

1893. At the conclusion of an article in that magazine by Mr. Alexander McAdie, headed, "Protection from Lightning," the writer said:—

"If you are near a person who has been struck by lightning, go to work at once to try and restore consciousness. Try to stimulate the respiration and circulation, and do not cease in the effort to restore animation for at least an hour." (Page 463.)

In *Current Literature* for September, 1893, the statement and exposition of a theory on the same subject by Professor d'Arsouval,* "one of the most distinguished scientific men of France," is published. He maintains that the use of dynamic electricity produces in man a kind of anaesthesia, under cover of which he is mangled alive by the knives of the surgeons who make the autopsy. (Page 121.)

Recently Professor d'Arsouval reported a case to the French Academy of Science on which he bases his theory. The case is as follows, and it has become noteworthy from the fact of the successful employment of artificial respiration to resuscitate the victim:—

"A sudden sparkling on one of the dynamos of the electric-light station of St. Denis, near Paris, indicated a short circuit on the line. The dynamo was quickly cut out and stopped. The voltmeter reading was 4,500 volts between two wires, and the ammeter read 750 mille-amperes on the wire,

"The accident occurred at a place where the three wires were supported eighteen feet above ground on a bracket fastened to a stone wall. The bracket carried several cross-pieces, and on the lowest one sat the laborer who had received the shock, holding the conductor with one hand. He had been sent up to fasten a telegraph wire, had touched the live wire with the wire he held, and thus short-circuited the current through his hand and back to earth. The man had, therefore, received a 4,500-volt current of fifty-five alternations per second perhaps for several minutes, and when he was found fully a quarter of an hour had elapsed since he received the shock. He gave no sign of life, and it took another half hour to remove him from his perilous position and stretch him on the ground.

"The attempt was at once made to cause the lungs to act by moving the arms alternately up and down, but without avail. The mouth was then forcibly opened and the tongue was pulled out and allowed to recede. This being the best method of producing respira-

* Having written to the Editor of the *Popular Science Monthly* for information in regard to Professor d'Arsouval, the Editor replied to Dr. Hodgins as follows: "We find M. d'Arsouval frequently quoted in our French journals, and have no doubt he would be glad to give you the information you are seeking."