

HEALTH.

Facts About Cancer.

It seems to be admitted now by all the surgeons who have been consulted in the case of the Crown Prince of Prussia that the hero of Sadowa, Weissenburg, and Worth is suffering from cancer of the larynx, a disease for which there is small chance of cure by operation.

Cancer is preeminently a disease of the white race, and apparently of representatives of an advanced degree of civilization. It is rare in the colored races. Among the negroes in the South, before emancipation, it was extremely infrequent.

Any organ or part of the body may be attacked by cancer. It is most frequent in the female breast, uterus, the stomach, liver, lips, and tongue, but it is also found in the brain and spinal cords, in bones, and, in rare cases, even in the heart.

But while we introduce heat-producing food within the system, we must guard the heat from too rapid loss. The child may be exposed to extremely low temperatures. Good woolen flannel should be worn next the skin all winter, while the outside clothing should be thick and warm.

Cancer of the larynx or windpipe is one of the rarer forms of the malady. However, during twenty years, from 1866 to 1886, the larynx has been extirpated for cancer about seventy-five times. It has been done three or four times during the present year in this country.

Cancer cures are found everywhere vaunting special caustics, warranted to remove the cancer with certainty and without danger. Most of these caustics contain a large proportion of arsenic, and if not used with great care may cause grave symptoms of poisoning.

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Care of the Teeth.

"What should a man use to clean his teeth?" was the question asked of a well-known dentist recent. The dentist replied at once: "No. 1. but water. There are more good teeth ruined by so-called dentifrices than by all other causes in the world put together.

"Boating" in the ear is due to an increased sensitiveness of the nerve, causing it to feel the throbbing of some minute artery. In many cases of ear troubles there is a ringing (tinnitus) in the ear, which may be of almost every conceivable degree and variety.

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but it should on no account, be used every day. Orris root does the teeth no harm and gives a pleasant odor to the breath; and if all our dentifrices were composed simply of orris root and prepared chalk, they would be harmless enough, if not beneficial.

School Hygiene in Winter. In summer the child is greatly favored by the free, natural ventilation of the school-room; the wide range of his sports; his sympathy with exuberant nature, and the long vacation, with its varied rambles, its frequent bathings, its exhilarating sense of freedom, and, perhaps, with its change of air.

The absence of these favoring circumstances in winter suggests greater attention at that time to the physical condition of school children. Their food should be suited to the season. Fat is to the body what coal is to the stove. It is simply fuel. No sailors are allowed in expeditions to the North Pole who cannot digest an abundance of fat. The child can scarcely withstand our Northern cold only as he carries within him a copious source of heat.

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It is important, also, to remember the physical difference in children. In some of them the recuperative power is strong, and asserts itself at once; in others a slight cold means death, or a protracted invalidism.

Catarrh of the middle ear, the tympanic cavity—the portion next beyond the drum. This cavity opens into the mouth through the Eustachian tube, and is thus supplied with the necessary air.

Now the mucous membrane that lines this tube may swell and close it up, in consequence of inflammation extending from the nostrils and pharynx. Deafness, more or less, may be due to this closure.

Again, the mucous membrane which lines the cavity of the middle ear may itself be inflamed. If this is long continued, the membrane becomes thickened; the ossicles—the little bones that conduct the vibrations of sound from the drum to the nerves of the internal ear—may be greatly interfered with; the mucus may accumulate and become solid, its fluid portion being absorbed, or it may become purulent, as in abscess, and may eat its way through the drum.

But we must add, let all who seem specially liable to catarrhal difficulties avoid exposure to cold winds, wear flannel next to the skin, and, in every practicable way, maintain a high degree of general health.

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Mohammedanism.

Ever since Canon Isaac Taylor read his now celebrated paper at the recent Church Congress in Wolverhampton, the progress and prosperity of Moha-medanism, and the views and position taken by the Canon, have been the subjects of general discussion in Britain and indeed throughout the world.

Canon Taylor's paper was received by the Congress with a combined feeling of amazement and incredulity, and the further the discussion goes the more ground there is for believing that while some of his statistics are not reliable and while some of his conclusions may be too sweeping, his general position about the progress of Islam, especially in Africa, and about the beneficial influence which it is exerting on many savage African nations, is quite unassailable.

Whereas Mohammedanism is embraced by a Negro tribe, paganism, devil worship, fetichism, cannibalism, human sacrifice, infanticide, witchcraft at once disappear. The natives begin to dress, filth is replaced by cleanliness, and they acquire personal dignity and self-respect.

In reference to the progress of Islamism during the last twenty years, it has been shown that the Canon is altogether astray. But as to the influence for good being exerted by the Mohammedan missionaries in Africa there can be little if any doubt, if the testimony of competent and so far unprejudiced witnesses is to be allowed to go for anything.

In the one matter of drunkenness the so-called Christian nations are doing more evil by their sale of intoxicating liquors in the "Dark Continent" than all the Christian missionaries are doing good. The great African traveller, Joseph Thomson, who claims to write "as one having the interests of Christianity deeply at heart," declares that from personal examination he is ready to maintain against all comers that on the African West coast, in the neighborhood of all British Colonies, "for every African who is influenced for good by Christianity a thousand are driven into deeper degradation by the gin trade."

Dr. Blyden, a full-blooded Negro, and a very accomplished, scholarly man, said much the same thing as Canon Taylor many years ago, using the following language:—"Between Sierra Leone and Egypt the Mohammedans are the only great intellectual, moral and commercial power. Islam has taken possession of and shaped the social, political and religious life of the most intelligent tribes. No one can travel any distance in the interior without finding that Islam is the ruling influence. Throughout Mohammedan Africa education is compulsory."

Mr. Thompson emphasizes the same thing in the following terms:—"The spectacle of the earnestness, poverty and simplicity of the Moslem missionaries has a powerful effect on the minds of the Negroes, while the greed and the evil lives of Europeans go far to neutralize any good results that may accrue from the teaching of Christianity."

It is a thousand pities that the drunken, immoral, inconsistent lives of so many professed Christians should be followed by such disastrous consequences, but if such are the facts it is well that they should be known, so that some effective remedy may be applied.

Things have come to such a pass in many parts of Africa that many of the most judicious and experienced of the Christian missionaries are of opinion that the present rum trade is having a far more ruinous influence upon the physical, moral and social condition of the natives than ever had the traffic in its palmy days and most infamous about such liquors being "good creatures of God" and to be used moderately and with "thanksgiving," but in the meantime, through their blighting and most degrading influences, men in multitudes are being ruined and the fair name of Christianity is being lightly spoken evil of.

Nervous Subjects. Some affect to believe that nervous subjects feign their ailments for the purpose of attracting attention and sympathy. It is quite true they frequently exaggerate their sufferings, but that is no excuse for denying their existence.

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Germany is now discussing the authenticity of a prophecy attributed to a friar in a Bavarian convent, who lived in the seventeenth century, as it completely foreshadowed the strange complication of evils with which Germany is now threatened.

She Was a Little Off and so Was He. "Is that you, Charley?" "It was a beautiful night and the soft rays of the moon fell about the fair form of the speaker like a benediction."

Three Follies of Men. The wise old Countess de—used to remark that there were three follies of men which always amazed her. The first was climbing trees to shake fruit down, when if they waited long enough the fruit would fall of itself.



WATER, BEING HE ELEVEN RAW OYSTERS. WE DON'T GIVE HEAVEN, HE: WE GIVE SIX, OR TWELVE. NO, TWELVE WOULD NEVER DO, WE SHOULD BE THIRTIEN AT TABLE.

STATISTICS.

Fifteen years ago the exports from the East to British possessions were less than one-fourth of the exports to all countries but third.

The trade of Japan with other nations was larger in 1886 than any previous year and the country was open to foreign goods to the value of £14,500,000, or 23 per cent. more than that of 1885 by \$2,357,000, and the average from 1877 to 1883 by \$2,662,000.

Although crime in Britain appears to be decreasing, this is by no means the case, as shown by juvenile offences when taken separately. While in 1861 the number of such commitments was 130,722, last year it rose to 216,439, an increase of 66 per cent. more than that of 1861.

Mr. J. S. Jeans, secretary of the Iron and Steel Institute, lately mentioned, as a striking fact that is at variance with the general opinion of economists and politicians, that the United States have actually since 1880 expended \$921,000,000 sterling on their Army and Navy, against \$225,000,000 sterling in England. But at the present time the annual expenditure on this account in Great Britain is from £35,000,000 to £40,000,000 a year, as against about \$13,000,000 in America, so that the English expenditures per head is about 20s., as against 4s. 2d. in the United States.

The estimated number of letters, etc., delivered by post in the United Kingdom during the year ended March, 1887, was as follows: Letters, 1,459,900,000; post-cards, 180,100,000; book-packets and circulars, 368,900,000; newspapers, 151,200,000; parcels, 2,160,100,000; parcels, 32,860,000; total, 2,192,960,000, being an increase of 84 per cent. upon the previous year.

Buying His Time. "The man who wishes to see me in the man I wish to see," said a minister, detesting his practice of admitting callers, when he interrupted his studies. Hercules Greeley, who was the busiest of every preferred not to see nineteen of every twenty men and women who wish to see him.

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Pearl Fishing. During the pearl-fishing season, a village at the northern end of the island of Ceylon presents a very busy scene. "About a hundred boats go out daily," it is said, "each having about ten divers on board."

WATTLE'S FATS... LAWYER... Mrs. Williams... From how many points of view... "I don't give heaven, he: we give six, or twelve. No, twelve would never do, we should be thirteenth at table."