

Hand this to some afflicted friend if you do not need it yourself.

ILLINOIS MEDICAL INFIRMARY, CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS.

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HEALTH is Happiness, Prosperity, and Long Life.

READER,

As in all probability you know of the Illinois Medical Infirmary by reputation, what we shall say will be brief. In the millions of copies of our "Journal of Health" which have been circulated throughout the country in past years, we have given descriptions more or less minute of every disease to which human flesh is heir. And hundreds and thousands have come to us from all parts of the Union, in search of that relief we offer, and to furnish which we have spent the best years of our lives in hard study and labor, and thousands of dollars in building and enlarging and improving our Infirmary, perfecting appliances, in watching the progress of Medical Science in this and other countries, in the analysis of new remedies, in familiarizing ourselves with every form and phase of every disease, by having them constantly under our care, etc., etc. And in view of these things, why should it seem strange to you that we can cure diseases which the ordinary practitioner would not know how to handle? Some of those who have come to us, it has been our duty to tell plainly and frankly that we could not help them—that their cases were beyond the reach of mortal aid. They had waited and procrastinated—they had delayed having their cases properly treated (that is, treated thoroughly and systematically)—till death had already marked them for his own. They would, when they got unusually sick, call in their family physician, and his prescriptions would relieve and start them to going again. Very soon, perhaps, they would again feel worse, and would try some of Dr. A's celebrated pills, or some of Dr. B's wonderful cure-all. (The "pills" and the "cure-all" may have been very good preparations, and very beneficial in some cases, but that is not the way to treat disease to accomplish permanent results.) Thus had these poor souls trifled away their lives—following a delusion—hoping against hope—thinking maybe they "would get better anyhow after a while," till they already stood upon the verge of the grave.

Hundreds upon hundreds have come to us, who to-day rejoice in life and health. Perhaps it was not because they came to us particularly, for we will not venture to say that nobody else could have cured them. But it was because they appreciated the fact that life was too precious to be trifled with; that it would not do to dilly-dally when disease was making its inroads upon the system; when each day was giving it a deeper hold there; when they could feel from time to time that it was slowly but surely sapping their force and exhausting their energy. It was because they felt that the only safe plan was to take prompt, decisive and vigorous measures, and that it must be done now; that there must be no unnecessary delay; and in order that this might be done, they must give their cases in charge of a physician or physicians whom they know (as well as they can know anything from proof and testimony of others) are thoroughly skilled in their business, and thoroughly experienced in the treatment of diseases similar to theirs, in order that these physicians may, by examination, acquaint themselves fully with the peculiarities of their cases, with their temperaments, and the general condition of their systems, etc., and then, knowing these things, they will know how to apply the remedies, and how to adapt them to suit the peculiarities of each case.

Procrastination, that old "thief of time," which has obstructed the accomplishment of so many great results, which has hindered the success of so many grand enterprises, has carried to their graves thousands, and is now carrying thither thousands who might be spared to many years of usefulness, if they would but act while there is yet hope for them. We will say but a few words concerning some of the principal diseases which afflict the human family.

PULMONARY CONSUMPTION.

This disease, including all diseases of the Throat, Lungs and Head, is treated by us by direct inhalation of vapors to the parts affected. That this is the only successful way to treat this class of diseases has been demonstrated beyond a doubt. There are, undoubtedly, cases of consumption which positively can not be cured. But who can see the dividing line between curable and incurable cases, except a physician thoroughly experienced in the treatment of such cases? Patients have come to us who were given up by their doctors and their friends, and who had to be carried upon their beds, and we have cured them. We claim, with the facilities we possess, nine cases out of ten, which are curable, can be cured by our method of treatment; of this we have witnesses in every neighborhood, community, town, county, and State in the West, North, and Southwest, who will bear testimony.



ASTHMA, OR PHTHISIC.

This is a terrible disease, and one to be dreaded. To have to gasp and struggle for breath for hours, or perhaps days together, is something awful. And then to think that all this suffering is but the premonition of that which is to follow, in the form of consumption, when the whole lungs become involved, is something which is bad enough to contemplate. Would you be cured? We pride ourselves particularly on our treatment of Asthma, and can refer to cases who, after twenty years of this affliction, are now cured.



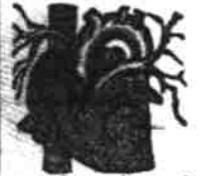
CATARRH.

A few words in regard to this terrible disease, but which at present is so prevalent in the human family. Few diseases are more obnoxious and disgusting than this, yet how few there are that take immediate steps to have it driven from the system. There being no doubt as to the scrofulous nature of this disease, the manner of attacking it, that it may be readily subdued, is plain. The immediate suppression of the discharge, which has been the general practice of physicians, and is to this day, by the use of astringents—snuffs and other articles of like nature—only increases its violence, and smolders the outer fire, permitting it to burn inward to a certain destruction of all the parts implicated. What educated physician, on meeting a sluggish ulcer, would, in his endeavor to effect a cure, apply lotions and medicines to cause the discharge to cease? Yet in catarrh it is the treatment of the day. Not one practitioner in a hundred has the appliances to treat this disease, or knows how to treat it if he had. The symptoms of Catarrh are, a dropping of phlegm from the roof of the mouth to the throat, dull, stupefied headache, offensive breath, hawking and spitting, sore throat, running at the nose, and in a short time following the trachea or windpipe into the lungs, where speedy results follow. Consumption is its aim and end. In some cases all of the above symptoms are perceptible, and some may have only one or two. Attend to this at once, and be cured before it is too late. This, with the above-mentioned diseases, we have made a specialty for years, and claim to be inferior to none, but, in mode of modern and successful treatment, superior to all.

PILES AND FISTULA.

We know that by the majority of people these cases are considered incurable. We here assert, in the face of this, that they can be cured; and if you want proof that we have cured hundreds of the worst cases, just send on your name and say so. Torpid Liver, Dyspepsia, Constipation, Loss of Appetite, Diarrhoea, and Consumption, are produced by Piles, and we very often find these diseases in conjunction with it. Though many may have Piles and drag out a miserable existence for many years, yet look around you and see untold numbers going to early graves on account of this scourge to the human family.

AFFECTIONS OF THE HEART.



That seat of life in the human organization, should not be neglected. All know how fatal are these diseases, and how they frequently launch men into eternity without a moment's warning. Symptoms are: severe pain in the region of the heart, and an unnatural throbbing or fluttering of that organ at times; irregular circulation; cold extremities, etc. If you have the least suspicion that your heart is in anywise affected, attend to it at once.

RHEUMATISM.

Another disorder for which an alkaline treatment seems peculiarly fitted; a very common, very painful, and, sometimes, very perilous disease. It is essentially a disease of the blood, which, for some reason not well understood, becomes thoroughly charged with an acid. Circulating with the blood, it comes in contact with the fibrous tissue, that tissue of which the ligaments of the joints, the coverings of the muscles, and the lining of the heart, are made. This tissue is inflamed by the acid, and a painful disease results. The poison is floated from joint to joint, and one after another is attacked in succession. When the disease is fully established, the patient presents a pitiable spectacle of helpless suffering. He is very restless, yet dare not move. The weight of the bed clothes can barely be borne. The sweat, the urine, the saliva, are all sour. Everything points plainly to the nature of the disorder, an acid poison in the blood. The lining of the heart is made of the same fibrous material, and that in turn may be attacked, converting it from a simple painful disease, to one of very great danger. When recovery takes place after the heart has been affected, there is often in store, future bad health, palpitations and dropsy.

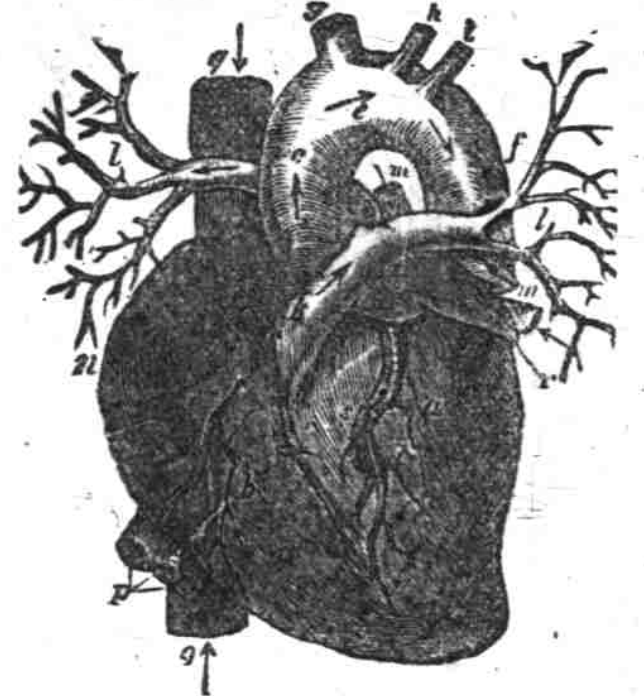
FITS, OR EPILEPSY.



Fathers and mothers, have you children that are having a cloud spread over their young lives like a pall by this malady? Young men or ladies, do you feel that your nervous system is becoming shattered, and your mind weakening under the influence of this terrible disease? In many cases this disease does not seem to affect the general health or the mind for some time. But though its effects may be tardy, they are sure to come, and the unfortunate victim is carried finally to the asylum or a premature grave. This disease requires prompt, thorough, vigorous treatment. That is our plan, and we have treated it with success in all its stages.

A DISEASED LIVER.

Those suffering from a diseased liver will be afflicted with the following symptoms: Pain in the right side, under the edge of the ribs, increased on pressure; sometimes the pain is in the left side; the patient is rarely able to lie on the left side; sometimes the pain is felt under the shoulder blade, and it frequently extends to the top of the shoulder, and is sometimes mistaken for a rheumatism in the arm. The stomach is affected with loss of appetite and sickness, the bowels in general are costive, sometimes alternative with lax; the head is troubled with pain, accompanied with a dull, heavy sensation in the back part. There is generally a considerable loss of memory, accompanied with a painful sensation of having left undone something which ought to have been done. A slight dry cough is sometimes an attendant. The patient complains of weariness and debility; he is easily startled, his feet are cold or burning, and he complains of a prickly sensation of the skin; his spirits are low; and although he is satisfied that exercise would be beneficial to him, yet he can scarcely summon up fortitude enough to try it. In fact, he distrusts every remedy. Several of the above symptoms attend the disease, but cases have occurred when few of them existed, yet examination of the body after death, has shown the liver to have been extensively deranged.



HEALTH AND DISEASE

Nothing can be more true than the statements concerning HEALTH and DISEASE, made under the two pictures which are intended to represent these two conditions. (Pictures on the left hand and right hand upper corners of these two inside pages.) In the healthy woman we see the rounded form, clear skin, graceful figure, bright eye, good teeth, full, red lips. She is happy, cheerful, loving, kind. The healthy man has a good frame, strong muscles, clear eyes, an elastic step. He has kindly feelings, is energetic, and drives his business. Men and women in health, have good appetites, perfect digestion, sound sleep, freedom from pain. The senses—hearing, seeing, feeling, tasting, and smelling—are acute. They have clear heads and warm hearts!

When we meet a man or woman answering the description above, we say of the woman: how beautiful! and of the man: how fine looking! Why is the woman beautiful, and the man fine looking? Because they are healthy; that is all of it.

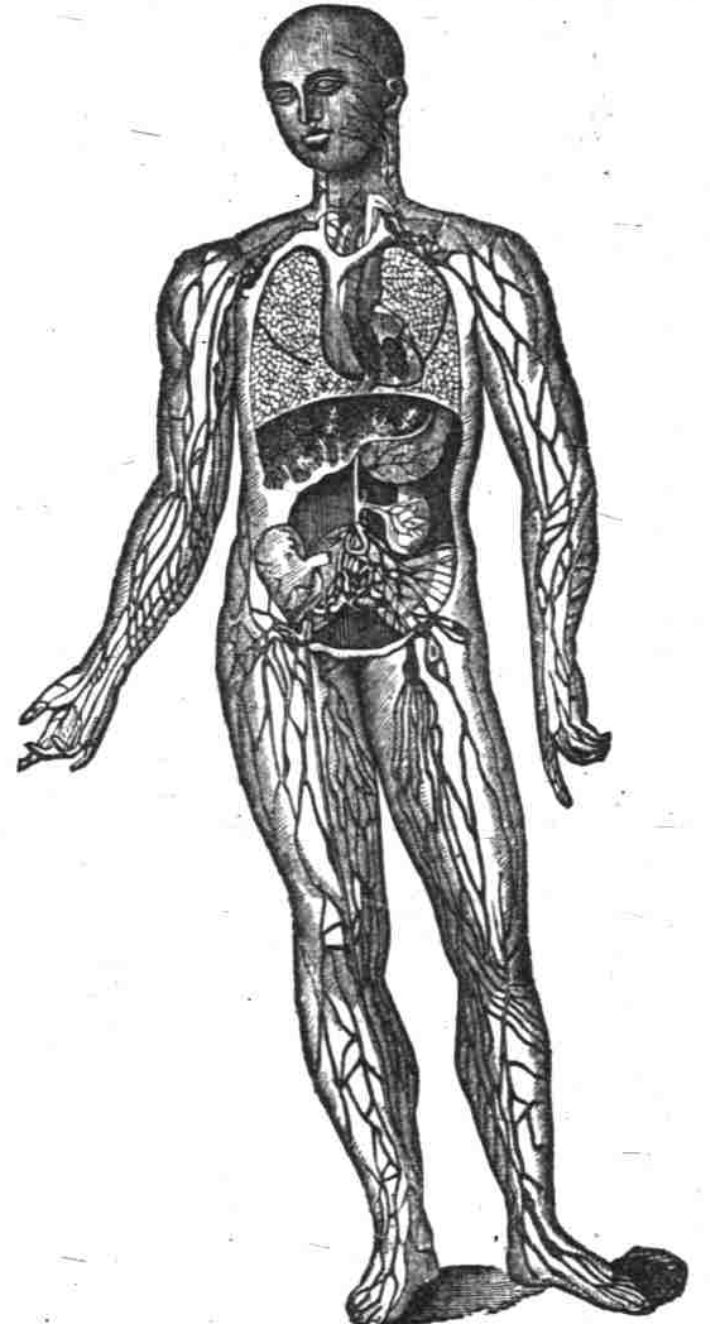
But when disease gets a foothold in the system, and begins to prey upon the vitals, then does woman's beauty vanish and man's fine figure become insignificant.

The muscles become flaccid, the form shrinks, the bones project, the eye loses its brightness and the countenance its vivacity; the lips are colorless, the mouth is dry or shied with a bad taste, the head swims, the hands and limbs are nervous and trembling, the hair falls out, the appetite is gone or morbidly craving, food sours on the stomach, bowels become costive or irregular, the sight is dim or blurred, there are roaring or ringing sounds in the head, the head aches, the extremities get cold, there is occasional faintness; there may be pain in chest or abdomen, or sides or back, cough, continual spitting, sallow complexion, occasional bloatings and swelling of joints, chilliness and flushes of heat, restlessness, disturbed sleep, nausea, numbness in limbs, weakened memory, moroseness, despondency, loss of ambition and energy, and an almost innumerable variety of other peculiar feelings.

These symptoms may not all be present, but THE PRESENCE OF ANY OF THEM IS EVIDENCE THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG.

Well, you ask: is there yet hope, when many of these symptoms are present and have been running on for many years? We answer, YES. We say to you that hundreds have come to us, on whom the incubus of DISEASE had lain for many years, wearing down the system, crushing the spirit and grinding out all that makes men and women useful and happy, and asked us for help. And we have met them afterward, when in full strength of body and vigor of mind; they would grasp us by the hand, and say: "Doctors, God bless you. To you I owe my life!" We want nobody to accept this statement as true without proof. That proof we can furnish. In view of these things, we dare stand up and say to the world, that these Chronic Diseases, in all their forms, can be cured, and, however severe the case may be, there yet is hope.

Too many poor, afflicted ones are driven to their graves by the discouraging words of injudicious friends. There are incurable cases, but it is no light and trivial matter, when a fellow-mortals, with mind and body weakened by disease, looks confidently to you for advice, to blast his hope and crush



The wise man never puts off till to-morrow, that which he can do to-day.

If afflicted, and you don't know what the trouble is, come and see us. We Charge Nothing for Consultation.

We claim to be frank and candid with our Patrons. We never promise more than we can accomplish.