

THEORIES OF EARTHQUAKES.

The Old Reasons Given in Former Times for Convulsions of Nature.

Prof. Milne passed on to the myths which attribute earthquakes to a creature living underground, says *Nature*, describing a lecture delivered in Japan. In Japan it is an "earthquake insect" covered with scales, and having eight legs, or a great fish having a certain rock on his head which helped to keep him quiet. In Mongolia the animal is said to be a frog, in India the world-bearing elephant, in the Celebes a world-supporting hog, in North America a tortoise. In Siberia there was a myth, connected with the great bones found there, that these were the remains of animals that lived underground, the trampling of which made the ground shake. In Kamtchatka the legend was connected with a god, Tui, who went out hunting with his dogs. When these latter stopped to scratch themselves their movements produced earthquakes. In Scandinavian mythology, Loki, having killed his brother Baldwin, was bound to a rock face upward, so that the poison of a serpent should drop on his face. Loki's wife, however, intercepted the poison in a vessel, and it was only when she had to go away to empty the dish that a few drops reached him and caused him to writhe and shake the earth.

The lecturer had no means of collecting the fables of the southern hemisphere; but they would obviously be worth knowing for purposes of comparison. As to quasi-scientific theories, these endeavored to account for earthquakes as part of the ordinary operations of nature. It was supposed, for instance, that they were produced by the action of wind confined inside the earth. The Chinese philosophers said that Yang, the male element, entered the earth and caused it to expand, and to shake the ground in its efforts to escape. Its effects would be more violent beneath the mountains than in the plains, and, therefore, earthquakes in the north of China, which was mountainous, were said to be more violent than those in the south. It was supposed that when the wind was blowing strongly on the surface of the earth there was calm beneath, and vice versa.

Aristotle and many other classical writers attributed earthquakes to wind in the earth. Shakespeare in "Henry IV" speaks of the teeming earth being pinched and vexed with a kind of colic by the imprisoned and unruly wind within her womb. Then come the theories of electrical discharges, which were advocated in 1760 by Dr. Stukely, as well as by Percival and Priestley. They are strongly held in California at the present day, where it was believed that the network of rails protected the State against any dangerous accumulation of electricity. But Prof. Milne showed that the laying down of rails in Japan had no such effect. He thought the electric phenomena which sometimes attended earthquakes were their consequences, not their causes. He had himself experimented with dynamite placed in a hole; an earth-plate was fixed about thirty yards away from the dynamite, and from it a wire was carried some distance to another earth-plate. When the dynamite charge was exploded there was certainly a current produced, as was indicated by a strong deflection of a galvanometer needle at the end of the wire. He attributed this to chemical action. When the ground was shaken there was always a greater or less action by increase or decrease of pressure in connection with the earth-plate.

The Nurse and the Wolf.

A Nurse, who was trying to quiet a Crying Child, threatened, unless it hushed up pretty quick, to throw it to the Wolf, who is proverbially supposed to be lingering at the door of the poor. It happened that there was a Wolf prawling around in the vicinity, and hearing the expression of the Nurse took it in dead earnest and waited a long time for the child to be thrown to him.

His own supper was waiting for him, yet he stayed, believing that a change of diet would be good for him. Friends came along and requested him to dine with them, but he declined. He had an engagement to attend a banquet that night with some congenial Wolves, but he let the hour slip by. And there were the customary free lunches at the saloons—he skipped them all.

Finally, when it was too late to get a bite anywhere, and the Child wasn't thrown out to him according to promise, he tumbled. There probably never was a Wolf so mad and hungry as he was when he finally sneaked off home in the gray of the morning, cursing the perfidy of woman.

MORAL—Never throw a proffered lunch over your shoulder in anticipation of a square meal.—*Texas Siftings*.

Evening Funeral Services.

Evening funeral services are becoming very frequent. It is urged in favor of the growing custom that it affords gentlemen opportunity for attendance that they can hardly take during business hours. Besides this great convenience distressing scenes of parting with the dead loved ones are kept from the gaze of the curious and unsympathetic. Upon the score of economy, too, it is to be commended. The remains are kept over night and the next morning are unostentatiously removed to the place of burial, followed by only a few carriages with the nearest relatives and family intimates.—*New York Times*.

POMPEII and Herculaneum were overwhelmed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in A. D. 79.

Moxie and Nervous Women.

Its effect is said to be quite remarkable, though the Moxie plant, which is all of it that can produce the result, is as tasteless and harmless as grass. The nervous, weakly women flock after it like mad, and it is said by them to stop nervousness at once, and give them double powers of endurance, while it neither acts like nor leaves a reaction like a stimulant, nor loses its effect like a medicine. It is said to remove nervous and other complaints by making the nerves strong enough to control the functions of the body properly when the cause of ill-health disappears, while medicine forces the functions of the body, leaving the nerves weak from being compelled to over-task. We hope our druggists will keep full stocks.

The Boy's Answer.

There is usually a reason to be found for doing what we desire. On the other hand, there are plenty of arguments to prove that the same line of action may be injurious to other people. One day a teacher told her scholars that it was wrong to chew tobacco; when a small boy, with an important air, replied that he had seen a fellow chew tobacco because his teeth ached, and stoutly averred that it was not wrong for any one to chew tobacco if his teeth ached. This seemed to please the scholars very much, and the teacher was at first sorely puzzled to know how to answer this stunning argument. At last she said to the boy: "Horace, if a girl should have the toothache, and want to chew tobacco, what would she do?" Horace scratched his head, and then said resolutely: "She ought to have the tooth pulled." Thus our pet vices become our remedies, the while we direct our neighbors to the dentist round the corner.—*Youth's Companion*.

Though Shaken Like a Leaf

By the most trivial causes, weak nerves are easily susceptible of invigoration, a term which also imports, in this instance, quietude. The nervous have but to use Hostetter's Stomach Bitters systematically to overcome that supersensitivity of the human sensorium, which is subservient of all bodily comfort and mental tranquillity, and which reacts most hurtfully upon the system. The difficulty underlying this, as well as many other ailments, is imperfect assimilation, no less than incomplete digestion of the food. In the discharge of both the digestive and assimilative functions, the Bitters are the most potent, the most reliable auxiliary. As the body regains vigor and regularity, it is side by side with and in consequence also are benefited. Persons subject to the influence of malaria, dyspepsia and rheumatic invalids, and persons whose kidneys are inactive, should, also, use the Bitters.

A Dish for a King.

The Jambalaya is a delicious "Creole dish," and is thus prepared: Take a good tender chicken and cut it up into neat joints, dip these into egg and cracker crumbs, season them with salt and pepper and fry in deep, boiling fat, just as you would oysters; when they are delicately browned take them out and place them in the center of a hot meat-dish, sprinkling it with a little chopped parsley. Now take a porcelain-lined vessel and turn into it a can of tomatoes, a large onion, two table-spoonfuls of butter, a little salt and pepper, six lumps of sugar and a tea-cupful of rice. Let these cook gently until the rice is tender; the rice should not be too dry nor yet too moist, but stiff enough for a spoon to stand in it. When done remove the onion and serve dished around the chicken.

ALL associations of base-ball players use St. Jacobs Oil for sprains, bruises, pains, and aches. Indeed all athletic clubs and individual members use it for the same.

Absorption of Water.

The statement that all the water in a plant or tree is due to absorption by the roots, while nearly true, is not strictly so. Duchartre concluded from some well-devised experiments that the leaves are incapable of imbibing water or its vapor, and for twenty years physiologists accepted and taught this doctrine. But a few years ago his experiments were repeated in England, and it was found that he had been led into error, and that leaves can and do continually absorb vapor when there is more of it without than within them, as every one sees who observes the refreshing influence of a shower, or of humid air after dry air.—*Vick's Magazine*.

A Wonderful Freak of Nature

Is sometimes exhibited in our public exhibitions. When we gaze upon some of the peculiar freaks Dame Nature occasionally indulges in, our minds revert back to the creation of man, "who is so fearfully and wonderfully made." The mysteries of his nature have been unraveled by Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, and through his knowledge of those mysteries he has been able to prepare his "Golden Medical Discovery," which is a specific for all blood taints, poisons, and humors, such as scrofula, pimples, blisters, eruptions, swellings, tumors, ulcers, and kindred affections. By drugists.

IF you want to buy a thermometer, we advise you to wait until next winter. They will be lower then.

A Bonanza Mine

Of health is to be found in Dr. R. V. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" to the merits of which, as a remedy for female weakness and kindred affections, thousands testify.

AGE before beauty—A piece of spring chicken on a pretty girl's plate.

A DEVICE for protecting factory operatives from accident by being caught by swiftly running wheels has been invented by Robert F. Fenny, of New Haven. It consists in widening the shaft between pulleys with strings, spirally and rather loose, and then inclosing the shaft in a zinc or tin or other metal cylinder. The strings simply prevent any noise from contact of the shaft with the metallic cylindrical jacket. Should a woman get caught by the hair it would begin to wind up on the jacket, which would instantly stop its motion, leaving the shaft inside to revolve, but without doing harm to whoever might be caught.

ANGER is the resentment of the animal, and gentle blood alone makes the gentleman.—A. B. Alcott.

MR. JOHN ROLP, champion bicyclist of the world, living at Sydney, Australia, says: "After riding 1,000 miles against time St. Jacobs Oil removed all fatigue and pains."

A Good Sidewalk.

A widower and his daughter were going to church when they met the Mayor.

"I wish you would order a new sidewalk constructed in front of my residence, Mr. Mayor," said the widower.

"I thought you had a sidewalk," replied the Mayor.

"Yes, there is a sort of a thing, but it is only one board wide."

"Law sakes, pap?" put in the young girl, "it is wide enough for me and Augustus to walk on, and you know he weighs two hundred pounds. Gus and me never likes wide sidewalks. We can walk on it and never scrouge."—C. V. Walls, in *Newman Independent*.

\$500 Not Called For.

It seems strange that it is necessary to persuade men that you can cure their diseases by offering a premium to the man who fails to receive benefit. And yet Dr. Sage undoubtedly cured thousands of cases of obstinate catarrh with his "Catarrh Remedy," who would never have applied to him if it had not been for his offer of the above sum for an incurable case. Who is the next bidder for cure or cash?

THE green grocer in London is one who sells vegetables. In this country he is one who trusts.

Dressmaking.

Many dressmakers find it very difficult to secure well-fitting dresses for their patrons. The harsh, stiff bones and steels that they have been obliged to use for Dress Stays are very disagreeable for many ladies to wear, and at best they break so soon that the beauty and fit of the dress is very soon destroyed. The invention of a new Dress Stay which is soft and pliable, yielding to every movement of the body, giving the wearer perfect ease, and also proving it to be absolutely unbreakable, has made quite a new departure in Dressmaking. Warren's Featherbone is the name of this new Stay.

It is made from quills, and is an entirely new invention, having been manufactured only about three years; but it is now largely used by dressmakers in all the large cities and many of the larger towns throughout the United States.

The manner by which it is attached to the dress waist is a new feature in dressmaking, and is patented by the inventor of the Featherbone. This method consists in attaching the dress stay to the seam by sewing directly through the Featherbone, which attaches the stay to the seam all along its entire length, entirely preventing the formation of any wrinkles, and giving a smooth and elegant finish to the dress that cannot be secured by any other stay. It can be so soft, a very close-fitting garment can be made, and yet be comfortable to the wearer.

It is said that perspiration and even laundrying does not injure it in the least. It is sold by the yard, made in black and white and all colors, so that white dresses or waists and any color of dress lining may be matched as desired. It is finished in three different coverings—thread-covered, cloth-covered, and an elegant satin-covered, which makes as fine a finish as could be desired for the finest dresses. In short, this new dress stay possesses apparently all the advantages that any one can think of, and not only comes at a time when whalebone is rapidly disappearing, but is proving itself superior to whalebone in every respect. No wonder that it is so rapidly commanding itself to dressmakers and dressers.

Throw the Powder Overboard.

Were thrilling words, spoken at a time of great danger. The lives of all on the vessel depended upon prompt action. Your life may be blessed and prolonged by the prompt use of Dr. Harter's Iron Tonic for that blood trouble.

MENSMAN'S Peptonized Beef Tonic, the only preparation of beef containing its entire nutritive properties. It contains blood-making, force-generating, and life-sustaining properties; invaluable for indigestion, dyspepsia, nervous prostration, and all forms of general debility; also in all febrile conditions, whether the work of exhaustion, nervous prostration, overwork, or acute disease, particularly if resulting from pulmonary complaints. Hazard, Hazard & Co., proprietors, New York. Sold by druggists.

LYON'S Patent Metallic Stiffeners prevent boots and shoes from running over, ripping in the seams or wearing unevenly on the heels.

RELIEF is immediate, and a cure sure. Piso's Remedy for Catarrh. 50 cents.

What Everybody Says

Must be true. And the unanimous praise which people who have used it give Hood's Sarsaparilla, should convince those who have never tried this medicine of its great curative powers. If you suffer from impure blood, that tired feeling, depressed spirits, dyspepsia, or kidney and liver complaints, give Hood's Sarsaparilla a fair trial and you will be greatly benefited.

"My wife has had very poor health for a long time, suffering from indigestion, poor appetite, and constant headache. She found no relief till she tried Hood's Sarsaparilla. She is now taking the third bottle, and never felt better in her life." G. SOMERVILLE, Moreland, Cook Co., Ill.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. \$1: six for \$5. Prepared by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

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