

## The Annoyance Of Flatulence

Many People Are Annoyed With Gas In The Stomach and Intestines.

Flatulence is due to the presence of gas in the stomach and intestines, which often rolls about, producing borborygmi, or rumbling noises in the intestinal system, and causes the victim of this trouble considerable embarrassment when such noises occur while in company.

An analysis of gas from the stomach shows that it consists to a great extent of nitrogen and carbonic acid. It is, therefore, probable that some of the gas in the stomach consists simply of air which has been swallowed, although for the most part, the source of flatulence is the gas given off from the food in the abnormal process of decomposition.

In cases of chronic gastric catarrh, the secretion of gastric juice in the stomach is deficient, the food is digested slowly, and fermentation occurs with the evolution of gas.

Swallowed air, however, plays a more important part in causing flatulence, or gas in the stomach and intestines than is generally supposed, and while food may be swallowed without carrying air into the stomach with it, fluids, especially those of a tenacious character, such as pea-soup, appear to carry down a great deal.

Flatulent distension of the intestines occurs when a large amount of gas or air, either swallowed or evolved from the decomposition of food, escapes from the stomach into the intestines through the pylorus. The enormous distension of the intestines and dilatation of the stomach with gases, and the rapidity with which such flatulence occurs, has long been a puzzle to medical men, and has led some to think that the only possible explanation thereof, is a rapid evolution of gas from the blood.

In the treatment of gas in the stomach and intestines, charcoal is considered by most physicians as the leading and most effective remedy. Carminatives, or medicines, such as peppermint, cardamom, sodium bicarb, etc., which expel the gas from the stomach in large volumes through the mouth, are resorted to by some people, but their use is disagreeable, and the frequent expulsion of gas through the mouth, most annoying, and after taking a remedy of this kind, one is compelled to remain out of company the rest of the day on account of the continuous belching of air.

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### Hezekiah's Venture.

Hezekiah Hopkins, much excited, said one day, As he entered his wife's presence in a most impulsive way: "Mother, listen: I'm a-goin' to invest in minin' stock, I've a chance to make a million, here's a sample of the rock; I can git it now for twenty cents a share, and in a year Close it out for twenty dollars, which is nineteen-eighty clear."

"Don't you do it, Hezekiah; them is only idle dreams; Think of all the folks we've heard of that got beat on mining schemes." Thus his good wife sagely counseled, but he laughed at her advice, And he sold the spotted heifer at a painful sacrifice, Sold the roan mare and the filly, scraped up all the cash he could, And invested it as only a deluded bumpkin would.

Hezekiah Hopkins still is toiling for his bread; All the hopes he had of winning wealth in golden heaps are dead; He has learned a costly lesson, it is seldom that he smiles, And he says hard things concerning glib promoters and their wiles. But weep not for Hezekiah, his is not a crushing woe, For the gentle wife who warned him never says: "I told you so."

### What Do You Think The Porter Did?

A lady in the centre seat of the parlor car heard the request of a fellow-passenger directly opposite asking the porter to open the window, and, scenting a draft, she immediately drew a cloak about her.

"Porter, if that window is opened," she snapped testily, "I shall freeze to death."

"And if the window is kept closed," returned the other passenger, "I shall surely suffocate."

The poor porter stood absolutely puzzled between the two fires.

"Say, boss," he finally said to a commercial traveler seated near by, "what would you do?"

"Do?" echoed the traveler. "Why, man, that is a very simple matter; open the window and freeze one lady. Then close it and suffocate the other."

### Daniel Webster.

Here are a few interesting facts connected with Daniel Webster, famous lawyer, statesman, and orator—

He went to college fitted out in indigo blue from collar to ankle. There came on one of those drenching rains which, like the Scottish mists, wet a man to the skin. The suit hardly held its own, and he was dyed blue from head to foot. Daniel Webster had a liberal stratum of sentiment in his make-up, and for some reason this color of his young manhood became his favorite wear through life. He wore blue coats to his dying day.

When a lad, Daniel Webster was one day called up by the teacher for punishment. His hands happened to be very dirty. Knowing this, he wetted the palm of his right hand, and wiped it off on the side of his trousers. "Give me your hand!" said the teacher, very sternly. Out went the right hand partially cleansed. The teacher looked at it a moment and said—"Daniel, if you will find another hand in this room as filthy as this I will let you off this time." Instantly came from behind his back the left. "Here it is!" was the ready reply. "That will do," said the teacher: "for this time you can take your seat, sir!"

### Couldn't Tell Which.

Jones had come home later than usual and had ready a good explanation, but his wife gave him no chance, and immediately began to tell him what she thought of him. He endured it patient-

ly all evening, quietly read his paper and went to bed. His wife was still talking.

When he was almost asleep he could hear her still scolding him unmercifully. He dropped off to sleep and woke after a couple of hours, only to hear his wife remark:

"I hope all the women don't have to put up with such conduct as this." "Annie," said Jones, "are you talking again or yet?"

### Embracing His Opportunity.

The deacon, who did not often have a chance to speak, was appointed to open the Christmas exercises. He dragged his address out in a most tiresome manner, repeating the same thought again and again.

Unable to endure it any longer a couple of boys left the church. A coachman, who was waiting for his employer attending the exercises within, asked them if the deacon had finished his speech. "Gee, yes!" replied the boys, "but he won't stop!"

### Good out of Adversity.

Trials are profitable. The rough diamond cried out under the blow of the lapidary: "I am content, let be alone."

But the artisan said, as he struck another blow:

"There is the making of a glorious thing in thee."

"But every blow pierces my heart!"

"Ay; but after a little it shall work for thee a far more exceeding weight of glory."

"I cannot understand," as blow fell upon blow, "why I should suffer in this way."

"Wait: what thou knowest not now, thou shalt know hereafter."

And out of all this came the famous Koh-i-noor to sparkle in the monarch's crown.

### Bishop and Emperor.

The following story is an example of how firm faith will beget boldness—

An emperor, a zealous Arian, went on a kind of visitation-tour through his dominions for the purpose of bringing his subjects to confess the same faith as himself; so he and his prefect came to a certain city. The prefect sent for the bishop, and, after a little altercation asked him if he was not ashamed to profess a different creed from that of the emperor. The bishop intimated that he thought it was better to stand alone by the side of truth than with all the world on the side of falsehood. The prefect lost his patience and began to talk of other weapons than those of argument.

"Are you not afraid to oppose me?" he said.

"Why should I fear? What will happen?"

The prefect, bloated with rage and almost choked with passion, gasped out convulsively—

"Confiscation, banishment, torture, death!"

"Have you nothing else?" asked the undaunted bishop, "for nothing you have threatened has any effect on me? He that has nothing to lose is not afraid of confiscation; save these thread-bare, tattered garments and a few books, I have nothing you can take. And as to banishment, you cannot banish me, for the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, whose stranger and pilgrim I am. And as to torture, the first stroke would kill me, and to kill me is to send me to glory."

"No man ever spoke to me like that before," said the crestfallen official.

"Perhaps you never met with a Christian bishop before," was the reply.

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