

FAMOUS OLD PEOPLE.

Some Who Attained Great Age Without Following Diet Rules.

Among the examples of moderation in diet, Miguel Solis, of San Salvador, is conspicuous. He was, according to the Lancet, 180 years old in 1878, and, if he is still to the fore, is likely to complete his second century. He believed that he had lived so long because he had never eaten more than one meal a day. Even in that he limited himself to what he could tuck in during the short space of half an hour. He therefore was a living argument against those hygienists who bid us eat slowly and masticate well. His diet was chiefly vegetable-meat, which was always cooked the day before, entering into it only twice a week. For two days in every month he fasted, and he drank large quantities of water. His plan included several other details and, on the whole, we of the threescore and ten can, without envy, wish him joy.

Macklin, the comedian, who lived and died in Convent Garden, was a wonderful oddity, in a virtue of which—or perhaps in spite of which—he managed to get through 107 years. He followed the wise and simple rule of eating when hungry, drinking when thirsty, and sleeping when sleepy. All these he did on a liberal scale. He never took off his clothes except for the purpose of having his body rubbed all over with brandy. He always slept in blankets, and history does not record a single journey on their part to the laundry. And his couch, which was hard, was placed in the middle of the room.

What is most strange about longevity is that it comes, like the dew of Heaven, to every class. Kings, who live in luxury, beggars who go through existence in a state of chronic cold and hunger, giants and cripples, abstainers and drunkards, large eaters and small eaters, toilers and sluggards, brain workers and body workers, vegetarians and carnivores, smokers and nonsmokers, sane and insane—all have apparently an equal chance of the prize of long life. An old woman who died in Ireland at the age of 112, was all her life a beggar, and during the last half of it was never known to eat a square meal from one end of the year to the other. In the United States, on the other hand, a man even exceeded this figure, and he was never known to pass a day without eating as much all by himself as an ordinary family of five.

POSTAGE STAMPS.

Bought a Hotel Worth Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars.

When Byron S. Ross began to collect postage stamps 20 years ago, he was called a crank by his schoolmates. His parents tried to dissuade him from what they thought was a foolish craze. He told his father that some day his stamps would bring him a fortune.

His dream came true. Recently Mr. Ross traded his collection of stamps for a hotel at Hurley, Wis., valued at \$35,000. This is perhaps the first time in history that a deal of such magnitude was made with postage stamps. It took about 3,000,000 stamps to buy the hotel. Mr. Burton and his son spent several days in counting them. After they had counted \$35,000 worth, Mr. Ross still had his private and his foreign collection left.

For several years Mr. Ross had been the largest dealer in canceled stamps in Chicago. He was a mail carrier for ten years, and this gave him unusual advantage for making his collection.

He has bought and sold many millions of American and foreign stamps. His collection, which he traded for the Hurley hotel, is considered one of the largest in the United States. He had stamps ranging in price from ten cents to \$1,000 for one.

Mr. Ross had the largest foreign correspondence of any man in Chicago. He frequently received as high as 300 letters in a day from Europe. His name was known in the remotest parts of the world. He has sent millions of stamps to Japan and China, where small fortunes are spent in decorating rooms with them. Persons who dealt with him thought he must certainly know everybody in Chicago. He has received letters from all parts of the globe asking inquiry for this or that person supposed to be in this city. During the world's fair a letter was sent from Siberia in his care to a man who was visiting Chicago. The writer of the letter had no doubt that Mr. Ross could find the person for whom it was intended. And so he did, through the Russian consul.—Chicago Times-Herald.

"This honey doesn't look to be pure," said the cautious grocer. "But, man," earnestly replied the apothecary, "it has to be pure. You couldn't expect a man in the bee line to be crooked; now, could you?"

The difference between what people seem to be, and what they are, is about the same as the difference between the picture on a tomato can, and the tomato.—Atchison Globe.

DR. YERSIN.

And His Study of the Plague Bacilli in Hong Kong.

In view of the importance which attaches to Dr. Yersin's discovery of the plague virus and its antitoxin, the following notes on his work may be of interest. When a youth of 20, Yersin had the rare good fortune to obtain an entrance to the Institute Pasteur. The extraordinary ardor with which he devoted himself to his work rapidly won for him the admiration and respect of all his colleagues. When little more than a student, Ronx signalled him out to assist him in those important researches on the toxin of diphtheria which have since become so memorable, and which were communicated to the scientific world under the joint names of the master and his pupil. While at Tonkin, in the spring of 1894, he received the request from the French government to proceed to Hong Kong to study the plague which had recently broken out there. Yersin started off on his mission, and arrived in Hong Kong a few weeks after the plague had commenced its terrible career in that city—a career which had already claimed the lives of 300 Chinese, and which was yet to exact a tribute of over 100,000. Yersin describes how, on reaching Hong Kong, he found the authorities busily erecting temporary hospitals, the existing accommodation being quite inadequate to cope with the widespread dimensions of the epidemic. He obtained permission to erect a small hut within the precincts of the principal hospital, and there, in a concentrated plague atmosphere, he took up his quarters, and hastily improvising a laboratory, commenced his investigations. So far the plague had confined itself to the insatiable Chinese quarters of the city, and Yersin mentions that the wretched cabins occupied by the natives were often not only without windows of any kind, but were sunk below the level of the ground, which, combined with the shocking overcrowding which prevailed, converted such dens into plague-incubators of the most fulsome and dangerous character.

In those infected districts, one of the first things which attracted Yersin's attention was the extraordinary number of dead rats which lay about in all directions in the houses as well as in the streets; but, on inquiry, he soon learned that this rat mortality was a well-known forerunner of the plague, that the latter usually attacks animals such as rats and mice, and that the country districts swine and buffaloes, before it touches human beings. An examination of these dead rats showed that their symptoms differed in no way from those which characterize the plague in man, and the extreme susceptibility of these animals furnished Yersin at once with a valuable means of tracking out the virus. His first step was to make careful examinations of the bubonic material present in the tumors which accompany the disease, and here he discovered immense numbers of a short bacillus which appeared to be almost exclusively in possession of the field. These he found were readily stained, and could be cultivated with ease in the usual bacterial media. Further investigation showed that these same bacilli were invariably present in the ganglia and liver and spleen of plague patients; that they were, however, rarely to be found in the blood, and then but in small numbers, and usually only in rapidly fatal cases a short time before death.—N.Y.

FRENCH COOKING.

Has Been Brought Down to a Fine Art.

People may sneer at judging a nation by the amount of attention it pays to its stomach; but the stomach, after all, is a very important part of the human anatomy, and those who surround the physical necessities of our animal nature with agreeable charms that make them less coarse and brutal certainly have a claim to be considered in some degree promoters of civilization. It is a libel both upon nature and nature's God to hold that everything pleasant is wrong, and that the refinements of life have no place in that great evolution that is gradually raising mankind to a higher plane, even though such refinements descend to the table. It is in this respect that French cooking is superior to all other cooking; it is more refined. The English feed, the Americans devour; only the French really know how to eat. Their meals, as a rule, are less heavy and solid than those of other nations, yet quite sufficient in quantity, while the great fact that distinguishes their cooking is their perfect comprehension of the part played by seasoning. Like the Gothic wit which flavors their literature, their thorough knowledge of seasoning gives zest to their cooking.

—Thomas B. Preston, in Chautauquan.

Flyingwedge's Practice.

Smith—Is young Flyingwedge practicing law?

Williams—I think not. He was called to the bar, but I think he is practicing economy.—Illustrated Bits.

BREVITIES OF FUN.

—Brooks—"Did you have good luck fishing yesterday?" Rivers—"Yes. I got home without being seen by anybody."—Chicago Tribune.

—Gobbleton—"And so they were happily married?" Mrs. Gobbleton (reading novel).—"Yes; each of them married somebody else."—Tit-Bits.

—Well Provided For.—She—"Did your uncle mention you in his will?" He—"Oh, yes. He left the thousands of dollars that I owed him to the Kite Institute."—Truth.

—Settled Him.—"They say, dear, that people who live together get to looking alike." She—"Then you must consider my refusal as final."—Detroit Free Press.

—Poor—"But we cannot live on papa." protested the savage's bride to be. "It is dreadfully poor." "We can wait until he is fatter," explained the youth, "for love is brave."—Detroit Journal.

—Away Down—"Do you believe in your success in the state is as deep as it pretends to be?" "It is several thousand feet deep, at any rate. He has a lot of gas and oil wells."—Indianapolis Journal.

—An American Answer.—The Good Boy—"Let's see, Joshua was not an American, was he?" The Bad Boy—"No; if he had been, he would have told the sun to get a move on itself."—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

—A Sword Return.—"How foolish of you to envy Mrs. Glitter her jewelry. Why, the whole trumpery lot together isn't worth but \$40." "George Johnson! Who told you so?" "I saw the assessor's blank."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

—Very Ambitious.—"Did you say that boy of yours was ambitious?" "Ambitious! Well, I should say! Why, that boy does nothing but sit around all day and think of the great things he's going to do!"—Philadelphia North American.

—"It's hard for a man to be successful, but he's got his convictions," said Uncle Eben. "I noticed that some o' men who said pris' fightin' was nuffin' but brutal lungin' jes' ca close up ter de bulletins aside reglar sports."—Washington Star.

—Bill—"Be' still a-raining, Sam?" Sam—"Ah, that it be; and not like to give over, neither. I bin' comin' down powerful, it ave. Why, I did 'ear say it's bin' so bad up in London that they've been a celeb'ratin' the longest rain-on record?"—Tit-Bits.

—An Indication.—"Hans your son taken up the higher mathematics?" inquired the friend. "I don't know for sure," replied the father, who was looking over a number of bills; "anyhow, he's getting a great deal more familiar with figures than he used to be."—Washington Star.

—THE PLACE DE LA CONCORDE.

Its Name Not in Keeping with its Historic Memoria.

The most important public square in Paris, and one of the handsomest in the whole world, is the Place de la Concorde. In the center rises the Obelisk of Luxor, presented by the pharaohs of Egypt to Louis Philippe. It is flanked on either side by a large fountain. The Place de la Concorde seems somewhat wrongly called, in view of the history of the spot. One hundred and fifty years ago it was an open field. But in 1848 the city accepted the gracious permission of Louis XV. to erect a statue to him here. The place then took his name and retained it till the new regime, in 1789, melted down the statue and converted it into two-cent pieces.

On the 30th of May, 1770, during an exhibition of fireworks here, a panic took place and 1,200 people were trampled to death and 2,000 more were severely injured. The occasion was the attempt of the people to express, by a grand celebration, their unbound joy at the recent marriage of the young dauphin with the Austrian princess Marie Antoinette.

On the 21st of January, 1793, they gathered here again in immense numbers to see the head of the same dauphin, now Louis XVI., chopped off by a sharp guillotine. During the next two years the spot well earned its title. "Place of the Revolution" for the guillotine had not ceased its work until Marie Antoinette, Charlotte, Mme. Elisabeth (the king's sister), Robespierre, and more than 2,800 people had here perished by its deadly stroke.—H. H. Regan, in Chautauquan.

Patents in Various Countries.

It costs \$50 to take out a patent in Great Britain. In France a patent is issued for 15 years, and is subject to an annual tax of \$20. In America all patents are assignable by law, and a part interest may be assigned as easily as a whole.

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Last Year's Coke Product.

The value of coke made in the United States in 1896 was \$12,000,000.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NILE-ORLEANS.

Est très répandue en Louisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sud. Sa publicité offre donc au commerce des avantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement, pour l'année: Edition quotidienne, \$12 00; Edition hebdomadaire, \$3 00; Edition du Dimanche, \$2 00.

VENTES A L'ENCAN.

PAR SPEAR & ESCOFFIER.

ANNONCE JUDICIAIRE.

Succession de James P. Guisealt.

Sedissons Cour Judiciaire de District, Franchise de St-Jean.

No 55,000 — Oeur Orville du District pour le

parc d'Orléans, Division X.

PAR SPEAR & ESCOFFIER—PLAICE, J.

Span, Encanteur — Bureau No 226, Canal

avenue 150, rue Commune, MERCIER, 25

janvier 1897, à midi. Il sera vendu à la Mairie

de la ville, dans la ville de

Orléans, le 27 janv. 1897, à midi. Le

parc d'Orléans, Division X.

Il sera vendu à la vente publique

pour le compte de la succession:

— Les biens immobiliers qui s'y trouvent

appartiennent à la succession,

— Les biens meublés et ameublés qui s'y trouvent

appartiennent à la succession,

— Les biens corporels qui s'y trouvent

appartiennent à la succession.

— Les biens incorporels qui s'y trouvent

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