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Bellefonte, Pa., Feb. 2, 1906.

OF THE HUMAN BODY.

Wooden Legs Have Been Found That Probably Date Back to the Pre-Christian Era-The Genius of Pare In the Sixteenth Centery.

Belzoni and others found in an ancient sarcophagus artificial teeth made of sycamore wood. A set of artificial teeth on the bridge work system was also found in an Etruscan skull of about 200 A. D. Plaster restorations of the nose, ears and lips are clearly described in Susruta about 300 B. C. But the earliest representation of an artificial limb is that of a satyr who is depicted with a wooden leg on a Greco-Roman vase in a collection at the Louvre in Paris. In a Greco-Roman mosaic there is also a sportsman represented with a wooden leg. Both of these are probably of the pre-Christian The oldest artificial leg still in exist-

ence was found in a tomb at Capua. Italy, and is now preserved in the mu-seum of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, where it is thus described in the catalogue:

Roman artificial leg. The artificial limb accurately represents the form of the leg. It is made with pieces of thin bronze, fastened by bronze nails to a wooden core. Two iron bars, having holes at their free ends, are attached to the upper extremity of the bronze. A quadrilateral piece of iron found near the portion of the foot is thought to have given strength to it. There is no trace of the foot, and the wooden core had nearly crumbled away. The skeleton had its waist surrounded by a belt of sheet bronze edged with small rivets, probably used to fasten a leather lining. Three painted vases (red figures on a black ground) lay at the feet of the skeleton. The vases belong to a rather advanced period in the decline of art

(about 300 years B. C.). We learn from Herodotus that an Efean captured by Spartans and confined in stocks as a torture preliminary to the infliction of death amputated his own imprisoned foot, escaped and later procured a wooden foot. Pliny records that Sergius, 167 B. C., wore an artificial hand and fought with it. A well authenticated prosthesis was the iron hand made in 1504 for Goetz von Berlichingen, a knight of Nuremberg. It was a clumsy structure, but an ingenious one. By means of buttons and levers it accomplished certain finger movements. Half a century later Ambroise Pare described an iron prosthesis that had been devised for a Huguenot caprain whose arm had been lost in the siege of Fontenoy.

It was at that time-viz, in the sixteenth century, when a "-

Pare-that efforts were made to sup would be more than mere supports. It

s not unreasonable to suppose that Pare's application of the ligature to amputations in place of boiling oil, deand increasing the number of recoveries, had much to do with the interest given to the manufacture of artificial

Pare himself devised an apparatus with a knee joint which, while usually fixed, could be moved by means of a thong running to the hip. Leather and paper and glue were soon employed instead of iron. The prostheses were made by mechanics of all sorts, but a few of them acquired celebrity by their skill, notably Lorrain, a French locksmith whose work was largely directed by the great Pare. Father Sehastian, a Carmelite monk, later produced of sheet tin a clumsy arm which by means of sundry springs was capable of certain articulations. Bailiff, a mechanic, also made movable arms, patterned largely after those of Father Sebastian. It is recorded that the Duke Christian von Braunschweig wore an artificial hand in 1622. Peter Lowe in his "Discourses of the Whole Art of Chirurgery," 1634, shows several forms of artificial legs that were used in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. and many others are found in the works of Ambroise Pare. These legs were made of wood and attached by

In the works of Ambroise Pare there is a chapter dealing with "the means and manner to repair or supply natural or accidental defects or wants in man's body." He describes the use of artificial eyes and also artificial noses. He mentions a method for making an artificial tongue to help those who cannot speak by reason of its loss and also gives a drawing of this instrument and a full description of how it should be fixed in the mouth. He also gives an account of making an artificial palate from a plate of gold or silver, which, he states, should be little bigger than the cavity itself.

Falcinelli, a surgeon of Florence in 1649, mentions the use of "artificial eyes of silver and of gold and of crystal painted in various colors" and also artificial ears made of the same metals. which were painted the color of flesh and fixed by means of strings to the head or sewed into the skin by means of gold or silver wire. Silver noses, etc., were made even earlier than that.

The Dutch surgeon Verdyn (1696) constructed an artificial leg consisting of a wooden foot and a hollow copper cylinder lined with chamois and strengthened with steel splints. There was a hinge joint at the knee. The apparatus was attached to the thigh by means of a broad band.

About the same time (1692) Lamzweerde constructed a leather hand ir which a pen could be held. In 1755 H. Ravaton constructed at

eighteenth century constructed a hand and on the first and second fingers of holding a pen. He also made legs for amputations above and below the knee, modeled on the apparatus of Ravaton. They were fastened to the body by a strap running over the shoulder of the opposite side. Only the knee joint was movable.

Addison, London, made a wooden foot with toe joints as well as ankle joint. Professor J. H. Brunninghausen (1796) constructed an apparatus adaptable to amputations either above or below the knee. The sile joint was fixed, but by means of springs motion was secured both at Chopart's joint and in the toe joints.-Medical News.

THE WILY HERON.

Clever Tricks That Protect the Bird From Its Enemies.

Nature seems to have provided some animals with wonderful mimetic adaptations to protect them from their ene mies. A naturalist cites an example of this. He had fired at a South American heron which was stealing through some rushes, but on coming to the place could see nothing of the bird. He was on the point of turning away when a strange sight met his eyes. This is how

he describes the scene: There stood my heron on a reed no more than eight inches from my knees and on a level with them. The body was erect, and the point of the tail touched the reed grasped by his feet. The long, tapering neck was held stiff, straight and vertical, and the head and beak, instead of being carried obliquely, were also pointing up. From his feet to the tip of his beak there was not a perceptible curve or inequality, but whole was the figure-the exact counterpart-of a straight, tapering rush, the loose plumage being arranged to fill all inequalities. The wings, pressed into the hollow sides, made it impossible to see where the body ended and the neck began or to distinguish head from neck or beak from head. This was a front view, and the entire under surface of the bird was thus displayed, all of a uniform dull yellow. Not a movement did the bird make. I placed my hand on the point of his beak and forced the head down till it touched the back. When I withdrew my hand up flew the head like a steel spring to its first position. I repeated the experiment several times, with the same result, the very eyes of the bird appearing all the time perfectly immovable. But how chanced it that while walk-

ing round the bird through the rushes I had not seen his striped back and broad colored sides? Thinking thus, I stepped round to get a side view, when artificial limb by means of which a cay- of the bird. His motions on the perch

him on my hand, when he flew away to some dry grass fifty or sixty yards which an apparatus was stached for distant. Here he again practiced his mimetic tricks so ably that I groped about for a quarter of an hour before finding him. I was amazed that a creature apparently so frail should be able to keep the body rigid so long.

> Breeches, Pantaloons and Trousers. "Breeches," in the strict meaning of that term, were worn by the semicivilized men of the east long ages before a single page of the New Testament was written, having been quite common among the Medes and Persians, the Phrygians, the Gauls and the Teutons. Breeches were very "brief" articles of apparel, scarcely covering the

forms of stockings reaching from the hips to the ankles and as tight fitting as a pair of knit drawers. They were usually of three different colors-black at the hips, red from hip to knee and blue to the termination at the ankle. They came in vogue during the first half of the fifteenth century at Venice and were worn by the devotees of the patron saint, Pantaloon. Such garments were always called pantalini by

the Italians. "Trousers," the only proper word to express the existing styles in "pants," followed closely after the "knee breeches" of the Revolutionary period, being first worn in England at Oxford and Cambridge in 1812.

Even the lion has to defend himself against flies.-German Proverb.

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