

A Safeguard for Workers in Compressed Air.

It has been found by sad experience that work in compressed air, such as has to be done sometimes in sinking foundations or in driving subaqueous tunnels, often results in serious injuries to health and sometimes even causes death. The danger does not appear to lie so much in the application of the pressure as in its too rapid removal, especially after being exposed to it for too long a time; and it has been observed that if a workman who has collapsed on coming out of the airlock is promptly put back in the chamber, and then the pressure reduced very gradually, he will suffer little, if any, ill effect from what might otherwise prove a serious matter.

Noticing this circumstance, and finding frequent occasion to employ such treatment for the men engaged under his charge on the Hudson River Tunnel, the resident engineer in charge of the work, E. W. Moir, determined to make a special arrangement for such cases, as the gradual reduction of the pressure in the airlocks often consumed so much time as to interfere with the progress of the work. He has, therefore, designed a separate pressure chamber, in which any man who shows symptoms of suffering from too rapid release of pressure on coming out of the airlocks can be at once placed, and the pressure relieved as slowly as need be, while at the same time opportunity is given for the entrance of a physician, and no interference with the working airlocks is necessary.

The apparatus consists of a cylinder of 3-inch boiler plate some 6 feet in diameter and 16 feet long, lying on its side. The air-tight door opens inward at one end, and in the middle is a partition, with a similar door. Light is given by some bull's-eyes in the sides, and the structure is designed and braced for a pressure of 40 pounds per square inch.

The patient is carried in on a stretcher and placed in the inner chamber, the middle door is then closed and the air pressure turned on, which is afterward allowed to slowly escape. Should it be necessary for a physician to enter, the outer chamber will answer for an airlock for that purpose; or, in case of emergency, it can accommodate another patient on a stretcher.

The chamber is being built by the Cockburn Barrow Company, of Jersey City, and it seems reasonable to expect that it will materially increase the safety and comfort of work in the tunnel.

Snakes Shared Her Home.

A singular character, by name Martha Ann Tilson and who was known as the "snake woman," died near Salem, Va., recently. She lived in a little cabin at the foot of Twelve O'Clock Knob, and led a hermit's life, having no one to share her abode except snakes. By the few who were ever allowed to see the interior of her cabin it is said to have literally swarmed with her strange companions, with which she ate and slept, and which were to be seen lying in her bosom and coiled about her neck, body and limbs whenever she was caught sight of.

Her extraordinary predilection for these unclean creatures is supposed to have arisen from a morbid feeling that she was, like them, hated by men, for, naturally deformed, she received in addition an injury to the spine while an infant, and, though perfectly sound in mind, was of so sensitive a nature as to render her miserable and uneasy in the presence of any but her parents. She was observed to steal away every day with a pan of milk, and, on being followed, was found to be caressing a dozen or so hideous rattlesnakes, while they drank from the vessel which she held in her lap. Horrified, her parents tried to reason with her, then to punish, and finally to confine her, in an endeavor to break her of her fondness for the reptiles, but she pined so for her pets that they feared she would die if kept from them.

She was a little, fair woman of about 45, with sandy hair, very abundant and long, which she wore in a number of tight plaits, which, combined with her deformity and the odd, miscellaneous style of dressing, the result of her refusal to hold any communication with a fellow-being, served to make her a most remarkable-looking object. She was looked upon as a witch by the negroes about, who declared her to be possessed of the evil eye, and hated and feared her accordingly, though her life was a most harmless, quiet one. She had been dead some days when discovered, and her dead body was literally covered by a writhing mass of snakes, which had to be killed before it could be removed, for the reptiles turned viciously on all approaching the remains. On her heart was found coiled a huge rattlesnake dead.

What Max O'Rell Says.

Thrift is the source of wealth in France. We have no railway kings, no oil kings, no silver kings, but we have no tenement houses, no unions, no workhouses. Our lower classes do not ape in ridiculous fashion the upper class, either in their habits or dress. The wife of a peasant or of a mechanic wears a simple snowy cap and a serge or cotton dress. The wife of a shopkeeper does not wear any jewelry, because she cannot afford to buy real stones, and her taste is too good to allow of her wearing any false ones. She is not ashamed of her husband's occupation. She does not play the fine lady while her husband is at work; she saves him the expense of a cashier or an extra clerk by helping him in his business. When the shutters are up she enjoys life with him and is the companion of his pleasures as well as of his hardships. Club life is unknown in France, except among the very upper classes. Men and wife are constantly together and France is a nation of Darbys and Jeans. There is, I believe, no country where men and women go through life on such equal terms as in France. In England—and here again I speak of the masses only—the man thinks himself a much superior being to the woman. It is the same in Germany. In America I should feel inclined to believe that a woman looks down upon a man with a certain amount of contempt. She receives at his hands attentions of all sorts, but I cannot say that I have ever discovered in her the slightest trace of gratitude to man. Will you have a fair illustration of the position of woman in France, in England and in America? Go to a hotel and watch the arrival of couples in the dining-room. In France you will see them arrive together, walk abreast toward the seats assigned to them, very often arm in arm. In England you will see John Bull leading the way, followed by his meek wife, with her eyes cast down. In America behold the dignified, nay, majestic entry of Mrs. Jonathan, a queen going toward her throne, and Jonathan behind!

An Appalled Guest.

This happened away in the backwoods of Arkansas. A tourist going over the State on horseback stopped for the night at one of the popular hotels of a certain locality. The hotel happened to be a log and slab affair of three rooms and the same number of beds, while the proprietor was the proud parent of nine wild and woolly looking sons under 12 years of age. After a supper of "hog and hominy," the host said to one of his boys:

"Come, Billy, get the broom straws." Nine broom straws of unequal lengths were produced by Billy. The father hid them in his hand in such a manner that only an end of each straw could be seen. Then each boy drew a straw.

"Ha, ha!" said the merry parent, jovially: "Bill, you an' Buck an' Lige git the short ones."

"What does that mean?" asked the amused guest, whose look of amusement faded away when his host said:

"Mean? Why, that's a little way we have o' settlin' which three of 'em shall sleep with any gent that happens to stop over night with us. I s'pect you'll find Buck and Bill and Lige mighty lively bed-fellers, but don't you be afeard to give 'em a warmin' up with your boot or a bed slat if they git to trainin' too high. Go 'long, boys, an' pile in with this gent, and mind that you behave yourselves."—Free Press.

Keenening a Thoroughfare.

In order to guard against results utterly subversive of health, it is absolutely essential that the grand thoroughfare or avenue of the system, the bowels, should be reopened as speedily as possible when they become obstructed. If they are not, the bile is misdirected into the blood; the liver becomes torpid; viscid bilious matter gets into the stomach and produces indigestion; headaches ensue, and other symptoms are produced, which a prolongation of the existing cause only tends to aggravate. The apartment proprietor Hostetter's Stomach Bitters constitute a most useful agent in overcoming constipation of the bowels and promoting a regular habit of body. It is infinitely superior to the drastic cathartics frequently used for the purpose, since it does not, like them, act violently, but produces a natural, painless effect, which does not impair the tone of the evacuator organs, which it invigorates instead of weakening. The stomach and liver, also, indeed, the entire system—are strengthened and regulated by it.

A Difficult Problem.

"Aw, my dear fellow," he said, as they met in Union Square, "but I was just wondering about you."

"What was it, Chawlie?"

"Are you going down by the sea this—aw—this season?"

"Quite snub, ole boy."

"As a waitah or as a millionaire?"

"That's the stumper, Chawlie. If I go as a waitah the gurls of the house get mashed on me, and my usefulness as a waitah is impaired. If I go as a millionaire the guests—w—the guests bore me with their attentions and make me weary—aw."

"Same heah, Gawge—same heah. And since a mosquito bit me on the neck last Chuesday I've been wondering if it's worth the living. Run along, Gawge."

"See you by-by, Chawlie."

J. A. JOHNSON, Medicine, N. Y., says: "Hall's Catarrh Cure cured me." Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Nothing but Water.

I sat on a bench in West Grand Circus Park the other day to rest my legs and hear the splash of the big fountain. There was a chap alongside of me who watched the play of the waters for a long time with great eagerness. Then he got up and walked around the basin to inspect it, and when he finally came back to me he heaved a great sigh of relief and said:

"It's nothing but water, after all."

Some one had probably told him that the fountains were wasting four or five barrels of beer every minute.—Detroit Free Press.

A Reliable Company.

No person is better known among the business men of Chicago than is ALONZO WYANT, who for several years past has occupied the position of agent of the United States Express Company in that city. He has the esteem of every one who has ever met him, socially or in business. On the 1st of July Mr. Wyant severed his connection with the express company, and embarked in a new line of trade. Joining with others, he formed the Ayres & Wygant Company and purchased the old and well-known Chicago institution, "Reed's Temple of Music," located at 182 and 184 Wabash avenue, where he will be pleased to meet his friends, and show them the finest line of pianos, organs, and other musical instruments to be found in the West. Reed's Temple of Music will lose none of its old-time popularity under the management of the Ayres and Wygant Company. All who are interested in good music should call upon this new company when visiting Chicago. It will be a pleasure to make their acquaintance.

A Woman's Logic.

Mrs. Homespun—I tell you the book isn't a bit natural. The idea of that woman juggling that baby around all the time! Why, it would be enough to kill her.

Mr. H.—But she was a very strong, powerful woman. The book was so.

Mrs. H.—Oh, it isn't always the strong, powerful women that can endure most. I guess I've lugged our children around for hours and hours and night after night when they were young, slender as I am.—Boston Transcript.

BLACK bears are reaping a great harvest of turtle eggs these nights on the beach opposite Melbourne, Fla. One man tells of one old bear and two cubs that have had a regular bear for the past ten days between his cottage and the house of refuge, a distance of three or four miles. Last Sunday night the three despoiled thirteen nests between midnight and morning.

WALLACE SALISBURY, JR., of Little York, N. Y., has been annoyed for some time by strange and unaccountable noises about the house. It was the source of much annoyance and mystery until he tore off some clapboards near the eaves and found a family of 107 bats.

DR. BULL'S Worm Destroyer is wonderful! efficacious. I prescribed it in several instances, and it never failed in a single case to have the desired effect. I know of no other worm remedy so certain and speedy in its effect.—J. P. Clement, M. D., Vilanova, Ga.

NEW TRANS-CONTINENTAL ROUTE.

Via Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Northern Pacific Railroads. Through Pullman Sleeping Car leaves Chicago daily at 5:30 p. m. For St. Paul and Minneapolis. For Fargo, North Dakota. For Helena and Butte, Montana. For the Yellowstone Park. For Spokane Falls and Tacoma. For Portland, Oregon. Best Route to Seattle and all North Pacific Coast points. The scenic line to California, via Portland and the Shasta Route. Tickets on sale at 207 Clark street and Union Passenger Station, Canal, Adams and Madison streets, Chicago.

A Lesson in Spelling.

Pay great attention! What does this spell—Ghoughphtheightteau? Well, according to the following rule it spells—it spells—Do you give it up? It spells potato, viz.—gh stands for p, as you will find from the last letters in hicough; ough for o, as in dough; phth stands for t, as in phthisis; eigh stands for a, as in neighbor; th stands for s, as in gazette, and eaa stands for o, as in bead. Thus you have p-o-t-a-t-o. Who will give another?

A Sordid Soul.

Jinks—"Of all mean, grasping men, I think Minks is the worst. I don't believe he ever gets his thoughts off of dollars and cents."

Blinks—"What has he been doing?" Jinks—"He's been asking me for a paltry ten dollars I borrowed of him some years ago."—New York Weekly.

THERE is no article made that purity is as important as in soap. Thousands buy cheap, adulterated soaps to save a few cents, and lose dollars in rotted clothing. Dobbins' Electric Soap, perfectly pure, saves dollars.

AN old farmer and hunter on Robinson fork of Buffalo River, Nicholas County, West Virginia, with his nephew, while hunting in the mountain forests a few days ago, came on the trail of a pack of wolves. The men traced the animals to a den in the rocks and captured seven young wolves. The men realized \$140 for their capture.

"He that has thriven may lie abed till seven. Those who use SAPOLIO need not work long hours. Sapolio is a solid cake of scouring soap. Try it."

A FIRE company at Winsted, Conn., being unable recently to get any but a small stream from the hose, made an examination and found about eight inches of an eel's tail sticking out of the nozzle of the hose pipe. The pipe was unscrewed from the hose and the astonished firemen fished a live eel out of the pipe that weighed nearly three pounds.

Of the 156 applicants for admission to the Military Academy at West Point, twenty-four failed to pass the required examinations on account of physical defects.

HAILSTONES as large as hens' eggs fell in Berryville, Va., a few days ago, and some were as large as a man's fist.

BRECHAM'S PILLS cure Sick Headache.

ALMOST all men have at some time stood beside the grave of opportunity.

We recommend "Tansill's Punch" Cigar.

If you should happen to want your ears pierced, just pinch the baby.

Health and Strength

Soon replace weakness and languor if that reliable medicine, Hood's Sarsaparilla, is fairly and faithfully tried. It is the best medicine to overcome that tired feeling, purify the blood, and cure scrofula, salt rheum, dyspepsia, and all other diseases arising from impure blood or low state of the system. Give it a trial.

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Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and \$1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

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BRONCHITIS is cured by frequent small doses of Piso's Cure for Consumption.

No half-way measures: Baggs—Do you and your wife ever quarrel, Uncle Ephraim? Uncle Ephraim—No, sah, we neber quarrels; we jest fights.—Burlington Free Press.



"A RACE WITH DEATH!"

Among the nameless heroes, none are more worthy of martyrdom than he who rode down the valley of the Conemaugh, warning the people ahead of the Johnstown flood. Mounted on a powerful horse, faster and faster went the rider, but the flood was swiftly gaining, until it caught the unlucky horseman and swept on, grinding, crushing, annihilating both weak and strong.

In the same way is disease lurking near, like unto the sword of Damocles, ready to fall, without warning, on its victim, who allows his system to become clogged up, and his blood poisoned, and thereby his health endangered. To eradicate these poisons from the system, no matter what their name or nature, and save yourself a spell of malarial, typhoid or bilious fever, or eruptions, swellings, tumors and kindred disfigurements, keep the liver and kidneys healthy and vigorous, by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It's the only blood-purifier sold on trial. Your money is returned if it doesn't do exactly as recommended. A concentrated vegetable extract. Sold by druggists, in large bottles, at \$1.00.

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