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The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" having its large circulation distributed principally in the Counties of Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche, New Brunswick and in Bonaventure and Gaspe, Quebec in communities engaged in Lumbering, Fishing and Agricultural pursuits, offers superior inducements to advertisers. Address

Editor Miramichi Advance, Chatham, N.B

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The Home

DECAY IN TEETH.

Judging from the questions constantly asked the dentist, it is no exaggeration to say few people have a clear conception of the causes which lead to decay of the teeth.

Chief among them is the fermentation of particles of food lodged between the teeth, or in their pits or depressions, during mastication. When through carelessness or indifference, these deposits are not removed under the influence of the warmth, moisture and the microbes present, fermentation, or chemical change, takes place and an acid is generated, and this dissolves the enamel and dentine leaving a cavity to grow larger and deeper.

The dentine is of a tubular structure and in these tubules the microbes which constantly exist in the mouth penetrate, where they continue their destructive effect till the tooth is completely destroyed.

Microbes are minute vegetable organisms some of the many species of which are so small that they are only visible under the microscope They are the cause of a large class of infectious or contagious diseases, and between them and the body there is a constant struggle.

The process of fermentation is of itself but the growth of multiplication of these minute organisms, and in this process of their life history they produce the acids and other poisonous materials which make them so fatal to mankind. Their number is inconceivable.

These are the direct causes of decay of the teeth. But there also exist indirect, or contributing, causes, and these may be anything which will lower the general tone of the system, and make it less able to resist the action of deleterious agents.

Among these secondary causes producing decay may be mentioned any protracted sickness, the lack of outdoor exercise, excessive study, anxiety or worry, which undermine and weaken the system. When the body is ill, no one organ can be said to be perfectly sound.

BUTTER A CURE.

Chronic constipation in otherwise healthy children, is not a disease, but an obstruction of the intestines from too much food, an Austrian physician asserts, in most cases. This condition can be simply and effectively terminated by giving the child fresh butter, a half to a teaspoonful during the first two or three months of life until normal defecation is restored and then this dose every second day. Between third and fourth month give two or three teaspoonfuls a day, until relieved, and then every second or third day. From five months to a year one to three tablespoonfuls every two or three days. Over this age give as needed. The butter must be given unchanged; not warmed nor mixed with any substance, as this alters its composition. In an experience of six years every child has taken the butter with relish. It increases the nourishing elements of the food in small compass, and is the nearest approach to milk. A part is readily assimilated and the rest is eliminated stimulating peristalsis as it passes through the intestines. Pale, pasty children become red-cheeked and hearty, and the benefits of this butter treatment are evident up to the fifth and sixth year.

PRESERVING FRUITS.

Apples, pears, plums, apricots, &c., for preserving in sugar or pickling vinegar may be greened thus; Put vineleaves under, between and over the fruit in a preserving kettle; put small bits of alum the size of a pea, say a dozen bits to a kettle full; put enough water to cover the fruit, cover the kettle close to exclude all outer air, set it over a gentle fire, let them simmer; when they are tender drain off the water; if they are not a fine green let them become cold, then put vine leaves and a bit of saleratus or soda with them, and set them over a slow fire until they begin to simmer; a bit of soda or saleratus the size of a small nutmeg will have the desired effect; then spread them out to cool, after which finish as severally directed.

TO PRESERVE PEARS.

Take small, rich, fair fruit, as soon as the pips are black, set them over the fire in a kettle, with water to cover them; let them simmer until they will yield to the pressure of the finger, then with a skimmer take them into cold water, pare them neatly, leaving on a little of the stem, and the blossom end; pierce them at the blossom end of the core, then make a sirup of a pound of sugar for each pound of fruit; when it is boiling hot pour it over the pears, and let it stand until the next day; when drain it off, make it boiling hot and again pour it over; after a day or two put the fruit in the sirup over the fire and boil gently until it is clear, then take it into jars or spread it on dishes, boil the sirup thick, then put it and the fruit in jars.

TO CLARIFY THE SUGAR.

Put into a preserving pan as many pounds of sugar as you wish; to each pound of sugar put half a pint of water, and the white of an egg to every four pounds; stir it together until the sugar is dissolved; then set it over a gentle fire; stir it occasionally, and take off the scum as it rises; after a few boilings up the sugar will rise so high as to run over the side of the pan; to prevent which, take it from the fire for a few minutes, when it will subside, and leave time time for skimming. Repeat the skimming until a slight scum or foam only will rise; then take off the pan, lay a slightly wetted napkin over a basin, and then strain the sugar through it.

TO PRESERVE APPLES.

Pare and core and cut the apples in halves or quarters. Take as many pounds of the best brown sugar; put a teacup of water to each pound. When it is dissolved set it over the fire, and when boiling hot put in the fruit and sirup will be thick. Take the fruit with a skimmer to flat dishes; spread it to cool; then place in pots or jars, and pour the jelly over and seal the jar. Lemons boiled tender in water and sliced thin may be boiled with the apples.

TO CAN PEACHES.

Take small under-ripe peaches, pare them neatly and put them into a kettle with water nearly to cover them, and set them over a gentle fire to each quart of peaches put half a pound of sugar; let them stew until the sirup is rich. Serve for tea or desert, or seal them in jars while hot.

TO COLOR FRUIT YELLOW.

Boil the fruit with fresh skin lemons in water to cover them until it is tender; then take it up, spread it on dishes to cool, and finish as may be directed.

WORTH A GUINEA A SMELL.

Roses at £30 Apiece and Chrysanthemums at £96 a Dozen.

The costliest of all flowers produced of late years is the "Rothesay" rose, a strange-looking, flesh-coloured bloom, with an absolutely heavenly perfume.

It is of an extraordinary colour—velvety, and just like the cheek of a healthy baby in tint. Not really beautiful as a flower, but unique in appearance. Every petal is wrinkled like the "goffering" of a girl's dress, and the entire bloom is very closely set, and weighs as much as six ordinary roses of the same kind. A single flower is worth £30, and will fetch that price readily.

It cannot be depended upon, but is a species which occurs now and then when several roses have been crossed, and many experiments tried upon a rose-tree. It grows only under glass, and was first produced ten years ago, accidentally, by a wealthy amateur. Since then many flower-growers have racked their brains to produce it, but only a few more examples have appeared, and for four years not one was produced, till last summer a small rose-culturer in Bedford grew three, by accident. He sold them a few days later for a hundred guineas, but he has none this year.

The prize of £200 offered in Holland for a black tulip has never been claimed, but five jet-black hyacinths have been known to grow in the last twenty years. The cheapest fetched £20, and the dearest £90—almost a record price for a bulb. Only one of the five reached a second generation, and now there has not been a black hyacinth for three years. One black crocus was grown four years ago by an amateur enthusiast of Glasgow, and, though he was offered a cool hundred for it he refused to sell.

Orchids fetch the highest of all prices among flowers, though one may buy a tolerable orchid buttonhole for a shilling. But £50 is a common price for a good plant of a rare variety like the purple Emperor, and common or garden fry, such as any well-to-do man's conservatory can show, cost from £5 to £20. The "Sunset" orchid, a lovely flower of deep yellow and carmine and flaming crimson, which cost many a life before it was first brought home from the virgin forests of the Amazon, could not be bought for less than £300 a plant when it arrived in England. Only three out of forty-five "Sunsets" were alive on arrival. The cheapest went for £300, the dearest for £370, and the third was kept for purposes of cultivation by the agents who employed the collector. To-day you may buy a good "Sunset" orchid plant for £60, and a single flower for £3 10s.

Marvellous prices are sometimes paid for orchid buttonholes by wealthy men, and among them Lord Lansdowne, the Secretary of State for War, often pays £5 for one. But a certain very well-known Minister, who is very fastidious about his dress and appearance, will only wear a certain species of orchid of a peculiar shade, which shade, he says, is the only one that thoroughly suits his complexion. He frequently pays £10 or £12 for a flower of this orchid, and recently bought a couple of the plants themselves at £280 each, both of which died a fortnight later.

Another Minister who adores orchids is Joseph Chamberlain, and everyone knows he is seldom seen without one in his buttonhole. He grows them himself, however, and seldom buys one.

The record price paid for an orchid lately is £420, for a plant of a new species called the "Canopus," from the interior of Brazil. It has a most lovely bloom, each flower eight inches across, streaked white and purple.

A blue peony seems to be as likely a thing to encounter as a blue horse. However, a light and washed-out-looking, but distinctly blue, specimen grew in the hothouse of a Manchester flower-culturer. It created a great deal of stir in the flower-fancying world, and after many offers was bought by a very wealthy amateur for £200.

Finally, you can pay as much as £8 a blossom for some varieties of the chrysanthemum, and a peagreen flower of this species, which is occasionally to be had, will fetch double that amount.

LIFE AFTER DECAPITATION

STRANGE OBSERVATIONS AS TO AN INTERESTING QUESTION.

The Doctor's Head That Seemed to Hear and Did Wink—Two Remarkable Stories From Battlefields—Experiments on Animals.

The first point to which our attention may be directed is the collecting of evidence regarding the immediate effect of severe and mortal injury on the subject thereof. One of the best-known illustrations of the fact that such injury does not produce immediate death, or at least that absolute cessation of all movements which we popularly recognize as the main feature of life's ending, is that afforded by the case of Capt. Nolan. The Captain headed the famous charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava. In the course of his duties he was struck in the chest by part of a shell, the missile tearing the chest open and wounding the heart. Kinglake gives a graphic account of the incident. "The sword," he says, "dropped from his hand, but the arm with which he was waving it the moment before still remained high uplifted in the air, and the grip of the practised horseman, remaining as yet unrelaxed, still held him firm in his saddle.

"Missing the perfect hand of his master, and finding the accustomed governance now succeeded by the dangling reins, the horse all at once wheeled about, and began to gallop back upon the front of the advancing brigade. Then, from what had been Nolan—and his form was still erect in the saddle, his sword arm still erect in the air—there burst forth a cry so strange and appalling that the hearer who rode nearest him called it unearthly. And in truth, I imagine, the sound resulted from no human will, but rather from those spasmodic forces which may act upon the bodily frame when life as a power has ceased. The firm-seated rider, with arm uplifted and stiff, could hardly be ranked with the living. The shriek men heard rending the air was scarce other than the shriek of a corpse. The dead horseman rode on till he passed through the interval of the Twelfth Light Dragoons. Then at last he dropped from the saddle."

An interesting parallel case to that of Nolan, is that of a sergeant in charge of the Ninth Corps on the Confederate works east of Petersburg, during the Civil War, who leaped on the parapet, and with his cap in his left hand and his gun in the right cheered his comrades onward. A

SHELL DECAPITATED HIM

at this moment "as completely as a knife could have done," "but the tall form continued erect for some seconds, the arm still waving frantically, but with ever lessening sweep and power, until the forces of the body collapsed, when the headless trunk toppled over to the ground."

We may regard as facts the circumstances above noted—that men killed instantly in the popular acceptance of the short term may continue to execute apparently definite and purposive movements. A somewhat ghastly recital referring to a guillotined man has been generally credited to the renown of the Paris School of Medicine, and relates to the same curious features that mark the battlefield. The Parisian case was that of Dr. De la Pommerais, who was guillotined for the crime of murder by poisoning. The story goes that some of his confreres waited on De la Pommerais before his execution, and, informing him that it was their desire in the interests of science to test whether any degree of consciousness remained in the decapitated head just after execution, asked him, if possible, to agree to give some sign or token by way of solving the problem. De la Pommerais acquiesced in the suggestion, and it is said that, securing possession of the head as it fell, and preventing further hemorrhage, the doctors shouted into the ear of their former confrere, demanding of him to give some response.

One of the eyes was said to open slowly and shut, and than all symptoms of life ceased. A writer remarks that a freshly guillotined head has been known to make gestures of the mouth and to move the eyes when a bystander taunted it. It has been impossible to trace either the truth of the De la Pommerais story or the source of the last named incident, but there is no reason why both should not have been correctly reported. Much would depend on the rapid flow of blood in the case of the head of the guillotined criminal in respect of the existence of movement or consciousness. . . . .

We see a very distinct reflection of the duality of our vital state in the very arrangement of our nervous system. The chief masses of that system, as every one knows, consist of the brain and the spinal cord, and a second system of nerve masses called the sympathetic system also exists, and is found lying as a double chain of nerve knots or ganglia down the front of the spine. Now it is evident that as the brain is the most important part of the nervous apparatus, the spinal cord and the sympathetic system must together occupy a secondary position. This is unquestionably the case, and the plan on which our nervous affairs have been ordered represents the well-known principle of the "division of labor."

With a complex body to look after, our nervous system exhibits a clear specialization of its duties. If there are parts in the brain whose duty it is to "think," there are other parts whose function it is to guide our movements. If there are groups of nerve cells destined for the purpose of receiving messages from eyes and ears, the "intelligence department" of the brain, there are other groups that supervise the work of the heart, and that control our digestive proceedings, and that see to it that the duties of the lungs are duly discharged.

On such a principle of division of labor, we are bound to find the varied ways and works of the nervous system carried out on different levels, as regards the importance of the duties performed. Now it happens that the spinal cord which runs through the middle of the backbone, within which it is protected as within a bony tube, is really a kind of brain deputy in many respects. It acts on the whole as the confidential servant of the brain, but it also possesses an independence of its own. Its duties are of a lower nature than those discharged by the brain, but they are none the less essential for the perfect ordering of the body's welfare. Even if the head office be singularly well organized, it cannot exercise its functions properly in the absence or inefficiency of the sub-offices, and the special cord is really a series of sub-offices carrying out many actions which otherwise we might be tempted to credit to the share of the brain.

If we divide the spinal cord of a frog and irritate the foot the leg will be moved, after the fashion in which the uninjured animal would resent being tickled. Here we have separated the brain from the feet, and yet control of the muscles of the leg is not lost. That which the brain does in the frog apparently is not so much to carry out movements, but to initiate and control them. If a frog's legs be allowed to come in contact with some weakly irritating fluid, the legs naturally will be withdrawn after an interval. Time after time the action will go on, till we can gauge fairly the periods which will elapse between the withdrawals of the legs and their descents. If, now, the spinal cord be divided below the brain, we find these movements much accelerated. They proceed at a quicker rate, because the brain control is removed, and the mechanism of the animal is left, as it were, to run wild, like an engine from which the influence of the fly-wheel has been removed.

But we may find evidence that the spinal cord of the frog may control actions in a fashion that would almost lend belief to the idea that it is much more than a mere brain deputy. Cut off a frog's head carefully, so that there may be as little disturbance of parts as is consistent with the performance of this operation. We have removed the brain, of course, and all that is left in the body of the chief nervous system is the spinal cord. Now place a drop of acetic acid on the inner side of one thigh of your headless frog, and you will see the animal raise the foot of that leg to wipe the acid off.

If, now, you remove the foot of the same leg and apply acid, as before, the leg will be again raised, but as the shortened limb falls short of the irritated spot, the headless amphibian will, after an interval, raise the other foot and endeavor to rub away the acid. This is a well-known experiment, and its teachings are singularly instructive. They prove to us that the spinal cord is capable of carrying out movements of a very complicated character, movements with a purpose, such as we should be inclined to believe were controlled by the brain alone.

Pass now to the case of man. Here, injury and accident, unfortunately, supply us with a parallel instance to that of the frog. If the spinal cord of a man be divided, say in its middle part, the lower half of his body is paralyzed. He is unable to move it, and he has lost all sensation in that half. But if the feet be tickled, the legs will be drawn up, although the man is not conscious of making the movements, and is unaware he is putting his muscles into action unless he sees the motions of his limbs. Here we again come in contact with the idea of the independence of the spinal cord. We see that consciousness has nothing whatever to do with the works of the cord, any more than when we tickle the foot of a sleeping person and the leg is moved, we can assert that he is conscious of his action.

HONEY-HUNTERS.

Use a Clever Trick for Marking a Bee With Cotton.

In order to be followed the bee must have a distinguishing mark that can be easily seen, and with such a badge the Australian provides it. He gums a small tuft of white cotton to the bee's back, and thus follows it with comparative ease. But the question now comes up, how is the cotton to be put upon the bee's back?

The gum is quickly found; it is on almost any tree; the cotton grows right at hand. The bee, too, is found in almost any sweet flower, buried head first in the dusky pollen, drinking in the nectar, and showing quite plainly whether its honey sac is full or empty. It moves a little in its eager haste to secure the delicious liquid, but perhaps a quick dab will fasten the cotton on its back. Do not try it. As the little boy told his mother, the bee is a very "quick kicker."

Watch the Australian—and he is a very stupid fellow, too, in most things. He fills his mouth with water, has his snow tuft of cotton ready gummed, finds his bee, gently drenches it with water spurted from his mouth, picks it up while it is still indignantly shaking itself free from the water which clogs its wings, and with a dexterous touch he affixes in an instant the telltale cotton. Very much out of patience, no doubt, with the sudden and unexpected rainstorm, the bee, rubs off the tiny drops from its wings, tries them, rubs again, and soon, buzz! buzz! away it goes, unconsciously leading destruction and pillage to its happy home.

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JOTTINGS OF THE WAR.

Interesting Items From the Field of Battle.

The British Legation is the largest in Pekin. All the buildings are inclosed by a boundary wall about 2 ft. in thickness, and 12 ft. in height.

Of the 6,000 horses which General Hunter captured from the Boers at Fourlesburg, 2,000 of them, which were in capital condition, are now being used by our troops.

Evidently serious trouble is still anticipated in China by the authorities at home. Woolwich Arsenal have received instructions to dispatch 30,000,000 rounds of 303-inch ammunition, together with a large quantity of tents and hospital equipment, as early as possible.

Drummer H. Lloyd, of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, is the smallest boy in the British Army, and the youngest but one. He has been invalided home from South Africa with a bullet wound in his foot received while taking part in a skirmish near Bloemfontein. He also took part in the battles of Paardeberg and Driefontein.

A new magazine rifle has just been tested near Manchester. It is the only magazine weapon which without mechanism of any kind feeds cartridges into the breech and chamber by gravitation only. The total cost of the new rifle is 35 per cent. less than that of the Lee-Metford. It is also one and a quarter pounds lighter, and can fire thirty shots a minute.

The full ration of the British prisoners at Nooitgedacht, per man is 1 lb. of meat, and 3 lb. of mealies, rice or flour, weekly; but fuel for cooking is almost unobtainable. Until lately the men were without shelter from the weather, until a few tin huts were erected. But they are quite inadequate for their purpose, and the majority of men have to live in mud hovels of their own construction, with blankets stretched over the top for a roof.

It is a singular fact that the name of one of the first Australians to be awarded the V. C. is Trooper A. Kruger, of the West Australian Mounted Rifles. Kruger, with four other men, was cut off on a kopje. One of the party, Lieut. Hensman, who was some yards away from the rest, dropped with an explosive bullet in both thighs. Forsaking his cover, Kruger scrambled over the rocks in the face of a withering fire, and managed to dress the fallen officer's injuries.

Some of the prisoners captured by General Hunter at Fouriesburg have made a statement which explains to a certain extent De Wet's "slimness." When he was driven into the hills each man had a led horse to carry stores, while a number of very light carts were also taken well-horsed to enable them to keep up with the rapid marches. During the past four months De Wet has covered and recovered nearly 1,000 miles in dodging our generals.

Colonel Hore, who was besieged by the Boers at Elands River, was chief of the Staff to Major-General Baden-Powell while shut up in Mafeking. The Elands River garrison, which held the line between Zeerust and Rustenburg, was composed of about 140 bushmen and 100 Rhodesians. The strength of Commandant Delarey's force is not known exactly, but it is estimated that he had between 3,000 and 4,000 Boers with him. Colonel Hore's casualties amounted to sixty-seven.

REAL ENOUGH FOR HIM.

Miss Romantique—Do you think—dreams are ever productive of anything real? That is—

Mr. Rounder, absent-minded—Well I had one once that produced pink snakes and blue spiders that looked real enough to suit me.

Telegraph wires get tired; this is one of the most recent observations of scientists. They work better on Monday than on Saturday, and an expert declares that each wire ought to have one whole day's rest every three weeks.

The costliest paintings of modern times are Meissonier's "1814" and Millet's "The Angelus," £82,000 was given for "1814" and £30,000 for "The Angelus."