

Carpenter's Letter

(Continued from Sixth Page.)

most of the product is sent to be sorted and classified before it is shipped to the markets of the world. It is taken to Manila from the islands in sailing vessels and small steamers and is brought in from the interior of Luzon in cascos, or great barges, which are pushed along through the river with poles.

Some of the warehouses are enormous. The one I visited had more than \$1,000,000 worth of produce of one kind or another stored away in it. It was a great white two-story building, covering almost an acre, situated on the banks of the Pasig river, not far from the bay and at the lower end of that section of Manila called Binondo. Cascos and ships loaded with tobacco and hemp lay before it and bales of hemp were being carried out of and into it by half-naked Chinese coolies. The coolies were laboring in pairs, each pair carrying a bale in a rattan sling upon a pole which rested upon their shoulders. In front of the warehouse a quantity of hemp was spread out under the sun to dry and inside of it were stacks and bales of this stuff, half filling the great room from floor to ceiling.

I went inside and watched the baling and

been organized. The business is almost entirely in the hands of the natives and the Spaniards, very few of the estates being owned by the friars.

Hemp raising is not like sugar raising in that it needs a large capital. A man must, it is true, have enough to support himself for the three years required to bring the plants into bearing, but after that an outlay of a few dollars will furnish him with all the machinery he needs, and he can, as I have said, as far as labor is concerned, run his plantation on shares. Even if he pays for his labor he will not give his hands more than 15 to 20 cents a day. In Manila, where wages are at their top notch, the manager of the largest hemp warehouse told me he was paying amounts equal to 25 to 40 cents gold, and he evidently thought these rates exceedingly high.

Profits in Hemp Raising.

It seems to me that hemp raising will, after matters are settled, form one of the best openings for American capital. It is estimated that about 720 plants can be set out to the acre. I am told the plants can be bought for about 1 cent apiece. Each plant should produce about ten ounces of fiber, and if scientifically treated it might be made to produce more. Two men can, it is said, harvest about 300 pounds in a week, and this at present rates would be



BALING HEMP.

sorting of the hemp for shipment. It was indeed a strange sight for the end of this century of invention and progress. Everything was done by hand. About fifty Filipinos were at work tearing the bales apart and sorting the stuff, which looked like strands and twists of silvery white hair, but which was really great hanks of hemp. From time to time the men would carry a great bundle of these hanks and pile it up on a platform until they had as much as an ordinary mule cart would hold. They would weigh this upon immense steelyards which hung from the roof, adding or subtracting in order to get the 230 pounds, the amount comprised in a bale, ready for shipment.

Next would come the pressing. The hemp is first packed in a framework of boxes which rest one upon the other, so that a press operated just like a letter press can be forced down upon them. The queerest thing was the working of the screw. This was done by Chinese. Upon a platform high above the press thirty-two half-naked, yellow-skinned mortals trotted about, pushing the spokes of a wheel. Four grasped each of the eight great spokes and all ran round and round as fast as they could go, turning the screw which formed the axle of the wheel, thereby pressing the hemp tight in the bale. A bell rung below was the signal for their starting and stopping, and when they moved it was on the dead run, pushing, straining and sweating as they did so.

The bales are put up in the most economical way. They are wrapped in basket-work mats of palm leaves and are tied with strips of rattan, so that the cost of ties and sacking is practically nothing. I asked the proprietor of a warehouse why he did not put in machinery and save the employment of so many men. He replied that it would be cheaper for him to do so, but that his insurance would be thereby increased, and he preferred to work by the old method, which has been in vogue here since the beginning.

A Hemp Trust.

There is danger that there will be a hemp trust organized, which may control the production and marketing of all the hemp produced in the islands, and the conditions would seem to be favorable for such an organization. I met before I left Manila an American who was just starting for New York for this purpose. The facts in favor of the success of such a trust are that hemp can be raised nowhere outside the Philippines, and also that the business is already in such few hands that it might easily be consolidated or so manipulated that the exporters could be forced into the combination. This man told me that many of the hemp planters are in debt, and he seemed to have little doubt of his success in the organization of a possible syndicate. As to the facts, however, I am not sure, and the large amount of undeveloped territory would lead to the supposition that such a trust might be a failure in the development which will probably come through the American occupation. At present no systematic combination of hemp planters has

worth about \$50 (silver). I cannot give the details, but I have been told by a number of planters that from 25 to 30 per cent is not an uncommon profit and that if care is used in gathering the crop the profits might be still larger.

At present a great deal of the hemp goes to waste on account of the rude machinery used in its extraction, but so far all attempts to improve upon the present methods have been failures. There have been numerous machines invented, but all have either torn the fiber or stained it and there is still a good chance for Yankee ingenuity.

It is said that the English who have attempted hemp raising have failed because they have not been able to handle the workmen and that only the natives or the Spaniards can use the Filipino labor with profit. It might be the same with American planters. As to our people working the crop themselves I doubt whether they can do so successfully in this climate. As for me, I grow tired very quickly, and I find that most Americans must keep in out of the sun during a great part of the day.

Question of Titles.

As to the prices of hemp lands, this depends largely upon the location, the owners and the title. In Mindanao the most of the lands still belong to the government, only a strip here and there about the coast being under cultivation. In the province of Davao, which is bigger than New Jersey, there is not, I venture, as much cultivated land as you will find in any one of Ohio's eighty-eight counties. The rest all belongs to the United States government. There are government lands on others of the islands and among them wild lands, which could be cleared for hemp.

The most serious question as to all lands, however, is that of titles. I had a chat at Zamboanga with Major Morrison, the judge advocate, who has been looking into such matters. He tells me that in the fight which the insurgents of Mindanao had with the Spaniards all the records were destroyed before the Americans came and that the evidences of title in most cases have been lost. He says, however, that all notaries were required to report the deeds they executed to Manila and that from the Manila records many of the disputed titles can be established. I find that the records have been destroyed in the island of Panay and in other places and the vice presidente here tells me that but little of the land in this part of Mindanao is legally owned. Even in the town of Davao the most of the people are but squatters. The Spaniards did not question their rights as long as they paid the taxes and it has been the same with lands taken up in the country. It is a question who really owns the big hemp plantation which I visited. I am told that the Chinese merchants have in the past few months been laying claim to everything in their reach at Cottabato and other places, so that much of the land now supposed to have proprietors will need to go into the courts before its ownership can be definitely established.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.



I CURE VARICOCELE AND RUPTURE.

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For the past decade I have contended that the medical profession was "at sea," without chart or compass, so far as the treatment and cure of Varicocele, Rupture, associate Pelvic and Nervo-Vital diseases was concerned. My contention has not been in vain, as one by one physicians are beginning to acknowledge the errors of their ways and the utter inadequacy of a truss or suspensory to cure Pelvic troubles. Every mail brings applications from physicians who desire to investigate my Electro-Chemic Method for the cure of Varicocele and associate diseases.

I have successfully treated and cured, to stay cured, over 10,000 patients since the perfecting of my Electro-Chemic Method. My success has been the means of establishing the merits of my cure and today it is fast removing the doubts of the medical fraternity, who were trained in the belief that there was no cure for these diseases.

For two thousand years fevers and almost every other disease were treated by blood-letting. The system, under the prestige of the age, was considered right, and each student accepted it as a safe "cure-all." After twenty centuries it was given up as bad practice, and any physician who should practice in that way today would be charged with malpractice every week in his life.

For years the great cry and only prescription for Varicocele and Rupture has been a truss or suspensory. And why? Simply because the medical fraternity does not look beyond the text books—simply because they lie buried in the rut of college theory and refuse to go beyond those environments. This is a progressive age; radical changes are taking place in everything. Why not in Medicine and Surgery? The antiquated methods of wearing a truss or suspensory for the cure of Varicocele and Rupture bear the same relation to my Electro-Chemic treatment as the tallow dip does to the incandescent lamp.

How can the ordinary physician know very much about the cure of Varicocele and associate diseases, when experience is the only teacher? Why should he be expected to perform a cure when, perhaps, he has never had more than four of these cases during his whole career, and he has invariably dismissed them by prescribing a truss or suspensory, or some other soul-trying, life-sapping instrument of torture? Does it seem reasonable that the average physician should be competent to advise you—to take your very life in his hands? Does it seem right to merely offer you the same treatment accorded your forefathers—a treatment that has ruined many a man's health, his happiness, and robbed him of his manhood—when a new, modern, scientific treatment in keeping with this progressive age is to be had? It is your prerogative to refuse to countenance such a treatment—your duty to turn to a modern, positive cure that knows no failure.

DO YOU WEAR A TRUSS?

If you are so unfortunate as to be a victim of Varicocele or Rupture, and are now bound up in the vicelike grip of a health-wrecking truss, for your enlightenment, your own physical benefit, your future welfare and happiness, I ask you to read the few words I have to say to you—to give every line your sincere thoughts—then ask yourself plain, common sense questions, and seek your answer in these lines of truth.



You can be cured to stay cured of VARICOCELE and associate diseases.

You will acknowledge that wearing a truss or suspensory is unnatural, uncomfortable, galling and often torturing, and that at no time does it remove the possibility of danger of strangulation, and perhaps death. You have noticed that you are compelled to make the pressure greater in order to hold the rupture in place every time you have a re-feeding. You will admit that this unnatural pressure interferes with the healthy circulation of the blood in the affected parts. You cannot fail to notice that the muscles are gradually wasting away from lack of nutrition and that it becomes necessary now and then to increase the pressure until you are held in a vicelike grasp that makes every moment of your existence a life of torture, all but impossible to bear. You realize that you are gradually losing your health, that you are fast becoming incapacitated for labor or the duties of life. I ask you as man to man, does it not seem sensible that the passing of the truss—that antiquated method—should give way to a modern method that will cure to stay cured and dispense forever with the discomforts of a truss? Why should the noble science of medicine and surgery stand still while all the other professions advance?

ELECTRO-CHEM'IC CURE.

My Electro-Chemic cure does not consist in dosing rank stimulating drugs that leave you worse off when the effects have vanished. Most patients are cured without a single drop of medicine. The Electro-Chemic method is a painless, bloodless treatment, effecting the cure of Varicocele in five days in a rational manner through the medium of modification of the natural forces of nature—a combination of two of the greatest curative agents known to the nineteenth century. A scientific cure which experience has established beyond peradventure as the only reliable method that will cure to stay cured all forms of Varicocele, Rupture and associate diseases, Stricture and all Prostatic ailments. When a patient applies to me for treatment, if he is at all skeptical, I can send him to as many patients as he cares to interview—patients who, out of sheer gratitude, are only too willing to tell how they were cured and of their previous experience with mechanical appliances.

A FAIR PROPOSITION.

When I tell you that I have a positive cure for Varicocele, Rupture and all Pelvic diseases and offer to prove it to you by documentary evidence that is backed by thousands of living testimonials, have you the right to disbelieve the statement without investigating its truth? Is not your health and future happiness worthy of your time and trouble to substantiate the truth of my assertions? When I offer you a thorough personal examination free and then explain in a comprehensive manner how I can cure you, how long it will take and how much it will cost, is it not worth the effort to write me in detail, giving exact description of your trouble in its present advancement? You will receive by return mail a correct diagnosis of your ailment free. In all probability you have never been examined by a true specialist, one who can correctly and minutely explain in simple language your exact condition.

I want every man, woman and child who wears a truss or supporting device to come to my office, where I can fully explain and demonstrate to their entire satisfaction how and why my Electro-Chemic method cures Rupture and associate diseases. If you cannot come, write me and I will reply personally.

In stating that I can cure Varicocele and associate diseases I do not ask you to risk your time and money with the possibility of a failure—I prove to you at the start that I can cure you. In addition to this proof, I can refer you to the best banks—to business men of high standing who have been cured by the Electro-Chemic method. A man who has a new method by which he agrees to cure you of such torturing, distressing, nerve-wrecking and health-killing ailments Varicocele and associate diseases in five days and place your system in a sound, healthy condition, does he not deserve to have his method investigated, especially under the liberal conditions which I offer? Can you afford to further experiment by using suspensories, washes, electric belts, supporters, developers, trusses and drugs? You must realize from your own experience that they will fail to cure you and in the end your money will go for naught, not counting the misery you have undergone.

Under no circumstances allow any one to lead you to believe that you can be cured by the use of medicine, internally or locally, or mechanical appliances of any description. It is absolutely impossible and no one knows it better than the man who sells you the drug or appliance.

ASSOCIATE DISEASES.

In curing you of Varicocele, Rupture, Stricture, etc., I completely remove by my Electro-Chemic Method all the various nervous conditions which usually attend those diseases, such as neurasthenia, prostration and many other weaknesses.

If you are a critical observer you will notice the very minute you step into my office that I "know my business," as the saying goes—the examination—the painstaking detail by which it is made and the manner in which everything is made plain to you will beget the confidence that an expert deserves. Your own instinct will instantly tell you that I can make you a man among men.

WHERE CURES ARE MADE

I perform all cures in my "Home," and it is absolutely necessary for you to come to me to be cured, as I never undertake a case except under my personal care. My "Home" is situated on Michigan boulevard, two blocks south of the Lake Front Park. Michigan boulevard is a beautiful thoroughfare that is constantly traveled by the finest equipages in the city, affording a panorama that is always interesting. I have been a long time fitting up this place and there is no convenience lacking that would contribute to your comfort or assist you to a quick cure. I will freely answer all questions you desire to ask, either personally or by mail. Those visiting Chicago and residents may personally see me by calling any day during the week between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. Evenings, 7 to 8. Sundays, 10 a. m. to 1 p. m.

FREE BOOKS.

I have just written and published scientific, illustrated booklets on Rupture and Varicocele, Nervous and Mental Diseases, Paralysis and Vital Power.

The illustrations are all half-tones from actual photographs and represent every form and stage of these diseases.

Any sufferer from Rupture or Varicocele can find illustrated a case similar to, if not identical with, his own, and if he will read the booklets carefully he will easily acquire all information he desires respecting his particular malady.

My booklet on Varicocele will tell you why suspensories and supporters are useless.

Every man who wears a suspensory or truss will be interested in reading this literature. These booklets will be sent to any man sincerely interested on receipt of 10 cents (silver or stamps), to pay for sealed postage in plain package.

Please use extreme care and write your name and address plainly.

D. D. RICHARDSON, M. D., 1266-74 Michigan Ave., CHICAGO.