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A USELESS GIFT.

Nature is Not Always a Friend to Mankind.

The Vermiform Appendix and the Amount of Serious Trouble it has Caused-Science Says Cut It off--Thousands Die Because It Each Year.

Will the coming man have a vermiform appendix?

Who has not heard of that troublesome little pouch in the abdominal regions which serves no good purpose, but is responsible for thousands of deaths each year?

Emmons Blaine, Senator Hagan and many other persons of prominence had trouble with the vermiform appendix—and they died.

Now science is asking in all seriousness whether the vermiform appendix shall be allowed to exist; whether it shall not be removed entirely before it has the opportunity to poison and destroy.

Professor B. G. Wilder has said flatly that children should be relieved of the vermiform appendix just the same as they are vaccinated; but other students in this new field are not yet ready to pronounce in favor of so radical a scheme.

Physicians have known for centuries that the vermiform appendix existed, but it was not until 1888—not until five years ago—that any one of the profession had the daring to make an incision into the abdominal cavity and remove this rank offender against the laws of health.

The attack on the vermiform appendix is but five years old, but it is being prosecuted with remarkable vigor in New York City, where it originated, and the reason is not far to seek. It is simply because physicians feel sure that they have evidence that appendicitis, as disease of the vermiform appendix is named, causes more deaths every year than consumption, the long acknowledged chief among fatal diseases.

The appendix vermiformis in normal condition is about the size of a lead pencil and about six inches long. It is very well shown in a specimen which was removed at a clinical lecture at the Post-Graduate Medical school on Jan. 13, 1893.

This appendix had ulcerated and increased in size somewhat, but gave a very fair idea of the part. When perfectly normal it so compares with an ordinary lead pencil that it is most frequently described as like a pencil. It is a pencil that writes only death warrants.

Even to-day very few physicians outside of New York City have any accurate knowledge of appendicitis, or would undertake an operation for the removal of the appendix. So entirely is the discovery of the disease and the proper method of treating it an American development of knowledge and practice, that among the scientists of other countries to-day, appendicitis is known only as "the American disease."

At the International Medical congress, which is to be held in Rome in September, there will be gathered skilled surgeons from all over the world; and the magnet which will draw many there who might not usually find it convenient to attend the conferences of the congress is the desire to learn of the "American disease" and the success of the many operations which have been performed in New York City—and in New York City almost exclusively—since 1888. There will doubtless be a slight professional skepticism, for there are fads in medicine as well as in all other things, and the delegates from New York will go prepared to meet all objection with ocular proof of the various forms which appendicitis produces in the degenerate appendix vermiformis.

They will find no difficulty in making this showing, for since the recent discoveries removals of the cause of all the trouble have been very frequent. One general practitioner has had forty-eight such cases within a year, and the record of each case, with the diseased appendix removed, will form a part of the argument used at the congress in Rome to substantiate the assertion of the American surgeons that they have discovered the most fatal of all diseases and also a most successful, and permanent cure.

Speaking in the light of recent research, it seems safe to say that appendicitis is far more prevalent than consumption, and in just that proportion causes more deaths, the chief difference being that the cause or seat of appendicitis may be removed bodily with success in most cases, and success means restoration to perfect health.

The removal of the vermiform appendix in the early stages of an attack of appendicitis is now held to be one of the safest of surgical operations, while such an operation, when the case has come to near its last and fatal stage, is one of the most desperate. The sad case of Senator Hagan is one in point. He had long desired an operation, but it had been delayed until too late for an assured success.

And now, after all these facts are recited, recurs the question of whether the coming man will have a vermiform appendix. It is not meant by this to inquire whether the coming man will have his appendix slain lest it slay him. A much wider question is asked him. The number of appendices removed in New York city since the discovery that such an operation could be safely performed, is very great, all things considered. One general practitioner, not a surgical specialist, told the representative of the *World* that he had removed 100 appendices in two years. Possibly a thousand appendices have been removed since the first operation of this sort in 1888, and most of these in the past three years.

What follows? If such a rate is to be maintained there will soon be a very large proportion of the people of New York City who have eliminated their vermiform appendices and we are glad of it.

Will the children of this people be likewise possessed of vermiform appendices? Undoubtedly. But should the eliminating process be continued for a few generations, how long would it be before this useless and dangerous, degenerate and rudimentary portion of the body will be permanently bred out of existence?

SEA BATHING.

For Health Should not be Indulged in For More than Ten Minutes.

A sea bath is to most persons exceedingly agreeable and refreshing, and, when judiciously employed, a medicinal agent of great value. But, like all other medicinal agents, it may be productive of good or bad results, depending upon the condition of the one who takes the bath and his manner of taking it. To the convalescent, impatient for delayed strength, to the inland dweller, whose devotion to business pursuits or housewifely cares has resulted in feeble health and nervous bankruptcy, and to all overworked in mind or body, no measure, when discreetly used, so surely brings vigor and rest as a sojourn at the seashore, and a daily plunge into the salt water. Though not everyone's experience in salt water bathing has been agreeable, and perhaps to some it has proved positively harmful, it can be asserted that in nearly all such cases the unsatisfactory results are due to some indiscretion of the bather, or misconception of the principles that should guide one in resorting to sea baths for sanitary purposes.

Sea bathing is a more powerful tonic than the ordinary cold bath. The stimulation of the cutaneous surface by the dissolved salt, the changing and cooler currents of air, the impact of the waves upon the body and the mental effect of the unusual surroundings, combine to impress the system very forcibly. While such conditions may have a depressing effect upon one who is unaccustomed to them, they are highly bracing and stimulating to him who is healthy and strong enough to make sea bathing safe.

On entering the cold sea bath there is a sense of depression of greater or less degree, depending upon the nervous susceptibility of the bather and the degree of the temperature of the water below that of the body. The water looks very alluring as one stands upon the hot sandy beach, but proves distressingly cold if one advances slowly into it, the skin becomes shriveled, and presently the familiar gooseflesh appearance, caused by a contraction of the skin, and consequent protrusion of the hair follicles, spreads over the body. There is a general shivering, a blueness of the lips, nose and extremities, as the blood recedes from the cutaneus vessels and masses about the internal organs. An involuntary sobbing breathing as the water rises to the chest marks its impression upon the nervous system. If the advance into the water continues, or still quicker, if a plunge into its depth be taken, the system in a few seconds is aroused to meet and overcome these depressing effects and a sense of exhileration follows. The skin now becomes ruddy, the whole body is in a glow, the pulse stronger, the breathing full and easy, and body and mind are invigorated.

This abrupt dilation of the cutaneous vessels, the stimulation of the heart's action, and restoration of the body heat is the reaction which is sought for in the therapeutic use of the sea bath. One or two more pluges can now be taken, or two or three waves allowed to pass over one, and then all the good that can be derived from the bath has been acquired. It may be prolonged for the sake of the pleasure which may be derived from sporting in the cool water, or from the profit to be attained in learning to swim, but no further constitutional benefit will be derived by an extension of the five or eight minutes already passed in the water. If the bath is further prolonged the bather must be in the best of condition, and should exercise in swimming or otherwise, for the more hurried circulation of the blood during the bath causes it to cool rapidly as it comes to the surface, the temperature of the whole body is soon lowered, and there follows a second contraction of the cutaneous vessels and a chilliness more protracted than the first.—*Pierre S. Starr, M. D., in Worthington's Magazine for August.*

The telephone is now used by deep-water divers. A receiver and transmitter combined is affixed to the inside of the helmet near the diver's ear. By a slight turn of his head he can speak into the 'phone, and he can hear readily from it at all times. Its value in deep sea work for reporting progress or reciving instructions is clear. Formerly the only communication was by a system of pulls at a cord.

Cardinal Gibbons will celebrate his silver jubilee on Sunday, October 14th. It is expected that most of the dignitaries of the Church in the United States will be present and participate in the celebration.

It is said that the state attire for the king of Siam is worth over $1,000,000. He has three hundred wives and eighty-seven children. He is forty years of age.

Of the 1400 prisoners in the Illinois state prison at Joliet one-third are reported to be suffering from consumption.

Put up in neat watch-shaped bottles, sugar coated, Small Bile Beans. 25c. per bottle.

EGGS AND POULTRY.

The Product Does not Equal Home Consumption.

Belgium Produces 48 Eggs for Every Man, Woman and Child Each Year. The United States Imports, Annually $3,000,000 Worth of Eggs.

Belgium is no larger than the state of Maryland, while its population is five times larger, and this little country, as shown by statistics, produces annually 274,967,824 eggs, or forty-eight eggs for each man, woman and child in Belgium, says the *Fancier's Gazette*. This, remember, is accomplished in a country where the most persistent effort is made to cause the land to produce the food necessary for home consumption, and where a vast amount of money is expended on the cultivation of the soil.

If such results are obtained under adverse circumstances, what grand possibilitities suggest themselves with infinitely better facilities in every respect in a land like America. Our soil yields the richest return for the slightest labor, and here grain enough is annually wasted to feed the entire population of Belgium, and yet in the United States the product of poultry culture does not meet the home demand.

Again, France, with an area of 204,147 square miles, of which only 98,460 are capable of cultivation, realizes more than $200,000,000 annually from her poultry interests. The present population of France is 38,905,788, and if any equal distribution of land which is capable of cultivation were made, there would be two acres to each; and yet, with all the disadvantages of climate and high cost of food for fowls, France, notwithstanding, furnishes England annually over 800,000,000 eggs.

In addition to this enormous exportation to England, the French people annually consume over 2,000,000,000 eggs, thus making a grand total of 2,800,000,000 eggs annually produced in onr little sister republic. The value in cash of her exportation to England annually is $13,000,000. And the value of those consumed at home is placed at $35,000,000; and, adding to this the poultry exported and consumed at home, $75,000,000, and $45,000,000 for stock carried over each year. It will be seen that the poultry industry of France represents an annual business of $168,000,000.

The producing districts of France are Normandy, Picardy, Artois, Soilsonuais, Vexin and Brittany, and are cold and damp, as compared with this country, and vastly inferior in natural and climatic conditions. Their space being contracted, their fowls are highly fed and confined, and so subjected, from crowding, to sickness and contagion; and yet, despite all these and other disadvantages, the French poultry farmer realizes a net profit of from 15 to 87 per cent, or an average of over 20 per cent out of the poultry industry.

Careful inquiry reveals the astounding fact that the United States, instead of producing more eggs than are required for home consumption, imports annually over $3,000,000 worth of eggs. We find that in 1872 we imported 6,000,000 dozen eggs, which at 24 cents per dozen amounted to $1,440,000.

New York state and city consume about $45,000,000 worth of eggs and poultry annually, and the regular population of both state and city is about 6,820,872. Therefore, the United States with her 63,000,000 population, must consume $495,000,000 worth, and in order to determine the value of the entire poultry industry of the country we must add to this $495,000,000, the value of the fowls retained for breeding and laying stock, and $600,000, the value of blooded stock and eggs. This reveals the sum total of this industry in America to be $559,600,000 annually, or, as the full statistics would show, more than $600,000,000.

For the year 1882, the following figures reveal the cash value of the products of the United States: Cotton, $410,000,000; hay, $436,000,000; dairy products, $254,000,000; poultry and egg products, $560,000,000.

Notwithstanding this, the latter is the only product we do not export. Our entire yield, which is vastly insufficient to meet the demand, is all consumed at home, and, besides, statistics show that in 1882 we imported from foreign countries 13,000,000 dozen eggs, as against 6,000,000 dozen in 1872. Still the clamor increases, the prices advance and the importation of these supplies from foreign countries more than doubles with each decade. Such is the present business status of poultry culture in this country. Statistics are the driest of intellectual diet, and yet figures are the fullest of truth.

They have shown us that the net profits of commercial poultry culture in foreign countries, under the greatest disadvantages, are from 20 to 85 per cent. They have proved that of all the products of America eggs are mostly in demand, greater by far beyond anything else than the supply. And have shown, in consequence, our annual importation of eggs to reach a cash cost to this country of over $3,000,000. This vast sum goes out of this country annually to foreign countries for eggs.

Why don't we further cultivate this pleasant and profitable industry at home? They have also shown that, in comparison, wheat, the greatest agricultural product of this country, is surpassed by poultry and eggs over $72,000,000, which amount of money is over four and one-half times as much as President Thomas Jefferson paid France for the western half of this continent.

And this $72,000,000, remember, is in excess of the total cash value of the wheat crop in this greatest wheat growing country on the globe. Hogs, hay, corn, cotton, cattle, wheat oats and other American products are each and all cultivated extensively in certain sections, but altogether unknown in others; but poultry, that imparts its flavor and force to castle and cottage, brings its benediction everywhere, wherever humanity hath found a home, and this universality of poultry culture explains its strength and importance and proves that its private importance and commercial magnitude are almost fabulous, and opens to capital and business competency the grandest and most fruitful possibilities.

And yet this giant young industry is but in its infancy. The immense and constantly increasing demand can never be supplied. Two hundred million meals cooked and consumed every twenty-four hours in the United States will always insure the highest price for fresh eggs and broilers, and so successfully bar all production. Poultry culture, therefore, as compared with all other vocations, has certainly many advantages in its favor.

THE SALTONSTALL BICYCLE TROPHY.

At the international bicycle races in Chicago some of the most famous wheelmen in the world will contest for the Saltonstall trophy. Among the swiftest American wheelmen scheduled to compete are Arthur A. Zimmerman, of New Jersey; John S. Johnson, of Minneapolis, and world's champion W. W. Windle, of Massachusetts.

Agricultural Notes.

It is said that the orange was originally a berry of the size of the wild cherry. Its evolution in size and sweetness is the result of about fifteen hundred years of attention by horticulturists.

The orange rust on raspberries may be expected about this time. Affected bushes should be dug out, root and banch and burned.

Give shallow cultivation to all small fruit plants every week in July.

A good hand can milk ten cows per hour, but cannot carry the milk to the dairy.

The farmers of Maine are paying more attention to the raising of turkeys and the crop this year will will be an exceptionally large one.

The value of winter wheat or rye as late pasturage for the stock in autumn is too little appreciated.

Corn fed with grass makes a better gain in proportions than when fed without.

As soon as the pigs begin to eat they become partially self supporting and to this extent they demand less of the mother.

A hog can be overfed as readily as any other animal and economy in feeding is giving what the animals will eat up clean.

Those farmers who take good care of their flocks and raise early lambs find profit in it.

Paying a Forfeit.

About a year or so ago the Grand Duke Michael of Russia was visiting Paris and chanced to dine in the company of Rosa Bonheur, the great animal painter. They got on very well together, and at desert they ate a "philopena" together—that is to say, they shared a double almond. But the duke, when next day they met, forgot to say "philopena" and lost the bet. He asked the artist what present he should give her, and she replied laughingly:

"Any animal that would do to paint; something pretty, you know."

The duke smiled and departed. Nothing more was heard of him, and the lady had quite forgotten the whole affair, when, some months afterwards, the royal forfeit arrived, to-wit, three enormous polar bears.

Another Engine of Destruction.

M. Turpin, famous as the discoverer of that terrible explosive, melinite, has invented a new gun, which, judging from the description given of it, is bound to prove one of the most formidable engines of destruction to be used in modern warfare. According to one statement the gun is very light, can be served by four men and drawn by two horses, and may be used in the field, in a fortress or on board ship. Four charges can be fired from it in a quarter of an hour, 25,000 projectiles being scattered over an area of 22,000 square metres at a distance of 3,500 metres, or a little over 3,826 yards. The gun is also stated to be capable of destroying armor-plated ironclads of the most formidable make, or forts and fortifications of the strongest resisting power.

If the World's Columbian exposition has accomplished nothing else, it has made evident one thing which alone is worth all the cost and labor expended on the fair. That thing is the inherent intellectual capacity of woman and her right to claim an equal place with man in every field of effort.

NAPOLEON'S SUCCESSORS.

The Two Zulu Princes in Exile at St. Helena.

Napoleon Bonaparte, the Frenchman whose interesting career was brought to an end by the English at the battle of Waterloo, has two royal successors on the island of St. Helena, where he was exiled and died.

They are Dinizulu, the son and heir of Cetewayo, the Zulu king, and Undabuko, brother of the same monarch. Both are victims of British arrogance and disregard of the interests of other nations, and their treatment has been decidedly more unjust and overbearing than that of the distinguished Corsican.

The Zulus are the finest race in Africa, which is not very high praise to bestow on a nation. Rider Haggard has made us familiar with their moral and combative qualities in his more or less reliable works. Under insiduous British influence, however, they began some years ago to give up their fighting habits and grow agricultural. They were encouraged to cross the boundary into the British colonies of Natal and work for the British and to resist the encroachments of the Boers of the Transvaal. In 1877, when a war broke out between the Boers and the Zulus, the British profited by the occasion to annex the Transvaal. A war with the Zulus followed. The English were defeated at first, but Sir Garnet Wolseley crushed the Zulus at Ulindi. The English then reorganized the government of Zululand in such a way that there was an incessant internal disturbance. Cetewayo visited London, where he was received everywhere in society, his frank and genial manner and his interesting ways at table making him a universal favorite!

It was finally determined by the English government to restore Cetawayo to his throne. Shortly after his restoration a chief named Zibebu led an insurrection against him and wounded him in the night time and killed many of his followers. Cetaweyo's people, the Usutus, formed an alliance with the Boers and defeated Zibebu. Cetewayo died soon afterwards from the effects of his wounds.

After much disturbance Zululand was made a British colony. Zibebu then invaded the portion of the country reserved to the Usutus. The latter, feeling that they had been unfairly treated by their British protectors, rose and were suppressed. Undabuko and his ward and nephew were exiled to St. Helena for ten years for taking part in armed rebellion.

Both are stout, well grown men, and show high birth and breeding in their manners. European civilization has begun to affect them. Already they have given up the native costume of feathers round the waist for one of trousers, coat and tall hat.

The climate of St. Helena obliges them to wear a blanket or some heavy covering much of the time. The change from the fierce, dry climate of South Africa, to one where the air is always full of moisture and the temperature ranges from 57 to 73 degrees, has been very disagreeable for the Zulu princes. It is doubtful whether they ever will leave their island prison alive. If they die their fate will be still more similar to that of Napoleon. They are very cleanly in their habits, but live by preference in the smallest and dingiest rooms of the house allowed them.

The words breeches, trousers and pantaloons are now used interchangeably, but originally the significations were quite different. Pantaloons were at first nothing but long stockings, worn in Italy as a sort of religious habit by the devotees of St. Pantaloon. Breeches originally reached from the waist half way to the knee, and finally to the knee, where they were fastened with a buckle. Trousers are the latest style of leg-gear a combination of the former two.

ETHICS OF THE SINGLE TAX.

Based Upon the Rights of Every Man to the Earth's Surface.

"The single tax as advocated by Mr. Henry George and his followers is a proposition that the entire rent of land exclusive of return on capital invested in improvements, should be taken by taxation. Such a tax cannot be shifted by the landowner. The proposition is therefore practically a proposition to confiscate land values to the use of the state. If carried out, it would leave the landowner in the same position the stockholders in a corporation would be in if the government were to tax their stock to the full amount of their dividends. The single tax rests upon the equal right of every man to the earth's surface, derived from the natural rights to live, to have an equal opportunity, and to enjoy the fruits of one's own exertions. It is justified simply as the best or only available means of enforcing this right. Not being a believer in natural rights, I am not, perhaps, competent to say just what is meant by the "natural right to the fruits of one's exertions.' But I hardly think that a right simply to what he 'produces' can be the sense in which a man is held to have a right to the fruits of his exertions. It is not necessary that the man claiming in virtue of the right should have produced a thing or the value which he claims. The factory operative for instance does not produce his wages in any such sense. If the right is such as I suppose—a right to the reward one has worked for—it gives the present owners a right to their land. The first owner cleared and redeemed the land, looking to the rent as a part of his recompense. He was the only man in the world who judged that recompense sufficient. The man who bought from him paid the price and lives in the backwoods, looking partly to the rent as his recompense. The successive owners did not create nor produce all the value that accrued to the land as time went on, but they paid for it all; and it is as much the reward and fruit of their exertions as if they had bought stocks or bonds or gone into business with the same amount of capital. Such is the normal course of things in a peaceful community.

Any departure from that course is due, not to the nature of landownership, but to other social and political conditions. The successful land speculators do, it is true, systematically get more than they pay for. And yet, if the case were one of personal property, we should probably not call the increment unearned. If a mill treasurer buys his cotton at the bottom price and guessess at the taste of the public in calico prints two years ahead, and so commands a very large salary, we call his salary the "earnings of management." If the manager of a land company buys the land at bottom prices, and knows what to buy and what to let alone, and so commands a large salary, the source of that salary is the same.

The single tax is not supported by the rights plied upon. It does not secure to each man his share of the earth nor come near enough to doing so to be very strongly supported by a natural right of every man to such share, even if such right existed. What it does is to give the proceeds of the land not to each man equally, but to the community as a whole. But there are no natural rights. Taking the test that what nature gives is the test of right, it is clear that the right to an equal share in the earth cannot exist; first, because nature's rule, the right of the strongest, works in the opposite direction, and, second, because it is impossible for nature, or for man, with any power short of omnipotence itself, to divide up the earth equally among all its human inhabitants, always up to date, in proportion to its value,

The justice or injustice of a single tax is a question that can only be decided by weighing all its probable results in the balance of the best moral judgment we can bring to bear, unhampered by any formulas in regard to natural rights. What would be its probable results is a question with which I have not space to deal. Briefly, the question would be this: First, would the revenue derived from the confiscation of all existing and value compensate for the suffering and the shock to confidence in the permanency of our institutions, which would be involved? Second, would the substitution of the new conditions of landholding, passing from our present system of obtaining land by a fixed price, a fixed rent or the fixed conditions of a mortgage, to a system of paying from time to such amounts as an assessor might find to be the true rental value—an uncertain though not an arbitrary rent—would this change make land more accessible to the poor man and the business man as compared with the rich man or idler or would it in any other way increase the service of the land or the community or lead to its more advantageous use?"—*Joseph Lee, in Quarterly Journal of Economics for July.*

The volume on "Partnia" in the story of the Nations Series has been written by Canon George Rawlinson and is nearly ready.

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