

MEDICATION BY FORCE.

STARTLING PROPOSITION MADE BY A NOTED PHYSICIAN.

Sickness Should Be Punishable by Law. He Advocates That There Be No Private Practitioners, but an Organized Medical Police—A Radical Idea.

"Sickness is a crime and should be made punishable by law."

This remark emanated from one of the most eminent and highly respected physicians in the city. "No physician, however far advanced in his profession he may be, can conscientiously say that he is infallibly familiar with the cases he is called on to treat," continued the doctor.

"My opinion is, as much as I love my profession, that the sooner the present class of doctors is wiped out the better. I believe that the government should have complete charge of caring for the sick throughout the country, and that the most miserable pauper should have the same treatment and show for his life that the millionaire has. I believe that if such was the case sickness could be reduced to such a minimum that the legislature could conscientiously construct a law making it a crime to be sick. Epidemics spring from carelessness, and all sicknesses result from abuses of the human system and neglect.

HIS UNIQUE PLAN.

"Have a chief of physicians, inspector of physicians, captains of physicians, sergeants and patrolmen, the same as the police department has. Let this city, for instance, be divided into precincts and sub-precincts, and let the patrolmen visit each family every day, and where sickness is found let reports be made and the proper medical remedies applied. Let every person, rich or poor, receive the same proper treatment."

"Let the salaries of the officers be of such a standard and the rules governing the department be so strict that it would be folly for a subordinate to attempt discrimination between the rich and poor. Make it a crime punishable by imprisonment for a person to attempt to employ a physician not appointed in the department. Have it systematized that a person could not be taken down sick without the fact becoming immediately known to the department and the disease checked in its incipency.

"For instance, suppose a patrolman should discover a peculiar disease in a tenement house district. Let him administer to the immediate relief of the patient and report the case to his captain. The latter reports it to the chief and the chief sends one of his staff of expert physicians to diagnose the case and then apply the proper remedies."

"There is no reason why people should be sick, and when it is discovered that the same persons have become sick several times with the same disease through their own carelessness they should be arrested and imprisoned as criminals."

CRIMINAL MALPRACTICE.

"As strange and preposterous as it may seem, according to years of observation and careful calculation and comparison with other countries, there are in the United States more than a million cases of criminal malpractice annually under the present system of doctoring. This is one of the principal evils that would be checked should the government establish such a department as I have described."

"It would be only a comparatively short time when we would have the healthiest city in the world, and it would ultimately result in establishing a condition of affairs where sickness, except in a natural way, would be entirely eliminated."

"Why, just take the report of the mortality in this state. It shows a death rate of 262 persons a day, or an annual rate of 16 persons to every 1,000 inhabitants. Nearly one-third of these deaths occurred under the age of 5 years from diseases that with proper and immediate attention could have been cured. Diphtheria, scarlet fever, whooping cough, measles, diarrhoeal diseases and typhoid fever were the principal causes of death. Under the system I have described patrolmen could have discovered these cases in time to have checked the diseases and saved the persons' lives."

"It is the only way by which epidemics of infectious diseases can be successfully eradicated, and the sooner the government sees the necessity of establishing such a department and overthrowing the present system of doctoring the sick the better it will be for the nation."—New York Telegram.

Limestone for Oysters.

The oyster planters of Long Island sound are taking limestone from the Hudson river with which to make oyster beds on which the spawn can attach itself. These planters first used all the oyster shells they could get from towns along the sound and from New York. Then they brought them by the shipload from Maryland. The oyster shells, however, broke up rapidly and were washed away, and it was found necessary to resort to limestone, which is found to make a permanent bed.—Chicago Herald.

Important if True.

The Chronicle of Wilkesboro, N. C., is responsible for the following stunner: Near Shelby Grove church, Moravian Grove township, lives a man about 75 years of age, whose locks for many years had been as white as the drifted snow flake. On the morning of the 1st day of December, 1890, he woke to find himself in possession of a most beautiful head of hair, with scarcely a gray hair to be found.

SPENDING HER HONEYMOON ALONE.

Economy Prevents a Bridegroom from Accompanying His Bride.

Wedding tours are expensive affairs. It sounds like treason, but the honeymoon usually costs a good deal more than it is worth. A young Pittsburger who fell into matrimony the other day hit upon a novel plan to reduce the expenses of the wedding trip. His bride to be and he, before the wedding day came around, talked as most young lovers do of all the places they would visit during the honeymoon. The drew up a new itinerary every evening and altered it the next night—as others in the same delightful state of imbecility have done. But as the fateful day drew near the young man fell to counting his pile and estimating how much it would cost to go to Niagara Falls and to New York city and the rest of the places that had figured in love's young dream. Then he footed up the cost of furnishing a little home, and no matter how he tried to keep the figures down, paring off a dollar or two from a table here and a carpet there, and economizing on plates and other prosaic things—which lovers very seldom think of at all till the collector rings the bell and will not go away without that little amount—no matter how he clipped and lopped and pinched, the total expenditure for honeymoon and the home at the end of it covered all the assets, and lapped over into the bargain.

This would never do, he thought—and then he went on thinking. The boldest fact of all that stared him in the face was the cruel indifference of the railroad companies and hotel proprietors to the needs of the newly married. Though a minister or a magistrate declare two people to be one, the railroads and the hotels insist upon charging for two. Contemplation of this cruel condition led the bridegroom-to-be a solution of the problem.

When next he visited his beloved he spread the minutes of his self communion before her and boldly suggested that she should take the tour they had planned alone, while he remained behind to prepare the home. She demurred at first warmly, but he persisted that she needed the change of air and scene—she was a hard working girl—that he did not. She had set her heart upon the trip and she should have it. At last she gave in. They were married, and she went to Niagara and the other places alone.

They belonged to a sphere where Mrs. Grundy is not a power, and very few of their friends to this day know the unique character of their honeymoon. It actually occurred as has been told—in Pittsburg, too, and not a great while ago, either.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

His Marriage Aided Him.

Abram S. Hewitt affords an example of the value of profitable marriages. Naturally a man of great force of character and a zealous student with worthy ambitions, he would have succeeded anywhere and in almost any line of activity, but his marriage to the daughter of Peter Cooper placed him at once on a plane which he, unaided by the fortunate alliance, might never have succeeded in attaining.

He was but a teacher when he first loved his respected wife, but once the son-in-law of the great benefactor and philanthropist he assumed a prominence in the public eye that gave him prestige. As plain Abram S. Hewitt, the teacher, he would have been no less a man; but as Abram S. Hewitt, the son-in-law of Peter Cooper, the public was predisposed to hear him.

The marriage leveled for him barriers that long years of self, unaided labor might never have overcome. He profited by the circumstances and became an almost natural figure. That he improved his opportunities is to his credit, but that the opportunities were available was the result of a happy, fortunate marriage.—New York Letter.

Courtesy with a Vengeance.

"Did I ever tell you how I was made to give up my seat?" "No; do."

"Well, I had to cross the ferry one night to take a New Jersey local. The car I got into was empty except one seat, where sat an awful pretty girl. For some reason or other I sat down beside her. The car was filling up all the time. Presently there wasn't a seat for anybody and several people were standing. Two old women stood right in front of me, but there were a lot of men sitting around who didn't offer to give them a seat, so I didn't. Presently the pretty girl got up and offered her seat to one of the old women, and for some reason or other I offered mine to the other old woman. Five men sprang up and offered a seat to the pretty girl. She blushed and smiled, sat down beside the handsomest, and I stood for the rest of the journey and—looked at her."—New York Herald.

A Proof of Gallantry.

Those vinegary persons who think politeness is a lost science because they sometimes see ladies standing in the cars while tired men are seated can see the refinement of gallantry any and every day in the General postoffice. There is never an hour while the long line of men tails away from the retail stamp window that some woman does not insist upon taking her place at the head of the line instead of the foot, to buy a stamp or get a package weighed. Time is precious to most of the men in the line, but no one has ever been known to object to the peculiarly feminine irregularity, whereas if a man tries to do the same thing, onts and violence are sometimes used to right the injustice.—New York Sun.

The Average Death Rate.

In England the average number of deaths each year is 1 out of each 43 inhabitants; in France, 1 out of each 32, and in the United States, 1 out of each 31. In this country the rate in the northwestern states is 1 in each 120; in the middle states, 1 in each 83; in the southern states, 1 in each 70; in the Gulf states, 1 in each 65.—St. Louis Republic.

TROUBLE.

There is sorrow that causes the world to reep: There is grief in the world, little man. It will not grow too happy in your time or mine if we make some one glad when we can.

There are tears—far more plenty than spring's early flowers— We may find them wherever we go: Let us heed that no look, word or action of ours Will cause even one more to flow.

There is trouble enough in the world, little maid. There is trouble enough and to spare; Let's keep ours to ourselves, we need not be afraid. That the others will not have a share.

—Ruth Day in Housekeepers' Weekly.

Hints for a Bachelor.

An infant may be as old as Methusalem or as young as a baby ephemeron for all you can tell. Now, you need just one suggestion to help you out. It is this: If the baby is in long clothes call it a year old. It won't be, but that's part of the diplomacy. If it's in short clothes and can't talk call it 5 years. It won't be that, but that's more diplomacy if it can talk call it anywhere from 6 to 8 years old.

This is the course which things may then be confidently expected to take: The mother proudly exhibits her offspring. Bearing in mind the rules here laid down you say of a long skirted youngster, "What a remarkably developed child for one year old!" "But it's really only six months, you know," answers the mother, indulgently unmindful of your mistake because of the flattery it implies.

In the case of a short skirted, non-locomotive youngster you will be safe in saying, "Isn't this a wonderfully fine baby for one four or five years old?" You may be years out of physical reckoning again, but the mother will soon see that it is the precocity of the infant that has misled you, and as before she will pardon much.

Remember this as you would the Ten Commandments: Always add to the age of a baby and subtract from the age of its mother. No matter how far astray you may go it will never be treasured up against you.—New York Evening Sun.

No Need of "Beauty Sleep."

It is all nonsense about "beauty sleep" coming in the hours before midnight, and that the rosy cheek on the country lass is the reward for retiring at the time when the proverbially pale faced city girl's evening commences. The late hours of fashionable life would not necessarily scatter the roses from the cheek if the late hour for retiring could be the same every night without variation. It is irregular hours and meals that cause pale and haggard faces. The handsome couple I ever saw retired regularly at 11:30, and always indulged in a light lunch just before retiring. They were both pictures of health.

The lady did not look over 35, though she never hesitated to say that she was 38 years old, and the husband looked at least ten years younger than he really was. They were both devotees to the laws of health. For years they had allowed nothing to interfere with the regularity of sleeping and eating hours. Almost the midnight hour was chosen for retiring, because it allowed them evenings at the theatre and an hour or so at even the most fashionable receptions. When alone in their home they never indulged in an earlier hour.—Chicago Herald.

Advice for Speakers.

One of the common mistakes made by the tyro in public speaking is that of exhausting his subject and his audience at the same time. By too great discursiveness the pith of the subject is lost, and what might have been a victory is turned into signal defeat. To save such a disaster one should think carefully upon any subject before attempting to talk upon it, and in the thinking keep strictly to the salient points and the simplest possible form of giving them expression.

Only the born orator, the genius, may safely venture into the flower garden of speech and indulge in glowing and highly colored perorations. To the ordinary speaker close attention to facts and simple statement in well chosen and convincing language are the safest and surest means of winning golden opinions for self and success for one's cause at the same time.—Jenness-Miller Magazine.

Twenty years ago no photograph was more often seen than that of President Lincoln sitting with a big book on his knee, and his little son Tad leaning against him and looking at it with him. The book was then thought to be a Bible, but it wasn't. It was Photographer Brady's picture album, which the president was examining with his son while some ladies stood by. The artist begged the president to remain quiet, and the picture was taken.

Sailors are a bowlegged class. An old salt always walks as if he were on the deck of a ship, and he never takes great strides like a landsman. He is used to having to walk great distances, in his imagination, on the quarter deck, and he can't get rid of the habit of making the most of his promenade.

A new leather dressing is a stuffing or filling compound in which are employed neatsfoot oil, beeswax, extract of logwood, borax, castile soap and other ingredients, in specified proportions, in order to soften and polish as well as preserve leather.

Senator Morrill, in spite of his 80 years, is devoted heart and soul to the improvement of the Capitol building at Washington. It is to him that is to be given the credit for the beautiful terraces which add so much of elegance and beauty to the Capitol building.

Banker Isidor Wormser, of New York, probably spends as much money for cigars during a day as any other man in the city. He smokes from fifteen to twenty cigars a day. The Perfecto is his favorite brand and they cost him twenty cents apiece.

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