

[Folded leaflet (purple paper - copies on turquoise paper exist) advertising appearances of 'The Pygopagi Twins', Josepha and Rosalie Blazek, conjoined twins, in some sort of performance at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, London, in late 1880. The "Bohemian" twins were under the patronage of the Empress of Austria and Queen of Hungary, Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria and other distinguished personages. The twins both died at the age of 45.].

Publication/Creation

1880.

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show is under the special patronage of the Empress and Crown Prince of Austria. . . . There is nothing objectionable about the exhibition, and no doubt the Pygopagi Twins will attract a number of sight-seers for some time to come."—*The London Figaro*, 17th November, 1880.

"The children have pleasant and engaging features, and they run about on their four legs, and play seemingly in the happiest of moods."—*York House Papers*, 17th November, 1880.

"The Pygopagi is the curious appellation assigned to two young children now on exhibition at the Egyptian Hall. They present features of singular interest, and are well worth inspection. . . . As a spectacle the two little objects are attractive in appearance, their movements and expressions being interesting and amusing. That they are perfectly independent in ideas and desires is evident, though they agree apparently in the best possible way. They are well developed for their age, a little over two years, and seem healthy and lively."—*Medical Press and Circular*, 17th November, 1880.

"The 'Pygopagi Twins,' two pretty little white three-year old girls, resemble in formation the 'Zwei-Köpfige Nachtigal,' as they called her in Vienna."—*Society*, 19th November, 1880.

"The 'Pygopagi Twins,' a very singular natural curiosity, are now being exhibited at the Egyptian Hall. These twin sisters, though distinctly separate in formation from one another, have a junction in their pelvic parts. They were born on the 20th January, 1878, at Skrejechow (district of Mullhausen), Bohemia. Their names are Rosalie and Josepha Blazek, and although so strangely formed, they are cheerful and by no means ungraceful."—*Lloyd's Weekly London Newspaper*, 14th November, 1880.

"EGYPTIAN HALL.—The 'Pygopagi Twins'—Rosalie and Josepha—two charming little girls—who are justly described as the most astonishing phenomena in the world, commenced a series of daily receptions on Monday last at the Egyptian Hall, and will doubtless attract large audiences. The appearance of the children, speaking of them in their conjoint association, is by no means displeasing, as their healthy appearance, their cheerful manners, and intelligent countenances are calculated to at once find favour with all who take an interest in witnessing these rare freaks of nature. Our interview with these little folks was of a very pleasing character, for they appeared thoroughly delighted at the interest taken in them. They may well be regarded as deserving of special notice, and we trust that these pretty twins, as well as their parents, who are natives of Bohemia, and all of whom are daily on view, will receive the patronage they well deserve. The Empress of Austria and the Crown Prince Rudolph of Austria have already been among the admirers of these pretty twins."—*Court Circular*, 20th November, 1880.

Daily Receptions between 2 and 5 p.m.

1880

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.

THE

PYGOPAGI TWINS,

THE GREATEST AND MOST ASTONISHING

NATURAL PHENOMENON

IN THE WORLD.

Under the immediate Patronage of Her Imperial Majesty the EMPRESS of AUSTRIA and QUEEN of HUNGARY; His Imperial Highness the CROWN PRINCE RUDOLF of AUSTRIA, and other distinguished personages.

THE FOLLOWING

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS

ARE OFFERED AS PROOF OF THE INTENSE INTEREST EXCITED BY THESE WONDERFUL CHILDREN:—

"At the Egyptian Hall was shown the extraordinary twins, called the 'Pygopagi.' They are two little girls, with fair hair and pretty faces, having also separate arms and legs. They have been publicly exhibited in Vienna, Prague, Munich, and in the interior of Bohemia, whence they come. The show is under the immediate patronage of the Empress and Crown Prince of Austria. The children now to be seen have separate wills and the elder of the two (elder by a few minutes) is stronger than the other, and drags her sister after her when her interests are excited by the mother or father. One of the children will laugh while the other cries, or wake while the other sleeps; their reflex movements, as well as their voluntary movements, are separate. Sometimes they quarrel; but their physical union is intimate, and to all appearance can never be dissolved. The elder of these two children is called Rosalie, the younger Josepha. They appear healthy and well nourished, but Rosalie is much livelier than the other, whose movements she controls."—*Times*, November 12th, 1880.

"LUSUS NATURE.—At the Egyptian Hall there are at present Bohemian twins, with pleasing faces, light blue eyes, and light hair, who have apparently an osseous as well as a muscular union. From the waist upwards they are quite distinct, and the four lower limbs are also quite distinct. The

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pelvic arches are distinct in front, but as far as can be known by the pressure of the hand they seem fused at the back. When the two little ones are sitting, the vertebral column of the two is nearly straight, and it does not seem possible to discriminate where each ends, even when they are standing up, except the coccygeal bones are wanting. That which will mostly interest the general public is the way in which they play. The left-hand one is slightly taller and stronger than the other, and seems to lead the direction in which they should walk. It is very amusing to see them scrambling along after apples, but, and this shows their individual wills, if one gets an apple and the other does not, the one is happily feeding while the other is sobbing. . . . For the general public, a short time spent in watching these children in their gambols, must be a time of great interest."

—*Morning Post*, November 13th, 1880.

"THESE twin sisters—two charming little girls, not yet three years old—Rosalie and Josepha, aptly described as 'the greatest wonder of the age,' continue to hold receptions between two and five o'clock at the Egyptian Hall, and will do so for some time to come. . . . The children are bright and intelligent, of about the usual stature for their age, and possess the common characteristics of childhood. They are light in complexion and pretty, and play about the room with surprising ease, Rosalie, the elder, being clearly the stronger, and having to a certain extent the mastery over the younger, who readily falls in with her sister's wishes and desires in the matter of pedal exercise. . . . Like other children they have their petty dissensions, followed by tender caressings and loving reconciliations. . . . Every one must feel interested in what all women would call these 'dear little things,' their tiny ways and unfamiliar prattle being most engaging."

—*Morning Advertiser*, 15th November, 1880.

"In another room at the Egyptian Hall, and from two till five o'clock in the afternoon, a phenomenon in the shape of twins joined together after the fashion of the Siamese twins is daily exhibited. . . . They are healthy looking, cheerful and good tempered, and are attended with great care by their mother and her sister, two peasant women, attired in the picturesque costume of their country. The twins are about three years old, and already exhibit a considerable amount of intelligence and vivacity. So far as mental conditions go they appear entirely independent of each other, and in fact manifest remarkable differences of temperament and disposition."

—*Daily News*, 12th November, 1880.

"THE PYGOPAGI TWINS.—During the inspection of yesterday a proof of this was given by one of the toddlers, after obediently following her more resolute sister, wishing to remain on the cushion on which she had been placed, whilst the other desired to be still 'on the move.' Their arms are perfectly free, and there is less awkwardness in their gait than might be supposed. The children are quite as active as most juveniles of their age, and they seem bright and intelligent, responding with alacrity to the caresses of their parents and their maternal aunt, who have accompanied them to the British metropolis."

—*Daily Chronicle*, 12th November, 1880.

"We have a highly interesting exhibition in Piccadilly. At the Egyptian Hall are the 'Pygopagi Twins,' named Rosalie and Josepha Blazek. They are a female child, or rather it is a female children. It is difficult to know whether they represent one or two persons. There are two heads, four arms, and four legs, but only one body. The 'Pygopagi Twins' are nearly three years old, alive, healthy, and happy."

—*Court Journal*, 13th November, 1880.

"THE 'Pygopagi Twins' form the greatest and most astonishing natural phenomena in the world. Having seen them we are in no mood to dispute the claim, but shall readily admit that in their extraordinary formation there is, indeed, something 'rare and strange.'"

—*Era*, 14th November, 1880.

"TWIN female children of the two-headed Nightingale type have arrived in London for exhibition. Dr. Alexander Breisky, professor of the University of Prague, has written a full description of them."

—*British Medical Journal*, 20th November, 1880.

"THE EGYPTIAN HALL.—Some very curious living natural phenomena have from time to time been exhibited in these rooms, but amongst the many giants, dwarfs, aztecs, conjoined twins, and other freaks of nature which have made their appearance in Piccadilly, the latest is probably the most wonderful. The two little Bohemian children, Rosalie and Josepha Blazek, who are so curiously joined together, more nearly resemble the young ladies who are known as the 'two-headed Nightingale,' than the late Siamese twins who caused such a sensation when they first made their appearance in this country. . . . Rosalie and Josepha seem to be very happy, and enjoy the best of health, and those who are led, either by curiosity or in the pursuit of science, to pay them a visit, will find nothing repulsive in the exhibition."

—*Weekly Times*, 14th November, 1880.

"WONDERFUL FREAK OF NATURE.—The medical profession, scientists, and pressmen have during the past two days had an opportunity of inspecting in the small room of the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, a most curious and interesting freak of nature, in the shape of female twins joined together in a wonderful manner. . . . They are accompanied by their parents and an aunt, and they run about and play seemingly in the happiest of of moods."

—*Sunday Times*, 14th November, 1880.

"The fair-haired little Bohemians, who, under the name of 'The Pygopagi Twins,' are now holding receptions at the Egyptian Hall, so readily win favour by their smiling cheerfulness that not the slightest unpleasantness is caused by an inspection of this freak of nature. . . . The link is indicated as nearly as possible by the artist who furnished the portraits of 'The Pygopagi Twins' and their parents. A visit to them is as agreeable as it is interesting."

—*Penny Illustrated Paper*, 20th November, 1880.

"In the Egyptian Hall may now be seen, during the day, a remarkable natural phenomenon, known as the 'Pygopagi Twins.' They are two pretty interesting little girls, called respectively Rosalie and Josepha. They have separate arms and legs, and a decidedly separate will. It appears that the