

FEAR IN HYDROPHOBIA

IMAGINATION OFTEN CAUSES FATAL RESULTS FROM DOG BITES.

Caused by the Terror Inherited From Superstitious Ages—Rabies a Disease Which is Extremely Rare—Fifteen Case of John R. Beart, of Chicago.

The death of John R. Beart, at 5127 Wabash avenue, illustrates a point that has been dwelt upon for years by physicians and surgeons, says the Chicago Inter-Ocean. Mr. Beart in August last had a struggle with a bulldog, and was bitten in three places. The struggle in itself was of a character to produce nervous exhaustion, to say nothing of the mutilation by the dog. Upon examination it was shown that the dog was not affected with rabies. Mr. Beart recovered from the immediate effects of the struggle and returned to work. But a week ago he was taken ill, and grew steadily worse to the end. Those in attendance believe that he died of fear of hydrophobia.

There is no dispute as to the main facts in the case. The dog that attacked Mr. Beart did not have any disease. Mr. Beart had no symptoms of hydrophobia, but he lived for months in horror of the most dreaded of diseases, and this resulted in conditions that caused death.

If the dog that made the attack on Mr. Beart had been killed, as is usual in such cases, the case would undoubtedly have been catalogued in the hydrophobia list. As the case stands, it gives strength to the theory that a great many of the so-called cases of rabies are produced solely by fear.

Without discussing any of the theories as to rabies advanced in recent years, it may be safely asserted that the disease itself is extremely rare. In forty years in Paris there were reported only ninety-four cases of hydrophobia. In the whole of France, with a population of 36,000,000, there were reported in six years 107 cases. Investigation showed that not more than five per cent. of persons bitten by rabid dogs became hydrophobic. In the city of New York there were reported in six years twenty-two cases of hydrophobia. The number of deaths is not reported.

Those who have made close investigation have arrived at the conclusion that where any heavy clothing covers the part bitten, there is little danger, even from the most rabid dog. But the belief that the bite of a hydrophobic dog is necessarily fatal and that death comes in a horrible way is so common that a man bitten by any dog gives his imagination free rein and suffers such mental torture as to make him a prey to other forms of disease.

Dogs are subject to so many diseases regarding which the majority of people have absolutely no information that even the most harmless animals are regarded with suspicion. Even a dog that has lost its master on the street often becomes so excited that pedestrians call on policemen to shoot it.

Certain diseases common to the dog family are manifested in convulsions or fits, and by the ignorant a dog so afflicted is pronounced mad and treated accordingly. A dog trained to high spirit and pugnacity sometimes turns from a conflict with another dog to bite the man who interferes. That dog is forthwith pronounced mad and the wound is canterized, whereas if the bite were by a cat or a horse no attention would be paid to it and no alarm would be felt.

The dog is more closely associated with men, women and children than any other animal. It is trained to watchfulness, to resistance, to attack and defense, and at the same time it is expected to observe many of the amenities of life disregarded by men and women. If a dog mopes with a distemper, or exhibits any symptom of any common disease, it is treated as a mad dog, and often in a way to push the poor brute to the extremity of fury.

Thousands of people in the country districts are bitten by dogs every year, and no thought is given to the matter. Those engaged in training dogs are bitten frequently, and they think no more of the slight hurts than the hostler who is nipped by a horse thinks of his bruises or wounds. In the city a bite by any dog becomes the subject of such anxiety as to induce absolute fear.

The truth is that the bite of a dog is no more harmful than the bite or scratch of a cat or the bite of a horse, but the people of this day have inherited from superstitious ages such horror of the word hydrophobia that the dog which is at once the pet of children and the terror of burglars in its health usually finds no commiseration or even human consideration in its illness.

London to Paris in Seven Hours. Travelers between London and Paris will hear with interest of the experiments which have lately been made by the Northern of France Railway Company with a view to accelerating the speed of their trains. The distance of 185 miles between Paris and Calais has been covered in three hours and four minutes, including a stop of two and a half minutes at Amiens for water. As the result of the trial trips it is confidently expected that the journey between the English and French capitals will shortly be performed within seven hours.—London Globe.

She Won Her Point. A little girl was begging her father to take her to visit her grandmother, who lived at some distance. He said: "It costs \$10 every time, Florence, and \$10 don't grow on every bush." "Neither do grandmas grow on every bush," answered the little girl, promptly. They went.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

It is estimated that since 1870 the cost of steam has been reduced from thirty to forty per cent. The weight of steam used per horse power per hour has fallen from twenty pounds to 12.5 pounds.

The bones of three mastodons have been discovered in Death Valley, California, and their discoverer, a miner, has taken out a claim for the purpose of excavating them. Another indication of the popular appreciation of the money value of the remains of prehistoric animals is the fact that a mining claim has been filed in southern California to cover the excavation of a fossil whale of the Pliocene epoch.

From a private letter of which an extract is given in Science, it is learned that a new meridian circle is being built by Repsold for the Observatory of Kiel. Its telescope is to be of eight inches aperture, and it is to be provided with all possible modern improvements. The instrument is designed especially for the observation of faint close circumpolar stars for latitude variation, according to the method which has been used at the Paris Observatory. The Prussian Government is to bear the expense.

Eastern experts are experimenting with a variety of small fish found in Puget Sound waters, with a view to determining whether they exist in sufficient numbers to warrant the building of a sardine cannery plant. The fish have been found in the largest quantity near Everett, Wash. Some have been located also in the vicinity of Fairhaven, though they appear to exist there only in small numbers, and near Port Angeles. The fish taken at some points is declared to be superior to those caught on the North Atlantic Coast.

A curious railway accident occurred in India lately. While a train was in Ruxaul station a terrific storm commenced, and, although the brake was applied in the van and on the engine, the force of the wind was such that the train was driven along the line. The engine dashed through the buffer stop at the end of the line, and traveled along about six lengths of rail laid end to end without fish-plate fastenings. After leaving these rails the engine plowed along the embankment, and then came fortunately to a standstill, no great damage having been done.

In most districts where wires are not underground a noticeable feature of many pole lines is big cables, containing each a large number of telephone wires. These cables are made up of small copper wires, generally a little smaller than the wire of the familiar hairpin, which are insulated with thin paper and, after being twisted together in pairs, are laid up in a bundle containing from fifty to 250 wires, and the whole covered with a thin coating of lead forced on in the same way that lead pipe is made. Naturally such cables are somewhat heavy, their weight running up to about two and a half pounds to the linear foot, and at the same time they are mechanically too weak to support their weight in long spans. For this reason they are generally suspended from strong wires or wire ropes stretched from pole to pole, the cable being hung in slings or supports every two or three feet.

The Reason He Didn't Appeal to Her. "Well, you really must like me—just a little bit," he insisted, after they had discussed the subject fruitlessly for two mortal hours.

"No, I don't; I really do not," she said, with that candor which hitherto he had considered one of her many charms. "We have nothing in common—nothing at all, my dear Bob. There is no reason in the world why I should like you."

"But how is it we have been such good friends all these months?" demanded the man, trying to straighten out his crumpled vanity. "Surely I couldn't have been—er—absolutely repulsive to you?"

"Oh, no, you're not repulsive," said the girl serenely. "In fact, I suppose most girls would think you were very nice. But you don't appeal to me—"

"I do."

"—As an individual. I like you just as I would any clever, good-looking, amiable, interesting man. But aside from that I am not interested in you. Can't you understand?"—New York Commercial Advertiser.

The Royal Beard. The King of the Belgians is very vain of his appearance, and spends a lot of time on his toilet. His beard especially is the object of infinite attention. At night, before going to bed, he envelops it in a silk sack, which prevents the hairs from uncurling. His toilet table is covered with brushes, combs and various kinds of brilliantine, and His Majesty passes half an hour there every morning. Once a week the King's chief valet de chambre trims the royal beard, taking care to keep it free from the neck, so that the hairs may not get caught in the collar.—Le Cri de Paris.

A Long Family Name. Some of our Basque fellow residents in Mexico have long and unpronounceable names. But the record long name (a surname) is: Errotaberrigorrigolococtacocheat. This marvellous name means, "the new red mill of the house above." The historic name of Turbide is also Basque by origin, and means "the road to the fountain."—Mexican Herald.



The Old Rocking Horse. Battered and bruised and worn and old, Bereft of his mane and tail, A veteran charger stanch and bold, He has weathered life's fiercest gale.

The hero of many a gallant raid, In many a bloodless war, A soldier of fortune, undismayed By battle and wound and scar!

'Neath the guiding touch of a little hand He has traveled many a mile Through the wonderful realms of "Play-like" Land, Where the spirits of Fancy smile.

But, strange to say, in his oldest fight, Though he halted or rested not— Through all his travels by day and night— He has stood in the self-same spot!

He was ridden far, he was ridden hard; He has borne fierce brunts and blows, And oft has felt, as a sweet reward, A kiss on his worn-out nose.

And though he is rather the worse for wear, And is crippled and scarred and old, In the eyes of his master he still is fair And worth his weight in gold. —Herald and Presbyter.

A Watch For the Blind. A recent invention is a watch for the use of the blind. It is so arranged that by passing the fingers over so lightly over the raised letters of the dial the hands are disturbed. In the middle of each figure is a movable peg. The hour hand would be stopped if the touch of the hour hand it drops. To learn the hour the blind man passes his fingers around the dial till he finds the peg that is down. The latter remains down until the next peg drops. In order to find the minute there is a smaller set of pegs on the outer edge of the dial for the minute hand.

What Boys Should Learn. There are a great many things boys as boys, should learn. And if they learn these lessons so well as never to forget them during life, they will prove of great help to them oftentimes when they need help.

1. Not to tease boys and girls smaller than themselves.
2. Not to take the easiest chair in the room, put it in the pleasantest place and forget to offer it to mother when she comes in to sit down.
3. To treat mother as politely as if she were a strange lady who did not spend her life in their service.
4. To be kind and helpful to sisters as they expect sisters to be to them.
5. To make their friends among good boys.
6. To take pride in being a gentleman at home.
7. To take mother into their confidence if they do anything wrong; and, above all, never to lie about any thing they have done.

Revengeful Spirit in Monkeys. Although the monkey is "sacred" in India at least, he is cunning and revengeful. An odd story illustrating this is told by an English woman living among the lower hills of the Himalayas during the hot season. She had a little terrier called Pet, which found it difficult to become accustomed to the numerous monkeys whose homes were in the surrounding trees. They were objectionably friendly, in his opinion, and when they would calmly take possession of the veranda Pet's barking drove them away. The monkeys resented the fright and interference, and one day, when Pet and his mistress were out walking a skinny arm was stretched out from a thicket of rhododendrons as they passed, and seized the dog, which was slightly in advance. In an instant the monkey was at the top of a tree, and the mistress stood helpless while the little creature was passed from one monkey to another, each pinching him or tearing out his hair. When tired of that form of torture one took Pet out to the extreme end of a branch that extended over a high cliff and dropped him down to his death at the foot.

The Invention of the Guillotine. Some years before the terrible French revolution of 1793, a learned Parisian physician, Dr. Guillotin, turned his attention to devising a mode of executing criminals that would be more humane than hanging. He was a man of note in the scientific world of his time, having introduced improved systems of ventilation and other sanitary blessings much needed in that period. So, when the French national assembly convened in 1789 it gave willing ear to his description of a decapitating machine that would "whisk off one's head in an instant, without pain." Other matters were pressing, however; there was no money in the national treasury and the assembly took no action upon Dr. Guillotin's plan. The matter seemed quite forgotten until the "reign of terror" began. Then a machine made after the doctor's idea suddenly appeared and was put into immediate use. Its novelty caught the fancy of the mobs who attended the daily executions, and it was quickly named "la guillotine," after the man who had proposed it. Dr. Guillotin, who had never made a working model of his invention and who had thought it quite forgotten, was so heartbroken by the terrible use to which his plan had been put that he left France.

It cannot be said that the beggar with a crested hat no visible means of support.

THE CHANGE OF LIFE

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MRS. JENNIE NOBLE.

ing out for assistance. The cry should be heeded in time. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound was prepared to meet the needs of woman's system at this trying period of her life. It builds up the weakened nervous system, and enables a woman to pass that grand change triumphantly. "I was a very sick woman, caused by Change of Life. I suffered with hot flashes, and fainting spells. I was afraid to go on the street, my head and back troubled me so. I was entirely cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."—Mrs. JENNIE NOBLE, 5010 Keyser St., Germantown, Pa.

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Lived Before the Pharaohs.

There has been brought to the Hall of the Dead in the British Museum, says the New York Press, the body of a man who lived in Egypt in time long before the days of Menes, the first king of the United Egypt. It was probably 7,000 years ago that this man roamed about, hunting on the shores of the Nile with his weapons of flint. When he died his body was treated to a preparation of bitumen and placed in the tomb from which the explorers took it. The tomb was hollowed out of the sandstone on the west bank of the Nile, in Upper Egypt, and the body rests in the British Museum in a model of the tomb. The mummy lay on its left side with its knees drawn up and its hands over its face. The grave was covered with a slab of unworked stone, and in it, beside the body, were disposed flint knives and several vases partly filled with the dust of funeral offerings. The indications are that the man belonged to a light-skinned, fair-haired people. He was of the race which came into Egypt in the earliest times, when the setting of the Nile made a land capable of cultivation. These people might be called the aboriginals of Egypt, and remains of their settlements are found on the west bank of the Nile.

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