

ST. VITUS' DANCE

A Nervous Disease Characterized by Involuntary and Purposeless Spasms.

It Occurs Most often in Girls; is Often Hereditary, but Articular Rheumatism and Scarlet Fever Predispose to It.

From the Chronicle, Chicago, Ill.

Notwithstanding the poor news always with us, Thanksgiving is soon the less a day of rejoicing. Many charities have been dispensed and through numerous instrumentalities the necessities and sufferings of many a worthy person have been relieved. Absent members of households reunite at the old homestead and gathered around the festal board recount the incidents that have taken place and the various blessings that have been vouchsafed them since they assembled at the last annual meeting by the same fireside. It is a time for memory and for joy. Among the countless families of Chicago there is perhaps, not one to-day that feels a deeper sense of gratitude to the Giver of all good and perfect gifts than Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Collier, of 4904 Armour Avenue.

Mr. Collier, who is the electrician at the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad shops in this city came here from Hamilton, Canada, a little more than nine years ago accompanied by his wife and little daughter, their only child Elna, then aged four. Little Elna was a bright and beautiful girl, but not a very robust one.

For the last few years she had been somewhat ailing, but her condition was not such as to create any uneasiness in the minds of her parents, who almost idolized her. In the school she was regarded as one of the brightest scholars of her class and was the envy of her class-mates. Although but a little over twelve years of age, her intellect was phenomenal. She was possessed, however, of a very nervous temperament which is frequently the case with children of her advanced intelligence. Early in the month of June last, owing to a sudden fright, she was thrown into violent spasms, to recover only to be afflicted with St. Vitus' dance in the most form.

The constipation of her parents may well be imagined. Of course the best physicians were summoned at once but their efforts to restore her to her normal condition were devoid of results. She continued to grow weaker, her appetite wholly failed and commencing with her right arm her whole right side and lower arm became limp, numb, and motionless and her little nourishment she was able to take and to be administered by others. To add to the seriousness of the case she was unable to obtain any sleep whatever.

It was while in this deplorable condition hovering between life and death with all the prospects of a premature grave before her, that one day on returning home from his duties Mr. Collier found awaiting him a newspaper, which an old acquaintance in Hamilton, his former place of residence, had sent to him by mail.

In the local columns he read of the case of a certain person he had known years before having been permanently cured of the complaint of which his own daughter was now suffering, by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. He had often heard and read before marvelous accounts of the efficacy of this remedy but as an after consulting doctors of different schools of medicine, he had taken her to the Homeopathic Dispensary where her case was discussed by all the members of the faculty who unanimously declared in the presence

of the case that there was no longer any hope to be held out as it was a malady which in this instance at least was incurable. It was therefore with a feeling of utter despair that Mrs. Collier first began to administer the Pink Pills.

She says a perceptible change came over the little one before even the second box had been emptied and even after having used six boxes her health is entirely restored. In the early part of her illness her intellect was very much clouded. She had become extremely dull of comprehension hardly realizing the meaning of words when addressed. Seen to-day in the cheerful home of the Colliers on Armour Avenue, she is the personification of health. Her nervousness has entirely disappeared, her intellect is bright, keen and active, her strength has returned and the roses in her cheeks attest to the complete recovery of her bodily health. She is now ready to resume her music lessons and as soon as the schools open after the holidays she will again take up the studies which she so suddenly left off on that eventful June day. The sister-in-law of Mrs. Collier, Mrs. Lewis, who was present at the interview emphatically confirmed all that Mrs. Collier has said regarding the past and present condition of little Elna, adding that a famous physician in Hamilton invariably recommends Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in such cases as this and many others.

Mrs. Collier herself has for a number of years been a constant sufferer from a female complaint which so far has baffled the skill of the doctors and during a period of less than six months her husband has expended over two hundred dollars in fees for medicine. She has now begun the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and while it is as yet too early to announce a cure in her case she feels so much improved as to express the belief that her physical troubles will shortly be of the past. These are some of the reasons why the Collier family return thanks on this our national day of praise and festivity.

The above is a correct statement of facts concerning my little daughter and myself. MRS. A. COLLIER.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of December, 1896.

DAN GREENE, Notary Public.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are sold by all druggists. Thousands of boxes have been disposed of. This was one of the few remedies which was not cut in price during the recent druggists' war. This fact shows that the price is within the reach of all. Their cures are positive and permanent. They are an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, palpitation of the heart, pale and sallow complexion, nervous prostration and "that tired feeling," which is a result of the latter. It also is a permanent cure for all diseases resulting from vitiated humors of the blood, such as scrofula, erysipelas and like diseases; diseases peculiar to women, such as suppression, irregularities and all forms of weakness. The pills build up the general health, thicken the blood and send it coursing through the veins with renewed life. And one very peculiar thing about this remedy is that there are no unpleasant after effects. Thousands of former sufferers are now rejoicing to know that they are cured. Children may take them with perfect safety. These pills are manufactured by Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., and are sold only in boxes bearing the firm's trade-mark and wrapper, at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50 and are never sold in bulk. The public should beware of fraudulent imitations, as many unscrupulous medicine companies have been making the inferior imitations.

AN EXPENSIVE BUG.

The Gypsy Moth Cost the Government \$20,000.

It Was Hunted for Months by an Expedition Throughout the Whole Country—The Insect Cost Massachusetts a Fortune.

The other day I made a trip with Secretary Morton about his preserves. Every once in two or three months the secretary makes a progress through his domain, which extends as far as the experimental station at Benning, near Washington, D.C., and about four miles from what might be called his headquarters in the Mall. As we stepped out of the door of the agricultural building Secretary Morton pointed to a small brick structure to the east.

"That's where we keep our insects," he said, "and no one need laugh at our collection. I regard it as fine an array of bugs as any on earth. Yes, sir," remarked the secretary, while his eyes twinkled, for he it known the secretary doesn't think much of bug investigations. I've got a bug in there that cost the government \$20,000; he doesn't look it, but he did. It's a fact. One day an outfit of scientists started in pursuit of this bug. They ranged all over the hemisphere and stuck to his trail like bloodhounds. They ransacked North America all the way from the isthmus to Alaska. After the most remarkable adventures by flood and field, they treed their bug and took him a prisoner. He was then brought captive to Washington and he's right there now, in that brick house, the highest-priced bug on earth. A roundup of the total expense of that one bug hunt came to over \$20,000. But we got the bug.

"There's nothing like science," remarked the secretary, "or scientists to bring some bald detail of government properly to bay.

"For instance, there was Prof. Harrington, at one time chief of the weather bureau. He was a scientist, and a good one, and used only scientific methods in everything to which he turned his hand. For example, one day our weather fellow at Baker City, Ore., failed to send in a report for four straight days. We didn't know whether he was in the midst of storms or calms; we couldn't hear from him. This Baker City silence grew tedious. My first notice of it, however, was one morning when I received a communication from Prof. Harrington, wherein he set forth the deathlike stillness which prevailed in the case of our Baker City man and wound up by recommending that a gentleman named Smith in San Francisco be instructed to proceed to Baker City at an expenditure not to exceed \$100, and explore the observatory, as well as the man in charge, and discover the reasons of his silence. It struck me as a scientific case of going all about Robin Hood's barn, and I remarked to the professor after reading his recommendation:

"I guess we'll follow your recommendation after I have wired him—that is, if it should then be necessary."

"Thereupon I took a telegraph blank and wired my tongue-tied friend at Baker City, and briefly asked why he had failed to send the weather report for the last four days. In about an hour his reply came in.

"Because the wires were down until this morning. They have just been repaired."

"That was all he said, but it was full enough for our purpose. Of course, we didn't get the information scientifically, but we got it just the same, and it only cost 75 cents instead of \$100.

"Still, there is nothing like science," continued the secretary, "only one should be mighty careful how he fools with it. A scientific mishap is apt to broaden into a disaster rapidly. It was only recently that some earnest French scientist imported from Europe an insect called the 'gypsy moth.' He intended to cross this foreign moth with some local bird of kindred feather, and, while I'm not clear as to his ultimate expectations, my impression is that he thought that this mule moth which he was after would take some important part in silk culture.

"So he brought a family of gypsy moths and established himself with these interesting insects in some town in Massachusetts. He had them all locked up in a sort of a mosquito-netting cage. This was hanging near an open window, in order to give the captives a chance at the fresh air, and a wind came along, when the Frenchman's scientific back was turned, and blew the whole business out of doors. The gypsy moths got away and since then they and their descendants have nearly eaten up every green thing in Massachusetts, except Congressman Morse. I hear the moths missed him. It's the truth; the moths simply laid waste the state, and the legislature has already been driven to appropriate over \$400,000 toward their extermination. That happened as the result of that scientific experiment. Oh, no! I am not saying anything against science; I only wish to emphasize the fact that people who fool with it ought to have a care."—N. Y. Journal.

Vitality of Disease Germs.

During the summer of 1894 the noted bacteriologists of Europe, Koch, of Germany, Pasteur, of France, Ewart, of Scotland, and Carpenter, of England, made experiments on the vitality of the germ which causes typhoid fever in animals. The facts thus deduced prove that earth worms may bring up the germs from places where such animals have been buried after a lapse of 20 years, and that the dried and pulverized blood of such diseased animals will produce the disease after 50 years.

The Sleep of Children.

Children, until they are 12 or 13 years old, should have at least ten hours' sleep; eleven is better; until 15 or 16, nine hours is quite too much.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

—The Chistendon monument, erected by the state of Vermont in memory of her first governor, Thomas Chittenden, and located in Williston, is now practically completed.

—The Japanese, for two or three centuries, have made paper cloth which will bear washing. It is said to be much more expensive than cotton or linen, and is therefore less employed as a textile fabric.

—Discoveries of valuable onyx, which promise to develop into very large mines, have been made near Healdsburg, Cal. The stone is beautifully marked, and a blast of the face of the ledge has exposed it in great quantities.

—Mrs. Langtry's greatest hobby appears to be the collection of silver trifles, from the tiny silver furniture of a doll's house up to the exquisite model, which stands on a beautifully inlaid table in a window recess, of a large ship in full sail.

—Margaret Neilson, an old woman who lived near Independence, Ky., recently feeling her end near, walked 16 miles to an undertaker, bought a cheap coffin and a burial robe and carried them on her back to her home. A week later she died.

—Georgia has made a strong effort toward obtaining good roads. A law has been passed by the legislature requiring all male persons between the ages of 15 and 50 to work on the roads five days in each year, or in lieu of working to pay to the county road fund one dollar a day for each of the five days.

—The rate at which the use of the bicycle is growing is seen in the statement that the League of American Wheelmen now numbers 37,348 members, 9,522 of whom are credited to New York, 5,583 to Massachusetts and 4,412 to Pennsylvania, while the tail-enders of the procession are Idaho and Nevada, with two members each. Both these states, however, are better adapted to walking than wheeling.

WHEN MEN WEEP.

Neither Pain Nor Grief Which as a Rule Moves Them to Tears.

It is one of the first laws of the philosophy of emotion that men shall not cry. They must find some other outlet for their pent-up feelings. Swearing is the most natural expedient, but as this is considerably worse than crying, the safest plan, perhaps, is to make frequent use of the expressions: "Dear God!" and "goodness gracious!" which are perfectly harmless.

There are, as everyone must know, times when even the strongest men are overcome by their feelings, and a terribly heartrending sight it is to see a big frame convulsed with sobs and a proud, manly face stained with tears.

As a rule, however, it is neither pain nor grief which will make a man cry. Soldiers, who will bear excruciating injuries without a moan, have been known to break down when the lights are lowered and some very thrilling scene is portrayed on the Adelphi boards.

Orators and singers are both subject in an extraordinary degree to the sway of emotion. Tears are no uncommon sight in a pulpit. In fact, there are few preachers whose voices are not at times so full that they are choked with feeling, and their eyes bedimmed with tears. Then, if you glance around the hushed assembly, you are hanging on the preacher's words, you will see many men whose cheeks are moist from sympathy.

The great Spurgeon would often break down under stress of feeling, and Canon Dodson's utterance many a time failed him from the overwhelming pathos which his emotional voice betrayed.

Sims Reeves' "Tom Bowling" always effected the famous singer, and Marie was known to break down when the well of his gentle heart's emotion was filled until the tears could no longer be held back.

When Charles Dickens put an end to the career of little Paul Dombey, the great writer went out into the darkness of the night and found comfort in tears. Many men are overcome when reading books; even frivolous novels may contain a chapter which will make the throat husky and blur the pages till they become invisible.

Mr. John Bright was known on several occasions to give way to his feelings in delivering a public speech, while Lord Russell is often beaten by the pathos of his own impassioned language.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

A Dissolved Partnership.

One of the ablest and most brilliant lawyers at the York county (Me.) bar was John Holmes, of Alfred, who was widely known for his wit and sarcasm. An opportunity was seldom lost by him of exhibiting his opponent in a ridiculous position. An instance of this kind occurred while a member of the senate of the United States, in the discussion on nullification. Mr. Tyler, of Virginia, afterwards president, alluded to a satirical remark of John Randolph, in which that gentleman had some time before designated certain active politicians as partners, under the firm name of "James Madison, Felix Grundy, John Holmes and the Devil," and asked Mr. Holmes, with the view of making a severe cut, what had become of that celebrated firm. Mr. Holmes immediately sprang to his feet and said: "Mr. President, I will tell the gentleman what has become of that firm: the first member is dead and the second has gone into retirement, and the last has gone to the milliners and is now electroplating among the gentlemen's constituents, and thus the partnership is legally dissolved."—Green Bag.

Nothing So Small.

Mr. Citiman (dining at country restaurant)—Now you can bring me a demi-tasse.

Waiter (puzzled)—What's that? Mr. Citiman—Why, a small cup of coffee—about half the regular size. Waiter—Say, we don't have less than a five-cent cup here.—Puck.

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