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Progress.

DESPITE the evils under which
Society doth groan,
In this age of the printed page
Our march is ever on !
The world is getting rid at last
Of spiritual blindness,
'Twill be redeemed despite the past
By love and human kindness.

Sectarianism's dying fast,
Too long she did enslave us !
And we begin to learn at last
That love alone can save us ;
And have we not in this our day
A clearer intuition,
More faith in poor humanity,
More love, and less suspicion ?

And ours the high heroic deeds
Done in the vanished ages—
And flowers divided from the weeds,
The wisdom of the sages ;
The jewels bought by blood and tears ;
As heirlooms dear we keep,
With songs, yea, of a thousand years
We lull our babes to sleep.

And if at times we retrograde,
Behind we won't abide ;
'Tis but the backward ripple made
By the advancing tide ;
The very failures of the past
Are angels watching o'er us,
Amid the rocks, they shout, " Avast !"
And point the way before us.

ALEXANDER McLACHLAN.

IMPORTANT EXPERIMENTS AND SCIENTIFIC TRIUMPHS.

SIR,—Seeing in the newspapers an account of the transplanting of rabbit nerve to the human frame, I beg to acquaint you with a few experiments made by myself in this direction, with their results. Hitherto I have refrained through modesty from making public these private experiments, undertaken solely on scientific grounds.

All my experiments have been made upon members of my own family, my paternal authority giving me the privilege of using them *pro bono publico*.

I. In the spring of 1876, my eldest boy, aged six years, fell down stairs,—not an uncommon accident with children, I believe, fracturing his nose. I determined to try grafting. Having carefully removed the lacerated parts on either side of the nasal bone, and entirely taken away the flesh beneath, I secured a small portion of healthy probosis from a young elephant, which was under chloroform, and after securing with sealing wax, bandaged tightly. At the end of three months the bandage fell off and the parts were perfectly annealed. After six months the nose commenced to grow rapidly, and only stopped in December 1885, when it attained its maximum growth of three feet two and a half inches. The boy is able to use this probosis for many purposes. It is useful at meals, and also enables him to hold a book whilst doing his evening lessons. By a simple contrivance he is able to supply the parlor-organ with air, whilst his sister practices. He is also useful in watering the garden and fanning the room.

II. Three years ago my daughter, Jane Emily, contracted diphtheria and cancer in the throat, with a little bronchitis and asthma. An operation was performed, and much of the larynx removed. Unknown to the doctors, one night, I transplanted the throats of fifteen

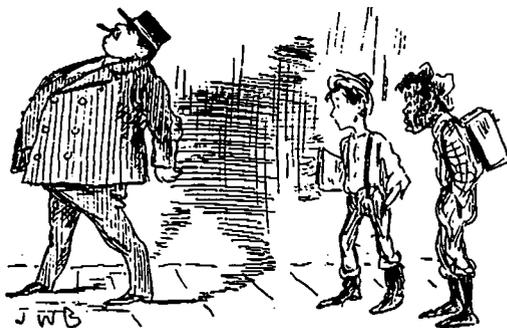
birds, mostly singers, carefully placing them around the windpipe orifice. The girl lay in a trance for fifteen weeks, during which she neither ate nor drank. On the morning of Christmas Day, 1885, my wife woke me up and requested me to listen to the waits. The music was of a novel and utterly unknown character. Whilst listening to its wonderful beauty my daughter Emily Jane came hopping into the room on one leg and continued to sing loudly, making as much melody as the contents of a bird-fancier's shop. My experiment had been entirely successful. The girl now eats nothing but canary seed and groundsel, and when she wishes to drink, draws her water from the garden well by her mouth. This was a trick of one of the birds whose throat I transplanted.

III. The baby, Epithalamium John, two years ago, suffered paralysis of the lower limbs, consequent upon teething too rapidly, which drew all the strength out of its dear little legs. Both extremities withered from the knees and finally dropped off. By way of experiment, I transplanted the meta-tarsal nerves of a pet monkey which I removed from the animal whilst under the influence of the Scott Act. Within two months the legs proceeded to grow and are now fully developed and covered with thick black hair. The boy now insists upon living upon coconuts and pine-apples, and climbs upon every piece of furniture. His favorite position whilst in the house is to hang by his hind hands from the curtain pole of the front window. We make him useful by attaching a basket of flowers around his neck. He sleeps in the top branches of the apple tree in our back garden.

IV. Six months ago my wife became suddenly bald. Whilst combing her hair one morning, the entire scalp fell off, as if it had been a wig. We sold it for five dollars and it is now to be seen in my barber's front window. Seeing an opportunity for the furtherance of science, I cut off a square inch from the coat of our large Newfoundland dog and grafted it on the pate of my unsuspecting spouse whilst she was reading one of those beautiful imitations of poetry by Afflatus (Mrs. X. Y. Z. Duplex, 1452 Milk-and-Water Street, Stultiville.) Her head is now entirely covered with wool, black and curly. It is awkward, but remarkable, that she has developed a passion for picking bones, investigating ash-barrels, running after carts in the street, and jumping into the river on the slightest notice.

I must now conclude, as I have just ten minutes to catch the train. Barnum has engaged the family at a large salary for the coming season.

HORATIO VAN RUMPUS.



MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

First Gamin.—Cricky, Jim, there goes the new Guvnor-General !
Second Gamin.—Naw ! Guv'nor-General nothing ! That's the captain of the new Cibola !