

A PASTEUR AT HOME.

Formula for the Cure of Hydrophobia in the Possession of an Irwin Station Physician.

SECRET OF THE MARCHAND FAMILY

A Wonderful Pill First Made by a Monk in One of the Monasteries of France Over 200 Years Ago,

AND SINCE HANDED DOWN BY WILL.

The Remedy Known Far and Wide in the Early Days of Western Pennsylvania.

(WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.)

A mad dog bites you don't go to Paris. There is a cure for hydrophobia right here at home. The famous Pasteur treatment has a rival, and is just simply a little Westmoreland county pill.

The pill has an interesting story. It was first made over 200 years ago by a monk in one of the monasteries of France, who discovered that a certain substance would prevent rabies. I may as well inform the reader at the outset that I cannot tell him what that substance is. That is a secret. There is only one man now living who knows it, and he is Dr. James Marchand, of Irwin station, on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

BROUGHT TO AMERICA.

The Marchands are a well-known family in Allegheny and Westmoreland counties. They originally came from France, and it was just before they left there that the medicinal secret came into their possession. One of the early Marchands had distinguished himself somewhat as a physician, and to him, in the days of the French Revolution, the monk confided the formula of his hydrophobia preventive. It was requested that the secret remain forever in the Marchand family, descending from father to son, or where there were no sons to the next nearest kin.

Upon coming to America, the Marchands settled in the southeastern part of Pennsylvania. But they crossed the Allegheny Mountains with the first pioneers of Western Pennsylvania, and established themselves in Westmoreland and Fayette counties.

A REMARKABLE FAMILY.

The Sculls, who founded the Pittsburgh Gazette, more than a century ago; the Irwins, after whom Irwin station is named; and the Larimers, for whom Larimer station is called, are all related to the Marchands. Marchand avenue, in the East End, is named after them.

Dr. S. S. Marchand.



Dr. S. S. Marchand.

(From a Photograph Taken During the War.)

named after Dr. John Marchand, father of the present physician at Irwin station. That quartet of families is inseparably connected with the history of Pittsburgh's adjoining county. They still own the finest farms in Westmoreland.

A remarkably large number of professional men came from the Marchand family. One of the first physicians of patients came to Irwin station in the next 20 years. He did not keep a record of his cases, or if he did it is not preserved, and it is not known to what extent the secret was known to his descendants.

HANDING DOWN THE SECRET.

But the secret recipe was willed down for two generations in accordance with the wishes of the French monk. At last the population of the country became so large, and hydrophobia was increasing proportionately, that Dr. Lewis M. Marchand modestly made known the fact that he compounded a pill which would prevent the horrible disease. That was about 1830. Dr. Lewis M. Marchand lived on a farm in Fayette county between Uniontown and Brownsville. His descendants of patients came to his farm in the next 20 years. He did not keep a record of his cases, or if he did it is not preserved, and it is not known to what extent the secret was known to his descendants.

STATE TRIP TO BUY IT.

The State authorities, it is said, finally proposed to Dr. Marchand that they should pay him a sum equaling five cents tax annually on every taxable in Pennsylvania, if he would surrender up the secret. This was refused. Dr. Marchand reminding the State of the bond of honor he was under to carry out the requirements of a will.

When he died the secret was found in his will designed for his son, Dr. Samuel Marchand, of Westmoreland county. That gentleman lived at Jacksonville, or "Jacktown," as it is better known, on the old Pittsburgh and Greensburg Pike, in a half west of Irwin station. It was during his practice of medicine that the hydrophobia specific became best known to the world. One of the requirements which came down with the formula for making the pill was that it was not to be advertised, presumed to be a secret, and not to be used in any part of the State of the Union, save as learned of the hydrophobia pill.

ENTERTAINING HYDROPHOBIA PATIENTS

Up until the war broke out Dr. Samuel Marchand had all that he could attend to in his line. Patients threatened with rabies came to him from as far west as Kansas, and from the South. High McIntyre kept a hotel at Jacktown, within a few

yards of Dr. Marchand's mansion, and there the strangers would be given lodgings. Mr. McIntyre's widow is still living. She keeps a hotel on the site of her husband's place, which is well-known to driving parties from Pittsburgh. I was at her house last week, and she said to me:

"It used to be risky business entertaining for several weeks at a time, people who might start barking at any moment with hydrophobia. It was before the Pennsylvania Railroad was built that Dr. Sam Marchand came into possession of the formula. Persons who came to him from the West for treatment would have to drive here from Pittsburgh on the old pike. Many rode horseback. When the railroad was finished it increased the number of patients."

A GUEST TO BE AFRAID OF.

"I was only afraid of one person, however, who came to stay at our house while he was getting the medicine," continued Mrs. McIntyre. "He was a man who lived somewhere down the Ohio River. It took him five days to reach Pittsburgh by boat."

Illustrated in this issue. It is a staunch old house.

WHERE THE SECRET IS NOW.

Having no children of his own, the secret formula for the hydrophobia remedy was bequeathed by Dr. S. S. to the next nearest Dr. James L. Marchand, of Irwin Station, one of wealthiest and foremost citizens of that pretty little town. He has ever since complied with all requests for the pill. His modest little frame office on Second street is rather hard to find for a stranger, and there is nothing about it to indicate other than a general practitioner's business. The doctor's name and nothing more is inscribed on the door. It is a small, neat, people will readily recognize the picture of the office in these columns.

Dr. James Marchand fully realizes that he was confiding the secret to a man who would prove a veritable gold mine to him if properly advertised. But he refuses to do that, saying that the requirements under which the formula descended to him forbids advertising of any kind. If people hear of it and need it, let them come to him for a pill, but he will go to no pains to make known the remedy.

THEY REFUSE TO ADVERTISE.

Some of the medical profession are envious of the pill and its success. They are free to use all medicines and instruments, no matter how discovered, or the whole profession. The Marchands insist on keeping the secret to themselves. But they refuse themselves from all suspicion of quackery by so steadily refusing to advertise the pill. They charge very little more for it than ordinary medicine. This man was treated for a little more expensive. Dr. James was even told to talk to me about the matter fearing that the effect might be to practically advertise him.

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CHAMK ABOUT IT.

"Some people contended that there was a charm in the middle of the pill. Of course that was a mere superstition. I have seen the inside of the pill, and know that it is solid all the way through. A man came here once and made inquiries but doctors and lawyers, for whom Larimer station is called, are all related to the Marchands. Marchand avenue, in the East End, is named after them.

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LEPROSY IN THE DOMINION.

Health Authorities of Ontario Taking Steps to Stamp it Out.

There is considerable excitement over the discovery that leprosy has made its appearance at several remote parts of the Dominion hitherto uninfected. Heretofore the dread disease was believed to have been confined within the limits of Lazaretto at Toronto. Dr. Smith, the medical officer at Lazaretto, is now watching the cases reported on the Island of Anticosti.

It is believed to have been the result of intermarriage, and has secured a strong foothold, extending to the mainland. It appears that an infected family went from Port Mansfield, Carriquet, to the Island of Anticosti some years ago. Referring to cases in the north of New Brunswick from which this family removed, Dr. Smith in his report says:

"Of late leprosy has been dying out in Transcobe, and in the neighborhood of the northern districts. I made an special tour of investigation and found a growing form of the disease between Carriquet and Shipigan, tracing along with this certain several cases at other settlements which will in turn, if overlooked, become new foci of the disease."

WAYS OUT WEST.

A Little Cowboy Story From the Veteran Actor C. W. Couldock.

C. W. Couldock, the veteran actor, talking one day to a couple of friends of some experience on the road, told this story: A number of people were standing in the bar-room of a hotel when a typical frontier cowboy, in red shirt and sombrero, with dapper boots, entered and insolently demanded a glass of beer. The bartender, a quiet, inoffensive looking fellow, filled the glass and set it before him.

When the War of the Rebellion broke out Dr. Samuel S. Marchand went out to service with Company H, of One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Regiment, which was commanded by Colonel Thomas M. Bayne, of Allegheny City. He was killed at the battle of Fredericksburg. His portrait accompanying this article is taken from a photograph made during the war. His old home-stand at Jacksonville, or Jacktown, is also

Dr. Lewis Marchand, in Fayette county, when he was saved from the dread disease. I never doubted the efficacy of the pill."

DR. S. S. MARCHAND'S DEATH.

Mrs. McIntyre added that often when persons came to Dr. Marchand with an extra bad-looking bite he would treat it with caution in addition to administering the medicine inwardly. There is another superstition connected with this remedy, viz., that it will only cure if you refrain from crossing a stream of water. Of course there is nothing in it, but I have been curious to know if the Pasteur system across the big salty pool of water, or whether it has some connection with the derivation of the word hydrophobia—hydro, water, and phobos, to fear.

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A distinguished politician of the metropolis recently said it was the duty of the young men of this republic to go into politics and purify our political system. As a young man I tried to do a little purifying in a mild way once, and though I didn't make an entire success of it, my experience and observation may be helpful to other young men who will be moved to embark in that line of business.

I was then living in the Second ward of Boston. I remember that a well-known citizen named Gallagher, whose moral character was as beautiful as a fighting bull pup, had been nominated for Alderman by one of the two parties. I really forget which one it was; but I know that the other party whose whom had a record of six more fights in three months than Gallagher's had, I forgot what his other qualifications for office were. It was at this juncture that some of the young men in the ward began to talk about reform. They proposed to nominate a decent man, and had been at work several days trying to find one when I joined the movement.

DECIDED TO SPEAK.

I remarked that they needn't look any further, but they did. This offended me so much that I split off from them temporarily, and hunted up the Second Ward Independent.

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AN EYE-WITNESS' DESCRIPTION.

The Students Made Themselves Heard Though the Speakers Didn't.

SOME OF THE LIVELY INTERRUPTIONS

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