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In Use For Over 30 Years.

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RAILWAY TIME-TABLE

GOING WEST

No. 1 No. 8

Brockville (leave) 9.30 a.m. 4.20 p.m.

Lyn 9.55 " 4.35 "

Seeleys 10.05 " 4.42 "

Forthton 10.18 " 4.53 "

Elbe 10.24 " 4.58 "

Athens 10.38 " 5.06 "

Soperton 10.58 " 5.22 "

Lyndhurst 11.05 " 5.29 "

Delta 11.13 " 5.36 "

Elgin 11.22 " 5.49 "

Forfar 11.40 " 5.55 "

Crosby 11.48 " 6.00 "

Newboro 11.58 " 6.10 "

Westport (arrive) 12.15 p.m. 6.20 "

GOING EAST

No. 2 No. 4

Westport (leave) 7.00 a.m. 8.20 p.m.

Newboro 7.10 " 8.35 "

Crosby 7.20 " 8.46 "

Forfar 7.25 " 8.52 "

Elgin 7.31 " 9.02 "

Delta 7.45 " 9.21 "

Lyndhurst 7.51 " 9.28 "

Soperton 7.58 " 9.37 "

Athens 8.15 " 9.50 "

Elbe 8.22 " 9.52 "

Forthton 8.27 " 9.58 "

Seeleys 8.38 " 9.53 "

Lyn 8.45 " 9.54 "

Brockville (arrive) 9.00 " 6.00 "

*Stop on signal

W. J. CURLE,

Supt.

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An excellent remedy for Rheumatism, Lame Back, Etc., Etc.

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Dear Sir, I am writing you to tell you that I was laid up with La Grippe and unable to get relief from several other patent medicines. I was convinced by several of my neighbors to try St. Regis Lumbago Cure, and I can thankfully say it was the first thing that gave me immediate relief. Since that time I have never been without it in my house, and cannot speak too highly of it, especially for children, as it will break up a cold at once. I have also found it a sure cure for lame back.

You are at liberty to use my name for reference if you wish to publish it for the benefit of others. I am yours truly,
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Yours truly,
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SURGICAL TRAGEDIES.

Mishaps That Follow in the Wake of Operations.

OBJECTS LEFT IN THE BODY.

Recorded Cases Show That Tubes, Clamps, Sponges, Towels and Sponges Have Been Forgotten or Overlooked Until Disclosed by Autopsy.

Accidents will happen in the best regulated of operations. Foreign bodies, such as forceps, sponges, towels and gauze pads, are more frequently left in the human body after operations than the public is aware of. To be sure, the number of operations in which this happens is small. It occurs perhaps once or twice in the course of 2,000 operations. Like an eruption of Vesuvius, however, it is likely at any time and has marked the operations of some of the best known surgeons of this city. They may it may occur again notwithstanding the number of schemes which have been devised to prevent it.

No one knows the number of these mishaps, as only in relatively few cases is death followed by an autopsy. The announcement that "the operation was a success, but the patient died," may cover a multitude of sins of omission and commission so far as any one can tell. One may find in the files of the "Annals of Surgery" the reports of between 150 and 200 cases in which objects used in operations have been left in the body. These objects include tubes, clamps, sponges, towels, forceps, scissors and finger rings. Usually it is a piece of gauze or a sponge that is left in the wound. In 109 cases reported from Europe thirty-one sponges and thirty-three pieces of gauze were left in wounds. In forty-three cases death resulted. In the other sixty-six cases the articles worked their way out after remaining in the body for months and sometimes years or were discovered and removed by operations performed to relieve the pain caused by the movements of these objects.

In one case a surgeon lost his seal ring. It finally pushed its way to the surface of the body of a person on whom he had operated and was returned to its owner. In another pair of forceps circulated about the abdominal cavity of a "case" for four years before being recovered.

Pieces of gauze five feet long and a yard wide have been removed from persons on whom operations had been performed.

It seems strange to the layman that anything should be able to escape the surgeon in such a small cavity as is likely to be created in the body in the course of an operation. Especially does it seem impossible that anything should be lost in view of the extreme care taken to prevent it. Many surgeons have worked out methods of procedure for operations with the intention of eliminating the possibility of the loss of anything used. Unfortunately even these have never proved infallible. The most usual method is to have everything counted by a nurse before the operation begins. Before the wound is closed each article is accounted for by a recount. Some surgeons have had experiences which led them to triple the number of persons responsible for the appliances, each to check the counts of all the others. Other surgeons have the gauze pads in packages of half a dozen or a dozen. Only one package is opened at a time, and its contents must be accounted for before the next is opened. Tying tapes to each gauze, pad or instrument inserted in a wound is another precaution. A prominent Brooklyn surgeon devised a check system similar to that used by baggage-men. A quantity of glass checks were numbered, there being two of each number, and to each set of duplicates was attached a tape. To every article used in the operation one of these tapes with the check attached was fastened. Whenever, for instance, a piece of gauze was taken from a basin for use one of the checks was removed and placed in the basin. Before the wound was stitched each article represented by these detached checks had to be accounted for.

Notwithstanding such precautions, in four recorded cases large sponges were torn in half while the operation was in progress and one of the halves placed in the wound and lost sight of. When the count was made there was the same number of sponges as at the beginning of the operation. The missing half was forgotten and the wound closed.

A surgeon in describing one of these mishaps says: "A young surgeon, assisted by an older surgeon, performed the operation. The older one tore a sponge in half and tucked half of it in without saying anything about it. The woman died of shock, and the sponge was removed at the postmortem examination, much to the surgeon's surprise, as a count of sponges gave the number with which the operation had been begun."

Another way in which a reputable surgeon may be made the victim of this kind of an accident is illustrated in this settlement, made by an American practitioner: "I have had two unfortunate experiences in regard to foreign bodies remaining in the abdominal cavity, one occurring a few years ago when using the old fashioned sponges, the patient occurred about three years ago in which a small gauze sponge was left, the patient making a good recovery, but on a reappearance of the disease a year after the sponge was found on exploration. This is an accident to be regretted. I have always been fortunate in reference to forceps and instruments.

and in the first case to which I referred I had trusted entirely to my assistant, who assured me all the sponges were accounted for. After the death of the patient and on making an autopsy, you can imagine my sorrow and chagrin in finding a small sponge in the abdominal cavity."

Even when the count does not tally and it is evident that something is missing, the accident which may cost a life happens.

"It was a sponge about the size of a small hen's egg, lost in the abdominal cavity, thanks to the assistance of a visiting surgeon," said one surgeon in reporting his experience. "A prominent operator from one of the large eastern cities being present, I asked him to assist me, as was then so frequently the custom. I did not feel at liberty to speak to him quite as I should have done to my usual assistant. Before closing the wound the customary sponge count was called for and showed one missing. A thorough search of the room failed to reveal it. I then searched the cavity, as I thought, most carefully. In the meantime every assistant—and there were many, as was then the custom—expressed his views, and it was decided that the missing sponge was one which had been dropped during the process of cleaning. The incident was recalled and seemed confirmed by my vain search of the cavity. Peritonitis promptly followed, not altogether unusual at that time, and the postmortem four days later revealed the sponge thoroughly concealed in the upper part of the cavity."

Not often, to be sure, but occasionally, the mistake is made of operating on the wrong member. A case is reported from Canada which illustrates this. It was that of a diseased optic nerve. It was feared that the disease would be communicated to the healthy nerve of the other eye, and it was decided that to obviate this the diseased nerve and eye should be removed. The nature of the malady was such that one could not tell by appearance the diseased from the healthy eye. The patient, being under the influence of the anesthetic, could not give any information on that point. The healthy eye was taken out.

"Of course you would feel like shooting the surgeon," said the physician who told the incident to a representative of the Tribune, "but there was nothing to guide the surgeon."

Since then in such a case it has become the custom to indicate the eye to be operated upon by an identification mark before the operation is undertaken."—New York Tribune.

SPECULATION.

One View of the Influence of the Stock Exchange.

Now, let us see what speculation does. What justification is there for it? Americans are known as the greatest of all speculators, not merely stock speculators or speculators in commodity futures, but as speculators generally, willing to take a risk, anxious to put their intelligence, their wit, their brain, brawn and resources against the tricks of fate. And we have grown and grown steadily, expanding politically and intellectually, and who shall say not morally? Legitimate speculation, then, has some good effect, some proper function, some economic basis and excuse.

Some of the things that speculation on the stock exchanges and on the commodity exchanges make possible are or should be obvious. It divides or limits the risks of trade, gives a market at all times for securities or commodities, makes it possible for every one to know what the market value is of any security, of wheat, cotton, corn, oats, coffee, etc. It keeps pace with the increase in trade. Speculators are always ready to buy or sell at the market price. It follows the fluctuations in values and registers these changes in the market price. It makes possible the development of the country along great broad lines. It is a means of warning those who are holders of securities that the value of their property is decreasing and makes it possible for them to take proper action in the premises. It is an insurance for the producer, the manufacturer, and vitalizes the farmer's credit. These things are overlooked when speculation is attacked, and that is because the gambling factor in the speculative market is more spectacular, more intrusive and more susceptible to picturesque denunciation. Speculation begets certain evils impossible of eradication and which assume their present form simply because the speculative markets facilitate their development. Abolish the markets and they will manifest themselves elsewhere, no less vicious and no more easy to remedy, to root out.—John Paul Ryan in Metropolitan Magazine.

When Servants Were Fined.

What would servants of modern times say to the following rules and regulations that were adopted over 300 years ago in the household of Sir J. Harrington, the translator of Ariosto? A servant absent from prayers to be fined twopence; uttering an oath, a penny; leaving a door open, a penny; a penny fine for any beds unmade, fire unlit or candle box uncleared after 8; any one breaking any of the butler's glass, a shilling; twopence fine for any one who has not laid the table for dinner by half past 10 or supper by 6; any one being absent without leave, fourpence fine; a penny fine for any follower visiting the cook; a fine of a penny for any visitor's room left untidy for four hours after he or she dressed; a penny fine if the hall be not cleaned by 8 in winter and 7 in summer; a fine of threepence if the stairs be uncleared every Friday after dinner.

All these fines were deducted from the servants' quarterly payment of their wages.—London Standard.

Deploable Levity.
"We students can stand a good many things," said the college girl, "but this last missionary was too much for us. He preached on the glories of the missionary calling for women. He told us we ought all of us to go and help the heathen. That was all right. But then he worked up to a glowing finish. 'Now, I appeal to you, as college women, how much better than mere learning and mere books it is to go forth into the world and become fishers of men?' 'That was too much. Of course we smiled. In fact, some of us snickered audibly. Then the missionary complained to 'prexy' that he couldn't help noticing a deplorable spirit of levity apparent among the students."

Missed the Fun.
"He says he has a bad headache." "That's no reason he should spring such a grouch." "Oh, yes, it is." "Show me." "He doesn't know how he accumulated it."

Alimony.
She married in haste
And repented with pleasure,
A provident thing to do.

A woman of taste
And also of leisure,
She landed a revenue.

The Difference.
"That man is wise to his weakness." "Different from most of us." "Why?" "We are mostly weak to our wisdom."

Another Color.
"I am threatened with a lawsuit." "You want to get a good lawyer?" "Are there any of that kind?" "Oh, that's different!"

STEVENS—POULIN

On Tuesday morning at eight o'clock a large number of friends assembled in St. Francis Xavier church, Brockville, to witness the nuptials of one of Brockville's popular young ladies, Miss Eva A., youngest daughter of the late Mr. Peter Poulin, to Mr. Marcus A. Stevens, of Montreal, son of Mr. James Stevens, Athens.

The bride entered the church in the company of her brother, Mr. Adolphus Poulin, to the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march, played by Prof. Staudt. She was dressed in a travelling suit of brown ladies' cloth, tailor-made with white hat trimmed with ostrich plumes. The bridesmaid, her niece, Miss Ida May Branniff, was gowned in pink voile muslin, made Empire style and trimmed with valencienne lace and wearing a large picture hat. The groomsmen were Mr. Maurice Stevens, brother of the groom. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Traynor.

When the bridal party returned to the home of the bride's mother, Pearl street, congratulations were heartily extended by members of both families and other relatives assembled. Break fast was served and a couple of hours socially spent until the time arrived for the departure of the steamer Tor onto for the west.

Mr. and Mrs. Stevens were escorted to the wharf and given a rousing send-off. They left for a two weeks' visit to Rochester, Toronto, Buffalo and other western cities and upon returning will take up residence in Montreal.

Mr. Stevens is a native of Athens also a former resident of Brockville, being at one time in the employ of Robt. Wright & Co. At present he is holding a lucrative position with Redmond & Co., of Montreal. Mrs. Stevens is a young lady who has spent her life in the Island City and her removal to another sphere will be felt in many circles in which she moved. She is an accomplished musician and her talents have been freely given to many an affair which object was for the public good. She received innumerable presents, from friends here and at a distance. The gift of the groom was a pearl ring.—Recorder.

The many friends of the groom in Athens will join most heartily with the Reporter in extending congratulations and best wishes.

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