

SOME QUEER THINGS IN NATURE AND ART

A baby was born in Newark, N. J., with its heart attached to the outside of its body and performs its functions in full view. The heart was just above the chest and over the upper arm. It was beating regularly and the appearance of the baby was in no way affected. The physician decided that an operation was necessary and the child was taken to the hospital. Several unsuccessful attempts have been made to place the organ in its proper position, but little hope is entertained by the doctors that the child will live. They say the phenomenon without parallel in the annals of medical history, and it has aroused intense interest among physicians.

The London Lancet notices the case of a woman from a scratch on her nose, received while smelling a simula obonica, a variety of primula originally brought from Central China. The Lancet says it is not the first case of the kind.

Every submarine vessel in the British navy is supplied with a cage of white mice. These tiny rodents are used on the ship's books like ordinary animals, and the government allows them 20 cents per week for food. Their use on board a submarine is to give warning of escaping gas. The very slightest leakage of gasoline fumes will make them uncomfortable and they will begin to squeak. As it is absolutely necessary that there should be no escape of the deadly gas, the most delicate test of its presence has been employed. Numberless experiments have proved that these mice furnish the most reliable indication of impending danger.

The smallest woman now living is Miss Paulina, of Holland. She is 18 years old, is 20 inches high and weighs less than nine pounds.

Americans who have visited Paris will recall a gaunt, tall man with a red beard who on fete days stood before the cafe entrances and swallowed "any old thing" for the amusement of people who had "sous" to give away. His name was Brunau, and he has done with swallowing. He began in this way: Accidentally he swallowed a cork one day and found that his stomach immediately rejected it. He tried a few nails and discovered that he could bring them up at will. That decided him to change his profession from acrobat to "stomach wonder." Sometimes he failed to recover the swallowed object, but since he suffered no unpleasant results he did not bother conceiving an enormous admiration for his powers. His specialty became nails and pebbles, some of the latter "veritable cobbles," as his advertise ment read. On the day of Mi-careme he outdid himself by swallowing a spike, or by trying to do so, but it stuck in his oesophagus and he had to go, reluctantly, to the hospital. There they told him he must be operated on at once. He declared he only needed an emetic, and repaired to another house of mercy, where they took hold

of him and operated on his stomach by force. In it they found seven nails more than two inches long, 14 "veritable cobbles," and a number of empty spoons, the whole weighing nearly two pounds. The wound in the oesophagus was easily healed, repaired and the intestines had not been perforated. Brunau is as well today as ever.

Perhaps the costliest thimble in England is the property of a lady with whom the late Shah of Persia once took tea. He was her guest for but half an hour, and the present of a thimble incriminated with jewels of the finest water was surely a right royal acknowledgment. It is, however, she declares, the most uncomfortable thimble she ever tried to wear.

Confined at St. Luke's Hospital Denmark, having recently undergone an operation on one of her fingers, which had become deformed from a break, and which was straightened, is Miss Mary H. Gartside, who, according to the Times of that city, has the distinction of being the first person on record to have the vermiform appendix removed. It was because of this operation, which was purely experimental, and which was resorted to in the last extremity, that the possibility of removing the appendix was discovered.

THE STOLEN WHISKY.

A Case Showing Exceedingly Loose Business Methods.

That nine dray loads or any considerable quantity of liquors could have disappeared from the stores of those charged with the administration of relief and cannot be accounted for is evidence of loose management. Theft—especially of whisky—cannot be prevented, but with anything even approaching good business management the records should show from whose possession the tuff was stolen. In the case of the lost whisky the army seems to have no record evidence that the liquor is still not in its possession, although there is parole evidence in abundance that some unknown quantity of intoxicants had been "turned down" by Captain Killan, and a very strong inference that what he refused was finally delivered to the City Board of Health. If, however, the delivery was made, the records of the army should contain somebody's receipt for it. If it can be traced to the custody of any individual that person, of course, can be made to show, or prove himself unable to show, what became of it.

There have been a great many cases in which valuable supplies were lost in transit between one custody and another, few of which have ever been made public. There can be no doubt as to where the responsibility for that and other waste of relief stores lies. It must rest with those responsible for the continuous changes in organization which have been all the time going on. There has been from the beginning

entire uncertainty as to the extent of individual responsibility among the minor officials, and changes of personnel and of positions have been so frequent that no one had time to familiarize himself with his duties before he was assigned to some other duty. The complaints of the subordinates in respect to this have been constant and bitter, although they may not have reached the ears of the higher authorities. As a result proper records were not kept, or, if kept, were not preserved, and properly filed. There was good excuse for this during the first few days of the relief work. There has been no excuse for it since. It is the confusion of authority and the absence of proper recording which has made the plunder of the relief stores by employees and their favorites so easy. There seems to be no remedy except to get rid of the money as quickly as possible and with the least possible waste. That course is now openly favored in street conversations. —San Francisco Chronicle.

WHEN SHOULD A PERSON MARRY?

(Inter-Mountain Republican.)

One evening recently, in a little company of men and women, none in a position of peril, the question of the proper age for marrying was discussed. One of those persons held that man should marry at 24 or earlier, and to a woman a few years his junior. Against that position it was contended that no man should marry before he was 30, at least, and that a woman had no right nor duty in hymeneal bonds under 25 years of age.

No attempt will be made here to decide the question—even as to theory involved. And of course none of us will ever see the day when age for marriage will be fixed by legal regulations in practice. But one may offer the argument in favor of the early marriage that young people seem to be more pliable in their natures, more adjustable to each other. There seems less likelihood of their clashing if they unite their lives when the habits and fancies of either are fixed as they will be by the maturer years. The chief motive in life—marriage and single—is happiness. The avoidance of disputes, with their heartaches and their periods of permanent dissatisfaction is a desirable thing. It seems more difficult for a man of 30 to yield in any of the compromises which must be made in every association, in every friendship, than it would be for a younger man. The older he gets the more "set" he will be in his ways. The less willingly will he concede that his wife may be right about some of the points, which she, on her part, regards as necessary or imperative.

But the opposer of early marriage has a strong point in the statement that neither man nor woman is properly matured either in body or mind for the duties and responsibilities of married life if they assume them at 20 or 24. Neither is at that age qualified to make judgment as to the mental and physical and spiritual qualities of the other. Neither can weigh impartially the slightest attribute. Neither can clearly the defects of the other. And there are defects in both of them. Neither can conclude that the chances of marriage with the other are in favor of happiness. And these are all important matters that should be decided and decided right before the final step is taken. Before the fancy is given charge of the case, and permitted to paint the other with all the colors of radiant perfection.

Once the choice is made, no matter what the age may be, that perfect infatuation should come, and should remain till death do them part.

Shakespeare was married at 19. His wife was a little older; and they did not live happily. In fact, they did not live together at all after the first few years. Ben Johnson married at 21; Franklin at 24; Mozart was 25; Dante, Kepler, Samuel Johnson, Edmund Burke, Sir Walter Scott at 26; Byron, Washington and Bonaparte married at 27; Nelson at 29; Burns at 30; Chaucer, Hogarth and Peel 32; Wordsworth and Davey 33; Aristotle 36; Sir William Jones and Young 37; Wilberforce 38; Luther 42; Addison 44; Wesley and Young 47; Swift 49; Buffon 55; Old Parr the last time 120.

Gossip has not told us in all cases whether these lived "happy ever after," but we know that Byron was in constant quarrel with his wife; that Bonaparte put aside the woman he wedded when he was only 27—and she was little older. We know that Nelson never rested content in the rule of his home—as, indeed, he could not very well do, sailor and hero as he was. And we know that the marriage of Burns was less an incident in his life than some previous alliances which

Whose Say-so is Best?

With nearly all medicines put up for sale through druggists, one has to take the maker's say-so alone as to their curative value. Of course, such testimony is not that of a disinterested party and accordingly is not to be given the same credit as if written from disinterested motives. Dr. Pierce's medicines, however, form a single and therefore striking exception to the rule. Their claims to the confidence of invalids does not rest solely upon their makers' say-so or praise. Their ingredients are matters of public knowledge, being printed on each separate bottle wrapper. Thus invalids are taken into Dr. Pierce's full confidence. Scores of leading medical men have written enough to fill volumes in praise of the curative value of the several ingredients entering into these well-known medicines.

Amongst these writers we find such medical lights as Prof. Finley Ellingwood, M. D., of Bennett Medical College, Chicago; Prof. Hale of the same city; Prof. John M. Scudder, M. D., late of Cincinnati, Ohio; Prof. John King, M. D., late of Cincinnati, Ohio; Dr. Grover Cox of New York; Dr. Bartholomew, of Jefferson Medical College, of Pa., and scores of others equally eminent.

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Dr. Pierce's Pellets cure constipation.

take him quite out of the category under discussion here.

It is after all, a question of true love. And that means the patience that endures, the charity that overlooks and forgives, the spirit which rewards and the tact which gives dominion while seeming to serve. If young persons can look a fact squarely in the face, can weigh the habits and tendencies of the other in unflinching scales, and then, having decided, can maintain the position of lover through life, then marriage at an early age should be as wise as at any other time. But would it not be strange if they could decide this matter unerringly when they are confessedly incapable of sound judgment in every other matter?

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