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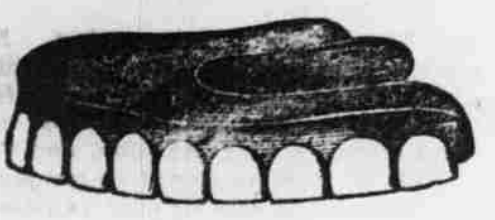
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CORRESPONDENT

MR. EDITOR:
Though not a citizen of Polk County, I ask space in your paper for a few short articles that have interested me ever since I have been a citizen of Oregon, that is, how can the farmers of this valley secure more remunerative prices for the productions of their farms, especially their wheat? To apply the proper remedy to an evil the first thing to be done is, to ascertain what the evil is and who is responsible for its existence. In this case the evil is all uniform low prices paid for wheat. Being a sort of half scholar in farming myself, and being personally interested in the matter, I have given it a good deal of thought, and have come to the conclusion that farmers are responsible for the condition of affairs of which they complain. I may fail to get them to see the matter in that light, and may be mistaken, if so I am open to conviction, and am sure the discussion of this subject will result in good to all interested. Farming like all other avocations, is liable to be conducted upon wrong principles, and farmers are liable to mistakes in the manner of conducting their agricultural affairs; and to some of these mistakes we wish to call their attention, and suggest what we conceive to be the remedy, subject to amendment by any farmer in the valley.

RURAL.

CURIOUSITIES OF HUMAN LIFE.
Care has been taken to make the following statements accurate, the best authorities having been consulted in their preparation.

THE LENGTH OF HUMAN LIFE.
The average length of life is 28 years.
One-fourth die before the age of 7.
One-half before the age of 17.
The rich live an average of 42.
The poor " " " 30.
One of 1,000 persons reaches 100.
One of 500 " " " 80.
Six of 100 " " " reach 65.
The average duration of life is greater now than ever before. According to Dupin the average length of life in France from 1776 to 1843 increased 52 per annum. Macarty states that in 1685 the deaths were 1 to 20; in 1850, 1 to 40. The rate of mortality 1781 was 1 to 29; 1853, 1 to 40.

POPULATION.
An able professor of the University of Berlin has lately made an estimate of the population of the globe:
Europe.....272,000,000
Asia.....720,000,000
Africa.....99,660,000
America North and South.....200,000,000
Australia.....2,000,000
Total.....1,283,960,000

DEATHS.
The number of deaths per annum, as founded on statistics for 1870 is.....32,850,000
The number of deaths per day is.....90,000
" " " hour is.....3,750
" " " minute is.....75

MARRIED AND SINGLE
The married live longer than the single. The mortality among bachelors between the age of 30 and 45 is 27 per cent; among married men between the same ages, 18 per cent. Seventy eight men reach 40, while only 41 bachelor arrive at the same age. At the age of sixty the advantage in favor of married life has increased 20 per cent.

OF THE SEXES.
There are more males than females born by 4 per cent. At the age of 20 there are more females than males. At the age of 40 the preponderance is again on the other side, and there are more males than females. At 70 the sexes are again even. Between seventy and 100 years there are 15,300 more women than men, or an excess of 5 per cent. The mortality of women is greatest between the ages of 20 and 40

After forty years of age the probabilities of longevity, as is shown, are far greater for females than for males.

OF SUICIDES.

Three-fourths of all suicides are males. The greatest number are caused by divorcees. The least number are among the married, next the unmarried next the widowed. One-third of the cases are due to mental diseases; one-ninth to physical suffering; one-tenth to fear of punishment or shame; one-ninth to family quarrels; one-ninth to drunkenness, gambling, etc.; one-twentieth to disappointed love. Of boys under 15 years of age 86 per cent. hang themselves; of girls of the same age 71 per cent. drown themselves. Young men most commonly use the pistol—old men the razor; young women drown themselves—old women use the rope; only one female in 200 uses firearms.
The ratio of suicides, as given by M. Decaisne before the French Academy of Science, is as follows: London, one in 175 deaths; New York, one in 172; Vienna, 1 in 100; while in Paris it has reached the shocking number of 1 in 72.

OF WEIGHT.

The average weight at birth is 6 pounds—the weight of males a little exceeding that of females; the extreme of weight at birth are 2 and 12 pounds. At 12 years of age the sexes are of nearly equal weight, after which limits males are heavier than females. At 20, males average 145 pounds, females 129 pounds. At 50, females average 129 pounds, having gained but 9 pounds in 30 years. The weight of males at full growth averages 26 times their weight at birth; that of females 20 times. The average weight of all people together is 160 pounds.

Probably the largest and heaviest single family in the world is the Howard family, of Kentucky; and possibly there has never at anytime existed a parallel to it. In the subjoined table the accuracy of which may be relied upon we give both the weight and the height of its members.

Father.....6 feet 4 inches.....200 pounds
Mother.....6 " ".....185 " "
Thomas.....6 " 4 ".....250 " "
James.....6 " 6 ".....215 " "
Sarah.....6 " 2 ".....165 " "
John.....6 " 11 1/2 ".....206 " "
Mary.....6 " 2 ".....150 " "
Elijah.....6 " 3 ".....210 " "
Mathew.....6 " 6 ".....250 " "
Eli.....6 " 6 1/2 ".....190 " "
Daughter.....6 " 3 ".....160 " "
Total.....70 feet 2 2/3 " "

Computed strength of father and sons 6,500 pounds. Entire ages, 557 years. Many of the grandchildren of this family are 64 feet in height, and weigh over 200 pounds.

BRAIN WEIGHT.

The theory that as a given quantity or weight of brains is necessary for the mental faculties, therefore all men are provided with an equal quantity, has been lately exploded. Inquiry has demonstrated that there is a difference in the average brain weight of races and nations, and a still greater difference in that of individuals, as the facts will show:

English, average weight.....47.50 ounces
French " ".....44.58 " "
German " ".....42.83 " "
" " another estimate.....44.10 " "
Italians, average weight.....47.00 " "
Dutch " ".....46.00 " "
American (aboriginal races).....44.73 " "
Lapps, Sweds, and Frisians.....40.58 " "
Vedabs and Hindoos of Asia.....44.11 " "
Mussulmans.....42.30 " "
Khonds of India (aboriginal).....37.87 " "
African races from 38.00 to.....45.00 " "
The Kaffir high, Bushman low (Australian race).....40.50 " "
Malays and Oceanic races from 39.56 to.....43.70 " "

The maximum weight of the human brain (Cuvier's) is 61.50 ounces; the minimum weight (idiots), twenty ounces.

Average weight, male adults.....49.50 oz
" " female ".....47.00 " "

The heaviest individual brains on record, next to Cuvier's, are, first:
Daniel Webster.....61.00 ounces
Dr. Abercrombie.....63.00 " "
Dupuytren (French surgeon).....62.50 " "

DIVISIONS OF LIFE.

A French statistician has estimated that a man fifty years has slept 6,000 days; worked 6,500 days; walked 800 days; amused himself 4,900 days; was eating 1,500 days; was sick five hundred days; ate 17,000 pounds of bread; 16,000 pounds of meat, 4,600 pounds of vegetable, eggs, etc., and drank 7,000 gallons of liquid of all kinds. This amount of liquid would make a lake 300 feet square and 3 feet in depth.

THE NECESSARY DAILY PROPORTION OF FOOD.

Dr. Mott gives the following daily proportion of food as requisite to sustain life healthfully and soundly.

1st Class—Persons of moderate health and little exercise, 12 to 18 oz. of food, equal to ten ounces of nutritious matter.
2d Class—Persons of good health and ordinary labor (mechanics etc.) 18 to 24 oz. of food, equal to 19 oz. of nutriment.
3d Class—Persons of sound health, hard labor, and consequent violent exercise, 24 to 30 oz. of food, equal to 22 oz. nutriment.

THE HUMAN MECHINERY.

A fully developed man has 60 bones in his head, 60 in his thighs and legs, 62 in his arms and hands, and 67 in his trunk; making a total of 249 bones. Such a frame will contain 15 quarts of blood, weighing two pounds each. Every pulsation of the heart discharges two ounces of blood, which is an average of two hogshead an hour. The united length of the perspiratory tubes is 28 miles, and they drain from the body an average of 34 pounds of matter per day, which is five eights of all that the body discharges.

The human body contains over five hundred muscles. The intestines are 24 feet in length. The finger nails grow their full length in 4 1/2 months. A man 70 years of age has renewed his finger-nails 180 times. Allowing each nail to be half an inch long, he has grown 7 feet 9 inches of nail on each finger, and on fingers and thumbs together, a total of seventy seven feet and six inches.

The heart makes an average of 64 pulsations in a minute, which is 3,840 in an hour, and 92,160 in a day. Two fifths of the oxygen inspired disappears with each inspiration, the place of which is supplied by the carbonic gas thrown off by expiration. Thus each adult person ought to consume 44,000 cubic inches of oxygen every 24 hours, and in the same time he generates 18,000 cubic inches of carbonic acid gas.

Every moment during life a portion of our substance becomes dead, combines with some of the inhaled oxygen and is thus removed. By this process it is believed that the whole body renews itself every seven years.—*Pyre-nological Journal.*

I ASSURE YOU, SIR, HE IS NOT MY SON

The *Jolly Giant* is responsible for the following:
Monkeys are scarce in Michigan. A saddler kept one for a pet, which usually sat on the counter. A country man, who had never seen a monkey, came in one day when the proprietor was in the back room, and asked the pet what he would take for a saddle, at which he pointed. Monkey said nothing, customer took a twenty dollar bill from his pocket, and said, "I will give you that for the saddle." Monkey put the money in the drawer, and the man took the saddle, when the pet

mounted him, pulled his hair, scratched his face, and so frightened him as to cause him to cry for help. The proprietor rushed in, and asked, "What's the fuss?" "Fuss" said the customer "fuss" I bought a saddle of your son sitting there, and when I went to take it, he wouldn't let me have it." The saddler apologized for the monkey, but assured him he was no

PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

We make the following extract from the eloquent address of Capt. James B. Eads, delivered before the Academy of Science at a recent meeting in St. Louis:

The civilization of to-day is in reality mainly founded upon our knowledge and application of physical science. To this cause are we almost wholly indebted for the superior refinements, methods of life, and multiplicity of appliances for increasing our happiness. Nor does the glory of science end with these magnificent and tangible evidences of her power. To her is chiefly due that moral force which characterizes civilized life. She prevades all departments of intellectual labor, and all theories and forms whether of law, commerce, agriculture, social economy of government, are subjected in some measure to her crucial tests. Even Sacred Writ accepts just such interpretation as her inexorable laws demand. Through her teachings we are learning to correctly estimate the value of experiment and observation, and to demand that evidence shall precede belief. Already has the startling fact dawned upon the human understanding, that man's welfare on earth is wholly dependent upon his implicit observance of certain immutable laws, and only through the most perfect knowledge of these can he hope to yield that invariable obedience which secures the highest degree of human happiness. Science which we have been too prone to look upon simply as a means of advancing our material prosperity, here proves our friend in a higher cause. She alone unfolds these vital laws to man.

Her domain, embracing as it does the entire cosmos is so boundless however, and the mental scope and lifetime of man so limited, that it is only by some judicious co-operative system, in which individuals confine themselves to special departments of investigation, and in which careful records are preserved to convey to future workers their observations and discoveries, that mankind can hope to attain the earliest possible insight into all of the mysteries of nature.
"One science only will our genius fit.
So vast is art, so narrow human wit."

We see, therefore, the importance of encouraging such institutions as this where investigation in all departments of natural and physical science may receive such aids through experiment, demonstration and observation, as genius when fostered by wealth can accomplish, and where the records of the past, and the details of present discoveries in the world of science can be temptingly placed within the reach of every inquirer.

What purer philanthropy can we conceive of than that which has for its aim the most thorough instruction of our fellow men in the comprehensive knowledge of those unalterable moral and physical laws, on the observance of which, and their proper application, depends the amelioration of mankind? This is the noble purpose of your institution.

The acquisition of wealth usually quenches man's love for his fellow. The pursuit of knowledge, on the contrary, awakens one of his noblest attributes. The cultivation of the mind inspires the wish to benefit our neighbors; and the desire increases in proportion as knowledge supplies the power to elevate and improve his condition