

or demons. The prisoner accused only of being an aristocrat was doomed to be guillotined, and in pronouncing sentence the judge added, partly in jest and partly in earnest, that his dog might go with him. The condemned man was conducted back to prison with his faithful companion. The dog was happily unconscious of the approaching tragedy. Morning dawned, the hour of execution arrived, and the prisoner, with other victims of revolutionary vengeance, went forth to the scaffold. One last caress was permitted; next minute the axe fell and severed the head of the poor gentleman from his body. The dog saw the bloody deed perpetrated and was frantic with grief. He followed the mangled corpse of his master to the grave. No persuasions could induce him to leave the spot. Night and day he lay on the bare ground. Food was offered but he would not eat. Day by day his frame became more attenuated, his eye more glassy. Occasionally he uttered low moaning sounds. One morning he was found stretched lifeless on the earth.

LIVED THOUSANDS OF YEARS.

A vase closely sealed was found in a mummy pit in Egypt by the English traveller Wilkinson, who sent it to the British museum. In it were discovered a few peas, old, wrinkled, and hard as a stone. The peas were planted carefully under a glass on July 4, 1844, and at the end of thirty days they sprang into life, after having lain sleeping in the dust of a tomb for almost three thousand years.

THEIR HEADS TOGETHER.

William Leitch, the Scottish landscape-painter, who was well-known as a drawing master, gave some lessons to the Queen many years ago. The story goes that one day, in the course of a lesson, the Queen let her pencil fall to the ground. Both master and pupil stooped to pick it up; and, to the horror of Leitch, there was a collision—the master's head struck that of his

royal pupil; but, before he could stammer an apology, the Queen said, smiling, "Well, Mr. Leitch, if we bring our heads together in this way, I ought to improve rapidly."

THE SENSE OF TOUCH.

If there is any subject that people in general think they are specially familiar with, that subject is their own sense of touch or skin feeling. Yet how few will not be surprised to learn that the points of a pair of compasses held two and two-fifths inches apart against the middle of one's own back feel like but one point? If opened out to two and a half inches, they feel like two. This was discovered by Weber in a series of experiments to which Mr. Herbert Spencer has lately called attention.

Weber found the tips of the forefingers could feel the two points when they were one-twelfth of an inch apart, but not when closer together. Between this fine sensitiveness and the coarse sensitiveness of the middle of the back all the outer parts of the body vary.

For instance, the inner surfaces of the second joints of the forefinger can distinguish the two compass points one-sixth of an inch apart. The innermost points have less sensitiveness of this sort, but rank in it equal with the tip of the nose. The end of the toe, the palm of the hand, and the cheek have alike one-fifth of the perceptiveness of the tip of the forefinger, and the lower part of the forehead has one-half that of the cheek.

The back of the head and crown of the head are nearly alike in having fourteen times less sensitiveness of this sort than the tip of the forefinger. The points of the compass must be an inch and one-half apart before the breast ceases to feel them as one.

Mr. Herbert Spencer accounts for these differences on the ground of greater practice of some parts of the body in feeling various objects. For instance, the finger tips are educated and their qualities transmitted by inheritance to successive generations. The tongue, always feeling the teeth, and often feel-