

ALIVE IN THE GRAVE.

THE CHANCES FOR SUCH A FATE ARE EXTREMELY REMOTE.

In Times of Plague and Pestilence the Greatest Danger of Premature Burial Exists—The Death Test That is Applied in Vienna.

Most of us have a lingering love of life, and the thought that there is just the barest possibility of being buried alive sends a shudder through us.

Medical men know that the human body in time of illness and at other times, too, is liable to assume all the outward appearances of death without the final separation having actually taken place. There are the coma, cataleptic and other forms of the unconscious state, each one bringing in its trend the very simulation of death itself.

"Happily, a medical man nowadays," said a physician to a reporter, "experiences no difficulty in declaring his patient to be dead, as a general rule, but it may perhaps happen once in his lifetime that he may have a doubt, in which case conviction either way follows upon his findings, which are simple and conclusive, and in which he cannot be mistaken.

"It is unfortunately true that there are thousands of nervous people now walking about in fear of being buried alive, this morbid conviction coming about through reading of an isolated case happening here and there, where perhaps some one has had a narrow escape of being subjected to a living burial.

"These 'escapes' greatly outnumber those of the actual occurrence itself. The cataleptic usually show signs of life just in the nick of time to disappoint the undertakers and to relieve sorrowing friends.

"Of course, much of the evidence on which the allegation of premature burial is based depends on the fact that bodies on exhumation have been occasionally found distorted, thereby fostering the notion that this or that occupant of the coffin has died from suffocation, a theory which is supported by the favorable condition of other exhumed bodies.

"But the idea is altogether wrong, in fact and in principle. It is well known among those who have made it a study that the apparent distortions, instead of demonstrating a living burial, partly depend upon natural causes brought about by decomposition, the influence of which is sufficiently strong enough to bulge out, and even burst, leaden coffins. This phenomenon does not happen in every case, but it does in a great many.

"No, no! I shall not go so far as to say that a premature burial has never taken place, but it has not occurred so often as is thought. I dare say it may occur in times of plagues and pestilences, where the presumed dead are buried within a few hours of death. That is where much mischief lies. But when panic prevails where does thought come in?

"In plagues, such as cholera, the state of collapse is so profound that it may perfectly simulate death itself, but the custom of burying the dead on the day of death is fortunately on the wane, even during advanced epidemics. It is probable that in the absence of medical aid in panic times in country places abroad it has led to living burial—indeed it must have done. But the last end of all under such conditions is merciful, for it must not be forgotten that if you are 'unconscious' only while being hermetically sealed in your coffin you will never again experience voluntary motion or sensation.

"However, where the doctor can be consulted, living burial is impossible even in a cholera panic, for there are certain bodily movements which generally occur after death from cholera, in the absence of which a medical man would hesitate to certify for burial.

"In ages gone by and in uncivilized countries still it is possible that unconscious cataleptics, or persons drugged to apparent death, may have been and perhaps still are occasionally buried alive, but I do not believe that in our own country or in any civilized land such events are possible.

"In Vienna the custom prevails of taking a body to the mortuary on the eve of burial, where it is 'tested.' Thumbles are placed on the fingers of the dead, to which are attached wires connected with the mortuary bells.

"Have the bells ever rung? Yes, once. "It is impossible for a doctor to mistake unconsciousness in its varied forms for death.

"Some time ago it was suggested that a law should be passed making it compulsory for a medical man to test bodies before giving a certificate of death. Testing by electricity was thought of, but it is an open question yet whether electricity kills or only stuns. At all events, we in this country are not convinced that such a test would be satisfactory or afford sufficient evidence of death, although it has its value. On the other hand, I don't think legislation of this kind is necessary. It would certainly reflect upon the medical profession.

"The Viennese custom is a wise one, and I should like to see it more generally adopted."—Pearson's Weekly.

The Poor Editor.

Bill—Did you read about that fellow writing a poem on a \$50 bill?
Jill—No. The editor kept it, of course.

"No. He returned it."
"What, an editor return a \$50 bill?"
"Yes. He didn't know what it was."
—Yonkers Statesman.

One of the tallest stacks in Great Britain is situated at Llanelli. From the base of the foundation to the extreme summit is 400 feet high. The top of the top weighs 27 tons, and 790,000 bricks were used in its construction. It is circular in form, and in a gale bends extremely.

The Magic of a Word.

A party of gentlemen but recently returned from a metropolitan city tell a new story on the leisurely bellboy. They were stopping at a big hotel, and on the first evening of their visit were seized with a mighty thirst, but which they believed plain ice water would assuage. One of them stepped to the bell-push. It was one of those new fangled types built on the principle of a dollar typewriter. You turn the hand around the dial till it points to what you want, then you press the button, and the business office is supposed to do the rest. The instrument was caused to register ice water a number of times in the regions below, but there was no response. The thirst kept on increasing and the gentlemen got hot in the collar. One of them spoke of going down and challenging the clerk and the bellboys to a boxing match.

"No, don't do that," remarked one of the gentlemen. "Just watch me—I'll bet I'll get 'em."

He pranced over to the bell, yanked the crank around to "champagne" and let it drive. In an incredibly short time there was a knock at the door, and the boy stuck his head in.

"Champagne, gentlemen?"
"No, just bring us some plain, everyday, common water with ice in it. We rang for champagne just to catch you napping. Now get a move on you."
—Galveston News.

Shore Cargoes Shifted.

"Once in awhile we read," said Mr. Bozelle, "that the ship So-and-so or the steamer So-and-so has returned to port, or has arrived perhaps with a decided list; cargo shifted." Sometimes we see a land craft, a truck, with cargo shifted—a big pile of boxes, towering high, shaken over to one side or the other by continued jolting along on the side of the street on the slope.

"A load thus shifted can't be shaken back by running along on the opposite slope of the road. It is like a stick of wood that has been bent and kept bent till the grain is set. Whatever you do with it the crook stays in.

"If care is exercised in turning corners and in navigating generally, the shifted load can usually be carried to its destination as it is without upsetting, though it may work harder. The experienced truckman knows just what can be done with it, and whether it has shifted as far as it will go, and all that. If it is so badly shifted as to make the operation of the truck difficult or dangerous, he hauls to one side by the curb and anchors—that is to say, he halts and unloads the shifted top courses of his cargo and then reloads and makes everything trim and secure and sets out again."—New York Sun.

Practical, but Cold Blooded.

I have a friend here in town, a young business woman, whose common sense is enough to make one's blood run cold at times. I went to see her new flat a few days ago, and I was delighted with a cushioned divan in one corner of her sitting room. It was, as many divans that belong to young business women are, a box with a hinged lid, but as it had handles on it and was bound with iron bands and was also together so much stronger and more desirable than divan boxes usually are. I asked her where she bought it.

"I didn't buy it," said she. "It was given to me. You know the woman where I boarded last year came into a lot of money through the death of her grandfather. The old gentleman died in Florida, and the remains were sent here. They were in a mahogany coffin, and the coffin—well"—and she kicked the divan with her heels—"the coffin was in this. I didn't see any reason for letting the box go to waste, and it makes a lovely couch. Don't you think so?"

And of course it does, but then—after all, it's well to be practical like that.—Washington Post.

Little Marble Imported Now.

The importation of marble to the United States has almost ceased. It is only now and then that a cargo arrives at this port, while a few years ago a fleet of sailing vessels brought many cargoes annually from the famous Carrara quarries in Italy to Philadelphia. Marble buildings seem to be becoming things of the past, and the tombstone makers find little demand for marble tombs, slabs or monuments. Granite has taken the place of marble everywhere, even in the cemeteries, where marble shafts and slabs were formerly the only proper things. Granite, unlike marble, does not require very frequent cleaning and looks well without being touched up for years. It also admits of a high polish and does not show the marks of rust by contact with metal, as marble does.—Philadelphia Record.

At the School Picnic.

Lady Helper (to small boy)—Will you have some more bread and butter?
Small Boy—No fear when there's a kike about.
Lady Helper (trying to be kind)—Cake? Certainly! Will you have plum or seed?
Small Boy—Plum, in course. D'ye tike me for a canary?—London Punch.

Fride.

"No, George, don't ask me. I can't go down the fire escape with all those people looking."
"You must. You'll be burned to death if you stay here."
"I can't help it, George. I wouldn't go down that ladder for all the world. These shoes I have on are two sizes too big for me."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

An Economical Man.

Doctor—I left you a dozen pills and told you to take one every two hours, and yet there are 11 left. You didn't obey my orders.
Patient—Yes, I did, doctor. I took the same pill every time. There wasn't any use in wasting a new pill as long as I couldn't swallow the first one.—Vim.

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H. D. CLARK,
Manager.

COMMISSIONERS' - SALE

Seated and Unseated Lands.

In pursuance of an Act of Assembly, the Commissioners will offer for sale, at their office in Brookville, Jefferson county, Pa., on

Thursday, September 15, 1898.

At 10 o'clock A. M., the following tracts of Seated and Unseated Lands, purchased by the County Commissioners at Treasurer's Sale of 1898:

SEATED LANDS.

Year.	Names of Owners.	H. & L. or Acres	Locality.	Tax and Costs.
1893	Jackson Cook	12	Barnett township	\$ 3.39
1893	H. Simpson	13	" "	4.01
1893	S. A. Woods	12	Big Run borough	6.95
1892	Samuel O. Culver	12	Brookville borough	4.39
'93, '95	S. S. Gathers	12	Clayville borough	4.07
1893	Harrison Evans	12	" "	3.72
1893	Thomas Matyon	12	" "	4.07
1893	John Williams	12	" "	3.48
'92, '93	James Miller	15	Eldred township	3.72
'92, '93, '95	Francis Johnson	15	McClintock township	10.45
1893	Charles Anderson	1	" "	3.41
'92, '94	Charles Anderson	1	" "	3.61
'93, '94, '95	Charles Anderson	1	" "	3.61
'92, '93, '94, '95	Thomas Train	2	" "	11.35
'92, '93, '94, '95	A. W. Corbett, min.	10	Pinecreek township	7.63
'92, '93, '94, '95	John H. Hinderliter	10	Reynoldsville borough	8.76
1893	James Miller	10	Ringgold township	3.40
'92, '93, '95	B. M. Marlin	35	Rose township	4.39
'93, '94, '95	Geo. M. McDonald	1	" "	3.72
1892	S. M. McDonald	1	" "	4.79
1892	W. C. Adams	1	" "	3.17
'92, '93	W. J. Marlin	15	" "	4.55
'92, '93	J. W. Miller	2	" "	3.83
1892	Berbert Moore	1	Warsaw township	11.73
1893	James Humphrey	1	" "	3.00
1893	Joshua Long, Est.	1	" "	3.51
'93, '94, '95	Dr. T. J. Bennett	1	Washington township	3.72
'92, '93	Wm. Fidler	1	" "	9.03
1892	Frank Kofsky	1	" "	12.39
'92, '93, '94	James Wilson, min.	40	Winslow township	3.96
1893	Jacob Leidwanger	1	" "	4.64
'92, '93, '94, '95	Gordon & White	70	" "	43.26
'92, '93, '94, '95	Harvey Hohr	106	" "	62.97
'93, '94	Wm. Fidler	1	" "	3.46
'93, '94	John J. McCright, min.	117	" "	36.33
'92, '93, '94, '95	J. L. Spyer	14	" "	2.94
'92, '93, '94, '95	Francis Smith	10	" "	7.94
'92, '93, '94, '95	Samuel Yohe, Est., min.	145	Young township	40.48
'92, '93, '94	E. Welsch, min. surface	254	" "	71.97
'92, '93	Reuben Morley	2 Lots	" "	6.00
1892	Henry Millron	H & L	" "	4.48

UNSEATED LANDS.

1894, 1895	A. Cox	30	Barnett township	\$ 8.37
1895	D. F. Stebbins	13	Gaskill township	10.72
1895	" "	9	" "	6.39
1894	Jacob Minter	30	Knox township	9.82
1894, 1895	Anderson & Yonkey	4	" "	2.82
1894	E. B. & A. Rantz	22	" "	7.57
1895	E. Welsch, timber	100	Pinecreek township	44.50
1894, 1895	Thos. Paisley, Philip st.	Lot No 21	Reynoldsville borough	3.18
1894	Annie R. Test, Jackson st.	44, 45, 46, 52-41	" "	13.62
1894	Mrs. Kates D. Marlin	135	Rose township	43.92
1894	Dr. A. M. Clark, min.	52	Snyder township	18.82
1894	E. Welsch, min. surface	254	Washington township	71.97
1895	Wright C. B. & Doring H. A.	2888, min.	" "	30.78
1895	Same	2889, min.	" "	30.78
1895	Same	2890, min.	" "	30.78

Attest—JOHN DAVIS, Clerk.

Commissioners' Office, Brookville, Pa., August 1st, 1898.

SAMUEL STATER,
W. C. MURRAY,
J. J. HINDERLITER,
County Commissioners.

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New York Central & Hudson River R. R. Co., Lessee

CONDENSED TIME TABLE.

READ UP	EXP. Mail	May 15, 1898.	EXP. Mail	READ DOWN
No. 47	No. 43		No. 50	No. 33
9:00 P. M.			9:00 P. M.	
10:25 1:45 Arr. PATTON		Live	5:00 7:40	
10:41 1:21 Westover			5:22 8:21	
9:40 1:30 MAHAFFEY			5:41 8:40	
9:13 1:32 Live		Kennecott	6:10 9:04	
9:05 1:22		GAZZAM	6:20 9:15	
8:58 1:15 Arr. Kennecott		Live	6:37 9:22	
8:45 1:21		New Bedford	6:51 9:36	
8:40 1:10		Mitchell	6:58 9:43	
8:30 1:00		CLAREFIELD	7:10 9:55	
8:21 1:12		Woodland	7:29 10:07	
8:15 1:05		Highland	7:43 10:21	
8:10 1:00		Wallacetown	7:52 10:30	
8:05 1:00		Morrisdale Union	7:52 10:30	
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