

**A REAL HERO.**—A few weeks ago, on board an English steamer, a little ragged boy, aged 9 years, was discovered on the fourth day of the outward passage from Liverpool to New York, and carried before the first mate, whose duty it was to deal with such cases. When questioned as to the object of his being stowed away, and who brought him on board, the boy, who had a beautiful, sunny face, and eyes that looked like the very mirrors of truth, replied that his stepfather did it, because he could not afford to keep him, nor to pay his fare to Halifax, where he had an aunt who was well off, and to whom he was going. The mate did not believe the story, in spite of the winning face and truthful accents of the boy. He had seen too much of slow-ways to be easily deceived by them, he said; and it was his firm conviction that the boy had been brought on board and provided with food by the sailors. The little fellow was very roughly handled, in consequence. Day by day he was questioned and questioned, but always with the same result. He did not know a sailor on board, and his stepfather alone had secreted him, and given him the food which he ate. At last the mate, wearied by the boy's persistence in the same story, and perhaps a little anxious to incite the sailors, seized him one day by the collar and dragging him to the fore, told him that unless he confessed the truth in ten minutes from that time, he would hang him on the yard-arm. He then made him sit down under it on the deck. All around him were the passengers and sailors of the mid-day watch, and in front of him stood the inexorable mate, with his chronometer in his hand, and the other officers of the ship by his side. It was the finest sight (said our informant) we ever beheld, to see the pale, proud, sorrowful face of that noble boy, his head erect, his beautiful eyes bright through the tears that suffused them. When eight minutes had fled, the mate told him he had but two minutes to live, and advised him to speak the truth and save his life; but he replied with the utmost simplicity and sincerity, by asking the mate if he might pray. The mate said nothing, but nodded his head, and turned as pale as a ghost, and shook with trembling like a reed in the wind. And there, all eyes turned on him, this brave and noble little fellow, this poor wail, whose society evened not, and whose own stepfather could not care for him—there he knelt with clasped hands, and eyes upraised to heaven, while he repeated audibly the Lord's Prayer, and prayed the dear Lord Jesus to take him to heaven. Our informant adds that there then occurred a scene as of Pentecost. Sobs broke from strong, hard hearts, as the mate sprang to the boy and clasped him to his bosom, and kissed him, and blessed him, and told him how sincerely he now believed his story, and how glad he was that he had been brave enough to face death, and be willing to sacrifice his life for the truth of his own word.—Sun.

**CARCUNCLES** have of late years become far more common than formerly. At an earlier period they were rarely seen, but now they are almost as prevalent as the ordinary boil, from which, however, they totally differ in all their characteristics. A boil is poulticed, drawn to a head, discharges itself, and disappears. The caruncle is slow in its formation, and by poulticing it with boiled flaxseed, which I believe is the best, an opening is made and a slight discharge of watery blood ensues, but it is never drawn to a "head," and never discharges like a common boil. All the poulticing that can be given does scarcely anything more than soften it; and many of them would not disappear for months unless the sure remedy is resorted to—lancing by a physician. Death is sometimes produced by the caruncle, when it is located on a vital spot, say at back of the neck on the spinal column, and sometimes they produce severe illness. When it makes its appearance as a small hard pimple, it should be at once attacked and dispersed, which can be done by cutting it open or an application of arnica. Some apply strong iodo, etc. A lump indicating the growing of a caruncle is quite distinct from ordinary lumps of pimples from its particular hardness. They are caused by various conditions of the system. By a paucity as well as a superfluity of the blood. By an unhealthy state of the blood. By bruises on fleshy parts of the body, etc.—Doctress, in German-town Telegraph.

**CURIOSITIES OF SOUND.**—The only condition necessary to the production of a musical sound is, that the air pulses should succeed each other in the same interval of time. No matter what its origin may be, if this condition be fulfilled, the sound becomes musical. If a watch, for example, could be caused to tick with sufficient rapidity—say 100 times a second—the ticks would lose their individuality, and blend to a musical tone. And if the strokes of a pigeon's wings could be accomplished at the same rate, the progress of the bird through the air would be accompanied by music. In the humming bird the necessary rapidity is attained; and, when we pass on from birds to insects, where the vibrations are more rapid, we have a musical note as the ordinary accompaniment of the insect's flight. The puffs of the locomotive at starting follow each other slowly at first, but they soon increase so rapidly as to be incapable of being counted. If this increase should continue until the puffs numbered fifty or sixty a second, the approach of an engine would be heralded by an organ peal of tremendous power.—Tendall on Sound

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