

REMARKABLE SURGERY.

BONE GRAFTING WITH THE LEG OF A SHEEP.

Amputation of a Boy's Leg Successfully Avoided by Transferring the Bone and Tissue of a Healthy Animal—A New Surgical Triumph Which Opens Up Wonderful Possibilities for Man.

Hitherto bone-grafting experiments have been performed at odd intervals upon the principle that the foreign bone inserted must first be powdered. If the bone of an animal was used to supply the place of a section of bone cut from the leg or arm of some human being, it was first pounded into dust and decalcified or freed of its lime and chalk. These experiments were only performed as a last resort and they were theoretical, and rarely successful.

Now, however, the principle has been established that the bone from the animal must be transferred entire.

The living sheep and the living patient must be placed side by side. Quickly the surgeon removes from the latter the foot or two of bone that is diseased, cuts out with his whip-saw the legbone on the chloroformed animal, nicely measured to a fraction, lifts it from the animal to the man and fits it into place where the edges come tightly together, and then the flesh is covered over and sewed up, the whole operation taking less than one hour, and the curing process begins immediately.

About five months ago Boyd Fulwell, a lad fifteen years of age living at Eighteenth and Wylie streets, in Philadelphia, was playing on the street, with a number of boys, when he struck his shin. He gave little thought to the injury at the time but a few days afterwards he complained of violent pains in the regions of the bruise.

SIMPLE REMEDIES

were applied by his parents, but met with no success. This gave rise to the feeling that the boy was suffering from rheumatism.

A local physician treated the case as one of rheumatism, but it continued to grow worse, and Dr. Snyder was called in. A careful examination disclosed the fact that an abscess due to an injury to the bone had formed, producing what is known to the medical fraternity as osteomyelitis. This became worse and defied all treatment, and eventually turned into necrosis, or gangrene of the bone.

Realizing that some heroic measures were necessary, Dr. Snyder called in consultation Dr. Carl Vischer. This was about a month ago, Dr. Vischer found the leg very much swollen and seven small openings discharging pus, all of which led to dead bone.

The physician suggested that the boy should be removed to the Hasenmann Hospital, where better attention could be given him, and on Saturday June 22 two days after the doctor's visit, the lad was taken there. Again he was examined and on June 25 an operation was performed known as necrotomy (scraping and removing dead bones).

The wound was then dressed with antiseptic bandages and left undisturbed for a week, when the flesh was found to be in good condition. He remained in hospital, decaying beyond all hopes of being healed.

THE ONLY CHANCE.

At the first dressing after the operation, Dr. Vischer felt that nothing but amputation would in any way help the boy, but the fact that the lower end of the tibia was in good condition led him to believe that, perhaps the leg might possibly be saved by bone-grafting, especially as the boy's condition had so much improved since his admission into the hospital. The parents were consulted, and, upon being assured that there was absolutely no other way in which the leg had even a chance of being saved, they gave their full consent to the doctor to do as he thought best.

A consultation with the highest surgical authorities had impressed Dr. Vischer with the belief that it was possible to remove the diseased portion of the bone and insert in its place a piece of bone taken from the leg of a healthy sheep.

Following out this theory, the physician secured a large, healthy sheep, which for two days was put upon a diet, so as to make doubly sure of its healthy condition. The boy was also subjected to a rigid diet, and the day before the operation the sheep's leg was shaved and put in antiseptic dressings.

Everything being prepared, Dr. Vischer had the boy and sheep taken into a private room, and there, assisted by Drs. Roman, Middleton, Snyder and Reading and Prof. J. E. James, he began the task of trying to save the boy's leg. The lad was anesthetized and placed upon the table.

Then Dr. Vischer opened the lad's shin from about four inches below the knee down to the ankle joint. He removed an inch and a half of decayed bone and cut out seven and a half inches of bone down to the ankle joint. The cavity was washed out and prepared for the new bone.

The sheep in the mean time had been chloroformed and the dressing taken off the hind leg. This done, Dr. Vischer cut out the humerus, and then, preparing it, began to shape it for the lad's leg.

THE UTMOST CARE

was taken that the bone removed from the sheep should retain the periosteum, for without that the operation could not possibly be successful.

The bone taken from the sheep was then placed in the cavity formed by the removal of the diseased bone, the muscles forming a floor upon which the new bone was laid, thus helping to support it.

The ends of the new bone were cut straight across and made a perfect joint. An incision of about five inches was then made in the back of the boy's leg, so as to allow the operating surgeon to bring together the flesh on the top of the leg, where it was then sewed up.

The wounds were dressed and the boy's leg was put in a sling and so fastened as to prevent the slightest jar or movement which would in any way tend to shift the new bone from its bed. This having been done, attention was turned to the sheep. Its throat was cut, and while under the influence of chloroform it was allowed to bleed to death. During the whole operation, which only lasted forty-five minutes, the sheep suffered absolutely no pain.

For nine days the dressing of the boy's

A BUILDING COLLAPSES.

THE DEATH LIST ALREADY NUMBERS SIXTEEN.

A New York Disaster—Faulty construction, said to be the cause—The Contractor and Foreman of the Building Accused as Being Responsible for the Collapse.

The northeast corner of West Broadway and Third street, New York, was the scene of a fatal building collapse on Thursday. The middle section of an eight-story unfinished structure collapsed and down the falling floors and roof were carried a large number of workmen, sixteen of whom were crushed to death in the ruins. There was a loud rumble and a cloud of dust as the building caved in, and then from the ruins of mortar, masonry and girders came the cries of injured workmen. There was a crowd of rescuers on hand in less than three minutes and two minutes later one of the buried workmen was carried out dead. He proved to be a laborer named John Burke. Close beside him in the ruins was found Charles Smith, an electrician. He was badly mangled and died in an ambulance on the way to St. Vincent's Hospital. Others were taken out badly mangled. At 6 o'clock this evening the body of Charles Peterson, electrician, was found. The minute the building collapsed a policeman on the Mercer Street Station ran to the scene and called for all the ambulances that could be spared from the New York and St. Vincent's Hospitals. The firemen were also summoned to dig out the imprisoned workmen.

The following injured men were rescued from the ruins:—William Fox, John Clune, James Kinney, Neil Guider, Frank Mazzoni, William Frank and John Kelley. Though badly injured these men are expected to recover. Park Policeman Livingston fell into an excavation while aiding in the work of rescue and injured his back. He was removed to St. Vincent's Hospital.

The accident occurred at 11 o'clock. The building was a brick structure, numbering from 567 to 573 West Broadway. It was very nearly completed. John H. Parker was the builder. There are different theories regarding the cause of the disaster. One is that the floors were overweighed by the materials and another that an upright girder in the centre of the structure was defective. The list of missing workmen is large, and it is feared that they may all be found dead in the ruins. Soon after the accident a gang of sixty men went out to work on the ruins, and the work will be continued by electric light during the entire night.

MAN AS A MACHINE.

The Work He Does Reckoned in Mechanical Terms.

If the human heart be considered as a pump it can be shown that it does 124,000 tons of work in 24 hours; the work spent by the muscles in breathing amounts to about 21 foot-tons in 24 hours. If these figures, which are given in a contemporary, are correct, a few interesting, though otherwise useless, deductions from them may be made. The power of operating the heart is then equivalent to 3.89 watts, and that of the lungs to 0.16, making a total of 4.55 watts. This amount of power would develop a light of about two candles in an incandescent lamp; a man is, therefore, continually, day and night doing an amount of work necessary to keep him alive at a rate equal to that in a two-candle power incandescent electric lamp. If the luminous efficiency (or better, inefficiency) of the incandescent lamp is 5 per cent, this amount of power, if converted to cold light, would represent 40 candles, which make every eye we see or otherwise.

A SHINING LIGHT.

and would supply all the light necessary for him to live without artificial lighting; or in other words, if he had some organ similar to that of the fire fly, he could, by doing the same amount of work, operate his heart and lungs, surround himself with a flood of light. As man power is usually rated at about one eighth-horse power, which is equal to 93.3 watts, his efficiency, when "fully loaded," considering the heart and lungs, would, therefore, be about 95 percent, which is remarkably high, especially when we consider that he is supposed to have been designed many thousand years ago, and to have been working under the same conditions. But this does not take into account that both heart and lungs will work much harder when he is performing external work; the good result is, therefore, only apparent, and not real. Nevertheless, some men are most efficient when doing their ordinary work. As we do not know the foot-pound equivalent to the food which he eats, nor the amount, it is not possible to carry these useless figures any further. It is of interest, however, to note in this connection that Prof. Thurston considers man a very efficient machine, by which we suppose, he means as a converter of the energy of food into mechanical power.

AN AUSTRALIAN SHIPWRECK.

The Catterthun Strikes Rocks and Almost All Her Passengers and Crew are Saved.

A despatch from London says:—A despatch to Lloyd's from Sydney, N. S. W., states that the British steamship Catterthun, bound from Sydney to Hong Kong, ran on the Seal Rocks, which lie between Sydney and Brisbane, and became a total wreck. The despatch adds that some of the passengers and crew were saved, but that a number of persons are missing. A Central News despatch from Melbourne says that the vessel struck at 2 o'clock in the morning. It was soon seen that there was no possible chance to save the vessel, and orders were given to abandon the ship. All hands took to the small boats and laid their course for the mainland. One of the boats reached Foster in the morning, but the others have not been heard from, and it is feared they have been lost. There were a large number of Australian and English passengers on the steamer. The Catterthun belonged to the Eastern and Australian Steamship Company of London. She was built at Sunderland in 1881 by W. Duxford & Sons. Her length was 302 feet 3 inches, beam 35 feet 5 inches, and depth of hold 23 feet 7 inches. She was schooner-rigged, and of 2,179 gross and 1,406 net tons burden. Her engines were of the compound type of 250 horse-power.

Barber's Doom is Sealed.

Shaving by machinery has been rendered easy by the construction of a machine reported to have been made by one Melchior Farkas, a convict in the penitentiary of the City of Szegedin, in Hungary. Farkas was put to labor in the cabinet-making shop of the prison, and, taking to his work with a will, he soon displayed great inventive ingenuity. With his shaving machine he is said to have shaved all the inmates of the prison, nearly 150 in number, within less than an hour's time.

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KENTUCKY CUSTOMS.

A Guest Not Satisfied With His Room in a Hotel Still the Proprietor and His Son.

A despatch from Versailles, Ky., says:—Shortly after 3 o'clock on Monday afternoon W. N. Lane, a fence dealer, of Lexington, kicked, shot, and killed Jas. Rodenbaugh, and mortally wounded H. C. Rodenbaugh, father of James, at the Hotel Woodford. Early in the morning Lane arrived from Lexington quite drunk, and applied at the Hotel Woodford, of which H. C. Rodenbaugh is proprietor, for a room, in which to sleep off his drunkenness. He was given a good front room. Shortly after four o'clock Lane came down, and addressing H. C. Rodenbaugh, said:—"The room you gave me is not fit for a hog. He kept up loud and abusive language. Finally H. C. Rodenbaugh said, 'The room was very nice until after you had been in it.' This enraged Lane, and made him more violent.

Just then James Rodenbaugh, aged 22, son of the proprietor, and a cripple came in with a revolver in his hand, and, addressing Lane, said, "Get out of here. You shall not abuse my old father in that way." Quicker than he said Lane drew and fired, sending a ball through the young man's neck, cutting the jugular vein. As James fell he fired at Lane. His aim was unsteady, and the ball barely grazed Lane's left breast, plunging along the side. More furious than ever, Lane rushed up to the old man, and at close range sent a bullet through his mouth into the base of his brain, and laid him dead. A number of plasterers were working on the roof when the crash occurred. Several of the men escaped by running to the Third street end of the building and the others said to have gone down in the ruins. Charles Martin, a carpenter, was working with several of his men on the fifth floor when the building fell in. They were not injured, and made their way to the street by the stairway and fire-escapes. Coroner Dobbs and Fitzpatrick visited the scene of the catastrophe during the afternoon, and made a personal examination of the wreck. Coroner Fitzpatrick was of the opinion that an upright girder had given way. A bag of rock plaster, which was taken out of the ruins, was found to weigh 152 pounds. It was said that there was a large number of these bags on the upper floor, and that the excessive weight was responsible for the disaster.

Three laborers in addition to the list given were reported missing, and they are supposed to be in the ruins. This would make the probable list of dead sixteen, including the men whose bodies were recovered. It was stated that most of the injured were removed to the hospital where doing well.

Encouraging Fisher News.

A despatch from St. John, N. B., says:—The fishery news from Labrador, where the chief cod fishing of the colony is prosecuted, is most encouraging, and prospects are excellent for the largest fishery in many years. Many large dealers have twice as much fish as last year. The shore dealers, as well as the green fish catchers, are securing good fares, and many have used all their salt, so that shipments are being made from here, fearing that the fish may be ruined. The shore fishery along the western coast is nearly over, and was much above the average. The lobster fishery was also successful.

U. S. Live Meat Tariff.

A despatch from Washington, D. C., says:—Secretary Morton has announced that sheep and lambs, intended for immediate slaughter, may be admitted to the United States from Canada, when accompanied by certificates, as specified, as follows, instead of those provided for in section 3 of the tariff act of the Department of Agriculture, dated February 11, 1895:

(1) A clean bill of health from the veterinary authority of the port of export.

(2) An affidavit from the owner that they are free from distemper and have been there three months.

"So your papa is willing to trust me with you, is he?" "Yes, he seemed sure you'd fetch me back to him."

"When was that?" "Host—" At a rally, Children Cry for Pitche's Castoria.

SWEPT OVER THE FALLS.

Two Men Caught in a Squall Above the Falls Their Boat Sounded—A Hair Struggle for Life Witnessed by Hundreds.

A despatch from Niagara Falls, Ont., says:—Another terrible accident happened on the American side of the river late on Sunday afternoon, and two lives were swept over the Falls in the sight of hundreds of spectators. Frank Butler, the head engineer of the Niagara Falls Paper Company, aged 42 years, and Timothy F. Sweeney, a young man employed in the same mill as machinist, went sailing on the upper river in the afternoon. Suddenly a thunderstorm came up from the west with great fury. The wind blew a gale, and the rain fell in torrents. The first squall caught the sail boat off Grass Island as the men were putting in for shore. In a twinkling it was capsized, and the two men were seen struggling in the water. The waves were running high, but both made desperate efforts to swim to the island. The terrible current of the river drew them down toward the American rapids, and, still fighting for life, they were sucked into the rapids, and hurled over the American Falls.

The word was telephoned down to Prospect Point about the accident, and men stood ready in the drenching rain with ropes to help catch the men if they were alive, but they had evidently been drowned before reaching the brink of the Falls. Butler is a married man, and leaves a family. Sweeney was unmarried, and the son of a prominent and well-to-do citizen.

AWK-INSPIRING.

"Few objects," says the authority just referred to, "are more calculated to inspire awe than a large cobra, when with his hood erect, hissing loudly and his eyes glaring, he prepares to strike. Nevertheless, they are not, I believe, aggressive, and unless interfered with or irritated, they crawl along the ground with the neck undilated, looking not unlike innocent snakes."

The reputation of being the most aggressive of all Indian snakes is enjoyed by the Ophiophagus elaps; but more dangerous, perhaps, are the Daboia, or Russell's viper, and the Echis, or the native phur, whose bite exceeds, as certainly, if not quite as quickly, as that of the cobra. For the horror of the thing is that death—at all events to the native—is almost certain. It is a sad and remarkable fact that in dealing with a bit from one of these snakes civilization appears to be nearly as powerless as barbarism. The district officers frequently complain that the natives, when bitten, content themselves with using mantras or charms, instead of applying to the doctor. But what can the doctor do for them? He can excise the part bitten, he can amputate the limb; but if the poison has got into the venous system, unless the bite was not deep, surgical aid was immediately at hand, no human power can save the victim.

TERRIBLE MORTALITY.

In 1892, out of every 11,630 people in India, one died of snake-bite; in 1893, one of 10,424. One of the first attempts made by the Government for the prevention of the destruction of snakes, colored plates of the venomous kinds being circulated (at Sir J. Fayer's suggestion) in order to enable the natives to identify them; and rewards were actually paid in 1892 for 84,750, and in 1893 for 17,120; but this increase has been accompanied by no decrease in the death rate. And the system undoubtedly opened the door to many abuses. It is suspected that snakes were bred for the express purpose of being destroyed. And it is certain that many a dishonest penny was turned by killing them in June, July and August, that is, soon after breeding time, when they were immature, and therefore less dangerous.

BOOTS FOR PROTECTION.

In Bombay it is generally believed that most cases of snake-bite occur in the fields; so, too, in Burma, where ploughman and peasant in many districts now take the precaution of wearing leather boots. In Hyderabad, again, experience shows that it is during the irrigation of the fields at night most bites are received.

On the other hand, in one district in the Central Provinces it was found that out of thirty-nine people who died of snake-bite twenty-eight were bitten in the house. Indeed, it has been asserted that the destruction of underground tends to drive the snakes into the houses. This may very well be, and the house of the ordinary Indian peasant forms an admirable ambush for them.

Of a district in Bengal it has been said that "every house is unexcelled with underground passages leading to rat-holes, the vermin being attracted in the dry weather by the stores of grain left lying everywhere about in heaps or otherwise, and as the rains by the frogs which seek shelter indoors."

"The snakes enter the houses in search of the rats and frogs, and are able to elude observation by the untidiness and confusion in which all articles of furniture and cooking pots and pans are kept lying about. The people, again, do not sleep on platforms or bedsteads raised a foot or two from the ground, but on the ground itself. Rats run over them while asleep; the snake pursues; the slightest movement on the part of the sleeper causes the reptile to strike. Rats and snakes are nocturnal in their habits, human beings are not; and therefore it is that there is scarcely an instance of snake-bite reported unless it is one that has been inflicted on a sleeping person in the night."

Not a pleasant picture, but, unfortunately, only too true to life.

Lord Walseley's Narrow Escape.

Colonel Maurice, the official historian of the Egyptian War mentions in his article in the United Service Magazine, a fact of which perhaps few men are aware—namely that Lord Walseley only just escaped death at the very beginning of an action, a shell having pitched between him and his horse, and the time held by his brother. The shell fortunately buried itself in the sand, and proved fatal, but it so frightened the horse that he broke loose and he was nearly killed. "Close shave." Not long afterwards Sir Garnet was saved from the Egyptian Cavalry, simply by the vigilance of two staff officers. It looks as if the "chamred lord" of some other famous general was Lord Walseley's.

WE ARE LUCKY TO LIVE IN A COLD CLIMATE.

How These Pests Render Life in India a Constant Anxiety for the Poor—Mortality From Snake-Bite—Some Remedies Being Tried.

In our cold northern climate venomous snakes trouble us little; but as we move eastward and approach the region where our race was cradled, the serpent (perhaps from some unpleasant local recollections) begins to assert himself; and in India the cause is one the extent of which is difficult to realize. There is literally no security to them; they will coil up in your cooking pans or under your pillow; they will stretch out on the top of your door and drop on your head. In fact, Indian snakes are guilty of all the evil deeds which a Rudyard Kipling or a Conan Doyle may ascribe to them, and the best that can be said in mitigation is that they rarely seem to bite Europeans.

Of the poisonous kinds there are some twenty genera, admirable pictures of which may be found in Sir Joseph Fayer's "Thanatophidia of India." Of these the most infamous is, of course, the cobra (Naja tripudians), of which there are many varieties.

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What is CASTORIA



Castoria is Dr. Samuel Pitcher's prescription for Infants and Children. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. It is a harmless substitute for Paregoric, Drops, Soothing Syrups, and Castor Oil. It is Pleasant. Its guarantee is thirty years' use by Millions of Mothers. Castoria destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. Castoria prevents vomiting Sour Curd, cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. Castoria relieves teething troubles, cures constipation and flatulency. Castoria assimilates the food, regulates the stomach and bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. Castoria is the Children's Panacea—the Mother's Friend.

Castoria is an excellent medicine for children. Mothers have repeatedly told me of its good effect upon their children." Dr. G. C. OSOON, Lowell, Mass.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. ASCHER, M. D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

"Our physicians in the children's department have spoken highly of the great experience in their outside practice with Castoria, and although we only have among our medical supplies what is known as regular products, yet we are free to confess that the merits of Castoria has won for us to look with favor upon it." UNITED HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, Boston, Mass.

ALLEN C. SMITH, Pres., The Castoria Company, 77 Murray Street, New York City.

NEAR THE DARK VALLEY.

A YOUNG GIRL RESCUED FROM AN EARLY GRAVE.

Pale, listless and weak, the Victim of a Hacking Cough, she was Apparently Going into a Rapid Decline—A Case of Deep Interest to Every Mother in the Land.

From the Cornwall Standard. It is now a common thing in this locality to hear people acknowledge the wonderful benefit they have derived from the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and it is not to be wondered at that the druggists find the sale of this remarkable medicine so large and get constantly increasing. We could give any number of instances of splendid results following the use of Pink Pills, but so many of these are well known to many of our readers as to not need recapitulation. However, now and again a case of more than usual interest arises, and we will give the particulars of one of these for the benefit of the public at large. Some years ago a young girl of 14, a daughter of Mr. Leon Dore, a well known and respected resident of Cornwall, began to show serious symptoms, and caused her mother great anxiety. She was just at the critical period of her life, and medical aid was called in and everything done to help her.

VICTIM OF CIGARETTES.

A New York Broker Becomes Insane From Excessive Smoking.

Ferdinand H. Birmingham, of New York, a stock broker and banker, has become insane within a week, and has been placed in a private asylum at Whitestone, L. I. Early in the year, eccentricities in his movements attracted some attention, but it was only recently that his delusions became marked. He began to shower favors upon Police Capt. Buchholz and Serg. Zimmerman, of the Flatbush station, and scarcely a day passed that he did not send them flowers and other presents. A few weeks ago he surprised Serg. Zimmerman with the announcement that some mysterious man was trying to break up his home and destroy his domestic peace, and requested him to watch for him. Inquiry showed that there was not the slightest foundation for Mr. Birmingham's suspicions, and that there was not the shadow of trouble at his home. Other delusions soon showed themselves, one being that he was the owner of untold wealth. He said he had money by the barrelful. Finally, by the advice of Dr. Durey, the family physician, Mr. Birmingham was sent to the Whitestone institution. It is believed by his friends, although the doctors will not admit it, that Mr. Birmingham's mind became unbalanced through excessive cigarette smoking. One of his most intimate friends said:—"There is not the slightest doubt in my mind that he went mad from cigarette smoking. He had been smoking cigarettes ever since he was a little boy. I suppose he smoked fifty or fifty of them every day. His domestic relations were happy, he was prosperous in his business, and he was not a drinking man. He was not a strong man, and was exceedingly nervous. He told me himself that his nervousness was due to cigarette smoking." Mr. Birmingham is thirty-five years old, and of slender build. He was always regarded as a shrewd financier.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.

When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.

When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.

When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

It is a peculiar fact that very few men, even accomplished shots, know how a revolver ought to be handled. Nearly all are taught to handle a revolver as if it were a rifle—that is, by bringing the object aimed at and the fore and hind sight into a line. This is all well enough for shooting gallery practice, but should never be followed in the field. When training troops to use the revolver they are taught, in aiming, never to look at the weapon at all, but to keep their eyes on the object to be struck. In quick firing, and especially in shooting from horseback, much better results are obtainable in this way.

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