

THE BACILLI OF SMALLPOX.

Valuable Experiments by a Bacteriologist—Death stops his search.

The bacteriologists at the congress of American physicians and surgeons exchanged some surprising experiences, says a Washington letter to St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Dr. Harold C. Ernst, of Boston, however, contributed the most wonderful of all the stories of germs and cultures. Dr. Ernst told how the late Dr. S. C. Martin entered his laboratory to make a study of the germs of smallpox. Dr. Martin's father was the man who introduced the manufacture of cowpox into this country. He maintained this industry for many years and then turned it over to his son. The latter continued the production of virus for vaccination purposes, but desiring to learn more about the disease for which he was manufacturing the preventive, he came to Dr. Ernst's laboratory and entered upon a series of experiments. This work he continued until his fatal illness. On his death bed, just previous to a surgical operation, he committed to Dr. Ernst an account of his discoveries. This story Dr. Ernst told to the bacteriologists. Accustomed as they were to having their credulity taxed by the revelations in their peculiar field of research, these gentlemen could hardly believe in the results of Dr. Martin's work.

Dr. Martin began his investigation by collecting from smallpox patients a large number and variety of bacteria. He bred from these bacteria. Or, in the language of bacteriology, he inoculated the calves and the calves produced cowpox. From this cowpox he took virus and vaccinated children. The matter "took" with all the vigor of the best virus. The operation was repeated until Dr. Martin was sure he had found the bacteria which causes smallpox. He described it to Dr. Ernst as "a short, fine bacillus with rounded ends."

Obtaining the bacteria from people with smallpox, Dr. Martin reproduced them through no fewer than fourteen generations of cultures. He dipped points in the tube containing the fourteenth culture and gave them to Dr. Williams. The latter vaccinated with these points and got perfect vaccination results in one or two cases. Dr. Martin himself did not carry his experiments far enough to establish this from his own observation. He tried ten cases of vaccination direct from culture tubes but none of them "took." But he inoculated many calves direct from his culture tubes and produced cowpox. In fact, Dr. Ernst said much of the virus sent from the Martin establishment for two years was produced upon the calves by inoculations from the culture tubes.

Before he died Dr. Martin was sure he had found the bacillus of smallpox. He felt that it only remained to be shown how the germ could be produced by culture so as to vaccinate without the intermediate production of cowpox. He had propagated the germ through generation after generation, but something more was necessary, he felt, to make it available for practical vaccination without going through the calf.

Bright boy—The paper says there's a doctor in the city who makes long noses shorter, big ears smaller, and I don't know what all. Father—Well? Bright boy—I guess you'd better send me to him and have my legs shortened, if you can't afford to buy me a larger bicycle.—Good News.

When persons are weak and languid, from sickness or overwork, feel debilitated and depressed, it is an indication that the blood is out of order, and they need help to throw off the miserable feeling. The best remedy for this purpose is Dr. J. H. McLean's Strengthening Cordial and Blood Purifier. It restores lost strength, gives vigor to circulation, promotes good appetite and a flow of cheerful spirits. Price \$1.00 per bottle. For sale by the Snipes-Kinersly Drug Co.

Turvey Top—"O, Yes, I've been through a lot, but this was a narrow escape. It was in France. I completely lost my wits." Beatrice—"So, you lost them in France?"

Henry Wilson, the postmaster at Weishton, Florida, says he cured a case of diarrhoea of long standing in six hours with one small bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. What a pleasant surprise that must have been to the sufferer. Such cures are not unusual with this remedy. In many instances only one or two doses are required to give permanent relief. It can always be depended upon. When reduced with water it is pleasant to take. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton Druggists.

Lady—You said this coal was economical. Why, it won't burn at all. Dealer—Well, ma'am, what could you have more economical than that?—Tid-Bits.

W. A. McGuire, a well known citizen of McKay, Ohio, is of the opinion that there is nothing as good as children troubled with colds or croup as Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. He has used it in his family for several years with the best results and always kept a bottle of it in the house. After having a gripple he was himself troubled with a severe cough. He used other remedies without benefit and then concluded to try the children's medicine and to his delight it soon effected a permanent cure. 50 cent bottles for sale by Blakeley & Houghton Druggists.

Another Call.

All county warrants registered prior to January 1, 1891, will be paid on presentation at my office. Interest ceases after Sept. 10th. W. S. MICHELL, County Treasurer.

LEGEND OF THE PIASA.

A Monster Which Made War on the Tribe of the Illini.

Half Bird, Half Beast, with the Head of an Ox and the Beak of an Eagle—Could Carry a Buffalo in Each of Its Four Talons—Where It Was Killed.

Overlooking the Piassa river, which pours its waters into the Mississippi just above Alton, stands the Piassa rock. About this there clings the remnant of an Indian legend which tells of a brave chief, Wapatogo, and how he saved his people from a monster. There are people now alive who remember when the rock bore the rude picture of a huge bird which was slain by Wapatogo painted there by his people to mark his act of heroism. The story was handed down in unwritten tribal history and the early settlers heard it from the chiefs of the tribe of which Wapatogo was the foremost chief.

At an early period in the history of this country, says the Chicago Tribune, a tribe of Indians inhabited the territory now embraced in the state of Illinois. They were the Illinis, from which the state derived its name. For many years this tribe increased in power, prosperity and numbers until their tepees could be seen on its green prairies and their canoes upon its beautiful water courses from one end of the state to the other. After a time a change came over this happy nation. Their hunting grounds were deserted and their ranks decimated. Where their people were the most numerous and where their great chief had his home there appeared a bird of enormous size—more of a beast than fowl—which took up its abode on a rock overlooking the Mississippi. Its huge body was covered with scales of every hue. With one blow of its mighty tail it could make the earth tremble. It had a head like an ox, with the beak of an eagle. Immense horns hung over eyes that shone with the fierceness of lightning, and its four feet were armed with powerful talons, in each of which it could carry a buffalo. When it flapped its wings there was a noise like thunder, and when it dived into the river great waves rolled upon the shore.

To this animal the Illinis gave the name of "Piassa Bird of the Evil Spirit." This bird feasted daily upon the Illini people whom it bore off in its claws. The influence of the medicine men stayed not its power. Day by day they saw with terror their number diminishing to gratify the insatiable appetite of the Piassa. Village after village was destroyed and consternation spread throughout all their tribe. There seemed nothing in the future for them but entire annihilation.

At last Wapatogo, the brave young chief of the nation, beloved and esteemed as their greatest warrior, whose fame extended beyond the rising and the setting sun, called a council of the priests in a secret cave, where, after many days of prayer and fasting, they slept. Presently the Great Spirit appeared to Wapatogo and told him the only way to rid his people of their great destroyer was to offer himself as a sacrifice. The young chief started up, aroused the sleeping priests, informed them of his vision from the Great Spirit and of his resolve to make the required sacrifice.

Wapatogo dressed himself as becoming a great chief—put on his war paint, and with his tomahawk, bow and arrows, took his position on this prominent point of rock to await the coming of the bird of death, the slayer of his people. As had been directed in his vision, many of his brave warriors were concealed in the interstices of the rocks, each to await with arrow drawn the time when their beloved chief should be attacked, to wreak their last vengeance on their dreaded enemy. Ereft and powerful stood the undaunted Wapatogo, calm and placid, chanting his death song. Suddenly there came a roar as of thunder, and in one instant the Piassa, with a wild scream that shook the rocks, darted down upon the chief. The brave Wapatogo quailed not, but when within reach he buried his tomahawk deep into the monster's head, every arrow went with lightning speed into its body, and the Piassa, with a shriek that resounded far over the opposite shore, fell dead.

Wapatogo stood unharmed—not an arrow nor even the talons of the bird had touched him. The Great Spirit, in admiration of the noble sacrifice the generous and brave Wapatogo would have made for his people, held over him an invisible shield. The tribe gave way to the wildest joy, held a great feast in honor of the event, and to commemorate it painted the figure of the bird of the Piassa on the rock, by the side of which their noble chieftain had stood in his heroic defense. There the picture remained for ages—until within the memory of dwellers of Alton—a mark for the arrow or bullet of the red man as he ascended or descended the great "Father of Waters."

Lowered the Piano.

The following amusing anecdote is told of the cantatrice Catalani. She was one day rehearsing at the Paris opera house an air which she had to sing in the evening, when she found the pitch of the pianoforte too high, and gave instructions to have the instrument lowered by the evening. Her husband, Capt. Valabreque, volunteered to see her order carried out, and immediately sent for the stage carpenter and had the legs of the pianoforte amputated. The performance took place, and the lady was greatly annoyed at the continued high pitch at which she had to sing. She soon sought her husband and remonstrated with him for neglecting her wishes. He, not a little hurt at being thus wrongfully accused, insisted upon calling the person who had performed the operation, and to Catalani's utter astonishment, called the carpenter, and said to him: "How much did you lower the piano, Charles?" "Two inches, sir," was the prompt reply.

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Aunt Mandy—Land sakes, Josiah, I'm afraid Caroline an' her folks is sufferin' up in town. We'd better make up a box of groceries an' send 'em Josiah—Did she ask for help? Aunt Mandy—Well, next thing to it; she said she was goin' to have a chrysanthemum tea next week.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

The Modern Jack Horner.

"Little Jack Horner sat in a corner,
Eating a Christmas pie;
He put in his thumb and pulled out a plum,
And said 'What a good boy am I!'"

But little Jack Horner became a great mourner when under his grow and a skintion. For his liver, I'll state, was like a dead weight, As he drank wine and ate too much mutton.

Poor Jack's time of grief, however, was brief,
And of sickness he ceased to be fearful;
For a boon friend said "Well, let's try Pierce's Peppermint."
And with good liver both are now cheerful.

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Dufur, Oregon.

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