

EXTRAORDINARY CASES.

THE PECULIAR PHYSICAL SYMPATHY BETWEEN TWINS.

When One Was Sick the Other Suffered Too—Amusing Stories—Resulting From Remarkable Likeness.

How many shilling shockers have been weaved around twins, we wonder! But however much fiction has been written on this subject, there is something extraordinarily strange and interesting in cases of twins in real life, which are far more common than most persons believe. We were recently greatly entertained during an interview with a gentleman who has gone deep into the subject from a scientific standpoint, and who has gathered together some amazing instances of the resemblance of twins and its amusing consequences, says a writer in London Tit-Bits.

I have a couple of huge manuscript books filled with accounts of cases of twins, said this gentleman, and the majority of them are peculiarly interesting. Perhaps the most notable fact is the intense sympathy that sometimes exists between twins. For instance, you probably know that it very often happens that one twin will follow in health every detail of the health of the other—suffering the same complaints, disorders and diseases as the other, if not at precisely the same time, very shortly before or afterwards.

I have a case in mind where the sympathy was exceptionally strong. The twins were brothers, and one was in India with the parents, and the other in England, studying for some examination or other. The young man in India contracted measles, and was laid up with it for three weeks, before the end of which time the fellow in England was attacked in the same way. Very good; they both recovered.

Some few months later, the fellow here, who had recommenced his studies before he had properly recovered his strength, was laid up with a mild ATTACK OF BRAIN FEVER. The announcement of this fact, sent to the parents by a friend in England who had the boy in hand, actually crossed in the post a similar announcement concerning the brother in India, who certainly had not been doing anything likely to bring on such a malady. Again they both recovered, though the lad in England was ill considerably longer than his twin brother. Some years later they both died of the same internal disorder within eight or nine hours of each other.

I have accounts of at least twenty cases of similar sympathy. I do not hesitate to acknowledge that very often the diseases or infirmities with which twins are simultaneously afflicted are accounted for by the laws of heredity—that both twins become victims of afflictions from which their parents suffered in a greater or less degree; and it is obviously feasible that when one twin inherits a disease the other twin will also inherit it, and that the strange facts which I have just given you; I am positively certain it would not fit another case I know.

It was a case of twin brother and sister. The sympathy was very strong between them; they were more like two parts of one person. When one was suffering any pain—headache, toothache, or any little ill like these—the other generally had a suggestion of it, although at the time of which I am speaking they lived more than a hundred miles apart. They were very much attached to each other, and corresponded regularly. I have seen letters of theirs in which, sometimes one, sometimes the other says, "I am sure you are not well to-day," or "I feel that you are writing to me."

Well, one day the brother, who was employed in London was run over and had his

LEG BROKEN BY A CAB.

He was taken to an hospital, where he was kept for a few days. On being sent to his lodgings he found a letter written by his sister on the evening of the day in the afternoon of which he broke his left leg. In that letter the girl wrote, among a mass of other things, "Are you suffering with rheumatism, Joss? I think I am, for I have had a nasty ache in my left leg since luncheon. It came on suddenly, and I feel sure it is rheumatism."

You might ask why, if the sympathy were so strong between them, the girl did not guess something serious was wrong with her brother, and come up to town. My answer would be that during the day the pain in her leg increased so much that she was perfectly convinced she had rheumatism, and took to her bed, where she remained until she felt better, when news of the accident reached her, and explained her rheumatism.

But the fact which strikes me as being most peculiar is that when the brother died a short time ago—a year or so—the girl did not die also; she sank into a very low state of health when he was dying out in the Transvaal, but entirely recovered some time after his death, and has since enjoyed excellent health; indeed, she, who, like her brother, had been a weakling, says she half believes that his dying her brother took her and his own delicacy away, and left her his strength as an addition to her own.

Whether there is anything in the suggestion or not, I should not like to say, but I don't see why there should not be—twin-sympathy is a truly remarkable mystery.

Rosebance! Yes indeed, I have come across some truly extraordinary cases of resemblance. For instance, I knew a case of two young men, who were twins, and so weirdly alike that their own parents really had the

greatest difficulty in deciding who was who; the only way of preventing mistakes, in fact, was to make them dress differently on all occasions. The only apparent difference between them was that one was half an inch taller than the other and very slightly darker.

The resemblance was a source of endless amusement to the men who often deceived parents and friends by assuming each other's clothes. To show you how extraordinary was the likeness, I will tell you

A LITTLE ANECDOTE

About them, which I heard from their sister.

The twins had been parted for some six weeks—one had been staying in Manchester while the other had remained in Leeds. Well, one day, one of the brothers chanced to go to the railway station and came face to face with his twin, who had suddenly returned unexpectedly. The two met in a doorway, and so quickly that they both drew back, fully convinced for the instant that they had mistaken a large mirror for the door. You can easily imagine from that fact the resemblance was strong.

On one occasion the brothers, just for the fun of the thing, decided to attend each other's office as each other, and the joke would have been perfectly successful but for the ignorance of the one of the other's business and the dissimilarity of their handwriting. Had it not been for these two circumstances, I am quite sure they could have fulfilled each other's business functions without their employers or fellow-clerks being aware of the substitution. That case is the most remarkable I know so far as resemblance goes.

You know, perhaps, that very often twins outgrow their similarity; it is nearly always more marked when they are young. I know of a very strange case of this kind. If you saw the two—they are twins—together, you would not for a moment imagine, they were twins. Yet, as children they were so wonderfully alike that their own mother committed a blunder she was never able to rectify.

She was putting them to bed one evening when they were quite babies and they were not talking and when they were both undressed she discovered that their nightclothes were missing. So she bundled them into a cot, and went in search of the missing clothes. When she returned she was utterly at a loss to decide who was who, and to this day she does not know whether she is calling each by the Christian name of the other. A strange position of things it would be difficult to imagine.

Yet subsequent facts added to the strangeness.

A distant relative died in Australia and left a small sum of money to one of the girls—well, call her Alice,—to whom she had taken a fancy when she was a child, and he in England. The humor of the thing is obvious. Supposing the girls both claimed that money, as they might easily do—in the law courts, how in the world would the Bench find a decision which would be just to the girls and fit the letter of the testator's wishes? I think the facts of that case would form the ground work for an extremely funny farce.

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CAUSE OF HAY FEVER.

Season is Approaching When Lots of People Will Suffer.

"The season is approaching," said a prominent physician to the writer recently, "when a great many people will suffer from what is known as hay fever, and as but few who are susceptible to the complaint know how to avoid, much less to cure it, a few remarks about the nature and treatment of the ailment may not be uninteresting."

"Hay fever is a nervous affection, and is most prevalent during the spring and early summer, from which the poorer classes and more especially those in populous towns rarely ever suffer. It is known only to the educated, whose nervous systems are highly developed, and, though not in any sense dangerous, it is at all times very irritating and troublesome. The smell of hay, grass, the pollen of flowers, the odor of fruit, dust or draught will generate the complaint or excite an attack in persons subject to it, but rain or damp weather invariably brings relief. At one time it was generally supposed that the odor of hay when being mown or carted could alone induce the affection, which is closely analogous to asthma, but recent observation shows that its prevalence is entirely independent of the existence of hay, and is really a nervous derangement."

"A visit to the seaside, a trip to sea, or residence in a populous town will, however, remove the asthmatic tendency, but one of the best remedies is tobacco smoke, retained in the mouth as long as possible and then ejected through the nostrils. The inhalation of the steam of ten drops of creosote in a pint of water is also good, or twenty drops of spirits of camphor to the same quantity of water, made a very effective inhalation. But the affection being a nervous one, tonics and nourishing diet are more essential than any of these palliatives which merely afford temporary relief."

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SHAKESPEARE'S LIMITATION.

It beats me, mused the modern theatre-manager. This here, William Shakespeare wrote the play of Hamlet, in which Ophelia gets drowned, yet he leaves the drowning scene out.

It does seem queer, observed the stage carpenter, with a touch of vanity; but maybe he didn't know how to make a tank.

Inhale Quickcure for Catarrh, 15c, 25c, 50c.

RUSSIAN LIARS.

Russian diplomats hold that it is no disgrace or dishonor to lie in the most unblinking manner in order to promote the interests of the country and of their sovereigns. When the late Czar asked once of Count Ignatieff how he came to be nick-named "The Father of Lies," while Ambassador at Constantinople, he with a low bow responded: "In the service of your Majesty."

Quickcure for Corns, 15c, 25c, 50c.

MONEY QUESTION SOLVED.

I don't see what we are going to do for money, said a member of the Spanish cabinet.

There's no trouble about money, answered the financier. We can print tons of it. The only difficulty lies in getting people to take it.

TEACHING THE PARROT.

Owners of these interesting birds must remember that if they wish them to talk well the best time to teach them is in the evening, with the cage covered over and placed in a dark room, and the teacher enunciating the words slowly and distinctly and persistently. The natives of India consider that a slight operation upon the bird's tongue is necessary before it will speak easily.

THE GENUINE THING.—Sturgis had been visiting without any other member of the family. The evening after his return his little sister asked him if he had said his prayers every night. No, not once, replied Sturgis; I had a really-true vacation.

Inhale Quickcure for Asthma, 15c, 25c, 50c.

THE PROOF.

Do you say that your husband is weak-minded, Mrs. Boston? Very. No matter what I tell him to do he invariably goes and does the other thing, poor man.

Hartford & Vim Tires

LARGEST PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt of France is the largest in the world, and amounts to £1,600,000,000.

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CONSIDERATE VOCALIST.

The birds are singing light and free. With charm that never fails; They never struggle for high C Nor run chromatic scales.

A Good Dictionary for Three Cents.

A dictionary containing the definitions of 10,000 of the most useful and important words in the English language, is published by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont. It contains some interesting facts, it is a complete dictionary, concise and correct.

In compiling this book care has been taken to omit none of those common words whose spelling or exact use occasions at times a momentary difficulty, even to well-educated people. The main aim has been to give as much useful information as possible in a limited space. With this in view, every word, adjective, noun and verb are all obviously connected in meaning, usually one only has been inserted. The volume will thus be found to contain the meaning of very many more words than it professes to explain.

To those who already have a dictionary, this book will commend itself, because it is compact, light and convenient; to those who have no dictionary whatever, it will be invaluable. One may be secured by writing to the above address mentioning this paper, and enclosing a three-cent stamp.

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An Irishman, the son of one who had been hanged, having been asked how his father died, he replied that he was generally supposed that the odor of hay when being mown or carted could alone induce the affection, which is closely analogous to asthma, but recent observation shows that its prevalence is entirely independent of the existence of hay, and is really a nervous derangement."

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SARTORIAL WIT.

Jack—Did you know that Jones, the tailor, asked Miss Swell to marry him? Dick—So? And what did she say? Jack—She gave him a fitting answer.

Dick—What was it? Jack—She told him he was out out. Dick—And that, ended it, I suppose? Jack—Yes, he didn't press his suit further.

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FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

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