

CURE SIGN OF DEATH.

ONE SIMPLE TEST THAT, IT IS ALLEGED, NEVER FAILS.

A Physician Who Says He Has Tried It In More Than a Thousand Cases Explains His Method of Preventing Premature Burial.

The question of an absolutely sure sign of death has troubled mankind from ancient times. It has been most variously answered, but never to entire satisfaction. The difficulties we meet with are: First, that not all organs of the body die in one moment, and second, that the action of some of the vital organs may be so diminished that by ordinary means it appears almost impossible to decide whether the life in them is in fact extinct or not.

The actual causes of physiological death are three: First, cessation of brain function; second, cessation of respiration or failure of the lungs; third, failure of the heart.

The first, involving immediate death of the central or animal nervous system only, is not at once followed by the inactivity of the peripheral nervous system and its special so-called vegetative centers, as long ago was demonstrated by Brown-Sequard, Schiff and others. So the lungs may continue to contract and expand, the heart may continue to beat, even if with greatly diminished power. We know further that the life of the skin is not extinct. Hair and nails continue to grow, the stomach continues to digest, the liver to secrete bile, etc. Respecting the second cause of death, we well know that respiration may cease for quite awhile if the brain is not affected and the circulation not interrupted. And of the third cause, by heart failure, the same may be said. So we see that we may speak of true, absolute physiological death only after the cessation of function of the three organs together or at least of two of them, the lungs and the heart, without the life action of which the brain certainly cannot operate.

Now, as regards respiration, we have very simple means to demonstrate its cessation. So remains, in fact, as the only one to show its true death the heart. This to prove indeed with absolute certainty is quite a difficult problem. Upon the absence therefore of any and all traces of circulation in the body have been concentrated most experiments. And as regards the same we have to take into consideration that by disease the heart beats might be diminished to but so few faint pulsations per minute, might become so imperceptible, that without the aid of special instruments and long continued observations nothing of their existence may be detected.

In the following I shall give the simple means by which any person easily enough may convince himself of the absence or presence even of the slightest traces of circulation:

If we ligate tight a member of the body—best, for example, a finger between the first and second joint—in the living we will soon notice, beginning almost at once, a reddish coloration of the portion above the ligation. It becomes darker and darker red and finally assumes a dark bluish red color. The entire upper portion will be thus affected, and only directly around the ligation there will be a small, colorless, white ring. Now, as sure as this discoloration will be observed in the living being, as sure will all traces of it be absent in the dead. The bluish discoloration occasionally observed of and around the finger nails in some corpses is of no influence upon, nor does it interfere in the slightest with, the phenomenon and its correct interpretation.

The phenomenon of course is easily enough explained in the living by the stagnation of the blood in the veins and the capillaries when a new supply through the arteries and the backflow through the veins is cut off by the ligation. The white ring around the latter is produced by the partial arterial, partial venous anemia.

In place of a finger, if, as it at times may happen, the skin seems too thick and horny to show the phenomenon plainly, though this will not seldom occur, one may use the toes, the earlaps, even the tip of the nose, if desired. The member must be only thin enough in order to make the ligation as tight and perfect as possible.

I have used this means in about 1,030 to 1,040 cases previous to post mortem examinations.

In one case only I observed the mentioned discoloration, though it was impossible to notice any heart action by any means. I at once resorted to venesection, and, sure enough, the blood flowed, and after a short time faint heart beats up to seven per minute could be distinguished. Everything was done to start respiration. Yet it was too late, and the heart beats within half an hour gradually diminished. The corpse had been lying for dead for over two hours.—Dr. Theodore Deenke in Utica Press.

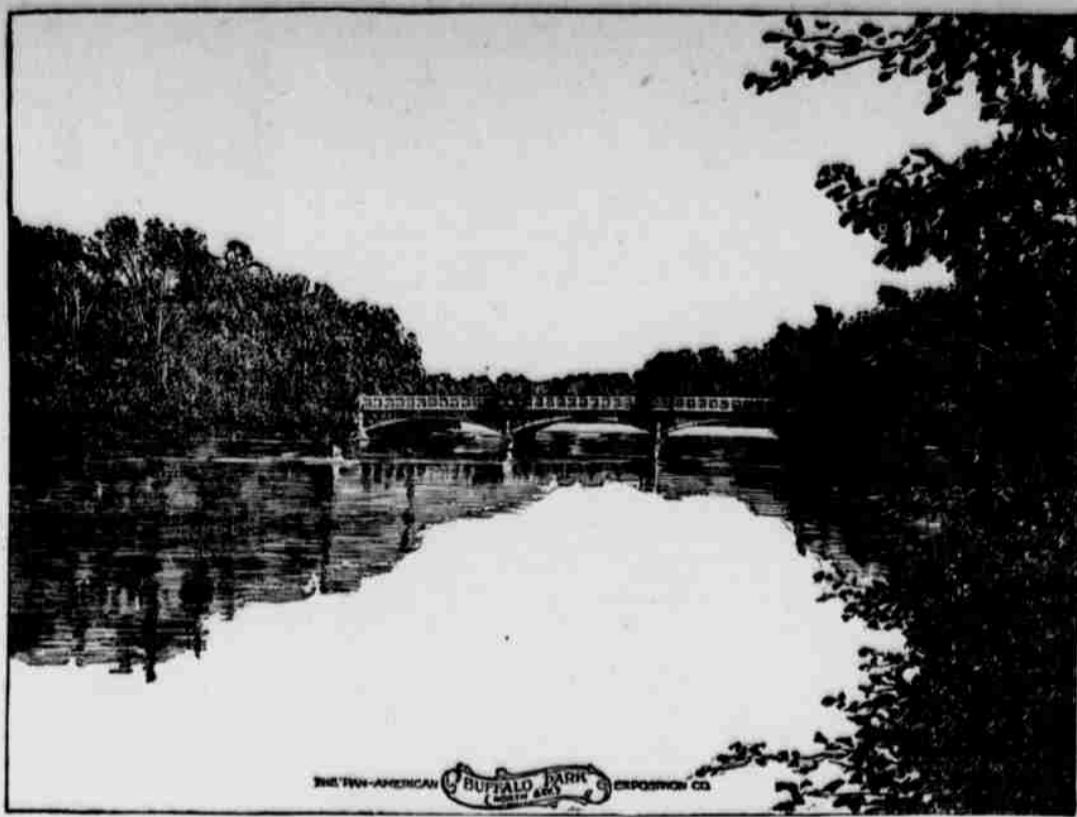
A Lesson.
At a lesson in a medical college the other day one of the students, who was by no means a dullard, was asked by the professor, "How much is a dose of —?" (giving the technical name of a strong poison).

"A teaspoonful," was the reply. The professor made no comment, but the student, a quarter of an hour later, realized that he had made a mistake, and straightway said:

"Professor, I want to change my answer to that question."

"It's too late, sir," responded the professor curtly, looking at his watch. "Your patient has been dead 14 minutes."—London Telegraph.

No matter how bright and sensible a man is, if the gossip discover he is going crazy, the world remarks that he will not have far to go.—Athenaeum Globe.



Chinese Pulse Feeling.

The Chinese physicians, it is well known, have long had the credit of paying very particular attention to the pulse. They even pretend to derive a much more minute and accurate knowledge of the state of the sick from that source than European practitioners lay any claim to.

The patient is directed to be laid in bed, with his arm resting on a small cushion. The physician must be seated, and both parties are enjoined to remain calm, silent and collected. The fingers are next to be applied in due succession, one after another, in order to judge of the compressibility of the artery.

The Chinese do not infer solely from the rapidity of the pulsations. Their mode is to compare the number of pulsations of the artery with the intervals of the respiration of the patient. The number of pulsations of a man in moderate health they consider in relation to the time of a natural inspiration and expiration. Four beats of the pulse during this period they consider as indicating perfect health. If it exceeds five pulsations, it is considered as too quick; if under that number, as too slow respecting good health. It is required to reckon 50 pulsations in order to form a correct indication. Their chief divisions of the pulse are four, the superficial, the profound, the quick and the slow. These they consider as having relation to the four temperaments, the choleric, the sanguine, the phlegmatic and the melancholy.—Health.

A Snake That Crows.
There exists in Venezuela a species of snake of an exceedingly venomous and crafty character. This snake utters a cry that is the almost exact replica of a cock crow. The unwary traveler when walking through the bush will be astonished to hear near at hand this extraordinary crowing. He proceeds toward the spot, when the snake darts out and stings the unfortunate man with its terrible forked tongue. If not taken promptly in hand, the sting will in nine cases out of ten turn out to be fatal.

The black inhabitants of Venezuela are, like all other dark races, very superstitious. And as regards the rattlesnake they have a curious belief. They affirm that if a rattlesnake is captured and the bones in its tail which form the rattle removed the snake will never rest until it has sought out the man that committed the theft and exacted vengeance for the robbery.

They cite instances of men who have taken the rattles and gone far journeys only to be followed by the infuriated snake and killed. Whether there is any truth in this is a matter of conjecture. If half the tales that are told have any truth in them, it would seem superfluous to gansay the superstition.

Our Old Shiplasters.
An officer of the treasury department estimates that more than \$15,000,000 worth of the old fashioned fractional paper currency is still outstanding, and though some of it has doubtless been destroyed the bulk of it is held by collectors and private individuals. Every now and then some old person dies, and the heirs, finding a quantity of the "shiplasters" in a disused pocketbook or some other hiding place, send them to Washington to be redeemed. Occasionally, too, banks forward quite a lot of the notes in unbroken sheets, just as they got them many years ago. At first these sheets had to be cut apart with scissors, but afterward they were perforated like postage stamps so as to be torn apart. Not long ago the treasury received a handkerchief full of this currency of the first issue, each note being signed by Treasurer Spinner with his own hand. About \$3,000 worth of this fractional paper comes in for redemption each year, and some of the best of it is saved out by the department to be given away in response to applications from collectors.

Frozen Butterflies.
It is a common experience among mountain climbers to find butterflies lying frozen on the snow and so brittle that they break unless they are very carefully handled. Such frozen butterflies on being taken to a warmer climate recover themselves and fly away. Six species of butterflies have been found within a few hundred miles of the north pole.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

RAILROAD WRECKS.

Thomas A. Scott Used to Handle Them Without Gloves.

"When that wonderful railroad genius, the late Thomas A. Scott, was building up the Pennsylvania system, the work he did was superhuman, the results he accomplished marvellous," said an old railroad man. "Scott was essentially a man of action. For example, at one time there occurred on the line a freight wreck that piled up scores of cars in a confused heap in a cutting, thus completely barring the main line.

"The local authorities were beside themselves, for they could not figure out how the wreck could be cleared away and the line reopened in less than two weeks. At this juncture Scott arrived on the scene and after a survey of the wreck sent for a great quantity of coal oil, with which he had the pile thoroughly drenched. It was then touched off, and the god of fire soon removed all trace of it, and traffic was resumed on the line in 24 hours.

"A bridge fell, and it was feared a long delay must ensue, but Scott put more than 2,000 men to work on that one structure and thus eliminated the question of delay. Those were the days when such things counted and were not only possible, but necessary. Today railroading is reduced to such a fine point that the need for them no longer exists. The roads are too safeguarded for that.

"The last instance I remember of such railroad work as that was at the Johnstown flood in 1889, I think it was. Frank Thomson, by great work and the use of side lines, was one of the first to arrive upon the scene. Once there, he took full control, the division superintendents from all over the line were summoned, and a particular task was given to each one to do instantly. They one and all responded as best they could to the spur, and the line was reopened with incredible swiftness. There were one or two failures, however, and those men, while they were kept on as superintendents of unimportant mountain divisions, were never again promoted."—New York Tribune.

"I WIN" AND "I LOSE."

Sporting Men Ignore Their Tenses and Seem Pleasid.

"Have you ever noticed the satisfied manner of gamblers while twisting their tenses into the 'I win' and 'I lose' common to the fraternity?" remarked a man who has a fondness for investigating the peculiarities of his fellows. "I have thought of that for a long time—ever since that form of expression came into common use among gamblers. Watch the first sport you hear talking in that style and notice the pleasure he seems to take in rolling his method of expression. The tense he uses evidently carries him back, and he enjoys again in the present the pleasures of the act when he speaks of it. Even if he says he 'lose' it gives him gratification, according to the philosophy of Charles Fox, who is authority for the statement that the greatest pleasure in the world, next to winning money, is to lose it.

"The ungrammatical fashion among gamblers dates back about 15 years. It seems impossible to conceive any reason for the custom other than the one I have mentioned. That form of speech is still growing in popularity. The so-called 'sporting men' have extended the scope of the present tense to all their verbs. It jars on me sometimes, but even then I find consolation in the knowledge that if the 'sports' did not affect that particular style of speech 95 in 100 of them would do even worse, and their present picturesque defiance of grammar is a relief from the possibility of such expressions as 'I seen' and 'I done.'"—New York Times.

Didn't Need Credit.
"You've sent your boy to college, I hear," remarked the neighbor. "Well, I hope he will acquire himself with credit."

"He won't need to, begosh!" said Mr. Gaswell, somewhat irritated. "I'm able to supply him with the cash right straight along."—Chicago Tribune.

Rearrested.
"I might have known better than to trust my money to that broker."

"Why so? Are appearances against him?"

"No, confound him! It's his disappearance."—Brooklyn Life.

Wealthy, but Couldn't Write.

"Hotels entertain a good many people who can't write," said the clerk of a large hotel, "and the bad pen comedy is enacted quite frequently. Of course the clerk has to be very careful not to let the guest suspect that he is on the dodge, for such folks are very sensitive about their educational infirmities.

"I once knew a man who paid \$1,200 a year solely to keep hotel clerks from knowing that he couldn't write his own name. He began life as a day laborer, drifted out west and made a fortune through leasing a supposed worthless mine in Montana. When he accumulated about \$150,000, he sold out and started in to travel and have a good time. He was naturally shrewd, but he had never had a particle of schooling, and dodging registers at new hotels became the chief worry of his life.

"At first he used to tie up his hand in a handkerchief and pretend it was hurt, but he realized that the trick was pretty transparent, and at last he employed a young newspaper man at \$100 a month to travel with him as his 'secretary.' The ex-miner never sent or received any letters, he didn't care for reading, and the secretary's one and only duty was to sign hotel registers. They would walk in together, and the young chap would say deferentially, 'Shall I do the registering for us both, colonel?' 'If you please,' his boss would reply, and he would thereupon write, 'Col. — and secretary, Montana.'"—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Mines That Burn For Years.

A number of good sized mines are now on fire in the United States and have been for years. The Vulcan mine on the Green river, opposite Newcastle, in Colorado, has been on fire since the great explosion several years ago, when about 80 persons lost their lives. All efforts to quench it have proved fruitless. In Butte there is a mine which has been afire since 1884. It has been treated with carbonic acid gas generated on a large scale, quicklime and acids and all the stiding devices that genius and experience could devise, but so far without effect.

In Pennsylvania there are several steadily burning mines, and in one place where the outlet of natural gas is very great the spectacle it affords is of surpassing interest. For miles around a great tower of fire may be seen day and night, and the dense black smoke which it gives off settles upon the surrounding country. How a mine gets afire is easily explained, even though the greatest precautions are taken to prevent it. Coal seams exude a gas varying in quantity according to the pressure and the quality of the deposit, which gas when mixed with air in certain proportions is about as explosive as gunpowder.—New York Post.

An Awful Loss.

At a fire in Cambridge, Mass., an occupant of the damaged house was bewailing the loss of her purse. Several firemen joined in a search for the missing pocketbook, but after spending some time in their quest were still unsuccessful. Finally the chief said to the woman:

"How much was in the pocketbook?"

As she answered, "Fifty cents," the look of disgust on the chief's face was too evident to be mistaken.

The Masculine View.
Gentleman—My wife has lost her water-proof, and she wished me to stop in here and order another sent up at once, as it looks like rain.

Dealer—Yes, sir. What sort, sir?
Gentleman—Um—I've forgotten the name, but it's one of those that make a woman look better dressed in wet weather than she is in dry weather.—New York Weekly.

To Philip Sober.
When a woman who asked Philip of Macedon to do her justice was scabbed by the petulant monarch, she exclaimed, "Philip, I shall appeal against this judgment."

"Appeal!" thundered the enraged king. "And to whom will you appeal?"

"To Philip sober," was her reply.

EVERY WOMAN
Sometimes needs a reliable monthly regulating medicine.

DR. PEAL'S PENNYROYAL PILLS.
Are promptly safe and certain in result. The genuine Dr. Peal's never disappoints. \$1.00 per box. For sale by H. Alex. Stoke.

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Have just received a complete set of machine horse clippers of latest style '98 pattern and am prepared to do clipping in the best possible manner at reasonable rates. Jackson St. near Fifth, Reynoldsville, Pa.

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Sexine Pills

They have stood the test of years, and have cured thousands of cases of Nervous Diseases, such as Debility, Dizziness, Sleeplessness and Variocoele, Atrophy, &c. They clear the brain, strengthen the circulation, make digestion perfect, and impart a healthy vigor to the whole being. All drains and losses are checked permanently. Unless patients are properly cured, their condition often worsens time into insanity, Consumption or Death. Must be sealed. Price 45¢ per box; 6 boxes, with iron-clad legal guarantee to cure or refund the money, \$5.00. Send for free book.

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PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

BUFFALO & ALLEGANY VALLEY DIVISION.
Low Grade Division.

In Effect Nov. 25, 1900. [Eastern Standard Time]

STATIONS.	EASTWARD.			
	No. 112	No. 114	No. 106	No. 104
Pittsburgh	8:00	8:15	8:30	8:45
Red Bank	8:20	8:35	8:50	9:05
Lawsonham	8:40	8:55	9:10	9:25
New Bethlehem	9:00	9:15	9:30	9:45
Oak Ridge	9:20	9:35	9:50	10:05
Mayville	9:40	9:55	10:10	10:25
Brookville	10:00	10:15	10:30	10:45
Iowa	10:20	10:35	10:50	11:05
Falls Creek	10:40	10:55	11:10	11:25
Reynoldsville	11:00	11:15	11:30	11:45
Pancoat	11:20	11:35	11:50	12:05
DuBois	11:40	11:55	12:10	12:25
Winterburn	12:00	12:15	12:30	12:45
Tyler	12:20	12:35	12:50	1:05
Benzenette	12:40	12:55	1:10	1:25
Grant	1:00	1:15	1:30	1:45
Driftwood	1:20	1:35	1:50	2:05

Train 92 (Sunday) leaves Pittsburgh 9:10 a. m., Red Bank 11:30, Brookville 12:41, Reynoldsville 1:44, Falls Creek 1:57, DuBois 3:00 p. m.

NOTE—Train 18 on Sundays will make stops between Red Bank and DuBois.

STATIONS.	WESTWARD.			
	No. 117	No. 109	No. 103	No. 101
Driftwood	6:25	6:40	6:55	7:10
Grant	6:45	7:00	7:15	7:30
Benzenette	7:05	7:20	7:35	7:50
Tyler	7:25	7:40	7:55	8:10
Winterburn	7:45	8:00	8:15	8:30
Sabula	8:05	8:20	8:35	8:50
DuBois	8:25	8:40	8:55	9:10
Falls Creek	8:45	9:00	9:15	9:30
Pancoat	9:05	9:20	9:35	9:50
Reynoldsville	9:25	9:40	9:55	10:10
Brookville	9:45	10:00	10:15	10:30
Mayville	10:05	10:20	10:35	10:50
Lawsonham	10:25	10:40	10:55	11:10
New Bethlehem	10:45	11:00	11:15	11:30
Oak Ridge	11:05	11:20	11:35	11:50
Pittsburgh	11:25	11:40	11:55	12:10

Train 92 (Sunday) leaves DuBois 4:10 p. m., Falls Creek 4:17, Reynoldsville 4:24, Brookville 4:31, Red Bank 4:38, Pittsburgh 5:30 p. m.

Trains marked * run daily; † daily, except Sunday; ‡ flag station, where signals must show.

Philadelphia & Erie Railroad Division

In effect Nov. 25, 1900. Trains leave Driftwood as follows:

EASTWARD
9:00 a. m.—Train 12, weekdays, for Sunbury, Williamsport, intermediate stations, Scranton, Harrisburg and the intermediate stations arriving at Philadelphia 6:22 a. m., New York 1:28 p. m., Baltimore 4:00 p. m., Washington, 7:15 p. m. Pullman Parlor from Williamsport to Philadelphia and passenger coaches from Kane to Philadelphia and Williamsport to Baltimore and Washington.

4:00 p. m.—Train 6, daily, for Harrisburg and intermediate stations, arriving at Philadelphia 4:25 a. m.; New York 7:13 a. m.; Baltimore, 2:30 a. m.; Washington 4:05 a. m. Pullman sleeping cars from Harrisburg to Philadelphia and New York. Philadelphia passengers can remain in sleeper undisturbed until 7:30 a. m.

10:25 p. m.—Train 4, daily, for Sunbury, Harrisburg and intermediate stations, arriving at Philadelphia, 6:32 a. m.; New York, 9:59 a. m. on week days and 10:23 a. m. on Sunday; Baltimore, 1:20 p. m.; Washington, 4:05 a. m. Pullman sleepers from Erie, Buffalo and Williamsport to Philadelphia, and Buffalo and Williamsport to Washington. Passenger coaches from Erie to Philadelphia and Buffalo to Washington.

WESTWARD
4:28 a. m.—Train 9, daily, for Buffalo, Erie, Emporium, and weekdays for Erie, Ridgway, DuBois, Clearfield and principal intermediate stations.

9:45 a. m.—Train 3, daily for Erie and intermediate stations.
5:45 p. m.—Train 15, weekdays for Kane and intermediate stations.

WEEKDAYS.		P. M.	
10:45	arr. Driftwood	10:45	...
10:38	Woodvale	11:02	...
10:35	Quilwood	11:05	...
10:31	Smith's Run	11:08	...
10:25	Lawsonham	11:14	...
10:30	Straight	11:19	...
10:10	Glen Hazel	11:27	...
10:05	Lawsonham	11:35	...
9:40	Ridgway	11:50	...

Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg Railway.

On and after Nov. 11th, 1900, passenger trains will arrive and depart from Reynoldsville station, daily, except Sunday, as follows:

DEPART.
3:30 p. m. Week days only. For Falls Creek, DuBois, Curwensville, Clearfield, Punxsutawney, Butler, Pittsburgh, Brookville, Ridgway, Johnstown, Mt. Jewett and Bradford.

ARRIVE.
1:25 p. m. Week days only. From Clearfield, Curwensville, Fall Creek, DuBois, Pittsburgh, Butler and Punxsutawney.

TRAINS LEAVE FALLS CREEK.
SOUTH GOING.
2:57 a. m. Daily. Night Express for Punxsutawney, Dayton, Butler and Pittsburgh. Pullman sleepers.

10:54 a. m. and 11:00 a. m. Week days only. For DuBois, Stanley, Sykes, Big Run and Punxsutawney.

2:44 p. m.