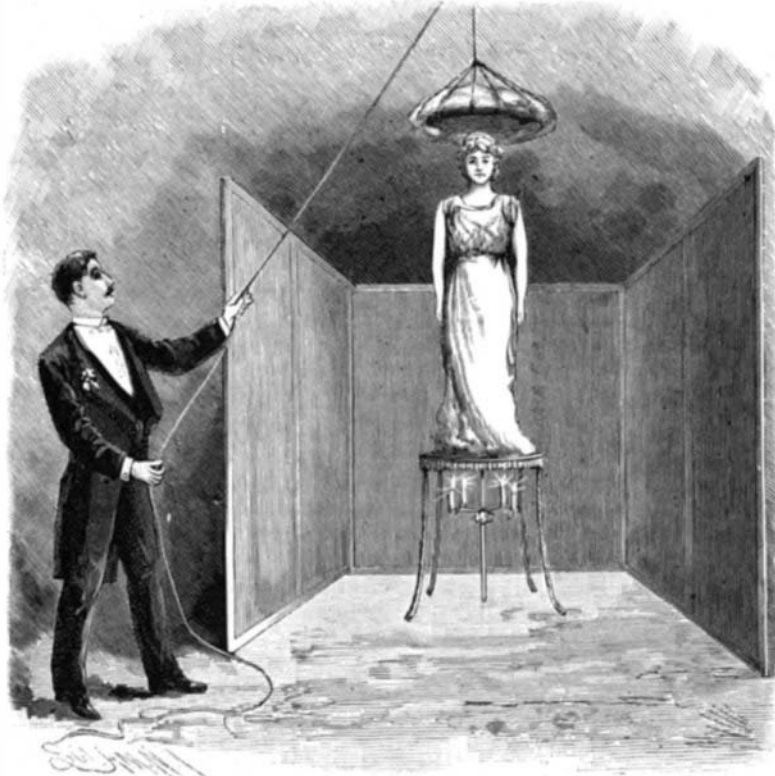


A WEIRD SPECTACLE.

During the season just closing, among various interesting things to be seen at the Eden Musee, perhaps the most interesting, and at the same time the most scientific, is the weird spectacle entitled "She," exhibited by Powell, the well known illusionist, and suggested by the Cave scene in Rider Haggard's celebrated novel "She."

In this scene a beautiful young lady mounts a table arranged in an alcove formed of a folding screen. Above the victim is suspended a cylindrical cloth screen. The screen is lowered to the level of the table, completely inclosing the subject. The table apparently has four legs, and four candles shown beneath it indicate that the space underneath the table is open and clear. The cylindrical screen is shown to be entire, with openings only at the upper and lower ends, and no openings are seen in the folding screen which partly surrounds the table. Upon the firing of a pistol the occupant of the table is ignited, and smoke and flame bursting from the screen indicate that the work of destruction is going on within. When the fire is burned out the screen is lifted, and nothing remains upon the table but a few smouldering embers and a pile of bones surmounted by a skull. Close observation does not reveal any way of escape for the young woman. It is, however, obvious that the magician cannot afford to sacrifice such a subject every evening, and the spectators are forced to conclude that the whole affair is a very clever trick. In fact, it is simply a modification of the be-headed lady and numerous other tricks based upon the



PREPARED FOR CREMATION.

patients suffered from chlorotic neurasthenia, three from classic neurasthenia, one from permanently slow pulse, and four from locomotor ataxia. The liquid used was a ten per cent solution of the gray substance of the brain of the sheep, sterilized by carbonic acid in Arsonval's apparatus; the injections were made into the lumbar or gluteal region, the dose being five cubic centimeters [80 minims] at most.

This treatment is reported to have been well borne, as a rule producing no reaction, either local or general. In the two hundred odd injections made in the eleven patients, abscess or acneic pustules resulted in no instance; occasionally, however, slight lymphatic engorgement was observed, which disappeared in three or four or, at the most, seven days. The first effect noticed by the patient was a sensation of increased strength and comfort, the previous muscular weakness diminishing rapidly. The vertebral pains and spinal hyperæsthesia disappeared after a few injections; the lightning pains of the tabetic subjects, the neurasthenic headaches, the insomnia, and the cerebral impotence all vanished in their turn. The appetite returned, and those patients who were previously dyspeptic now assimilated their food so well that they began to increase in weight. In the tabetics sexual power returned with the general improvement. The author, therefore, considers the injections of gray brain substance a nerve tonic of no mean value.

Dr. Paul compares a neurasthenic patient with an accumulator which it is impossible to charge. While the morbid condition lasts, he is unable to transform his food into force; after the least effort his muscular and intellectual forces are exhausted. But, it is maintained, the injection of cerebral matter in the manner described promotes the utilization of food and its due assimilation; so that the nervous system now becomes a chargeable condenser by means of which the subject acquires force which he can dispose of at will. It should be noted that it is the nervous force which first returns in all these cases; subsequent to and consequent upon this, the power to do intellectual and muscular labor comes back, the improvement in the condition of the blood following later on.

In conclusion, the doctor claims that the subcutaneous injection of brain substance alleviates and cures neurasthenia much more rapidly than the ordinary therapeutic measures, iron, arsenic, phosphates, opium, alcohol, etc.; and its action is more prompt and certain than that of hygiene alone, or that of suggestion, ovariectomy, or even electricity.—*Merck's Bulletin.*

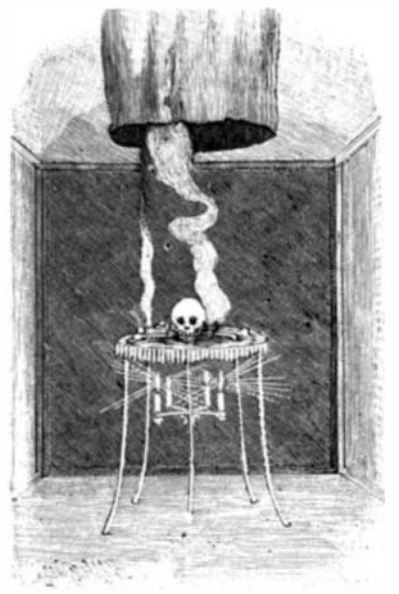
The New Paris Labor Exchange.

The new Paris labor exchange has just been completed at a cost \$1,600,000 and turned over to the trades unions. It is a bright and shining light in the solution of the problem of the unemployed that may show the way to the establishment of similar enterprises in other countries. Commerce, banking and trade have their business exchanges. Labor is very rapidly acquiring the intelligence to imitate the example set by business interests. Paris has 230 trades unions. The problem has been working itself out for the past three years of completing a labor center which shall stand in labor matters for exactly what the great Paris Bourse does in financial and commercial affairs. In fact, the magnificent building just completed is called the Bourse de Travail. While the new home of labor has been building, the new exchange enterprise has been actively in practice with

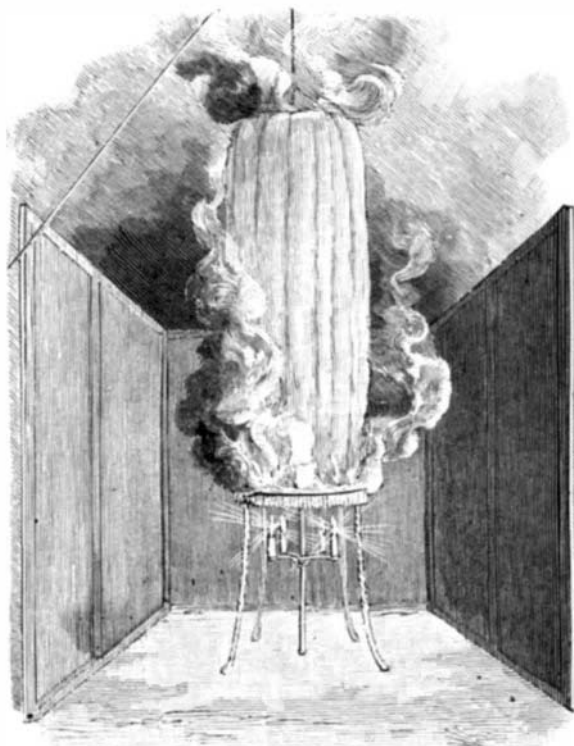
such means as it had in hand. The labor exchange has nineteen bureaus, or offices, each headed by a paid delegate, and it publishes a monthly journal. Within the past twelve months it has obtained situations for about 300,000 persons.

According to the *Boston Globe*, the new Bourse de Travail has 150 rooms, a grand hall, a library, and a reading and amusement room in the basement, which will accommodate 1,000 unemployed men. In this great labor edifice contractors may consult and arbitrate with the heads of bureaus. Just as the current prices of stocks and produce are posted in the business exchanges, so on a great bulletin here are posted the daily prices of labor, the offerings of contractors and all that appertains to wages and industry, just as though an ordinary commodity were being dealt with. The city government of Paris has virtually given this magnificent institution to the trades unions, believing that it will soon pay for itself in the saving of strikes and bread riots. Many rich men have contributed generously to it and expressed the intention of heartily co-operating with its bureaus in the adjustment of industrial differences.

The chief guarantee of success in this enterprise is that the labor organizations have already demonstrated their ability to conduct the exchange with dignity, intelligence and sound business prudence. There is nothing of charity in the undertaking. It is an active, effective, and well organized fountain head, from which unemployed labor is distributed where it can occupy itself most successfully and remuneratively. The attainment of peace, arbitration and the meeting of the directors of labor and capital on equal terms is its central purpose. The Paris labor exchange has set an example which can hardly fail to be imitated in many great commercial and industrial nations.



THE FINISH.



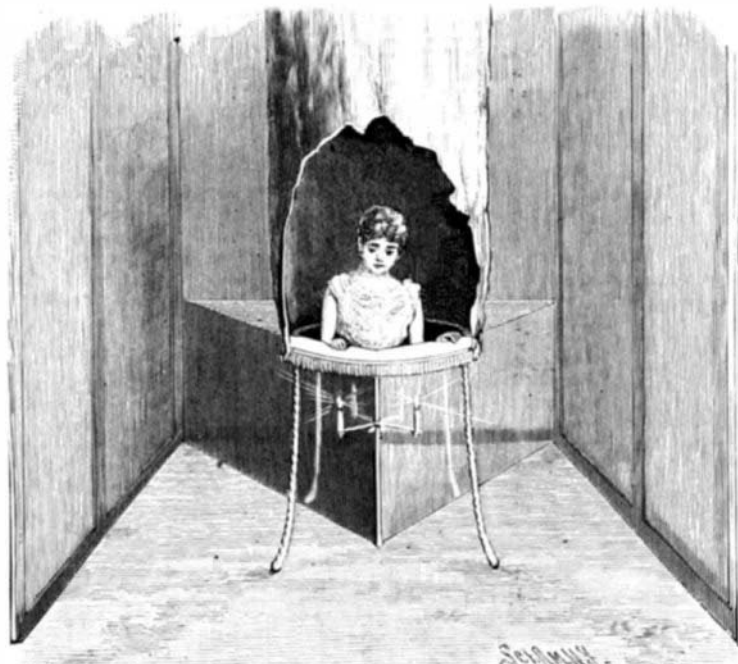
THE BURNING.

use of plane mirrors. The table has but two legs, the other two which appear being simply reflections. The central standard supports but two candles, the other two being reflections. Underneath the table, and converging at the central standard, are arranged two plane mirrors at an angle of 90° with each other and 45° with the side panels of the screen. By means of this arrangement the side panels, which are of the same color as the central or back panel, are reflected in the mirror and appear as a continuation of the back panel. The triangular box, of which the mirrors form two sides, has a top composed in part of the table top and in part of mirror sections for reflecting the back panel, or with a covering of the same color as the back panel.

The operation of the apparatus is now obvious. When the victim is inclosed by the cylindrical screen, she immediately escapes through a trap door in the table top, places the bones and the fireworks upon the table, and at the firing of the pistol ignites the latter and retires, closing the trap door after her.

Injection of Brain Substance.

At a recent meeting of the Academie de Medecine, at Paris, Dr. Constantin Paul related his observations (*Sem. Méd.*) on eleven cases which he had treated by means of injections of brain substance into the subcutaneous cellular tissue. Three of the



THE ESCAPE.

Sweet Castor Oil.

In the progress of chemistry that nauseous but most useful medicine castor oil has been robbed of its disgusting qualities and converted into an agreeable sirup. It has in fact been born again and baptized with a new name, *Palma Christi*, or *Oleum Ricini Aromaticum*. All the cathartic qualities of the drug are retained, but the revolting oily taste is removed, and a sweet spicy flavor substituted, something like a combination of cinnamon and vanilla.