

A WONDERFUL GROWTH.

Curious Details of Human Hair as Revealed by Microscope.
A study of the hair will afford novelty to many. It is so common a substance, and exhibits such a meager information to the unaided vision, that few people suspect it to be worthy of prolonged attention. Yet each hair of the human body is a wonderful growth, full of curious details.
The hairs of animals differ so considerably, one from the other, that a practiced microscopist can determine, upon viewing a single hair handed to him for inspection, from what creature it had been plucked. The hair of the human specimen sprouts from a tiny pit formed in the skin. Its so-called root is really a greasy bulb, occupying the cavity referred to, like an egg-shaped ball of fat, from which arises a tube with a sharp and well-defined shell, as it were, terminating at its utmost extremity in a point. This tube is filled for the greater part of its length with a pulpy matter, which may be compared with pith in plant stalks, although, scientifically regarded, it is of a totally different nature. The varied color of hair is due to interior deposits in the form of invisible grains of pigment, or natural paint, and it is through the loss of this matter that hair becomes gray, in which case the hair may be likened to a semi-transparent, glassy tube.
A very marvelous circumstance in connection with human hair lies in the fact that its outer surface is not smooth, as generally supposed. It is actually completely covered with incredibly minute scales in a similar manner to the wings of butterflies and the bodies of fishes—that is to say, these invisible slabs overlap one another precisely as do the tiles of a house. This statement may be verified readily by detaching a hair from a lady's head—by preference—and while holding the opposite ends in both hands, so that it becomes stretched and taut, dragging it across the tender surface of one's lips. When drawn in the direction in which the scales lie the hair feels quite smooth; but if moved in the opposite direction a distinctly noticeable rasping is felt as the edges of the scales hitch against the flesh.

Scores on Insurance Men.
"Insurance adjusters are about as clever and 'smooth' as any class of men to be found," said an old-time merchant the other day. "Their logic is always oiled and ready to run without the least friction. Once, however, one of the tribe got slipped up on. His logic got sidetracked on a derailing switch. I was running a country store which was destroyed by fire. The adjuster came along and then came the battle to get a settlement satisfactory to both sides. We were going over the items burned in the basement. 'Now, what else was there?' asked the adjuster. 'There were twenty bushels of potatoes which I paid 25 cents a bushel for, but at the time they were worth 30 cents a bushel.' 'Hold on,' said the insurance man. 'We're only paying you for what you lost. No inflated values go. They cost you \$5. What else?' 'There were four barrels of apples which had rotted on my hands and I was going to throw out that day. The fire prevented it. They weren't worth a cent, but they cost me \$3 a barrel.' 'The adjuster saw he was caught. Without batting an eye, he wrote, 'Four barrels of apples at \$3 a barrel, \$12. What else?'—Kansas City Times.

Dogs and Men.
"The average dog is better than the average man," says the Greenleaf Sentinel. "Do a dog a favor and he will never forget it. He will be your lifelong friend thereafter. This does not apply to one dog or two dogs, but to all dogs. Do a man a favor and he may remember it and be your lifelong friend thereafter. Some will go back on you and do you dirt in five minutes after you have done them a favor. Some are only your friends so long as you are in shape to do them favors. Get into trouble and many will verbally sympathize with you, but only a few will show their friendship in a substantial manner. If a man is not a true friend, there is very little real nobility in his makeup. 'The more we see of some men, the more we think of dogs,' as Madame de Stael said."—Kansas City Journal.
An Advantage of the System.
"Julia," said the mormon husband to his better half, "I proposed to the cook the other day."
"Oh, John, how sweet and thoughtful of you!" she exclaimed, delightfully. "Now, we can keep her in the family without raising her wages."—Baltimore American.
Conscience.
Miss Braggitt—I get so much attention that positively sometimes I feel that social duty is a perfect elephant on my hands.
Miss Sharp—At least, dear, it's a comfort to know the poor beast has plenty of room.—Baltimore American.
Security.
"One has very few friends in this life," said the misanthrope.
"Yes," answered Miss Cayenne. "I suppose that is one reason why a friend is so likely to be overworked."—Washington Star.
Uncle Eben.
"Friends," said Uncle Eben, "is a good deal like mushrooms. It's often hard to tell the difference between do good ones and do bad ones until it's overabundantly too late."—Washington Star.
Some people are so unfortunate that their troubles make people laugh instead of cry.

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