent resident of the doctor's home town and had a large outlying ne town and had a large outlying estate, which he was in the habit of

"On the day of Smith's singular premonition he was on one of those tours of inspection, but failed to come back, and the fellowing morning his corpse, was found lying in a cornfield. Let had evidenty been dead about 24 hours, and from the appearance of the body seemed to have been seized with some series of the convertigation. ne sort of fit or convulsion.

"Of course the affair created a great stir, and the police made a pretty thorough investigation, but the only thing they found that merited any dal attention was a small, round rial in the dead man's vest pocket. It was about the diameter of a lead pen-cil by four inches long, and had originally contained a couple of dozen medicinal tablets, which, lying one on top of the other, filled the little bottle to the cork. A few still remained in

"Upon inquiry it was learned with out trouble that the tablets were a ss preparation of soda, and that Jones himself had bought them at a local drug store. That ended suspicion in that quarter, and, for lack of anything better, the coroner returned a verdict of death from sunstroke.

There was no autopsy.
"Some time after Jones had been buried," continued the police commis-sioner, "I learned accidentally of Dr. Smith's curious prophecy, and it set me to thinking. Eventually I evolved a theory, but it was impossible at the time to sustain it with proof, and for five or six years I kept it pigeonholed in my brain, waiting for something to happen. Meanwhile, to everybody's surprise, Dr. Smith went to the dogs. He began by drinking heavily, grad-ually lost his practice, and finally ed out to avoid prosecution fo g a fake draft. After his flight ned enough to absolutely confirm

had really happened was this: Dr. Smith owed the old man a considerable sum of money and had given a note, upon which he had forged his father's name as indorser. The planter was pressing him for payment and had threatened suit, which meant inevitable exposure. One day, while they were conversing, Jones pulled out a little glass vial and swallowed one of the tablets it contained, remarking that he took one daily, after dinner,

ory as to Jones' death. What

for sour stomach "That suggested a diabolical scheme of assassination, which the doctor proceeded to put into execution. Repairing to his office, he made up a duplicate tablet of strychnine, and, encountering the colonel next day, asked him to let him have the vial for a moment, so he could copy the address of the makers

from the label. "Jones handed it over unsuspectingly, and while his attention was briefly diverted elsewhere Smith put in the prepared tablet. He placed it under the top four, thus making it reasonably certain that his victim would take It on the fifth day from that date. Next morning he left town, so as to be far away when the tragedy was consummated, and some mysterious, uncontrollable impulse evidently led him to make the prediction that first

excited my suspicion.
"When I made certain of all this, I located Smith in Oklahoma and was on the point of applying for an extradi-tion warrant when he anticipated me by contracting pneumonia and dying. I thereupon returned the case to its I thereupon returned the mental pigeonhole, where it has remained ever since."

"Pardon me for asking," said one of the listeners, "but is that really a true story, or are you entertaining us with sting fiction?" "It is absolutely true," replied the

"But how did you learn the particu-

lars?" "Well," said the police co smiling, "Smith was like most clever criminals—he had one weak spot. He was fool enough to tell a woman. She blabbed."—New Orleans Times-Demo-

DRUNKENNESS AN IMPEDIMENT TO NATIONAL PROGRESS.

Steps Taken by the Government to Control the Liquor Traffic-Penalties For Selling on Credit-Temper-

According to Consul General Holloway, at St. Petersburg, the Russian government has for many years been laboring and discussing means to di-minish the almost universal use of liquor among the laboring classes, as one minister of finance put it, "to save the population from the baneful influence of the innkeepers, who, in order to make large profits, adulterated their spirits with noxious and deleterious substances, which were proving ruin-ous to the lower classes. The average peasant was not content with remain-

ing in a public house until he lad spent his last farthing, but often pawned his clothes, furniture and future crops. The public houses were acknowledged to be the most powerful agents of ruin and disorganization in the economic life of the Russian peo-ple and threatened the impoverishment of the whole agricultural population."

Mr. Hollowny says:
"One of the first steps toward preventing the unrestricted sale of liquor was to confine its sale to places where food was required to be furnished with each order for liquor, in order to pre-vent taking one drink after another without food. Severe penalties were also provided for selling on credit, for receiving articles in pawn for drinks, or for bartering spirits for produce or future labor, etc. The receiving of stolen property entailed the loss of license, and provision was made for closing public houses that evaded or violated the laws.

"The government established a number of shops in various parts of cities for the sale of vodki, brandy and spirits in corked bottles. It is not permitted to be drunk on the premises, but thirsty customers purchase small bottles and step outside of the door, draw the cork, drink the contents and return the empty bottle, for which they receive a few kopecks. The number of these shops is regulated by the population. The license was increased from \$77 to \$500 for public houses, which reduced the number one-half.

"It was first proposed in 1985 that the government should assume control of the sale of liquor, but the revenue from the sale of liquor amounted g that time to \$174,900,000 per year, and it was argued the government mo nopoly would reduce this so materially as to affect the revenues. Hence it was delayed until the famine of 1801, and the lamentable state of things it revealed hastened the reform, since which time the new system has been organized and introduced in half of the empire, including 35 provinces, cover-1,320,000 square miles, with a population of 61,000,000.
"Under the present system the gov

ernment dictates the quantity and quality of spirits manufactured, purchases a very large percentage of the output and permits the sale of the surplus under proper regulations for manufacturing purposes, with the intention of furnishing the consumer with pure spirits, thus mitigating and preventing such abuses as are directly attributable to the excessive use of bad liquor and improving the morality and prosperity of the masses. The minister of finance has repeatedly declared that the purpose of the government in controlling the liquor business was not intended to produce any direct increase of the revenue; whatever increase there might be would come in consequence of the prevention of abuses which could be avoided only by government control.

"The official report for 1898 has just been made public and states that the amount of capital employed during that year was \$148,200,000. There were 1,381 brandy distilleries, 252 spirit distilleries and 27,120 places where distilled liquors were sold. Besides this, fermented liquor was sold at 14, 699 saloons. The sales amounted to 84,003,752 gallons, the gross receipts being \$117,326,270, the expenses \$36,-594,870 and the excise duty \$64,117,-500. The net income to the government from sales was \$16,737,500.

"In governments where the sale of liquor is controlled by the government temperance societies have been organized, with Prince Oldenburg, a distinguished philanthropist of St. Petersburg, as president. These have opened reading rooms with libraries and restaurants near public gardens and squares, where large numbers of work-ing people congregate, and sell cheap and good food with such temperance drinks as tea, milk and kvass made from cranberries and black bread. One of these societies has constructed two 'floating restaurants,' one of which will eat 600 people and the other 300 These boats are towed to points on the Neva, where workmen are employed or congregate. An open theater has een established on Petrovsky island, where a good class of plays is given at a nominal price. Some of the public parks are also supplied with apparatus to encourage open air sports.

"The government is encouraging these societies, having appropriated large amounts to aid in the prosecution of their work. The appropriation for 1900 was \$1,290,719.

"It is expected that by the end of 1902 every one of the 78 provinces of Russia, including Siberia, will have been mcluded in the sphere of activity of these societies.

"The leading newspaper of Russia has repeatedly stated that the most important impediment in the way of Russia's rapid progress lies in those 'twin relics of barbarism'—Hilteracy and intemperance among the peasant classes, which comprise 75 per cent of the population." intost and Lung

Artificial Diamonds. It is well known that in the manufac ture of carbon steel microscopic diamonds are formed, and the curious fact is stated by The Scientific Press that from the examination of a number of steels from a variety of process es identical results were given. A es identical results were given. A
plece weighing 300 grams was cut from
a lump of steel and treated with nitrie
acid, the insoluble residue collected
being mainly graphic carbon. After
being washed with water it was boiled three times with fuming nitric acid,
which partially dissolved the residue,
hydrofluoric acid and then fuming sulpharic being used, there then remainphuric being used, there then remaining nothing but graphite, which, after being washed, was melted with chlorate of potash. The insoluble residue obtained fell to the bottom of a vesse filled with iodide of methylene, the little transparent octahedrons visible the transparent occasions visible through a microscope, which burned on a sheet of platinum without any ash, being the diamonds.

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Trains leave Charlotte, N. C.:
5:00 a. m.—No. 5, daily, for Rich
mond: connects at Greensboro for Relsigh, Goldsboro, Morehead City, Norfelk
das Winston.

8:10 a.m.—No. 38, daily, New York and Florida Express for Columbia, Savan nah and C. C. & A. local stations. Through Pullman sleepers New York to Tampa and New York to Augusta.

9 43 a.m.—No. 16, daily, except Sunday for Statesville. Taylorsville and local stations. Clore councetion at Mooresville for Mocksville and Winstyn-Salem. Close connection at Statesville for Aslewille. Hickory, Lemoir and Blowing Rock.

Oa. m. No. 36, daily for Washington mond, Raleigh and all points rorth. ies through Pullman drawing-room ot sleeper New Orleans to New York. close coance at Greensboro for Raleigh, Golds; and Winston-Salem. Dining cars all mesls. all meals

ve all meals

1.35 a. m.—No. 87, daily Washington of Southwestern Idmited for Ati-nts and I points South and Southwest. Through ul man Sleeper New York to New Orism and Ne - York to Memphis. Pull an Observation car, New York to Macon. Ding cars serve all meals. Pullman tour ist car from Washington to San Francisco on Tuesdays. Thursdays, and Saturdays via New Orleans and Southern Pacific.

13:25 r. m.—No. 11, daily, for Atlanta and local stations. Close connection at Spartanburg for Hendersonville and Ashe

8:00 P. M.—No. 78, daily, except Sunday. Freight and passenger for Statesville and onal stations. 6:30 p m .- No 12, daily for Richmond

Raieigh, Goldsboro and local points. Con nects at Salisbury for Asheville, Knoxville, Chat'ancoga, Memphis and Nashville

8:18 p. m.—No. 88, daily, Washington and Southwestern Li sited for Washington and all points North. Pullman sleeper New Orleans to New York, Memphis to New York. Pullman observation car Macon to New York. 9:20 p. m -No. 34, New York and Flore

North. Pulman sleepers Jacksonville to New York, Augusta 10 New York, Charlotte to Rishmond, Charlotte to Norfolk, 10.00 p. m.—No 35, daily for Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line Division, and all points South and Southwest. Carries through Pullm n drawing-room buffet sleepers between New York and New Or-leans, Charlotte and Birmingham,

9:55 P. M.-No. 85, daily, Columbia and C. C. & A. local stations; Augusta, Savannah and Jacksonville. Carries through Pullman drawing-room buffet sleeper be-tween New York and Miami. Also Pullman sleeper, Charlotte to Augusta, Column is to Charleston

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Rev. P. G. Drayton lotte, N. C. Aiken, B C

The Synod stands adjourned the L dson Presbyterian Chu bia, S. C. on Wednesday, O 1899, at 7 30 o'clock, p. m.

Oom of Arrangements—Rev. M. G John son and the Session of the Ladso

MAIRMAN OF EACH STANDING COMMITTEE umbia, 8. O. Education Rev. W. R. Coles, Alken, 8 Publication and S. S. Work-Rev. J. R.

Harris, Washington, Ga. Greenville, S. O. nisterial Relief-Rev. S. C. Thomp reedmen-Rev. A. M. Caldwell, Green boro. Ga.

stic Beneficence -- Rev. J. P. Uraw remperance—Rev. T. A. Thompson Blacksburg, S. C. Board of Aid for Colleges and Acade mics—Rev. B. L. Glenn, Newnan, Ga.

Sabbath Observance-Rev. Wm. L. Mets Sumter, S U. Sabbath School Synodical Missionary—Rev G. T. Dillard, D. D., 917 Washington St., Columbia, S. C.

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Citudents are advised not to come earlier than the 11th.

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N. C.

N. C. Rev. W. J. Rank STATISCIOS APRIL 1, 18

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