

DIPHTHERIA.
A Sensible and Timely Letter from a Doctor.

This disease is much more prevalent now than people are aware of. But the fact that a great many have it under the name of colds, sore throat, ulcerated sore throat, sympathetic sore throats and other simple names, proves that it need not be fatal or very serious to the unfortunate person who contracts it. It is always more or less dangerous attending it. But the danger is immeasurably less when it is known to be diphtheria and called by that name than when it is yet in the premature stage, when the patient is just infected with it, or is very stupid, going about in a sort of slithering, dazed way, with no appetite and little of any animation. In the season of atmospheric troubles, it is safe always to have the possibility of diphtheria in mind, and to be constantly on the look-out for throat affections, that may not be so fully developed as to be beyond remedial action, but which are even suspected. It is a blood poison, with more or less inflammation of the throat and membranous deposits on tonsils and palate. It is so virulent in its early stages that the patient is usually beyond human help before the first signs are willing to believe anything is the matter, and then too little self-possession is left to aid anybody in behalf of the sick one. A few suggestions, perhaps, will be acceptable in the pulse is regular in its beats, do not mind about counting it too frequently. Even physicians can merely surmise what the number of beats is to the pulse per minute, but a watch in health. There is always danger while it is variable. For several days the fever will be very high, and there is nothing so grateful as ice or water to drink, hot or cold. Bathe the face with the sponge bath, or a full bath of eight or ten minutes, once in two, three or four hours, preferably of pretty warm water; or a warm pack of flannel to the throat, for an hour, repeated once or twice a day. A pack is very soothing, and will often reduce the pulse twenty to thirty beats per minute, and the temperature one or two degrees. Do not use anything in the mouth, or to use as a gargle is also very serviceable. A compress of hot water constantly about the throat is necessary, and a wide compress of hot water from the arm-pits to the neck, often makes a very restless patient into a delightful sleeper. The compresses should always be wrung out very dry, and covered with thick, soft, and dry cloths. These should be changed frequently, and the patient, from time to time, and repeated two or three times a day (twenty-four hours). Never give stimulants. Whatever food is taken should be in liquid form, such as beef tea, rich milk, cream, or Indian meal or oatmeal. I prefer Indian meal gruel made to the taste; while it positively nourishes, it also acts mechanically on the many inflamed crevices of the throat, stretching, oiling (in a certain sense) the inflamed membrane, and descending to give the stomach the impression of a good meal. Food, medicine, and other necessary attentions should be given regularly, promptly, and with a spirit to impart to the patient, and obedience of the patient. Strict attention should be given to the suggestions of the adviser in the case. The patient should be watched closely night and day, and a nurse or attendant should be sought for a serious case always develops, that no in-laborations be committed by nurse or patient! Months are often required to recover from diphtheria, or paralysis, and affections of the kidneys. The throat and nose (if the latter is affected) should frequently be cleaned with a swab or douche; no secretion should be allowed to remain long enough to corrupt and become an additional irritant. I mention this last as a most important thing in diphtheria, because so few realize the necessity of cleaning the throat, and nose to do it.

The suggestion given in this way must be incomplete so far as medicine is concerned, but I presume to say that if one-half the cases that die had had no further treatment than that given in this article, the patients would have been saved to life and their friends—*Older'Brien, M. D., in the Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

Words of Wisdom.
The future of society is in the hands of the mothers.
A full stomach is apt to be deaf to instruction.
A fruit-bearing tree bends; all the virtues are lowly.

Love, faith, patience—these are the three essentials to a happy life.
Life is a long shipwreck of which the debris is friendship, glory and love.
Anger is blood, poured and perplexed into a froth; but malice is the wisdom of our wrath.
We measure minds by their stature; it would be better to esteem them by their beauty.
The elephant is never won by anger; no man that man would reclaim a lion take him by the teeth.
The intellect has only one failing, which, to be sure, is a very considerable one. It has no conscience. Napoleon is the readiest instance of this.
True dignity abides with him alone who, in the silent hour of inward thought, can still suspect, and still revere himself in lowliness of heart.
Though the word and the spirit do the main work, yet suffering so unbosoms the door of the heart that both the word and the spirit have easier entrance.
Lover, daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmothers; in those six words lies what the human race would most treasure, the most ecstatic, the most sacred, the purest and the most ineffable.

Danger from Stoves.
Careless handling of coal stoves has proved fatal in a great many cases, the escaping gas carrying its deadly poison to inmates of houses. A paper which appears to have given the matter considerable research presents the following valuable information: Some people through ignorance of the principles upon which stoves are constructed, and equal ignorance of the process of combustion, live in an atmosphere impregnated with coal gas. They become so accustomed to it that the peculiar smell of the gas does not attract attention. Ignorant, these people are also saving, and endeavor to keep a smoldering fire in order to save coal. So with draughts closed, the coal is not burned, causing it to live in its coals, which are not readily burned and are not carried off by the usual chimney. The only safety is in a fairly glowing fire and provisions for such draught as will carry off the gas, or such a fire as will consume them. But few furnaces have ever been constructed that do not throw into living rooms quantities of coal gas whenever the fire is stirred, or does not burn brightly. People who burn coal may save money by keeping a smoldering fire in a cheap and badly constructed stove, with improper draught, but they shorten life at the same time and run the risk of sudden death from suffocation. Those who use coal stoves should keep the draught free and never employ dampers in the pipe that shut off the current. A damper that shuts off the current almost entirely is death.

A Little One's Sleigh Ride.
"Oh, mamma! Is it snowing?"
"Yes, darling; it has just begun."
"Isn't it nice, mamma; you know I wanted to live to hear the sleigh bells again?"
"Hush, my child; mamma will not let you die. No, darling, you shall have many sleigh rides yet before you die."
"No, no, mamma; if I could have just one, it would be so nice!"
It was last Tuesday, and a little girl who had seen the snow come and go nine times, lay dying in her humble home on St. Antoine street. Weeks and weeks the fever had burned within her and its fierce fire showed itself in the deep blue eyes and the lively, innocent face. The mother, an ever-constant watcher at the sufferer's pillow, had never given up hope, but the child, with that knowledge which seems to come to all before death, knew that she would never join her merry playmates over on the school ground. Day by day as the fever burned she had wished for the snow to come, and when it came she took the other day the loving mother changed the child's position that she might, unwarned, catch the first glimpse of the fleecy snow. The child gazed out into the hurried air, and she took the other day the loving mother changed the child's position that she might, unwarned, catch the first glimpse of the fleecy snow. The child gazed out into the hurried air, and she took the other day the loving mother changed the child's position that she might, unwarned, catch the first glimpse of the fleecy snow.

FOR THE FAIR SEX.
Fashion Notes.
Changeable plushes are used for bonnets and strings.
Wide velvet collars, bordered with fur, are very stylishly worn.
Push and brocade coats are very stylish, and are worn with skirts of any material.
Ladies now embroider deep flounces of black satin or cashmere for their petticoats.
Shirred waists are very much worn by quite young girls.
Buttons of pearl, opal or Rhine pebble are used for fastenings for gloves.
High standing ruffles and fringes for the neck are more in vogue than ever.
A new fringe of chenille is called saskin fringe, from its resemblance to that fur.
Large bouquets of flowers are now placed in the center of the bodice, about the sixth button from the top.
As dresses of old style are so fashionable, the hair will be elaborately dressed and powdered, after the ancient regime.
Plaque buttons of pearl with grapes and leaves, cherries, currants and blackberries of enamel are among the new buttons.
Jackets with short fronts which enable gentlemen to dress in the morning over very full skirts, absolutely without drapery.
Broad velvet sashes are worn, tied at the left side in a careless knot. They are gaily lined and finished on the ends by shirring and tassels.

How an Actress Dresses.
The New York fashion correspondent of the Cincinnati Enquirer writes that, on entering the dressing room of an actress friend at a theater, she saw spread out on an elaborate dress of the actress, which she had just changed for the evening. The dress was of old style, and was fastened with all the buttons and other ornaments were already fastened in place, and the garment was open in front from neck to hem, though so contrived that the junction would not be visible from the street. The actress said she would avoid delay, and how the actress made a complete change of costume in less than five minutes is described as follows:
First, she picked up a pair of slippers and began to slip them on. At the same time her maid unhooked her dress from top to bottom with quick deft fingers, and stripped off the whole garment in a twinkling. She seated herself and extended her legs, and her maid began to slip on the shoes and stockings. The latter being stripped down over the feet in a jiffy, discolored silk hose, so that the fresh pair were already on. By the time the slippers were on, the actress had got the last button of her gloves into its buttonhole. A minute and a half had elapsed. Then the maid took off several puffs and a bow from her mistress's hair, and the actress, the previous act having been simple dressed, and put on a more elaborate blonde wig, fastening it in place with hairpins. Next, the actress stood up, and the maid swiftly but lightly pressed that had lain on the chair. Ever and anon, she admirably in place, plentiful looks, and eyes holding all together. Standing before a full length mirror she finally surveyed her reflection, at just three minutes and a half from the time a minute more was employed in putting additional rouge and powder on the face, and then she was ready to go on the stage.

Our Southern Italy.
While we are waiting to see rail way communication opened with the regions of New Spain which Dr. Oswald truly celebrates as "the earthly Paradise," Florida does this duty very creditably, too; for though the "antique charm" of St. Augustine is more in the imagination of a visitor than in the quality of the Augustinian architecture, the climate of the peninsula is delectable, and thousands of invalids, tourists and families of wealth from the North bear witness yearly to its charms. Ferdinand tempts the traveler with its inland road leading to a twenty-mile seaside drive; St. Augustine with its beach terrace half a century before Plymouth Rock, and its Minorean and Majorcan culinary traditions in the market, and all sorts of "sea fruit"; Plankta with its fruit and flower gardens; Tampa with its semi-tropical and dreamy quiet. In 1850, thanks to railway improvements, the journey southward, once a geographical process, has not only lost most of its terrors but become itself a pleasure. The rapid transition in comfortable cars from the snows and aops and chills of the North through zones of mellowing temperature to the positive satisfactions of its own, and as the country ripens and grows richer yearly, the day is not far off, perhaps, when it will be the correct resort for every man of moderate resources. In New York, to talk about their Florida cottages as people now speak of their summer homes at Nahant, Newport, Long Branch or Atlantic City.

Ostrich Feathers.
The war in South Africa between the Basutos and the English is likely to diminish very materially the stock of ostrich feathers of the world. Exactly over the ground where the ostrich once stalked the unbred Basuto now holds his rifle and his spear. But what is curious about this strife, and its consequences, as far as feathers go, is that the Basuto country was the region from whence the larger portion of the ostrich eggs were obtained. Ostrich farmers, further, bought these eggs, hatched out the birds in more civilized region, and raised them for their plumage. The strangest thing, however, is that the Anglo-Basuto difficulty affects the New York market. As New York makes the most approved ostrich egg incubator, the demand was large and increasing, because ostrich chicks refused to come into this world unless hatched in a New York patent incubator. Now that actual war exists no more incubators are wanted at the Cape, for there are no eggs coming to the ostrich raisers.

What a Pig Picked Up.
A pig belonging to a colored man living in Pike county, opposite Sparrows-bush, met with a singular adventure. The young rooster was doing some nasal plowing in a swampy part of a field, and came across a huge snapping turtle which was sleeping quietly on a log. Piggy didn't know a turtle from a pig-kettle, and he promptly put his nose under one side of the turtle's shell and turned him over on his back. The turtle was naturally indignant, and as the pig's nose came near his eyes, he fastened on it and settled down to business. The pig was frightened nearly to death and tried to run away, but as the turtle was nearly as heavy as the pig, the pig could not get away. The pig squealing of the pig finally brought help, and the turtle was captured, and found to weigh twenty-eight pounds. That pig cannot be driven toward the sea, for he will not let the turtle go.—*Port Jervis (N. Y.) Union.*

Drawing-room episode. A fabled duchess, to amateur tennis, who has been warbling M. Gounod's last charmingly charming! You must request somebody to introduce you to me!—*Punch.*
John Bull will continue to send for American beef until he finds himself confronted with a hunk of the hind leg of a Tennessee steer. Then diplomatic relations between the two nations will cease.—*Atlanta Constitution.*
A tall story.—The latter.
During the last postal year, 3,353,651 letters and packages went to the United States and letter office. Nine thousand had no address and 360,000 had the wrong address. In the money letters were found \$1,600,000.

Boatmen kept at each of the three bridges at Rome, to rescue persons attempting suicide, and occasionally some vigilant taxpayer fires himself into the stream just to make the lazy fellows earn their wages.—Boston Post.
The Worcester Gazette says: "Ashes and sand are almost as good as flour." This statement doesn't seem so absurd when you understand that it is referring to putting out a fire by throwing these articles upon it.
Mrs. Mary F. S. Hopkins is the wealthiest woman in California. She is worth \$35,300,972.

In a Bear's Clutches.
Jerry Greening, a noted hunter of Pike county, Pa., started out on a grand bear-hunt, taking provisions for a two days' stay. The first day out he killed a fine four-pronged buck, which he dressed and hung up in a tree out of reach of wild animals. He built a fire a short distance from where he had hung the buck, and after eating a hearty supper rolled himself up in his blanket with his feet to the fire, and was soon asleep. In the middle of the night he was awakened by a loud noise, and turning over noiselessly on his side he discovered a large bear trying to pull the buck out of the tree. Jerry grabbed his rifle, and after taking careful aim, fired. The bear gave a loud growl, and galloped off in the underbrush. In the morning Jerry saw blood-stains on the ground, and following the tracks some distance, he came to the entrance to a cave in some rocks. In front of this cave was a large pool of blood, and the hunter was convinced that his game was within. He procured his pine-knot, out of which he made a torch, and after the manner of Israel Putnam, entered the cave. The entrance was small, and he was obliged to creep in on his hands and knees; but as he advanced the opening widened, and following the tracks some distance, he came to the entrance to a cave in some rocks. In front of this cave was a large pool of blood, and the hunter was convinced that his game was within. He procured his pine-knot, out of which he made a torch, and after the manner of Israel Putnam, entered the cave. The entrance was small, and he was obliged to creep in on his hands and knees; but as he advanced the opening widened, and following the tracks some distance, he came to the entrance to a cave in some rocks. In front of this cave was a large pool of blood, and the hunter was convinced that his game was within. He procured his pine-knot, out of which he made a torch, and after the manner of Israel Putnam, entered the cave. 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