

PROGRESS.

EDWARD S. CARTER, EDITOR

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A NEW ANTISEPTIC.

An article in the Philadelphia Polyclinic of a recent date, from the pen of Dr. T. S. K. MORTON gives an interesting account of the discovery of a new and efficient antiseptic which has been on trial in the Polyclinic hospital and has been found effective in compound fractures or in wounds filled with street dirt, as well as in septic peritonitis; it has not proved so satisfactory in the treatment of septic ulcerative processes; but in the theory of its operation it opens up a wide and enticing field for experiment.

It appears to have been proved that this compound is completely replaced by connective tissue as the gelatin is taken up to the body cells. Hence its originator further suggests that it could be melted and cast into various shapes to fill operative defects in soft parts or bone, or it impregnated with calcium salts (Gottstein) may be employed to supply defects of bone.

OLD MEN AND AGE.

Dr ADOLPH BLOCH read a paper the other day before the Paris Society of Anthropology in which he ridiculed the theory that old age is a disease, contending that it is no more a disease than childhood. With due precautions an old man is no more exposed to maladies than a younger man, provided he has not taxed his strength too heavily. It is difficult to say at what period old age arrives. There are many causes that bring on precocious senility. Sometimes one man is old at thirty and another presents all the attributes of a second youth at sixty. It is more logical to describe old age at that period in life when a man dies naturally if he does not succumb to accident or a malady. Very few old men, as a matter of fact die of disease strange as this may appear. A great many of them drop off from simple exhaustion without leaving the least trace of any malady; though no doubt there are several maladies that attack old people, but the limited list does not suffice to explain all the deaths. BICHAT came near the truth when he said "we die in detail and continue to die until we quit this earthly scene altogether."

Dr. BLOCH shares the ideas of BICHAT, and he cites statistics to prove they are not wrong. He secured from M. JACQUE BERILLION the Parisian record of deaths from senility of both men and women during a period of eleven years taking the age of sixty as the average. From these figures it appears that mortality among old people is greatest between the ages of eighty and eighty five while it diminishes suddenly from the ninetieth year. That is to say the malady takes a lighter hold upon an old person who has reached that age and passed the critical period named above. In other words, an old person who reached ninety without accident has a good chance of becoming a centenarian and of dying of old age only.

The death of old people in whom no disease can be discovered is always put down in statistics under the name of senile debility, senile exhaustion, senile cachexy and senility. Now the natural death through senility, according to Dr. BLOCH, is not known. It has sometimes been no-

ticed in a certain French hospital but the anatomical examination in most cases revealed no defect and it was natural to come to the conclusion that death was due to progressive weakness.

Mortality among the old is variable, according to the periods of the year. It is highest during the winter months without at all being assisted by pneumonitis. It is also variable according to localities, as can be proved by consulting the statistics of the departments of France. There are some regions where men live longer than they do in others. For instance, Jume and Gironde are particularly favored in this matter. How this is nobody can tell but it is a fact nevertheless.

CHURCH AND STAGE.

Are the church and the stage drawing nearer together? It would really seem so from the way in which the play entitled 'The Sign of the Cross' is being received everywhere and which is said by the most competent critics to be vastly more than a successful illustration of the dramatic art. In its historical as in its moral aspect it reaches a plane of such unusual height that it may be said to symbolize a new era in dramatic evolution—an era in which the church and the stage, putting aside their differences in non-essentials, shall stand together as they stood in medieval times and join their forces for the instruction, the amusement and the elevation of mankind.

'One swallow does not make a summer' nor can one such drama as the one mentioned immediately break down the barriers which have so long existed between the play house and the church; but there is no unsurmountable reason, either of ethics or of aesthetics, why the two great forces of Religion and the Drama should not co-operate for the common good. Indeed 'The Sign of the Cross' witnessed nightly in New York by the clergyman of every denomination, is a welcome portent that the process of reconciliation and affiliation delayed so unreasonably long is at last in a fair way of setting in auspiciously.

Primarily Geneva, although not one of the largest wholesale markets for pearls in Europe, is none the less a great jewellers workshop and pearls are largely used there in the manufacture of jewelry of many varieties, but none of the several manufacturers import pearls directly from the fisheries. As a matter of fact, the pearl market is unique. There appears to be no particular headquarters for it. There is one large establishment that buys pearls occasionally from Russia but since there is no considerable pearl market in any of the large cities of the Russian Empire, it is thought that the pearls which come from Russia are taken out of old jewelry that has been bought there second hand and broken up. In fact the manufacturers in Geneva buy pearls wherever they can do so advantageously. They get them occasionally from various travelling agents who frequently have among their goods a few pearls to offer. When the importance of Geneva is taken into consideration this way of doing business seems most remarkable and unique.

Dr. TOULOUSE'S physiological examinations of the great European "geniuses" in order to discover how nearly they verify the insanity theory of Professor LOMBROSO, is causing a great deal of ironical criticism and even laughter, throughout Paris where he has begun his experiment. M. ZOLA whose physiological peculiarities Dr. TOULOUSE first studied is quite indignant over this flippant attitude towards what he considers to be genuine science. Says he: "I am astonished at the frivolity with which Dr. TOULOUSE'S work seems to be judged. It is a solid piece of work, scientific and at the same time subtle. It may be that the work he intends to carry out will confirm LOMBROSO'S theory, just as it is possible that his investigations may invalidate it. But for the moment he is neither the disciple nor the pupil of the celebrated criminologist."

Vienna which invariably ill-treated its sons of music during their lives, has developed a tardy desire to do them all posthumous honor. The echoes of the MOZART celebration have hardly died out and now preparations are being made for celebrating the hundredth anniversary of the birthday of HANS SCHUBERT which comes the last of next month. SCHUBERT stands as the one great composer native to Vienna. There is now over the door of his 'geburtshaus' a grey marble tablet on the left side of which is a lyric crowned with a star and on the right side a chaplet of leaves. For the centennial occasion a commemorative medal is to be struck and the statue of SCHUBERT will be decorated.

Before PROGRESS appears again Christmas day will have come and gone. For the ninth time PROGRESS extends its friends and its patrons the kindest greetings of the season. May this Christmas of 1896 be not only a merry but a happy one as well; full of contentment for all the readers of this journal and their friends.

The days of thrilling adventures in the west have not entirely disappeared. It was reported a few days ago that a small boy stole a locomotive. He leapt in the cab while the engine was side-tracked, and, throwing open the throttle, enjoyed to the full his stolen steed.

VERSES OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY

One Christmas Eve,
"Yes that's my dog. You think he's a cat?
Try him on—He'll lick your hand;
He'd a bit clean thro' in a jiffy, sir—
That's a dog you can't understand.
He's old, he's hungry, he lumps a mite,
And together we've tramped it far and near;
Chucked together when fortune took flight,
Then brooded up and started again with-out fear.
He's a friend I'm not ashamed to own,
For many a time—when hungry at night—
He's brought and laid down at my feet a bone;—
Meaning, you know, I should have the first bite.
Time was when he lived the life of a prince,
When never a sorrow 'd knock him beset;
Time was—but that is a long time since—
It belongs to a past I would fain forget.
You think that I'm a trifle too old
To be with this dog a trampin' around,
Hungry, penniless, and out in the cold,
And no place to sleep but the frozen ground?
Make no mistake, sir, I'm not that at all—
No ground for me with the sky as a spread,
When I can crawl in under hay or straw,
With a blanket or two rolled under my head.
I speak like a man who has seen better days?
Perhaps you're right, sir, perhaps you're wrong,
But need to remember a time when praise
And flippant speech, and just and merry song
From my lips caused a wholesome fash
To a maiden cheek with haste to intrude
God! how it all comes back with a rush—
I beg your pardon, ma'am, I was rude.
One Christmas eve—Wait! Do you hear that song?
That song! The same song 't was used to sing,
What a host of memories with its cadence throng;
Then I was happy as any king.
Hymns of great gladness dwelt in my heart
Joy reamed thro' the corridors of my soul;
Grief was from my life far apart—
Forever erased from memory's scroll.
'Some day! Some day!' How that song wakes the
past.
What myriad forms come from its gloom;
Oae form like that woman's who just now passed
With a tray of drinks to that other room
A tall, slender, graceful, queenly form
Eyes that shone as if a moon in the night
Or lights that flash at sea in a storm—
A heart like the summer zephyr's light
Oae Christmas eve—"Twas a night like this,
Cold, cold; Soft the pure snow fell outside,
But no purer, I thought, than her good night kiss,
For the next night she was to be my bride.
Christmas day came with its wealth of good cheer,
Her arms were full of hope, faces beaming bright—
I beg your pardon, sir, that was not a tear—
These eyes are strangely weak tonight.
Christmas night came. At the hour of six
She was to be mine—all, all my own;
But at five came a shriek, with which sad voices
mix—
A note told the story—my bride had flown.
Not gone off with a handsome man,
Not gone off with a man better formed;
Not gone off with one who for years
The idol of her heart had stormed.
But fled from home with my closest friend,
Dead to all honor, all truth, all shame;
Cursed with a passion that could have but one end
Fled with a scoundrel who blasted her name.
Crazed, dazed, crushed in spirit, I fled
Oae in the darkness, sank down in the snow,
Asked Him in mercy, to strike me dead;
Such grief as mine but few men ever know.
That Christmas night out there in the snow,
This old dog found me and licked my face,
And fretted and whined for a share of my woe—
Since then we've tramped it from place to place.
This hungry dog is a link in the chain
That binds my memory to the past;
He comforts in sorrow, he soothes my pain,
And we'll cling together while life shall last.
No, no liquor for me—I never drink!
Drink—"Is the present of every sin,
It's the one great curse of mankind, I think—
It looked cosy here, we ventured in,
And that woman in their slinging stirs my heart
Till it throbs as it once throbb'd years ago;
I wakens the past, of which I am a part,
In singing the sweet songs she used to know.
She wakens a memory I long have fought,
A memory fighted with every bliss,
Till my pulse with the plaintive air is caught,
And I feel on my lips again her kiss.
"Stay on! stay on! Let the last year glasses fill!
Drink deep and often! Drown every woe!"
Listen, while its pathos your senses thrill,
As it thrilled my heart and soul years ago.
"Charge high your glasses! Let your souls re-
-live!"
That last air lends a glory to the place.
Great heaven! surely, I know that voice
Stand back! let me pass—I will see her face;
I'll see it, ay, tho' heaven stood between;
I'll meet her eyes tho' they blast my sight;
Stand back! she's—God! 'tis my lost Josephine,
Who fled from me ten years ago—tonight.
Back! all of you, back! I will speak the truth,
Tho' plying angels weep and devils grin.
You robbed me of every hope of my youth—
Fled from your home to revel in sin.
Oa you, who was once of my life a part,
Oa you, who was once my promise-wife,
I lay the ban of my broken heart on you,
I place the curse of my wretched life on you!"
Out into the darkness and night he fled,
Out into the softly falling snow.
Can anyone tell if tears he shed?
Ah, only God and the angels know.
No kind friends watched him with eyes of love,
No mother or father were there to grieve
As the soul of the wanderer soared above—
Died out in the snow, Oae Christmas Eve."
WILSON T. BENNETTE.

AN EXTENSIVE XMAS DISPLAY.
M. R. and A. Make a splendid Display in Every Department.
A visit to the establishment of Manchester, Robertson & Allison during the holiday season will well repay any one on the search for novelties or after the very best in their usual line of goods. The first floor, entering from King street, is devoted to charming and dainty little toilet accessories including lace neckwear of every description and handkerchiefs that are filmy and delicate, the prices of which range from two cents to eight dollars. The needlework display is very beautiful and the dainty trifles find a ready sale with the firms numerous patrons. The gentlemen's furnishing department is well supplied with the very latest and most stylish things in the way of string ties, gloves of over forty makes, smoking jackets, dressing gowns, dress suit cases and hand bags. In the linen department, which is daily thronged with ladies, are to be found damask goods of every description, fancy ajour towels, hemstitched napkins, sideboard covers etc while in the next, the dress goods department, the popular price fancy prevails to such an extent that an excellent line of dress goods can be purchased from ten cents up to sixty cents.

Working or fancy aprons are always appreciated by a lady and nothing more appropriate in this line can be seen than those in the ladies room on the second floor, where infants Berlin goods are also shown in pleasing variety. In the silk and fur department the bright silks for blouse and evening wear mingle in pleasing contrast with the heavy rich furs, for ladies, gentlemen and children. A handsome lot of umbrellas are also to be seen here, any one of which would make an elegant present for a lady friend or relative. In the cloak, curtain upholstered and carpet departments, there are to be found a special line of Christmas goods at very reasonable prices; while the two large rooms in the carpet and curtain departments contain a splendid collection of fancy goods in leather, furniture, dolls, mirrors, cabinets, writing desks, screens, cases, tables, doll's furniture, and many inexpensive trifles. The firm's furniture warehouses are well worth a visit if on your way to a desire to see a magnificent line of goods in the way of chairs, lounge, tables, divans, etc. There are five floors each of which has its own particular exhibit arranged with a view to the best effect to be obtained. There are several novelties this season that are meeting with a ready sale among them a divan and chair of the latest American make and design; a bedroom table with electric attachment, smoker's tables fitted with a musical instrument and a large number of other articles of the hour.

Each department in M. R. & A's extensive establishment is quite complete in its way and the Christmas buyers will find it very decidedly to their advantage to pay the store a visit.
Their Big Display.
Emerson & Fisher are recognized as the largest and best equipped kitchen supply house in the maritime provinces. Their leading range the Royal Art, has become so well and favorably known that it is acknowledged to be the best of its class on the market. This range and in fact nearly all the stoves they sell are made at their own foundry, consequently repairs can be had more readily and cheaply than can repairs for stoves that are made in Upper Canada or the U. S.

But in addition to stoves and small wares, this enterprising firm have many useful articles suitable for Xmas gifts. In one of their windows they show a line of beautiful brass water kettles, some of which are fitted with brass stands and spirit lamps; others with spirit lamps and wrought iron cranes. Brass fire irons, and stands, coal vases, silver knives, forks and spoons, carvers, crumb brushes and trays they sell the entire year, but at this season their stock is unusually large. Carpet sweepers they have in five patterns.
A "Parker" oil heater would be another article very suitable for Christmas. Toy ranges for the children must not be forgotten. During the holiday season they have bargain counters in full blast, an indication of which will well repay the careful housekeeper.

A surprise at Allan's.
In calling on Mr. W. C. R. Allan the King street druggist, that gentleman told a PROGRESS representative that nearly everyone who entered his store wonder what they will buy for their friends, but it does not take long for the wonders to cease for they always find it in his store. His perfume department is magnificently assorted with the finest French odors, dressing cases, toilet sets, shaving sets, necktie cases, cigar and cigarette cases, etc. Allan's Havana cigars will prove a most acceptable gift for any gentleman.
Almost a Silver Mine.
In the hardware line Messrs W. H. Thorne's stores on Market Square are artistically arranged with the richest assortment of cutlery, silverware, skates, etc. This line of goods need only be in this establishment to warrant their sterling value. The window decorations are beautiful and will give the buyer only a foretaste of the many elegant things to be

found in their spacious show rooms. There is nothing to catch the eye of a passer by quicker than the glitter of the window of Messrs Thorne & Co., and the bright lights that overhang their windows make as pretty a sight as will be seen during Santa Claus sojourn with us in 96.
For the Holiday Trade.
Messrs. Waterbury and Rising are kept pretty busy these days attending to their numerous customers, who find that they can get perfect satisfaction in this well stocked store. In addition to their usual stock the firm this season are showing many novelties in the way of bouffant slippers in bright shades, ladies carriage boots for protecting the dainty evening slipper, the latest styles in American footwear for the evening, men's slippers in kid, alligator and vic, and ones elaborately done in chenille and plush, moccasins and snow shoes for ladies, gentleman and children, infants warm slippers, ladies skating boots in enamel and willow calf which are the very latest styles. A visit to Waterbury and Rising will reveal some pleasant surprises to the Christmas shopper.
Great Bargain Sale at 90 King Street.
Wonderful values in books, bibles, church prayers, prayer books, annuals, childrens books, games, toys, dolls, fancy goods, work boxes, writing desks, jewel boxes, cloth books for 15 cts, souvenir china, cups and saucers, frames, photo albums, Christmas cards, booklets, stationery cases, necktie cards. All goods at reduced prices; 300 church prayers in leather from 15 cts. up. Pocket book in great varieties.
Call and examine goods, no trouble to show them. Save money by buying from us. Goods sold for cash only. Come early and avoid the rush. McArthur's, 90 King Street.
Sporting Goods and Novelties.
A good move was made by Mr. K. S. Edgcombe of the Gould Bicycle company when he decided to run a line of sporting and fancy goods for Xmas. While the sporting goods will be a prominent line with this firm, yet a larger stock has been ordered for the Xmas rush.
The show of fancy goods and toys is a credit to Mr. Edgcombe who has displayed excellent taste in their selection. A large Xmas tree is shown in their window heavily laden with Santa Claus choicest gifts. Everything in the sporting line can be had from their counters.
Soap Wrapper Competition.
Messrs. Lever Bros. of Toronto have a large monthly competition for 1897. They will give away valuable prizes each month to those who will send them the most Sunlight Soap wrappers.
One thousand six hundred and twenty-five dollars in bicycles and watches given every month in 1897.
Circulars and newspaper advertising are now out explaining the particulars of the contest.
Where Nice Goods are Found.
An attractive assortment of fancy goods can be found at Crockett's Drug store Princess St. Dressing cases, work boxes, glove and handkerchief boxes, collar and cut sets, and an endless assortment of Xmas perfumes adorn his counters. It is a pretty sight and buyers in this line would be well paid to call and inspect.
A Rare Piece of Wood.
In the eastern window of the Pratte Piano Co's warehouses is a piano of a rare beauty. It is made of Brazilian mahogany. The natural appearance of the wood is retained, no stain being used. The wood is cut so as to show the grain to the best advantage, some claiming they can see indistinct pictures in it when looked at in a certain light. Beautiful shades of gold, silver and seal brown, seem alive, and change according to the light, flashing like flames in a burning forest. There was only enough wood to make four pianos. One was shipped a couple of weeks ago to London, England. The Pratte Piano Co. will be pleased to show this piano and any others to anyone who wishes to call at their warehouses, 1676 Notre Dame Street.
Got the Wrong Passenger.
One evening last week as a lady and little child were getting off an electric car the conductor politely stepped off to lift the child to the street. Just as he put his arms out some one spoke to him and he looked around carelessly; in reaching out for the child he grasped the mother of 160 weight and went under with the pressure. It was a good joke and the lady did not mind it a bit but the conductor was very much embarrassed.
Candlesticks of every description are to be found, and all are attractive, from the graceful ironwork holders to the elegant silver candleabra. Now no dinner-table decorations are considered complete without candles and shades. In China the flower-shaped holders are as much seen as the tall, slender Empire style. For a blue room a windmill in old Delft is much to be desired. The top of the mill lifts off while the candle is lighted and is used for an extinguisher when the light is not required.

PRIMITIVE PILE PULLING.

The Woodboat Scheme not Meeting With the Undivided Success Hoped For.
The new method of the council in pulling the piles at Sand Point is not as successful as it is puffed up. There is nothing very exciting in watching the dismantled woodboats with their bows to one pile and then waiting for the tide to come in and elevate both the pile and the boats. Still quite a crowd gather to observe and laugh at this newest freak of the councils and when one day this week a particularly obstinate pile persisted in pulling the woodboats down instead of letting go and coming to the surface the comments of the unbelievers were amusing to listen to. But it is a silly piece of business to take two or three months to do what might be done in two weeks. A contractor told PROGRESS that the means he would employ would easily remove the piles in that time and he knows what he is talking about. The city had a variety of offers to remove the piles but they adopted this primitive suggestion from two North end men at the motion, it is stated, of Alderman Christie. The men who have directed the movements of this Sand Point business have certainly shown a lack of capacity to deal with these matters. They have tried to do something they know nothing about and in spite of the will of the people as expressed again and again to the representatives personally and through the press they avoid the contract system and persist in the expensive day's work methods.

SHE KNEW THE MURDERER.
An Amusing Incident that Occurred in the Opera House.
An amusing incident comes to PROGRESS this week regarding a little girl who on Thanksgiving evening visited the opera house for the first time. In the course of the play a murder was committed and with the perversity usual in such cases the innocent hero was blamed for the deed of a jealous rival. The former had his young auditor's sympathy from the start, and it required much work on the part of a relative who accompanied her, to prevent the little girl from whispering from her box to the players that they were on the wrong scent, for the murderer.
"Why does not somebody tell them," she anxiously enquired. Explanation were useless, and on the way home she remarked in a very disgusted tone. "I'm sure I knew from the first who killed the man, didn't you? I think some one might have told the actors and saved them such a lot of trouble." This little incident is in strange and pleasing contrast to the child of ten who was taken to hear Albani, the following night, and who disturbed all in her vicinity with pert criticisms of various members of the prima donna's company.

BEAUTIFUL SLEEPING CARS.
The C. P. R. Sleepers are the Nicest in America.
G. W. Stevens, special commissioner to America for the "Daily Mail," writes to his paper:—
By far the most magnificent sleeping car I have met is that of the Canadian Pacific, wherein I am trying to write this. It is wider and loftier than any other, more richly and elegantly upholstered. You can tell at once that it hails elsewhere than from the United States by the inscription under the looking-glasses. "Tuam est," it says, and you may bet your life no Yankee ever had any use for a Latin inscription inside a railway carriage. In this car the two middle sections of the six have their seats along the wall of the car instead of across it; this gives a broader floor in the middle. Above these lateral seats are sheets of window nearly twice the usual size.
The smoking-room, again, is an especial joy. It occupies the whole width of the car at its hinder end, instead of being cranked in by a corridor leading past it, as in the cars of the United States. With the same large windows on either side and other windows and a door forming the back end of the car, it affords a splendid prospect on three sides of the train. The food on these C. P. R. trains is above the average, and the price is consistently insignificant. There is even—oh, joy of joys—a bathroom. True, you may not have a bath in it, for the bath season closes on the 1st of October, but he is a poor traveller who has not mastered the theory and practice of taking a perpendicular bath. The sleeping and dining cars in the United States belong to the Pullman Company, and are run by them; you take your berth at a different booking office from that where you get your railway ticket. The Canadian Pacific owns and runs its own, and, for comfort and good service, I doubt if they have their equal in the world. Everything is done that admirable organization, care and courtesy can do to mitigate the horrors of a week's journey across the Continent.

THEIR HANDSOME DISPLAY.
Messrs Ferguson and Page Ready For Their Christmas Customers.
A little visit to Ferguson & Page's jewelry store on King street, will well repay the seeker after pretty and attractive Christmas goods. In addition to their line of staple jewelry this firm have a splendid line of diamonds, emeralds, opals pearl set goods including brooches and pendants. The bronze goods displayed are exceedingly beautiful and any one of the statuettes or ornaments would make a beautiful present, as would also one of the clocks, of which article the firm are making a specialty this season. The display of cut glass and sterling silverware is very extensive and the prices in each line of goods cannot fail to suit all buyers even those with a limited purse. A charming thing shown by Messrs Ferguson & Page is a solid silver tea set of the latest design and fashion.
Torchon and Valenciennes patterns combined are the new laces for trimming undergarments.