Doctors Say Both the Stone and Cures Effected by it are Mythical.

"Madness in dogs," said a physician, "is mentioned in the Iliad of Homer, and hydrophobia is described as a disease by Aristotle. Democritis, the laughing philosopher, developed a theory of the malady 400 years before the Christian era. Hippocrates, the father of medicine, and contemporary with Democrates, recommended the sucking of the wound made by the bite of a rabid dog. In the absence of a physician to cauterize the wound or a surgeon to cut it out, the medical fraternity of to-day would prescribe the same remedy. The first thing an awkward person does when he smashes his finger with a hammer is to jam the injured member in his mouth. Persons bitten by venomous snakes have removed the poison in the same manner.

"The absorbent qualities of certain kinds of earth or clay have led to their use in cases of poisonous bites to absorb the poison, or laceration of the flesh to stop the flow of blood. When the solitary plowman encounters a nest of bees and gets the worst of the contest he applies a handful of earth moistened with tobacco juice to the stings. The adhesive quality of a spongy sort of clay probably gave rise to the mythical stories concerning the use of madstones for bites of rabid animals. Madstones have a mysterious history. Everybody has heard of them, but very few persons have seen them. The encyclopedias describe them as light, porous stones which have the quality of adhering to a wound. Their origin is not even hinted at, and their peculiar qualities are not given. Medical authorities do not mention them, though they speak of all the different remedies applied to the wounds made by animals afflicted with hydrophobia.

"Tradition says the stone is flat, ovalshaped, and of a bluish color. It is said that it will adhere to the poisoned wound until filled with the virus, when it falls off. After being washed and soaked in hot water or milk it will again stick to the wound if it contains any poisonous matter. It is claimed that these stones are efficacious if applied to the wound several days or even several weeks after the victim has been bitten by the mad dog.

"The cures effected by this wonderful stone are mythical as the stone itself. The possessors of these magic healers claim many lives saved from rabies. The medical records do not mention a case. It is impossible to lay your hands on the man who has been bitten by a mad dog and aved by the mad-stone."
George P. Cunningham has made

the study of hydrophobia a speciality, and it is more than probable has cauterized more wounds made by dogs than any other man in Chicago. His office is a few doors from the Chicago avenue police station. Every person on the North Side bitten by a dog supposed to be mad rushes to the station and the victim is hurried to Dr. Cunningham. Forty to fifty dog-bitten people come to him every year, and he estimates that he has cauterized over two hundred wounds made by these animals. But three persons whose wounds he has treated have died of hydrophobia. "If the madstone is a fraud, the medi-

cal fraternity ought to prove it," Dr. Cunningham said. "I have examined all the encyclopedias and medical authorities that come within my reach to secure some positive information concerning madstones. I have not the slightest idea of their origin. I can't even find out what they look like. I have always wanted to see one so that in rambling about I might pick up a stone that looked like it and make some experiments. I have never seen a person who had seen one. They must have the power of a suction-pump if they can draw out the poison that has been in the system two or three weeks, as it is claimed they can do.

"I imagine that a madstone has about as much effect as a piece of blotting paper. Anything that has absorbent qualities would be beneficial, but I should hate to risk a madstone thirty minutes after the poison had entered the wound even if it has the qualities claimed for it. The virus enters the system the moment after the bite. Not all of the poison is taken up at once, of course, and by promp: cauterization the remaining virus is destroyed."—Chicago News.

Didn't Hart Him.

A hillside farmer, driving a miserable looking horse, stopped in front of a feed store and was trying to sell a frost-bitten rooster when a man rushed up to him and said :

"Look at your blamed old horse, up to his eyes in my bale of hay."

"Is it your hay?"

"Of course, it is. Take your horse away from here."

"Of course I will, fur I never like ter tramp on a man's rights-"

"Take him away, I tell you!" "Yes, I will. Ya, back here! Well," he added as he climbed into the wagon and started away, "thar's one consoling thing erbout the transackshun. The hoss don't 'pear ter be hurt much,"-Arkansaw Traveler.

Life Cars.

In a little gray house with a red roof, which stands on a desolate stretch of beach in Ocean County, New Jersey, there hangs an oval iron case which has & singular history. The house is a station of the Life-Saving Service, and the case is the first life-car ever used in the world Its story is as follows.

After the organization of the Life Saving Service as a branch of the Gov ernment, in 1871, its inspectors visited every part of the coast to examine into the condition of the station-houses and their equipments.

One of these officers was on the New Jersey coast during a heavy storm, when a ship was driven on the bar. He saw the desperate efforts of the surfmen to reach her in their heavy life-boat. They at last succeeded, and took off as many of the passengers as the boat would hold, but in returning, it was swamped by the furious breakers, and rescued and rescuers were washed into the sea.

For weeks and months afterwards the inspector went about like a man distraught, intent on devising a model for a boat which should be at once light enough to handle in such seas, and heavy enough not to be overturned by them. The problem was so difficult that he was in dispair. But one day he startled his companions by exclaiming, "Swing it on a cable, and put a lid to it!"

The idea was at once carried out. This life-car was mada, -an oval, air-tight case closed by a lid which screws down, and hung by iron rings on a cable extended from the shore to the ship. On the first day it was used, two hundred persons escaped in it from the Ayrshire, a vessel wrecked off the New Jersey

These cars, of an improved shape, are now to be found in every life-saving station. But this old battered veteran is regarded with a touching pride and -f fection by the brave surfmen.

"She has done good work in the world," they say; an epitaph which we would all be glad to share with the lifecar .- Youth's Companion.

Harpy-Hunting.

The Dutch planters in Java invite each other to bat soirees. The cavernous south coast of their island harbors myriads of kalongs, or fruit-eating bats, for their size about the most voracious mammals of our latter-day creation. In a single night a full-grown kalong will eat his own weight in bananas, grapes, or bread-fruit, and in stress of hunger will attack any soft vegetable substance, and, indeed, almost any organic substance whatever, for captive specimens have been know to devour sponges and kid gloves. A few minutes after sunset those harpies leave their dens, and, after circling about the coast in shricking swarms, decide on the plan of their campaign, and descend en masse on the fruit groves of the most convenient valley. At the first alarm the villagers snatch up their slings and start at a double-quick, picking up stones as they run. Every minute's delay may cost them a bushel of fruit. But before charging the marauders they send their best marksmen to some vantageground on the seaward side of the battleground, having found by experience that the flying harpies will take a bec-line to the coast. A few scouts then rush in with loud yells, or open the attack by firing off a blunderbus, and in the next minute the answering shrieks of the harpies rise on the air, and with a rush the whole swarm sail away, followed by a volley of hurtling stones .-Felix L. Oswald.

Cats as Bed-fellows.

In reply to the query of a correspondent as to the popular belief that a cat will suck the breath of a sleeping infant, Babyhood says: "Dr. Tomlinson of Chicago, dismisses the subject Socratically: What good do you suppose it would do a cat to draw into its lungs breath which a human being has just exhaled?' Nevertheless it may be said, with all respect for Dr. Tombinson and no respect at all for superstition, that the warmth-loving cat has a way of preferring baby's crib as a sleeping-place to any other bed or corner. If driven away, she will return stealthily again and again to the snug covert. She loves, furthermore, to nestle close to baby's body, as often as not thrusting her whiskered nose against the velvet cheek, pink and warm with sleep. Thus far, she may do no harm. But when she occasionally curls her bulk of five, six or eight pounds' weight upon the sleeper's heaving chest mischief may come of it. To escape the risk of this mischance, if for no other reason, keep pussy away from your slumbering baby. Indeed, he is best off without any bedfellow."

The Doctor Nonplussed.

A little fellow happened into Dr. Hutchins' office a few days ago on an errand. The physician looked him over and rather startlingly remarked:

"You're just the kind of a boy Pm looking for. I'm going to kill you."

The small chap was not a whit abashed. but looking wisely up into the doctor's face, asked: "Do you kill many boys in the course

of the year?". The doctor gave him a quarter in

place of a dime, and forgot to ask for the change .- Minneapolis Tribuns

Fine Hair.

The eccentric man has always fine hair, and you never yet saw a man of erratic tendencies, who at the same time had a sound mind, that was not refined in his tastes. Fine hair indicates refinement. You may have noticed that men engaged in intellectual or especially in æsthetic pursuits, where delicacy is required, have invariably fine, luxuriant hair and beard. The same men, as a class, particularly painters, are always remarkable for their personal peculiarities.

CERTAIN MINERALS, once forming & part of almost every medicine, are now regarded dangerous and unnecessary. The evils they produce are worse than the diseases they were supposed to cure. Dr. WALKER'S CALIFORNIA VINEGAR BIT-TERS contains nothing but the juices of plants-and cures all disorders of the liver, skin, kidneys, digestive organs, and blood.

Old friends are best. King James used to call for his old shoes; they were the easiest for his feet.

During the war, Dr. Lloyd, of Ohio, contracted consumption. He says: "It was by the use of Allen's Lung Balsam that I am now alive and enjoying perfect health." If you have a cough or cold, take at once Allen's Lung Balsam. 25c., 50c. and \$1 per bottle, at Druggists

It is at Los Angeles. Cal., that a woman gives up all her time to forty cats,

Danger Ahead!

There is danger ahead?

There is danger ahead for you if you neglect he warnings which nature is giving you of the approach of the fell-destroyer, consumption. Night-sweats, spitting of blood, loss of appetite—these symptoms have a terrible meaning. You can be cured if you do not wait until it is too late. Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medial Discovery," the greatest blood-purifier known, will restore your lost health. As a nutritive it is far superior to cod liver oil. All druggists.

That which causes us to lose much of our time is the repugnance which we naturally have to labor.

"I Would That I Were Dead!"

cries many a wretched housewife to-day, as, weary and disheartened, she forces herself to perform her daily task. "It don't seem as if I could get through the day. This dreadful back-ache, these frightful dragging-down sensations will kill me! Is there no relief?" Yes, madam, there is. Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" is an unfalling remedy for the complaints to which your sex is liable. It will restore you to health again. Try it. All druggists.

That which seemeth most cosual and subject to fortune is yet dispers by the ordinance of God.

LADIES! Those dull, tired looks and feelings speak volumes! Dr. Kilmer's Female Remedy carrects all conditions, restores vigor and vitality and brings back youthful bloom and beauty. Price \$1.00-6 bottles \$5.00.

The joys of heaven are like the stars, which by reason of our remoteness appear extremely little.

• • • • Delicate diseases of either sex, how-ever induced, speedily and radically cured, Address, in confidence, World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

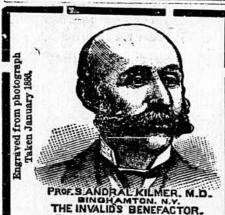
The injury of prodigality leads to this, that he who will not economize will have to agonize.

FOR DYSPEPSIA, INDIGESTION, depression of spirits, general debility in their various forms, also as a preventive against fever and ague and other intermittent fevers, the "Ferro-Phosphor-ated Elixir of Calisaya," made by Caswell, Haz-ard & Co., New York, and sold by all Druggists, is the best tonic; and for patients recovering from fever or other sickness it has no equal.

Dr. Robert Newton, late President of the Eclectic College, of the city of New York, and formerly of Cincinnati, Ohio, used Dr. WM. HALL'S BALSAM very extensively in his practice, as many of his patients, now living, and restored to health by the use of this invaluable medicine, can amply testify. He always said that so good a remedy ought to be prescribed freely by every physician as a sovereign remedy in all cases of lung diseases. It cures Consumption, and has no equal for all pectoral complaints

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The man without a purpose lives on, but he



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Recovers the "run-down;" bed-ridden" or "abandoned." It Ellminates Humors and Blood Impurities that cause Scrofula, Cancer, Tumor, pimples and blotches. The sge for Pessaries and Exposures is past. Woman's Health and usefulness again restored. Dr. Kilmer treats internal Tumor, Cancer. Yes can'tafford to neglect early symptoms. Letters of inquiry promptly answered. Dr. Kilmer's Female Dispensary, Binghamton, N. Y. "Invalids' Guide to Health" (Sent Free). SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

Well to Remember.

That wealth may bring luxuries, but that luxuries do not always bring happi-

That sleep is the best stimulant, a nervine safe for all to take. That it is better to be able to say no than to be able to read Latin.

That cold air is not not necessarily pure, nor warm air necessarily impure. That a cheerful face is nearly as good for an invalid as healthy weather,

That advice is like castor oil, easy enough to give, but hard enough to take. That there are men whose friends are more to be pittied than their enemies.

That nature is a rag merchant who works up every shred and art and end into new creations. That an open mind, an open hand, and an open heart, will everywhere find an

open door. That it is not enough to keep the poor in mind; give them something to make

them keep you in mind.
That life's real heroes and heroines are those who bear their own burdens bravely and give a helping hand to those around

That hasty words often rankle in the wound which injury inflicts, and that soft words assuage it, forgiving cures, and forgetting takes away the scar.

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The dangers of whooping Cough are averted by the use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

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Without health life has no sunshine. Who could be happy with dyspepsia, piles, low spirite, headache, agus or diseases of the stomach, liver or kidneys? Dr. Jones' Red Clover Tonic quickly cures the above diseases. Price to cents.

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He that swears tells us that his bare word is not to be credited.



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Enriches the Blood, Gives New Vigor. Enriches the Blood, Gives New Vigors MR, John Edward Taylon, Fort Washington, Md., says: "I have suffered with pains in the small of my back for about two years. Brown's Iron Bitters has done me a great deal of good."

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