

MICHIGAN'S UNCOMMON PAIR

Remarkably Close Resemblance of Sparta's Twin Brothers.

ONE OF NATURE'S STRANGEST PRANKS

Curious and Comical Mistakes Growing Out of Their Likeness to Each Other—Story of William and James Hisey.

There are living in Michigan today two men so alike in form and feature that their wives and children have great difficulty in telling them apart. For this reason their lives have been filled with incidents that it is the privilege of very few persons in the world to have experienced, and every day adds to the queer happenings. These men are William Hisey of Sparta, Mich., and James Hisey of Yali, Mich. Each is in the milling business, and, oddly enough, each has achieved the same degree of success in life.

It is often the case where nature plays so queer a prank as to make children exactly alike that as the years come to them and environment differs the faces of the two become dissimilar to such an extent as to render it comparatively easy to distinguish one from the other. In the case of the Hiseys, however, the lines of their lives have fallen in almost similar places, and their tastes being largely the same, their characters have developed in much the same fashion. The result of all this is that the resemblance of childhood is just as strongly evident in the years of maturity.

The following narrative, written by the twins, are unvarnished statements of fact. They are given just as the writers penned them. The first is that of William Hisey of Sparta.

WILLIAM HISEY'S STORY. "My twin brother and I look so much alike



WILLIAM HISEY

that not one person out of a thousand can tell us apart. We were born near Stourville, Canada, on a farm. We were always together, both at home and at school, always averaged the same in our studies, always dressed alike and weighed the same. We were exactly the same height, our voices were precisely alike, and, to make the resemblance more striking, at the moment when people were concerned, we each had a peculiar cough.

"When we were boys our ambition was to learn the miller's trade and we have both gratified it. We remained at home until 1873, when we went to the town of Ingersoll, Ontario, to learn the miller's trade. We began work the same day, but in different mills, and there was not a soul in the town who could tell us apart. Farmers would go to one mill and then to the other and would be puzzled to learn that the miller of the same mill in two different places, and would whom told them he had been there at the same time.

"When we went out in the evening in company we had more fun than I can tell you. Even our most intimate friends in Ingersoll could not tell us apart. It would often happen that we would take a young woman to a party. After we were all in one room, neither of the girls could tell which one of us she had come with. Often we would make some excuse and leave the women with the girls, and the moment we change partners. The girls would not know it, and one of them would talk on a subject to me which I knew nothing about, as it was something she had been discussing with my brother. I would carry on the conversation as best I could and then I would tell the girl he was sweet to me as she wanted to. After a while I would be discussing each of same mill in two different places, and would whom told them he had been there at the same time.

"In 1877 I left Ingersoll and settled down at Memphis, Mich. I soon got acquainted with the young people, and after being there more than a year I became engaged to a young lady. A few weeks before the wedding my brother paid me a visit, and for the life of my sweetheart could not tell us apart. After a while I would be discussing each of same mill in two different places, and would whom told them he had been there at the same time.

"DILEMMA OF THE CHILDREN. "Our little boy was 7 years old when he died, and he would often make mistakes when my brother and I went together, for since we have been men we have carried on the same line as we did when we were boys. My little girl was 6 years old before she could tell which of us was her papa when we were together. Each of us would say, 'Come here, papa, and I would have to look and study to find out which was really papa, and then would sometimes make a mistake.

"My wife had an aunt living near us, who had known me for four or five years. My brother came to visit us, and we all went over to the house for an afternoon. When she would have to look and study to find out which was really papa, and then would sometimes make a mistake.

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I changed places. When the dentist came out again, and started to fix the tooth you had just had removed, I found to my horror that it was not my tooth at all.

"Both my brother and myself are afflicted with rheumatism in our feet, knees, hands and wrists. In the winter of 1882 we went to Hot Springs, Ark., for treatment. The doctors there made many mistakes in making examinations and even the colored attendants in the bath houses would often declare, when one of us asked attention, that he had already been attended to. A curious fact about this rheumatism is that while we are two of a family of twelve children, we are the only ones afflicted with this trouble. Our mother has it, and my brother and I think it must be a joint inheritance from her.

"A few weeks ago my brother paid me a visit here at Sparta, and whenever he went uptown people would stop him and ask him questions about my business and other personal matters, people who never saw him before. When we are talking and my wife is in an adjoining room, she has to come into the room every time we are talking, and we walk exactly alike, and even today our older sisters can hardly tell us apart, sometimes utterly failing to do so.

"The only thing that we differ in is politics. I have always voted the straight republican ticket, while my brother is a strong democrat. I think I could write a book on our lives and all the fun we have had."

WHAT JAMES HISEY SAYS. "In the matter of his experiences James Hisey told me that his brother has already related. In the course of his narrative, however, he says:

"When we were born the nurse tied a string on one of us in order to tell which was born first. They say William was born first, but we do not know much about that. I have been told that instances of such close resemblance are rare, even with babies. There was a time when our parents could hardly tell us apart, and when one of us was guilty of any mischief he was whipped in order that the guilty one might not escape.

"In school our teachers could never tell us apart, and our parents could not distinguish us at all to have us sit in different parts of the room, and they never were sure whether we were in our right seats. Many times we have danced the same set and changed partners and back again without the fact ever becoming known. Often we would go into a room together. One of us would leave the room and the other could tell which of us had gone out. When the missing one came back all that could be done was to guess which he had been. "It was not long after my brother's marriage that I decided to follow his example, and when it came time for the ceremony the situation was funny. Although the minister had never seen my brother until the wedding day and he knew me well, he could not for the life of him tell which it was he was to marry. My brother was the minister, and it is an actual fact that the minister could not commence the ceremony until he was told which was James Hisey. He said he did not dare to for fear of making a mistake.

"My brother and myself have the same tastes, and in everything but politics think alike. Our dispositions, actions and voices are the same. I think we are just as much alike today as we were the day we were born."

Good Enough to Take. "The finest quality of loaf sugar is used in the manufacture of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and the roots used in its preparation give it a flavor similar to maple syrup, making it very pleasant to take. As a medicine for the cure of coughs, colds, influenza, croup and whooping cough, it is far superior to any other. It always cures, and cures quickly.

AN EQUINE INEBRIATE. "Story of a Horse that Was Too Fond of Whisky. Several men in a Washington hotel, relates the Washington Star, were discussing a picture in a New York Sunday paper of a horse drinking a dram of whisky. The picture, and a majority at once voted that it was only a delirium of yellow journalism, without foundation in fact.

"Perhaps," put in an internal revenue man with a large experience, "and then, again, perhaps not. I am ready to swear that when I was riding through the mountains of West Virginia and Kentucky in quest of moonshiners and my daily bread was a horse that would drink his dram as regularly as anybody. You know, or would if you tried it, that the business of moonshining is about the hardest work on earth, not only on the man, but on the beast under him. Moonshine liquor is about as vile a drink as a man can get outside of a whiskey. I remember that I have been so dead when I got off my horse in the evening that moonshine actually was nectar to me, for the reviving effect of any kind of whiskey is remarkable. Knowing about the good it did me, I tried it one day on a new horse that I had just brought up from the blue grass. He was a good one, but the unusual work had nearly broken him down. He refused to get up, but I held up his head and poured a pint down him, and in five minutes he was on his feet, and in ten minutes he was five miles in a trot, and he was almost fresh. The next day, along in the afternoon, when he began to lag, I poured some more into him, and the same result on the day before, and it wasn't half so difficult to get him to take it. The third day he took it very easily, and after that he took his jorum of liquor, red or white, with as much cheerfulness as I did. I had always carried a bottle for my own use, and after the horse got the habit I carried a larger bottle for him, and he would take a glass with the greatest relish and good effect in the latter part of the day, when the work began to tell on him. I suppose he would have got drunk if he had had the chance, for I have seen him when it was all I could do to stay on his back, and that, too, when an hour before it would be possible to stay on his feet from weariness.

"Whatever became of him I do not know, but I suppose he is a confirmed toper by this time. I have seen the mark of it on him over a deuce of five years, and he looks like a horse well enough to give him champagne three times a day if he asked for it."

Board Keeps Open Good Friday. CHICAGO, April 7.—The Board of Trade directors today voted to hold a regular session tomorrow, following the example of the New York stock exchange. This will be the first time in several years that the market has been kept open on Good Friday. The uncertainty in regard to the Cuban situation influenced the directors of the Chicago board in the decision to waive the custom.

Smallpox Among Immigrants. NEW YORK, April 7.—The steamer Karlsruhe, Captain Bruns, arrived today from Bremen and is detained at quarantine owing to a case of smallpox among its steerage passengers. All the steerage passengers on board are being kept in quarantine, and the ship is being permitted to proceed to its dock. The Karlsruhe brought thirty-three cases and its steerage passengers.

FREE BOOK FOR WEAK MEN. My little book, "Three Classes of Men," sent to men only. It tells of my 20 years' experience as a specialist in all nervous disorders resulting from youthful indiscretions. Lame Back, etc., and tells why

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THE FIELD OF ELECTRICITY

Definition of the Rights of Patrons to Use the Hotel Phone.

SAFETY DEVICES FOR ELECTRIC LIGHT

Destruction Wrought by a Broken Wire—Illustrating the Pyramids—Electric Fire Engines—Flywheel Dynamo.

The question of the right of any one not the lessor of a telephone to use the instrument has just been raised in one of its phases in a Maryland court. The proprietor of a Washington hotel permitted his patrons to use his telephone free of charge. The telephone company warned him to desist from the practice under penalty of having the instrument taken out. He told the company that he could remove the telephone, and when they refused to do so, he obtained a temporary injunction restraining them from interference with his service. When the case was heard in court the judge made the injunction permanent, but required that the telephone should be used strictly for hotel business and for the private business of the proprietor. "It may be used," the order stated, "for the benefit and accommodation of boarders, such as sending for a wagon to them for other purposes, such as calling for stock reports or the ordering of theater tickets. When the subscriber allows others to use his telephone it is an abuse of the time and the rights of the telephone company, which receives a royalty from the defendant. Furthermore, it is an infringement of the rights of other subscribers. It is very annoying to a subscriber to have a certain number and to be told that the connection he wants is busy, that being due to the fact that a non-subscriber is using, free of charge, the telephone of the subscriber. The subscriber is entitled to the use of his telephone, and he is not to be deprived of it by a stranger. One day an unknown but well dressed person stepped into his office and very politely asked him to call for him. He was permitted to use the telephone for a moment. Permission was readily given. The visitor remained some little time in the telephone booth and present left, with effusive thanks for the favor. A few days later the lessor of the instrument received a bill for \$10.50 for long distance talk on the day he was visited by the courteous stranger, who, he is now convinced, was an emissary of the telephone company.

HOT END OF A CIRCUIT. "An electrical journal, over the title 'There Was a Hot Time on the Old Line,' has published a picture which graphically tells its story. The picture represents the head of a bird, seared and almost denuded of flesh, four legs—two of them with talons tightly gripping a wire—a piece of vitrified quartz. That is all that remains of a high potential transmission line of the San Joaquin Electric company at Fresno, Cal., which makes a 10,000-volt circuit. It seems that one day last fall, when the transmission plant was running with its usual serenity, the wire, carrying the current, was struck by a 'dead short circuit' and there was 'trouble' along the line and a cessation of service in Fresno. When the lineman who were sent out to ascertain the cause of the trouble found that the wire had been cut by a lightning bolt and had gone over nearly thirty miles of line they came to the break, the explanation of which lay before them. 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