

OPEN OUT YOUR HAND.

Then Note the Effort it Requires to Keep it From Closing.

Many thousands of years have elapsed since the ancestors of man lived in trees. (It is never to be forgotten that though ape-like forms, they were not apes.) Yet, in spite of these tens of centuries that have passed by, man has not yet forgotten the instinct of self preservation in the forest. As he was a tailless creature he was compelled to depend for his safety on the grasping power of his hands and feet. For many ages, however, he had gradually been going on the ground more and more and in the trees less and less so that his feet became more adapted for walking and his hands exclusively for grasping, with the result that the grip and muscular strength of his hands became immense. This is still most powerfully evidenced in a young baby, which, without muscular development, can within a few days of birth hang by both hands to a stick for as much as five minutes at a time and by one hand only for two or three, a task beyond the power of any adult except an athlete and gymnast.

But a fact which is still more remarkable is that to the present day there is not one of us that can hold his hand open without discomfort and absolutely no one whose hand will stay open at all unless the will is exerted to that end. Try it! Hold your hand open for three minutes by the watch and see how tired you will be! Lay your hand on the table, the palm on the wood, the fingers over the edge, and see how, in spite of yourself, they will curve round and grasp it. Look at the hand of a sleeping person and think if the fingers are ever shown to be out straight.

When the anatomy of the hand is taken up it will be found that on the palm and on the under side of the fingers are numbers of nerves sensitive to touch which respond as readily as the nerves of the eye do to color or the nerves of the ear drum to sound. These were the principal projection of our true living ancestors, for an immediate clutch at a branch was necessary in rapid travel in the lower branches of great forest trees. The sensitiveness is being lost, but it is being lost slowly. Yet even today we can no more prevent responding to the stimulation of the sense of touch in our hands than to the sensation of light in the eye or sound in the ear.

Disregarding the thumb, the human hand is really nothing more than an adjustable hook. It is at rest only when in the position of a hook. When any one loses a hand the best substitute is a stout metal hook—New York American.

EGYPT'S GREEN SUN.

A Phenomenon That Was Commented Upon by the Ancients.

The appearance of a green light at sunset was noticed and commented upon by the ancient Egyptians and more particularly so because in the clear air of Egypt the tints of sunset are peculiarly distinct.

As the sun then descends nearer and nearer to the horizon and is immensely enlarged and flaming it suddenly becomes for an instant a brilliantly green color, and immediately a series of green rays suffuses the sky in many directions, well right to the zenith. The same phenomenon appears at sunrise, but to a smaller extent. Sometimes, just as the last part of the sun's disk vanishes, its color changes from green to blue, and so also after it has disappeared the sky near the horizon often is green, while toward the zenith it is blue.

This was alluded to in Egyptian writings. Day was the emblem of life and night that of death, and the nocturnal sun, being identified with Osiris, thus rendered Osiris king of the dead. The setting sun was green; therefore Osiris, as the nocturnal deity of the dead, was painted green. The splendid coffins of the high priests of Ammon frequently depict the green sun, and the funeral deities are all colored green.

There are innumerable instances in the Egyptian relics of representations relative to death being colored green. The practice undoubtedly arose from the green tints of sunrise and sunset. The green sun disk is referred to 5,000 years ago in Egypt. This is the earliest known human record of an astronomical phenomenon.

Horse Butchers in France.

French horse butchers are obliged to display a signboard showing the kind of meat they sell and are not allowed to trade in any other sort of meat except that of mules and donkeys. They sometimes try to pass off horseflesh as that of donkeys on unwary customers, because the latter is considered to be more delicate in flavor and therefore more choiced. Exchange.

Rather One Sided.

Mr. Piffle—What's your idea of the initiative and referendum? Mr. Peewee—It's the rule of our household. Everything that's done must originate with my wife, and everything that occurs to me must be referred to her for disapproval.—Chicago News.

Indefinitely Postponed.

"Pop, what's the millennium?" "It's a time coming, my son, when there will be jobs enough in every administration to go around among those who want 'em."—Baltimore American.

Knew It by Heart.

Klark—So your wife read you a lecture when you got home last night. Klubman—Read it? No, it was quite impromptu.—Boston Transcript.

Dr. de Van's Female Pills
A reliable French regulator never fails. These pills are exceedingly powerful in regulating the reproductive portion of the female system. See all cheap imitations. Dr. de Van's are sold in half, one, three or six pills. Mail to any address in which capsules, envelopes and instructions are sent. The Beechell Drug Co., St. Catharines, Ont.

HIS FIRST CASE.

The Young Lawyer Made the Court Sit Up and Take Notice.

Several prominent attorneys were discussing the peculiar and rather humorous questions put to witnesses by young attorneys entering upon their legal work, and one of the number vouched for the authenticity of this incident:

"I went up to the superior civil court one day to hear a young friend of mine try his first case. All his relatives and friends were there, and the novice wore a most serious expression as he started to question a witness. He did nicely until he asked the man:

"Did you have a contract with the plaintiff?"

"Yes," replied the witness.

"What kind of a contract was it?"

"An oral one," replied the witness.

"Will you please produce it?"

"The witness stood stock still staring at the attorney and then looked at the judge inquiringly. There was a ripple of laughter throughout the courtroom, but still the young attorney did not 'catch on,' and, looking toward the judge, remarked:

"Your honor, I ask you to give the witness until 2 o'clock to produce that contract."

"The court could no longer withhold and joined in the laughter. Then the young lawyer saw his mistake and with reddened face also had a good laugh."—Boston Record.

PLAYING THE PIANO.

Present Day Methods From the Viewpoint of a Young Musician.

The piano is one of our best known musical instruments. It was invented several hundred years ago and in its earlier incarnations was known as the spinet or the harpsichord and afforded eminent artists many opportunities to portray languishing ladies seated before it, says the Chicago Post.

The piano comes either as an upright or a grand. The grand is a large, flat proposition that takes up several hundred dollars' worth of room, while the upright has a nice smooth top on which bric-a-brac may be placed.

The piano is usually played by young ladies until the young man proposes. It is also played by young men in tin pan song shops. In those places the youth, who has flowing hair and a disconcerting croak, allows a cigarette to hang from one corner of his mouth while he shouts a song from the other corner and uses the loud pedal exclusively.

In the old days, before women became advanced as they are now, it was considered quite some dings to play a piece on the piano which required the hands to be crossed. Nowadays the piano is fitted with a self playing attachment, and the young man caller feeds a porous plaster into it.

Four Great Sauces.

A Frenchman has declared that "man has created the culinary art. He does not eat like an animal—he breakfasts, dines and sups."

The French are particularly eloquent on the subject of sauces. Among their famous chefs are recognized four great sauces—Spanish, Veloute, Bechamel and German. The Spanish and Veloute were known as far back as the seventeenth century. In the eighteenth they were modified by the masters of cookery, particularly by Careme, who was called "the Raphael of the kitchen."

The Spanish sauce is composed of juices extracted from a mixture of ham, veal, chicken and pheasant. Veloute is similar, but is not colored. Bechamel is Veloute to which cream has been added, and the German sauce is Veloute plus the yolks of eggs.—Harper's.

What Hurt Him.

"Did you hear about the accident to Bjinks?"

"Why, no. What happened?"

"Oh, the darned fool was seriously hurt this afternoon."

"In his automobile, I suppose?"

"No, that's the trouble."

"What do you mean? I know he's a reckless driver, and—"

"And you think he was hurt in his car. Well, he wasn't. He was hurt by a tree about ten feet ahead of the car. If he'd been able to stay in the car he'd never have been hurt."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

East Indian Theaters.

Many East Indian theaters keep their performances going until 4 or 5 o'clock in the morning. These dramatic orgies are not, says the Times of India, however, due to the length of the plays, as in Chinese theaters, but to the fact that the trams do not begin running till 5 o'clock. As the spectators gather from distant villages and have strong objections to paying gharry hire, they expect to be entertained until the trains start.

Pleasant Punishment.

Pastor—I hear that the lightning struck your house, Hohenbauer. That is a punishment for your wickedness. Peasant—Well, sir, it's a punishment I wouldn't mind having again, for I got 4,000 marks insurance from it.—Lustige Blatter.

Its Class.

"Unhorsing a rival in the old days of chivalry was very much like a modern holiday in a busy life."

"How so?"

"It was taking a knight off."—Baltimore American.

Remember this—that a very little is needed to make a happy life.—Marcus Aurelius.

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I have in my possession a prescription for nervous debility, lack of vigor, weakened manhood, failing memory and lame back, brought on by excesses, unnatural drains, or the follies of youth, that has cured so many worn and nervous men right in their own homes—without any additional help or medicine—that I think every man who wishes to regain his manly power and virility, quickly and quietly, should have a copy. So I have decided to send a copy of the prescription free of charge in a plain, ordinary sealed envelope to any man who will write me for it.

This prescription comes from a physician who has made a special study of men, and I am convinced it is the surest acting combination for the cure of deficient manhood and vigor failure ever put together.

I think I owe it to my fellow-men to send them a copy in confidence, so that any man anywhere who is weak and discouraged with repeated failures may stop dragging himself with harmful patent medicines, secure what I believe is the quickest acting, restorative, upbuilding, SPOT-TOUCHING remedy ever devised, and so cure himself at home quietly and quickly. Just drop me a line like this: Dr. A. E. Robinson, 3782 Luck Building, Detroit, Mich., and I will send you a copy of this splendid recipe in a plain ordinary envelope free of charge. A great many doctors would charge \$3.00 to \$5.00 for merely writing out a prescription like this—but I send it entirely free.

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Jos. Broadbent

J. M. Young & Co's Daily Store News

First Arrivals of New Spring Goods

We have just received several cases of New Spring Materials. They are all marked off and put with stock, and are now ready for your inspection.

New Spring Dress Goods and Suitings

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New Poplins
New San Toys
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New Ratines
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Also a few choice Coats and Dresses.

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New Whipcords
New Bedford Cords
New Poplins
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SECOND SECTION

Of Interest to Women—Social and

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Receiving on Tuesday

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Mrs. Christopher Cook.
Mrs. James Cockshutt.
Mrs. G. G. Duncan.
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Mrs. S. W. Swaisland.
Miss Shelly.
Mrs. A. S. Towers.
Mrs. A. P. Van Somerin.
Mrs. C. J. Watt.
Mrs. A. Waterous.
Mrs. C. A. Waterous.
The Misses Wye.

Mr. Charles H. Waterous is in Hamilton to-day.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh R. Howie in Toronto to-day.

Miss Gertrude Scarfe returns from a trip to the Maritime Provinces to-day.

Mr. John Sanderson has returned from a trip to the Maritime Provinces to-day.

Rev. G. C. Potts is confined to house with a severe attack of la grippe.

Mr. Julius E. Waterous and D. J. Waterous returned from Paul yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Jasper Bredon's many friends will be glad to know that he has successfully undergone an operation at the Brantford General Hospital.

Ed. Sterne and R. Contalio, King's University, Kingston, are visiting at the home of Mr. Stere father.

Mrs. Walter A. Wilkes will be 138 Chatham street, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Wilkes, the next few weeks.

Mr. Archie Ponton, of Edmonton, Alberta, is the guest of his sister, Mrs. Montizambert over the weekend, but leaves for Ottawa this evening.

Mr. E. B. Crompton who has returned from France and England will have ready for publication a few days an interesting article "The highways and byways of London."

It will come as good news to Brantford theatre-goers that Mr. John has booked "Madame Sherry" for a turn engagement at the Grand Opera House on the night of February tenth.

The marriage of Miss Dor Campbell, the champion lady golfer to Mr. Herd, a well known Brantford man, will take place very early at the cathedral in Hamilton, tomorrow morning—the Rev. Canon Abbott officiating.

Traffic is so congested along Mediterranean, Panama and English routes, that many would-be travellers have been obliged to content themselves nearer home. Accommodation either by boat or at hotels is almost impossible, unless have been booked long in advance. So of our Brantford friends who hoped to spend February and March in sunnier climes, having had to abandon their trips on this account.

Mr. E. B. Crompton of Crompton and Co., has returned from

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