

THE AMERICAN HAND.

Analyzing Its Various Characteristic Features.
(Edward Heron-Allen, in America.)

What shall I say of the distinctive American hand? For there is a distinctively American hand, just as distinctive as those of the Ethiopian, the Chinaman, the German, or the Hindoo. In his curious work, "La Science de la Main," D'Arpentigny quotes the strange description of "le Yankee," contained in Michael Chevalier's "Letters sur l'Amérique du Nord" (of which a translation was published in Boston in 1839) and concludes: "In a nation such as this there can not exist any but hands which are spatolate and fingers which are square." He was partly right and partly wrong.

When first I encountered the racially American hand I was almost alarmed. I thought I had found a new and unique specimen overwhelming in its contradictions. The specimen belonged to Henry Ward Beecher, whose hands I overhauled one sunny afternoon on the deck of the Etruria as we made for the States together at the close of his lecture tour in Great Britain.

The hand, of which I have a drawing, was of medium size, inclining to large; the palm thick and heavy, the consistency firm, neither hard nor soft; the thumb rather long (i.e., reaching almost to the first phalanx of the forefinger), its two phalanges being of equal length, and the outer phalanx pointed. The fingers were large and very square, the joints not very prominent, the outer, or nailed, phalanges long, the nails round and inclined to shortness, the lower phalanx thick. Here was a surprising collection of anomalies for a chirologist. So, presuming it to be a unique specimen, I made a very careful drawing thereof and notes thereon.

But hardly had I settled down to steady swing of hand-reading when I made a quaint discovery to wit: that this was the distinctly American hand—seven out of ten hands that were presented to me, whether male or female, presented this to me heretofore unknown collection of contrasting formations. This significance is interesting as a sketch of the American character.

The size of the hand indicates a capacity for synthesis combined with analysis, a capacity to seize the meaning of an entire subject and analyze its details with equal rapidity; the palm gives sensuality and love of pleasure, the consistency gives mental activity and love of exercise—when other people are taking it; in a word, a love of the display of physical energy, which we do not ourselves practice. The thumb denotes an equal amount of will power and common sense, neither overriding the other. The fingers again show a love of pleasure and luxury combined with intense order, regularity and arrangement, and a spirit of impulsive calculation (if I may be allowed the paradox) a tendency to act promptly on an impulse and analyze the cause and effects of one's action afterward, so as to make one's action, however hasty, inure to one's good. Dominating the entire character is a keen intuition, and a good-natured spirit of criticism, shown by the long-pointed or conic tips, with the short, round nails.

It took me a month before I could contrast and combine these characteristics so as to arrive at a clear comprehension of the average American personality, and during that month I made some grand enemies, who have never forgotten me. Indeed, had it not been that I had Henry Ward Beecher's hand to ponder over before I arrived, I should probably have been so "rattled" by the type as to despair of ever properly diagnosing it.

They Never Fail.

No. 3 FULTON MARKET, NEW YORK CITY, Jan. 26, 1884.

I have been using BRANDRETH'S PILLS for the last ten years. They are a wonderful medicine. There is nothing equal to them as Blood Purifiers and Liver Regulators. But I wish to state how remarkably they cure rheumatism, and how easily. I was affected by rheumatism of the legs. My business (wholesale fish dealer) naturally leads me to damp places. I was so bad I could not walk, and at night I suffered fearfully. I tried Balsams, Sarsaparillas, and all kinds of tinctures, but they did me no good, and I was afraid of being a cripple. I finally commenced using BRANDRETH'S PILLS. I took two every night for ten nights; then I began to improve. I continued taking them for forty days, and I got entirely well. Now, whenever sick, I take BRANDRETH'S PILLS. They never fail.

J. N. HARRIS.

High Meteorological Stations.

Of the present limited number of high stations for making meteorological observations, there are only two in Europe which exceed 3,000 metres in height, being about 10,000 and 11,000 feet, respectively. Among those in this country is Pikes Peak, which has an altitude of 14,300 feet, exceeding, thus, by more than 3,000 feet, any in Europe. These great heights are much more accessible on this continent than in Europe, there being five in America where 11,000 feet or more is reached by railroads built for facilitating mining work; the highest of these in North America is Mount Lincoln, in Colorado, the mining works on which are 14,297 feet above the sea, and here is a meteorological station conducted by Harvard College. Another station is placed part way up the mountain, at a height of 13,500 feet. In the Andes range, in Peru, continuous meteorological observations are also carried on, the loftiest point for this purpose being 14,360 feet above the sea.

The traveler can now go to the top of Lookout Mountain by rail.

In the Amusing Comedietta of "Used Up," Sir Charles Coldstream, a blasé man of fashion, is made to deprecate everything in which everybody else is supposed to take an interest, with the languid remark that "there is really nothing in it." He even extended his criticism to the crater of Vesuvius, down which he looks but saw "nothing in it." Such characters are scarce on this side of the Atlantic than abroad, but they exist here notwithstanding. Such men need a "filip to nature" to medically stimulate their jaded appetite, overcome their lassitude, and renew the zest of existence. They and others upon whom the world's enjoyments are beginning prematurely to pall, will find Hostetter's Stomach Bitters a wholesome and speedy renewal of vigor and health. Appetite returns, dyspeptic and bilious symptoms disappear, the nerves grow strong, and the hour of retirement is unfringed with apprehension of uneasy repose when this superlative tonic is employed. It remedies fever and ague, rheumatism and kidney troubles.

An oculist gives warning that it is injurious to rub the eyes while they are inflamed by the cutting winter winds and the dust raised thereby, and equal so to bathe them and go out immediately again in the air, as then there is danger of catching a cold. Most of the eye troubles at this season, he says, are caused by imprudence in rubbing or bathing. In rubbing the eyes the tear line from the outside to the nose should be followed, though the majority pass the fingers from the inside out, which, he asserts, affects the sight and "crow's feet."

With groans and sighs, and dizzied eyes, He seeks the couch and down he lies; Nausea and faintness in him rise, But his head aches pain assails him.

Sick headache! His long comes ease, His stomach settles into peace, Within his head the throbbings cease—

Pierco's Pellets never fail him!

Nor will they fail any one in such a dire predicament. To the dyspeptic, the bilious, and the constipated they are alike "a friend in need and a friend indeed."

EVERY TRUESDALE, of Sharon, Pa., made a cane composed of 10,500 pieces of thirty-eight kinds of wood for Gen. Harrison.

THE Prince of Wales is said to be absolutely unhappy about his baldness—not his badness.

Don't hawk, hawk, blow, spit, and disgust everybody with your offensive breath, but use Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy and end it.

THE girl who won't be won usually remains one.—*Washington Critic.*

Moxie has created the greatest excitement as a beverage, in two years, ever witnessed, from the fact that it gives nervous, exhausted, overworked women to good powers of endurance in a few days; cures the appetite for liquors and tobacco at once, and has recovered a large number of cases of old, helpless paralysis as a food only.

THE cross-cut saw gets dull in spite of its teeth.—*Puck.*

If afflicted with Sore Eyes, use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye Water. Druggists sell it 25c.

Why Don't

You take Hood's Sarsaparilla, if you have impure blood, have lost your appetite, have that tired feeling or are troubled by sick headache, dyspepsia or biliousness. It has accomplished wonders for thousands of afflicted people, and, if given a fair trial, is reasonably certain to do you good.

"Have been troubled a great deal with headache, had no appetite, no strength, and felt as mean as anyone could, and am about my work. Since taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I have not had the headache, my food has relished, and seemed to do me good, and I have felt myself growing stronger every day." M. A. STEINMAN, 19 Grand Avenue, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

GOLD is worth \$100 per pound. Pettit's Eye Salve \$1.00, but is sold at 25 cents a box by dealers.

AGENTS WANTED—\$50 a day and found. SWEDISH NOVELTY CO., Pittsburg, Pa.

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A free gift for the ladies. Save much money and secure the best! Send us your address, and the privilege of sending you free remnants of ribbon, handy for the home, and for trimming hats, etc., and use it for many purposes for which such goods are used. We will send them to the ladies, use to do so, and for this reason we have thousands upon thousands of remnants of ribbon. We are large importers of ribbon, and have large importing houses of America, which they would be willing to dispose of in bulk, for a small sum, and we are the only ones capable of purchasing largely, we instituted a search, resulting in the obtaining the entire stock of Silk and Satin Ribbons Remnants of several of the largest of the New York houses, and the same are to be found, except in the very best stores of America. Yet they are given away free! nothing like it ever known. A grand benefit for all the ladies, especially cheap, cheap! Free! We have had thousands of dollars in this direction, and can offer an immensely varied, and most complete assortment of ribbon, in every color and quality, and of the finest quality, adapted for neckwear, bonnet strings, hat trimmings, bows, scarfs, dress trimmings, silk quilt work, etc., etc. Some of these remnants range from yards and upwards in length. These goods are sold for women's clothes, and may be depended on as beautiful, refined, fashionable and elegant. How to get a box containing a complete assortment of these elegant ribbons free! The "Silk and Satin Ribbon Company," published monthly by us, is acknowledged, by those competent to judge, to be the best periodical of the kind in the world. 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