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WHY HEARTS BREAK.
 A Matter-of-Fact Solution of Sentimental Problems.

New York Sun.

"A healthy man or woman does not die of a broken heart," a well known physician said. "A healthy heart is only a big muscle, and nobody can have grief enough to break it. When, therefore, a blooming young widow shows apparently inconceivable grief at the death of her husband, and in a short time recovers her equanimity, she ought not to be accused of hypocrisy. Neither may it be concluded that another widow who soon pines her husband than the first. The first widow may have had even more affection than the other, but have been sustained by physical health.

"It is erroneous to suppose that death by heart disease is always sudden. It is very commonly protracted for years, and exists undetected by most skillful physicians only to be developed by some sudden occurrence. There is a patient of mine, a young man of Brooklyn, in active practice, who died within an hour of a time when he was about to lecture. He was so well that, after examination by skilled physicians of a first class insurance, he was declared to be perfectly sound, and a policy for \$10,000 insurance on his life reached his home before the body was cold. The cause of his death was a mystery until the post-mortem examination by Dr. John G. Johnson of Brooklyn, showed that a little piece of chalk deposit in the heart had become loosened and formed an embolism. The man had simply taken some specimens out of his desk, and he died in his chair without any excitement or undue effort. Any little excitement might have done it; the exertion of grief might have done it, and then his death would have been cited as that from a broken heart.

"So-called deaths from broken hearts may be frequently traced in this way. One exertion as well as another may furnish the requisite culmination. Medical books are filled with instances of death by heart disease during the performance of pleasurable natural functions. When a man is nearly dead it is easy to put on him the finishing stroke, but it is inaccurate to give the finishing stroke all the blame of his death. When a woman loses her husband, or a girl loses her lover, and by nervous exhaustion, loss of sleep lack of nourishment and grief, weakens the action of her heart, she has in fact died of a very ordinary disease.

"The case of Bill Poole, living for days with a broken heart, is often cited as remarkable; but Dr. Flint recalls a case where a man had a ball in his heart twenty years, and finally died of pneumonia. Both these men had healthy hearts and could not have had them broken by grief. Yet, in fact, more men than women die of heart disease. Out of six hundred observed cases thirty-seven were males. Another record showed that out of twenty-four cases of heart disease, sixteen were males. Another record showed that in sixty-two cases of rupture of the heart there was fatty degeneration existing. One observer recorded seventeen cases out of twenty-four where the heart was ruptured, and where fatty degeneration existed. In other words, when fat is substituted for muscle, the organ is easily broken. If any of these diseased people had been subjected to sudden grief they might have furnished illustrations of heart breaking. One medical observer records 100 cases of rupture of the heart where there was no grief to account for it. In fact, grief is a very rare cause of heart-breaking.

"Disease is the real cause of heart breaking, and the various kinds of disease which lead to it are so many that volumes would be necessary to describe them. The causes of these diseases are manifold, and are very much under the control of the individual. There are, of course, hereditary tendencies to heart disease; but, aside from traumatic causes, these tendencies may exist for years without fatal result.

"It is a curious fact that the least dangerous heart disease often creates the most apprehension. Frequently patients who have only a functional or curable disorder will not be persuaded that calamity does not impend, although there may be no real danger. On the other hand, organic disease may exist unsuspected. There are sympathetic relations between the mind and the heart, and disorders of the heart are frequently traceable to mental excitement or pleasurable or painful. Out of hearing of the heart is no certain symptom of danger. It has been demonstrated that the pulse may safely range from 100 to 140 per minute for many years."

An Ingenious Machine.
 From the New York Times.

A new machine, operated by clock-work, is to be placed in the train-starter's tower at the Grand Central station, which is designated to do automatically what is now done by men employed as train-starters. The machine, of brass, copper and steel, occupies but little space, it being less than two feet in either length, breadth or height. The mechanism consists of three upright cylinders of brass, in which are punctured a series of holes, each representing one of the 1,440 minutes in the day. By the side of these are fixed spirally pins representing the twenty-four hours of the day. The three pairs of cylinders as they stand in the case represent respectively the three roads of the Grand Central station, the Harlem, New York Central, and New York, New Haven & Hartford. A series of springs are set so as to be operated upon by the two cylinders as they revolve, which make their revolution in the twenty-four hours of the day. These springs connect with electrical appliances. The fixed pins on the hour column and the movable pins on the minute cylinder striking the arms of the spring set the necessary bells ringing in the various parts of the station. At twenty minutes before the leaving time of through trains bells are rung for the gates to be open. Fifteen minutes later they ring a warning "all aboard" in the passenger rooms, and in the baggage rooms notify the baggage-master to have all his baggage on board the train. At one minute before leaving time they ring to close the doors leading to the station, and they ring a minute later to start the train. All this is done automatically by this ingenious contrivance of clock-work and mechanism, and without the possibility of a mistake, unless the clock-work or electrical machinery clogs or breaks. The machinery adjusts itself once in seven days to the fewer trains that run on Sundays, and then readjusts itself for Monday's increased travel. All this signaling is now done by hand, the bells being rung by a system of bell-pulls. It is claimed that greater accuracy can be obtained by the use of this contrivance, and much labor saved. Its capabilities will be fully and severely tested in the trial which it will at once receive at the station. There are now 198 trains arriving at and leaving the station each day in the week, except Sundays, when the number is but forty-eight. During the summer the arrivals and departures on week days are increased by about forty trains.

What it Did For an Old Lady.
 COSHOCTON STATION, N. Y., December 26, 1878.

GENTS—A number of people had been using your Bitters here, and with marked effect. In one case, a lady over seventy years, had been sick for years, and for the past ten years has not been able to be around half the time. About six months ago she got so feeble she was helpless. Her old remedies, or physicians, being of no avail, I sent to Depot, forty-five cents away, and got a bottle of Hop Bitters. It improved her so she was able to dress herself and walk about the house. When she had taken the second bottle she was able to take care of her own room and walk out to her neighbor's, and has improved all the time since. My wife and children also have derived great benefit from their use.

W. B. HATHAWAY,
 Agt. U. S. Ex. Co.
 DELEVAN, Wis., Sept. 24 1878.

GENTS—I have not taken quite one bottle of the Hop Bitters. I was a feeble old man of 78 when I got it. To-day I am as active and feel as well as I did at 30. I see a great many that need such a medicine.

D. BOYCE.

Two Gamine Dromios.
 San Francisco Chronicle.

Mr. McCormick was walking down town, not so much in the interest of his business, which runs itself, nor for the personal benefit of the physical exercise, but that the walk might tend to reduce the undue flashiness of his favorite Irish red setter dog Tip, who accompanied him, and who, because of the season's scarcity of rain and ducks, and because of "setting" too much round the bar stove, manifest an undesirable predisposition to mental and physical inactivity. When McCormick was about half way up the block his tender heart was suddenly startled as he heard cries of sharpest distress, and instantly recognized the voice as that of his favorite. Turning and looking back, he could scarcely believe his eyes when he saw that the confident man, having imprudently gathered Tip up by the scruff of the neck, and that the man was diligently and dexterously, in technical language, kicking the stuffing out of Tip. And as the man kicked he ejaculated: "You won't do what I tell you, eh? You won't come to me when I call you, eh? I'll pulverize you, you viper!"

"With a yell as if a thresher robbed of her numerous family of young but interesting tigers, Mr. McCormick leaped for the foe. Before the man had time to fall in the gutter the angered and ardent Mr. McCormick had struck him in three different places at one time, besides having kicked him simultaneously in the vest pocket and the small of his back. The confident man, having imprudently struggled to his feet, Mr. McCormick varied the second dromios of him by setting it with three kicks and two blows.

"'What's the matter of you, anyhow?'" asked the bruised, bleeding and maddened victim from his vantage ground of a now wisely maintained horizontal position.

"'Why did you kick my dog for?'" asked the glowering McCormick.

"'That's your dog—it's mine,'" said the prostrate man, dazedly, so to speak, and then he called, coaxingly, "Here, Silk, Silk, Silk."

In response to this call for a witness, a badly intimidated and evidently

recently kicked Irish red setter dog made a cowering approach to the recumbent supplicant, as if he had not yet clearly taken in the situation and did not know what diverse fate of kick or caress might portend. Mr. McCormick looked at the dog, critically, then he cast his eyes searchingly round, and immediately in his rear, seated serenely on its haunches and gazing approvingly and all unknicked at its master, he beheld his own beloved Tip.

"Well, blame me," finally ejaculated McCormick, "if they don't beat ghosts or the two Siamese twins! Say, boy, you must excuse me, but your dog is the very counterpart of mine, and blame me if I didn't think all the time it was Tip you was a-kickin'. So long."

A RICHMOND ROMANCE.
 How a Drive of Mules Brought About a Wedding.

A little circumstance happened here last fall that bore great issue, writes a correspondent from Richmond, Va. A trill as light as air, yet it made a man and a woman meet that but for this episode would never have known each other. As it is society talk, of course every one knows it, and I will narrate it just to show what inconceivable events, which some call chance and others fate, shape our lives.

A large drove of mules just after dark were taken from the cars of the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad and corralled, but something stamped them, and they dashed up the street, a half hundred or so, with all the clattering and fire of a squadron of cavalry at full charge. Pedestrians huddled the sidewalks hurried into the nearest open door and then looked pantingly at the dim rushing mass. Now it happened that a young lady from Boston, Mass., who was on a visit here, was coming from a friend's house, and just as she was crossing the street the head of the column came toward her with the velocity of an express train on a down grade. It was so sudden that her presence of mind failed her, and she stood directly in the pathway of the advancing drove. A thrilling tableau must have been. She clasped her hands, and the light of the lamps showed her dilated eyes and rigid figure. A dreadful death seemed inevitable, when a gentleman passing by, with a valise in his hand, saw her. Like a flash he was by her side, and, swinging her with a rapid motion to him, he carried her to the sidewalk just as the thundering mass passed by in the darkness.

The danger was over, but she was too unnerved to continue her way. He offered his arm, and together they proceeded to her house. She thanked her deliverer. He presented his card—Mr. Louis Shearer, West Point.

Miss He had just arrived on the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad, and was on his way to the Southern train when the vision met his eye. He asked her name. Miss Alice Beauchamp, she answered. Mr. Shearer did not go on his Southern trip that night, nor the next; and so—and so—well, the same old story. When the roses bloom in bleak New England then will be heard the sounds of bells, and the Southern palmetto and the Northern pine entwined will adorn the altar.

Hersford's Acid Phosphate
 IN SICK HEADACHE.

DR. N. S. READ, Chicago, says: "It is a remedy of the highest value in many forms of mental and nervous exhaustion, attended by sick headache, dyspepsia and diminished vitality."

A Fire Department Horse.

Cleveland Herald.

As Chief Dickens was being rapidly whirled down Center street yesterday morning in response to the alarm of fire from box 132, he passed a team standing at the side of the road, one of the horses of which had for many years served the department in the capacity of a fire horse, and remembering his old habits as he heard the clang of the Chief's bell, he started after the carriage, taking with him his companion, who soon warmed up to the work and was nearly as much excited as he. They followed along close behind the Chief, who commenced to grow a little nervous as he saw in front of him a loaded wagon, which most effectively blocked the way and the teamster on whom seemed not to know which way to turn. Suddenly he steered right across the road, and then it looked like a collision sure. On came the Chief, shouting to the man and striking his bell, and on came the old fire horse and his companion, with their noses almost in the rear of the Chief's carriage. The teamster drove ahead just in time to avoid the collision which appeared inevitable, and which would have been probably fatal to either the Chief or his driver. A breath of relief was drawn, and then as they thundered across the Columbus street bridge, a stone wagon nearly blocked them again. Had they been hindered here they must certainly have been thrown over the bridge by the excited team behind, which still kept pace with them. That danger safely passed, the following team began to lag, and were finally caught by a man in front of a saloon.

To make a salad that is certain to please all tastes, you need only use DUKER'S SALAD DRESSING. Nothing equal to it was ever offered, and none so popular. It is a superb table sauce.

Sea Cows and Sharks.

New York World.

A part of the Anthropological society is in a rapturous condition. A sea cow has been caught off the coast of Florida which has a tail of dazzling beauty and perfect symmetry. The part of the society which is not rapturously inclined is that which insisted that the sea cow had no tail to speak of and would not be able to brush the flies off when she came ashore to be milked. A new kind of shark has also arrived here to delight the souls of the fish commission. It is of the ridiculous scintilla pugnaciosa species, and is the only one of its kind that ever existed.

Bucklin's Arnica Salve
 The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures Piles. It is guaranteed to give satisfaction or money refunded. Price, 25 cents per box. For sale by C. F. Goodman.

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 Choice Standard Strawberries..... 3 cans for 25c
 Choice Standard Blackberries..... 3 cans for 25c
 Choice Bartlett Pears..... 2 cans for 25c
 Good Pears..... 1 can for 10c
 Sweet Corn, per can..... 1 can for 10c
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