

An Ancient Spanish Poem:

Oh! let the soul its numbers break,
Arise its senses and awake,
To see how soon
Life like its glories glides away,
And the stern footsteps of decay
Come rattling on.
And while we eye the rolling tide,
Down which our flowing minutes glide
Away so fast,
Let us the present hour employ,
And thus our future years enjoy.
—Canning.

The sea of death, whose waves roll on,
O'er king and kingdom, crown and throne
And swallow all.
Alike the river's lordly tide,
Alike the humble riv'let's glide
To that sad wave,
Death levels poverty and pride,
And rich and poor sleep side by side
Within the grave.
Our birth is but a starting place;
Life is the running of the race;
And death the goal.
Therefore all things that are bought,
That pass of all our thought,
Is found of all.
Say then how poor and little worth
Are all those glittering toys of earth,
That lure us here?
Dreams of a sleep that death must break,
Alas! before it bids us wake,
We disappear!
Long ere the death can blight,
The cheeks purplish of red and white
Has passed away;
Youth smiled, and all was heavenly fair,
Age came and laid his finger there,
And where are they?
Where is the strength that spurred decay,
The step that rolled so light and gay,
The heart's blithe tone?
The strength is gone the step is slow,
And joy grows woe and woe
When age comes on.

FOREIGN BODIES IN THE EAR.

Dr. Volvini observes that the first thing we have to do to assure ourselves that a foreign body is really within the ear, for it by no means rarely happens that persons apply under the belief that an insect or other body is within the ear, which the most exact inspection fails to discover. In some cases, inflammation of the membrane of the ear is the cause of the deceptive sensation, and this becomes aggravated by the unsuccessful searching for the foreign body. On the other hand, persons sometimes have foreign bodies in the ear without being the least aware of it. The author removed a rolled-up hairy leaf from the bottom of the meatus, in the case of a lady, who had not the slightest idea how it came there, and who consulted him for deafness of the other ear. In another case, a hexagonal glass bead was removed, the patient being entirely ignorant that she had any foreign body in the ear. We should always make a very careful examination of the meatus, by aid of the direct rays of the sun. No artificial or reflected light is a substitute for this; but where it is not attainable, Dr. Volvini employs an apparatus of his own invention, which is also serviceable in laryngoscopy. The simplest means of all, however, is to fasten a wax taper to the handle of a bright spoon in such a manner that the flame exactly reaches to the bowl of the spoon. Taking the spoon by its handle, and holding the light against the ear, by looking over it we are not dazzled, and can explore at our leisure. While in some cases the symptoms caused by foreign bodies in the ear are of frightful intensity, and do not attract attention to the seat of mischief. For want of due examination of the ear, many patients complaining of giddiness, stupor, singing in the ears, etc., are sent to Carlsbad, Kissingen, or the sea-side, when all the mischief is due to a foreign body in the ear. Distant organs of the body may be the seat of considerable symptoms without, in some instances, the foreign body in the ear giving rise to any peculiar sensation, so that its presence remains unsuspected. For the removal of foreign bodies we should first employ only the gentlest means, such as syringing the ear with warm water, and by this, sometimes of the most different form and composition, even lead-pencil, may be removed. Beyond a bent forceps, an ear-scoop with a long handle, and a small eardrum, almost all the instruments recommended for this purpose are more or less dangerous, and should be used with the greatest caution. Wax, and similar soft substances may be easily drawn out, and in many cases we can remove bodies by passing the ear-scoop behind them. We should never employ force, and never should pass any instrument a line farther into the meatus than we can follow it with the eye. For want of such precaution, many a patient has lost his life or his hearing. The first effect of rough procedures is to make matters more obscure, the bleeding and swelling which ensue rendering complete inspection impossible. If the gentler endeavors (or syringing), during which the eye guides the hand, do not succeed, the body should be left at rest in the ear, eye, even were it a dagger's point; and strong as the expression seems, the author justifies it by reference to cases on record in which pointed bodies have remained for years in the ear with impunity. It is not meant to be said that bodies should in general be left in the ear, but that matters should not be made worse than they are by violent manipulations. Leaving the body in the ear, then warm water syringing and soft poultices are to be daily resorted to, until the ensuing suppuration loosens it and gives it a new direction. —Brit. and Foreign Med. Chir. Review.

FIRING OF THE SIX HUNDRED BOUNDS.

The 600-pounder 14.5-inch Armstrong gun was fired on Tuesday afternoon, in the presence of the Hon. the Lord Mayor, and a large number of gentlemen, at a shooting range, between the Victoria and Albert Docks, for the purpose of testing the range of the gun. Originally it was intended that the target should be fired at from 2,000 yards, the distance from the new Spithead Fort, but the Ordnance Select Committee, by a vote of 10 to 5, decided to reduce the range to 1,000 yards. It is the longest range ever recorded for the firing of a gun of this calibre.

after all visitors at Shoeburyness may always be there in the morning, when the workers would go to the mills, but unfortunately it is not unwarred by something or other. Cut after cut, and barge after barge down to the line of fire; and there is no help for it but to take a seat on the bank, and exercise all the patience one can command. The floating battery target of Tuesday was composed of 44-inch armor-plates, with backing of 18 inches of oak in two layers, laid across each other. The dimensions of the section were—length, 12 feet, by breadth 10 feet, and the target is placed in the centre of a framework, 30 feet by 20 mounted on a dunnage. In front of the target, on the bank, were placed such iron-rod yet passed by the country; and the programme of the day was as follows: 1. The iron target to be moored at 500 yards from the battery, where the 13.3-inch gun is. 2. A common wood target to be moored at the same distance, but just clear of the iron one. 3. Fire one or more of the cast iron armor-plates, the weight of which was to be the same weight, 612 lb., as the steel shell at the wooden target as pilots to ascertain the correct elevation. 4. With the elevation thus obtained fire steel shell with 24 lb. bursting charge until one good hit has been obtained; charge 51 lb. The first shell missed the target, but penetrated the wood framework, making two inconsiderable holes. The second shell grazed the head of the upper armor-plate, bursting in the wood framework, a large portion of which went into the air in a shower. The third shell, too low for the target, struck the sea in front, and ricocheting, struck the upper armor-plate, and penetrated it, the whole practically demolished the target. Boats immediately proceeded from the beach, and on the dunnage being reached it was apparent that all that had been said hitherto of the superiority of the guns over armor-plates was confirmed. The upper armor-plate had been struck in the center, and the whole backing was penetrated, one of the rear supports injured, and that portion of the dunnage which would represent the deck was more or less covered with bolt heads and splinters. In a word, the third shell would have arrested the progress of the iron target, as it was probably the whole wood backing of the target would have been destroyed, and no doubt the third as well as the second armor-plate would have been started. After the firing of the third shell it was found impossible to strike the target fairly, the low charge at which the gun was fired rendered the shooting of the gun somewhat irregular. Captain Alderson, confessedly one of the best shots at Shoeburyness, laid the gun to accuracy, but the fourth shell missed the target, and passed to the left through the framework.

PROCLAMATION OF KING CHRISTIAN TO THE ARMY.

The King has addressed the following proclamation to the Danish army:—"The war demands heavy sacrifices, and peace has been purchased at a still heavier cost; but the safety of the country requires peace in place of a continuation of war. I know that the army was really to consume the struggle, but the final result was not in our power, and during the contest a considerable portion of the country, now in the hands of the enemy, would have had to endure oppression which would have entailed ruin. For this reason I have thought it right to endeavor to end the war, even at the sacrifice of a portion of territory which we have long coveted. Denmark from time immemorial has been a land of peace and justice. All our hopes of assistance have been deceived, and the superior numbers of the enemy have given him the victory. I have witnessed the courage, valor, and fatigue of the army, and have seen its lofty deeds. I hope it will continue to preserve that affection for the King and the country by which it has hitherto been animated. Signed, "CHRISTIAN R."

FIRE AT NAPANEE.

On Thursday night, at about twelve o'clock, the foundry of Messrs. McCane & Dwyre, Napanee, was discovered to be in flames. The building was nearly consumed before the fire engine was on the ground, and when it arrived it could not be got in working order in time to be of any service. There is reason to believe that the fire is the work of an incendiary, as Mr. Dwyre examined every part of the building at about ten o'clock, and discovered nothing unusual. The part of the building first discovered to be on fire was that which was farthest from the engine. No alarm was sounded. Mr. Richard McCullough informs that when he discovered there was a fire he went into the W. M. Church to ring the bell, but found that the rope was gone. He searched through the church in hopes of finding it, when he found that the cushions were taken from a number of the seats and piled in the aisle. It is thought that the person who fired the building entered the church and took away the rope, in order to prevent the bell being rung and thus making an alarm. The loss of Messrs. McCane & Dwyre is estimated at about \$2,000, on which there is no insurance. They will be able to resume business in about three weeks, if they intend rebuilding immediately. —Ledger.

FATAL RIOTS IN BELFAST.

The rioting in Belfast was continued with increased violence on Monday, when the constabulary were obliged to fire on a mob of about 100 persons, who were gathered in front of the Albert-crescent, and about 100 persons were killed and wounded. The rioting was confined to the Albert-crescent, and the constabulary were ordered to fire on the mob, and this they did, and the rioting was continued until about midnight, when the rioting was dispersed.

which ended in a bloody attack by the constabulary station, and amid heavy volleys of stones, which did not beat a hasty retreat from the Albert-crescent. The rioting was confined to the Albert-crescent, and the constabulary were ordered to fire on the mob, and this they did, and the rioting was continued until about midnight, when the rioting was dispersed.

On Tuesday several dreadful conflicts took place between the police and the mob. The police fired and wounded about thirty persons, two mortally, killing three. The rioting was confined to the Albert-crescent, and the constabulary were ordered to fire on the mob, and this they did, and the rioting was continued until about midnight, when the rioting was dispersed.

A MONETARY CRISIS.

Within the past few days the merchants of this city and those of Montreal have been considerably alarmed and excited at the determination of the different banks to curtail their business, and put down the screws on their customers. An event of this kind was altogether unlooked for, though the suddenness with which it has been carried into effect has disconcerted many, and may lead to some immediate reaction.

Looking at the events of the past year squarely in the face, no one can question the wisdom of the banks in drawing in their loans and curtailing their business. The circumstances to which the impending crisis is due are manifold. Following a year or two of prosperity we have been led into an excess of speculation for which there is no sound basis. In the fall of 1862, the English markets were bare of timber, and though the consumption was not above the average, there was, nevertheless, a fair active demand at remunerative rates; Quebec built ships were also in good demand and selling at fair prices; while the export of breadstuffs and provisions was the St. Lawrence was a new branch of trade which was facilitated by the growth of our resources and population. All these three branches of our trade have suffered immensely within one short year, and the capital furnished by our banks to keep our commerce moving is now incapable of doing so.

The rate of interest in the Bank of England has for the last five or six months fluctuated between seven and ten per cent. It was supposed by many that impending the settlement of the Danco-German difficulties, and the possible event of a general European war, the Bank of England was raising interest to 10 per cent. This is one of the cases which has, perhaps, led to the adoption of the policy now being pursued by our different banking institutions; but it is only the cause—neither immediate nor remote—and we have to look beyond it for the cause of the present monetary crisis. The rate of interest in the Bank of England has for the last five or six months fluctuated between seven and ten per cent. It was supposed by many that impending the settlement of the Danco-German difficulties, and the possible event of a general European war, the Bank of England was raising interest to 10 per cent. This is one of the cases which has, perhaps, led to the adoption of the policy now being pursued by our different banking institutions; but it is only the cause—neither immediate nor remote—and we have to look beyond it for the cause of the present monetary crisis.

On Chronic Diarrhoea and Dysentery.

By HENRY M. LYMAN, M. D.

White writing, yesterday, for a train at a railway station near this city, my attention was attracted to the history of his experience with which a lieutenant of the 7th Kansas Cavalry Regiment was entertaining an acquaintance. This officer was a tall, robust man, in the prime of life, in perfect health, at home on furlough with his regiment, which had lately re-enlisted in the veteran corps. For more than two years he had been in active service, *jay-hawking* in the wild regions of the south-west. It was a life of enjoyment, so full of excitement and activity, that he was attacked (in New Orleans) with diarrhoea, which remained unobscured, and soon became chronic—the regular *diarrhoea*. Treatment seemed to produce no effect; several physicians abandoned the attempt to cure, and after several months of suffering, he was finally cured by the use of a certain medicine.

SPOTTED FEVER.

A correspondent from Philadelphia writes:—For some months considerable excitement has been caused in our community, both medical and otherwise, by what is familiarly called "spotted fever." Last fall a number of deaths occurred in the north-western part of the city, known as Manayunk; the disease seems to have spread generally throughout the city, and is now met with in all quarters. Nor is it confined to Philadelphia, as cases have reached us from Chicago, and other parts of the West; in fact, it is epidemic prevailing almost throughout the entire North. What is it? Its symptoms are severe but adynamic fever, sharp and continued pain in the head, [especially complained of at the occiput and nape of the neck], great tendency to coma early in the disease, followed often by convulsions or opisthotonos, the head hurrying back in the pillow; sometimes the whole spine arched like a bow, the bowels irregular, great loss of power, particularly in the nervous system, and death rapidly supervening. The tetanic convulsions and other symptoms cause many to regard it as the same disease which some years ago prevailed to a limited extent in the West, and was denominated "epidemic typhus." The profession is by no means a unit relative to its nature. Some think it a blood disease, others cerebro-spinal meningitis, etc. Its vulgar name is derived from the eruption over the whole body of numerous purplish spots, varying in size from that of a small pin's head to several inches in diameter. During its free dissemination at our societies, I have drawn the inference that those are most successful who stimulate early and freely. Too often, time is not allowed for the institution of any treatment. I this connection I might remark, that there appears at present an epidemic influence, predisposing to adynamic affections, and particularly of the nervous system. —Am. Med. Times.

When the patient is in the hospital, the great value of castor oil in the great majority of cases of chronic disease of the intestines. One case, a hospital orderly, who was with me five months after his recovery, had suffered four months with diarrhoea, which had reduced his flesh nearly half," he said. A few doses of castor oil and laudanum relieved him completely, and he experienced no further trouble while under my observation. In the management of these cases in hospital practice, much depends upon the nature of the diet, and I found dysentery and diarrhoea very intractable, but I had one nurse whose patients nearly all recovered. When castor oil was ordered in his ward it was taken; and when an injection was prescribed, it was always administered, no matter how great the reluctance of the patient to submit to an operation which our military soldiers seem to dread more than the loss of blood. The treatment which we found most successful consisted in perfect rest, total abstinence from water, counter-irritant applications to the abdomen, colagogues *pro re nata*, castor oil combined with laudanum. When there was much pain and frequent evacuations, the colagogues were starch, starch emulsion, containing oxide of zinc, and morphia or belladonna, were used. When there was pain in the sigmoid flexure, attended with purulent discharges, we derived great benefit from the use of tr. iodini, dissolved with a small portion of the extract of belladonna, and administered to the seat of disease through a flexible injecting pipe. In this way an officer, attached to the staff of Maj-General Rosecrans, was cured of ulceration of the sigmoid flexure. His military life, however, carried him too soon again into active service, and after a few months of exposure and fatigue the disease returned, and he probably continues to harass his victim, so long as his restless energy continues to interfere with that perfect repose without which all medication is useless. Another officer of the same staff, who came home from the war in Mexico I think, with a chronic dysentery, which resisted all the usual forms of treatment, and was rapidly destroying him. With characteristic decision he at length made up his mind that "the thing must be stopped," so, having purchased a syringe and a quantity of excellent brandy, he shut himself up at home and proceeded to fill his colon with the undiluted liquor every night and morning. At the end of three weeks he was cured, and has been well ever since. This may seem like heroic treatment, but it was certainly endorsed with heroic fortitude, for the pain attending each injection was terrific; "it was like throwing liquid fire into the bowels." —Am. Med. Times.

HOOPING COUGH.

The last new thing for the relief of this ailment, announced in a French journal, is the invention of the *voisin*, which arises from the lime used in the manufacture of the works to prove that the disease has been completely cured by two or three visits. —British Med. Journal.

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