A NEW DISPOSITION

CAN NOW BE PURCHASED—SO SAYS A FRENCH DOCTOR.

The Queer Effect of a Horseshoe Magnet on the Brain—A Sure Cure for a Case of the Blues.

"Dispositions for sale." This is the extraordinary sign which may some time appear in the windows of the drug shops. A series of extraordinary experiments which have been made by one of the best known scientists in France during the last year, but which have not before been made public, seem to promise some such marvellous result.

The strangest discovery of all the strange discoveries which have been recorded during the past decade by the progressive scientists of France, is one of which Dr. Luys has authorized the Journal to make the first announcement. Dr. Luys, it will be remembered is the scientist whose strange experiments concerning the effect on hypnotized patients of drugs in hermetically sealed tubes, were recently described in the Journal. He has until lately been at the head of the famous Charity Hospital of Paris. He was Charcot's favorite pupil and assistant, and probably knows more about hypnotism than any other man who lives to day.

One of the things which he has learned is that it does not pay to leave any experiment untried. He has followed many blind alleys of scientific research, and gone full cry on many a false scent; but he has at the same" time given to the world more new facts concerning the science which is his specialty than any other one man except Charcot. He was the first to perform serious surgical operations while patients were under the influence of hypnotism, and he was the first to introduce hypnotism into regular hospital practice. His discoveries, which were recently the subject of an article in the Journal, came about, he acknowledges, through his keen observation of accidental fact. His present discovery is, to an extent, of a similar nature.

More than a year and a half ago a young woman went to Dr. Luys to receive a special treatment for chronic melancholia. He receives many patients at his house, which is located not far from where Du Maurier's old studio stood. The girl was about twenty-seven years old, and her malady was a peculiar one. It followed a severe attack of nervous prostration and was at first mere mental depression. This increased as time passed, and was accompanied by an inexplicable lack of ability to sleep.

After a month or two of this a complication ensued which was especially distressing. The girl was of an affectionate disposition naturally, and was herself the first to discover that there was growing in her heart an unreasoning aversion for those people whom she had formerly loved. Her father especially had been dear to her, and never in her life had he shown greater kindness than during her long illness. Yet she awoke one day to a realization of the fact that it was no longer pleasant to her to see him; that, indeed, her eyes involuntarily dropped when he came near, and her lips took on the sullen expression of

FRONT VIEW.

a displeased child. Her younger sister, with whom she had probably spent more of her time than with any other member of her family, amazed her one day by bursting into tears, and by giving as the reason for her unhappiness the fact that she was evidently no longer welcome in her company. Her mother noticed the change in her general attitude toward her and grieved over it.

The girl herself did not for a second fail to realize the unreasonable nature of the change in her mental attitude. She did not for a second even try to find a sufficient cause for is in the actions of her family. She knew that it grew out of some sudden alteration in her own mental condition. But, in spite of her efforts to avoid it, her aversion to those who were nearest to her and should have been dearest to her, continually increased.

Matters reached such a pass at last that she could not enter the room in which any of her family were present without shuddering and shrinking, so great was her dislike for them. At last she became convinced that she was on the verge of insanity, and went of her own accord to consult Dr. Luys. With him she talked frankly, and toward him she felt none of that strange aversion.

Of course, his first move was to see her family and learn what he could of the circumstances which had led to her unfortunate condition. Then he began a conventional system of treatment, consisting of nerve-tonics, physical exercise and similar health-giving measures. These had little effect upon the girl. She told him with the tears rolling down her cheeks day after day, that the unaccountable aversion for the members of her family was increasing rather than decreasing. The moment she permitted her mind to dwell upon any of those persons whom she ought to have loved best, it was filled with a dislike, such as one feels for certain dishes or odors. There was no resentment in her mental attitude, she merely disliked, she did not hate, but her dislikes soon reached the point where it made her home life unbearable.

All this, of course, had a serious effect upon her physical health. She pined and suffered in body as she pined, and suffered in mind. In three months she lost fifty pounds. She became so weak that it was with great difficulty that she paid her daily visit to the doctor, and he was at his wits' end. He had accomplished much in many more or less similar cases by means of straight hypnotism, or treatment by suggestion, but he never followed this treatment without the consent of the patient; indeed, it would b impossible to do so. This girl was strongly opposed to the use of hypnotism, and he did not attempt it. He finally decided that there was only one possibility of securing improvement in her mental and physical health, and that lay in a complete change of surroundings. At his request her father began to make arrangements to send her to England for a long time. It was during one of the last of her visits to the doctor that the accident occurred which Dr. Luys thinks has resulted in a discovery of a new property of magnetism.

Of course, as progressive an experimenter as Dr. Luys had long before tried nearly every possible method of electrical treatment. His office, which is a wholly independent building in the big garden back of his house, is full of the most elaborate electrical appliances. Many of his instruments are of the most delicate nature, and he protects them with the utmost care against the possibility of in-

BACK VIEW.

fluence by outside electric currents. In order to do this he has at the back of his office a series of glass shelves completely insulated.

Some months before the young woman's case had reached this point Dr. Luys, in a pure spirit of experimentation, had had a huge horseshoe magnet constructed in such a way that it would fit about the upper part of a person's head, with one of its ends or poles on either temple. It is his theory that the human body is a magnetic storehouse, and that is, like the magnet, has its north and south pole—its positive and negative sides. It was he who discovered the strange fact that this magnetic force was of value in the diagnosis of disease; that to the hypnotic subject in a certain state colored flames would issue from any diseased portion of another person's body. It was in the course of his labors in support of this theory—a theory which has been indorsed, despite its seeming absurdity, by some of the best scientists of France—that he had this magnet built.

As she girl sat in his office that day in August, while he was filled with that feeling of utter helplessness which comes to the physician who has exhausted his resources unsuccessfully in his attempt to treat a patient, his eye fell upon this magnet. He carefully lifted it from its glass shelf and placed it on the girl's head, with no idea that any important result would come from the action. A moment after that some important callers arrived, and seeing to it that she was comfortably seated, he went out to confer with them. Probably three-quarters of an hour elapsed before he returned to his patient. I will tell the story at this point as nearly as I can in the doctor's own words:—

"I should not have been at all surprised" said he, "if I had found that during my really unwarrantably long absence the girl had taken off the magnet and gone home. When I re-entered the office, however, she was sitting in very much the same attitude which she had assumed before I left her. A remarkable change, however, had occurred in her appearance. She was even paler than usual, her eyes were more deeply sunken than they had been, and it was evident that she was weaker than before. Indeed, I was very much alarmed by her appearance. A part of this I attributed to the effect of the weight of the heavy magnet on her head, but this I knew did not wholly explain the change which had occurred in her condition since I had seen her a short time before. I hurriedly removed the magnet from her head, replaced it on the shelf, and then, sending a servant for a carriage, administered some mild stimulants and prepared to send her home. She told me that she felt very weak, but that her head seemed clearer than it had been before for a long time. Giving her attendant some instructions about what to do for her that night, I parted from her at my door, feeling somewhat fearful lest my experiment had done her harm.

"After she had gone I sat down to think out the reason for this strange experience. Is seemed highly improbable that her weakness had been caused by any effect of the magnet, when I considered the matter, yet that magnet was an unknown quantity. I went to the shelf, got it again and put it on my own head, deciding to wear it for at least as long a time as she had worn it, so that I might note its effect upon myself. For forty-five minutes I sat perfectly quiet in the same chair which she had occupied. I noted with considerable surprise that even my own strength—and I am a robust man—seemed to be waning as the moments flew. At the end of the three-quarters of an hour I was quite unnaturally weak, but was as far from a solution of my difficulty—the real reason why she and I had both been weakened by the magnet—as I had been in the first place. My dinner hour had arrived, however, and I placed the magnet on the shelf again and went across the garden into my house. I have several children and a wife, and am very fond of them.

"They were gathered in the dining-room as I entered and greeted me with the usual chorus of welcome. I cannot describe to you my amazement when I found that their happiness at my coming had no echo in my own brain. My habitual pleasure at seeing them did not exist. Instead of that I felt toward them in a minor degree exactly the aversion which my patient had told me that she felt toward the members of her own family.

"Instantly the idea occurred to me that I might have discovered a new and most surprising property of the electro-magnet. My experience seemed to indicate that the magnet while resting on the girl's head had absorbed some subtle influence from her brain and stored it up to transfer it later to my own mind when I in turn placed the instrument upon my head."

Thus Dr. Luys tells the story of his first experiment with his new instrument and its result. He has made many experiments since then. In the carefully written book in which he keeps a record of his work at his office the stories of these experiments are concisely told in scientific terms. It would not interest the public at large to go into the details of pulse, temperature and other medical technicalities which these records contain, but their general evidence is fascinating. If this evidence is borne out by subsequent experiments the sentence "Dispositions for sale," with which this article opens, may not in the future seem as absurd as it does now. What studies Dr. Luys has been able to make have tended to prove the following facts:—

First—An ordinary electro-magnet so fashioned that it will rest upon a person's head with its poles touching his temples will to some unknown extent absorb any strongly morbid influence which may at the time be working in his brain.

Second—After the magnet has been left for a sufficiently long time on the head of a person suffering from a morbid mental complaint, and is then placed upon the head of a person in a normally healthy state of mind, the morbid tendency of the sick man's mind will be to a considerable extent transferred to the healthy mind of the other person.

Third—No appreciable effect is produced by transferring the magnet from the head of one perfectly healthy person to another.

Fourth—The transfer of the magnet from the head of a healthy person to that of one suffering from melancholia or other morbid mind disease is nearly always perceptibly beneficial.

These comprise about all the facts which have up to the present time been ascertained by these extraordinary experiments. Dr. Luys is as far as ever from understanding the reason of this strange effect of the electro-magnet, but he feels certain that further and careful study along these lines will result in important additions to the world's sum of electro-medical knowledge.

When I asked him if, in his opinion, it would ever be possible to so develop this new plan that an artificial transfer of dispositions would be made between two people of different temperament—as, for instance, the insertion of a good temper into the brain of a grumpy individual, the provision of a philanthropic disposition to a miser, and so on—he laughed.

"No," he said; "these things will not be possible, but the things which seem fairly possible are scarcely less wonderful. For instance, if my studies along this new line carry me far enough, so that by means of the electro-magnet I shall be able to inject healthy mental force into the mind of a morbid melancholiac, so that I shall be able to transfer good brain influence from head to head as we now sometimes transfer healthy blood from wrist to wrist, I shall feel that my time has been valuably expended. That I shall within a year have the satisfaction of definitely accomplishing these things, and of accomplishing them every time I try, I have now little doubt."

Could be Reached Still.

"Did you catch a glimpse of the footpad?" asked the policeman, who was stooping over the insensible victim, and examining his injuries.

"Yes," answered the man, whose timely arrival had scared the murderous villain away. "He was a tough looking fellow, a little taller than I am, and wore chin whiskers."

The prostrate man shuddered, gasped, and moved his lips. Consciousness was returning.

"Strictly speaking," the policeman heard him mutter, feebly, "there is no such thing as chin whiskers. Whiskers grow on the cheeks. He wore a chin beard."

Th en the Boston man became unconscious again.

Looking a difficulty square in the face will often kill it dead.

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Munyon's Rheumatic Cure seldom fails to relieve in one to three hours, and cures in a few days. Price 25c.

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NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF TIMBER LICENSES

CROWN LAND OFFICE, 24 JULY, 1896.

The attention of all holders of Timber Licenses is called to Section 19 of the Timber Regulations which reads as follows:—

"19 No Spruce or Pine trees shall be cut by any Licensee under any License, not even for piling, which will not make a log at least 18 feet in length and ten inches at the small end; and if any such shall be cut, the Lumber shall be liable to double stumpage and the License be forfeited"

and all Licensees are hereby notified, that for the future, the provisions of this section will be rigidly enforced

ALBERT T DUNN,
Surveyor General

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FRANCES A. GILLESPIE

Chatham, 29th Nov. 1893.

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WILL LEAVE CHATHAM JUNCTION.

Through express for St. John, Halifax and Pictou, (Monday excepted)	4.16
Through express for Quebec and Montreal,	22.20
Accommodation for Moncton	11.08
Accommodation for Campbellton,	14.35

ALL TRAINS ARE RUN BY EASTERN STANDARD TIME.

D. POTTINGER,
General Manager

Railway Offic ,Moncton N. B 3rd September,1896

Executors' Notice

All persons having just claims against the Estate of the late John Shirreff, High sheriff deceased, are hereby requested to file the same duly attested with M. S. Benson, Attorney at-Law, within three months from the date hereof, and all persons indebted to the said Estate are required to make immediate payment to Mary Henrietta shirreff.

Dated at Chatham 15th day of March, 1897.

MARY HENRIETTA SHIRREFF, Executrix.
HARRY SHIRREFF, Executor.

TENDERS WANTED.

Chatham Ferry.

Applications addressed to M. S. Benson, Town Clerk, Chatham, will be received at his office up to 12 o'clock noon of the 25th day of March inst, for the privilege of running a steam ferry between Chatham and Elliot's shore (so called) opposite the town.

Intending applicants can see the new regulations and tariff fees by applying to the Town Clerk.

A subsidy of $300 is granted by the Government. Applicant should state what size of boat he proposes to put on.

W. S. LOGGIE,
Chairman of Public Works Committee
J. B. BENSON,
Mayor.

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Chatham N. B., Sept. 24, 1895.

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All persons having claims against the estate of William Copping late of Chatham, deceased, are required to file the same duly attested with the undersigned, and all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payment to

MRS. WM. JOPPING.

Chatham Sept. 1, 1896.

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