

Correspondence.

LOGAN, CACHE Co., Oct. 17, 1869.

Editor Deseret News.—Dear Sir—The enterprising inhabitants of Cache and Rich counties have nearly completed a most commendable undertaking in the way of building up this northern portion of the Territory. I allude to the new road which is now being made to connect the above named counties by a nearer and much easier route than that betwixt Franklin and Bear Lake. This new road will run through Logan canyon. When it is completed, which, it is expected, it will be within three weeks from now, it will only be a comfortable day's drive, about forty miles, from Logan to St. Charles, Rich county. This is not, however, the only advantage to be derived from the opening of this new road, for the canyon abounds with timber of the very first quality. In view of these advantages Bro. Heziah Thatcher, with his usual enterprise, has already sent for a steam saw-mill, which will be put in operation as soon as practicable.

Respectfully,

MONSTERIO.

P. S.—Since writing the above I have learned that Bishop Peter Maughan intends, in a few days, to go up the canyon to personally superintend the making of the road, and has made a call upon all the Bishops of Cache Valley with all their forces to assist him, that the road may be completed in a few days to Rich's big spring, where they expect the citizens of Bear Lake to meet them.

THE PRESERVATION OF THE TEETH.

SALT LAKE CITY, Oct. 5, 1869.

Editor Deseret News.—Being convinced from daily observation, that the teeth are much neglected by the masses of the people, and as abler pens are silent, I will offer a few remarks upon them.

My daily duties forbid me searching archives of history in order to procure an elaborate treatise on this subject, neither will I penetrate the gloomy caverns of the ancient dead in order to catch the form and fashion of the time when Pliny lived and thou wert in thy prime."

But I will briefly state, for the satisfaction of the curious, that, according to history, the first time the diseases of the teeth were noticed and dental surgery practiced was in the time of Hippocrates. It would appear from discoveries made by Belzoni and others in the sarcophagi of the Egyptians, that the first artificial teeth were of a rude sample and made of wood. It is evident from the writings of Solomon that these organs received his attention. In the palmy days of Greece and Rome, the appearance of the teeth and their diseases, received considerable attention, and frequent allusion is made by the historians of that age to the practice of wearing false teeth.

Dentistry, however, did not receive its undivided attention, that its importance demands, until the close of the sixteenth century. The first attempt to classify the diseases of the teeth were made by M. Fouchard, of Paris, who is nominated the "father of dental surgery."

Should any one think it unnecessary to draw the attention of the people to this subject, let him cast a glance into the mouths of those he may meet or associate with, and if optical demonstration is not sufficient, let him place himself in a suitable situation for olfactory test. Then let him be assured by a practical dentist that some folks' mouths are so offensive, that the surgeon is sometimes compelled to hold his breath while operating. Let him reflect on the important office the teeth perform in properly preparing the food for digestion, how indispensable they are to clear and distinct articulation, as well as a pleasing physiognomy, and if the illusion is not dispelled, and he is convinced that there is something rotten, not only in Denmark, but also in some people's mouths, then must he be indeed incorrigible. There may be a lack of euphonism in my last sentence, but I wish to speak in relation to this matter so as to be understood by all, for I consider the condition of some people's mouths to be an outrage upon the eyes and noses of society, and were they favored with a microscopic view of their "inhabitants" they would be apt to "see sights" that had not been dreamt of in their philosophy.

The causes assigned for the diseases and decay of the teeth are numerous

and conflicting. "Who shall decide when doctors disagree?" And as many of them are, to a great extent, if not entirely beyond the control of the individuals so afflicted, I shall not stop to enumerate them. But I am convinced that one of the principal causes, and one that is in the power of every one to remedy is *uncleanliness*. To corroborate this assertion I will here introduce the testimony of two eminent dentists. Parmlly says: "The premature decay of the teeth is the consequence of uncleanliness, which acts upon them in the same manner as on other parts, by sapping and corroding the vital energy, thereby causing them to moulder away." Schrott, in speaking of "the inhabitants of the mouth and teeth," says "the principal cause of the destruction of the teeth must be a parasitic, luxuriant, vegetable growth, which is always found where sour fermentation or putridity takes place." Another writer queries: "How many persons cleanse their teeth four times daily? yet nothing less than this will keep these creeping, crawling, slimy parasites from the mouth." A friend who has traveled in India, where it is enjoined as a religious duty to cleanse the teeth before and after partaking of food, informed me that good, sound teeth, even in old age, was the rule, and not the exception among them. Hot and improper food, and hot drinks are found to be very injurious to the teeth (hence the necessity of strictly observing the word of wisdom,) also quack medicines, tooth powders and dentrifices, metallic tooth picks, cracking nuts and other hard substances; the habit of using fine bolted flour is also detrimental, as nature's laboratory is thereby deprived of a portion of the elements necessary for their proper formation and perpetuity. A foul or diseased stomach is a very fruitful cause of their diseases. In short anything that tends to impair the general health of the system has more or less a baneful effect upon them. And *vice versa*, for when the teeth and gums are diseased the food is not only imperfectly prepared for the action of the stomach, but in the language of the poetess, we actually "Drink our poison, and we eat disease" through a portion of the ulcerated and putrid matter from the teeth and gums passing into the stomach with the aliment. For the same reasons the air inhaled must also be more or less contaminated. A dentist of this city informed me that he had often observed a marked improvement in the health of persons, who had had their "stumps" extracted, in the short period of time necessary for the gums to be prepared for the reception of an artificial set, which seems to indicate that very bad teeth are worse than none at all.

The preservation of the teeth is a subject that ought to receive the attention of all, both old and young, male and female. The maiden may be in the very prime of youth and beauty, still the disease and loss of her teeth will give an expression of senility and deformity to her otherwise fair features. A man may be the very personification of manly dignity, he may have "an eye like Mars to threaten and command" and yet the loss of his teeth will have a like effect upon him; I therefore conceive it to be the duty of parents to acquaint their children with these facts. They should be taught to value their teeth more than a casket of jewels.

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

They should know that if proper care is not bestowed upon them, their loss is inevitable, and is only a matter of time. They should be taught at five years old and upwards the daily use of the tooth-brush. In order thoroughly to cleanse the parts the brush should not only be moved across the teeth, but also upwards and downwards, varying the action so as to penetrate every interstice both anterior and posterior. Should the gums be relaxed, spongy and bleed, a continuation in the above course will generally restore them to a healthy action. Every person ought to have a tooth-brush.

Recent microscopical examinations have proved pure white soap to be the best and most effectual dentrifice. A very good and safe tooth-pick can be made out of a quill, and even a piece of straw of a suitable size inserted between the teeth has been found to answer a very good purpose.

If they are foul and coated with tartar, repair at once to a skillful and conscientious dentist, and have them thoroughly cleansed, and stopped if necessary. A tooth well stopped with proper material may do good service for a life time. Periodical examinations should then be made by the dentist, as

decay in the teeth is sometimes very rapid. I would here remark that deformity produced by accident or otherwise can in many instances be rectified by a skillful dentist.

In order to more fully show the importance of mothers giving this subject their serious attention, not only for their own individual benefit, but also for that of their offspring, I will state that the celebrated De la Barre, who is classed among the best dental pathologists of Europe, advises mothers, who have constitutionally bad teeth to refrain from suckling their children, lest they entail upon them not only bad teeth but also debilitated constitutions. He further says that in choosing a wet nurse "her eyes should be lively and animated, her hair and eyebrows brown or light colored, her lips red, her teeth sound and good, her gums hard and well colored." The above may sound like an idle tale to some of my readers, but the student of pathology and physiology will understand its import.

In concluding these incoherent remarks, I would say that I am not a dentist or the son of a dentist, neither am I a dealer in toothbrushes and dentrifices, and in offering them to the public I have no financial "ax to grind," and consequently the feelings that have prompted this humble effort have been purely philanthropic.

NORVAL.

BREVITIES.

A notice of a birth in a London paper has appended to it these words:

"Mr. Forbes (the father) requests the prayers of his friends and acquaintances in this sore affliction."

"Bridget, what became of the tallow I greased my boots with this morning?"

"I fried the buckwheats in it."

"Oh, I was afraid you had wasted it."

A priceless Saxon manuscript, the gift of Leofric, the first Bishop of Exeter, which was said to have disappeared, has been found safe among other manuscripts in the Exeter Exchequer Chamber, in England.

Rev. Robson Collyer, of Chicago, says that Canada is the most old fashioned new country, probably to be found anywhere. It is a collection of people without a nationality as the germ of national idea. What this republic might have been without New England, Canada is. It is a land without a history.

The experiment of the Lake Superior Mining Co. in making mineral paint at Ishpeming, Wis., is a success. The paint is made by evaporating the water pumped from the mine into shallow reservoirs. The coloring material is oxide of iron, mixed with a sort of clay, popularly known as magnesia, but which is fire clay.

The late Bishop of Exeter once formed one of the congregation in a church in Torquay, in his own diocese, when the over-nice clergyman used the words, "Eat and drink their own condemnation," whereupon the sonorous voice of the diocesan rolled forth the word "damnation," which is the proper liturgical word, while the people in the pews looked astounded.

When Hortense died she gave the engagement ring of her mother, the Empress Josephine, to her son, the present Emperor of France, making it a condition that he should never put it on another hand than that of the future Empress of the French. The request was obeyed and Eugenie owns the ring.

A poor couple in London, taking counsel with each other how to retrench their expenses, decided to drown their dog, a great pet, but costing seven pence a week. The wife herself threw the animal from the bridge, but his loss preyed upon her mind till she went crazy and drowned herself also in the Thames a week later.

A raw Jonathan who had been gazing at a garden in the vicinity of New York, in which were several marble statues, exclaimed: "Just see what a waste! Here's no less than six scarecrows in this little ten-foot patch, and any one on 'em would keep the crows from a five-acre patch."

An old man in Crawford county, Pa., called crazy Odell, has for 20 years, with necessary intervals for sleeping and eating, walked, in shine and storm, from Meadville to Penn Line, a distance of 20 miles. He imagines himself the Duke of Wellington, and is always marching to the battle-field of Waterloo.

Leigh Hunt had an uncle who was very wealthy and meddlesome. Every one knows what an idler poor Leigh was in youth, and how very improvident in money matters. His old uncle came to see him one day and said "Ah, Leigh! How do you do, Leigh? What are you doing now, Leigh?" "I am not doing anything," answered Hunt. "What?" exclaimed the other, "haven't you got anything to do yet?" "No; but as you don't seem to mind your own business, you ought to employ me to do it for you. That would keep me pretty well engaged, I fancy."—*Lippincott's Magazine*.

A story is told of a frugal office clerk, in a New York bank, who, during the recent gold panic, drew all his savings, amounting to some \$600, and speculated in the street. He was very fortunate, and found himself worth, Friday morning, fifteen thousand dollars. His employers were astonished at his good fortune and advised him to invest that amount with them, and they would make it a hundred thousand. He thanked them, and said he would stop where he was. That night he had his fifteen thousand dollars, and his employers were not worth fifteen cents.

To test flour,—place a 'thimblefull in the palm of the hand and rub it gently with the finger. If the flour smooths down, feeling gentle and slippery, it is of inferior quality, though of fancy brands, high-priced, and white as the virgin snow-drift, and will never make good, light, and wholesome bread. But if the flour rubs rough in the palm, feeling like fine sand and has an orange tint, purchase confidently. It will never disappoint you. Such flour, whatever may be its branded reputation, though its price be at the lowest figure, will make good, light, nutritious bread.

It is not very long since the reflecting portion of the English people were startled by the statement, put forth authoritatively, that a man a day is killed in the coal shafts in England. Nearly six men are killed for every million of tons of coal raised in England. The dangers of mining in the English mines are many. First, there are the dangers attending the fall of stratum beneath which the miner labors. It is from the constant caving in of the treacherous roof that the miner stands in greatest danger. There are the accidents arising from the explosion of fire damp, by which scores of men are destroyed without a moment's warning. The coal pours out suddenly, sometimes continuously, its carburetted hydrogen gas, which, uniting with the air, creates the dangerous fire-damp. Those who escape instant destruction by the explosion of the fire damp are reserved for the more horrible fate of dying from the effects of the "after damp" or "choke damp," which succeeds an explosion. In the English mines it sometimes happens that the miners break into old workings, the records of which are either lost or forgotten, when the poor miner is crushed beneath the weight of a ponderous column of water. It is not many years since the breaking of the machinery of the Hartley Colliery entombed two hundred and four men and boys, not one of whom survived. Within the short space of five months, in 1867, upward of four hundred men and boys were killed in two large collieries in England, cut off without a moment's warning. One of the accidents was similar in some respects to the recent disaster in the Avondale mine.—*Ex.*

"John," said one boy to another one day as they were strolling past a duck pond, "do you know why a duck goes under water?"

"No," answered his companion; "let me ask you why?"

"For diver's reasons," said John.

"Well, well," said the other, "can you tell me why he comes up again?"

"No," replied John, somewhat curiously.

"Then, John," said his companion, "you are caught this time. Of course the duck comes up for sun-dry purposes."

ESTRAYS.

I HAVE in my possession the following described animals—

One Brown HORSE, 12 or 13 years old, branded No. 8 on left shoulder and thigh, Y on left shoulder and thigh, and G on left thigh.

One Red Spotted Grey 2-year old STUD, no marks or brands.

The above named animals, if not claimed within 30 days from the date of advertising, will be sold at Nephi City Stray Pound.

ISAAC GRACE, Nephi City Poundkeeper.

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