

which is conducted by its means. In some strange fashion the spirit of the angry dog seems to be infused into the victim of its bite; and it is well known that even when an angry dog has in the heat of passion inflicted a wound, the result has been very similar to hydrophobia, though the animal was not affected with that disease. Ordinarily, the bite of a dog, such as the playful bite of a puppy, though sufficiently painful, carries no danger with it; but if the animal has only been touched with this malady, its bite is but too frequently fatal. This death-dealing influence has been proved to remain in the saliva for four-and-twenty hours after the animal's death. Perhaps there may be something of electricity in the fatal influence, which requires a fluid conductor, for if the teeth of the animal have been wiped dry by passing through the clothing of its intended victim, no evil result follows.—*Routledge's Illustrated Natural History; by the Rev. J. G. Wood.*

EXTRAORDINARY EFFECT OF THE STING OF THE HOXEE-BEE.—About two years ago the farm-servant of Mr. Waldron, of Up Lambourne, in Berkshire, while working in his master's garden, was stung by a bee in the back of the head. The sting was immediately followed by all the symptoms attendant on snake poison; the pulsation of the heart nearly ceased, and the man's life was only saved by the copious administration of brandy. In August last, two years after this occurrence, the man received his master's orders to dig some potatoes in the same garden, adjacent to the same bee-hive whence the insect came, and to his fellow-servants he expressed his fears that he should be stung again. In obedience to his orders, however, he commenced the appointed task; but ere he had finished the labour, a bee again stung him on the back of the head. The result was similar; the system immediately, and even to a greater degree, succumbed to the insect poison, and in less than twenty minutes the man was dead. My friend, Mr. Hiller, who is a medical practitioner in that vicinity, afforded me the above information; and the death of the servant was so immediate that, though sent for to attend him, he was unable to reach the spot in time.—*GRANTLEY N. BERKELEY, in The Field.*

THE ORDEAL OF WATER.—The ordeal of fire and water was frequently resorted to by the heathens, in the absence of direct proof. In the latter ordeal the accused was lowered into a well, holding his head under water. At the very moment a strong man shot an arrow as far as it could go, and another ran to pick it up. If the accused could remain under water till the arrow was brought back, which was signalized by the pulling of a rope, he was declared innocent; but if he raised his head a moment before that, he was pronounced guilty.—*Narrative of a Residence at the Court of Meer Ali Moorad; by David Archer Longley.*

STEEL SPRINGS.—For the last six months, Messrs. James Jeffries & Sons, the well-known spring manufacturers, of Philadelphia, have adopted a new mode of securing the leaves of their springs together. No hole is made through the leaves, nor is any bolt used. Two notches are made in each edge of the two top and two bottom leaves, these notches being made where they will be covered by the band which, when shrunk on, is indented, by means of a punch, into each notch. The band is thus indented at four points on each side, or at eight places in all, and has so firm a hold upon the leaves that loosening would be impossible. The top and bottom leaves being thus held firmly by the band, the intermediate leaves are held firmly in place by the studs, punched in the ordinary manner, at their ends. The metal taken out of the top and bottom leaves in making the notches is not one half that which would be removed for a bolt hole, while the intermediate leaves are left of the full width and strength. Springs thus secured together can never work loose, and there is no extra part which, like a bolt, can break or come off.—*Scientific American.*

COLD FROM DAMP CLOTHES.—If the clothes which cover the body are damp, the moisture which they contain has a tendency to evaporate by the heat communicated to it by the body.—The heat absorbed in the evaporation of the moisture contained in the clothes must be, in part, supplied by the body, and will have a tendency to reduce the temperature of the body in an undue degree, and thereby to produce cold. The effect of violent labor or exercise is to cause the body to generate heat much faster than it would do in a state of rest. Hence we see why, when the clothes have been rendered wet by rain or perspiration, the taking of cold may be prevented by keeping the body in a state of exercise or labour till the clothes can be changed or till they dry on the person; for in this case the heat carried off by the moisture in evaporating is amply supplied by the redundant heat generated by labor or exercise.

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