

FACTS ALL SHOULD KNOW.

A Physician Tells all About the Disease of Small Pox.

The following article from the pen of a local physician who has given the disease of small pox and its history considerable study should be read by everybody in South Carolina:

In view of the general attention that is being devoted to the continued presence of small pox at Atlanta, and the increased interest occasioned by the appearance of the disease at other points, I have thought that some remarks relative to this most loathsome affliction and its preventive treatment by vaccination, would be welcomed by the public.

Small pox dates from remote antiquity. At one time or another it has prevailed in every quarter of the globe. The earliest knowledge of its occurrence is derived from India, where the Brahmins practiced inoculation many centuries before the Christian era. So common was the disease in that country, and so terrible its ravages, that a goddess was worshipped as a protectress against it. During the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries it prevailed in Europe, and two centuries later it appeared on the American continent. To obtain an adequate idea of the appalling ravages of small pox in its unfiltered activity we have but to look back at its past history. During the 18th century one-half of the total mortality in Europe was caused by small pox. We find that in 1518 it helped to complete the depopulation of St. Domingo, which the horrors of war and famine had begun. Soon afterwards, in Mexico, it even surpassed the cruelties of conquest, suddenly snatching down 3,500,000 of population. Prescott, in his "Conquest of Mexico," describes the epidemic as sweeping over the land like fire over the prairies, smiting down prince and peasant, and "leaving its path strewn with the dead bodies of the natives, who perished in heaps like cattle stricken with murrain." A striking account of its ravages among the Indians of this country may be gathered from the following passages in a book published in 1841:

"Thirty millions of white men are now scuffling for the goods and luxuries of life over the bones and ashes of 12,000,000 of red men, 6,000,000 of whom have fallen victims to the small pox." To turn to Europe again, we find that during the 18th century "fully two-thirds of all children born were, sooner or later, attacked by small pox, and that on an average one-twelfth of all children born succumbed to that disease." Nearly one-tenth of all persons who died in London during the latter half of the last century died of that cause alone. In every country visited the younger part of the population were peculiarly its victims; and royal and noble families were not exempt.

But the ravages of small pox are not half enumerated in the list of the myriads whom it has slain. From the earliest to the latest records of the disease there is constant mention of the tax which it levies upon survivors. In pre-vaccination times many who did not die were rendered weak or deformed for life, and blindness often ensued from the scourge. Macaulay, who justly assigns to small pox the foremost place as "the most terrible of all ministers of death," exclaims in a striking passage, "The havoc of the plague had been far more rapid, but the plague had visited our shores only once or twice within living memory. The small pox was always present, filling the churchyards with corpses, tormenting with constant fears all whom it had not yet stricken, leaving on those whose lives it spared the hideous traces of its power, turning the babe into a changeling at whom the mother shuddered; and making the eyes and cheeks of the betrothed maiden objects of horror to the lover." An authority affirms that 90 per cent. of all cases of blindness met with in the bazaars of India are due to the same disease. No wonder the ancient proverb, "From small pox and love few remain free."

Now let us have briefly the history of vaccination and give some account of its nature and importance. The first method of immunizing the individual against small pox was known as inoculation, which was introduced into England in 1717 by Lady Montague. Subsequently, it was quite generally practiced throughout Great Britain.

In 1776, Dr. Edward Jenner, an English practitioner, was first attracted by a popular belief, common among the dairy hands of the northern section of the country, that any one who had contracted small pox from milking cows effected with the disease was insusceptible to small pox. After a close investigation of the subject, Jenner arrived at conclusions sufficiently satisfactory to warrant the experiment of taking matter from one of these sores found upon the udder of the cow and introducing it into the arm of a person who was supposed to be unprotected from small pox. After the sore upon the arm had run its course, he exposed the individual to

the influence of small pox, and in this way established its protective power. The story of Jenner's struggles to convince his contemporaries of the value of his observations forms a most interesting and instructive chapter in the history of medical progress. No member of the profession ever received more anathemas or more scurrilous abuse than did this great apostle of vaccination. Undaunted, Jenner kept bravely at work and by repeated experiments became convinced that by vaccination perfect protection could be obtained against small pox. Within the space of a few years Jenner compelled the profession to admit his statements and adopt his practice, and a few years after its recognition, the practice became a fixed therapeutic procedure, until to-day after standing the test of practice for a century, it is the greatest medical preventive the world has ever known. There is no question among the intelligent portion of the profession but that vaccination, properly performed, is a perfect protection against the infection of small pox—indeed, it has been authoritatively asserted that if a person contract the disease after he has been vaccinated, then the operation has not been properly performed.

Now what is the relation existing between small pox and cow pox? Jenner was the first to advance the belief that the two diseases have a common ancestry, or are identical; recent investigations seem to strengthen this view, but controversy still wages hotly around the question, and it still awaits a definite solution. A common origin does seem probable, since it is not unlikely that small pox may have departed widely from the primal type and by successive reproductions on man have gained an exalted virulence.

It is seen that vaccination, like all active measures for protecting the public health, has emanated from and has been fostered by the medical profession; the assertion sometimes made by ignorant laymen that the profession has been influenced in its efforts to maintain the practice by motives of pecuniary benefit, is so obviously ingenious as to call for no notice. The practice stands to-day as one of the greatest blessings that human thought and observation have conferred upon mankind. Formerly, small pox was so common that according to the philosophy of the times, every person had either passed through it, or was destined some time to experience an attack. Now we never hear of an epidemic, and when sporadic cases occur the disease is quickly stamped out. The facts of all epidemics since the practice became general bear unanswerable testimony to the value of vaccination. The failing of vaccination is largely due to the absence of any widespread epidemic of small pox within recent years; the feeling of false security thus created has led the people to put off for the moment the temporary inconvenience of being vaccinated. When the disease does threaten to spread in a community, there is a rush for vaccination, which, by straining the local resources to their limits, renders it difficult to secure the most efficient protection in all cases. It is important to undergo the operation before the epidemic arrives, for when once the disease is fully manifested, vaccination is practically without avail, for it is probable that immunity does not reach its maximum until the fourth week after vaccination. Now, an attack of small pox does not invariably confer immunity from the disease. Vaccination efficiently performed in infancy and repeated in the 13th or 14th year has shown itself to be almost an absolute protection against small pox. In those cases in which small pox occurs after vaccination, the disease is almost without exception so far modified that its identity in its earliest stages is frequently unrecognized.

It must not be supposed that vaccination, however valuable to the community at large, is not exempt from that liability to accident which exists in all human affairs. Operations of even a trivial nature sometimes prove fatal. There is an average of one death to 14,159 primary vaccinations. If the virus be carefully selected and properly used, and if reasonable care be exercised after vaccination, there is no doubt that the dangers of the operation are extremely small. This small element of risk should deter no one.

The prompt action of the authorities of the city schools in adopting measures to have all the school children vaccinated, should meet with the commendation of all; a single case of the disease developing in a common school of unvaccinated children would probably give rise to hundreds of cases. This was fully demonstrated by the epidemic a few years ago at Montreal, when a single case, at first supposed to be chicken pox, resulted in the death of 1,000 children.

In the face of an epidemic every one should be vaccinated; no matter the number of previous vaccinations; all persons who, when danger threatens, neglect to avail themselves of this means of protection against small pox, constitute a serious menace, nuisance and indirect cause of expense to the community in which they reside.

R. W. G.

STOMACH NOT NECESSARY.

An Interesting Story of How a Woman Lived without this Organ.

Springfield Republican.

There are so many people in all civilized lands who would like to be rid of their stomachs that additional details of the unique operation at Zurich last August are of great interest. The *Republican* yesterday described in a general way how Dr. Carl Schlatter, of the University of Zurich, removed Anna Landis's stomach entirely from her body, and then set her going again in better health than she had enjoyed for years.

It seems that when the diseased stomach had been revealed in all its hopelessness as an organ of digestion, the surgeon made bold to remove it because, first, it was clear that the woman would soon die with the stomach, and, second, that she might live without it, inasmuch as other patients were known to have survived for considerable periods after the greater part of their stomachs had been cut away, while dogs had lived for years in good eating and fighting order with no stomachs at all.

When the organ had been removed the problem of how to unite the end of the oesophagus and the end of the intestine, in order to make the alimentary canal complete, caused some temporary difficulty. The two ends would not unite without stretching, and that would never do. No general on a battlefield ever met a serious emergency with more coolness and intelligence than did this German surgeon. "In this predicament," one reads in the *Medical Record*, Dr. Schlatter "found that what he calls the knuckle of the intestine below the severed cut (it might well be called the first bend in the intestine, as it lay coiled in the abdomen) could easily be brought to join the end of the oesophagus. Accordingly he closed up the end of the intestine absolutely, as one might close the end of a severed artery. Then he took the bend of the intestine in hand, cut a slit in it that would just fit the severed end of the oesophagus, and sewed the end and the slit together. This done, there was then a direct channel from the patient's throat down through the intestines, while in place of a stomach was the end of the intestine—a length of about 15 inches that lay on one side."

This end, we should say, had now become a new vermiform appendix—at least, something very similar to the familiar and mysterious organ which causes the appendicitis.

The pulse immediately after the operation was 96, but it became 140, and even 160 later. The patient was nourished for two days with enemas of eggs, milk and brandy, and on September 14, days after she had lost her stomach, Miss Landis was fed on milk, bouillon, eggs and wine at intervals of two hours. On the 13th temperature and pulse were reaching a normal condition; on the 16th she ate some scraped meat, and on the 26th, a month after the operation, she consumed and assimilated half a chicken, although not without some vomiting. She was "up and around" October 11, and on December 9, when examined by Dr. Edmund C. Wendt, of New York, he found a woman 56 years old, with no stomach, a ruddy complexion, fair appearance, clean, moist tongue, moderately full and vigorous pulse, and good general alacrity of movement. Her appetite was good, and she had gained since leaving the surgeon's table three pounds in weight.

Dr. Wendt's conclusions, prefaced by the qualification that he would not indulge in "sweeping generalizations" on the strength of one case, are stated in full as follows:

1. The human stomach is not a vital organ.
2. The digestive capacity of the human stomach has been considerably overrated.
3. The fluids and solids constituting an ordinary mixed diet are capable of complete digestion and assimilation without the aid of the human stomach.
4. A gain in the weight of the body may take place in spite of the total absence of gastric activity.
5. Typical vomiting may occur without a stomach.
6. The general health of a person need not immediately deteriorate on account of removal of the stomach.
7. The most important office for the human stomach is to act as a reservoir for the reception, preliminary preparation, and pulsation of food and fluids. It also fulfills a useful purpose in regulating the temperature of swallowed solids and liquids.
8. The chemical function of the stomach may be completely and satisfactorily performed by the other divisions of the alimentary canal.
9. Gastric juice is hostile to the development of many micro-organisms.
10. The free acid of normal gastric secretions has no power to arrest putrefactive changes in the intestinal tract. Its antiseptic and bactericide potency was overestimated.

All this will be very welcome news to dyspeptics the world over. The possibilities of the discovery are immense. When you have worn out

your stomach for any cause, without, of course, having injured the rest of the alimentary canal, you may have the stomach removed, and with the ends of the canal joined together all will be merry and eatable again. Here, too, is a new field for the surgeons, which ought to yield immense additions to their practice and equivalent additions to their incomes. For the man with a poor stomach is one of the most unhappy of beings, and he would ordinarily pay most of his substance to be forever relieved of it.

Within a short time, less than two years, have come the discovery of the X ray, which is of great importance to surgery, and this remarkable revelation of the real importance of the human stomach. What next?

By United States Mail to Heaven.

The *New York World* tells the following:

Two pennies dropped on the ledge of the brass-barred window. The postal clerk looked up. He was out of sorts. Two holidays in succession had been too much for him. A little golden head appeared, just topping the ledge.

"Well?" snapped the clerk. He had just opened his window in the postoffice yesterday morning, and eight hours of the hardest kind of work were in sight. The little girl, who had been first in the line, hesitated a moment. Then she plucked up courage.

"Please, mister," she began, "I want a stamp for this to send it to my little brother."

In her hands she held up a package done up in brown paper and roughly tied with a bit of coarse twine. It was almost falling apart in her tiny hands. She held it out to the clerk, who took it with the same grace that he had been taking thousands of packages during the holidays.

He looked at the address to see whether it was foreign or domestic. Then he looked back at the child. There was a queer look in his eye that had not been there before. Postoffice clerks see many strange packages and any quantity of them addressed to "Santa Claus." But this one was not for Santa Claus. It read:

Robert McNaughton,  
Heaven.

For a moment the clerk hesitated. The little one took it for a refusal to accept the parcel because she had not paid enough for the postage. Quickly the tiny hands fumbled at a little purse, where two more pennies were in keeping. These were on the window ledge in a moment with the other two.

"There's more pennies, sir," said the little one. "Please take it now. I haven't any more pennies."

"Why, my child," said the clerk, who had babies of his own at home, "—"

"Oh, please," broke in the little one, "it's for my little brother in heaven. He died last week and perhaps he is so strange in heaven that God has forgotten to give him any Christmas present. And he'd be so disappointed."

Tears were in the clerk's eyes by this time—he was thinking of the little flaxen-haired one of his own at home. Tears were in the child's eyes, too, and the little lip was quivering.

"Oh, sir, it's all right," she insisted. "This is my very own to give away. Santa Claus brought it to me on Christmas. My papa doesn't know and my mamma doesn't know. They cried on Christmas 'cause Robbie had gone to live with the angels. But I want to send something to Robbie all myself."

The little one was crying now. Her sob came fast and deep. Her poor little heart was on the point of breaking.

"Robbie went away to God last week!" she sobbed, "and little Elsie has no one left to play with."

The clerk blew his nose very hard and then explained that the mail did not go where her little brother was so happy with the angels. It wasn't because she didn't have enough to pay for it. It was because the steam cars couldn't go there. He was as tender as he could be, and one woman in black who had come on the line that was kept standing there because of the little one's pleading began to weep.

So the clerk handed back the package to the child and she turned away with tears of bitter disappointment in her eyes.

"Robbie will have no Christmas!" she sobbed.

Just then the cover came off her precious package. It held a little white lamb, tied with a pink ribbon.

During the past two years, Mrs. J. W. Alexander, wife of the editor of the *Waynesboro* (Miss.) *Times*, has, in a great many instances, relieved her baby when in the first stages of croup, by giving it Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. She looks upon this remedy as a household necessity and believes that no better medicine has ever been put in bottles. There are many thousands of mothers in this broad land who are of the same opinion. It is the only remedy that can always be depended upon as a preventative and cure for croup. The 25 and 50 cent bottles are for sale by the Hill-Or Drug Company.

Coming of the Millennium.

NEW HAVEN, December 25.—"Prof." Anderson, of Lyme's famous "Holiness Band," is out with another series of predictions of what is to happen when the great change of the world comes two years hence. "Since the times allotted," writes the professor, "to the four Gentile empires end on November 15, 1899, at evening, (probably,) Jerusalem time, and the fifth kingdom, that of Israel, begins, let us consider some of the characteristics of that kingdom, and we shall indeed see that the proclamation that heralded the gift to the earth of that kingdom was, indeed, 'Good tidings of joy which shall be to all people.'"

"The first characteristic of this kingdom will be the rigid and exact justice with which the law will be administered. All oppression of the poor will cease, and any attempted oppression will be checked in the beginning."

"Second—It shall be the kingdom of peace. There shall be no war in all the earth for a thousand years, and then but one great revolt, followed by an eternity of peace."

"Third—There shall be an abundance of food. No more hunger, no more want of any kind. Every desire of man's heart that is not wrong shall be abundantly satisfied. In order that there may be this abundance the climate will be changed, and as a result, there will be such fertility as the world has not yet seen. The animals will become peaceful and will eat grass again. The deserts will be fertile, and from Jerusalem a river will flow into the Dead Sea, freshening its waters, and then on into the Indian Ocean. All that desert land shall be a very garden."

"Another point is mentioned by Micah and that is there will be no house rent to pay. They shall sit every man under his own vine and under his fig tree. There will be no more great tenement houses, no more slums, filled with every kind of evil, but every man shall own his own house and open yard. Think of how many there are who suffer for air and see the great blessing that this little thing will bring! Again, there shall be healing for all disease."

"Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as a hart and the tongue of the dumb shall sing. Those parents who have laid away their little ones shall know that never again shall that sorrow come to the children of men, for 'There shall be no more thence an infant of days.'"

Think of all the romances and schemes of a golden age from Plato and Thomas Moore to Howells and Bellamy, and think that the blessed reality exceeds those books a hundredfold. And then look at the hopeless outlook before us under the operation of the present harsh law of the survival of the fittest—how Spencer sees nothing before us but a crushing social tyranny, and how Huxley sees that the necessary consequence of present arrangements is to press the great part of men down into constant life of starvation, and then say if these things that I am telling this people are not the best of good news."—*New York Times*.

Eczema All Her Life.

Mr. E. D. Jenkins, of Lithonia, Ga., says that his daughter, Ida, inherited a severe case of Eczema, which the usual mercury and potash remedies failed to relieve. Year by year she was treated with various medicines, external applications and internal remedies, without result. Her sufferings were intense, and her condition grew steadily worse. All the so-called blood remedies did not seem to reach the disease at all until S. S. S. was given, when an improvement was at once noticed.



The medicine was continued with favorable results, and now she is cured sound and well, her skin is perfectly clear and pure and she has been saved from what threatened to blight her life forever.

A Real Blood Remedy.

S. S. S. (guaranteed purely vegetable) cures Eczema, Scalds, Cancer, Rheumatism, or any other blood trouble. It is a real blood remedy and always cures even after all else fails.

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NOTICE.

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PAUL E. STEPHENS,  
Administrator.

Oct. 27, 1897

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When Christmas stops coming once a year, when we can't sell more Dean's Patent Flour than any other grade sold in Anderson County and prove it; when we can't beat the town on Shoes, and when the good people of old Anderson County say to us that we have imposed upon them and duped them, then, and not till then, will your humble servants throw up the sponge and close out at Cost. Until then you can get what you want—Dry Goods, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Jeans, Flour and other Groceries, and Canned Meats as cheap at our store as anywhere else, but you'll not get them at Cost.

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