

## About the House.

### BLOOD POISONING.

It seems to be certain that valuable life has been often lost by carelessness in regard to small cuts. A woman working about the kitchen who receives a small cut on the hand generally binds up the wound and goes about her work with no further thought of the matter. Her hands are put in all manner of things in cleaning about the house, working outside perhaps in the flower garden, and engaged in the thousand and one tasks which her hands find to do. If she is fortunate the wound heals up, but this is not necessarily the case. Blood poisoning may result from the most trivial wound.

The palm of the hand is almost as dangerous a portion of the system to wound as the soles of the feet. The result of wounding either the soles of the feet or the palms may be lockjaw. When we remember the impurities in the soil, in the air and in various parts of even the cleanest house, it is strange that we do not hear of more cases of blood poisoning arising from trivial cuts.

A very weak mixture of carbolic acid and water, such as a druggist or physician who deals in drugs can furnish, should be kept on hand to prevent danger. It should be poured on a cloth and wrapped around any such wound, after first washing it carefully. This mixture, which contains 10 per cent of carbolic acid in water is sufficient to purify any ordinary wound and keep out impurities if it is well wrapped with clean, dry cloth. Even the scratch of a needle or pin in the laundry tub may cause blood poisoning if the water contains coloring matter or any impurities powerful enough to cause this result.

### WINDOW GARDEN.

It requires but little care and trouble to have a window garden through the winter. Put your plants in the south window, give them plenty of water, not too much or too little heat, occasionally pick off the dead leaves, loosen the earth about them and they will grow and bloom, brightening up the house wonderfully. And if there is an invalid or an aged one in the home they will be a source of great comfort and joy to them. Geraniums, foliage plants and nasturtiums are favorable window plants, and there are many others that with a little extra attention will do well. One friend has a cactus plant that at Christmas time had 100 blossoms. This friend loves flowers studies their nature and needs, and thinks no trouble too great to bring them to perfection. Consequently her "window garden" is a "thing of beauty."

Palms and ferns are always beautiful, and make nice parlor or reception room decorations. They need a good leaf-moisture, and the ferns will want an occasional shower bath and more water than the palms. Have them in your home, give them a little care and they will fully repay you.

If your home is attractive and it will be if it is sweet and clean and sunny; if you give your friends a warm welcome and entertain them with something you have seen or read that is of interest they will feel they have been benefited by their stay with you, and that your home is a delightful place to be in and just what every home should be—a foretaste of that "other" home toward which we are fast journeying.

### WHAT TO DO.

Much unnecessary pain and even permanent injury or loss of life have been often caused by mothers and nurses not knowing what to do in an emergency, while waiting for the doctor.

For a slight burn or scald apply olive oil, fresh butter or cover the place with a cloth wrung out in about a pint of tepid water, in which a piece of common washing soda, of about the size of a walnut, has been dissolved.

For a bad burn or scald use linseed oil and lime water, mixed in equal parts, known as "carroll oil," soaked into a piece of lint and laid on. In the absence of these remedies flour the burn well with the kitchen flour-dredger, and cover up quickly.

In all cases exclude the air as soon as possible, and keep the affected part warm. Rags wrung out in a solution of carbonate of soda and water relieve the pain of a burn too.

For cases where a child's clothes catch fire, after extinguishing the flames, never pull off the clothes if sticking to the skin. Either cut them off around the burns, sponge them with warm water until they fall off, or put the child into a warm bath, and administer brandy and water in severe cases.

For a sting, first remove the sting, and then apply the blue bag or sal volatile.

Bruises, if slight, bathe with cold water, or whisky and water; if severe, apply hot fomentations, or paint with arnica.

For grazed or broken skin use a rag dipped in laudanum and water. A cut should be washed with warm wa-

ter and the edges brought together by strips of sticking plaster or a tight bandage of clean linen.

Should anything get into the eye, one drop of castor oil should be dropped into the corner of it, but if it be mortar or lime, bathe with weak solution of vinegar and water.

A bead, button or pebble can be removed from the ear by the child lying with that ear on the pillow and the upper ear being boxed sharply, or by syringing with warm water, an ordinary penny glass syringe answering the purpose.

A pea or bean, or anything likely to swell, must not be removed by means of warm water. Insert the nib of an ordinary pen behind the foreign substance, and so remove it, taking great precaution, however, not to insert the nib too far down, as it may injure the drum of the ear, and also exercising care that you do not push the obstacle further in while endeavoring to get it out.

A moth or other insect remove from the ear by pouring in a little warm oil, and the insect will float to the top.

Children are rather fond of pushing buttons, beads, &c., up their nostrils. In these cases close the free nostril, and make the child blow hard through the other.

If a child be choking, hold it up by its heels, and pat it on the back. If that does not produce the desired result, hold the child's nose to prevent it closing its mouth, and press down the root of the tongue, which will make it disgorge the obstruction.

If one of the little ones runs a fishhook into the finger, do not attempt to draw it out backward. Cut the line quite clear from it, turn the point upward and push it through. Accidents with crochets needles are constantly occurring, and if one be deeply pushed into the flesh do not try to pull it out; the hook at the point will tear and inflame the part. A surgeon with proper instruments will take it out safely without difficulty. If you should be at a distance from a surgeon the best thing to do is, first be quite sure on which side the hook is, then push a smooth ivory knitting needle or something of that kind down the wound until it touches the hook, then pull out both together.

### HELPING THE LAME DOG.

"I am glad your name is Mary," said Mr. Slowcoach, to his sweetheart, whom he had been courting for several years.

"Why so?" she asked.

"Because I was reading to-day, and came across a line which said, 'Mary is the sweetest name that woman ever bore.'"

"That is poetically expressed. I've heard my father say it to mother, whose name is Mary. It is from some poet, isn't it?"

"I believe so."

"But I've heard my father say there was even a sweeter name than Mary."

"I think he must have been mistaken," said the lover, as he tenderly pressed his sweetheart's hand.

"No; I don't think he was mistaken."

"What was the other name?"

A beautiful blush suffused the maiden's cheek, the silken lashes fell, and veiled the lovely eyes, and, in a tone as soft as the whispering of an Aeolian harp, she murmured, "Wife!"

The cards are out.

### THE SUN AS A CURATIVE FORCE.

No medical discovery of recent years has aroused more intense interest, and this not confined to medical men, than Professor Finsen's of Copenhagen, method of employing light in the treatment of lupus and other superficial skin diseases that depend on the presence of bacterial life. The principles of the "light treatment," as it is termed, are these: That the chemical rays of the sun or of the electric light can produce an inflammation of the skin; that they can produce an effect through the skin; that they can kill microbes on or close under the skin. Besides lupus, cases of ringworm and allied parasitic skin diseases are treated, and in Copenhagen cases of at least one type of cancer have been treated with the light treatment on the assumption of their parasitic nature, and have done well.

### THE FALL OF BABYLON.

Now, children, said the Sunday-school teacher, which of you can tell me why Babylon fell?

There was a long silence. The little ones bent over and looked at one another and drew long breaths, but none of them said anything.

Come, come! the teacher exclaimed at length, I'm surprised! Isn't there any little boy or girl in this class who can tell why Babylon fell? Isn't there any one of you who can think of any reason why Babylon should have fallen?

Then a boy with large brown freckles on the bridge of his nose and a thumb with a blackened nail put up his hand.

Ah! the sweet-faced teacher said, I thought some of you must know, if you only stopped to think. What was it, Percy?

Mebby he stepped on a banana peel, Percy suggested.

## UNEXAMPLED COURAGE.

### DEEDS OF DARING AND DEVOTION IN THE WAR.

A Record of Some of the Most Striking Acts of Bravery in British Annals.

#### CONTINUED.

May such traits always adorn the British warrior, as they so supremely adorn the chiefest of them all, Lord Roberts. It is that character, and the kindly acts it leads him to do, that has endeared him to all who have come under his command. Said a private, writing to his people the other day: "He" (Lord Roberts) "passed our picket lines to see Macdonald yesterday. I stood to attention as smart as I could. 'All right, my man,' said he; 'sit down and go on smoking.' That's the general for you. He is a soldier, every inch of him. I would die for such a he." Another man, describing General Lytton, writes: "There isn't a bit of regimental or staff starch about him. He is."

#### JUST LIKE BOBS.

Admiration of this sort is soon developed into something akin to adoration by acts like that which distinguished the Battle of Driefontein. On that day Lord Roberts, when riding over the battlefield, came across a wounded soldier, and, dismounting, gave him a drink from his own water-bottle. It was remarked at the time, by one who described the act, that it was one of those numberless little deeds of kindness and consideration, so characteristic of the veteran commander, which "serve to bind the Commander-in-Chief still more closely to the rank and file, who literally worship him."

What will not men do for those in whom they have confidence and whom they have learned to love? Some striking instances of the kind have cropped up from time to time during the war. There was the instance of the two Lancashire men at Spion Kop, both of whom were wounded, but one not so badly but he was able to walk. Said the other to him: "Tha'd better get down th' hill while thart able, jem."

"Nay, awm, not a-going to leave thee," he answered, and whilst he spoke he received a shot which proved his death-warrant.

Another splendid instance of self-forgetfulness is recorded by Mr. Treves, the celebrated surgeon. After one of the Tugela battles a doctor offered a drink to a badly-wounded soldier. "Give a drink to my pal first," said he; "he is worse than me." Yet (adds Mr. Treves) while the pal did well and recovered, the self-denying hero died of his hurt.

But all the heroism of the war pales before the efforts first to "fight" and then to save the guns at the Battle of Colenso. The engagement, as will be remembered, took place on the 13th of December, 1899. Colonel Long was ordered to go into position with his guns, covered by the Sixth Brigade. General Buller's account of what took place is as follows:—

"I had personally explained to him where I wished him to come into action, and with the naval guns, only, as the position was not within effective range for his field guns. Instead of this, he advanced with his batteries so fast that he left both his infantry escort and his oxen-drawn naval guns behind, and came into action under Fort Wylie, a commanding, treacherously entrenched hill, at a range of 1,000 yds. I believe within 300 yds. of the enemy's rifle-pits. The men fought their guns."

#### LIKE HEROES

and silenced Fort Wylie, but the issue could never have been in doubt, and gradually they were all shot."

Mr. Bennet Burleigh, writing of the Battle of Colenso, thus describes this thrilling incident: "There were scarcely any men left, and next to no ammunition. After that an order was given to abandon the guns, which for over one hour had fought in the face of the fiercest fusillade a battery ever endured. Yet even then all was not over, for four men persisted in serving two guns and remaining beside their cannon. One of either party carried the shell; the others laid and fired their beloved 15-pounders. But two men were left. They continued the unequal battle. They exhausted the ordinary ammunition, and finally drew upon and fired the emergency rounds of case, their last shot. Then they stood to 'attention' beside the gun, and an instant later fell pierced through and through by Boer bullets. These, I say, by the light of all my experience of war—these gunners of ours are men who."

DESERVE MONUMENTS

over their graves, and even Victoria Crosses in their coffins."

Then followed the fight to recover the lost guns—a fight which will long be remembered as one of the glory spots in British military annals. We are, perhaps, too near the event to-day, and too much distracted by the many incidents and anxieties of the war, to fully grasp and appreciate these acts of splendid heroism. Notwithstanding the numberless deeds of daring produced by the war, however, these stand out, as it were, and will ever so stand, like a piece of antique sculpture adorning the frieze of

Time's temple of valour. The story of the heroism of poor Roberts and his comrades can never, perhaps, be told too often. It is thus described in the London Gazette: "The detachments serving the guns of the 14th and 66th Batteries, Royal Field Artillery, had all been either killed, wounded, or driven from their guns by infantry fire at close range, and the guns were deserted. About 500 yds. behind the guns was a donga, in which some of the few horses and drivers left alive were sheltered. The intervening space was

SWEPT WITH SHELL

and rifle fire. Captain Congreve, of the Rifle Brigade, who was in the donga, assisted to hook a team into a limber, went out, and assisted to limber up a gun. Being wounded, he took shelter; but seeing Lieutenant Roberts fall, badly wounded, he went out again and brought him in. Captain Congreve was shot through the leg, through the toe of his boot, grazed on the elbow and the shoulder, and his horse shot in three places."

Corporal Nurse and six drivers of the 68th Battery also took part in this rush into the jaws of death. Nurse, along with Congreve and Roberts, was recommended for the V.C., and the drivers—for the medal for distinguished conduct in the field.

Captain H. L. Reed, of the 7th Battery Royal Field Artillery, with thirteen non-commissioned officers and men, then brought up three teams from his battery to see if he could save the guns. Captain Reed and five of his men were wounded, one man was killed and thirteen out of the twenty-one horses were killed, so that the gallant little party

WAS DRIVEN BACK.

Captain Reed was recommended for the V.C., and all the others, including Trumpeter Ayles, for distinguished conduct medals.

Captain Schofield also took a prominent part in these heroic attempts at rescue, but was not, like the other officers, recommended for the V.C. General Buller says he "differentiated in his recommendations, because he thought that a recommendation for the Victoria Cross required proof of initiative—something more, in fact, than mere obedience to orders; and for this reason he did not recommend Captain Schofield, who was acting under orders, though his conduct was most gallant."

One of these days a poet, feeling the full splendour of these deeds, will give us a poem on the "Fight for the Guns at Colenso."

Another plucky feat which the future historian of the war will need to take full account of was

OF AN AQUATIC NATURE

and strangely reminds one of a similar act performed by Clive at the very outset of his military career. It occurred during General Buller's second attempt to relieve Ladysmith. When on that occasion Lord Dundonald reached Potgieter's Drift he found the Boer pont, or raft, moored at the farther bank of the swollen stream, and it was very desirable to get possession of it. In view of possible Boers on the north side, the attempt was likely to prove extremely dangerous; but Lieutenant Carlisle, of the South African Light Horse, volunteered to swim the river, and six others offered to do the same. These were Sergeant Turner, Corporals Barkley and Cox, and Troopers Collingwood, Howell, and Godden—all, like the Lieutenant, of F Squadron. Five of the men stripped, Lieutenant Carlisle and another simply throwing off their boots. Unfortunately, in mid-stream Barkley was seized with cramp, and would have been drowned but for Howell pluckily going to his rescue and bringing him safely into the donga, where the remainder of the party had already arrived. Barkley was quickly restored and the return journey commenced. The hoarsers of the pont jammed and the machine while Boer bullets began to whistle about the naked figures. A party of the enemy had discovered what they were at and opened a hot fire upon them at a distance of about 450 yards. It was necessary once more to plunge into the water, and the enterprise would have failed but for the pluck of Corporal Cox, who again mounted the pont and got the hoarsers free. All this time Lieutenant Carlisle continued to keep hold of the gunwale, declining to leave Barkley, who he feared might have another attack of cramp; and, although bullets never ceased to play about them, one grazing the lieutenant's arm and another splintering the gunwale between his hands, they marvelously escaped, and were safely drawn with the pont into the welcome shelter of the south bank.

Of the many incidental acts of devotion worthy of note, one may mention that of Sergeant Sheridan, who in the retiring movement on the last-named occasion, seeing Private Dowling wounded,

CARRIED HIM FOR HALF A MILE

until they were both out of danger. At the same time Lance-Corporal Farrall went back under a murderous fire, and making two successive trips, brought out two wounded men, whose wounds he dressed before moving them.

Similarly, in General French's advance to the relief of Kimberley, as well as later in the wonderful sweeping advance first to Bloemfontein and then upon Pretoria, we read of numberless acts of individual devotion and daring.

On the way from Riet River to the Modder a patrol skirmish took place, in which Corporal Fetting, of the New South Wales Lancers, was badly hurt. Corporal, now Sergeant, Gould at once went to his assistance, and succeeded in bringing him out of danger under a heavy fire. Trooper Firmin likewise distinguished himself in the same action.

COURAGEOUSLY CARRYING OUT

a wounded officer of the 16th Lancers. Nor should we forget the act of Lieutenant De Crespigny, who in a reconnaissance from General French's column, on January 19th, rode back under a hot fire and rescued a dismounted trooper.

One would like to mention other deeds of daring and devotion did space permit—deeds like that of Sergeant Parker, V.C., and Gunner Lodge, V.C., whose coolness and bravery in working the rescued guns at Koon Spruit saved that disastrous affair from becoming a catastrophe. Deeds like that of Lieutenant Mathias, on the 6th of January, when he saved a Hotchkiss from falling into the hands of Boers, or—finer still—like that of the sixteen Manchester, who held an advanced post of Caesar's Camp the whole of that critical day, and left, as 'the price of Empire,' fourteen of their number dead in their sangar. Nor should one forget Sergeant Bosely, who, fighting his gun on that eventful day, and having an arm and a leg taken off, bade his men "Roll me away and go on with the firing."

The war has shown us every description of hero, from the man who, like Private Hinton, simply knew how to do his duty and die at his post as hospital attendant, or like Chaplain Robertson, who fearlessly exposed himself on the field of battle in giving such comfort as he could to wounded or dying men, to men like Baden-Powell, who seemed to be the captain of every resource, but always captain and commandant of himself, ready if need be to die in defence of the post and people under his charge, but knowing a deeper and safer wisdom in living and going "softly, softly," so as to "catch the monkey," or—what was as good in this case—Bloff!

Many do and will continue to regret the war; but everyone must be pleased to think not only how the nation rose to the emergency, but that it was the means of bringing to the front not only so many fine talents, but so many fine qualities to boot. It shows how secure so far the national feeling and the national tradition lie at the basis of the common life. The two things may be summed up in the words "home" and "supremacy" wherever the flag flies. The thought was well exemplified in the dream of a soldier in the hospital at Colenso. He was feverish and restless, but towards midnight he fell into a gentle sleep; then—the story is told by a German doctor—he began to sing in a soft, low voice. And what think you he sang? "Home, Sweet Home," and "Rule Britannia." That dreaming soldier was a personification of England and Our Empire.

#### HAPPINESS.

How much better it is to lie in a hammock and sip at a glass of lemonade, smoke a twenty-five cent Havana cigar, and watch a man working in the sun, pulling a heavy lawn-mower along, and to wonder whether that man wonders what it is like to lie in a hammock and sip at a glass of lemonade, and smoke a twenty-five cent Havana cigar, and watch a man working in the sun pulling a heavy lawn-mower along, and to have at the same time a man close by lying in a hammock sipping at a glass of lemonade and smoking a twenty-five cent Havana cigar, and watching you sweating in the sun pulling a heavy lawn-mower along, and wondering whether you wonder what it is like to be lying in a hammock and sipping at a glass of lemonade and smoking a twenty-five cent cigar, and watching a man working in the sun pulling a heavy lawn-mower along."

#### PAWNBROKERS IN CHINA.

Among the Canton houses there are occasional exceptions to the usual one-storied or low constructions. Some of these are built like square towers four or five stories high, with no outside windows save at a considerable distance above the ground and no outside projections by which thieves might get in. These establishments are called pawnshops. But they appear more to resemble banks. It is usual among the Chinese to deposit their possessions of value, when not in use, in these establishments. The people also store there in summer their winter clothing, on which money is often lent. To have dealings with a pawnshop is in no way considered derogatory to a Chinese gentleman's dignity.

## HEADACHE RELIEVED.

Many Causes and Many Varieties—Simple Means of Treatment.

Headache is perhaps the most common of all the minor ills which afflict mankind; and also perhaps the least understood. Irregular habits constitute one of the chief causes. The man who eats regularly and judiciously, who goes to bed and arises at stated hours, works, takes exercise and sleeps a certain number of hours, and otherwise adopts regularity of habit is not liable to suffer from headache because his digestive apparatus will be in good working order.

There are innumerable causes of headache, as well as numerous varieties of the affliction, itself, of different degrees of intensity. The eating of even a banana between meals when not very hungry will sometimes provoke sick headache. An unusual or sudden excitement, a fit of anger, a sudden jar of the spinal column, due to a misstep, a fall, a blow, strain of the eyes by the glow of sunlight or snow, or artificial light, such as the footlights of a theater, confinement, in a badly ventilated room, cold room, a change from the usual daily routine, nervousness, and a score of other simple causes, will produce the same effect. Some headaches affect the back of the head, in others the pain is in the forehead, high up, or about the eyes, but whatever the primal cause, the final and immediate cause is the congestion of the blood vessels of the head.

Some headaches are not symptomatic of any deeper trouble; others, especially those of periodic recurrence, frequently are. In the latter case, the primal cause must be sought and removed to effect a cure, but even then, if from constipation, indigestion or other diseased conditions of any part of the body, it is not necessary for the victim to continue to suffer until the cause is removed.

Nobody should take sedative powders, without having consulted a physician, because these powders depress the heart action. No person with a weak heart can take such a drug with safety. The physician, knowing his patient's condition, will prescribe a heart stimulant with the nerve sedative, to counteract the bad effect of the latter. Nor should the victim of headache resort to purgatives which stimulate the liver temporarily, but do not remove the cause, but rather aggravate it, demanding larger doses at more frequent intervals.

When one has a headache a natural instinct prompts him to place his hands to the forehead and compress it firmly. This is nature's one relief. Frequently a firm pressure of the skull will give immediate relief. When this is done for the sufferer by some one else, the happy result has been accounted for on the theory of hypnotism. This may be true in some instances, in which case the desired end, being obtained, it is needless to comment on the means, for the layman in this manipulating the skull sometimes succeeds and sometimes he fails with the same subject. When he succeeds it is because he has accidentally stumbled upon the treatment resorted to by the osteopath, that is, in compressing the skull, his digits have encountered the proper blood vessels and nerve centres.

The two hands should be outstretched and placed on either side of the patient's head, and the base of the skull and temples firmly compressed, the thumbs resting immediately below the temples, and the second fingers, being the strongest, pressing on the two sides of the neck at the base of the skull. Frequently a more momentary pressure, with a gentle lifting motion of the head, until the face is fully upturned, will give complete relief. The treatment may be self-administered, but generally better results ensue, if the manipulation is done by another.

#### MUTUAL RECOGNITION.

Bless my soul! exclaimed the man with the iron gray beard, cordially extending his hand. Ain't you the tow-headed boy that used to worry the life out of me 25 years ago, back in old Chemung County, by climbing my orchard fence and stealing my apples?

If you're the infernally mean and stingy old hunk who owned that orchard and used to set your dog or any boy who came within half a mile of it, I am, replied the younger man grasping the proffered hand and shaking it heartily.

#### CHINESE RIDDLES.

Chinese boys are very fond of asking riddles, and some of the juvenile prodigies of ancient days are represented as having been very clever in composing these enigmas. A few, somewhat similar in form to many popular English riddles, are the following:

"What is the fire that has no smoke, and the water that has no fish?"

"A glow worm's fire has no smoke, and well water has no fish."

"Mention the name of an object with two mouths which travels by night and not by day?"

"A lantern."

## SAVED

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