

# OUR ENEMY THE COW.

## DISCUSSION OF HEBREW METHODS OF SLAUGHTERING CATTLE.

Provisions of the Jewish Law as Embodied in the Yoreh Deah—The Difference Between "Kosher" and "Trefa." Selling "Trefa" Meat to Christians.

"Our great enemy is the cow. Against her and her brother, the ox, the great preventative is always to boil your milk thoroughly, and eat your meat well done."

So said President Chauveau in his speech at the First International Tuberculosis congress at Paris, as reported by cable.

In view of the discussion by medical men on both sides of the Atlantic as to whether tuberculosis is communicated from the bovine to the human race, a reporter talked with Dr. Frederick de Sola Mendes, of the Gates of Prayer Synagogue, and Chief Rabbi Joseph, on the Hebrew manner of slaughtering cattle.

Dr. Mendes said: "The idea that tuberculosis can be propagated in the human species by the consumption of the flesh of animals suffering from disease is an old one to the sanitary legislation of our people. The provisions of the Jewish law, as embodied in the Yoreh Deah, are minute and cover the details sufficiently to enable the slaughterer to decide whether the animal he has just slaughtered is free from all taint."

"I compiled a chart of sixty different appearances in the lungs of cattle—some malignant, some harmless—and which are all described in the accompanying text. It is the duty of the butcher who slays the animal to closely examine the lungs of the carcass and from their appearance decide whether it is free from tubercular and other taints. It would be impossible for the carcass of an infected animal to pass the inspection of a conscientious slaughterer and be pronounced fit for use."

"I know nothing of any enactments of the Jewish law which compels an examination of the milk of animals suspected of tuberculosis. Having no knowledge of the statistics as to whether Hebrews, who observe the rules, are less liable than Gentiles to tuberculosis, I can give no opinion. I should judge that, other things being equal, the observant Jew has the benefit of his fidelity to the law in greater immunity from tubercular diseases. The questions of kosher meat were discussed at length in Chicago some months ago."

### CHIEF RABBI JOSEPH.

Chief Rabbi Jacob Joseph, at his residence, said: "I have been too busy with my manifold duties to examine the slaughter houses of our people yet. I have examined some of the knives to see that they have no jagged edges and are as sharp as possible so as to avoid unnecessary suffering by the cattle. The law book Yoreh Deah, section 35, describes the lungs of cattle—the lobes and the rose lobe."

"If the lobes are radically malformed we call the animal 'trefa,' or unclean, and therefore uneatable. If the external or surface tissue of the lungs has holes in it it is a disease, but may be cured, but if the underlying skin has holes also it is 'trefa.' Sometimes the holes are very small in both integuments. We place the lungs in water and inflate them through the windpipe. If there are air bubbles that shows perforation. The lobes of the lung must not be adherent to the body of the animal or each other; that shows that there are holes and pus has generated, thereby causing this sticking together. This is 'trefa.' If the outer skin is hard and leathery it is 'trefa.' If the lungs cannot be easily inflated and fall together, that shows inflammation and consequent filling up of the bronchial tubes. This disease is curable."

"After death how can you tell whether the sickness was curable?" asked the reporter.

"We put the lungs into water in all doubtful cases for twenty-four hours. We then inflate them, and if they come up as in normal condition the animal was curable and therefore eatable. If there are watery pustules on the outward skin it is curable, but in the case of confluent pustules it is 'trefa' and not 'kosher.' If there are black stains on the outer skin of the lung it is 'trefa,' but if white stains, 'kosher;' if yellow stains, 'trefa;' if blue, 'kosher.'"

"Now as to milk. While the cow is alive it cannot be discerned whether the milk is unhealthy except the animal has the foot and mouth disease. The milk of such cow is forbidden; also the butter and cheese made from her milk. Dropsy as a result of disease is chronic in cattle and in man. If the flesh of such cattle be consumed the infection is naturally absorbed."

### THE HEALTH BOARD RESPONSIBLE.

"What becomes of the animals that are slaughtered and are not kosher?"

"As long as the board of health permits the sale of the cattle we can sell it to Christians and others. If Christians want to buy 'kosher' meat of us we are bound to sell it to them. The law says so. If the Christian asks for 'kosher' meat and is given diseased meat the Hebrew commits a sin."

"Do you think that Hebrews suffer more from tuberculosis than Christians?"

"Universal statistics show that the Hebrews suffer less from lung disease than any other race. They certainly suffer less from lung disease than any other race from sickness caused by eating diseased meat. The general health of the Hebrews is excellent. Our law does not designate any disease which comes from cattle that man can be inoculated with."

"As a rule Hebrews soak meat in water for half an hour after purchasing it, and then salt it for an hour. This is considered a sanitary measure. Shell fish—oysters, crabs, lobsters—are not eaten by the orthodox Jews."

Dr. M. G. Daddirian, a native of Asia Minor, but now practicing in New York, said to a reporter:

The subject of tuberculosis is one of great interest to me, as it must be to every medical man. After receiving my education in the University Medical college in this city twenty years ago, I returned to my home and practiced in Asia Minor three years, and in Constantinople twelve years. I may say that I had a very large practice, but being a Christian I had some trouble with the Greeks, so four years ago I packed up my belongings and brought my family to New York.

"Now, during all those years in the East I rarely came across a case of tuberculosis, and I have formed a very strong opinion on the cause of the absence of the disease in that part of the world. The Parisian congress found that by cooking meat well and boiling milk there was less danger of catching the disease. And this conforms with the result of my experience in Asia Minor and Constantinople. There the natives eat generally mutton and drink goat's and sheep's milk. They scarcely touch beef or cow's milk, but if they do they cook the meat well and always ferment the milk. Here the mistake seems to be that people imagine that there is more nourishment in rare meat and milk from the cow, but this is a fallacy, and I am glad that the Parisian congress reported it as such."—New York Herald.

The cost of public education in Prussia is 15 cents per head.

## WORTH OF NOTE.

James A. Keene is said to be almost a millionaire again.

Mr. Walter Besant says the time is not far distant when writers will be able to make as large fortunes as bankers.

One of Senator Palmer's pleasantest recollections is of a trip he took through Spain on foot when a boy. He went in company with four other Detroit boys, all of whom had very little money, but an inordinate amount of grit.

J. V. Bradberry, of Athens, Ga., has a war relic that recalls mournful memories to him. It is the first bullet fired from a Federal gun at his old regiment, the Third Georgia, and it killed his brother, who fought at his side.

Andrew Lang seems to be about the most industrious literary man of the present age. He is said to spend four hours a day in independent intellectual work, and also writes regularly for three London journals, receiving from these \$15,000 a year. With his other accomplishments Mr. Lang is a first class humorist.

According to The London Court Journal, Sir John Millais is engaged upon a three-quarter length portrait of Miss Vanderbilt, in whom, it is said, "he has found a face which he can paint at least sympathetically." It is probable that the picture will be finished this month, and that it will be exhibited at the autumn exhibitions in London.

Dr. William Everett, son of the famous orator, is possessed of a phenomenal memory. He is master of Adams academy at Quincy, Mass., and never uses a text book in the class room. Virgil's "Aeneid" and Horace's "Odes and Epodes" he knows by heart. On account of his remarkable voice, which combines in a startling manner the qualities of bass and falsetto, he is irreverently referred to as "Piggy" Everett among the boys.

Capt. Ericsson is still hale and hearty, and is at present occupied in his well appointed workshop, in Beach street, New York, in working out what he intends to be the crowning achievement of his life—his solar engine—a machine intended to capture the heat of the sun's rays and apply its force to the operation of machinery for manufactures and locomotion. He has practically solved this problem, but has not as yet developed it to his full satisfaction. He pursues his experiments today with as much zeal and industry as ever.

The present congress boasts two Breckinridges—Clifton R. and William Cabell Preston. When people speak of Mr. Breckinridge, however, they usually allude to W. C. P., who is a handsome, gray haired, gray whiskered man, whose greatest delight in life is in his 12-year-old daughter. They are inseparable companions, and when Mr. Breckinridge goes out to make calls on New Year's day he takes his little daughter with him, notwithstanding the mother's mild remonstrances. This innovation on New Year's day's customs is highly relished at the houses where Mr. Breckinridge calls.

John McCune, the largest single oil producer in the world, whose estate is worth \$10,000,000, is about 45 years of age, of medium size and dark complexion. His face is smooth shaven, except that he wears a heavy black mustache. His history is a remarkable one. He was born in Ireland and landed at Castle Garden less than twenty-five years ago with scarcely a dollar in his pocket. He drifted into the oil country and became an oil well driller. By lucky accident he obtained large interests in the Bingham lands at Bradford when the field was in its infancy. He left Bradford worth \$2,000,000. Since that time his operations as an oil producer have been invariably successful, and his wealth, as stated above, is not less than \$10,000,000. A large part of his fortune is invested in government bonds, and he also owns an immense cattle ranch in Colorado. He is one of the most modest and unassuming of men, of polished manners, and speaks as smoothly as though a native American. His home is at Washington, Pa.

### A Bigger Telescope Still.

Infinite space is something the human mind cannot comprehend. It is unthinkable, but the marvelous discoveries by the Lick telescope help a little to expand the mental vision. Now that the great telescope has been thoroughly tested it is time to plan one still larger. While the Clarks are in the prime of life the work should be accomplished. The government of the United States ought to undertake the expense of the great experiment. The next glass should be at least four feet in diameter, and five, if glass disks of that size can be secured. The next generation may not be able to construct such a glass. We are confident that the Clarks can do it. But there are such things as lost arts, and the art of making exceptionally great telescope lenses can be lost.—Rochester Democrat.

### Revival Among the Japanese.

Rev. Dr. Harris, of San Francisco, who has just returned from a visit to the Japanese Methodist mission in Honolulu, informs The Chronicle that an active revival is in progress there among the Japanese, and says the converts do not consider themselves at all safe till they are baptized. The moment this is done they are all right. One of them, instead of eating his communion bread, asked that it might be sent to his relatives in Japan for their spiritual good.—New York World.

### Annexing "No Man's Land."

Kansas is anxious to annex the strip of land called "No Man's Land," adjoining the state, not, the newspapers say, "for boom purposes," but for protection. Every thief and murderer who commits a crime in western and southern Kansas makes a break for No Man's Land, where he is as safe as the manslayer of old in the city of refuge.—Chicago Herald.

### Henry Ward Beecher's Farm.

The beautiful farm of the late Henry Ward Beecher at Peekskill is going to waste, none of his heirs having the means wherewith to carry on fancy farming the way Mr. Beecher used to do. This farm cost the great preacher about \$300,000, and his executors would like to sell it for \$80,000.—Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

### Mystery of Circus Lemonade.

After squeezing a lemon until it was as dry as a tariff speech the old soldier lemonade vender on Randolph street deposited its remains in a big glass bowl or tureen. A close fitting cover is kept on the bowl, and is only lifted a moment as each piece of extinct lemon is dropped into the big dish. Nearly a peck of overworked lemon rinds were piled up in the bowl.

"Why are you so careful about those lemon peels?" queried a curious patron of the stand.

"Want to keep 'em moist and clean. 'What fur?' Oh, jes' 'cause I want to."

The old soldier looked guilty. He stammered a bit in giving his wholly unsatisfactory explanation.

"D'ye sell 'em?"

"Yes—sometimes. You see, the candy butchers of the circuses and the picnic fakirs uses 'em. They slice up these rinds and put 'em in a tub of water to make it look like real lemonade. A little citric acid put into the tub gives the water a sourish taste, and it ain't very preticular, noway, and the lemon rinds floating in the water makes 'em believe it's all right. I keep 'em in this covered bowl to keep moist until I get home, when I put 'em in a damp place. If the rind got real dry once it wouldn't look nat'ral and wouldn't cut up nice."—Chicago News.

### When We Study Great Authors.

What we all want is better order in our daily thoughts, a clearer vision, a firmer courage. True culture of course implies progress in these directions, but much that passes for culture does little or nothing either for the mind or for the character. Much depends on the end we keep in view. If we study great authors for the sake of showing, as it were, an elaborately furnished drawing room in our minds, we shall get about the same amount of benefit as people commonly get from elaborate drawing room furniture; but if we study them so as to gain a wider outlook on the world through understanding their thought and duly estimating the conditions under which they wrote—if, moreover, we prove ourselves from time to time to see whether we are really gaining in mental power—the benefit to us may be very great.—Popular Science Monthly.

### In the White Mountains.

Miss Begonia—I love music; do you play on any instrument, Mr. Smith? Smith (who acted as college waiter last summer, absent mindedly)—Only the gong.—Time.

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