

Wounds in the Heart.

Wounds in the heart are commonly supposed to be instantaneously fatal, but such is not the case. Indeed, it is not possible except by some extreme violence such as dynamite explosions to blot out a human life instantly. Keoper God's pistol ball went right through the heart of Barrett, the Sing Sing convict, yet he lived four minutes. Portello's knife cleft the heart of Bolander completely in twain, in New York, but he did not fall dead upon the spot. The instinct of self-preservation remained, and even that horrid wound had not deprived him of the strength to obey it. He ran first toward a neighboring drug store, then turned and ran down Fulton street, and had reached a point many feet distant from the spot where he was stabbed before he fell and expired. So O'Connell, who was stabbed by Nichols, at Nyack, N. Y., through his heart was actually cut in two by the stroke, ran several feet after the wound was inflicted. A puncture of the heart is necessarily fatal, but the victim is often conscious for two or three minutes, though generally without much power of motion or speech, save the first cry of agony. This shows that the brain can act even after the heart is destroyed. On the other hand, the heart continues to exercise its functions for a short time after the brain has ceased to act, as in case of death from a severe blow on the head. The hearts of criminals who have been hanged generally keep up their pulsations for twelve or fifteen minutes, although it is reasonably certain, when the neck is broken, that they can receive no nervous impulse from the brain during that time. The continued working of the organ is attributable to a residuum of nervous force. In the case of some animals, this is sufficient to keep the heart pulsating for hours after it has been taken out of the body. The common notion that the heart is a delicate organ is a mistake. It is, on the contrary, one of the most robust. Its muscular strength is enormous, and its tolerance of disease is something marvelous. Men and women whose hearts have been diseased from childhood sometimes attain to a ripe old age, and many people with heart disease live for years in almost momentary expectation of sudden death, and then die of some other malady. Only a few of the many diseases to which the heart is liable are inevitably and speedily fatal. Most of them, even of the organic diseases, are quite compatible with long life. As to the functional diseases, or derangement of the heart's action without actual lesion, they are devoid of danger, though their manifestations are commonly more disgusting than those of serious organic disease.

Plants in Sleeping Rooms.

Professor Bentley, in a recent lecture, "The Life of the Plant," says there exists a widely spread notion that plants, when grown in rooms where there is but little ventilation, and hence especially in our sleeping apartments, have an injurious influence upon the contained air. This idea has arisen from a knowledge of the fact that plants, as already noticed, are always evolving a small amount of carbonic acid, and hence, when not exposed to solar light, when evolution of oxygen is also taking place, this deteriorating influence on the atmosphere is that which is going on. But the amount of carbonic acid which is then given off by plants is so extremely small that it can have no sensible effect upon the atmosphere in which they are placed. It might readily be shown that it would require some thousands of plants, in this way, to vitiate the air of a room to anything like the extent of that of a single animal, and that, therefore, the idea of a few plants rendering the air of close rooms unwholesome by this action is altogether erroneous. While carbonic acid gas has thus been proved to be essential to plants, nearly all other gases are more or less injurious to them. Hence we have at once an explanation of the reason why plants growing in the air of large towns, and more especially in those where chemical processes on a large scale are going on, do not thrive. The air of an ordinary sitting-room, and especially one where gas is burned, is also rendered more or less unsuitable to the healthy growth of plants, in consequence of the production of injurious gases as well as from the dryness of the atmosphere.

Penalties.

The penalty of popularity is envy. The penalty of thin shoes is a cold. The penalty of a tight boot is corns. The penalty of a baby is sleepless nights. The penalty of marrying is a mother-in-law. The penalty of a pretty cook is an empty larder. The penalty of a god-father is a silver knife, fork and spoon. The penalty of interfering between man and wife is abuse, frequently accompanied with blows from both. The penalty of buying poor clothes is like going to law—the certainty of losing your suit and having to pay for it. The penalty of remaining single is having no one who cares a button for you, as abundantly proved by the state of your shirts. The penalty of a legacy or a fortune is the sudden discovery of a host of poor relations you never dreamed of, and a number of debts you had quite forgotten. The penalty of lending—with a book or an umbrella, the certain loss of it; with your name to a bill, the sure payment of it; with a horse, the lamentable chance of ever seeing it back again sound.

There is much complaint, says an exchange, relative to the scarcity of one and two-dollar bills. And of all the others, sir—all the others.—*Buffalo Express.*

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

Fall and Winter Fashions.

A New York fashion correspondent writes: The winter dresses are going to be superb; most notably, conceptions of stand-alone silk and broadcloth, embossed or plain velvet. Even for early fall wear velvet enters largely into the combination costumes, together with camel's hair, cashmere, poplin and silk. Velvet, too, have been most extensively imported, and these goods, as well as velvets, come in as many as forty new colors or shades. In such tints as brown, myrtle, bronze, slate, blue and green are three gradations of hues—light, medium and dark; then we find such novelties as green, green cardinal, sulphur, petunia, mauve, claret, Sultan, ruby, pomegranate, lava, pheasant, giraffe and panther, very light, and exceedingly dark tints are placed side by side in so striking a manner as to attract attention to the fact that the summer tendency to effect such combinations has been decidedly emphasized.

Camel's hair is not by any means reduced in price, the decided novelties in silk and hair costing from three to eight dollars a yard, and do not vary materially from those of the past except in defined colorings, which, instead of blending, is rather more evident in lines and irregular figures. A rich camel's hair with velvet finish is pretty, but will be easily defaced, as the neat loops catch in every rough surface.

The standard poplin, which once was as popular and almost as high-priced as first-class silks, comes again, but in softer quantities, quite as silky and rich in appearance, but more easily and gracefully draped, falling in exquisite folds and beautifully combining with the new silk velvets, which are light and flexible, as well as with the embroidered bands of silk or the faille itself. The fancy for Eastern or Oriental creations has not yet been satisfied, and specimens are shown of marvelous beauty; silks and velvets, shot with gold and silver, embroidered with gems and garnished with fringe of the gold and silver, headed by bands after the designs in the fabric.

It is decreed by our queen that a distinction most positive must be made between the styles of garments to be worn by the stately dame and the petite mademoiselle; and verily the royal lady is correct, and if this mandate be followed some most absurd and grotesque features of following style will be avoided. For short ladies bands are used as trimmings, together with perpendicular puffs, side platings and low waists, and, in truth, everything that will add to appearance of size or height, while for tall ladies, who wish to either increase or diminish in size, or adorn themselves, if the form is satisfactory, there are models for each and every one, and we betide the fair one who makes a mistake in her selections, and adopts the costume intended for her stouter or more delicate sisters, for fashion will forever banish such offenders.

It is a settled fact, but they are not after the models of any past ages, proving that it is not impossible for "something new under the sun" to be created. These patterns, as yet merely adumbrated to the form and scarcely increased in size, still these serve as support and add a grace to the form divine. Those of deer hair are most decided novelties in material and formation, and are not influenced in the slightest degree by either the warmth of the body or even exposure to damp or rainy atmosphere, which affected mohair so seriously as to incense its banishment from the realm of fashion.

In hats and bonnets, too, distinctions must be made for it is pronounced "vulgar" for a small-faced lady to wear an outer or large head covering—hence buyers will find in wholesale houses a great diversity of shapes and styles, suiting every kind of face and capability of being fashionable, for it must be remembered that there are but few women in America who cannot be stylishly made up by an accomplished artist.

Wedding Dresses.

Combinations of two or three fabrics in the wedding dress will prevail, and the preference is given to creamy white satin combined with broadcloth satin, and trimmed with lace. There are also broadcloth dresses for the accessories of satin or faille dresses, and some uncut velvets have been ordered, both plain and in broadcloth stripes. When plain white tulle is used it requires a great deal of satin give it the lustrous effect of so much in vogue. The white Chantilly gauzes are now made so rich by velvet raised figures and by satin stripes that they are considered appropriate for the stately dress of a bride, especially when they are made up over satin. The wedding dress has a style of its own usually, but for the next season, the panier draperies and certain effects will be used very much as they are for other full-dress toilettes. The overskirt drapery is very graceful, and in some dresses is made as an extension of the front of the corsege, while the back retains the princess shape, and is cut in one piece with the long train. In such dresses lace or the orange-blossom fringe is used in profusion to drape the sides and tounure. Lace flounces are also set in gathered rows across the front and side breadths of the skirt, but are not put on the train, which is still left plain on the edges, though, sometimes, elaborately trimmed up each side. The high corsege and long coat sleeves is the severe style that is preferred for church weddings, but many basques will have surprise drapery of lace following the outline of an open heart-shaped corsege, and the transparent lace sleeves reaching to the elbow will also be retained. Corsege bouquets are removed to the shoulders, where they form caplets. New sets of orange blossoms have long trailing sprays that

form a sash, that may be pendent on the left side of the front, or else directly behind. The tulle veil remains plain, with unadorned edges, and is allowed to fall over the face.—*Harper's Bazar.*

Polish About Pins.

The first automatic pin machine dates from 1824, when an American (they are nearly always Americans who do these things), named Wright, exhibited in London his machine, which, during the revolution of a single wheel, produced a perfect pin. Of course, in the long interval between 1824 and 1879, many improvements have been made on this machinery, and the one now in use is that of Messrs. Taylor, which is only twenty-four inches wide, thirty inches long and eighteen inches high—a veritable Lilliputian giant. A pin, divested of all sentiment, is a piece of polished brass wire, thinned over, with a point at one end and a head at the other, and is produced thus: The brass wire is fed on to the machine by a reel, and the first operation is to give it a head, which is done by the wire being forced into a recess, and there meeting a steel punch and die. The head on the wire is suddenly nipped in the middle, according to the proposed length of the embryo pin, and slides down a grooved incline into a tray with a slit in the bottom. Through this slit the headed pin wire is bound to go; but, as the head prevents its entirely dropping through, it is left dangling (though for an infinitesimal period only) over a revolving roller of steel, garnished with a number of teeth like fish.

Before the pin has had time to consider its situation, the end touching the roller is pointed, smoothed and polished, and at the same moment that the operation is finished, it is pushed through the slit by its successor, following in the same track, and drops into a tray clean as the pin that it is. The subsequent processes are comparatively slight ones. The pins are brightened by boiling in weak beer, so as to thoroughly purify the surface, and then exposed to a solution of grain tin, by which they acquire a coating of that metal, and are finally shaken in a barrel with bran or sawdust, which makes them pretty and bright. Perhaps not the least curious part of the performance is represented in the packaging—which formerly cost both time and money when done by hand. Twelve sheets of paper had to be folded, in each sheet of which there were twenty-four double folds, and into these were stuck carefully and laboriously 144 rows of pins, with thirty-nine in each row, in all, 5,796. But by the action of a very simple piece of machinery, the paper, with the maker's name ready printed on it, is actually crimped, and the pins stuck into it in rows, much faster than these lines can be written. Perhaps the lady readers of this article and their pin-punners, as all women are, will be surprised to learn that the pins, which are now so much respected on these unconsidered trifles when they think of the extraordinary ingenuity that has been lavished upon them, and that, small as they are, nearly a quarter million pounds sterling are annually spent upon them by purchasers. Pins, like needles, have many other differences besides those of thickness and length. Mourning pins are not made of brass at all, but of iron wire, and are "blued" by heating them in a peculiar furnace called a "muffle."

Then there are corker pins, of three and a half inches in length, hair pins, safety pins for dresses and shawls, not to speak of entomological pins, without which the collector of insects is utterly lost.—*Examiner.*

The Influence of Climate.

The influence of climate upon a constitution subjected to a trying change in atmospheric conditions, in water and in food, is not only marked and distinct, but it is also very important. Disorders of the bowels and of the liver, frequently terminating fatally, are prone to attack the tourist by land or voyager, and in mountainous latitudes—more particularly those near the equator. The best medical protection against irregularity of the bowels, stomach and liver, not only from the above, but whatever cause arising, is Dr. J. C. H. Hunter's Stomach Bitters, a medicine in wide and increasing demand in sultry portions of this country, and also in the tropics. Travelers, emigrants, dwellers and temporary sojourners in malarious districts use it very extensively as a safeguard.

The destructive progress of that insidious foe to life and health, the blood-poison, the ailment of Scrofula or Blood and Liver Sympy, a botanical department which the system of every trace of scrofulous or syphilitic poison, and cures eruptive and other diseases indicative of a tainted condition of the blood. Among the maladies which it remedies are white swellings, eruptions, eruptions, biliousness, the diseases incident to women, gout and rheumatism.

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