

# The Brain Weights of Some Great Men.

The report that the brain of Gambetta when examined by the experts, was found to weigh 1,100 grammes, or less than 39 ounces, has led to the publication of an immense number of brain weights. The brain of the adult human male is said to average about 50 ounces, and that of the adult female about 45. The maximum weight of the healthy brain is about 64 ounces and the minimum about 31. In cases of idiocy it has been found weighing only 20 ounces. Broca places the lowest limit of brain weight compatible with human intelligence at 30 in males and 32 in females, the average weight of the European male brain being 48 ounces. Dr. Bischoff, of Bonn, published two or three years ago perhaps the most exhaustive study of the subject ever undertaken. He had examined and weighed the brains of 559 men and 347 women. His figures were as follows:

	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.
Male.....	67.9 oz.	35.9 oz.	48 oz.
Female.....	55.2 oz.	28.9 oz.	43 oz.

Bischoff weighed the brains of ten cultivated and celebrated men, some of which he found below the average, while none reached the maximum. The brains of 119 ordinary offenders weighed 11 grammes more than the average, some having a weight of 1,500 and even 1,000 grammes. Broca, on comparing 115 skulls taken from a vault closed up not later than the twelfth century with another series of 123 skulls taken from a cemetery belonging to the earlier years of the present century, found the average capacity to be 1,426 and 1,462, showing a considerable gain during seven centuries of progressive civilization. As to the actual weight of the brains of eminent men full statistics are not obtainable. Taking individual cases, some twenty-three in number, Cuvier, the naturalist, heads the list, according to one authority with 64½ ounces, and according to another with 64.33. The brains of Abercromby, the physician, and of Schiller, the poet, weighed 63 ounces; Sir James Simpson's weighed 54, and Chalmers' 59; the brains of Napoleon and Daniel Webster, 57 ounces. The brain of a mulatto who died not long ago at Cincinnati was found to weigh 64 ounces. He was not considered bright intellectually.

The heaviest brain on record, which weighed 67 ounces, according to Dr. Morris, was that of a bricklayer, who "had a good memory and was fond of politics," but could neither read nor write, so that what-ever his potentialities, his actual acquirements were not great. It is a surprise to our readers to learn that the statistics of Chinese brain weights available show them to exceed all others in the world. The average brain weight of the Chinese reached 50½ ounces, and that of the males reached 50½ ounces. This is an average not attained, so far as we know, by any other nation, it being fully 1½ ounces above that of the average negro, an ½ ounces above the European. The brain of Quaitau weighed 49½ ounces, exceeding by more than 1½ ounces the reported weight of the brain of the great French Republican, Paul Marat.

## A Chinese Bride.

On alighting from our carriage, says a contributor to *All the Year Round*, writing of a visit to Cairo, we were hastily conducted across a large covered court, in which tables were spread and hired musicians were performing, and were shown up to a number of apartments, passing through a number of narrow, winding passages—it was, I was told, a real old-fashioned Turkish interior—and traversing a number of rooms furnished with a curious mixture of the splendid and the tawdry, until we came to the room where the bride sat to receive the final compliments of her friends. She was a small, framed, delicate-looking person, with fairly ular features and beautiful eyes and teeth, but the former, notwithstanding that her face was thickly painted white, showed traces of tears, and she looked and evidently was tired to death. "She has been crying all day," whispered the French governess to us confidentially, "she has never seen him, of course, and has got an idea that she shan't like him; the fact is, she did not want to be married at all, but of course her family would not refuse—Pasha's alliance." The new bride's apartments had been re-furnished in her honor, and were bestrewn with gaudy yellow satin chairs and fauteuils, which most of the women carefully avoided, preferring to sit comfortably on the carpet or on the lowest foot-stool they could find. The bride sat like a little image on a chair raised on two steps in the corner of the room; her hands, incased in tight white kid gloves, were crossed on her lap and she never moved at all, except that she acknowledged our courtesies, as strangers, with a slight, grave inclination of the head. The other women kept up a pretense that it was all very delightful, and occasionally looked her dress smilingly in passing, or rearranged the heavy gold fringes of the veil. She had put off a magnificent bridal dress of white satin on entering the home of this husband whom she "had never seen," and was now arrayed in pink satin heavily embroidered with gold, having on her head a veil of tulle and gold ornamented with flowers and diamonds, while large diamond brooches and bracelets glittered on her dress and wrists. The long train of her dress, made in European fashion, was spread ostentatiously half across the floor. Those of her relations who had come with her were also very smart and very modern. Her sister, in addition to a pair of high-heeled shoes, had advanced to the civilized length of wearing tight stays.

The perception of the comic is a tie of sympathy with other men, a pledge of sanity and a projection from those perverse tendencies and gloomy insanities in which fine intellects sometimes lose themselves. A rogue, alive to the ridiculous, is still convertible. If that sense is lost his fellow-men can do little for him.

Next to the originator of a good sentence is the first quoter of it. Many will read the book before one thinks of quoting a passage. As soon as he has done this, that line will be quoted east and west. Then there are great waves of borrowing. Genius borrows nobly. When Shakespeare is charged with debts to his authors, Lander replies: "Yet he was more original than his originals. He breathed upon dead bodies and brought them into life."

## SUNBEAMS.

Factory operatives in New England are unitedly asking for weekly payments of their wages, while their employers are as unanimously in favor of the monthly system.

There is a movement among the landlords of leading hotels against polyglot bills of fare, and it is proposed to begin simultaneously in a number of houses to use plain English only.

Americanisms begin to appear in the editorial articles of the London newspapers. "The Conservative party," says the *News*, for instance, "has shown no signs of going back on the question of household suffrage."

A hospital for the children of gentlemen of limited means—a class believed to be increasing both in number and necessity—has been established in England. It is a recognition of the fact, now becoming better known, that sometimes those who are the last to apply for help need it most, and that those who by hard struggle contrive to maintain independence do so sometimes at the price of absolute want.

The most aged English baronet is the venerable Sir Moses Montefiore, who on the 25th of October next will enter upon his hundredth year. According to the list compiled by the editor of "Webster's Red Book," Sir Henry Preston, a Scotch baronet born in the year 1783, still survives. There are at least twenty baronets living who were born before the commencement of the present century. The oldest of these after the names already mentioned appears to be Sir T. Tyrington Bernard, born in 1791.

Gen Sheridan owns some magnificent tapestry, chiefly high warp Gobelins, made between 1663 and 1680 at the time when the art was in revival. Originally there were eleven pieces in the set, of which Sheridan owns four, the set being in the famous collection of the *Marde Meuble*, in Paris. The subjects are taken from different periods in the life of Alexander the Great. The hangings are each about 18 feet high by 20 feet long, and remarkably well preserved. The General has loaned his treasures for a charity fair in Chicago.

A boy in his 14th year, with a girlish face and lisp, was found straying about the streets of Providence at 1 o'clock in the morning, and taken to a police station, where a search revealed on his person a big pistol, a gimlet, a pair of scissors, a tallow candle, a *Police Gazette*, and some novels with such titles as "The Wharf Rat's Revenge" and "Cannoeer Ben; or, the Pirate's Last Shot." His intentions were to commit a few ordinary robberies at home, and then start out for greater achievements in the West.

The *London Tablet* comments on the Feltzer murder case: "Seldom has a case depending only upon circumstantial evidence been brought home with such convincing clearness. A few hairs out of a wig beside the murdered man and a letter written in an unknown hand signed 'Henry Vaughn,' were the tiny links out of which the Belgian police a last forged the chain which has brought sentence of death upon two men, of whom one had no conceivable motive for the crime, while the other could point to a stainless life that almost disarmed suspicion."

## FASHION CHAT.

Silver or gold mediæval clasps are worn with belts of moiré ribbon. Black silk beaded Jerseys are favorite waists for young ladies' black dresses.

Small satin aprons, lace-trimmed and hand-painted, are worn at afternoon teas.

Jersey, basques are worn with skirts boxplaited from the knee to the edge of the skirt.

A very small veil of white tulle is worn over the fly-front hair with small velvet bonnets.

The crab is a favorite bonnet ornament. And the bonnets, like the crab, are moving backward.

Dresses of the "vivid blue," the "burning red" and the "glowing coal" are all the rage in Europe.

Gray satin slippers, with very high heels and finely-out steel buckles, are liked for bonjour wear.

Bunched draperies have come in. They are the principal features of the most fashionable dresses.

Pompons of silk are more popular than they have ever been, and are used on hats, mantles and dresses.

Turbans with a fur band and gathered cloth crowns are worn with redingotes of cloth trimmed with fur.

Narrow braid embroidery is not to everybody's liking; many prefer a quiet, more solid-looking trimming.

Dashes of red appear everywhere in the toilet, from the plumes on the bonnet to the "clocks" of black silk hose.

Black silk stockings are considered the most desirable for home wear, with low slip-pers of black satin or fine kid.

The newest turbans of folded cloth, or velvet, are without brims, the folds reaching down to the hair, and are without trimming.

## India-rubber Ocean Carriers.

A substitute for the time-honored bottle for carrying records of disaster at sea is found in a light rubber ball two or three feet in diameter and brightly painted. It is so light that it is rapidly carried before the wind, and is so conspicuous that it can be seen at a long distance. One of these carriers, having been thrown from a Swedish steamer on her way from London to Gothenburg, was picked up four days afterward on the coast of Schleswig, and another travelled two hundred nautical miles in five days. A number of these carriers, even if thrown overboard in mid-ocean, might bring relief to a disabled steamer by carrying word to passing vessels of the probable position of the disabled ship.

A priest in Donegal telegraphs that he accompanied Trevelyan, Chief Secretary, on his tour of inspection in the parish of Saint Columbkille. They visited twenty families and found there was not a morsel of food in any 1,000.

## Sunlight in Stables.

All barns, stables, sheds and other buildings intended for the shelter of domestic animals should be so arranged as to command all the sunlight possible. For this purpose invariably place the stalls on the eastern and southern sides of the building. The windows should be large and sufficient numerous. There is no fear of too much sun light, either in the house or in the barn. We have no right to deprive our animals, any more than our children, of that which has been diffused so liberally.

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The hair of a girl employed in the Elgin watch factory was caught in the machinery and violently pulled. From that time all of the new growth was white, and now the receding color has reached a point half way to the ends.

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Nature is upheld by antagonism. Passions, resistance, danger, are educators. We acquire the strength we have overcome.

Many sink into an early grave by not giving immediate attention to a slight cough which could be stopped in time by the use of a twenty-five cent bottle of Dr. Wistar's Pulmonic Syrup.

There are three modes of bearing the ills of life; by indifference, which is the most comatous, and by philosophy, which is the most ostentatious, and by religion, which is the most effectual.

RUN FOR LIFE.—Sixteen miles were covered in two hours and ten minutes by a lad sent for a bottle of Briggs' Electric Oil. Good time, but poor policy to be so far from a drug store without it.

Swell young men are reminded that a pea-jacket and bean-pole legs do not harmonize.

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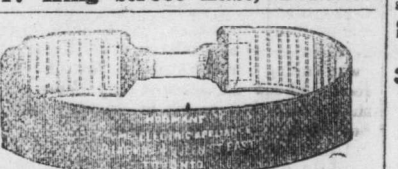
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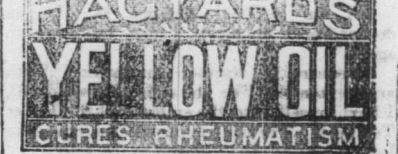
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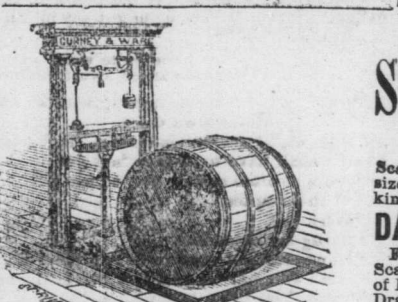
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