

STUDY ALL YOU MAY.

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A "TIRED BRAIN."

When a Man Thinks His Brain is Tired, It is Really His Stomach That is Overfed or Some Other Vital Point That is Weakened.

Every man should have impressed upon him the fact that the human brain is capable of absolutely unlimited development. It can be developed more easily, more permanently than the muscles. Like the muscles, it is developed by exercise, but unlike them there is no limit to its possible development and there is no age limit to the growth of mental faculties.

If you go to a certain hotel in Chicago you will find at the door of the large dining room a colored gentleman who takes your hat, overcoat and umbrella. He gives you no ticket. When you walk out again, to your intense amazement he hands you your property, identifying you among hundreds of other guests and immediately associating you with the proper hat and coat.

In a big store in Twenty-third street, New York city, a small negro lad, 14 or 15 years old, works for a living. One day at that store this writer asked for a book apparently seldom purchased. Various dignified white men were asked about the book. They thought that they did not have it, but to make sure they asked the colored boy. Without a moment's hesitation he pointed out a certain balcony on the east side of the store and told exactly where the small volume could be found. Every one of the thousands of books in that store was located in a definite spot in that young negro's mind, despite the fact that he probably had seen the insides of very few of the volumes.

The two instances quoted are not unusual. They indicate merely the most superficial sort of development of one particular mental faculty, that of recollection. A more remarkable instance of such development was shown by Houdini, the French prestidigitator. He could pass a shop window containing perhaps scores of different articles, cast a glance at the window as he went by and enumerate without error everything in it from that one glance. Some men learn a score, or more of languages.

Yet the greatest development of any human brain has never taxed even to the slightest degree the actual capacity of the mind.

No matter to what extent you may train your mental faculties, no matter how much you may use your brain, you will still be like the man who has spent 5 or 6 cents and has a million dollars in the bank.

We are justified in believing that we are destined to marvelous mental achievements in the future, when we consider the instrument of thought that has been given to us and which is so little used at present.

A scientist named Moirnet calculates that the gray matter of the brain contains 900,000,000 cells.

That in itself seems quite complicated. If we only had one thought stored away in each cell, we would know quite a good deal.

But you must remember that each cell is divided into several thousand molecules separately divisible.

Every one of these molecules contains many millions of atoms. Unquestionably each separate atom plays its part in the working of the brain. Figuring on a very modest basis, you find that your brain contains 18,000,000,000,000,000,000 separate atoms.

The theory that the atom is an indivisible particle of matter, which is indicated by its name, meaning uncuttable, is only a theory not by any means demonstrated. There is no reason to believe that there is any limit to the universe in the direction of bigness or littleness. What we call an atom may be in effect an indivisible particle of matter or it may be a small universe in itself. However this may be, don't you think that with a brain organized as above you ought to be able to develop a good deal of mental energy and be quite free from any worry about overworking the machine which has been given to you to do your thinking?

When a man thinks his brain is tired, it is really his stomach that is overfed or some other vital point that is depleted or overloaded. Keep the rest of your body in good condition, and your brain will never feel any amount of work that you will be able to give it.

The Practical Joke.

The practical joke is a remnant of barbarism. Hunted back to its origin, it is a survival of the methods of torture in vogue with savages the world over. The idea behind every practical joke is the infliction of pain, shame, fear or ridicule upon the victim. It is not often that tragic effects follow a joke, repeating the news chronicles of the daily press, but when one reflects that the real object of every alleged "joke" of the practical kind is simply to inflict physical or mental pain upon some one it seems as if it must be time, by the clock of the ages, for the practice to end, at least among civilized and half civilized people. — Ada C. Sweet in Woman's Home Companion.

That Some Time.

Gaylord—Glad to have met you, old boy. Come up and see me some time.

Meeker—I declare, it's too bad! It will be impossible for me to come then. I've an appointment elsewhere.

So sorry.

Persia has the most famous turquoise mines in the world, which have been worked no less than eight centuries. These pretty stones, however, are to be found in many parts of the world, including Saxony.



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GLEANNINGS.

Five ounces and a half of grapes are required to make one glass of good wine. The report of the registrar general shows crime in Ireland steadily on the decline.

Eye-glasses are made from Brazilian pebble, which is a very transparent rock crystal.

Since 1804 nearly 350 men living in Bremerhaven, Germany, have lost their lives by the wrecking or burning of ships.

A Paris dealer has recently sold a pearl of 18 carats for 90 times its weight in gold. This pearl was white and of fine water. Its form was perfect.

In houses of the London nobility and at all the court functions at Windsor or any of the palaces the labels of the champagne bottles are all removed, in order that no person may be able to say that this brand of wine or the other is drunk there.

A civil engineer in Hoboken has built a two horse bedroom on wheels, with a tarpaulin extension for a kitchen, and proposes to drive to Mexico by easy stages. On the wagon is painted the motto, "As we journey through life let us linger on the way."

A writer in The Sketch takes the London journals to task for what he calls their ignorance, which, he says, has led them to lavish absurd praise on the gigantic Chinese laundry recently established in London. He cites the experience of America to show that the Chinese ought not to be encouraged.

THE ROYAL BOX.

The Prince of Wales is very fond of animals.

The czar of Russia frequently plays tennis with his ministers and the officers of his household and is said to be qualified to pose as a champion.

There is a story current in Paris that Emperor William has twice visited the Paris exposition incognito and has so successfully disguised himself that no one recognized him. Parisians are tickled by the thought that the pleasures of their exposition drew the emperor from his excessive dignity.

Prince Arthur of Connaught, following in his father's footsteps, has decided to take up a military career, and he was recently entered at Sandhurst among the gentlemen cadets. The prince is, through his mother, the grandson of a famous soldier, the redoubtable "Red Prince," who played so prominent a role in the Franco-German war.

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SPEAKING OF LUCK.

A Sporting Man Declares That It Exists Only in Real Life.

"The old saying that 'the odds are against the guesser' is firmly believed in by nearly all gamblers," said a turfman who prides himself upon having reduced betting to a mathematical formula.

"The axiom is a good deal deeper than most people suppose. Taken literally in games of chance, it is false; applied to human nature, it is true. Suppose, for example, that two men pitch pennies. The chances for heads and tails are perfectly even, and it can make no difference which of the players does the guessing. Where the guesser appears to have greatly the worst of it is in such a game as faro or roulette. The effort to forecast each turn is apt to unsettle his nerves. He gets irritated and demoralized, makes reckless bets, presses bad luck and winds up broke. In fact, the chief advantage of a 'system' for gambling is that it saves nerve force. The bets are placed according to rule, and the player and the game are on the same cold, mechanical basis. In playing the races the odds are seemingly 'against the guessers,' for the reason that they are influenced by all sort of hints, tips and premonitions, mostly wrong. It isn't really a case of guessing, but a case of misplaced confidence."

"Do you believe in luck?" asked one of the listeners to the foregoing.

"That depends upon whether you mean theoretically or practically," replied the scientific turfman.

"Luck is something that doesn't exist except in real life. The late Professor Proctor once delivered a lecture in Philadelphia on the 'Mathematics of Chance' and proved conclusively there was no such thing as luck. Afterward he took a dice box and attempted to demonstrate the fact to some skeptical sports and went broke in eight minutes by the watch. There is absolutely no reason why people should have streaks of good or bad luck. I can demonstrate to you on paper that the thing is impossible, and you can demonstrate to me by ocular evidence that it happens every day. So there you are."

"It's a funny fact, by the way, that the two principal 'systems' at Monte Carlo are based on diametrically opposite theories of luck. One is called the 'maturity of chance.' To illustrate: Suppose red turns up three times in succession. According to the system, the chance of it appearing again is greatly diminished and grows less with each repetition. Consequently the player bets on black. The other is the 'system of runs.' Its votaries hold that a color which has once repeated is apt to keep on, at least five or six times in succession. Each brand of cranks proves its case by the daily record kept year in and year out at the Casino. 'You pays your money, and you takes your choice.'"

Hares as Swimmers.

The paws of hares and rabbits in swimming are like an ill ballasted ship, down by the head. Like the squirrels, these two animals show great timidity in the water, and naturally so, for their heads are so low and stereotyped to high that the slightest ripple on the surface would send their noses under water, and so drown them unless they at once returned to land. In perfectly still water, however, they can both swim considerable distances.

"A friend of mine, who is a constant fisherman," says Mr. Millais, "told me that he has three times seen hares try to swim in the Tweed, and each time, after going half way, the timid creatures had to return, doubtless owing to water getting into their nostrils. As far as I have been able to ascertain, rabbits and hares are the only animals that expect the whole of the hind leg, except the foot, above the water when taking a stroke. The effect of this is very curious, giving them the appearance of a slow stern wheel paddle steamer. When once fairly started, the legs are moved slowly, although the animals proceed at a fair rate of speed."

Cow Stories.

In the Journal des Debats it is told how Sir Edwin Landseer when salmon fishing in Norway landed a salmon; but, the lad who carried his basket being absent for a moment, Sir Edwin placed the fish on the ground and covered it with a handful of grass. When the lad returned, the place where the fish had been laid was indicated, and he was told to get it, but it could not be found. On the other hand, the prints of cattle hoofs were found on the spot where it had been. The mystery was presently cleared by the testimony of a peasant, who said that one of the cows feeding in the meadow had devoured the fish.

A similar case is mentioned in the London Field. Cows, it appears, have most accommodating appetites and digestion. When, in the sixties, an Oxford cow was credited with swallowing a mackintosh, it drew from Osborn Gordon, then the well known witty chronicler of Christchurch, the expression of a hope that its milk would now be waterproof.

Lost His Bet.

A poor man locally reputed to be a "button or two short" was living in an out of the way village in Gloucestershire, called one day at a farmhouse while the good wife was dishing up a huge plate of dumplings.

"I'll bet thee a penny, missus," said he, "that I could eat thy dumplings, plate and all, for my dinner."

"I'll bet thee a penny thee can't," said the good wife.

"I'll bet thee I can," again said Jock.

"Then do it, Jock," said Mistress Hodge. Thus hidden, Jock threw his legs under the table, calmly devoured the contents of the plate and, heaving a deep sigh, said:

"Missus, I shall hev to pay 'e penny after all, for I find that I can't eat the plate."—London Fun.

Not Too Young.

A very amusing scene took place in a certain village church recently. It being christening Sunday, the clergyman stepped down to christen the children. While christening one of them, he said to a very young looking man:

"You are far too young to stand as sponsor to this child."

Whereupon the young man, much abashed, replied meekly in a weak voice, "Please, sir, I'm his father."

A Girl and a Shrewd Un.

"They say you girl visiting Mrs. Jipp is homely enough to stop a clock."

"Nonsense. I found her so attractive and entertaining that while she was singing for me I sneaked up and stopped the clock myself."—Detroit Free Press.

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