

Republican Progress

Wm. A. Gage, Editor and Proprietor
[OFFICE OPPOSITE Post Office.]

PHANTOM LIMBS.

Sense of Feeling in Members That Have Been Amputated.

From the Literary Digest.

We refer a sensation at once to its source in the finger-tips or the ear or the nose, or wherever it may be, and so expert have we become in recognizing the source that we localize the sensation itself there, thinking of the sensation of touch as being in the skin of the finger instead of the brain, where it actually is. Hence he who has lost a finger refers directly to the absent member any irritation of the nerve that formerly connected with it, and can scarcely believe that it is not in its old place. This phenomenon is familiar enough and many are the superstitions to which it has given rise, but it is only of late that it has received serious scientific study. A recent work on the subject is that of M. Abbateuci, published in Paris, which has called forth a paper by Prof. Pitres, contributed to the *Annales Medico-Psychologiques* of that city. We quote below part of an abstract from the *National Druggist*. Say that paper:

"M. Pitres shows that the illusion of the existence of a limb (in place of one which had been amputated) may go so far as to cause many accidents. In the majority of cases the illusion is so perfect and vivacious that it constantly deceives the intelligence of the individual, so imperiously does it force itself upon him. Some of those who had lost a limb, questioned by M. Pitres, declared that they felt the amputated limb frequently more real and substantial than they did the one still attached to the body. Sometimes they get to believing more firmly, upon the existence of the phantom limb than upon those members that remain, as in the case of a patient of Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, who declared: 'I am only the truth when I say that I am more conscious of the existence in place of the limb I have lost than of the one that I saved.'

"Many of Prof. Pitres' patients made analogous declarations. 'Parbleu!' said one, 'I know mighty well that I have no right leg—yet, when I try to analyze my sensations, I feel that leg there. Why, I feel the foot this minute more distinctly than I do the left one, which is there before my eyes. It (the phantom) hurts me, while the other does not. If I could not assure myself by the touch and sight of the stump, nothing could convince me that the right leg was gone. I am having constantly to reason with myself in order to convince myself of the unreality of my sensations.'

"When the illusion is as clear as in these cases, the person is constantly unconsciously inclined to attempt to use the phantom limb. Dr. Weir Mitchell tells of a horseman who had lost an arm, and thinking to take the reins in the amputated hand, dropped them on the neck of the horse, which was high-spirited, and leaping to one side threw the rider, badly injuring him. Another party who had lost his right hand always tried to pick up his work with that hand, which invariably caused him a fit of exasperation.

"As might be imagined, such unfortunate are constantly meeting with accidents which might easily have been avoided but for the unconscious confidence had in the existence of the phantom limb. Dr. Pitres tells of a heavy man who had lost an arm, and who, in dressing one morning, lost his equilibrium, and, starting to fall, put out the phantom arm to steady himself, and, as consequence, had a severe fall.

"We remember an old soldier who had lost half of both feet, and the injury had been partially repaired by a maker of artificial limbs. This man would sit for a half hour at a time rubbing the ends of his shoes, where his corns formerly were, and swearing at the pain the phantom corns were giving him. He would frequently declare, 'There's going to be a change of the weather—my corns are hurting me.' On being reminded that he had no corns, he would say, 'Never mind! I feel 'em all the same.'

"Now that the results of investigations have proven the realness of the sensations caused by these hallucinations, and the suffering produced by them, we may hope that science will discover some means of preventing them."

Something for Nothing.

We have heard of the boy who wanted to buy a gun and keep it too, but never before of a bullet which who sold his goods and then gave the purchaser credit for the amount paid. To learn about this send to James Vicks, Sons of Rochester, N. Y., who agree to do this in their *Vicks' Garden and Floral Guide* is certainly an artistic work, with forty-four pages lithographed in colors, and a hundred more pages filled with hand-some half-tone illustrations, photographed from Flowers, Fruits, Vegetables and homes.

While the Guide is really too expensive to give away, they give it with a due bill for 26 cents worth of seeds for only 15 cents. Another net future bill is given along with the package of Vegetable Seeds and stating the quantity in each case, the buyer getting more for his money.

Harry Lathrop Disabled.

[Special to Indianapolis News.]

GREENSBURG, Ind., Jan. 24.—

Harry Lathrop, son of the Rev. James B. Lathrop, of this city, is partially paralyzed, and it is feared that the results may prove serious. On last Friday Mr. Lathrop noticed a sharp pain in his right foot, but paid little attention to it. His condition grew serious, and yesterday physicians were summoned, who pronounced the disease paralysis. Mr. Lathrop, or "Doc," as he is familiarly called, has an extensive acquaintance in Indianapolis, and is a son-in-law of John Browning, of that city, a well known railroad contractor.

Mrs. Lathrop was a daughter of Esquire Butler of this place, and a sister of Mrs. Aiken of west 6th street.

A STRANGER WITH A JAG.

How He Ruined the Hotel Becker.

A fellow came into one of the Bloomington hotels half drunk, Sunday morning, and saluted the clerk.

"Goo' mor'ing, balancing unsteadily as he tried to take a pen from the holder.

"Good morning, sir," said the clerk, as he whirled the register around and handed the man with the rich, ripe breath the pen which he was making frantic endeavors to capture. The stranger took it unsteadily and examined the point with grave solemnity. He turned the pen around and around, examining it from every side. Not satisfied, he drew the register toward him and coolly made marks as follows:

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The clerk snatched the book away from the unsteady stranger who looked up with comical surprise.

"What the Dickens do you mean by marking the register like that?" asked the clerk, indignantly.

"Whash ze mazzer?" replied the stranger, stabbing the pen into the counter, and assuming an air of outraged dignity.

"Why, marking up the page the way you did," and he pointed to the row of straight marks.

"You want to register, sign your name. The page of this book is no place on which to try whether the pen is good or not."

"Aw'ri," said the man with a jag, and he drew the book toward him and again drew several straight lines. This is capital letters is the way it looked when the book was turned round:

H. H. HILL.

Mrs. Frye's Advice.

Mrs. Frye, wife of Senator Frye, of the peace commission, accompanied her husband to Paris, and gave much of her time to an investigation of student life in the Latin quarter, especially the environments of the American girls, and she now tells American parents to keep their children at home. "It is better," she says, "for our young people never to learn art and music than to learn them under such terrible odds."

Lamb Among Wolves.

B. F. Lamb, at one time in the railway mail service, has written to his friends at the Indianapolis postoffice from Santiago, Cuba, where he is superintendent of mails. He says: "If any one asks you if you would like to go to Cuba take it as an insult, and knock him down. If I thought I would have to stay here always, I would jump from Morro castle into the sea. Board is \$2 a day, and a cheap restaurant in Indianapolis would be a palace in comparison. Beer is 25 cents a glass, and a \$3 lesson suit-costs \$17 down here. Straw hats are \$4.50. I have not had the nerve to price shoes. It is very warm here now, and if it is any warmer in the summer, I don't want any of it in mine."

The Zuni Indians, whose reservation lies in the western portion of New Mexico, are threatened with extermination by smallpox. The population of the Zuni nation is estimated at 1,700, and since last summer there have been 217 deaths from smallpox. Over 600 of the Indians are now sick with the disease, which continues to spread rapidly. Physicians who are endeavoring to stamp out the disease are making little progress.

He Suspected Rube.

Deacon Hardacre—And so you seen that 'er spectacle show they are all talkin' about, did you?

Elder Nipperson—Yes.

Deacon Hardacre—How did you come to do it, Lige?

Elder Nipperson—Well, Rube Hamby he said it wasn't fit for a decent person to look at, and I wanted to find out whether he knew or not. I've always had my suspicions of Rube.—Cleaveland Leader.

What a Lie Is.

New York Sun.

Dr. Lyman Abbott is telling a story about a Sunday school child under his jurisdiction of whom the teacher asked in the course of his lesson, "What is a lie?"

"A lie," responded the infant, with deliberation, "is—an abomination to the Lord an' a very present help in trouble."

CUTTING THE PIKES TO PIECES.

Must It Go On?

The following, which we find in the Bedford Mail, is just as applicable to Monroe county roads:

"Driving out over the various pikes leading to this city one is often reminded of the apparently shiftless character of our people, as at the expenditure of large sums of money, splendid pikes have been built in all directions so that travel is so much easier, rapid and more comfortable on man and beast, than under the old dispensation, when there was nothing but mud roads; yet with stringent laws on our statute books providing for the protection of these pikes when conditions are such that hauling over them practically ruins them, yet by reason of it being no special individual duty to report such things or to prosecute, teamsters have simply cut them up during the recent wet, freezing and thawing weather, so badly, that in places they are almost ruined. The law is violated every time a man, when the roads are wet, soft and thawing, puts a load on, which, with the weight of the wagon, equals 2,000 pounds, and as the wagon alone weighs 1,100 to 1,500 pounds, teamsters would have to be careful, if then any one whose duty it was to see that the law is enforced. A few days ago, the writer met several four and six horse teams hauling heavy green oak timber from four or five miles out on the Heltonsville pike, where each team had on anywhere from 4,000 to 6,000 pounds of load aside from the wagon. The pike was thawing through, was soft and rotten, and every wagon damaged the pike hundreds of dollars, which must be made good by the tax-payers, so many of the teamsters paying but little tax. Had they waited a few days, as the law requires, for the roads to settle, the damage would have been only cents, whereas the pike now shows it was hundreds of dollars. Wouldn't it be wise for the Auditor, Commissioners or Prosecutor to appoint some one whose duty it would be to see that the interests of the taxpayers are properly protected, according to this law, which has been upheld by the supreme court?

Judge Martin Puts on Brakes.

Brother Felius of the Bloomington Star was admitted to the bar at the last term of circuit court, and as admissions to the bar were becoming so cheap that the Judges evidently feared all the newspaper men in town would be applying for admission soon, he has put the brakes on, and ordered that hereafter all applicants for admission shall be examined by a commission consisting of Judge Rinchard, Duncan and Wilson. Referring to this matter the Salem Searchlight says:

"Until such time as the Indiana Legislature requires all applicants for admission to the bar to pass an examination every circuit judge in the State ought to follow Judge Martin's example in this last matter. Among those admitted as practicing attorneys every year in Indiana there are hundreds who are absolutely ignorant of the elementary principles of law and entirely wanting in experience. To permit such to appear as attorneys in important cases is as detrimental to the interests of those who employ them as it is disgraceful to the legal profession and damaging to the business of competent attorneys.

Home-Seekers' Excursions.

On January 30 and 31st, February 7th and 8th, March 7th and 8th, April 4th and 5th, agents of the C. H. & D. Ry. will sell home-seekers tickets to points east of the Mississippi River and south of the Ohio River, except to ride at the rate of one round trip fare plus \$2.00 for the round trip. Call on C. H. & D. agents for information.

CHOICE TAFFIES, and other candies, manufactured and on sale by Geo. A. Benkart each day.

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