

Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., December 3, 1909.

SLOW DEATH.

Disease Usually Takes a Long Time to Kill, Says a Scientist.

Few indeed are the men and women of full age, say twenty-five, who have not yet contracted the malady that will kill them, according to that distinguished scientist and physician Dr. Felix Regnault. Normally, as coutemporary investigators are beginning to find out, it takes twenty years for a fatal malady to kill a patient. It may take thirty years. The popular impression is that a man may die suddenly or that he may require only a year to die in or six months. To be sure, a man may be killed or a child may die in a few months at the age of one year. But, ordinarily speaking. all deaths are very slow, indeed, and about 95 per cent of civilized adults are now stricken with fatal diseases. They do not know it. They may not suffer from them. In due time they will have their cases diagnosed as cancer or tuberculosis or diabetes, or what not. But so inveterate are current misconceptions of the nature of death that the origin of the fatal maladyin time-will be miscalculated by from ten to thirty years.

In the case of human beings death. barring accident, is nearly always caused by some specific malady. This malady is as likely as not to be cured -what is called cured. The cure, however, no matter how skillful the treatmeut or how slight the disease, has left a weakness behind it in some particular organ of the body. One of the organs is, if not prematurely worn out, at least so worn that its resisting powers are greatly diminished. Ail of us in this way when we have reached a certain age possess an organ that is much older than the rest of the physique. One day we shall die because of this organ. Even if we live to be very old, indeed, we shall not die of old age, but of weakness of the lungs or of the kidneys or of the liver or of the brain.-Current Literature.

A Ten Years' Penance.

It is bappily seldom that the revenge of a disappointed husband takes quite such an extreme form as in the case of the man whose will ran thus: "When I remember that the only happy times I ever enjoyed were when my wife sulked with me, and when I remember that my married life might, for this reason, be considered to have been a fairly happy one because she was nearly always sulking. I am constrained to forget the repulsion the contemplation of her face inspired me with and leave her the sum of £60,000 o: condition that she undertakes to pass two hours a day at my graveside for the ten years following my decease, in company with her sister, whom I have reason to know she loathes worse than out:

she does myself."-London Tit-Bits. "No, no: then I cannot go to her, for 1 love her even more than God!

Didn't Like the Walk.

A north country pitman went with his wife one Saturday night to do a kin.-Lyndon Orr in Munsey's Magalittle shopping. They visited a large zine. drapery establishment, and the obsequious shopwalker, having ascertained their requirements, said to the couple politely, "Will you please walk this way?" But unfortunately he walked very lame.

"No, mistor," said the pitman, "Aa nivvor hev waaked that way, an' Aa'm not gannin' te try!"-London Scraps.

His Generosity.

ratio of the amount of sodium it con-"Yes," said the tired looking woman, tains to that annually contributed by "I have a very generous husband, and this is the way he gets that reputation. The other day I worked and slaved in the kitchen for about ten hours making jelly. It was my first attempt, so I had considerable trouble and burned my fingers about seventeen different times. It turned out pretty good, however, and of course I was proud and delighted. That night I put some on the table for dinner, and husband got enthusiastic.

"Next day he was visiting a sick friend of his, a man, by the way, quite able to buy anything he might want and whose wife never lifts her finger On leaving Mr. Generous Husband says: 'My wife made some pretty good jelly the other day. You might like some. I'll send you up half a dozen jars.'

"Now, wouldn't that frost you or rasp you or whatever they say. Half a dozen jars! After all my work to hand that jelly over to a man whose wife is too lazy to breathe! I made exactly eight jars, so we will have one more unless he has already promised it to somebody else."-New York Press.

the washing from the continents. He thus reached the conclusion that the ocean has been in existence between 80,000.000 and 170,000.000 years. This does not seem a very definite determination, but then in geology estimates of time in years are extremely difficult because of the uncertainty of the elements of the calculation. The most that can be said for such results is that they are probable.

When she died, as she did soon after.

The Ocean's Age.

The ocean, of course, is not as old as

the earth, because it could not be formed until the surface of the globe

had sufficiently cooled to retain water

upon it, but it seems chimerical to try

to measure the age of the sea. Never-

theless Professor Joly undertook the task, basing his estimate upon the

the light of his life went out for Rus

Couldn't Signal It!

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During some tactical operations one of the ships of the squadron had made some bad blunders, and at length the admiral completely lost his temper. He stormed about his quarterdeck and informed his hearers of his opinion of the officer in command of the erring ship. When he paused for want of breath he turned to the signaler and said to him, "And you can tell him

that, sir!" The man scratched his head medi tatively. "I beg pardon, sir," he ven-tured. "but I don't think we have quite enough flags for your message."-Loudon Answers.

Sunshine and Dust.

There is more dust in the places illuminated by the sun's rays than in those which we call shady. If you look along a beam of light as it streams through a window or a chink in the door you will see innumerable dust particles dancing about in the light. You will be told by most persons that there is just as much dust in the nonilluminated parts of the room as in the more favored spaces, but you cannot see the particles because the rays do not fall directly upon them. You will think that this is eminently plausible. but it is not the case. The sun falling upon the air creates irregular currents. and these currents stir up the dust and collect it in layers along the line of light; hence there is more dust where the sun shines than elsewhere. A curious experience in a museum gave proof of this. It was noticed that there was always more dust on the glass cases exposed to the sunbeams than on those which were never touch ed by the rays of the great orb, and this led to an inquiry, with the above

result

Cannibalism. Among regular cannibals the mos varied motives have been found. There are Indians who are said to eat their enemies by way of insult and Australians who consume their deceased parents as a mark of affection. Some tribes devour the dead enemy to abolisb him utterly, others to assimilate his virtues. Africa has revealed cannibalism of every sort, from the most solemn religious rite to the most prosaic gratification of appetite and taste.

Traced a Long Way.

She-How far can your ancestry be traced? He-Well, when my grandfather resigned his position as cashier of a country bank they traced him as far as China, but he got away.-Lonfon Tit-Bits.

The Remedy.

"What do you think of a man with a rip in his coat and only three buttons on his vest?" "He should either get married or di-

vorced."-Boston Transcript.

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