

The Herald

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No Decisive Battle Yet

Since the war began in August there has been continuous land fighting. Not a day has passed without cannonading, charging, a duel of one kind or another. Some of the battles have been on a scale greater than Waterloo or Gettysburg. More shot has been fired, more explosives discharged, in a period of months than have been fired and discharged in wars lasting a period of years.

But so far there has been no decisive land battle. French and English and Belgian forces have offset the mighty forces of the Germans. The Russian Sweep has been stemmed repeatedly by the Germans. In spite of the poor showing of the Austrians, it is yet to be said that they have been defeated. In the Dardannells, the Turks have withstood the greatest combined naval and land assault ever brought to bear in any campaign. Scattered German warships have been sunk, but the German navy is in tact. Several British and two or three French vessels have been destroyed and yet it has not emboldened the German navy to try issues in a great battle. Dirigibles, aeroplanes and submarines, for all their activities and successes, have yet to show that they have swung the decision of battle to their side.

Is this war to be without decision? Are the two sides so evenly matched that neither can hope to gain advantage?—Toledo Blade.

A Toast to Laughter

Here's to laughter, the sunshine of the soul, the happiness of the heart, the leaven of youth, the privilege of purity, the echo of innocense, the treasure of the humble, the wealth of the poor, the bead of the cup of pleasure. It dispels dejection, banishes blues and mangles melancholy; for it is the foe of woe, the destroyer of depression, the enemy of grief; it is what kings envy peasants, plutocrats envy the poor, the guilty envy the innocent; its sheen on the silver of smiles, the ripple on water's delight; the gleam of the gold of gladness; without it humor would be dumb, wit would wither, dimples would disappear and smiles would shrivel, for its glow of a clean conscience, the voice of a pure soul, the birth cry of myrth, the swan song of sadness.—Exchange.

Dogs and Rabies

The following information regarding rabies is taken from the quarterly bulletin of the Oregon State Board of Health and gives signs of affected animals:

The incubation period of this disease varies from about seven days to a period extending over months; however, for general purposes, it may be said that the

usual incubation period is from two to six weeks' time. At the end of this time, the animal is noted to be acting peculiarly—he does not seem natural; he is nervous, apparently worried about something; is uneasy and restless, or may shun the houses or human beings with whom he has been friendly; or, sometimes the reverse of this is seen, the animal becomes more affectionate, stays close to its master, jumping upon him, trying to lick his hands and face, and is anxious to be petted. This particular stage lasts but a short time, and then the disease takes one of two forms—the paralytic or the furious type. In the former variety, the animal oftentimes is weak, stumbles, falls upon attempting to run; in fact, not much of an attempt to run can be made because in a short time he becomes paralyzed, dragging his hind quarters. Again, it has been quite frequently noted that the animal's jaw seems to drop; he swallows peculiarly, or he does not swallow at all; saliva drools from his mouth and he has all the appearance of choking. Very soon he is unable to swallow at all and steals to some secluded and darkened spot and dies. Both in this and the furious type it may be said that animals almost invariably die within 72 hours after the first symptoms have made their appearance. In the furious type, after a short period of peculiar behavior, the animal often disappears, traveling a distance of from 15 to 50 miles. He has become a raging brute, snapping and biting at everything that comes in his way. The old belief that a mad animal travels in a straight line is erroneous. It is true he will not go far out of his way from men or other animals, but goes wherever his insane fancy takes him. This may be down a traveled road or trail in the woods, or across a prairie, or he may jump into yards of houses he is passing to engage in fight with other animals. The mad dog after his sortie may return to his home, there to hunt cover and die. Paralysis is noted in this form the last few hours of the disease, it becoming impossible for the animal to move. There are one of two characteristic things about animals that die with rabies. One is that quite often their mouths are found filled with straw, brush or other material. Another is the drawing up of the upper lip to one side of the mouth. This is seen with great frequency. Again, quite often the tongue is seen to be bitten through and held firmly clinched between the teeth.

As in the case of an insane human so in this the mentality deteriorates and is unbalanced. Very few things are done which would be done in normal circumstances and due to this infection of the nerve centers the animal becomes entirely different from its normal self. There is a complete change in the nature, habits, and characteristics. The coyote—the poor miserable coyote—an animal of such nature and habits that its name and that of coward are almost synonymous, who shuns man as Satan does holy water, under the influence of this infection becomes as fierce, ferocious and venomous as the cornered cougar, the wounded tiger or the bear when the safety of her cubs is threatened. The change of Dr. Jekyll to Mr. Hyde was never so complete as the change of the slinking, cowardly night prowler into the wildly-attacking, fighting animal whose

fangs are charged with poison which means sure death to those inoculated and untreated.

Not all subjects bitten by rabid animals develop the disease, due to some of the causes stated in the earlier part of this article. However, the virus of the rattlesnake, the viper, the cobra, give way in awe to the supremacy of the poison of rabies once the latter is successfully introduced into a subject, mortality of these cases being 100 per cent. For this reason it has been a disease held in dread by the human race since a period antedating the Christian era. Prompt treatment is absolutely essential. The wounds should be cauterized with nitric acid and the patient immediately sent to the nearest location where Pasteur treatments are administered.

Watch this space

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Week

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