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Kidneys.—Metallotherapy.—Pitury, a new Stimulant.

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THE LATEST BRITISH NAVAL FAILURE.

nent that the superior skill of English ship constructors, en- as dry land. gineers, and seamen is fast leaving them. Not long ago the Orontes, a splendid new troop ship, after a highly satisfactory two hours trial of her engines, was sent to St. Helena. | ind by soundings, first, the Atlantic areas having a depth of Hardly had she started on her voyage than (to quote the over 2,000 fathoms, and second, the areas ranging between Engineer) "the engines broke down utterly, and the ship is now lying disabled in the harbor."

But the hugest blunder of all, if we may credit Mr. E. J. Reed, the late chief constructor of the navy, has been perpetrated in the designing of the famous Inflexible, supposed to be the most powerful vessel of all the English ironclads. She is built on the citadel principle; that is to say, she has a heavily plated central portion wherein are guns, machinery, and magazines. Before and abaft this strong portion nated the Dolphin Ridge—a seal-shaped area with its head to the ends are unarmored, it being considered that even if such portions are destroyed in action the fighting capacity L.) another ridge called the Connecting Ridge. The latter of the ship will be none the less. But now Mr. Reed says that if these ends do happen to be destroyed in an engagement, the vessel will not have sufficient stability to stand upright, and in short that she will capsize. On visiting the Inflexible from time to time he found that the unarmored ends were so very large in proportion to the citadel that in Inflexible in his own office, made all the calculations, and the result he now affirms shows that the destruction of the at a cost of about 6 million dollars, John Bull's consternain the London Times may be imagined. The Admiralty is put upon its defense; but Engineering, after reviewing both sides of the question, admits that the "position of affairs is most serious." This is the second disagreeable truth which Mr. Reed has presented to his countrymen within the last she stopped building enormously costly iron war vessels, the better.

GLIMPSES OF ATLANTIS.

The sedimentary rocks of our Atlantic States aggregate a a thickness of nearly 45,000 feet. The manner in which the sand, gravel, mud, and so on, which formed these rocks, was distributed over the bed of the sea which rolled where our continent now lies, proves beyond a doubt that they came from the north and east. They represent the detritus of prethe waste could scarcely have been of less extent than the new strata it formed, it is reasonably inferred that land masses of continental magnitude must have occupied the region now covered by the North Atlantic before America began to be, and onward at least through the palæozoic ages of American history.

It is not to be imagined that the ante-American sea was 45,000 feetdeep. When the earlier palæozoic strata were forming the water was evidently shallow, and in some parts broken by islands. From time to time the sea was deepened by the sinking of its floor; and as the successive strata were laid down the subsidences for the most part more than kept pace with the thickening deposits. Now and again the movement was reversed, as when the Green Mountain range was uplifted; and occasionally deposition exceeded subsidence, or slight elevations brought the sea bed near to the water level. Previous to the carboniferous period evidences of shallow water are common: and after that time successive low-level land areas repeatedly occupied the eastern half of what is now the Mississippi basin.

While the new America was thus forming the ancient Atlantis was no doubt sinking as well as washing away. When its final disappearance occurred remains to be determined; quite recently, however, two or three lines of scientific research seem to converge in support of the truth of the ancient story, long considered mythical, in regard to the geologically recent occurrence of that remarkable catastro- and earthquakes was preserved with even greater fulness of phe. Archæo-geology has sufficiently demonstrated that the detail on the American continent, if there is any truth in the memory of man runs back vastly farther than history has representations of Brasceur de Bourbourg. That student of been willing to admit; so that there remains no inherent improbability in the story the Egyptian priests told to Solon. All that modern science asks is, whether there is any other evidence of the recent existence of Atlantis.

Since the exploration of the North Atlantic sea bottom for telegraphic purposes proved that no elevations or depressions inconsistent with the safe laying of cables were to be found between Newfoundland and Ireland, it has been popularly taught that the Atlantic lies in a vast trough with a comparatively regular bottom. A wider range of soundings made by the American ship Dolphin, the German frigate Gazelle, the British ships Hydra and Porcupine, and more recently by the Challenger, quite overthrows the popular idea, proving it. By these convulsions the land was swept away and subthe Atlantic bed to be rather a double trough, the deeper demerged, but few of the inhabitants escaping in boats or findpressions separated by a mountainous ridge of great altitude ing a refuge on the tops of high mountains. running north and south, almost midway between the existing continent. From the variations in the soundings along language. The words Atlastic, he says, have no the ridge there is every reason to infer that it is a line of satisfactory etymology in any language of the Old World. broken country, the higher peaks reaching the surface north On the other hand, the radicle att is characteristic of the

of the equator in the Azore Islands, and further south in St. A strange fatality seems to attend the vessels of the Paul's Rocks, the Islands of Ascension, Tristan d'Acunha, English navy. For more than two years past accidents and etc. On the other side of the ridge the water deepens, the blunders have occurred so repeatedly in the finest and pre-bottom presenting a surface diversified by hills and valleys, sumably best built ships that the conclusion appears immi- such as could be carved out only when the sea bed existed

From the soundings made and collated by the officers of the Challenger expedition, a chart has been prepared, show-1,000 and 2,000 fathoms: the narrower areas having a depth of less than a thousand fathoms, showing white. By far the greater portion of the sea bed south of 50 N. L. exceeds the depth of 2,000 fathoms. The area of medium depth covers the northern sea down to an irregular line between Newfoundland and England. Thence a narrow isthmus (begining about 52° N. L., and 30° W. Long. from Greenwich) connects the northern table land with what has been denomithe north and its tail joining (at about 15° N. L. and 45° W. puts out from the South American shore just north of the Amazon's mouth, and extends from about 19° N. L. and 50° W. L., southeastward to a point on the equator about Long. 10° W., where it turns abruptly south and forms the Challenger Ridge, which broadens southward, but is not mapped below 40° S. Lat. Just north of Tristan d'Acunha the Chalorder to determine the doubts suggested, he designed an lenger Ridge sends off an arm, which, curving to the northeast, joins the coast of Africa.

Here unquestionably we have the backbone of the ancient cork-lined extremities would determine the foundering of Atlantic continent; and in a recent lecture in London one of the ship. As the Inflexible has been under construction for the Challenger staff has reviewed the evidence of soundings nearly four years, and as two similar ships have been begun touching the general contour of the "lost Atlantis." Its valleys and hills are not such as could be formed by any natural tion at reading Mr. Reed's damaging assertions spread forth irregularity in the deposition of sediments, nor by submarine elevations; they have been carved by agencies acting above the water level. Along the ridge there are four points which remain unsubmerged—the Azores, St. Paul's Rocks, Ascen-mudas, Fernando de Noronha, Trinidad, and St. Helena rise few weeks. The other was that England did not possess an to the surface, in some instances not far distant from depths ironclad which could not be promptly destroyed by well exceeding 3,000 fathoms. A group of such soundings under managed torpedoes, and that in view thereof the quicker the equator (not far from where the general ridge makes the angle separating the Connecting Ridge from the Challenger Ridge) give evidence of an ancient valley line. Supposing the continent raised until this valley became dry land, the high peaks (now islands) near by would rise to Himalayan heights, and the ridge itself would average about 1,500 feet. Even under the equator such elevations would be capped with snow, if the atmospheric conditions were at all as now. The lower levels along the mountain ridge would present every variety of climate, according to the height; and with such a line of communication many serious problems of existing lands, the washings of rains, rivers, coast currents, plant and animal migrations across the equator during the and other agencies of erosion; and since the areas supplying geologic ages could be easily solved. In the North Atlantic regions the general elevation of the ridge is probably not more than 9,000 feet, unless the original depths are masked considerably by a deposit of globigerina—ooze.

Thus deep sea exploration confirms the report of geology that Atlantis really existed; and palæontology also bears witness to the same great fact. Still more, it testifles that the final disappearance of the buried ridge did not occur until comparatively recent times. The evidence on this point was reviewed some eight years ago by Professor Unger, who had been led to believe that a land connection must have existed between Europe and America, as late as the tertiary period, by a comparison of the recent and fossil floras of the two continents. Other evidence of like nature may be found in Professor Gray's review of the history of the gigantic redwoods (sequoias) of California, reprinted in "Darwiniana."

With such support the traditions of the ancient world, on both sides of the Atlantic, begin to read like something more than empty myths. The Egyptian priests, it is more than likely, were reciting veritable history when they told Solon about the islands of continental magnitude that formerly existed in the outer sea beyond the pillars of Hercules, but had sunk beneath the waters. And it is not impossible that the mighty kings of Atlantis may have invaded Europe and Africa, as the Egyptian books narrated, and overrun those countries as far as Greece and Egypt.

The story of the sinking of Atlantis during a time of floods Central American monuments and traditions asserts that not only was the story of the submergence of a great country to the eastward widely spread among the natives and frequently referred to in their writings, but that seasons of humiliation and prayer were observed in commemoration of such disasters—both princes and people humbling themselves before their divinity and praying that the calamities which had overtaken their ancestors might never be repeated. These great convulsions are specially dwelt upon in the Indian traditions, and one or two minor ones are mentioned, when the land was shaken by frightful earthquakes and the waves of the sea combined with volcanic fires to overwhelm and engulf

To the evidence of tradition de Bourbourg adds that of