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### A New and Successful Treatment of Typhoid Fever.

Some time ago Dr. Hugo Summa, of this city, a thorough physiologist and skillful practitioner, in considering the fact that there is an almost total absence of the usual signs of bile in the faces of patients suffering from typhoid fever, came to the conclusion that possibly some of the distressing features of late typhoid may be due to a deficiency of bile, and determined to try the introduction of ox gall into the lower bowel in well marked cases of the disease. This plan has now been carried out in a considerable number of cases, and with the happiest results thus far, not a single death having occurred when the bile treatment has been instituted; whereas in a similar number of contiguous cases of apparently the same degree of severity the usual fatality has been noted.

The treatment is as follows: Two ounces of fresh bile (which can be obtained at any packing house and kept for two or three days) are ex-cluded) may be mixed with from two to eight ounces of water and thrown into the rectum with an ordinary household syringe. The patient cannot endure the bile of this strength, as it soon becomes quite irritating to the rectal mucous membrane; in which cases as much as fourteen ounces of water may be added to the two ounces of bile. The injection is given every night and morning.

Under the influence of the bile, con-joined with proper feeding, the course of fever has been very favorably modified. In instances where the disease was far advanced when the new treatment was begun; in one patient at the City Hospital recovery resulted even after three severe hemorrhages had occurred, and in a large number of cases of typical typhoid in which the treatment was employed before the end of the first week the disease was checked in a very few days.

This is truly a remarkable showing. And if further use of rectal injections of diluted ox gall gives the same results as those already obtained in the hospitals of St. Louis, Dr. Summa will have given us a remedy second in all directions to the recent cure for diphtheria. Full details of the treatment and results will be published as soon as its efficacy has been thoroughly tested.—St. Louis Clinic.

### Strange Sight at Sea.

The officers of the Neptune Line steamer Urbino, from Rotterdam by way of Shields, tell of a queer experience in a gale on November 22. They say that at nine o'clock in the morning a gale was blowing northwest, accompanied by snow and rain, thunder and lightning. At that hour a loud report was heard in the air and an immense ball of fire appeared overhead. Suddenly two explosions, louder than the first, were heard. After the first of these explosions the ball became a mass of forked streamers of light. At the second, a large number of sparks spread over the ship aloft and shot into the air. Large lumps of fire fell on the deck. Several of the men ran to pick them up, but it is said they seemed to disappear and left the surface of the water. All who witnessed the phenomenon declared it was the most remarkable sight they ever saw. When the balls of fire fell it was at first believed that they were pieces of a meteor, which would not be seen until the 25th of November a grand display of northern lights was visible from the vessel.

### A Rat Causes an Electrical Fire.

A singular accident occurred recently to the electric lighting system of Baltimore. The lights of a large portion of the city suddenly went out with no apparent cause, many connections were burnt out, and the switchboard was found to be badly damaged. It was finally discovered that the trouble was caused by a rat which had chanced to step from one copper terminal to another, thus short circuiting the current in the rat's body. The rat, which was making it a good electrical conductor. It is estimated that 2,700 volts passed through the little animal, a sufficient voltage to produce 1,900 horse power. The rat's hair was burned off, its body had become rigid as if frozen. This accidental connection of the terminals caused a sheet of flame to spring from one set of terminals to the others, which burned off the rubber insulation of the wires, leaving them exposed, and set fire to the wood-work near them. It was found necessary to replace all the wire on the switchboard before the circuit could again be operated.

### The Omnivorous Shark.

Secretary L. H. Shearman, of the New York and Pacific Steamship Company, has received a letter from M. P. Grace & Co., of London, describing a curious incident. At Terre de Cap Desaintes, Guadeloupe, in the West Indies, a shark was killed recently, and when it was cut open there was found in its stomach a package of inventories, bills of lading, and other documents originally placed in the hands of the purser of the steamship Cape, of the New York and Pacific line, which sailed southward from this port on her maiden voyage on Nov. 10. The papers which were lost on the voyage and found in the shark's belly were duplicates and of no particular value; hence little attention was paid to their disappearance.

### Darwin found grains of maize in the earth on the seashore of Peru eighty-five feet below the level of the sea.

A window tax was introduced by William III. in 1695, increased by the Georges and repealed in 1851. The wheat weevil often destroys the grain in a whole storehouse, the mischief being done before it is discovered. The steam whistle, or rather hissing, in the steam trumpet, was first devised in Leicestershire, and first made by a local musical instrument maker. "Green tobacco," the Nicotiana Rustica, will come to maturity in almost any climate. It also grows in Canada, Sweden, Norway and North Russia. An examination of the soil of graveyards, made by Dr. James B. Young (Edinburgh Royal Society) shows that it does not materially differ, as regards the amount of organic matter it contains, from ordinary soil. Since the passage of the act of 1870, providing for the primary and secondary education, the number of school children in England has increased from 1,500,000 to 6,000,000; and the number of persons in prisons has fallen from 12,000 to 5,000.

According to invention, a building has, recently been erected by Messrs. Wagner, an architect at Limberg, solely of materials formed of ashes, without any admixture of sand. It is claimed that wood natural pieces of almost every variety have been so impregnated with this very cheap material.

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BOYS' fine Silk lined Overcoats age 12 to 19 \$4.50, worth 9.50.  
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