

[Newspaper clipping (from the Illustrated Times, 3 October 1868) about 'Dr. Nelaton and the Siamese Twins' Chang and Eng].

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DR. NELATON AND THE SIAMESE TWINS.

THE celebrated Dr. Nelaton is said to be about to perform an operation which may still further increase his fame, and will certainly extend his notoriety. After years of indissoluble union, the Siamese twins have agreed to separate, especially as the bond which keeps them together is merely a material one, and they have already found themselves differing very widely in matters of taste and opinion.

For nearly sixty years Chang and Eng (for these are the names of the brothers) have been living curiosities, exciting the wonder of everybody within the circle of their acquaintance; and, after having displayed their extraordinary unity to thousands of amazed spectators, they wish to be reduced to the condition of ordinary mortals, and assert their personal independence. They first appeared in Europe under the direction of Captain Bunker, who brought them from their native place and made a lucrative business of the exhibition. After having acquired a moderate competence, they emigrated to North Carolina, where they purchased land and engaged the affections of two ladies (sisters), to whom they were married, and each of them has been blessed with a family of nine children. It has taken a good many years for them to grow so tired of each other's society as to undergo the only method which renders separation possible; and, though they consulted some eminent medical men several years ago on the subject, the attempt was considered to be so dangerous that Chang resolutely opposed it. He is now anxious for the experiment to be tried, the more so as the brothers have had a very serious disagreement for the last five years, during which they have actually gone to the length of declining to speak to each other any more than was absolutely necessary. It must surely be only a symbolical story which represents them as differing on the subject of the American war, one having entire sympathy with the South and the other as enthusiastically espousing the North; but, whatever may be the cause of their differences (and it is probable that many of us would be a little tired of such a union), they are about to move about the world as simple instead of compound human quantities, if the skilful French surgeon can effect the cancelment of their long partnership.



THE SIAMESE TWINS.

the French centre of defence on the German frontier between the Meuse and the Rhine. It is in every respect a fortress, and ages of engineering skill have made it what it is. In the time of the Romans it was the centre of six great military roads, and it is now one of the keys of France; its arsenals and armories, always busy, are just now full swing with preparing the munitions of war. On Sept. 17 seventy-one wounded thirty-two soldiers were employed, in the workshops of the arsenal, in making cartridges for the new chassepot. A little before two o'clock in the afternoon fifteen of them were killed and wounded by a terrific explosion, which is entirely unknown. It exceeded the horror of the explosion, mangled bodies of the soldiers were covered and the shrieks of the mutilated sufferers were heard as they were these died as they were taken to hospital, and those who remained fearedful injuries. The next day, when Metz went to the ruins of the shattered city, were recovered the remains of the hearse and the remains of the cemetery. The impression was so other were recovered and the remains were recovered.

