

The Curse of Mankind!

The most horrible disease to which human family is subject is contagious blood poison. It has always been the doctors, for notwithstanding progress made in some branches of medicine, they have failed absolutely to give a cure for it. Whether in the form of powder, pill or liquid, the doctor's prescription is always the same—mercury.

Otto H. Elbert, who resides at the corner of 22d Street, and Avenue N., Texas, had a severe experience with this dreadful disease, and on April 5th, 1896, writes:

Several years ago I was so unfortunate to contract contagious blood poison, and was under treatment of the physicians continuously for four years. As soon as I discovered that I had the disease, I hastened to place myself in the care of one of the foremost physicians in my State, and took his treatment faithfully for several months. It was a very short time after he pronounced me well, that the disease broke fresh, and I was in a far worse condition than at first. Large lumps formed



MR. OTTO H. ELBERT.

My neck, my throat was filled with and a horrible ulcer broke out on my face. After being treated again with mercury, I became disgusted and refused to take any more. I was again given special treatment of mercury, and enough to kill an ordinary man. My nose was pronounced cured half a dozen times, the disease returning each time, until my physician finally admitted that he could do me no good. I was sure that no one was ever worse than I—my hair had fallen by the handful, my feet were so swollen that I could scarcely walk, and in a sad plight.

I had seen S. S. S. advertised as a cure for this disease, and determined to try it before I had taken one bottle much better. I continued to take S. S. S. and a dozen bottles cured me completely, so that for five years I had no sign of the terrible disease. S. S. S. is the greatest blood remedy of our age, and is truly a God-send to those who suffer with contagious blood poison.

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The Modern Spinster.

The spinster of the past was depicted as thin and scraggy, sour of temper and disgruntled with the world. Heaven knows she had just cause to be. She was foredoomed to live with some relative, no matter how uncongenial, because she was supposed to have perpetual need of a protector, though her age and ugliness might have been a sufficient chaperon anywhere on earth. She was expected to have no opinions or tastes, to prefer to ride backward and eat the drumsticks of the chicken and to have an insatiable passion for teaching children the catechism. That was under the happiest conditions. When the old maid was poor and dependent, then, indeed, her bread was bitter, and her drink was tears.

Happily modern progress has changed this. The old maid is no longer scrawny and sour. She has discarded the meek and self-abnegating black alpaca for frills and froivols. She has a thousand interests. She teaches, she typewrites, she paints, she does a hundred things that are money earning. She travels where she pleases and sees the sunny side of life, and the last thing she dreams of needing is the sympathy of preachers and laymen.—Philadelphia Times.

Mothers in France.

If French law is liberal in most matters that concern the married woman from the wife's point of view, it allows a mother rights which are not enjoyed by those of other nations whose legal position is for the rest so superior. She has a voice in that thoroughly French institution, the conseil de famille, and a spendthrift's liberty of action may be restrained by maternal intervention alone when backed by a decree of the courts. It is no very uncommon occurrence for a man who has long passed his majority to be deprived of the free use of his fortune in this way. In some instances he is himself a party to the transaction, being thoroughly convinced of his own inability to withstand temptation. More frequently, of course, he makes a struggle to preserve his freedom, but judges are rather prone to side with the parents. A case of the kind has lately come before the courts.

The Comte A. de Montesquieu, who is said to have gambled away a large sum in a few months, has, at the instigation of his mother, the countess, been placed under a trustee, so that henceforth it will not be in his power to impoverish himself in this or in any other way.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Miss Gentry's Gourds.

Miss Susie Gentry of Franklin will have a gourd exhibit in the Woman's building at the Tennessee centennial. She has discovered many uses to which the gourd was put in primitive days. Gourds can be used as receptacles for lard, sugar, dried fruit, preserves, salt, soap, powder, shot, etc. As many as 50 dozen eggs have been packed in an "egg gourd." There are four varieties of nest egg gourds—goose, duck, turkey and hen eggs—all true to nature in shape and size. Gourds have been used as dippers, strainers, funnels, martin boxes, squirrel cages, life preservers, banjos, dishes, spinners and baby rattles. Among ornamental uses are vases, table decorations, toilet receptacles, purses and curiosities in the shape of a snake gourd and wine bottle.

Furs.

It is hardly time to think seriously about furs, but a few hints in advance will do no harm. There is no doubt that chinchilla will be one of the fashionable furs. It is handsome, it is becoming, it is expensive. Plush and velvet capes will be very much trimmed with this fur, and small pieces for the neck in chinchilla look soft and dainty against a clear complexion, be it fair or dark. Some of the new fur peltries are made very short and fall on the shoulders, the fur ruffle and standing collar being attached to a rounded yoke of deep moss green, golden brown or dahlia colored velvet. Other small capes have still narrower inlaid yokes of jet, bronze or Persian band or silk arabesque passementerie.—New York Post.

In Hazard of Need.

It is less hazardous to buy a silk frock for dressy wear now than to indulge in a cloth one for general use.

Silken gowns reflect more than do promenaded toilets the individuality of the wearer. The street dress should illustrate the exact mode of the hour. If, in spite of advice to the contrary, a reader must secure her fall cloth dress at once, let it be of black, smooth cloth or small, rough checking, in whatever quiet colors she fancies. The jacket ought to be short, but not so full about the hips as last year, and the front may be loose or single breasted, with military braiding, and coat sleeves.

The Bicycle Hand.

Women who ride the wheel to excess are complaining of a numbness in the fingers, and in some circles the annoyance has been so widespread that it is known as the "bicycle hand." The causes are rough roads, fast riding, inflating front tire too high, putting the handle bar too low, so that too much weight is thrown upon them, scorching down hills and taking a mad grip of the handles. The remedies are relaxing the front tire, raising handle bars, riding more slowly and less, and holding the handle properly.—New York World.

A Courageous Queen.

The queen of Denmark has just celebrated her seventy-ninth birthday. She has shown plenty of courage in her time. The withered hand that she bears was due to a mauling it received in youthful days from a tame tiger which attacked her in play. Though she was seriously hurt, she realized the importance of not showing fear and drew the animal with her to a place where she could call on the palace guards to shoot it.

The Indian Sign Language.

In describing an object the Indian has the wonderful faculty of picking out its most distinguishing characteristic at once. I have repeatedly seen Indians come into a military post to see officers. Without knowing the particular officer's name and without being able to pronounce it intelligibly if it were known, I have never seen an instance where, by a few signs, the Indian has not been at once directed to the person whom he wished to see. A stout officer will be described beyond the possibility of any doubt when the Indian half circles his extended hand over the region of his stomach. If the officer wears glasses, the Indian will look through the two circles made by his thumb and first fingers. If the officer is bald, the Indian will raise his own long tresses in one hand and draw the forehead of his other hand across the top of his head as though he were going through the pleasant operation of lifting a scalp. An officer who varied the monotony of frontier life by very steady and hard drinking I once saw an Indian describe by pointing to the head and then waving his hand in small circles. There was no mistaking that sign—the Indian wanted the officer whose brain was in a whirl. And although utterly devoid of a sense of humor an Indian is always laughingly good natured in thus pointing out any one's distinguishing characteristic or eccentricity.

The expression of words by means of the sign language may be divided into the following classes: Imitating actions or attributes, pointing to objects, representing shapes, sizes, uses or habits, simulating emotions, employing metaphors consistent with Indian conception and making empirical signs. If the development of signs of this last class could be traced back, I am sure they would resolve themselves into some one of the other classes.—Chautauquan.

The First British Yacht.

Captain C. W. McKay, son of the celebrated shipbuilder, Donald McKay, and himself a designer and builder of many swift fore and aft vessels, has rediscovered the original British yacht. He says:

"Phineas Pett, who invented the frigate, as is recorded on his tomb, also built the first yacht, as we now understand the term. When a young man, Pett made a voyage to the Levant. He was two years knocking about the Mediterranean and adjoining seas, during which time he industriously studied the war craft built by the Genoese and Venetians, who at that time were the greatest and most skillful shipbuilders in the world. On his return to England he was made assistant master shipwright at Chatham, and in 1603 he was commissioned to build a yacht for the young Prince of Wales, Henry, to disport himself in about London bridge. This little vessel was carved, gilded and painted to the highest degree. She was 28 feet long and 12 feet wide. The prince christened her the Disdain, and Pett was made captain."

A Look at the Queen.

I heard a din of cheering and hand clapping, and the Horse guards came dashing along, behind them an open barouche drawn by four horses, and behind that more Horse guards. I had a very good look at the queen, for the carriage slowed up a little just before entering Marlborough House gate. She looked exactly like her pictures. I never saw a face with less expression, but I suppose that is because she is a queen. It would be impossible for her to look anything but impressive, for no one could keep up an unlimited expression through a 60 years' reign. Want of expression seems to me to be as much a part of royalty as ermine and red coaches. To be sure, I have never seen royalties in their off moments, but when on dress parade they look stolid enough. I have seen the Prince of Wales dozens of times, and I never saw him change his expression. I once saw the princess smile, but that was when she passed a friend in Hyde park. Let the crowd cheer its loudest, the royal family looks neither to the right nor to the left.—London Letter.

To Stop a Balloon.

So many terrible disasters to aeronauts have from time to time been recorded that it is pleasant to learn that in the near future ballooning may be as safe as any other form of locomotion.

An Italian aeronaut named Capazza has invented two balloon attachments, which are said to have fully realized the expectations formed of them. The one is an enormous parachute stretched over the balloon and the other a folded inverted parachute hanging under the basket.

If the aeronaut finds his balloon is rising too fast, he opens the folded parachute, which immediately acts as a huge airbrake and effectually retards progress. On the other hand, should the air vessel explode through expansion, fire or any other cause, the top parachute comes into action, and a descent may be made without the slightest inconvenience.—Strand Magazine.

In View of Matrimony.

Some one has suggested that the divorce courts would have less to do in this country if we were to adopt the simple customs in vogue in South Africa. The savage tribes have a peculiar ceremony which they put the matrimonial candidate through previous to his entering the holy state. His hands are tied up in a bag containing fire ants for two hours. If he bears unmoved the torture of their stings, he is considered qualified to cope with the nagging and daily jar and fret of married life. Such a man would make an admirable husband. "He would not be upset by the thoughts of a spring bonnet or grow irritable every time the steak was overdone. The idea of having a patience trial for those about to marry is one that civilized people might adopt. But alas for the rarity of June weddings in that day!—Good Housekeeping.

Marvelous Results.

From a letter written by Rev. J. Gundersman, of Dinondale, Mich., we are permitted to make the following extract: "I have no hesitation in recommending Dr. King's New Discovery, as the results were almost marvelous in the case of my wife. While I was pastor of the Baptist Church at Rives Junction she was brought down with pneumonia succeding La Grippe. Terrible paroxysms of coughing would last hours with little interruption and it seemed as if she could not survive them. A friend recommended Dr. King's New Discovery; it was quick in its work and highly satisfactory in results." Trial bottles free at Graybill, Garman's & Co.'s Store. Regular size 50c. and \$1.00.

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