

[Pages 13-16 (1860s?) from a leaflet / catalogue (?) about 'The Heteradelph, or, Double-bodied Boy' on display at Dr. Kahn's Museum near Leicester Square, London].

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fact, that the appended infant is perfectly developed, with the exception of the upper extremities, and is much larger than usual. In most cases, that which is termed the parasite is exceedingly small and ill-proportioned, being, in fact, nothing more than a rudimentary appendage to the perfect child. Much more frequently the parasite, even when it possesses all the parts of the perfect child as far as their number is concerned, will be malformed in different parts of its body, having hare-lip, or some other consequence of arrest of development. Very often, too, both bodies are in a rudimentary condition. The most remarkable case on record, of a perfect Heteradelph, is that of a Chinese, named A-kin, of whom you will observe a model in my collection. This is always referred to as the most remarkable instance of this peculiarity that has occurred, and a long description of it will be found in every work on the subject. But even it is far eclipsed by the case before us, as there the parasite was exceedingly small: in fact, when A-kin was a full-grown man, the appended body was simply that of an infant. The nutrition of the second body appears to depend entirely on the first, and through which it receives its nourishment, and discharges its excretions.

Menstrosities belonging to the third division are also exceedingly curious (*Evadelphs*). In these we have that very singular phenomenon, which for so many centuries puzzled and perplexed men of science, termed *Fœtus in Fœtu*, that is, one fœtus contained within another. Although the case before us cannot be considered as belonging to this class, yet it is intimately connected with it, as I shall hereafter have occasion to shew."

The learned Doctor then proceeds to shew most instructively the *form and hidden source of the animalculæ within us from which life springs!* which we cannot publish, but recommend our male readers to go and hear, to make them *wiser men*, appreciating, in reference to the discovery of those little creatures, his concluding sentiment:—

"The majesty of God appears no less in small things than in great; and as it exceedeth human sense in the immensity of the universe, so also doth it in the smallness of the parts thereof."

THE END.

J. W. BURROWS, Printer, 15, Old Street Road.

THE HETERADELPH, OR, DOUBLE-BODIED BOY.

FROM the Regent Quadrant, we wended our way to the Museum of Dr. Kahn, whose scientific, natural and physiological wonders we had before witnessed, to view ONE THAT FAR SURPASSES THEM ALL, spoken of in the following advertisement:—

THE HETERADELPH, or DUPLEX BOY, now introduced to the Public, at Dr. KAHN'S MUSEUM, is the most extraordinary natural phenomenon ever witnessed. It is the first instance on record of a Human Heteradelph seen alive; rendered all the more remarkable from being a beautiful child, well developed, perfectly healthy, and born of English parents. The Public (Gentlemen only) will be admitted to view this marvellous (two in one) being on and after MONDAY NEXT, at 4, Coventry Street, Leicester Square, at Twelve, Two, and Four, at which hours Dr. Kahn will Deliver a Lecture, explanatory of the theory of these mysterious organizations.

Admission two shillings and sixpence. In the evening the Museum is open as usual, when the admission, after five o'clock, is one shilling.

A Lecture by Dr. Sexton, F.R.G.S., F.E.S., &c., at eight o'clock, on Neglected Brain Disease.

Catalogue of the Museum gratis to visitors.

Dr. Kahn's Lecture on the Heteradelph, with Engraving, 6d.

We found on our arrival the museum crowded with an anxious assembly of gentlemen comprising the rank, fashion, and intelligence of these kingdoms, each gazing with wonder at the DOUBLE-BODIED BOY, and all attentively listening to the talented lecture of the worthy Doctor, whose great fame was already "world-wide" long before he introduced this latest addition to the curiosities of nature.

So extraordinary is this *live TWO-IN-ONE*, and so exceedingly rich and far-fetched are the learned physiological speculations that compose the *private lecture* delivered to *Gentlemen only*, that we are precluded in these pages from quoting as much as we would wish, but must content ourselves in recommending our male readers, single and married, of mature age, and, indeed, not excepting females, if they are mothers, to purchase the more perfect copy, published at 6d. by Gilbert, Paternoster Row, or to be had at the Museum itself at the time of paying a visit to its very many astounding and truly instructive objects, which must have required talent, research, industry and patience, above those possessed

by ordinary men, to form and collect together. Sufficient, however, combined with its portrait on the title-page, we will extract, to give the enquiring and curious reader a description of *so remarkable a human Heteradelph*, that, in the language of the advertisement, "it is the first instance on record," and, withal, for a Double-Boy, a beautiful child.

Dr. Kahn thus opens the descriptive portion of his Lecture:—

"GENTLEMEN—My object in this Lecture is to draw your attention to one of the most extraordinary phenomena which nature has, in modern times, made us acquainted with. A few years ago we should have spoken of it as a freak of Nature, and called it, in scientific language, a *lusus naturæ*; but modern science has shewn us, that phenomena are presented to our notice in the varied and ever-changing panorama of organic life, and are as much the result of a fixed and immutable law, as the revolving of a planet, the appearance of an eclipse, or the reverberations of a thunder-peal. True, these curiosities may only now and then turn up—to use a homely phrase—just as a comet may appear but once in a dozen centuries; but they are still no less the result of law. To the superficial thinker, and the man who never thinks at all, this may appear strange; and ever and anon the question will be propounded,—How can it happen that a phenomenon appearing but once in a hundred years can be the result of a law which is continually in operation? To explain this, then, will be my business in this discourse.

I shall bring before you a child—or rather two children blended most mysteriously together—presenting an appearance which has rarely been witnessed. The one child is perfect in all its parts—well developed, admirable in its proportions, of the male sex, and in perfect health. Attached to it, however, at the chest, is another child, also male, united most curiously and most mysteriously with its fellow, the lower part of its body perfect in every respect, the arms in a rudimentary condition, and the head entirely absent, one head and neck serving for both. There are, as you will observe, two bodies placed exactly opposite to one another, connected at the sterna, and the viscera of the trunk apparently perfectly distinct. This extraordinary monstrosity was born in this country on the 4th of June 1855. The parents are perfectly healthy, nothing unusual being observed in either. This is their ninth child, all the rest being quite normal. I must beg to be excused mentioning names, the parents having an objection to their's being made public.

The term used by scientific men to describe twins thus united, is *Synadelphia*, and a classification of them has been attempted by dividing them into three distinct genera:—

I. *Omeadelphia*.—In this case, the two individuals are composed of parts perfectly similar to each other.

II. *Heteradelphia*.—A union of two dissimilar individuals.

III. *Enadelphia*. One infant enclosed within another.

Several cases are on record, in medical and scientific journals, illustrating each of these three peculiarities, though very rarely indeed has life been preserved. The case before us is, therefore, the more remarkable, as the child is in perfect health. The variety to be met with in the first of these divisions is very great. One of the best illustrations which we have seen in modern times is that of the well-known Siamese Twins, exhibited in London in 1829. Here were two individuals, at that time aged 18 years, both nearly of the same stature, the intelligence of each different, having perfectly separate identities, and yet united by a cartilaginous band externally, and by some more delicate material internally, side by side—sleeping and waking together—and performing most of the functions of life at the same time.

Other cases have occurred of a similar kind. Buffon and Adelon record examples. Two Hungarian sisters, named Judith and Ellen, united in a similar manner, reached the adult age; and two females, Ritta-Christina, were exhibited in Paris, in 1829; Haller also relates cases. What is very singular, in all these cases is, that the sexual organs, though well developed, are single. Union of twins, the point of junction being in other parts of the body, have been frequently observed: for example, they may be united by the back of the head, by the forehead, by the face, breast, abdomen, back, in fact, at almost every part of the external surface of the body.

The second of the divisions, namely, that which I described under the name *Heteradelphia*, is a most interesting one, and it is to that which the child under consideration belongs. The name we owe to Geoffrey St. Hiliare, and it has reference to that peculiar kind of monstrosity in which one infant is fully developed and perfect, and another, or part of another, is found adhering to it, somewhat after the manner of a parasite. Individuals of this character very rarely indeed are born alive, or if so, generally die very shortly after birth. The reason of this, is, probably, that the partially-developed child is so formed that it cannot survive, and its death is speedily followed by the demise of its more perfect companion. In the case before us, however, there is no reason why the adult state should not be reached. It differs from most others of the kind, in the