

# The Conquest of Agony

## Century's Progress in Surgery.

By DR. HARRY ROBERTS, in John o' London's Weekly.

Is it possible to lay down so reasonable a definition of progress that the relevant facts shall convince all intelligent people of its reality? Few thoughtful men would admit that any real progress is necessarily indicated by the elaboration and accumulation of ingenious mechanisms.

But the modern psychologists have taught us a good deal. We have long known that the few thousand years covered by the written history of our race constitute but a speck in the history of man. We now know that the true mentality of mankind, what we call human nature, changes imperceptibly in so short a period. Secondly, it seems proved that changes in external conditions, no matter how much they may lead to a modification of individual manifestations, have no appreciable effect on the inherent capacities, instincts, and impulses, which alone of man's mental faculties are transmitted by inheritance from parent to child.

**Some Questions.**

We have, however, learned that thought little change in inherent human nature occurs in a thousand years, yet, by the effort of human intelligence and will, the external conditions of life may be almost infinitely varied, affording enormously greater and more general scope for the expression of inherent psychic capacity. For we now know that human nature is capable of manifesting itself and satisfying itself in sublimated ways, apparently far removed from these original or primitive manifestations with which our impulses were originally biologically associated.

The questions we need to put are such as these: Are we accumulating an increasing store of intellectual knowledge and the fruits of spiritual insight? Are we making this traditional accumulation available to an increasing proportion of our fellows? Are we seeking to it that reasonable pleasure and freedom are regarded as the brightest of all? Are we becoming increasingly conscious of the need, and increasingly resolute in the provision, of a harmonious and beautiful environment in which the lives of men may be spent?

**Startling Instances.**

It will at once be seen that to few

of these questions can absolutely satisfactory answers be given. But here and there are startling instances affording overwhelming evidence of real progress. Each of us can probably furnish examples within the realm of his special knowledge or experience.

Those who doubt it may be referred to descriptions of surgical operations as performed in pre-anaesthetic days. It is probably the traditional memory of the screams and horrors of those days that accounts for much of the lingering dread of hospitals in the popular mind.

I have before me a copy of the Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal for 1838. In it is an account of an operation by the famous surgeon, James Syme, consisting of the excision of the lower jaw for osteosarcoma. The patient is described as seated in an ordinary chair, and the mass is said to have been removed in twenty-four minutes, "a little respite being frequently allowed to prevent exhaustion from continued suffering."

In the Memoirs of Dr. George Wilson he gives a description of the amputation of his foot at the ankle joint, also by Syme.

"Of the agony it occasioned I will say nothing. Sufferings so great as I underwent cannot be expressed in words, and thus, fortunately, cannot be recalled. The particular pangs are now forgotten, but the black whirlwind of emotion, the horror of great darkness, and the sense of desertion by God and man which swept through my mind and overwhelmed my heart I can never forget, however gladly I would do so."

**Painless Surgery.**

Needless to say, speed was as important an element in a surgeon's efficiency as care or anatomical knowledge; and it was said of Sir William Ferguson, who was celebrated for his excision of joints, that "if you only wink you miss the operation altogether." Combined with speed, many of the best surgeons possessed a remarkable power of rough and ready adaptability. Robert Liston, for example, used to amputate a leg with only one assistant to hold the leg and tie the ligatures. He himself used to compress the main artery with his left hand, doing the whole of the necessary cutting and sawing with his right. The patient, of course, was fully conscious, or as nearly so as copious libations of brandy had left him. Many surgeons made it a rule to get their patients dead drunk before operating.

**The Endurance of Patients.**

An interesting illustration of the adaptability and resourcefulness of pre-anaesthetic surgeons, as well as of the endurance of their patients, is afforded by an account given by Alexander Read, who practised about 1830, of an emergency operation.

"About twenty years ago, returning from the Bath in Somersetshire, to the Holt, I was called by Lord Gerard's grandfather to take a view of his tailor, who had fractured both the femurs of the leg, a liffa below the knee. When I beheld the fracture and the extension of the body (for the accident fell out ten weeks before), I pronounced a lingering death to the party, unless he were out of hand disemboweled above the knee. Being entreated by the sick party and the Earl to perform the operation, I supplied the place of both. I made a mediotomy with unsharpened and unslackened linen, equal parts of each, which I found there, the house then being in reparation. I used a joiner's tooth-saw, newly toothed, and in the presence of two chirurgians, I disemboweled the Lord's tailor, unto whom the Lord gave £10 a year during his illness, who lived many years afterwards."

One can but admire such true skill and such true courage, but anyone who has had first-hand experience of the complete painlessness and relative safety of even the greatest operations performed to-day can but wish to see with Galileo: "Eppur si muove."

**Boy Burglar Shot Bluffing Cop.**

**WITH UNLOADED PISTOLS.**

Mrs. Mary Steele, No. 2781 Eighth Avenue, after an almost sleepless night because the youngest of her nine children had failed to come home, was notified shortly before 9 o'clock this morning by a reporter for the Evening World that her son was in a serious condition in the French Hospital. He had been shot by a policeman following a robbery. The policeman who shot the boy's home address, did not inform his parents of his plight.

David Steel, seventeen, is the baby of the family. After the war he enlisted in the navy, giving his age as more than eighteen. Yesterday obtained his discharge. Yesterday afternoon, the mother said, David went out in search of work.

"Why did they not notify me that

I could go to my boy in the hospital," asked the anguished mother.

Policeman Joseph Smith of the West 37th Street Station was standing on the south side of 42d Street, near Eighth Avenue, at 1:15 A.M. today when there was a crash of glass at No. 247, across the street, in the precinct covered by the West 47th Street Police Station.

He saw three boys grab a number of objects from the window in Bernard J. Sloane's army and navy sales store and scatter. Two of them went north. The third ran to Eighth Avenue and started south.

The policeman, calling repeatedly on the boy to halt, chased him a block in Eighth Avenue and west in 41st Street, until the fugitive reached the public bath, at No. 351. Then the pursued whirled with a big navy pistol in each hand and said: "I've got the drop on you. Now, step back, you, or I'll shoot and blow your head off."

The weapons were two of the nine taken from the window and were unloaded, but the policeman did not know it and fired, the bullet lodging under the boy's heart.

Smith picked up the boy, called a taxicab and carried him to the French Hospital, where he said he was David Steele. When asked where he lived he replied: "Put it 17th Street and Eighth Avenue. That's good enough for you guys." Later he said his home was at No. 2781 Eighth Avenue. When asked who his companions were he replied: "I won't squeal. I'm no rat. I broke the window with a piece of Irish confetti (a brick). I had two guns in my hands and," turning to Policeman Smith, "I would have killed you if they had been loaded and you hadn't got me first."

It was said at the hospital his condition was serious.

**No "Scraps" Required**

FOR STAFFORD'S ESSENCE OF GINGER WINE.

DIRECTIONS:—Dissolve 1 1/4 lbs. of sugar in 3 quarts of water and add contents of one bottle of Stafford's Essence of Ginger Wine.

This will make 120 ounces of Ginger Wine. One wineglass contains two ounces. Just imagine, 60 glasses for 52 cents. Practically one cent per glass. The proof:—

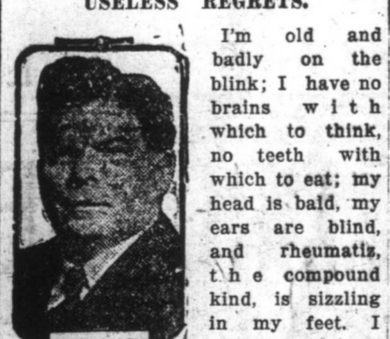
1 1/4 lbs. sugar at 25c. . . . 32c.  
1 bot. Stafford's Ess. Ginger Wine, 90c.

We have over ten thousand bottles (10,000) ready for sale at the present time. The past two years we have not been able to supply the demand on account of the difficulty of procuring the ingredients, but this year we have been able to obtain large stocks.

Stafford's Essence of Ginger Wine only 20c. bot. Postage 10c. extra.

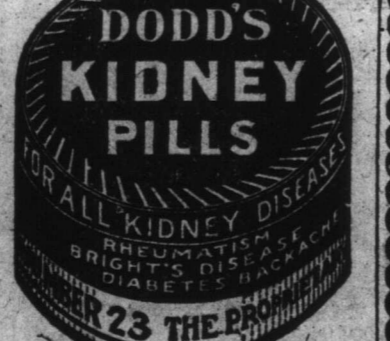
**DR. F. STAFFORD & SON,**  
Wholesale and Retail Chemists and Druggists,  
St. John's, Newfoundland.

**USELESS REGRETS.**



I'm old and badly on the blink; I have no brains with which to think, no teeth with which to eat; my head is bald; my ears are blind, and rheumatism, this compound kind, is stinging in my feet. I often gnash my toothless jaws, and wring my hands, with ample cause, regretting past mistakes; I once was quite a husky lad, who didn't need a liver pad, and knew no pains or aches. I didn't guard my precious health, which was a better thing than wealth, a better thing than fame; I jogged along with heedless fools and violated all the rules, and now I'm stiff and lame. I trace each ailment to its source, to conduct foolish, vain and coarse, in days when I was young; because of breaks made long ago I now have corns on every toe, a sprain on each lung. I see the young folks go their way, and turn the night time into day, where sports chase by in streams; they paint the town three shades of red when they should safely be in bed, and dreaming moral dreams. And when they're old they'll pay the bill; they'll look back from life's western hill, regretting conduct wrong; and there would be no bills to pay had they but walked the narrow way when they were young and strong.

**Smallwood's Big Stock of Local Made English and American Fine Boots and Shoes, offered to the public at 25 p.c. off regular prices.**



Smallwood's Big Stock of Local Made English and American Fine Boots and Shoes, offered to the public at 25 p.c. off regular prices.

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With an attractive display of needables underpriced

## All Gift Goods, Fancy Goods and such like

must move this week previous to stock-taking.

## ATTRACTIVE VALUES

Beckon You to this Store

# THURS., FRIDAY, MONDAY

**UNDER-PRICING**

**New Things for Brightening up the HOME for NEW YEAR'S DAY**

**ART MUSLINS**—Bordered Cream Art Muslins, 68 ins. wide; soft casement finish, nice for Sash or Vestibule Curtains. Reg. 65c. yard. Year End Sale 55c. Price . . . . .

**ORIENTAL CURTAININGS**—Madras like finish, very uncommon looking, in a pretty Blue, Old Gold and V. Rose; looks like silk; rich looking hanging for winter time. Reg. 22.50 yard. Year End Sale \$1.49

**DOOR MATS**—Axminster Door Mats for any room in the house; 16 only. Value for 2.00 ea. Year End Sale \$1.65

**POLISHING CLOTHS**—Imitation Chamoux Dusters and Polishers; finished cloths, hemmed. Reg. 35c. each. Year End Sale 29c. Price . . . . .

**GLASS CLOTHS**—Crimson and White Checked Glass Cloths; hemmed ready for use. Year End Sale 29c. Price . . . . .

**CURTAIN LACES**—A few pieces of White Curtain Laces, very strong make; 34 inches wide. Special, the yard . . . . 42c.

**FINE-LACE CURTAINS**—Extra fine Scranton Lace Curtains, pure White, 3 yards long; very lovely looking. \$10.00 value. Year End Sale \$8.90

**ROLLER TOWELING**—Heavy Striped Turkish Roller Toweling. Reg. 50c. yard. Year End Sale 45c. Price . . . . .

**CURTAIN LACES**—3 pieces to clear; pure White 40 Inch Laces, nicely patterned. Regular 75c. Yr. End Sale Price 68c.

**FACE CLOTHS**—Finished White Turkish Face Cloths, blue striped border. Special, each 13c.

**SCRUBBERS**—Heavy Crash Scrubbers; coarse finish; able to stand vigorous rubbing. Special, ea. 19c.

**FILLOW CASES**—3 dozen of Plain White American Cotton Pillow Cases; very strong and serviceable. Reg. 65c. ea. Year End Sale Price 54c.

**BATH TOWELS**—Extra large size Unbleached Turkish Bath Towels, fawn striped; old value; size 40 x 64. Reg. \$3.25 each. Year End Sale Price \$2.58

**We Thank You**

For your very generous patronage during the year just closing and trust that it has given you as much pleasure to shop here as it has afforded us to serve you.

Our aim is to satisfy to the very best of our ability each and every customer entering our Store.

We venture to hope that the friendly relationship established between our customers and ourselves will be maintained throughout the coming year.

And we promise that we will do all within our power to serve you Promptly, Efficiently and with Entire Satisfaction.

And now, to Patrons, and Patrons to be, we wish the New Year to be the Happiest New Year ever.

**UNDER-PRICING**

**Men's Wear—Hints as to What You could Wear NEW YEAR'S DAY and after**

**MEN'S MUFFLERS**—Soft Woolly Mufflers in Grey, Green, White and Brown; others in Striped Silk. Reg. to \$2.40. Year End Sale Price \$1.98

**MEN'S ROMEO SLIPPERS**—Black Vic Kid, nice for Daddy's evening at home; leather sole and heel. Reg. \$4.00. Year End Sale Price \$3.45

**MEN'S FELT SLIPPERS**—For home wear; Black Felt, Romeo shape, leather sole and heel. Regular \$3.00. Year End Sale \$2.65

**BOYS' FELT SLIPPERS**—Boys' Scout front, reinforced sole, Dark Brown Felt uppers; a nice change from wet-boots; sizes 1 to 5 1/2. Reg. \$2.40. Year End Sale Price \$2.15

**ANKLE SUPPORTS**—For hockeyists; the best of their kind; seamless back, laced front and caned; black satin covering. Year End Sale Price \$1.39

**MEN'S WINTER GLOVES**—Several styles and shades in sensible Caps of winter wear; mixed Grey, Brown and Greens, etc. A piece or pieced crown Regular \$2.60. Year End Sale Price \$2.30

**WOOL MUFFLERS**—All Wool Mufflers, in Fawn, Green, Grey and Browns, etc.; fringed etc. Our climate calls for such a Muffler. Regular \$3.70. Year End Sale \$3.25

**GREY FELT HATS**—Men's Soft Felt Hats in sorted Grey shades, black lined, silk lined; very stylish. Special for Year End Sale \$3.25

**MEN'S STORM RUBBERS**—Men's High Cut Storm Rubbers with fine quality rubber soles that cling close to your foot. Year End Sale Price \$1.55

**Best Values in Town**

**MEN'S TOP SHIRTS**—Tweed and flannel shirts for winter wear; striped flannel make; looks like linen; needs no laundering; all sizeable soft cuffs. Our Special. . . . \$1.35

**POULTRY & GAME**

**ELLIS & CO. LIMITED,**  
203 Water Street.

**GEESE** in splendid order.

**DUCKS**, very choice

**CHICKEN**, our own special.

We regret our New Year supply of Turkeys cannot reach us in time for Friday's business. We are therefore offering

**300 FAT GEESE** in splendid order and choice condition at 50c. per pound.

Also 300 pairs FRESH RABBITS at 60c. per pair.

And 100 brace FRESH PARTRIDGE 10 ARCTIC HARES.

Gather in some of these Exceptionally Good Values in

# TOWELS

**TURKISH TOWELS**—Family size good grade Turkish Towels, unbleached; very strong. Good value at their regular price, each, 70c. Year End Sale Price . . . . . 59c.

**MORE TOWELS**—4 1/2 dozen Striped Turkish Towels in a very useful size; unbleached quality. Reg. 60c. Year End Sale Price . . . . . 49c.

**Clearance Sale of Felt Footwear**

**FELT JULIETS**—Women's Warm Felt Juliets, fur trimmed, leather sole and heel; shades of Brown, Purple, Green, Grey and Black. Reg. \$4.00. \$3.48 Special . . . . .

**MISSES' SLIPPERS AND JULIETS**—A mixed lot offering real good value; Crimson and Grey shades. Comfy footwear for the girls. Reg. to \$1.30 pr. Special, year choice 99c.

**LADIES' SPATS**—6 Button Grey or Fawn Felt Spats; extra good make; leather strapped. Reg. \$2.50 \$3.15 pair. Special . . . . .

This Popular **SHOWROOM** awaits You with the following Good Things Now

**MISSES' ANGOIRA SETS**—Angora Wool Sets, that is Scart and Tam to match; wide Scart, Tam with tassel; assorted colored stripes of Brown, Rose, Camel and Heather. Reg. \$10.00 set. \$8.98 Year End Sale Price . . . . .

**CHILDREN'S COAT JERSEYS**—Wool Coat Jerseys with buttoned front, roll collar, pocket, in Tan, Wine, Rose and Sage; to fit 12 to 13 years. Reg. \$3.50. \$2.98 Year End Sale Price . . . . .

**CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR**—Jersey ribbed Underwear, high necked Vests, long sleeves, pants to match, ankle length, White or Cream; to fit 4 to 10 years. Regular 85c. garment. Year End Sale Price . . . . . 84c.

**LADIES' NIGHTGOWNS**—Striped White Flannelette Nightgowns, collar and V neck, galon trimmed, made in full sizes. Regular \$3.00. Year End Sale \$2.59

**LADIES' FLEECE VESTS**—Heavy Winter weight Vests, high or low neck, long or short sleeves; sizes 36 to 44 inch. Regular \$2.20. Year End Sale \$1.79

**CHILDREN'S SLEEPING SUITS**—Ideal Sleeping Suits with feet, pocket, buttoned behind, cuff with tie to fasten over hands; to fit 1 to 4 years. Reg. \$1.80. Year End Sale Price \$1.62

**FEATHER BANDS**—A few dozen in Brown, and Navy; to clear. A hint to those fitting up their winter headwear. Reg. \$2.30 Year End Sale Price \$1.98

**WINEY AND FLANNEL WAISTS**—Warm, serviceable and good looking Waists in a nice range of striped patterns, roll collar, V neck, long sleeves, pearl button trimmings; assorted shades. Reg. \$3.89 \$4.50. Year End Sale Price \$3.89

**FLANNELETTE UNDERSKIRTS**—Ladies' Cream Flannelette Underskirts with wide flounce, buttonhole edged, shaped band; best grade flannelette. Reg. \$2.40. Year End Sale Price \$2.12

**WINDSOR TIES**—For Middy Blouses, Shirtrwaists, or boys' wear; some in Silk, others in Crepe de Chine; shades of Crimson, Rose, Navy, Sage, White and fancy striped. Regular 45c. \$33c. Year End Sale Price . . . . .

**Special Reductions**  
off all our **FURS** during this week and next.

**Three Very Social Offers in Ladies' and Misses' KID GLOVES**

**LADIES' KID GLOVES**—3 pair in good quality Black Kid Gloves, some dome fastened, others buttoned; sizes 5 1/4, 6 1/4, 7 1/4, 8 1/4, 9 1/4. Year End Sale Price \$1.25

**LADIES' GREY KID GLOVES**—Beautiful soft quality Grey Kid Gloves; sizes 6 and 6 1/4 only. Value for \$1.39 2.75 pr. Year End Sale Price \$1.65

**MISSES' TAN KID GLOVES**—These are excellent quality, pretty Tri-shades; 2 dome wrist; assorted sizes 2 to 6. Reg. \$2.00 value. Year End Sale Price . . . . . \$1.65

**LADIES' BOUDOIR SLIPPERS**—Finest kid make, pompom, padded leather sole and heel, padded inside; shades of Pink, Brown, Cardinal, Sage and Black. Choice footwear for the home. Year End Sale Price \$1.09

**NAVY NAP CLOTH**—A beautiful Navy Cloth for comfortable coats. Just a piece at this price. Reg. 50c. Year End Sale Price \$3.35

**WADDLED QUILTS**—10 only, nice oral pattern coverings; a very sensible Quilt for any bed; well padded. Reg. \$7.35. Year End Sale Price \$6.55

**FLEECE BLANKETS**—Just what you need for an under sheet, or for a warmer than the lighter shawl. These are particularly good; full size. Reg. \$4.00. Year End Sale Price \$3.60

**Stair OIL CLOTHS**  
18 inch Stair Oil Cloth, soft rubber like surface; plain white centre and pretty Egyptian border. Special the yard . . . . 34c.

**Congoleum MATS**

Mottled Brown and Fawn pattern, bordered; good quality, and very handy size to cover up worn spots. Special ea. 48c.

Ours is a Satisfactory MAIL ORDER HOUSE.