

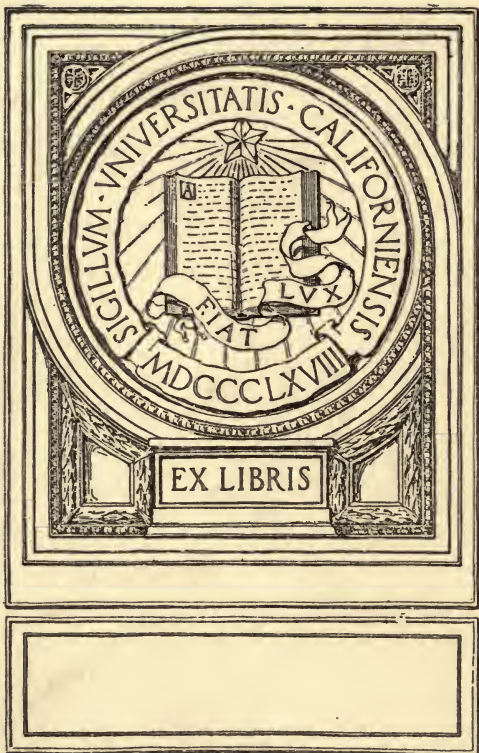


SWIMMING

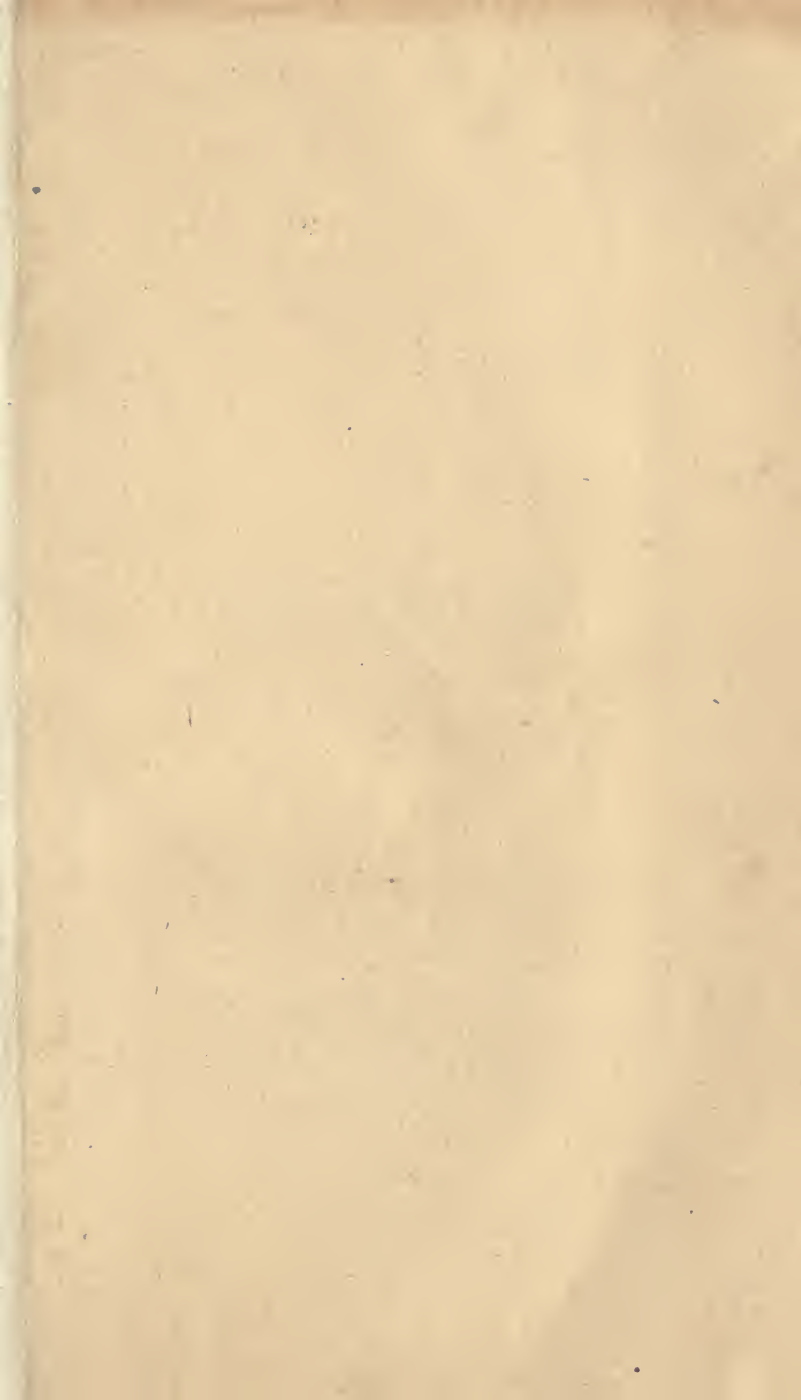
BY

RALPH THOMAS





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SWIMMING



SWIMMING

WITH LISTS OF BOOKS PUBLISHED IN
ENGLISH GERMAN FRENCH AND OTHER EUROPEAN LANGUAGES
AND CRITICAL REMARKS ON THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF
SWIMMING AND RESUSCITATION
BIOGRAPHY HISTORY BIBLIOGRAPHY
INCLUDING UPWARDS OF ONE HUNDRED ILLUSTRATIONS

BY


RALPH THOMAS

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TO THE
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Dedication to the first edition published in 1868 under the title of
Swimming : a bibliographical list of works on swimming by the author of the
Handbook of Fictitious Names.

THIS LITTLE STUDY,
THE RESULT OF MANY MONTHS' LABOUR,
I DEDICATE
TO MY MOTHER.

1904

THIS WORK
THE RESULT OF MANY YEARS LABOR
I INSCRIBE TO THE MEMORY OF
MY FATHER AND MY MOTHER

452958

Theoretical knowledge is essentially progressive ; it suggests new modes of doing everything, modifications and alterations of existing tenets. Practical knowledge alone, unaided by theory, is obstructive to the last degree.

Swimming by Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 27.

Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information upon it. When we inquire into any subject, the first thing we have to do is to know what books have treated of it.

Dr Johnson : see Croker's Boswell 1831 vol iii p 240.

How many from ignorance of what has been previously written on a subject, have wasted their time and energy on what has been already exhausted.

Dr W. A. Copinger Transactions of the Bibliographical Society
vol i p 34.

After all the help which has been received, and which has contributed so much to the completeness of the Dictionary, the element of time still remains inexorable ; it is still, as in the days of Dr Johnson, imperative that limits be set to research, in order that the work may 'in time be ended, though not completed.'

Preface to The Oxford English Dictionary 1888 p xiv.

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NOTE

The reader should always consult
the index

as from the nature of this work it was impracticable to put everything on the same subject in one place: also because few cross references are given.

Abbreviations and explanations of various kinds will also be found in the index.

P R E F A C E

A FEW years ago, giving up my profession in consequence of continued ill health, I had some leisure which induced me to consider which of my pamphlets I might republish, with the least amount of work. Accordingly I selected one entitled *Swimming*, a bibliographical list &c 1868. It is almost needless to say that I started on this with the full belief in my fitness for the task. I soon found however that in the twenty five years that had elapsed, during which period I had paid no attention to swimming I knew nothing of what had been going on, nor of the great progress made, and I had to study the subject again.

The idea I had was to clear the whole ground with reference to what had been written on swimming. Up to the present time every author has been working in the dark, and in ignorance of the great amount that has been written on the subject. Even if a writer had a certain number of modern treatises he had no knowledge of what had been written by earlier writers, nor indeed as to which works were original and which plagiarisms. Besides this few writers would be acquainted with most European languages. Men who have this kind of learning have never yet considered the literature of swimming of sufficient importance to merit their attention, and if they had the probability is that they had not the practical knowledge which is absolutely essential to enable a person to judge of the merit of a treatise.

I hope that the result of my work will be that future writers and enquirers will be able to see exactly how much, or rather how little, has been done, and what a vast field there is for original enquiry and scientific investigation. I have endeavored to point out the shortcomings of the books, and to suggest desirable points for the attention of future writers. Though this work is a bibliography there will be found in it very little that is mere compilation and much that is original. What I chiefly try to show is the state of the knowledge we possess. I found the subject chaos and I leave it in some order. It is to be regretted that the result is so poor. For in fact now that I have set the house in order

and put things that were strewn about in their proper place, we find after all there is only a small top attic furnished.

In answer to the question what does your work do, I should say first I have endeavored to fulfil the forecast of the learned president of the Society of Bibliographers who in his address in 1893 what this work does says, every work 'should be in the highest degree of merit, such in fact, as bibliographers and others may depend upon as being as nearly perfect as learning and industry can render it, and yet the breadth of subjects covered should be sufficient to permit the introduction of matters of interest, and engage the attention of others than specialists...There are some who cannot take in the idea that there is a possibility of that which is not absolutely complete being at once accurate and useful.' (w. A. Copinger, Bibliographical Society 1893 vol i p 41). I think any person quite ignorant of the art will be able to find something of interest on almost every page of this book.

As years have gone on and my knowledge has increased I have constantly had to rewrite early articles. Not only this, when I came new subject to the books published within the last few years, I found that an entirely new subject had arisen, and that it was necessary for me to learn the theory and practice of the rescue drills and resuscitation methods of the Life Saving Society. The importance of these I had seen from the first, but thought at my age I might be able to get on without learning them. I ought also to have learnt water polo, but this was physically beyond me; few remarks of a critical nature will therefore be found in this book on that game. In other ways as the work progressed I discovered my unfitness for the task I had entered upon with so much confidence. I only knew something of my own language and French, but German many languages wanted was all important, and Italian, Spanish and other languages would have been useful, to say nothing of Latin which I had also forgotten. To remedy this to some extent I have been assisted in modern languages by friends from all European countries.

However having made considerable collections, I persevered in spite of these disadvantages, not only constantly practicing the art of swimming, but reading everything I came across.

I intended beginning where I left off in 1868, but soon found that it was necessary to go over the whole ground again, for this time had to begin again from beginning I set myself a more extended task. Not only have my ideas grown since then but so also have those of literary students and swimmers. I have endeavored to settle all the points an ardent enquirer would like to know.

I have often spent hours in verifying a fact, for it is impossible to say what influence it may have on a writer, who may want just that very fact accurately told.

exact facts A person not of a studious mind, might say, that all this care and exact information is of no use. The answer is that in any enquiry, before you can start on it with effect you require a basis of truth in order to ensure accuracy in every point. Another why done minutely reason why I have done the bibliography with so much care and minuteness, is the hope that it will not require to be done again for many years to come. It is impossible to provide for all time. The bibliography which I compiled as I imagined so well in 1868 would be quite useless for a more extended enquiry like the present. We have had many instances of works written in what their authors considered a sufficient if not perfect manner, being relegated to a second place by another done with greater accuracy or minuteness. I will only cite two instances. One is English, Mary Cowden Clarke's Concordance to Shakespeare 1845,¹ generally admitted to be first class, nevertheless it has had to give way to John Bartlett's much fuller Concordance published in 1894.

The other is American, namely The works of Benjamin Franklin by Jared Sparks in ten volumes 1840. Notwithstanding its extent and the careful manner in which it was edited, John Bigelow considered it insufficient, and did it all over again more minutely and published his edition in ten vols 1889.

When I began I gave what I considered a sufficient description of a book, as the work progressed I found it necessary to be more and more particular. I have often described a book or pamphlet, but when coming across another copy I have frequently been undecided whether I had described it or not, both perhaps being exactly the same except for some misprint or difference of printers names.

Again, on giving the title of such a book as Outdoor games I at first only stated that swimming was on pp 56 to 57, but I found this conveyed no idea of the importance or magnitude of the book. I therefore considered it desirable in these cases to give also the total number of pages e g pp 576.

Then again, why have you included all the trash, why not do as some others have done, and only give what you consider of value?

all writings included The answer is that it has been found, over and over again, that one man cannot judge for another what is trash. In a

¹ Her book had no rival for nearly fifty years, fortunately she died before the other was published, or I feel certain it would have broken her heart.

pamphlet that is trash to one man another may find just what he wants. If trash does nothing else, it shows that considerable ignorance must have prevailed when it was published. We have the evidence of many experts in favor of preserving and recording everything that has been printed.¹

But I would go further and say that every edition of an English book should be preserved at least in one place in England. Unfortunately it is not, and, as will be seen, I have frequently been balked for want of access to every edition of a particular book. There are librarians who pretend that we do not require to keep all editions, because some are stereotyped. I can only say that the librarian does not exist whose word I should be content to take for it, that two editions of a book on my subject were exactly the same. I think that this bibliography amply testifies to the necessity of seeing every edition. A very good example will be found in my list of books in Dr Raymond's *Manuel des baigneurs* 1840.

Some people might be inclined to say that incorrect instructions do not cause much harm, as the influence of one book cannot be very great. But this bibliography shows that bad advice gets repeated. For example we get incorrect instructions in *The Boy's own book* in 1828, and *Every boy's book* 1855. Then comes a compiler like R. K. Philp years after with *The Dictionary of daily wants* 1861, and he knowing nothing about the subject adopts and repeats all the bad instructions and absurd advice given in other books.

The people I hope to interest in this work are first the book lover, who takes a learned interest in all subjects and especially in any work that is done with accuracy and care. If I do not meet with his approbation I have partly failed.

For the bibliographical student I have tried to make the printing of this book to some extent a model of what I think a catalogue of books should be.

Next comes the book collector who buys everything irrespective of merit; he will expect information (without fail) that will assist him, he will find much information as to the money value of books. From average swimmers, unless in the future they concern themselves more about the literature than they have

¹ On these points the reader can refer to the observations in the *Quarterly Review* (v 72 1843): to sir Anthony Panizzi's evidence (*The Critic* 1846 vol iii p 501) to the effect that all books should be preserved; and to professor De Morgan's *Arithmetical books* 1847. The oft quoted paragraph of lord Macaulay as to the trash he had consulted I need only mention.

in the past, I fear I cannot expect much support. All the above swimmers will I trust find the question 'What has been written about swimming' answered somewhat minutely.

The first thing I did was to compile the most complete list of books I could, in chronological order so far as practicable, showing the character of every treatise, whether original or copied. I always notice anything that is original or that I had not observed in any previous treatise. In this I fear I am particularly liable to error.

Having obtained my facts (the bibliography) I was able to write the summaries of the books written in English, German and French, in as many weeks as the bibliography took years. For the writer of history I hope this work will be of great use, and though I make no pretence of giving a history of swimming I think there will be found a fairly complete account of the literature of it.

I then went through the bibliography again extracting such matters as I thought required to be brought to notice or might be of general interest. Hence the introduction, with which I am much less satisfied than with the bibliography, but it shows in what an inchoate and unsatisfactory condition is nearly everything relating to swimming. I hope however the introduction will be of use in narrowing the work of future writers.

I have not been content to state my own opinion but have shown whence and how it is derived, so that readers will be able to judge for themselves whether I am right or wrong.

It is a curious fact that the literature has always been behind the practice of swimming. For instance I know from personal experience that in 1860 the skill in practice of swimming was far beyond any treatise then published in English. I have treated of this under 'progress' in the introduction.

In German we have similar evidence, for Himmel in 1895 has no description of the English sidestroke, though it was then practiced in Germany.

I have not only availed myself of the contents of many English libraries, but I took a journey from Dieppe to Toulon and asked at every library in every town, if they had anything on this subject.

It is impossible to do a work of this kind quickly. Many of the articles in it could only be evolved after years of study and thought and quiet deliberation. I have perhaps taken more care with this edition than I should have, had I not felt that it will be my last essay in bibliography. No one will be

surprised at this when I say that every line has been written in suffering, yet always with pleasure – it has been a labor of love. I ask for no suggestions from kind readers, as it is, so it must remain. I say goodbye to my constant companion of the past ten years.

As year after year has gone by and still found me working on the same subject, which at the outset I thought would take a few months, I have often considered whether I was wasting time which might be more usefully employed. Nevertheless I have gone on, the time it took I could not help, it must be done to the best of my ability or not at all. I have often felt encouraged when I have seen the careful accurate and excellent work that is being done around me regardless of trouble, and the great amount of time that seems to be required for any good work, and I have been constantly stimulated by the thought that I too might be able to do some good work which should be of use to others.

The importance of swimming is really paramount and is admitted by all, but the art is universally neglected and I fear looked down upon even in the present day. That it was in the past we may judge from early writers of the 16th century such as sir Thomas Elyot, Winmann, Digby and Middleton and many since, who think it necessary to apologise for writing on such a trivial subject. Elyot says that as it has not been much used especially among noble men, 'perchance some reders wyll litle esteem it.' Digby excuses himself on the ground that so many University men were drowned in the Cam. Middleton tells his patron that his next venture shall be more worthy his favor. Even the playwright experienced this old feeling. In *The Virtuoso* by Thomas Shadwell 1676 two of the characters Longvil and Bruce are desirous of seeing sir Nicholas Gimcrack, and lady Gimcrack in reply to their question evidently thinking the subject too mean to tell her friends says 'The truth on't is, he is within but upon some private business' then as if she thought she might as well tell, she adds 'but nothing shall be reserved from such accomplish'd persons as you are. The truth on't is, he's learning to swim.'

We may see a more recent instance of this in the case of Mr Watson the well known journalist, who has written upon and taken an interest in the subject all his life. In his *Memoirs* (1899 p 266) he says 'the swimming practice (of being referee) of years was nullified and rendered not only abortive but eminently ridiculous as an assistant to prestige in the higher grades of sport.' The 'higher grades' forsooth, are pugilism, pedestrianism, and football.

I must plead guilty, absurd as it is, to the same feeling. When asked what I was doing, I have felt the greatest reluctance to say
 ashamed of a work on the literature of swimming. People who were writing novels or some other thing of little practical utility, always looked at me with a smile of pity on my mentioning swimming. Though I am bound to say that when I gave them some idea of the work, the pity changed somewhat, but then they would say 'Why dont you give us a new edition of your Handbook of fictitious names?' As if the knowledge of the real name of an author was of any importance in comparison with the discussion of a subject that more or less concerns every human being. In my journeys through England and France in search of books I have always felt ashamed in asking librarians, with much hesitation, if they had any book on swimming.

One of the points I most admired in Sinclair and Henry's work was the evident confidence with which it is written, no doubting about the importance or of apology for their subject with them. I ought no doubt to have been engaged on some great subject such as history, when I could have shown how all histories plagiarise and how all the great men broke their vows to the people and to one another.

A human being can do without almost everything except life, if he loses his life of what avail is it that he is the greatest man in the world? Those who cannot swim are liable to be drowned in the miserable and humiliating way that England's greatest poet was at the early age of thirty.¹

Notwithstanding all the time it has taken this book is only a compromise. To have done it as I should have liked would have
 not done all I wished required a lifetime. Besides the knowledge already mentioned I ought to have traveled all over the world to study the swimming of various countries. Of this no proper account exists. I do know people who have been to all parts of the world, but they had no knowledge of swimming, and have not observed, and consequently know no more of the manner technically in which natives swim than I do, if as much.

If any person reads this book through, and no one should attempt to write on swimming without, he will probably accuse me

¹ Shelley was admittedly a non swimmer but his friend Williams, so Trelawny says, could swim. I hope I am not doing him an injustice when I say he must have been a very poor one, the storm that capsized their boat only lasted twenty minutes, not a great time for a young man to keep afloat, but possibly he may have helped Shelley and thus have become exhausted. At the same time I know how powerless even a swimmer can be in a rough sea.

of repeating myself. In answer I say that it is a work of reference more than for reading, and therefore it is necessary to repeat repetitions in order to provide for those readers who only have time to refer to it.

One matter that has troubled me exceedingly is the question of speaking the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, with regard to the publications of those who have not only the truth given me their books but have helped me all in their power. Could I not gloss over a plagiarism in such a case? The danger that I incurred was that of making doubtful the authority of everything in my book. Moreover I considered that the suppression of the truth does more harm than adverse criticism. I have never taken any statement for granted, but have investigated everything, and for this purpose have gone to the originals. In this manner I have frequently found that passages pretended to be quoted have been incorrectly cited. In order that I might not misstate the name of any writer I made a rule in my notice of each treatise (except that of Sinclair and Henry) to give the name of every author on swimming which the book under notice quotes or refers to. I will be found that Benjamin Franklin's is the name most frequently mentioned.

For every book I quote I have referred to at least ten others without finding anything in them relating to this subject. One result of my investigations is to show not only that most of what has been written on swimming is inferior, but that it is infested with plagiarisms. In neither of these defects does it stand alone. I have come to the conclusion that much of our literature is tainted with this vice of plagiarism. Should I slur over or hide this sin? Must I draw attention to the manner in which in the bibliography the wretched dishonesty of writers is exposed? Publishers are frequently implicated, though more frequently the have been the dupes of the writers they have employed. If the truth is to be told it is that judging from that of swimming, as we fairly may, English literature generally is a wretched hash up an dishonest crib from a few original authors who are pillaged without mercy and without acknowledgment. For these thefts there is no punishment, neither are they as a rule discovered. Never before has an analytical bibliography of this kind been attempted. It would be of the greatest interest to see how our authors of history would emerge from such an investigation, badly I fear, to judge from an account in *The Gentleman's Magazine* in 1859 (vol 6 n.s. pp 26 338, 594) showing the way in which historians plagiarise. I have the authority of Dr J. A. H. Murray¹ for saying that all our dictionary

¹ see quotation, post p 75.

anterior to The Oxford English Dictionary copy one another. In 1868 I showed that the encyclopedias did the same. In gymnastics the books largely plagiarise one another. A perusal of professor De Morgan's interesting and amusing bibliography entitled Arithmetical books will show how much arithmetical works plagiarise. Westwood and Satchell,¹ in their most careful and conscientious Bibliotheca Piscatoria 1883 (p 69) testify to the dishonesty of authors of books on angling.

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plagiarisms
of illustra-
tions

The republication of the same books under different titles is a prevalent but objectionable practice of which I give several instances in French and English books. I sincerely hope that my exposure will put an end to these practices so far as English books on swimming are concerned.

different
titles to
same books

I hope authors, not only of my own, but of other countries, will not take my criticism in bad part. I can assure them all it is given without the slightest animus, and my only desire in pointing out what appear to me to be mistakes, is that they may be considered and discussed and if desirable remedied in the future. Considering that all the books are out of date and practically require rewriting, there should not be much difficulty in making alterations.

criticism
without
animus

In fixing the year of issue of undated publications I have searched the various London and other Post Office directories and have generally satisfied myself of the approximate date.

undated
treatises

In the case of books treating solely of swimming I have tried to give exact particulars, not only of the books but of their authors. In books I include pamphlets, and this time I have also included magazine articles.

I give full titles generally, but not always half titles. With regard to books not solely on swimming I have not been so particular. When I have thought it desirable I have given

titles

It is a pity that, with all their intimate knowledge of the subject, these writers were content to give a mere list of titles, arranged under authors names, so that it is impossible for a student to trace the progress without the enormous labor of putting all the titles in chronological order.

the size of the print of the book in millimeters, otherwise I have used the old terms, but I have always indicated misprints, as they seem a good guide as to whether a copy in the hands of a collector is the same as that I describe.

I originally intended only to deal with the literature, but I have been compelled to touch on practical subjects and in this way I have written the introduction, in which I began by exposing some popular fallacies: but here again soon found it desirable to extend it to other matters. I endeavored to generalise so as to avoid mentioning the names of particular swimmers, but I soon found this was impracticable and so the names of many are introduced who have never written anything. In the same way I notice swimmers who never wrote a line, though their names appear to publications as authors.

Much time have I had to waste in reading books that have no indexes. For example, when I first saw *The common frog* by professor St George Mivart I picked it up with avidity. Here I thought I shall get an exact definition of the frog swimming. I looked for the index, it had none. I then read the book through: not one single reference is made to the subject¹ The evolution and anatomy of the frog I have no time to study and I therefore complain of being compelled to read one hundred and sixty-five pages, however clearly written, that do not concern me. I have also read other books on the frog, but none of them touch on swimming, which seems extraordinary and gives a further instance of the neglect of the art by scientific men.

Memoirs of 500 pages full of swimming notes have had to be gone through, and hours spent in endeavoring to find a passage considered of no use on first reading. But even when books have indexes, the indexer generally considers the subject of swimming too unimportant to be included. Layard published 2 vols in 1849 on Nineveh, in which swimming is indexed once only, but in his volume in 1853 it is not indexed at all. In Walter Thornbury's *Tour round England* 1870 he mentions swimming, but the indexer passes it over; I am indebted to the *Oxford English Dictionary* under 'jack' for this reference. In *Schools &c* by w. Carew Hazlitt 1888, the word swim is not in the index, yet on p 174 in writing of the course of instruction at the

¹ The curator of the Natural History Museum professor E. Ray Lankester to whom I wrote, kindly informed me (in may 1901) that he knew of no illustration of the frog swimming. He also took the trouble to see professor E. J. Marey o Paris, another great authority, who said he had never been able to take any successful photographs of the swimming frog.

Museum Minervæ, a literary institution which ceased in 1650, he refers 'To the treatises on Riding, Swimming, Drawing' &c. I have looked at The constitutions of the college written [by sir F. Kinaston] and printed in 1636, but was not able to find any reference to swimming, though the other subjects are named.

In Dr W. I. Knapp's Life of George Borrow 1899, the word swim does not occur in the index (which is not by the author) yet Borrow was not only a swimmer but as Dr Knapp relates had saved lives. When I refer to a book without an index, or the passage I refer to is not indexed, or I think there is likely to be any difficulty in verifying, I give the page I refer to.

Numerous are the inducements to take one off the proper work, even in such a staid and sober library as that of the Bodleian, when had to keep to subject one comes across 'The art of becoming beautiful' which might have enabled me to give some hints of use to a minority of lady swimmers. 'The fascinator or the knights legacy' by Harriette Noel-Thatcher, 2nd edition 1873, of great use to male swimmers, as it is written against the use of tobacco; or worse still an easy way to get rich in A sure guide to rapid wealth, of use to all! Such allurements have constantly had to be set aside.

It is said that a man is a bad workman who does not leave a job for another. On this principle I am an excellent workman for good work-man I have left several jobs for others. Thus, with much regret I have had to avoid touching upon various cognate cognate subjects avoided subjects such as training, life buoys, and belts and aids, fertile subjects of much importance. Again baths and bathing form a large subject which requires a critical bibliography to itself. I have however occasionally found it necessary to give the titles of books on bathing. The building of swimming baths has fortunately progressed by leaps and bounds.

A list of medals struck in relation to swimming would be of great interest. The history of swimming associations and clubs would throw much light on the question of progress. I have again (as in 1868) been compelled to omit what travelers have said about swimming in other countries. I have a collection of extracts sufficient to form a volume by itself, having been through hundreds of volumes for this purpose.

The history of the long fights not only between amateurism and professionalism, in which the amateurs eventually practically got amateur and professional the upper hand, but also of the internecine wars, would be of the greatest interest and one on which a trenchant chapter might be written.

But the most important of all is the method of resuscitation

invented or worked out after great deliberation by Dr Marshall Hall. This and the methods invented subsequently by other resuscitation doctors require a treatise to themselves. I much regret I have only been able to touch on this interesting subject. The Life Saving Society's drills would necessarily come under notice.

The theory and practice of swimming is full of superstitions, and I doubt if there is any other subject in which such an astonishing series of mistakes of authors and artists, has ever been exposed, as by me in this. But the superstitions generally relating to swimming, drowning, and resuscitation are far too numerous for me to give an account of.

I had not long been studying the books on swimming before I observed that nearly all that had been written seemed to be done for children, as if the matter was quite unworthy of a man's attention. Here I might adapt to my subject the words of H. S. Ashbee who did some very good bibliographical work in his *Iconography of Don Quixote* (1895 p 5) in which he says that Cervantes's popular book 'has been treated as if suitable only for the amusement of children, not as it really is, capable of enlightening and diverting the adult.' He had not seen that this was the result of ignorance and incapacity and was not intentional I believe the real fact to be, not so much that the books on swimming were intended to be written for children, as that the writers were children in knowledge and therefore could not write above what they knew. Professor A. C. Haddon in *The Study of man* 1898 says that children's games seem to have been childish though not invented by children but 'grown ups,' again showing that ignorance and childishness are on a level. But this is still further apparent when we turn to the illustrations in books on swimming which as a rule are more childish than the text. I need only refer to the reports of some of our swimming societies which give cuts at the head of the papers they issue, of which a cemetery mason's draughtsman of the past would be ashamed.

Several of the later treatises are actually intended for women and children, but are not childish being written by persons of education.

Swimming has not yet become a science. It has been observed that there is no subject of equal importance which has been so neglected by scientific men and men of education. It has so far had to be worked out by people of ordinary education and intelligence. The result is unsatisfactory and there is too much uncertainty in all swimming matters. When scientific men have written about it they have been wrong, in consequence of their not being good practical swimmers. With the

exception of Benjamin Franklin, I have to admit that no person of the foremost rank in science, literature, or art has ever written or done anything for the advancement of swimming.

However, we can take heart at this, when we find that some of the most popular things on earth have hitherto met with similar neglect. Take for example one, of which from its importance it might be imagined that we had the most extensive knowledge, the weather! Yet in *Weatherlore* by Richard Inwards 1893, he says that although the weather is almost the first subject about which people talk, yet it is very far from having reached the place of an exact science. Or take the common domestic chimney which our architects have been building for hundreds of years, and yet never a soul can tell whether it will smoke or not, as may be seen by cowl being put on new houses.

It was with considerable reluctance that I decided to use the first person singular instead of the plural. I began with 'we' but soon relinquished it. One reason was that 'we' seemed to give more importance to my statements than they deserve. The meaning of plunge is authoritatively settled by the Amateur Swimming Association, for that I could use 'we,' but for all else the opinions are entirely personal. I am the pioneer in fact, and this must be my excuse for the mistakes I have made in matters of opinion.

It is impossible to dogmatise in writing about swimming, or even it would seem for people to make statements of what they can or cannot do. For example Webb (*Art of swimming* p 45) said the side-swimmer must take care that the upper foot does not occasionally shoot out of the water, with which I agree, but the North of England swimmers seem to pride themselves on doing this, with their variation of the sidestroke. Again Webb says (p 46) he did not think he could remain so long in fresh water as he did in the sea, whereas three years after, when he was in nothing like such good health, he stopped in fresh water three times as long.

Several instances of the value of combining biography with bibliography will be found in this work. I will only cite one. A treatise on the art of swimming was published at Paris in 1783 as by Nicolas Roger professional diver. So much credit was given to this professional that his treatise had the honor of being reproduced in the celebrated French work the *Encyclopédie méthodique*. The result was that Roger was translated into German and Spanish. Though the name has continued to the present day, the real fact was that Roger was a pseudonym, and he was not a professional diver at all, but a barrister.

For further particulars of bibliographical details I must refer readers to my previous publications, in which will be found more minute 'suggestions on the art of describing books bibliographically.' I have, however, now gone a step further in isolating the titles, and never interpolating anything whatever in a title unless it saved much subsequent explanation. No attempt has been made to copy the type of titles (see note under w. Percey post p 179) nor the punctuation of those that have any.

Throughout I have been chary of capital letters and italics, the using of either of these to excess destroys their value. Moreover they become tiresome. The Germans put capitals and leave them out to suit their own ideas, so I have done the same with their titles to suit mine, for bibliographical purposes. For example 'Russien cavallerie' they write 'russien' with a small r and 'Cavallerie' with a capital C. The French do the same. One book I quote writes 'english' as an adjective with which I agree theoretically, but practically the simple rule of the invariable capital is preferable.

Some books I have included in this list not because there is anything in them that I need notice, but because they are so popular that many persons knowing nothing of swimming might look for them, and if they did not find them would come to the conclusion that my work was incomplete. Such a book for example is Strutt's Sports and pastimes.

I have assumed that my readers will make their own cross references, and I have therefore seldom put any, I hope the index will supply any deficiency of this kind.

Forenames are particularly difficult to find out, I give them in full in one place or another if I know them, unless they are to be found in a work I cite as a reference.

As this book will be used chiefly by English speaking peoples I have endeavored to use English only, but have not always been able to resist giving a quotation in the original. Various languages would have given the book a learned look, but might have been a serious annoyance to some readers.

The spelling I have adopted is chiefly that advised by the English Philological Society and which I occasionally find in The Oxford English Dictionary but when not there I have followed that in

The Century Dictionary printed and published at London by The Times: or else The Standard Dictionary of Funk and Wagnalls published by The Illustrated London News in 1900. I regret that I have not had the courage to follow John Locke the English philosopher and eliminate the unnecessary 'm' in swimming: we have left it out in swimm. It would have saved

many useless m's and been more in accordance with the pronunciation to have written 'swiming' as Locke did throughout Some thoughts concerning education 1693.

When I quote I follow the work quoted. The only exception to this is with dates, which I have put in proper sequence of day, month, year.

I have had great difficulty with the terms peculiar to the subject of swimming. At first I struggled on with them, but eventually I came to the conclusion that I must assign definite meanings to them, and not make swim and float synonymous, as do all our dictionaries; and the word 'dive' mean one of two things, which you had to find out. I have endeavored to use each with a specially limited meaning. This is a difficulty that all specialist writers have to contend with, and most of them have to invent words. I have contented myself with words already in use but I define the meaning I attach to them.¹ I hope now that I have directed attention to the matter the Amateur Swimming Association will settle the meaning or value of dive, fancy, float, spring, swim, as to which see my glossary. The words ornamental and scientific might perhaps be banished the technical swimming vocabulary altogether.

I have throughout this work cited an authority for nearly every statement, so that the responsibility of any inaccuracy may not rest with me. I have also made numerous acknowledgments, nevertheless there are certain persons who have been of such great help to me that they require special mention here. To Mr Archibald Sinclair and Mr William Henry for their joint work I make my acknowledgments under date 1893. But Mr Henry has constantly assisted me with his universal knowledge of the theory and practice of swimming, answering innumerable questions frequently of a most troublesome kind, the simplest often being the most troublesome. Not only this, he has given me the benefit of his most intimate knowledge of all that has taken place in swimming circles for the last twenty years.

With much gratitude I have to acknowledge the assistance I have had from our great National Library at the British Museum and its officers, in whom I have never noticed that contempt for my subject which is so common, though in the course of years I have had some

¹ I had just this difficulty in writing a technical bibliographical treatise published in 1880. Dr Murray experienced it, and had to coin or adopt words for the New English Dictionary (see Transactions of the philological society 1880-1 p 175). Mr Henry Sweet in A new English grammar 1892 comments on it; and the late Mr H. S. Ashbee in An iconography of Don Quixote 1895 p vi says 'The English language is strangely deficient in terms of art.'

good humored chaff, 'what! still on swimming!' Here I have found numerous unconsidered trifles in all languages: it is indeed extraordinary to find such a number of works on swimming in the library. An enquiry of this nature could not be carried out unless one had access to vast stores like these. In general literature I have nearly always been able to refer to every book I wanted, no matter in what language; what this means can only be appreciated when one is compelled to read at other libraries, where hardly any book you want is to be had, or if they have the book it is the wrong edition. To the great printed Catalogue¹ I am indebted for numerous particulars, which would probably have taken months to find otherwise, if indeed I could have found them at all.

British
Museum
Catalogue

Mr G. F. Barwick of the British Museum has rendered me invaluable service not only in translating crabbed old Latin, which would puzzle ordinary scholars, but also with German, Italian, Spanish and any other language that may be found in these pages.

I also have to acknowledge ready assistance on all occasions from Mr William Wilson author of *The swimming instructor*. In fact to him and Messrs Barwick and Henry no thanks I can give would be sufficient to express my obligations.

To read at the Bodleian with the birds singing around you is a great delight for a Londoner, who has had to work amid the exasperating monotonous twittering of leather-lunged sparrows, or the equally incessant and melancholy cooing of pigeons. To Mr E. W. Nicholson M.A. Bodley's librarian I have to make my acknowledgments, especially for his subject index slips, to which readers have access. At Bodley I have found books I could consult nowhere else. To Mr Falconer Madan M.A. of the Bodleian I am indebted for advice and assistance. I shall be satisfied if I have fulfilled only one or two of the 'ideals' or 'dreams of perfection' for a bibliography which Mr Madan enumerates in his learned treatise *On method in bibliography* 1893. One of these is that 'the bibliographer must be a master of the subject of which he treats.' I fear I can only claim to be a half master.

I have to acknowledge universal courtesy received not only at our libraries but also at the great libraries of Paris, particularly the Bibliothèque Nationale (where they do keep every edition if they can get it) and the Bibliothèque Mazarin, also those of Rouen, Dijon, Lyon, Marseille, Toulon and Amiens; and of other towns which have not had anything whatever to my pur-

Bibliothèque
Nationale

¹ A flimsy piece of paper on which the Bank of England has engraved the sum of £100, will 'easily' purchase the ninety odd folio volumes of this magnificent work.

pose. Mr George Pragnell the honorary secretary of the Amateur Swimming Association, Mr w. Prideaux Courtney, Mr Edwin Wall and Mr Walter Sandford have all given me assistance. To Mr Frederic Boase I owe numerous notes, but I am particularly indebted to his dictionary Modern English biography which has been in constant use; and has saved me many pages of print, as also have the articles I have contributed to Notes and Queries.

To my son Aubrey Ralph Thomas B.C.L. M.A. Oxford and of the Otter Swimming Club, I am indebted for photographs and for numerous notes and suggestions which could only be made by a skilful swimmer. More than this he is compiling the index, which must speak for itself.

RALPH THOMAS

2 april 1902

AFTERWORDS TO PREFACE

PRINTING

Since the preface was printed I have had nearly two years experience in revising and correcting for the press. The result is that I now find it necessary to still further take my readers into my confidence, and show why I have not been able to carry out to the full the intention I expressed on page 12 of making the bibliography a model. I regret to trouble students with so many small matters, but in order to do useful work in any science, we must be prepared to work at details that seem trivial and often apparently useless.

In ordinary printing the matters I am about to mention do not obtrude themselves, but when we come to bibliographical details with names, dates, and short sentences they become of importance.

I like to begin with the first word of a title whether a, an, the or any other word: thus The Oxford English Dictionary, The Life Saving Society, The Times, but this is against the life practice of printers, which is my excuse for The being printed sometimes with a small t, sometimes with a capital. The printers habit being different from what I want will also account for many other inconsistencies.

Messrs Spottiswoode with the utmost patience have done all they can to suit my views, but it is not easy to work on different lines from those you have been accustomed to all your life. I felt this myself with regard to the spelling, which I have only taken to within the last two years, conscientiously believing it to be the most simple, having all my life spelt in, and been an ardent champion of, the system of putting a number of letters into words that are not pronounced.

as to
spelling

How much the spelling of English words has altered in the course of centuries, the quotations I give from Middleton, Percey and other authors will show.¹ I have been surprised to find that each printer spells according to his own idea, and he actually alters the author's spelling if not in accordance with his own.

Simplicity is the motive for any changes I have adopted in spelling, punctuation, and type.

The first obstacle was mechanical, the printers had not got the type I required. The typesetter and I work on exactly opposite principles: his object appears to me to be to display as much of his type and get as much printers ink on a page as possible. I on the contrary wish to suppress these to the lowest point. I desire what I write to be printed in the most effective, artistic, and unobtrusive manner, so that anyone will be able to read without ever giving a thought to the mechanism of the print.

It will be observed what efforts I have made to suppress the typesetter, but he is master of the situation, he is in possession, and so I have to do the best I can with the tools he provides the printer. I have been already asked why I chose the type now used: simply because the arabic numerals were less obtrusive than in the other types submitted to me.

It is desirable to make dates as little prominent as possible, they are a disagreeable necessity which should not be intruded on the reader more than can be helped. As it is the large size of the type of the dates makes them much too prominent. But it is with the capital letters that the typesetter is greatest. As there are neces-

¹ As instances of the constant changes of spelling I may cite the words civilisation, organisation, naturalisation, which the dictionaries spell with z, but with a few exceptions the press spell with s. Not only the press but Acts of Parliament and books too, for instance *The principles of western civilisation* by Benj Kidd, London Macmillan 1902. Shortly I never use z if I can find any authority for putting s, nor s if I can find c used.

In some words the dictionaries, in order to make things as difficult as possible for learners, change the s to z in different forms of the same word, thus they write colonise with a z but put s to colonist. Even within a few years recognise has dropped the z, as in Hyde Clarke's *Dictionary* 1855 it is spelt with a z, and in Nuttall's *Dictionary* [1876] in which 'the innovations' suggested by the English Philological Society and 'of the Transatlantic school have been entirely rejected, and the recognised (sic) lexicographical authorities [?] of our own country followed' (preface p iv). In the dictionary itself this word, including the word recognisance, is spelt with an s (p 706). The odd thing is that those terrible sinners the 'Transatlantic school' spell the words mentioned above with a z! The whole matter is a puzzle, we have no dictionaries but those of the 'transatlantic school' but we are to repudiate their spelling, though we adopt their inventions and eat their foods, and our printers have copied their vile style of printing books of reference.

sarily innumerable dates in bibliography, so there are many capitals.

names These too are a disagreeable necessity and should be kept out of sight, but all men cannot be referred to by their surnames only, as Shakespeare or Shelley. Then when I have to quote lesser lights, I am compelled to put forenames or initials. Here the typefounder's idea of showing off his type is most apparent.

If I write a name, it is because it necessarily comes in as part of what I want to say, but in the typefounder's idea the name is the principal and what I wish to say subordinate. Thus if we have Dr. N. O. B. Ody Smith, LL.D., a Member of The Life Saving Society, died in 1899 : [q.v. in B., M.E.B.] it makes a prominent line right across the page.

No man can do good work without tools and the printer is obliged to admit that the typefounder has not given him those I want, so I have had to compromise the matter and print it thus Dr N. O. B. Ody Smith LL.D. a member of the L.S.S. died in 1899 [q.v. in B. M.E.B.] This is the best that can be done for me, for I cannot expect a type to be cast for this book alone.

Here one blot is the prominence given to Dr. Now this book is in print I have to admit that I have made a mistake with Dr and Mr, which ought to have been reduced to the lowest possible point of unobtrusiveness. Note also the prominence given to the capital letters. When I look at p 57 post, I can see nothing but the capitals to w. & R. Chambers.

Observe the monstrous obtrusiveness of the q. v. and brackets [q. v.] which is totally unimportant, and should be so light that the reader should hardly know the sign is there until it is wanted.

I use parenthesis generally in titles to show that I have found a statement between them in the book itself: square brackets [] I use to intimate that the information supplied between them is not in the book. But I wanted a further sign, which I use, () and [] post page 206 namely dotted parenthesis { ; } these I had to have made, the printer had no such thing: except these all the signs are absurdly obtrusive, as is the abbreviation of 'and.'

I also object much to hyphens, which help to blacken the page. Soon no sentence one can write will be without its hyphenated words, if printers are to have their way. As for the rules given by some printers for blocking up their type with hyphens which are so ugly and conspicuous I will have none of them. Why when I write in words intended to be spoken deliberately, that a man is a well known author, should it invariably by printers rule be reduced to a single word to be pronounced wellknown.

In fourteen words quoted on p 109 there are six hyphenated.

I could not pass the hyphens in this sentence 'In the old style of over-arm, the leg-kick is practically a mere modification of the breast-stroke' in Sinclair & Henry p 80 ; and also in their title-page we find Life-saving Society hyphenated, this is due to a habit of the printer who will put hyphens whenever it is possible : it is not so in the title of the Society and is wrong. Authors generally do not observe these little lines, hence it is that we find the name of Marshall Hall improperly hyphenated ; and I am now enabled to understand how his name came to be hyphenated at all—simply a habit of the printer.

Funk & Wagnall's type-founders actually duplicate the hyphens thus =. One black=mark is not=enough for them.

I had to consider whether I was to adopt the printer's breast-stroke, life-buoy, life-saving, over-arm, and I came to the conclusion that I could not tolerate these black lines, so made either one or two words of them. I do occasionally use a hyphen as in non-author and re-write, though I think rewrite would be better. Why should reproduce and redrawn be written as one word and re-write hyphenated.

But here I have as usual found it impossible to be consistent, or to make hard and fast rules that would enable words to be hyphenated mechanically.

Many words are put in italics for which there is really no necessity. Things which may require to be underlined in writing, read perfectly in print without italics. Several instances of this ^{italics} will be found in these pages in quotations, as for example on pages 94 and 106. Observe the unnecessary obtrusiveness of the italics on pp 94-95. They were printed in this way without any indication in my manuscript, but I did not think it worth while altering them after they were in print. That they are not necessary can be seen from pp 351-2 where I gave instructions no italics were to be used. I use italics for emphasis, but sparingly, as I have assumed that my readers have sufficient knowledge to emphasise for themselves.

Another trouble has been with over punctuation, in ^{punctuation} desiring to stop this I may have occasionally erred in not putting sufficient.

The reader will note the frequent use of : in the bibliography : it is not that the colon is always wanted, I use it instead of a full stop, because after a point the printer is accustomed to put a large space and follow with a capital, and in giving disjointed information of the same kind, one does not require fresh sentences each time. Even the : I have latterly abandoned as much as possible because it too as supplied by the typefounder is too obtrusive.

I have found considerable difficulty with the use of the comma and colon. As it seemed to me reasonable, I have always followed the rule laid down in *The principles of English grammar* by w. Lennie 34th edition 1854 p 162, he says 'The *colon* is generally used when the conjunction is *understood*; and the *semicolon*, when the conjunction is *expressed*.' But the Book of Common Prayer does not follow this nor any rule, nor do printers, hence there are many sentences with : where I should have put ; and vice versa. As to all Lennie's and other grammarians rules for blackening the page with ink, they do not do for bibliographies. In fact for bibliography all the marks of punctuation etc are too big and prominent.

I have often considered that a sentence ending a line is thus kept sufficiently distinct without putting : at the end, and occasionally a bracket [] is considered sufficient without adding punctuation.

Putting single inverted commas is a happy idea, for which I am indebted to Messrs Spottiswoode. I have got rid of nearly all the inverted commas for the titles I quote, though a hard and fast rule cannot be made.

When an abbreviation seemed perfectly clear to the meanest capacity without a mark or point I have omitted it (subject to the printer's lifelong habit already referred to) as &c etc instead of &c., etc., Lond or Edin instead of Lond., or Edin., viz or Dict Nat Biog etc etc etc. But I only omit the point a little oftener than the printer who omits it if the abbreviation is the last word in the sentence.

ARTISTIC

The experience gained in having original drawings done, has made me modify my resentment at the blunders universally committed by artists in swimming positions: as to which I have not only commented throughout this book, but in an article on captain Webb in *Notes & Queries*.

I have found out the extreme difficulty there is in getting even a skilful artist to give accurate delineations of the proper positions. I have had in fact to educate my artists in the way I wished them to go, and have not been entirely successful. Many of the original drawings now reproduced have been drawn several times and yet are not entirely satisfactory. It is difficult to get an artist who is a swimmer to draw good positions, but it is quite impossible for one who is not a swimmer to get them right.

The three figures showing the breast stroke on page 97, drawn from my instructions, illustrate one kind of difficulty. After several drafts I approved a careful sketch, but when the final drawing was

sent to me, to my astonishment these ladies of the 16th century, were clothed in 20th century A.S.A. costume ! The artist intended to make an improvement. But that would not do after the evidence adduced to show that ladies of the period had no dress : so these figures were redrawn in the costume of the period as they now are. Now if this book had been written or were being published with a view to making money, these drawings would probably have been passed.

Under Harrington (ante page 291) is another instance. In this the hip of figure 6 is too much out of the water, but though the artist had nature for a model, he has found difficulty in getting a curve into the body in this sidestroke, as it must surely be in nature.

Never again will I express any opinion adverse to process reproductions. It would have been impossible for me to have produced this book if I had had to incur the expense of new drawings and woodblocks of all the cuts I reproduce. Moreover every one if redrawn and reengraved would have had some incorrect part, whereas with this wonderful reproducing process, the reader sees the illustration exactly the same as in the books themselves, even when reproduced reduced. The Art Reproducing Company limited have done all the reproductions.

As to the numerous acknowledgments I make throughout, I must remark that though I have frequently omitted the words kindly or courteously, words of grateful thanks must always be understood.

I am much indebted to my publishers not only for their skilful advice, but for their large mindedness in allowing me a free hand, and not interfering with my spelling or punctuation or fads generally ; all of which they probably dislike.

For all errors of any kind I am alone responsible. I have done my best, and so I hope to be forgiven all my sins of omission and commission, negligences and ignorances. Although I have continued to point out misprints in other books, I now acknowledge after the experience I have had that it is done with feelings of great humility, reminding me of the grace we used to say at school in France, when slapping our breasts three times we exclaimed *c'est ma faute, c'est ma faute, c'est ma très grande faute.*

R. T.

Cliffords Inn 2 april 1904.

THE LITERATURE OF SWIMMING

GLOSSARY

A list of words which I have been obliged to define or to which it has been necessary to attach specific meanings.

Also of some words used in books on swimming which will not be found in the dictionaries.

For words not in this list refer to the index.

amateur

is used in the Amateur Swimming Association sense 'An amateur is one who has never competed for a money prize, declared wager, or staked bet; who has never taught, pursued or assisted in the practice of swimming, or any other athletic exercise, as a means of pecuniary gain; and who has not, knowingly, or without protest, taken part in any competition or exhibition with anyone who is not an amateur.' Handbook for 1901 pp 27-28. Then follow numerous exceptions or exemptions: see also a historical treatise on the subject in Sinclair & Henry 1893 chapter ix and p 402. In the eyes of the Amateur Swimming Association an amateur can become a professional with much less trouble than that of teaching a pupil who will not do what he is told,—he can sell his prizes for example.

American

refers to the United States of America. This limitation was found necessary in consequence of the want of adaptability of the words United States.

backmark=beat

probably derived from the game of cribbage. It is not a desirable word, nor do I ever use it. It is not difficult to see how it came to be used in this way. Sporting journalists are always writing about the same things, and in order to get variety they coin new words or attach new meanings to existing words. 'It was not till 1892 that he was able to backmark the long-standing record.' Swimming by A. Sinclair 1894 p 69.

breaster

when a spring results in the person arriving on all fours, or on the breast, flat on the top of the water.

British

Until I began to write this book I never gave the meanings of words a thought, but one of my first stumbling blocks, and a rather big one, was British. The result of my investigations was a pamphlet printed in 1897 entitled *On the use of the word British*. If to this the reader will add a letter of Mr Alfred Austin printed in the newspapers on the 5 june 1900 he will get the principal ideas on the subject. In this book British is only used with the meaning defined by the act of Anne 1705 chapter viii p 87 which says 'article 1. That the two kingdoms of England and Scotland shall upon the 1 may 1707 and for ever after be united into one kingdom by the name of Great Britain.'

champion

It is remarkable that *The Oxford English Dictionary* does not trace this word back earlier than 1825. It will be observed that even in this instance the use of 'champion' is inferred from the derivative 'championship.' The next earliest instance cited by the *New English Dictionary* is 1840.

There were no champions of swimming until 1839 when *Bell's Life* gave a paragraph about the National Swimming Society's races.

The following is Dr James A. H. Murray's concise definition of a champion

'He who holds the first place in [swimming,] prize-fighting, rowing or walking, or other trial of strength or skill: one who has defeated all opponents, and is open to contend with any new competitor.' With which I have no fault to find, except the omission of the word I have put in brackets.

The word is now applied alike to amateurs and professionals. There is no merit in this title unless conferred by an acknowledged body such as the Amateur Swimming Association. Like the title of professor [q v] when self-assumed, champion rather lowers than raises a man in public estimation. With amateurs it is never self assumed, and no doubt the day is not far distant when professionals will feel it beneath them to be 'champion of the local duck pond' or some similar self-assumed appellation.

The recognised amateur championships can be found in the *Handbook of the Amateur Swimming Association*. Professional championships properly earned are mere matters of notoriety. That is to say, there is no professional swimming association which settles

whether a professional is entitled to the first place, like there is with amateurs. Hence there are a number who claim to be champions of the world.

costume A.S.A.

means the regulation swimming dress of the Amateur Swimming Association. This for men was first required by the English A.S.A. in 1890 : for women in 1899 ; see the Handbook of the A.S.A. : also index to this work. 'University costume' does not appear to have any authoritative meaning, generally when it is used, A.S.A. is meant.

live diving

dive is used in this work solely with the meaning of descending or swimming under water or a movement on the surface which sends the person or swimmer under water. Or to put it in lexicographical language, a dive or diving is the voluntary sinking in or swimming through a liquid (water), the start being made from the surface of the liquid. Diving begins the moment the water is touched, that portion from some height above the water, is in this work considered to be the 'spring' [q v]. But for some years past the word dive has been used, with quite a different meaning, namely for leaping or springing into the water. Dive has now two meanings, you have to guess which is intended as I shall presently show.

The French word for swimming under water is 'plonger,' and live is explained in the French dictionaries thus 'plonger, s'enfoncer entièrement dans l'eau, to dive' ; and under 'plonger' they say 'celui qui a coutume de plonger dans la mer [l'eau?]=plunger, diver.' Fleming & Tibbins, Paris 1865, or Dr Spiers, Dictionaries 1884. plongeur, nageur qui descend au fond de l'eau.' Littré.

It is curious to find that the French seem to have done exactly the same thing as the English. Courtivron 1836 used 'plonger' in its proper sense of dive. Thus he says (p 370) 'you can also [start your] dive ["on plonge"] by throwing yourself into the water feet first or head first : this is called "donner un pied devant, ou donner une tête."' It seems from all that he says in his chapter 'nager sous l'eau ou plonger' that 'plonger' meant diving i.e. swimming under water. It is clear from what Saint-Clair 1896 says (p 52 etc) that 'plonger ou piquer une tête,' now means spring as well. So that the French have made the same alteration of meaning, instead of inventing or adopting a new word, they use a word with an old meaning and give it a new one, Saint-Clair says that 'beaux plongeurs' (i.e. fine divers, but he really means fine springers) are rare.

I shall now trace the use of the word dive, in order to support my contention that its original meaning was swimming under water

as above, and that the use of the word to mean (what I call) springing has been gradually coming into use of late years only. At a events I hope the following quotations will justify my using the word with a single meaning.

diving

The following explanation from Ephraim Chamber's Cyclopædia second edition 1738 is copied into all the subsequent works I have referred to

'diving, the art, or act of descending under water to considerable depths and abiding there a competent time.' As the word 'considerable' intimates, the article is speaking of artificial diving, for commercial or industrial purposes.

Dr Johnson's Dictionary 1755 says 'to dive, to sink voluntarily under water.'

Clias 1825 p 174 says 'The exercise of diving must begin by remaining under water'...' swim under water and dive to the bottom.'

The Boy's own book 1828 p 107 quoted by The Oxford English Dictionary uses the word correctly in describing the 'Dolphin' now known as the 'Porpoise' 'This is taking a dive from the surface of the water by turning heels upward for that purpose, instead of leaping from a bank or elsewhere.' A modern writer would improperly put 'diving' instead of 'leaping.'

Walker, Manly exercises 1834 uses dive in its proper sense only, and does James Mason 1840.

The writer in The penny magazine 30 July 1836 p 291 describing a sailor spring from the topsail yard of H.M.S. Canada in 1801, says 'He fell from the tremendous height [into the water, when he] dived down the larboard side.' In other parts of the same article people jump into the water, never is dive used in this.

'In diving [i.e. swimming under water] always keep your eyes open' Stevens 1845. 'figs 6 and 7 show the attitude preparatory to plunging into the water, and fig 8 the position of the limbs in diving to the bottom of the river' Penny mag 1845 p 70.

'Diving is one of the greatest amusements connected with swimming. There are many kinds; the two most common and easiest and necessary modes of going below the surface, are — 1. the feet-foremost jump. 2. the head-foremost jump' Every boy's book 1855. 'diving is merely swimming under water' Richardson's Instructions on the art of swimming 1857 p 23 and this is also the sense in which Forrest 1858, uses it and he uses the word plunging for what I call springing, also does Woodbridge 1864. On p 26 Richardson uses plunge in the sense which I use spring; correcting himself from the use of dive, he says 'celebrated diver, or rather plunger.'

'diving [that is swimming under water] is only requisite in cases of emergency; it should be resorted to as little as possible.' Swimming and swimmers 1861 p 10. 'plunging, diving, or fast swimming.' Harrington 1861 p 14. Here diving has the meaning of swimming under water.

'There is a difference between *diving* [i.e. swimming under water?] and *plunging* [i.e. springing?]. The former is for deep water, the latter is for shallow streams and gradual descents.' The Dictionary of daily wants by [R. K. Phillips] 1861 p 969. A plunge can be taken in deep water as well.

'Many of these foreign swimming schools have what they call a leaping-tow which generally stands about twenty feet above the level of the water, from which

e pupils *leap, drop or dive* head foremost'...'fearless leap and plunge.' 'We've repeatedly seen very daring leaps taken from jetties which here and there id the sylvan banks of the Tweed and Tyne, and the Thames.'

'The most fearless artist was the American diver, Samuel Scott...who...con-ved accidentally to hang himself on Waterloo Bridge, on 11 Jan 1841. We w that daring fellow leap from a ship's topsail yard, and Southwark Iron Bridge eatedly. He always dived, and, fearless of sticking in the mud, generally nt down head foremost.' 'The propriety of *diving* or *plunging* at all is ongly and keenly controverted.'...'The dropper and leaper assume the same m in their descent—the body is rigidly erect, the legs firmly crossed, and the ns fully extended above the head, the hands being clutched together.'...'In *ving*, again, the position of the body is much the same, only reversed—the nds being placed above the head as a cut-water.' Family Herald handy oks How to swim [1863] p 25.

The rev J. G. Wood in The A B C 1866 has a chapter on 'diving' and the xt chapter is on springing entitled 'the header.' In this chapter he speaks of : 'young swimmer,' who has just 'jumped off' as 'the diver,' and in the con-ts of the chapter he has 'the header from heights—singular effect upon the rer.'

Steedman 1867 p 141 has a chapter on diving. When he treats of springing in the previous chapter he heads his chapter (p 125) 'plunging,' thus showing ut the corrupt meaning had not been in use up to the time when he left England.

In 1876 Wilson in Swimming diving etc has a chapter entitled 'diving' ich is treated of as swimming under water from p 75 to p 82, when he says o dive from different heights.' But immediately after he feels a difficulty with : duplicate meaning and resorts to 'plunge.' 'A plunge from a height' and in : next paragraph 'The header from almost any height' and 'the body should kept perfectly rigid after the spring off.'

Wallace Dunlop 1877 p 68 uses dive for spring, but he also uses spring. tives of India practice 'diving from great heights, always feet foremost...the iter has seen boys springing off.'

An anonymous writer in The Boy's own paper 1879 p 63 entitles his note eaders in swimming' and generally uses header, but twice he uses dive in the use of 'spring' The rev J. G. Wood (on p 143) answers this note but never s the word dive, but on p 366 he says 'the power of diving—i.e. swimming ow the surface.'

ing 'is that progressive motion of a person who is under water which is caused l maintained solely by disciplined muscular action.' Fred w. Foster in The aphic 5 sep 1879 p 231.

'plunging must not be confounded with diving, for beyond the fact that both : methods of entering the water, there is no similarity. Diving may be looked on as the active muscular movements of a person under water. In plunging re are no movements of limbs or muscles under the surface.' Wilson, Swimming tructor 1883 p 60. Here we observe that by 1883 the unfortunate misuse of ing (to mean header or spring) had become popular in Scotland, as it is scribed as a 'method of entering the water'! and yet in the next sentence it properly described as movement 'under water.' diving 'has been defined in eral ways by different writers. One lexicographer has it, "to descend or plunge o water head first"; another, "to thrust the body into water or other liquor, if already in water to plunge deeper"; a third "to sink, to penetrate, to

submerge"; a fourth "by muscular action to move about under water," a combination of the two latter meanings will, we think, give us the true import' (ibid p 84).

Mr Wilson, however, uses *dive* indifferently for *springing* (p 94), apparently in the most wilful manner: thus on p 96 he says 'There should be no apparent *dive* [this means *spring*] downward; the perfection of style in high diving [*springing*] or "headers" is attained when the performer springs forward into the air.'

Under the head of *diving* Salmon 1883 says there are three methods

1 *diving* in order to enter the water, usually styled 'taking a header.' 2 *diving* for objects at the bottom. 3 *diving* for distance.

'Jumping or plunging from a height or how incapable of diving, or even assisting another person when immersed.' Brewster 1885 p 60.

'Cuthbert Bede' in an article in *The boy's own paper* (august 1889 p 652) says the rev J. G. Wood, 'referred to his earlier years when he was a good swimmer and diver¹ and how he was able to remain under water,' and further on the rev Mr Bradley says of his old friend 'before taking his plunge into the river,' again he says 'powers of diving and remaining under water.'

The misuse of '*dive*' leads Pamplin (*Water manœuvres* 1892 p 31) to make a mistake.² He quotes a writer who says 'You need not be afraid of the depth for there is no more danger in [*springing* into] twelve fathoms of water than in two.' Then Pamplin observes 'To *dive* [he means *spring* from a height of] twelve fathoms you need unlimited presence of mind.'

Diving is used in its improper meaning of *springing* in the *Swimmers' Life Saving Society Handbook* 1891 p 47, which was distributed in thousands³ and in *Swimming* by Sinclair and Henry 1893. On p 107 *dive* and *diving* are used in both senses alternatively. On p 214 they say 'The neglect of *diving*, floating, plunging and scientific swimming.' I am at a loss to say what *diving* here means. As *diving* was discountenanced by the A.S.A. I think it means *springing*. In the *Swimming magazine* for august 1898 is an article [by w. Henry] entitled '*surface diving*' where *diving* means swimming under water, but in *Pearson's magazine* for july 1900 in an article also by w. Henry entitled '*diving as a fine art*' i means *springing*.

The *Oxford English Dictionary* 1897 says '*dive*: to descend or plunge into or under water or other liquid, usually unless otherwise stated, to plunge head foremost' 'the act of *diving*.' Then they give the modern corrupt meaning which I express with the word *spring*, 'a darting plunge into or through water or the like.' This latter explanation is in none of the older dictionaries, e.g. *Johnson's Dictionary* by Latham 1865 says '*dive* sink voluntarily under water' and under '*diving*,' 'act of one who *dives*': no suggestion whatever of another meaning to equal '*springing*.'

Ogilvie's Imperial Dictionary 1882 under *diving* only knows the proper meaning 'the art or act of descending into water to considerable depths, and remaining there for a time.'

It will thus be seen that the modern corrupt meaning has, without a note (

¹ In spite of my contention that *diver* here means what it says, I feel some doubt about it and that the opposite view might be taken!

² If I am wrong, this again shows the necessity of having words with settle meanings.

³ Here read 'which shows how wicked these people were.'

warning or caution against the disaster that had occurred to the word, been adopted by The Oxford English Dictionary.

On the title of a pamphlet published in 1897 by A. T. Mylles, he calls himself 'amateur champion diver,' whether he means he is a diver or a springer I do not know, I fancy he means a springer.

'Fred Beckwith stoutly protested that diving was swimming under water.' Watson, *Memoirs* 1899 p 124, thus showing that one at least objected to the misuse of 'dive.'

'a famous Swedish amateur swimmer and diver.' Life Saving Society, Report 1900 p 9, diver here means springer.

The Amateur Swimming Association in their definitions actually give countenance to this use of dive.

Mr James Kay is the latest instance of an author feeling a difficulty in consequence of the popular misuse of the word. In *How to teach* &c 1901 he wishes to write about 'diving' but instead of putting this heading he misnames it 'surface diving,' and then he refers to springing as 'diving from above the surface of the water' (p 39). When he uses the sentence 'diving feet first' we can assume that springing is meant, but when on the next page we come to 'it was deeply interesting to watch the achievements of the sightless in swimming, diving, and mimic life saving,' we are quite at a loss to know what sense of the word is really meant.

A professional announces that he will give a display of 'swimming, diving, and life saving,' not even an expert can say what he means by this, but if he were to say 'swimming, springing, diving &c' (assuming springing to be given the meaning I attach to it) everybody would know what was meant.

It will thus be seen how difficult it is to be accurate when a word like this is given an improper meaning.

fancy swimming

I use the word fancy to cover all varieties of feats performed in the water, to the exclusion of the term ornamental, which is not objectionable, and the word scientific, which is. There is plenty of art, skill and practice required for fancy swimming, but no science.

In fancy swimming no artificial aids may be used, such as floats, weights, hoops, sacks; nor can the bottom be used as a take-off. When artificial aids are used I call it trick swimming.

Frost in 1816 calls it 'sportive or playful swimming.' 'The prize for fancy swimming, as it is called.' The Times 6 september 1843 p 3 col 6. 'fanciful swimming.' Dr Bennet, New York 1846.

'ornamental or what would be better termed "fanciful swimming."' London Society, July 1866 p 50. 'one of the best fancy swimmers.' Dunlop 1877 p 83. 'To perform three voluntary movements illustrating fancy and scientific swimming.' Life Saving Society, Handbook, 1899 p 115.

In the Board of education report 1900 Mr A. J. C. Dowding refers to 'fancy swimming,' which seems to give the word the seal of official authority.

float floating

I have shown throughout the bibliography that writers use float to mean swim. It is the same with the dictionaries, which I presume only reflect public usage.

This habit of using two words and giving them the same meaning is most inconvenient. I find no description of what floating is in the earlier books. They describe how to float, but there is no attempt at technical description.

When Frost in 1816 (p 30) says 'horizontal floating is certainly the more agreeable to a swimmer,' he only meant to distinguish it from swimming, not to define a particular way of floating. He thought if he used the word floating only, people would think he meant swimming. We get this same idea still later in an account of races in Bell's Life 2 august 1846 p 7 col 2, a youth 'floated motionless upon the water for a period of ten minutes.'

Many of the writers talk of a person floating when moving the hands, though slightly, to keep the legs up. For example a good American swimmer Dr J. A. Bennet 1846, is describing how to float and he says 'Thin persons may find much assistance in floating by waving the hands gently alongside under water.'

Other writers, to show that they did not mean this kind of floating (which is in fact swimming), use the words motionless floating.

'We now come to that passive operation floating.' Harrington 1861 p 12. floating 'is understood by swimmers to mean lying motionless on the surface of the water.' Stonehenge, British rural sports 1871 p 661. floating as understood in connection with swimming, is the art of knowing how to balance the body in the water, that it may support itself on the surface, without any apparent effort of either arms or legs. Wilson, Swimming 1876 p 55.

'floating is any motionless state of a person who is partly under water and who is buoyed solely by water. Fred w. Foster in The Graphic 6 september 1879 p 231. 'Motionless floating is a feat for experts.' Wallace Dunlop, Plate swimming [1877] p 60.

Ogilvie's Imperial Dictionary 1882 is hardly conscious that there is a special meaning to the word floating as regards human beings.

The following is an instance of loose application or bad description: 'The art¹ of one who floats or swims on the surface of the water.' Webster, Dictionary of the English language, Philadelphia 1887.

We notice an improvement in The Century Dictionary, also American, in 1889 it says, 'float to rest on the surface of water o

¹ This I should think was originally 'act' and that 'art' is a misprint.

other liquid with or without movement more commonly to be buoyed up by water and moved by its motion alone.' 'floating [the act of supporting one's self or] the state of being supported or borne on the surface of water or other liquid' the words I have put in brackets should be omitted.

In the early editions of the Life Saving Society's Handbook the words 'motionless floating' were used in Dunlop's sense, that is simply as floating. In the edition 1897 it appears more correctly as 'floating' p 92 because it is used in the more general sense and not in the very narrow sense of being absolutely motionless.

Nevertheless writers still think it necessary to use the words 'motionless floating' for fear readers should imagine swimming was meant. Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 119 use the title 'floating,' and then they begin 'motionless floating on the surface of the water.' Here nothing more than floating is meant. But in describing 'sinking to the bottom and rising again,' the words motionless floating (pp 148-9) do actually mean motionless.

In The Bath Club swimming fixtures 1896 p 11 § 12 the term motionless floating is used and then meant simply floating; but it has been found desirable even since then to be more accurate, and I have little doubt in future the judges will interpret 'motionless' strictly.

A great improvement is noticeable in The Oxford English Dictionary, part for the 1st of April 1897, edited by Mr Henry Bradley under the word float: 'the action [act?] of floating or, but this is obsolete, swimming.' It is a satisfaction to know from the greatest authority we have that floating and swimming are no longer synonymous.

Floating is the art of being motionless on the surface of the water, and therefore 'motionless floating' when used by writers of late years was tautological, as by these words they only meant floating.

But with the advance of swimming the word 'motionless' has become a necessity to distinguish the kind of floating indicated, and the words 'floating' and 'motionless floating' are no longer synonymous.

In consequence of the advance made in the art generally, of late years, it has become necessary to give definitions to the various positions in floating.

I now distinguish three kinds of floating: 1 floating or horizontal floating; 2 upright floating; 3 motionless floating.

In (2) only the face is exposed. Digby 1587 called this 'suspension by the chin' and so it is named to this day. It is also called balancing. Then if the floater gently raises his arms, under

water until they are over the head, the feet will rise,—infallibly the books of instruction tell the learner, but everybody does not find the experiment so infallible—and assume the position of (1) horizontal floating, which consists in lying on the surface of the water so that the fingers, face, breast, and toes show above the water. If the floater keeps in this position without any movement apparent or otherwise it is (3) 'motionless floating.' For the Life Saving Society diploma (see Handbook 1899 p 116) the floater is required to keep thus for a period of 30 seconds.

In ordinary floating (1) the body can be moved without apparent exertion to different positions, such as from back to front, or on one side or turned round and round (called revolving). In upright floating (2) a movement of the head is sufficient to enable the floater to turn round.

hand-over-hand or Indian stroke

In this each hand (or arm) is alternately raised above the surface of the water, thrust forward and brought sharply back under water to the loins. There are many varieties, one of which is called the trudgen. The French call it 'la coupe.' It was apparently the ordinary stroke with the Assyrians and Greeks and is of the American-Indians and Africans. Cliax calls this stroke 'the thrust' and rev J. G. Wood after him calls it 'thrusting' (Every boy's book), but on the next page he describes hand-over-hand as if it was something different.

'The Indian, the Payton¹ and the Trudgeon (all one and the same) have completely demoralised Londoners as swimmers.' (Memoirs of R. P. Watson 1899 p 261.) I am not prepared to admit that he is right in saying they are all one and the same. In one way they appear to be, inasmuch as they are all hand-over-hand, but the Indian stroke splashes, whereas I have seen an English hand-over-hand stroke swum (by an Irishman) very fast and yet without splashing. Moreover I should require to know whether the leg stroke is (or was) the same with all. In the Assyrian and Greek and I fancy in the Indian stroke, a kick (the human kick, see under breast stroke in the introduction) is given with each arm stroke, whereas we give the breast stroke kick once to both arms.

header

is a loose expression. Pamplin 1892 says (p 32) 'To enter the water hands first—it is erroneous to say head first—' hands first,

¹ If this swimmer used the useless stroke he is represented swimming in The illustrated sporting news 10 may 1862, at the St George's Baths Pimlico (then a barn !) the Indians are to be pitied.

over the head, is really the position of the usual 'header.' I have however used the popular term header as it cannot be confused with anything else, and the real header with arms by the side appears to be called by some the 'porpoise' or 'wooden soldier' spring. (Windsor magazine august 1901 p 225.) Porpoise is not a desirable word for this, being already in use for a fancy feat.

'there was an *école de natation* on the opposite side of our island, and long platforms with eight or ten feet drop, to take headers in the Seine.' (J. L. Molloy, Our autumn holiday 1874 p 111.) Twenty years later I presume 'header' would have had to give way to dive as popularly used. Dr Spiers's English French dictionary 1884 is somewhat ambiguous here, it says 'header=*piquer une tête* to give a header'—instead of to take a header: 'give' is not English.

house club

a term that came in about 1880 when large London business establishments (having taken to lodging those they employed instead of letting them board out), formed clubs, limited to those employed by the house. None but those employed by the house or firm can join a house club.

In the Life saving drill 'Ravensbourne, a London house club, took second place, an unprecedented success in the history of "house" clubs in a national competition.' Swimming by Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 216.

penalise

This word was probably originally used in the case of a racer starting before he should, when instead of being disqualified altogether he was made to pay a penalty in some way. In swimming, a scratch man in a handicap race is said to be penalised a certain time (e.g. ten seconds) with regard to another competitor, who had that time (ten seconds) start of him.

overarm or overhand stroke

that used when swimming on the side, in which one arm or hand is raised above the surface to take the stroke: it is a variation of the English sidestroke

The overarm stroke is first mentioned by Harrington 1861 p 12, but it had not then acquired this distinctive name.

ornamental see fancy

plunge

to spring into and progress in the water solely by means of the impetus of the spring. Plunge has been used with various meanings. It was frequently used to mean 'spring,' as by Clias and by Walker

in Manly exercises 1834, they talk of the 'deep plunge, and the 'flat plunge.'

The French appear to have no word equivalent to this. In Dr Spiers's Dictionaries 1884 'plunge,' to take a plunge is explained as 'se plonger,' but 'plonger' in the French-English part is explained as 'to dive,' which is what it really means.

'Drake was another scientific swimmer, and his forte was plunging, he could plunge fifty feet with ease.' *Swimming &c* 1861 p 19.

Harrington 1861 p 14 also uses the word with this sense; but on p 15 it would seem that a 'good plunger' means a good springer. He also refers to the Eton plunge which 'consists in plunging and immediately coming to the surface.'

'Most of our public schools have a header of their own, the Eton one being perhaps the best known. It has two peculiarities—the diver [here read springer] must enter the water with as little disturbance as an otter leaves her lair, and he must show his head [read hands] at the surface as soon as his feet have disappeared.' The boy's own paper 1879 pp 63, 143.

Steedman 1867 p 130 refers to the 'flat' and other plunges probably after Walker.

'plunging was first introduced and practiced as a neat and efficient means of improving the start at swimming matches.' 'plunging must not be confounded with diving' 'In plunging there are no motions of the limbs under the surface.' Wilson *The S.I.* 1883 p 60.

At last however the word plunge has settled down to a quiet life, there are not likely to be any more changes, for the Amateur Swimming Association has settled its meaning¹ and this has been adopted wherever the English language is spoken. The language of the A.S.A. definition which follows is not all that could be desired, I have put my suggestions in brackets.

A.S.A. Handbook for 1899 p 39. 'plunging § 47: definition.— That a plunge shall be a standing dive [read spring], made head first from an indicated [sic] firm take-off i.e. diving [springing] base, [such take-off to be] free from spring. The body [after entering the water] to be kept motionless—face downwards—and no progressive action to be imparted to it other than the impetus of the dive [read spring].' § 48 limits the time of the plunge for championship test to sixty seconds, this rule was first made by the A.S.A. in 1894.

An example of Mr Henry's idea of how a plunger moves in the water is given in Pearson's magazine July 1900.

¹ Sometime after 1886 and before 1888, as Sinclair and Henry in 1893 give Blake's 'record' of 10 oct 1888.

The longest plunge yet made is 82 feet in all, in $73\frac{3}{4}$ seconds (A.S.A. Handbook p 60 and Report and agenda for 1899 p 13). See also under Progress p 149.

The 'standard' distance for a plunge up to 1895 was 58 feet : in 1895 it was lowered to 52 feet (A.S.A. Handbook p 100). The A.S.A. Handbook for 1901 (p 60) gives it as 60 feet without any notice that this is a new standard, nor is it printed in italics, by which we are informed (on p 3) 'all alterations in the rules and laws are denoted.'

a professional swimmer

is one who instructs or performs for profit, or who otherwise does not fulfil the A.S.A. definition of an amateur. A bath attendant though unable to swim is a professional. There was once a Professional Swimming Association. For how an amateur can become a professional see the A.S.A. Handbook 1901 p 27 and Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 402, see also 'amateur' in this glossary.

Professional swimmers hold their entertainments under no such laws as do amateurs. No amateur can take part in the swimming, if they do, the professional must hold the entertainment through the good offices of some amateur club, otherwise any amateur would be acting contrary to the rules of the A.S.A. and become liable to penalty.

A life saving team of amateurs may give (without a permit from the A.S.A.) a demonstration of life saving methods, at an entertainment for a professional, but they may not continue in the water and give a display of swimming. The question of professional or amateur is not allowed to interfere with the usefulness of life saving. The A.S.A. Handbook 1900 p 26 says 'None of the standing laws of amateurism...apply to life saving...the A.S.A. being of opinion that the Life Saving Society's drills form a higher branch and 'cannot be classified as sport.'

As will be gathered from my list of books there was once no distinction between an amateur and a professional, and even now the distinction is sometimes very finely drawn. Nearly all the record breakers seem ultimately to become professionals.

professor

is a title which is selfassumed by some professional swimming instructors.

Mr Wilson in 1883 (p 27) says 'we hope to see the day when the present empty and ignorant appellation of "Professor" will have a different meaning' and that 'an examination will be passed that will make the title the very antipodes of what it is at the present time.' See also Sinclair and Henry 1893 pp 26-7 to the same effect

but more stringent, and pointing out how the title might be made an honorable one.

record

this word, as meaning the best performance ever done, had not come into use in 1862 or it would be found in the 'Rowing Almanack' and be in the list of technical terms.

Nor does the meaning of the word seem to be as settled as it is now, in 1883 when Mr Wilson in *The S.I.* says (p 137) 'the following records are given, not because they are in every instance the best,' and on p 139 under plunging he says 'best record performances.' Dr Hunter Barron in 1884 (p 11) says 'it is remarkable that the fine record for the 100 yards championship.' In *Hints on swimming* by James Finney [1886], he gives a list of his 'records and championships.' The quotations from the press in this pamphlet show that the word had been fully adopted by this time. 'A "record" is doing [better than?] the very best that has ever been known to be done in anything.' H. Ellington, *The Nineteenth century review* 1887 xxi 517.

There are two kinds of records (1) those which are recognised by the A.S.A. (a list of which will be found in their Handbook) and passed by them, after they are satisfied, from evidence produced to their committee showing that a swimmer has complied with their rules and then beaten all previous performances. (2) those which are made in distances and other events not recognised by them, such as diving or remaining under water.

The records the A.S.A. recognises are not all championships; those that they do can be found (after much searching), by persons who have some knowledge of the subject, in the A.S.A. Handbook.

Mr Henry says to his 'mind only records of a character likely to benefit swimming are of any value, and these are clearly [?] set out in the Handbook of the A.S.A.' *Swimming mag* jan 1899 p 72.

Few things better show the great service the A.S.A. has done, than the control it exercises over championships. No amateur can pretend to bogus fame in this respect.

Professional records and championships, as already said, are more or less mere matters of public notoriety.

Most if not all records and best times will be found in the index.

roping

a racer is said to rope when he does not exert himself to the utmost, in order to make out that he is not so good a swimmer as he really is, that he may thus get an advantage in the next handicap for which he enters.

'The evils attending upon betting are innumerable and their results wide spreading. It is the greatest curse of amateur sport, and is the direct cause of "roping" and other malpractices.' s and H 1893 p 320.

runners up

the competitors who come in second and so run up or increase the pace of the winner. Used in the Life Saving Society Report for 1897 p 15.

science

it is not often we see this word applied to swimming. The earliest writers call it an art, but many early writers seem to have been in doubt whether to call it a science, an amusement or an art. A French writer d'Esmond 1830 denies that it is an art. J. G. Wood says 'on the art—if we may call it an art—of swimming.' The boy's own paper 1879 p 334. In 1813 in the supplement to Daniel's Rural sports (p 392) he says 'The greatest Bet upon the Science, was laid' &c.

In 1816 the title given to Frost's book was 'Scientific swimming' which I apprehend means 'good' or on good principles, for, he uses 'sportive or playful' when he writes of fancy swimming: the word scientific does not occur in the book. In 1877 Wallace Dunlop uses the word in the title of Plate swimming with notes on the science of natation.

scientific swimming

I never use this word but always 'fancy' (q v).

Scientific swimming

is the title of an article in Swimming and swimmers 1861 (p 18) which gives a list of 'scientific swimmers' from which it may be gathered that they meant any except fast swimming.

The word 'scientific' is almost always used by swimmers to mean 'fancy' but Dr Pettigrew in Animal locomotion 1873 (unfortunately copied in the American cyclopædia 1876 vol xv 523) says 'To obviate these difficulties, scientific swimmers have recently adopted the side stroke': scientific here only means thoughtful or fast. There is at present no such thing as a 'scientific' swimmer, that is one who swims on lines worked out by science.

scientific is used in the sense of fancy by Sinclair and Henry 1893 see chap v 'scientific and trick swimming.'

sidestroke

is always used by me in the technical sense of the English side stroke (q v in the introduction and index) or one of the variations: never for mere swimming on the side with any kind of stroke

The sidestroke, or English sidestroke, is that used when swimming on the side, the head and body being without movement (except progression), the legs moving in parallel planes as in running, the under hand being always under water, the upper hand and arm being raised more or less above the surface, and finishing the stroke with the legs closed and extended.

Stonehenge's *British rural sports* 1871 p 659 writes the word as one without a hyphen.

spring springing

are words I use technically to express any mode of entering the water, head or feet first, from a takeoff whether a springboard or firm.

The present use of the word 'dive' to express spring is quite modern (see dive).

The French, like the English (at present), have no recognised technical term, for we cannot consider the modern corrupt or duplicate use of the word dive in this sense has any technicality. For going in head, or rather hands first, the English say taking a header and the French 'piquer une tête.'¹

It is curious when we have the term springboard that we have not adopted the word spring, which is not occupied with any other meaning in swimming, in preference to dive which has a meaning of its own as old as the English language. Our language is so rich that we have three words, either of which it would have been better to use rather than that of 'dive' which had a well settled meaning of swimming under water. The word I have adopted to express jumping or leaping or plunging into the water is spring, springing. It is also the German word for leaping into the water, 'sprung, springen.' There may be many objections raised to this, and so can objections be raised to the use of any word. No word, until we are accustomed to it and know what is intended, has any meaning.

The following quotations show the difficulty there has been for want of a settled word, and that the word spring has been frequently used and is not new.

What an amount of trouble Clia's 1825 would have saved if his translator had followed the German he was translating from, and used the English equivalent. The heading in Pfuel 1817 is 'Das springen,' Clia's translator thus had the word before him, yet he goes out of his way to find others, so he puts (p 170) 'leaping or plunging,' 'in the headlong plunge the swimmer takes his stand on

¹ In *Our autumn holiday* by Mr Molloy, one of the party looking at the Seine in the month of August exclaims, 'I should awfully like to *piquer* my *tête*, so cool and refreshing.'

the edge of the leaping board.' On p 164 he uses another word 'to jump from a certain height.'

'In springing from a height into the water,' Quarterly review 1826 vol 34 p 43.

Walker's Manly exercises 1834 and The swimmer's hand-book 1838 use dive simply in the sense of swimming under water, and plunge for what I call spring.

Forrest in A handbook 1858 uses the word plunging and 'leaping from a height.' With one exception he uses these words only in The A B C 1866. When 'they try the "header"...' 'first lesson at plunging'...'leap from a considerable height.' Here refer to the quotation under diver. From 'the elevated leaping-board.'

Steedman 1867 (p 125) uses plunge for spring (in the sense I use spring) he says 'plunging is the art of springing into the water head first.' He also describes 'the steep and the flat spring,' but when describing it he calls it the 'steep plunge' (p 126) and 'the flat jump,' (p 136) in which 'the swimmer takes a spring:' 'the spring has to be made forward.'

'jump or dive from a height,' Wilson 1876 p 18. 'plunging [read springing, as since this description was written 'plunge' has the A.S.A. meaning] is the action of a person who enters water, either head foremost or feet foremost, and in such a way as to meet with the least resistance from the water.' Fred w. Foster in The Graphic 6 sep 1879 p 231.

Throughout his articles in The Boy's own paper 1879, the rev J. G. Wood uses various words with the meaning of spring, he says 'The shooter is managed by taking a sharp run, and darting horizontally along the surface of the water. The arms body and legs being held stiffly and as straight as a dart, even the toes being pointed, and the face lying in the water as low as the eyes. Not a muscle may be moved until the impetus is expended, and the object is to go as far as you can without lifting the head.' Springing with him was 'a header,' bank header or high header. Or 'it may often be necessary to jump into the water from a height.' 'Springen und tauchen' that is 'springing and diving.' Buonaccorsi, 1879 p 79.

All through chapter xi Wilson 1883 uses the words spring and springing in the sense I give them. 'by means of the spring when leaving the board.' 'Power for springing...' 'Once the feet have left the springing point.' 'The most timid may become daring and fearless divers by springing at first from the ordinary board.' 'There should be no indecision or wavering as one springs off.' 'the perfection of style in high diving or "headers" is attained when the performer springs *forward* into the air' (ibid p 95).

The following is Mr Henry's definition of springing according to the rules of the Life Saving Society (Handbook 1899 p 103, though I take it from 'Pearson's magazine,' where unfortunately he gives it as an explanation of a dive) 'A leap is first made into the air, the body is then straightened almost horizontally, the arms are turned at once towards the water, and the legs are thrown up for the downward drop. On entering the water, the arms must be extended in advance of the head, the forefingers must be in contact, and the palms of the hands held downwards. The thighs and the legs, from the hips to the great toes, must be kept close together and the feet turned back' [that is pointed]. 'To the ordinary English-speaking person [this excludes me, I had been giving him my views] diving means a plunge into water head foremost.'— See Diving [this means high springing which is the real subject of the article] as a fine art, by w. Henry, Pearson's mag July 1900 p 71.

More is the pity that a once well understood word should now be so misused, but the reader may note the use of 'spring' in the third edition of the same writer's Swimming 1900 p 122 where we have the 'backward spring' and the 'hand spring.'

If the word 'spring' had been known to the writer of the article misnamed 'Some high divers' in the Windsor mag Aug 1901 he need not have coined such a clumsy expression (p 259) as 'just before taking off' instead of just before springing.

springing

obsolete use of, if ever current: this word is used by Walker in his Manly exercises (1847 p 99) to indicate the practice of 'Some swimmers' who 'at every stroke' rise out of the water without any useful purpose. I never met with the word so used in any other author. Though it is a legitimate use of the word, it must give way, we cannot have one word meaning two different actions.

sprint

'attempt to "sprint"—that is, to run at the highest possible speed—for the whole way.' H. Ellington The Nineteenth century review 1887 xxi 520. 'especially if the race is to be a sprint or a short one.' Wilson Swimming instructor 1883 p 61. 'one of the speediest sprint swimmers of his time.' S and H 1893 p 87. An article on the 'inutility of sprint racing' [by w. Henry] as it does not give staying power, is in The swimming magazine for October 1898.

standard

standards are certain times and distances, settled from time to time, by the A.S.A., which a competitor in a championship must

complete in order to obtain the A.S.A. certificate for having done the distance within standard time. These may be found in the Handbooks issued yearly by the A.S.A. by any one who is lucky enough to possess a complete set, I have never been able to see one.

It is possible for three competitors to take the 1st 2nd and 3rd prizes, though none of them do the distance in standard time. For example in a plunge [q.v.] none of them would be entitled to the 'standard' certificate unless they plunged a distance of 60 feet.

stroke

each set of the series of movements performed by a person when swimming: e.g. 'he can cover two yards with one stroke.' Also used of the series of movements: e.g. the 'sidestroke.'

1768 'have insensibly acquired the stroke, taught as it were by nature.' Franklin's Works by Sparks, vol vi p 287. 'while you are learning what is called the stroke, or that manner of drawing in and striking out the hands and feet that is necessary to produce progressive motion.' (ibid).

swim swimming

I have not seen any definition that satisfies me, though an improvement is taking place. I confine the word to muscular action in the water and never use it as synonymous with float. Dr Johnson's Dictionary 1755 says 'to float on the water, not to sink. To move progressively in the water by the motion of the limbs.'

The common description in all dictionaries is this 'Swimming the art of suspending one's self on water and at the same time making a progressive motion thro' it.' Encyclo. Britannica 1797. 'The art or act of sustaining the body in the water, and of moving therein.' The British encyclo. by w. Nicholson 1809.

But with some persons there is no 'sustaining' required, the body floats and the art or action moves it. In 'spinning' the swimmer moves with velocity round and round without any forward progression.

The following from one of our most celebrated lexicographers is as bad as it can be. I have put the words not wanted in brackets but this does not make it right, because a person swims in or under the water as well as upon the water.

'swim: to move, [to stay or remain,] upon [the surface of] the water; [to float upon the water]; to go, to pass along, with an undulating, waving motion; resembling the motion of swimming.' Charles Richardson, Dictionary, 1837.

Steedman 1867 p 67 says swimming 'may be defined as that

special mode of progression which enables a person to derive entire support from the liquid in which he is immersed.'

Fred w. Foster in *The Graphic* 6 sep 1879 p 231 says 'What is and what is not swimming ?

'When this question arose in conversation some time since, I was surprised at not being able to find a connotative definition of swimming, although several works on swimming were examined. This ill success led me to frame the definitions which I now submit to swimmers for their judgment. Swimming is that progressive motion of a person who is partly [or entirely ?] under and who is buoyed solely by water, which is caused and maintained solely by disciplined [?] muscular action.'

'swimming consists of the alternate extension and contraction of the legs and arms.' F. w. Brewster, *How to avoid being drowned* 1885 p 63.

takeoff

the board, side of bath or any standing place whether free from spring or not, from which a leap, header, feet first or other spring into water is made or taken.

trick swimming

for the distinction between this and fancy swimming see fancy.

According to the suggestions in this glossary a professional could announce that he would give an exhibition

and amateurs might use a little less pretentious word, and say they would give a display

of swimming, high springing, diving and fancy and trick swimming.

THE LITERATURE OF SWIMMING

SUMMARY OF BOOKS IN ENGLISH

The first English book is that of Everard Digby, published in the days of 'good queen Bess.' A previous mention of swimming occurs in *The boke named THE GOVERNOUR* by sir Thomas Elyot 1531. Several editions but the last and best is by H. H. S. Croft M.A. London 1880, two vols 8°. This has about four pages (176-181) on the usefulness of 'swymmyng' in times of war, no instruction.

It is curious to find that the earliest English writer considers there was a time when swimming was much more practiced, and that in his own day it had been neglected! He says (vol 1 p 176) that as 'it hath nat bene of longe tyme moche used, specially amonge noble men, perchance some reders wyll litle esteme it.'

Digby was a master of arts of Cambridge University, England, and fellow of his college. Like sir Thomas Elyot he apologises for his subject. Unfortunately for his reputation, he did not like Elyot write in his own language but according to the practice of the times, when it was considered vulgar to write in English, he wrote his treatise in Latin. An abbreviated translation was published in 1595 by Middleton; another, professing to be original but an almost literal translation by Percey as his own work, was published in 1658. Lastly a translation into English was again published in 1699 but this time coming through the French, it was not improved in the process, Thevenot the translator not being a swimmer. Thus Digby's work has been for centuries the only one known to French and English swimmers, none of the credit coming to Digby's share. Thevenot always took all. Even that great scholar Benjamin Franklin, who got to the root of most things he touched, quotes Thevenot without the slightest suspicion that it was originally English.

Digby is full of quaint ideas and also of curious woodcut illustrations, to these latter it is most probable that we owe the preservation of such copies as now exist, and not to the importance of the subject, for unfortunately from the earliest times the subject has not been considered of any importance, except that there was a general notion that

it should be learnt by children as it might be useful. The English have never even insisted on the importance of swimming to sailors and soldiers to the extent that most foreign writers have.

Thirty years ago a copy of Digby was priced at thirty shillings, now one is worth as many pounds. Oddly enough although several copies of Digby are preserved, only one is known of Middleton's translation.

Digby's advice is frequently good, but his contention that man swims naturally has provoked much opposition; the majority of writers agree with him, however, that a skilful swimmer 'excels all other creatures.' His descriptions of the strokes are very meagre but so are those of all writers, even to the present day.

In 1757 some experiments by Robertson on the specific gravity of living men were published in the *Philosophical Transactions*, they are quoted in almost every treatise on swimming. He made them under all sorts of difficulties, nevertheless scientific men have been content with the result of his enquiries and conclusions up to the present time.

The compleat gentleman by Henry Peacham 1622 is so well known that I do not like to pass it over without a word, but he only has a short piece on the desirability of every noble and gentleman learning the 'skill and art,' and he gives some instances of its utility in past times, citing the feat of 'Gerrard and Hervey two gentlemen of our own nation, who in eighty-eight in the fight at sea, swam in the night time and pierced with augers or such like instruments,¹ the sides of the Spanish gallions, and returned back safe to the Fleet.'

But not excepting Digby or his translators the most popular treatise ever written in English, at all events the one most frequently quoted, possibly because it is short as well as good, is that by Benjamin Franklin written while he was in England, probably about the year 1768. If my investigations have produced no other result, at all events, they have relieved Franklin's name of the slur cast upon it by some person ignorant of swimming, who reprinted his advice about 1810 and interpolated a ridiculous passage to the effect that the eyes could not be opened under water. It is humiliating to think that this nonsense, which at once stamps the writer and all those who have copied it as incompetent swimmers, has been repeated and reprinted up to the present day: even a popular American writer treating it as an extraordinary mistake of Franklin's. It is to be regretted that we cannot pillory the originator of it. But

¹ These three words betray much weakness, and I fear we must look upon this narrative with the same kind of suspicion that we do some of those referred to in the introduction.

so constantly does it occur that I have indicated it as the 'objectionable interpolation.'

The articles in the *Encyclopædia Britannica* from 1771 to 1860 were miserable productions, though they have been quoted to the present day; any stale bait seems to be considered good enough for the literary non-swimmer.

The Royal Humane Society, instituted in London in the year 1774, is one of the most noted benevolent societies we have. It was started to encourage attempts at the resuscitation of persons suffering from inability to breathe, a condition brought about in various ways, one of these being through too long submersion in water. This would result in the person being what we call drowned, or apparently drowned, so long as there is a possibility of life or breathing being restored. To 'inability to breathe,' medical men have given the names of asphyxia or apnoea. According to all accounts it would appear that drowning is rather a pleasant death—the agony comes on with revival to life.

The first thing the energetic Dr Hawes, the chief promoter of the society, had to do was to get rid of people's superstitions, which always appear to be for evil. It was considered unlucky to rescue and much more so to revive the drowned, and unlucky if not unlawful to remove a body until after the inquest. Then he had to show that it was possible to revive, a thing we are told that men of eminence as physicians and philosophers treated as idle and visionary. In fact Hawes and his associates were considered impious for making such an attempt, and 'placed nearly upon a level with professing to raise the dead.'

Next it was necessary to discredit the ways people used. Not only were they bad then, but they continued to be bad with the R.H.S. up to the year 1863. In fact from a swimming point of view the working of the society, as revealed in their annual reports for nearly one hundred years, is one of the most lamentable displays of ignorance and incapacity. For the ignorance the doctors and scientific men generally are to blame, though there is no body of men more ready to give gratuitous help and advice individually than they are. But the evil genius of swimming pursued resuscitation, and seems to have said, thou shalt not swim, neither shalt thou resuscitate. None of them considered these two subjects of sufficient importance to merit attention. When at last a world renowned English doctor Marshall Hall in 1856 did show how to resuscitate, his brother doctors stood in the way (as they had in the way of Dr Hawes seventy years before) and retarded the benefits of his discovery for seven years, at least so far as the R.H.S. was concerned.

Although the merits of three at least of the various methods of resuscitation, Hall, Silvester and Howard, now in vogue, have not even yet been properly and scientifically settled, that of Marshall Hall the first discoverer is, thanks to the teaching of the English Life Saving Society, practiced all over the world by persons who have never heard of his detractors.

The Hall method is quite simple, why had it never occurred to any doctor before? Why indeed had it not occurred to Dr Hall himself? His studies and scientific researches had peculiarly fitted him for this discovery, and immediately the method then practiced was brought to his attention he saw what should be done. The idea once shown, others soon followed.

The fact is that the R.H.S. began at the wrong end: it might have done ten times the good if it had taught swimming. From time to time various writers have urged this course, but without success. About 1887 it was further asked to take up the subject of teaching life saving also without success, hence the formation of the Life Saving Society.

However from the year 1863 the R.H.S. was relieved of all responsibility by the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society taking up the matter: to that body the blame now attaches, if there is anything done that is not the best in the method of resuscitation.

In 1786 Dr William Buchan published his *Cautions concerning cold bathing* which are frequently quoted in the early treatises. That such advice as he gives should have ever had any reputation, shows how ignorant people were.

In 1805 a man sprang from Blackfriars Bridge, an event that probably gave an enterprising bookseller and publisher Thomas Tegg the idea of publishing something on swimming. In that year or the following he issued *The art of swimming*. The frontispiece represents 'The leap from Blackfriars' a man descending feet first. It is one of Tegg's earliest productions, and though chiefly a compilation from Thevenot shows he had given the matter some consideration himself. The oddest thing is that he puts several of his figures with a headdress as the sole costume.

In the year 1806 some curious articles appeared in *Nicholson's Journal*, which I refer to under 'seeing under water.'

About 1810 or soon after, I have not been able to find the exact date, a pamphlet plagiarism of Thevenot and Franklin's advice was published in a cheap form. When one publisher failed or ceased to publish, it was taken up by another, who either bought it or stole it. Sometimes the original theft (or plagiarism) and the stolen one were being sold concurrently. They were sold for sixpence, generally with

a wretched plate of figures also plagiarised from Thevenot. These chapbooks up to about 1830 sold by thousands, clearly showing a want among the public, and yet it has never occurred to a respectable publisher even to this day to make an attempt to supply this want with a cheap yet good treatise. Many publishers have issued cheap treatises, but they seem all to be written for children ; the real fact being, as I state in my preface, that the writers were so ignorant of the art that they only had childish knowledge and could no more impart.

I should not however mention these pamphlets here, for they are next to worthless, if it were not that some ignorant person introduced into Franklin's advice the 'objectionable interpolation' mentioned under his name.

The question that has often concerned me is whether it is better to have bad advice (mixed with good) circulated, rather than not have any at all. I am inclined to think that anything that directs attention to the subject is better than nothing.

In 1816 the best book yet published in English appeared as by John Frost, a teacher of swimming (during the summer months !), but as he was a man of no education his book was doubtless 'patronised' by some one. Frost is the first English writer who repudiates the frog stroke.

For the first time in an English book we read of learning the motions on land, but the system made no progress ; to ensure that, it is necessary to teach teachers who are then capable of instructing others.

I have only seen pages 45 and 46 of the Universal spelling book, a fact to be ascribed to the collector of books on swimming, who cared only for his subject, and so probably tore them out of the book. These pages so well reflect the parents of I hope a past day, when children were considered nuisances to be bullied and beaten, that I cannot resist mentioning their contents. We are told of the boys who went into the water instead of being at school or at home. Two could not swim, so they were 'whipt.' The third could, but as he was able to swim he need not have been in the water, when he ought to have been at school. 'You don't want to learn to swim, you say, it is plain, then, you go in for idleness sake.' So he is whipt too !

I put Clais under English books, though I hardly know to what country to assign it. The gymnastic part was first published in France in French ; when it was translated no part on swimming was given, though there was a short treatise in the French edition. It was soon found desirable to give swimming, and accordingly he supplied this want in the next English edition 1825. The curiosity

of this is that the part on swimming is not original, but an unacknowledged translation from the German by an Englishman, as there is little doubt Clias could not write English fluently. There are several original things in it. Clias has been made free use of by later writers. Though he takes most of his instruction from the German some of his figures are from the French, so all three nations are represented !

In 1828 appeared a book of an entirely new kind, or if not entirely so it had sufficient new parts to make it at once popular. It was a small encyclopedia of all that a boy might require in the way of amusements and was entitled *The Boy's own book*. If the other articles in the book are as bad as that on swimming, it must indeed be a worthless compilation. The probability however is that the swimming was, as usual, the worst.

I have the authority of *The New England magazine* for saying that up to 1832 the Americans had no practical treatises.

Twelve maxims on swimming, published in 1833, is the original idea of an enthusiastic swimmer. Being published under a pseudonym, perhaps shows that the author thought the subject unworthy of being acknowledged publicly, though he would be proud enough to present all his friends with copies.

Next to *The Boy's own book* I think for popularity I may place Walker's *Manly exercises*, 1834, which was probably an outcome of the former, but intended more for grown up people. Here again I regret to say the art of swimming shows the same miserable fate I have to record so frequently. It was a fine opportunity ; however it seems that not only was Walker not a good swimmer but that none of his critics were either, for they did not find out that this article was a plagiarism from Frost and Clias. It has been reprinted by various editors and publishers, all as ignorant as Walker right up to the present day. The book no doubt owed much of its success to the fine work of the artists Howard and Alken.

I should be inclined to date the commencement of the present great improvement in swimming from the year 1837, when the National Swimming Society was instituted in London by John Strachan. It was afterwards renamed the 'British s.s.' probably under an erroneous impression that British was more comprehensive than National, though the founder seems to have continued to call it the National s.s. They published two essays in 1839-40, which however are far more praised than they deserve to be—at least my present knowledge inclines me to think so.

The mendacious manner in which publishers send out reprints of works under different titles is once again illustrated in the *Swimmers and skaters guide*, which is a plagiarism of Thevenot issued from

Derby about 1838. This sort of thing continues to the end. It is not only lamentable for its dishonesty, but for the wide ignorance it shows of the literature of swimming.

W. & R. Chambers's *Information for the people*, 1847, is another of those popular works which fail in the swimming. These celebrated and talented Scotchmen improved and benefited everything they touched. They were indefatigable in their efforts to educate and enlighten the people, almost more one may say from benevolence than from a desire for gain. Alas! their swimming knowledge was lamentably poor, and so are the articles in their publications. The French and Spanish imitations of the *Information for the people* are equally unsatisfactory.

The bibliographer may be thankful that only one person calling himself a 'poet' has devoted himself to versifying on swimming. That one is P. H. Pearce, a Ramsgate swimming master, who was in the habit of giving public exhibitions there and putting 'poet' after his name on his bathing machines. His pamphlets on swimming commenced with one dated 1842. The instructions are good and his own, but we are not inclined to favor the mixture of buffoonery with swimming. Every one cannot be at Ramsgate, and it requires at least the salubrious air of that incomparable watering place, to enable you to swallow sixty columns of doggerel verses with your swimming lesson.

In *The Penny cyclopædia* for 1842 we find an interesting article by a poet of a very different order, R. H. Horne the celebrated author of *Orion*. It is original and good, and although he gives the frog as 'the only correct master' he describes the wedge in the breast stroke. He says the English are not much inclined to swimming. This work shows that however true this may have been, he was not right when he compares them disparagingly to foreigners, whom they then distanced as they do now.

A *Handbook of swimming*, issued in 1844, is a plagiarism, but I mention it here as an instance of the manner in which worthless treatises can be foisted on the public. This one was issued from time to time under different titles up to the year 1874. Some time after the Channel swim it blossoms into *Captain Webb's swimming companion*. Surely there must be a craving among the public for books on swimming.

From such a title as *Captain Stevens' system of swimming* we naturally expect something original, only however to be disappointed. He was not a man of education. His system appears to have been in the use of a girdle and rope. There are points of interest in his pamphlet, probably first issued about 1837 when he started the

Universal Swimming Society. His relation of the providential recovery of his hymn-book from the water after several days immersion recalls a similar incident, that was the subject of a miracle, of which however we may assume Stevens was totally ignorant. It happened to S^t Margaret queen of Scotland, and her book is exhibited at the Bodleian Library.

He records the fact of a gentleman stopping under water one minute thirty-six seconds as a most extraordinary feat, and as he says he had taught 60,000 persons to swim, he must have had much experience of what could then be done.

The work of J. A. Bennet, published in New York 1846, is original and good and one of the best of its day. He is the first writer in English to refer to the action of 'sculling,' though he does not actually give it this name. I refer again under 'sculling' to this most important and useful action, quite indispensable to the 'fancy' swimmer. This little work had the compliment paid it of having the portion on swimming pirated and republished in London about 1860.

Once again we come to a Popular educator (Cassell's) 1853, with a treatise plagiarised from the French, and again I am tempted to say that if all the other articles are as bad as that on swimming, it must have been very little education the public got from their purchase. I am glad to say that 'swimming' was omitted from the later editions. The same observations are applicable to The dictionary of daily wants by the author of Enquire within

Every boy's book, 1855, was an imitation of The Boy's own book, which up to this date had had a splendid field all to itself, and produced £600 a year. However, swimming once more comes off badly, and again a fine opportunity was lost. An edition of Every boy's book was published in 1897 with a new article which is much behind its time. I need say no more here than that the drills of the Life Saving Society are not even mentioned.

The Manual of British rural sports, 1856, is another work dealing with sports in encyclopedic fashion, but going further than previous books. That it was a favorite is attested by fourteen editions. The article on swimming is fairly good, but shows much ignorance on many points.

C. Richardson's Instructions on the art of swimming, published in 1857, is the fifth original separate treatise, Digby, Frost, Pearce and Bennet being those before. Of Richardson nothing is known except the scraps I have gathered from his Instructions. He printed his excellent advice with a genuine hope of doing good by promoting the art. He deprecates the brutal practice of 'dipping' children. He is the first English writer to describe 'sculling,' the first

to expose the 'objectionable interpolation.' He gives the advice (doubtfully good?) that the breath should be drawn through the nose. He is the first to show what absurd notions people had as to the speed of a swimmer, notions that continue to the present day. He repudiated the prevalent opinion that an upright swimmer could propel himself at the rate of three miles an hour. This work gives a good idea of swimming as it was in his day, or rather perhaps some years before when he was a young man, for he does not describe the side-stroke which was then swum by many. He is the second to repudiate the frog as an example to man.

Richardson is the first to repudiate the ignorant manner in which writers alarm people about cramp, 'which alone would never drown a man.' His observations on 'panic' which is a great danger, are some of the best arguments that could be adduced for such teaching as that of The Life Saving Society. 'The method of rescue,' says Richardson, 'ought to be practiced beforehand.' It took another thirty-four years before this advice could be put into practice. True Dr Marshall Hall had formulated a method of resuscitation in 1856 and died in 1857, and Dr Silvester another in 1858 which was not used by the experts of the R.H.S. until 1863, but neither system was in such a form that it could be taught to large numbers at the same time. To do that ultimately became part of the work of the Life Saving Society.

The London Swimming Club did much to promote swimming in its early days. It is probably now chiefly remembered for a publication edited by one of its members who was not only a 'handyman' but a printer as well as a sporting journalist, W. H. Leverell, whose name appears as publisher only to the pamphlet popularly known by its half-title *Swimming and swimmers*. The title began 'A manual compiled under the sanction of the L.S.C. &c, with an account of the progress of the art during the last twenty years.' It is almost needless to say that that progress is chiefly considered with reference to racing. Professionals and amateurs shoulder one another at every turn, in fact there was very little difference. In those days if the glove was thrown down anyone could pick it up. Even in 1873 an advertisement in *The Swimming Record* is addressed to professionals and amateurs who could swim for a prize against one another. Most of the professionals, at all events the chief ones, being also frequenters of prize-rings, betting was rife and was of more importance than the swimming. In this the sidestroke is mentioned for the first time. The chief point on which we should have liked to have had correct information was the originator of this 'sidestroke.' Unfortunately the evil genius that pursues swimming was at work, and this

book gives us 'from memory' the name of a well known swimmer which is doubtful. Leverell could not swim the 'sidestroke,' and gives a bad description nevertheless repeated or plagiarised by others supposed to be good swimmers. However, it is the first English summary of the doings of swimmers; there is no other till Barron's in 1884 and lastly Sinclair and Henry in 1893.

The same year was published *A few words on swimming*, which is the sixth original English treatise since 1587. From it can be gathered what was or could then be done in swimming. The English sidestroke is properly described for the first time though with insufficient detail, a defect that has been remedied in this book. The next time however it is described in *The Rowing Almanack 1862-3* it is wrongly so from *Swimming and swimmers*, though both articles pretend to emanate from 'professors.' This bad description has been ignorantly copied by the majority of subsequent writers, Steedman and W. Wilson are the first to describe the stroke correctly.

I may here remark on a feature peculiar to the British (i.e. English and Scotch), it is the reprehensible practice which now began of publishing a treatise (original or plagiarist) under the name of some well known professional swimmer, who was himself not a writer and could only read with difficulty. This is proved by the poor quality of the stuff to which they allowed their names to be attached, probably for a consideration. Another bad practice with these publishers is that of not dating their publications, a fault quite uncommon with German or French publishers.

From this time reprints and plagiarisms increase. The next original treatise is that to which the name of a celebrated professional one legged swimmer W. Woodbridge appears in 1864. The most noticeable thing being the mention for the second time of the name of Marshall Hall, and for the first time that of Silvester. Henceforth the resuscitation methods are frequently quoted.

In 1866 a series of *Champion handbooks* was published. That on swimming made no contribution to the art, but I notice it for the circumstances of its production. It illustrates what I have just referred to, the British publisher's idea, probably correct, that athletic books must be sent out under the name of a celebrated professional, though not written by him. I think these publications also show what a constant demand there is among the public for books on swimming, good or bad,—they are too ignorant to judge of their worth.

A race for the two-mile championship took place in the Thames in 1864. Among the competitors were three youths, who each became known for one thing or another. David Pamplin was third,

though the prettiest swimmer of the three: he published an excellent pamphlet many years after. Peter Johnson was second, and is known as the man who on 21 June 1871 was seen floating about near London Bridge in a most unaccountable manner. A dauntless springer providentially being on the top of the bridge sprang therefrom and saved poor Peter. This heroic rescue immediately became an event of world-wide renown. Unfortunately for the fame of the thing, it soon leaked out that the man who sprang from the bridge was 'Mr Peter's brother' and that the event was arranged instead of being providential. Peter Johnson also held the record for some time for stopping under water 4 m 15 sec in 1882. Lastly, a slight short slim youth Henry Gurr, who came in first, a position he kept year after year, and so being champion, he is given out as the author of 'The art of swimming' in The Champion handbooks. If either of the others had won would his name have appeared as the author. What does it matter about deceiving the public?

The book is a miserable piece of ignorant scissors and paste compilation. Nevertheless, as we shall see under the Parisian publication of Desloges, if you have a publisher who pushes the book it will sell. Then we not only have several editions by different publishers, but the rubbish is plagiarised, is published without author's name, Gurr being no longer known to the new generation, and finally is re-issued as by 'Captain Davis Dalton the champion back swimmer.'

Although it adds little to the subject The A B C of swimming, published anonymously in 1866, may be mentioned as an original treatise by an educated man, and may be classed among those known as 'pot boilers.' The author's name was put to a reprint, it was that of the rev J. G. Wood, best known for his very popular writings on natural history.

A Manual of swimming, published by Charles Steedman at Melbourne in 1867, is entirely original. The author won his laurels as a swimmer before he left England and while he was a mechanic. At that time he was quite incompetent from want of education to write a book, but with great energy and perseverance he educated himself in Australia. His desire in which he succeeded was to write a plain useful book in which he endeavored 'to avoid long words and fine writing. To keep himself in the third person and not to use technical terms unless to avoid circumlocution.' The result is the best and most complete work on swimming written, up to this date, and Australians may well be proud of it.

Several of his suggestions are worth repeating. One is that coroners verdicts should be changed into 'death caused by a most important feature in the physical education of the victim having been

completely ignored, namely "the art of swimming." Perhaps a better one is that there should be a law 'compelling all persons saved from drowning, who were unable to swim, to pay a tithe' of their property to their rescuers.

In 1868 *Swimming* a bibliographical list etc was published as by the author of the *Handbook of fictitious names*. It is the first separately published list, there having been only one previously, that of le vicomte de Courtivron as part of his book *La Natation* 1823.

It is doubtful if anything has contributed more to the advancement of swimming and the elimination of bad practices brought about by money and betting, than the starting of a society among swimmers which first regulated and then entirely abolished money considerations and betting. The first association dates from 1869, but the title was frequently changed, in consequence of internal upheavings, rebellions and revolutions, until at last it subsided, after twenty years of bitter struggles, into *The Amateur Swimming Association*, a title taken from *The Amateur Athletic Association*. This Association has published a *Handbook* for some years past of the laws governing amateur entertainments, and no amateur meeting is now held without 'Under A.S.A. Laws' being on the program. Professionals are, of course, outside this, but if amateurs swim in their entertainments it must be as above, under the auspices of an affiliated club. One of the best services it ever did, though done for competition purposes, and not for the benefit of the art, was to define the meaning of the word 'plunge.'

In *Animal locomotion*, by Dr J. Bell Pettigrew, issued it is pretended under the wing of science, as it forms volume 7 of *The International scientific series*, swimming once more comes off badly, the only original suggestion that is accurate being that in 'sculling' the figure of 8 is formed. Nearly every description, and the position of the figures, is wrong.

If ever there was a book issued under favorable circumstances, it surely was *The art of swimming in the Eton style*, by sergeant Leahy, 'champion of the Red Sea,' published by the world renowned firm of Macmillan, before the halo of personality was wiped off by the addition of the word 'limited.' Edited, moreover, by two Etonians, with illustrations by 'a master' and a preface by a celebrated authoress, Mrs Oliphant. All this was of little use, however, the radical defects were stronger than the good parts. These defects begin with the title page, which announces an 'Eton style' without justifying it, and claims a championship which provokes a smile. The next mistake is a preface by a lady who knows nothing about swimming to puff a book which might be worthless, and being by the

'teacher of swimming' at Eton college, ought not to want any of these recommendations. There are several defects which I need not dilate on here, but readers do not like an author to say his is the best book on the subject, and they do like system. However, as I have said, Leahy has some very good points, though his book is not the one to give to schoolboys. It is often said what is the use of fancy swimming—straight forward is sufficient—Leahy says truly that nothing gives confidence like knowing various ways of swimming.

Matthew Webb accomplished his successful and world renowned swim across the English Channel on the 25 august 1875, and within a couple of months a compilation under his name was issued, edited or rather written by A. G. Payne B.A. Cambridge University, who accompanied him across the Channel wearing a 'top hat.' Webb's swim gave an enormous impetus to swimming generally, though this is not evidenced by any increase in the number of treatises published. Neither he nor Payne however were sufficiently good swimmers to produce a book of instruction. Moreover Webb's Art of swimming was far too hastily written to be well done. Notwithstanding its numerous defects as a book of instruction, it gives good and manly counsel, which unfortunately poor Webb did not himself follow or he might be still alive. It is a book that can be read by all with interest from the variety of matter, and the account of Webb's swim in which all English speaking peoples must always feel a just pride.

In his various articles Payne ridicules the absurd notions that were, and in fact still are, current as to the rate a swimmer can progress, and the time he can stop under water. Only persistent education in swimming will dissipate these erroneous ideas; nothing seems to die harder than a superstition or a fallacy.

Swimming by William Wilson, 1876, shows a distinct advance. It is the most practical treatise yet published. It emanates from Scotland, Wilson being a Glasgow man, though London born. The author has written several other treatises one of which will be presently mentioned. He has moreover rendered services to humanity by his invention of the Life Saving drill, and to swimmers by his aquatic football which has since developed into Water Polo; both drill and game have spread all over the world.

Yet a further advance in the Swimming Drill by lieutenant H. Torkington as introduced into the French army by D'Argy and into the German army by Von Wins. Learning the motions on land first, had, to judge from their literature, long been practiced with Continental countries, but it has taken us a quarter of a century to see the absurdity of our ridiculous insular prejudices against it. There is hardly an action in swimming that cannot be with advantage

practiced on land. For teaching numbers together the Land Drill is the best way we know, and it has been practiced now for some years by the London Schools Swimming Association and other bodies, having at last overcome the ridicule of various writers.

In 1877 Mr Wallace Dunlop c.B. brought out his *Plate swimming*, to foster and promote the use of his 'plates': they have made no progress since he died. Like the inventors of belts, lifebuoys and similar appliances, he carefully studied all that related to swimming to enable him to perfect his inventions. He points out many errors of previous writers, and shows that it is not only in books on swimming that ignorant nonsense is written. He disputes Dr Pettigrew's theory of the swimming of fishes, but did not apparently know enough about human swimming to dispute Dr Pettigrew's theories about that.

Another treatise from Australia is original and good, *Methods of saving life from drowning*, by John Strickland, 1878. His great experience of persons drowning enabled him to state, probably with accuracy, the most usual positions of the body in the water. He is the first and only English writer who gives the correct position for riding a horse in the water, a much neglected subject.

The *Bather's guide*, dedicated to the S.A.G.B. by Harry w. Fisk, is the best summary of its kind up to 1878 and was with other publications by the author, the means of doing much to popularise swimming. Being an almanac and general account of swimming events, it was intended to issue it annually, but this was prevented by lack of support.

The first essay by a woman deserves mention as it is also good, *How I learnt to swim*, by Amy Croft, 1880.

On the 30 may 1881 the A.S.A. decided that professional swimmers should not be allowed to compete with amateurs and thereupon the Professional Swimming Association was formed, but I have no information about it except that it ceased to exist, though financially prosperous at first. Professionals hold their entertainments under A.S.A. laws, when amateurs take part in them.

I mention the *Swimming* written by P. M. Salmon, 1883, and published in Victoria because it professes to be 'for the use of school teachers.' Books to teach teachers how to teach are very rare in English, it is therefore to be regretted that this one is hardly sufficient to fulfil its purpose.

In *The Swimming instructor*, 1883, William Wilson shows a still further advance. His illustrations are correct and well drawn. His advice is good, humane and useful. Nothing could be truer than that 'The experienced swimmer, when in the water, may be classed among the happiest of mortals in the happiest of moods, and in the most

complete enjoyment of the happiest of exercises.' He justly says that swimming 'is a great sanitary social and moral reformer' which should 'not require to be encouraged as sport, but as an educational measure, and as a healthy, useful and necessary accomplishment.'

His list of clothes that a man damages when he rescues another is a novel idea. Such a sordid notion as recompensing the saver seldom occurs to the saved, or if it does he offers sixpence, as Mr Charles Steedman relates.

With the knowledge we now have it is easy to see, and interesting to note, how weak Mr Wilson was on the question of life saving and resuscitation, to which he was some years later of special service by his invention of the drill already mentioned.

Dr Hunter Jackson Barron was one of the most noted amateur swimmers of his day, and he probably knew more about what had been going on for some years previously than any one else. Fortunately the idea occurred to him to give some account of it in *Amateur swimming at the present day*, 1884, and so we have a short reliable history.

In the same year Robert Watson made a third attempt to run a newspaper devoted to swimming, but though one of the most prominent men of the day in all that concerned the art and as a starter and referee, it failed.

The publication in Wales of *The swimming club directory* 1885, seems to show how great an interest was being taken in the art. In it we have one of the first prints of 'rules for water polo' then beginning to make way. The compiler William Smith was a hardy Londoner who bathed in the sea on Christmas days, so that it is needless to say he was an enthusiastic swimmer.

How to avoid being drowned, by F. W. Brewster M.A. Cambridge, is a most original work of great value, notwithstanding a tradition that it was simply written to puff a lifesaving dress. His exposure of the uselessness if not danger of Carte's circular lifebuoy was ignored by the R.H.S. who, with the London County Council, still continue its exclusive use, and as they set the example the public follow it. The Oxford Humane Society has a slight improvement in making the buoy quite small so that any one can throw it. A long pole, with a double hook and floats attached, would be far better in the generality of cases.

English writers hardly ever treat of swimming from a naval or military point of view. Guy C. Rothery in 1886 is the first to write a capable article on the subject.

Hobson Boccock's *Swimming cards* 1888 are unique, each card is a separate lesson.

Swimming, by Martin Cobbett 1890, may be mentioned as an original treatise although it has the common sin of adopting other people's work without mention.

In 1891 The Life Saving Society was founded in London, and very shortly issued a Handbook giving a drill for life saving and resuscitation. The great progress the society has made, with the exceedingly small support accorded to it by the millions of people in London, can be traced from the annual reports. Although not a society for teaching swimming it has been the cause of thousands learning, and has given a greater impetus to the study of the art than anything that has ever occurred previously. Its publications have not escaped the swimming fiend who urges people's evil spirit to copy without acknowledgment, and they have been frequently plagiarised.

Water manœuvres, by David Turner Pamplin 1892, is original and good and well worth perusal.

Walter A. Varian, an American, published a well written article in 1893, but it shows that our American cousins have not yet learnt swimming scientifically and accurately any more than we have.

The beau ideal of a swimming book has yet to be written, but the nearest approach to it is the Swimming by Sinclair and Henry, then joint hon. secretaries of the Life Saving Society, published in 1893. It marks an era in swimming literature. This book is immeasurably superior to anything previously published. It treats of swimming in a manner never before thought of. This may possibly be because it is treated of as a subject for men to learn as well as from the point of view of the good that can be done by it, instead of merely as an amusement. It is small praise to say that it has done more to promote good swimming than anything previously published. It had not only the advantage of authors who thoroughly understood what they were writing about theoretically and practically, but through the liberality of Longmans, who have a century of high reputation as publishers, it was fully illustrated by a skilful artist. Three editions have been issued, the last in 1900 being corrected, with numerous additions and sold at a price which seems to defy competition.

Mr Sinclair in the following year wrote a good treatise in which he uses what he desired, as he was entitled to, of the Badminton volume. It was published in the Oval series.

The first separate treatise devoted to Water polo and how to play it, by Bretton and Gowland, was published at Eastbourne in 1895, the subject having been first treated of properly by Sinclair and Henry.

The Badminton magazine since 1896 has had several excellent articles, all showing how much the knowledge of swimming has

advanced, on Swimming and life saving by the hon. Sydney Holland, on Swimming for ladies by Mrs Batten; and one also entitled Swimming for ladies by Miss Constance Everett-Green of the most expert kind, showing a thorough acquaintance with the water such as few men and hardly any women possess.

How to swim by Davis Dalton, 1899, emanates from America, and is by a swimmer who may be called cosmopolitan. He could claim to be a German, an Englishman, or an American. His son, who helped him to write the book, is a Londoner but is resident in New York, so that the nationalities have become a little mixed. The book has many good and original points, but has the defect I have already mentioned as so common with English and Scotch writers of being published under the name of a professional so-called champion. However, for America it is the best book brought out since that of Bennet in 1846.

An article on springing from great heights fully illustrated in Pearson's magazine July 1900 by w. Henry is the first of its kind.

Here ends this summary of the ignorance, incompetence and incapacity of the majority of writers in English on swimming. One that will in the near future, I feel certain, for it has already begun, be compensated for by books showing knowledge, competence and capacity for dealing intelligently, scientifically and learnedly with this most important subject.

SUMMARY OF BOOKS IN GERMAN

In 1538 the first book of the world on swimming was published at Augsburg, an ancient city of Suabia. It was written by Nicolas Winmann a 'German Swiss' who was then a professor at Ingolstadt University.

It is a little book in crabbed Latin, full of abbreviations and mistakes or misprints. The first edition is so scarce that when Dr Wassmannsdorff desired to reprint it, he had much trouble in finding a copy. He issued his reprint in 1889, and in this he tells us all that he could find out about the author.

Winmann's instruction is most meagre, but sufficient to show us that the 'human stroke' (c) was the chief one then in vogue. Many of his hints are still as useful as ever, such for example as in rescuing besides presence of mind have a cord or board to help.

He makes long digressions, and he excuses them on account of the subject not being a prolific one.

Winmann is the first book I give, to name Cola the celebrated

Italian surnamed 'the fish' from his supposed power of remaining days in and under the water.

The most cogent reason for not learning to swim is that the souls of those who are consigned to hell have to cross the river Styx by swimming. If they cannot swim how would they cross?

Guts Muths, published in 1798 two hundred years after, is a capital book. He advises practicing on land first, on a board or table: also mentions a belt. Although he repudiates the frog, he only describes the kick in breast swimming.

Salzmann translated into English and published in 1800 is another good book. His observations about people who never wash finds an echo in our own day in the work of a most energetic English swimmer H. W. Fisk in 1878. This dirty habit is pretty general among all nations.

He is the first to advise the learner to keep under water as much as he can. Excellent advice which beginners have the greatest objection to. They do not like dipping their heads, and prefer laboring on for weeks, simply struggling to keep their mouths out of water. All their efforts being wasted on this instead of being devoted to making a proper stroke.

He is also the first to suggest that a diver can stop longer under water if he exhales air by degrees.

In 1817 an anonymous pamphlet was published at Berlin which is attributed to and there is no reason to doubt was by Ernst von Pfuel. I have only seen the second edition of 1827. I give a detailed account of it, as the system he advises is so often referred to as general von Pfuel's method. He taught suspending the pupil in the water by a girdle, and what made this so celebrated was its being used in the Prussian army and the military schools in Germany. There is nothing about a drill in this pamphlet. He truly says that the only way for man to be safe from drowning is to learn to swim. This treatise is also remarkable for being anonymous. I record few undated or anonymous German books, and none that are pseudonymous.

A treatise according to Pfuel's method by Kettenbeil was published in 1842.

About 1827 a treatise entitled *Vollständige schwimmschule* was published. It is remarkable for being without date, and like Pfuel's for being anonymous; also for some of the figures being like Clias's. It is almost the only book that mentions London where, as in Paris, he says there were swimming baths.

Captain Hoderlein published a treatise in 1832 with thirty illustrations of figures, a large number for the time.

A work by H. O. Kluge, which German writers consider an important one, was published in 1843. I have only seen a Dutch translation emanating from Leeuwarden in 1851. Dr Euler epitomised it in 1870. It treats of all kinds of gymnastic exercises in connection with swimming. The English have never combined gymnastics with swimming, nor do I think this is much to be regretted, because there is enough to be learnt in swimming alone to occupy the whole of an amateur's time. In fact, the art affords absolutely inexhaustible possibilities. A clever professional could no doubt become expert both in swimming and swimming gymnastics, though none have yet become so in England. The professional's attainments are very much below what they should be, he has not at present shown himself a better swimmer than the amateur.

Notwithstanding the expertness of the Germans and the number of their native treatises, they have also been at the pains of translating from other languages. This is rather against them, because most of the books they have translated are inferior to their own. How little must a man know who translates (in 1846), for example, from a plagiarism like Walker's *Manly exercises*?

Auerbach in 1873 says he was the first to put the land drill into practice.

Ladebeck's *Swimming school*¹ first published in 1878 has had several editions, the last being in 1892, at which date the English sidestroke was still unknown to him, though his may be called an advanced work.

In 1879 count von Buonaccorsi published at Wien a most carefully written work entitled a *Manual of military swimming*, but there is nothing in it to restrict it to the military. It is now old fashioned, but the figures for the breast stroke drill on land and in the water will always have their value historically. Of the English sidestroke he says nothing.

In 1880 Martin Schwägerl published at Leipzig his *Katechismus or instruction in swimming*. It is most carefully illustrated with over one hundred figures, about half of which are of gymnastic and acrobatic feats for swimmers to execute; but for reasons already given I do not think it is at all desirable for amateurs to mix gymnastics with swimming.

In this year also was published at Stuttgart a well written book by Louis Pommer, who seems to have carefully studied his subject. He considers Guts Muths the father of swimming; Auerbach, Buonaccorsi and his own he names as the three best books. He gives a

¹ Though titles are put in English, it will be understood that they are translations.

history of swimming, beginning with the prophet Isaiah. Recollecting that he was a German and the reputation his countrymen have with us for doing their work thoroughly, we must be thankful he did not begin with the deluge.

Pommer says Pfuel taught entirely in the water and D'Argy almost entirely on land, but he combines the two, an undoubtedly desirable plan.

In 1885 we have a most valuable work by Dr Brendicke of Berlin. It is a summary of what has been done or is known about swimming in Germany, with a list of what he considered the most important treatises. When he refers to the flood of new German books, he is perhaps only expressing himself loosely. To some extent this treatise compensates me for my ignorance of the German language, for although I have not been able to see more than two thirds of the German books, I consider this less important than it might be, as I have had the advantage of this most useful treatise.

I not only mention every book he names, but many more. Except my short bibliography in 1868, which however did not summarise, no such historical treatise as Dr Brendicke's has been published in any other language.

Many things he says of Germany apply to all other countries, such as that the number of those who practice is small compared to the number who approve of swimming; but there are signs of its becoming more general. He credits other countries and the people of past times with being better swimmers than those of the present day. As I point out elsewhere, these are common errors with writers of all countries.

He quotes an interesting passage from J. B. Basedow (d 1790) that 'Every young man learns the expensive art of riding but none swimming, though everyone can ride without learning but nobody can swim.'

That the art has a better status in Germany would seem to be shown by the fact that teachers have to be certified. In England any person can be a professional teacher. With us it is only from a private or semi-public body such as the Life Saving Society or the London Schools Swimming Association that certificates can be obtained after proof of competency by stringent examination.

He also treats of bathing and life saving inventions, and he gives various best times and feats that have been performed; the majority are English, but the selection shows only a slight knowledge of the art and what has taken place among English speaking peoples. Practical swimming seems to be the weakest part of this learned and most useful treatise.

Dr Euler's Little teacher (hatefully bound with wire and the corners cut off) must be mentioned, as he says he has epitomised and rendered unnecessary the work of herr H. O. Kluge and himself published in 1870.

Hans Müller 1891 is the first German author to mention the side-stroke, or what he calls English swimming. His description shows that he has not grasped the peculiarity of the stroke in its entirety, and leaves much to be desired. It seems from his account that, notwithstanding that a certificate is required, teachers have still something to learn.

A posthumous work by Carl edler von Orofino published at Wien in 1894, *Swimming as an art and a sport*, gives a summary of methods then known for teaching.

A treatise on teaching swimming to cavalry, translated from Russian into German, was published at Wien in 1894. There is no other treatise on this subject.

In 1901 a book was published with the title of *The sport of swimming*. This word sport is not used because the book differs from its predecessors, but because it forms one of a series called *The library of sport and games*. If another edition should be required, the author herr Altenstein might take a higher view of the art, and eliminate the word sport. His book is seriously written for swimmers and not as a sport: nevertheless it is remarkable as being a modern old fashioned treatise. The only modern introduction is the part on water polo.

The German literature is manly and earnest, and not written like most of the treatises in English, French and other languages, as if the art were only one to be learnt by children. If it were not for the later books in English, and the astonishing manner in which swimming has progressed with us during the last half century, I doubt if I should not have to assign first place to Germany. Such a thing would not surprise anyone who considers that this great country has a population double that of England.

SUMMARY OF BOOKS IN FRENCH

These do not begin until a hundred and nine years after the English, and then only with a translation of the first book published in England by Everard Digby. Even then the publication seems to have been more or less a matter of chance, for Thevenot librarian to the French king Louis XIV, who translated Digby's book from the Latin, died without ever publishing it, and it did not eventually appear until two years after his death.

It soon became known and had two editions in Paris, and within three years was translated into English and published in London. For over a century it was the most popular book on the subject in France and England. Though a scholar Thevenot was not a swimmer, which accounts for his not correcting any of the defects of the original.

In 1741 Dr Bachstrom published a little book which he called *L'art de nager*, but which he should have called *How not to swim*, as it is written for the purpose of advertising a cork jacket he invented. He was a Silesian, but as he has chosen to write in French I mention his book here, though it was published at Amsterdam. As his country was taken by Frederic the great the same year, Bachstrom would probably have been strongly against being classed as a German. He makes a curious suggestion for accustoming us while babies to staying under water. Then if the nose was only on the top of our head, he thought we should swim naturally, but even here he found 'balance' had to be learnt.

In 1775 the abbé de la Chapelle published a treatise to make known his invention of a buoyant dress which he called a *scaphandre*. He was a learned man and said to be a member of our Royal Society. His essay, incidentally on swimming, has been often referred to.

In 1783 appeared a treatise by Nicolas Roger 'professional diver.' Little notice would have been taken of it but for the fact of its being reprinted in 1786 in the great *Encyclopédie méthodique*. Though a small treatise this has made it play rather a big part. It was reprinted in 1787, with a hint that Roger was not a real name and therefore that the professional diver was a sham. It has been frequently reprinted right up to the present day, and translated into German and Spanish. In 1829 in *La France littéraire* iii p 119, Quérard disclosed the fact that it was the work of Gabriel Feydel a barrister. One of its best points is the advocating swimming baths for Paris.

I had expected much from the *Théorie du nager de l'homme* by Fournier, 1815, but found it a scientific windbag.

The next work, first published in 1823 and lastly in 1836, is the most creditable publication in French: its author, the vicomte de Courtivron, was a first rate swimmer for his day, and could stop hours in the water; a man of education and an enthusiast in the art, he spared no pains to make his book as perfect as possible. He took his young artist to the bath to get the positions accurate, but he was not entirely successful. The artist was not himself a swimmer, and he was unfortunately drowned before he had completed his task.

The best description of the qualities necessary for a strong swimmer is that I have translated from Courtivron.

He read all that had been published in French, and was the first in any language to give a bibliography. His work was a considerable advance on all previous publications. It was the most thorough and is still, after three quarters of a century, the best book the French have.

I must notice *L'art de nager* in the *Manuel Roret* by Julia de Fontenelle, 1838, as it is well known and has had such a large amount of praise. The swimming is a miserable piece of patchwork plagiarism written to order and published to sell.

A pamphlet published in 1840 by Turbri is original; he is the first French writer to give the wedge in the breast stroke. He says there are 33 ways of swimming, which is an advance on 29 Courtivron's number. Turbri was translated into Spanish.

In the same year we have a pamphlet that has had an extraordinary number of editions, chiefly in consequence of the perseverance of the publisher Desloges. The treatise, which is original, first appeared in 1840 as part of a work by Dr Raymond, from which it was taken and issued anonymously three years after with the title *Traité de la natation*. The publication proceeds until the sixth edition in 1859, when without any notice whatever the title is altered to *La natation naturelle à l'homme*. The alteration however would seem to imply that some one who thought about the matter was looking after the book.

In 1855 Desloges was probably dead as another publisher's name is added to his, and the new publisher puts a name of author to it, namely Renault, which is now said to be a pseudonym of Desloges. The latter had fathered the book so long that tradition probably assigned its authorship to him; and fate has assigned to me the task of spending weeks in ferreting out the real facts, which love of truth should have made unnecessary.

One more deception and the story of the nine editions, let us hope, is finished. In 1899, though published with the title *La natation naturelle* etc, it is advertised in the publisher's list under another title *Natation ou l'art de nager*, Desloges' name being left out entirely.

Paris dans l'eau, by Briffault, 1844, is a delightful book, with much that is original, author and artist reveling in fun such as only Frenchmen can imagine. It owes much of its celebrity to the exquisite drawings of Bertall, correctness in swimming positions being a mere secondary consideration. I have reproduced the artist's idea of a man floating and show how it would really be.

About 1847 D'Argy, an officer in the French army, who seems to have been most expert in the water, took up the teaching on land by means of a drill. It had some practical success. A drill instruction book was issued with his name in 1851, but it is evident that, from the ignorance and neglect of swimming, the drill has only survived in theory. Comparatively few Frenchmen (who, like the Germans, are subjected to the hated law of conscription) swim, though theoretically they all do. D'Argy probably obtained his idea from Germany, where a land drill had been in use some years before. This in fact is suggested by Auerbach in 1873.

The French drill was adopted by some Germans.

A pamphlet by Esprit emanating in 1864 from a celebrated French town which reminds us of London with its smoke, dirt, business and big bridges, that is Lyon, is like the town itself original and bold and full of spirit. Mons Berthillot of Lyon gives instructions (in 1889) for a swimming quadrille, which I never found in any other publication.

Amiens is another nice French town which has given us several treatises, one as early as 1675 by Lanquer is not on swimming, but about a life belt he invented. There is another in 1866, and lastly one by Wallon in 1894.

A treatise by Duffô has some good points, but the author praising Julia de Fontenelle shows how difficult it is to judge of the merit of a book, when you only have a little knowledge. He draws on his imagination when he says Franklin traversed lakes of several miles in extent by means of his kite.

In 1868 Napoléon Laisné published a treatise on 'natation à sec' or learning on land. He also refers to Julia!

Brisset in 1870 is another to testify to the few Frenchmen who can swim, and so does Christmann in 1887 and Saint Albin in 1889.

About 1881 another edition was issued by Delarue of his wretched compilation from Roger, which I have referred to under date 1783.

La natation, a well got up work issued with every appearance of originality, forming one of a series entitled Petite bibliothèque athlétique, by G. de Saint-Clair, is simply amazing for its brazen faced plagiarisms and ignorance of swimming.

If all the articles in La grande Encyclopédie are as incompetent as that on swimming it must be a poor production. It fully carries out the view of most of the French writers that swimming is little cultivated still in their country. In fact there is no single treatise in French that is worthy to be called a book of instruction for the present day.

There are two very noticeable and good features in the French books, one is that they are dated and the other is that there are none written under the names of celebrated professionals who have won races.

It is marvellous, and to the inexperienced eye incredible, how dictionaries and encyclopædias simply copy each other, without an attempt either to verify quotations or facts. Dr Murray in *The Transactions of the philological society* 1880-1 p 127.

ENGLISH AND FRENCH AND AMERICAN ENCYCLOPEDIAS

The encyclopædias copy or plagiarise one another in a remarkable manner.

The first is English, that of Ephraim Chambers 1728, second edition 1738. His article was copied by Diderot and D'Alembert in their celebrated *Encyclopédie* 1765.

In 1786 the *Encyclopédie méthodique* published its volume with a long article on swimming, very little of it original.

The *Encyclopædia*¹ *Britannica* in 1797 translated from this without acknowledgment.

The *Encyclopædia Perthensis* 1816 copied Ephraim Chambers: Rees 1819 is an enlarged edition of Chambers.

The Oxford encyclopædia 1828 copied the *Ency. Brit.*

The Edinburgh encyclopædia 1830 has nothing original.

Lieber's *Encyclopædia Americana* 1832 is original. The British cyclopædia 1835 copied this without acknowledgment.

The *Dictionnaire de la conversation* in 1837 has a superficial article.

Blaine in 1840 though an encyclopedia of sport is not worth mentioning.

The Penny cyclopædia 1842 is original.

The *Encyclopædia metropolitana* 1845 has an insufficient article considering the importance of the work.

¹ The spelling of this word with two nice looking letters spoilt by being stuck together makes it look ugly and archaic, but it has resulted in the disuse of the English spelling encyclopedia, which I have used since I read in the O.E.D. that 'The spelling with æ has been preserved from becoming obsolete by the fact that many of the works so called have Latin titles, as *Encyclopædia Britannica*.'

The National cyclopædia 1850 with editions to [1887], has about two columns—very slight alteration in new issues.

Encyclopédie des connaissances utiles [1850] is another issue of the Instruction pour le peuple, 1847, a copy of Chambers's Information for the people, though the article, a poor one, is not copied from this. It hardly counts as an encyclopedia.

The Encyclopédie du 19^e siècle 1853 plagiarises Diderot and others.

The Popular encyclopædia 1862 reprints Lieber without acknowledgment.

W & R Chambers's Encyclopædia 1867 has a short article. An entirely new article was given in 1892.

The American cyclopædia 1876 and Johnson's New universal cyclopædia 1877 both very poor.

The ninth edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica 1878 has an entirely new and good treatise on the art.

Le grand dictionnaire illustré 1884 copies its illustrations from Cassell's Book of sports.

The Encyclopædia of sport 1898 is very good.

La grande encyclopédie vol 24, Paris [1899]: the article is not worth notice.

THE LITERATURE OF SWIMMING

INTRODUCTION

or general observations on practical points chiefly arising out of the comments in the bibliography, in which more information and fuller authority will be found for all the statements. The arrangement of the subjects is arbitrary, there seemed no way of giving them in regular sequence. In some instances the headings might be interchanged. Readers should make cross references, as few are suggested. For list of the articles see table of contents.

ALL ANIMALS DO NOT SWIM

That all animals swim is a common mistake. It is said the following cannot

Ants, apes, camels, fowls, giraffes, llamas, monkeys.

Camels,¹ giraffes and fowls can swim if balanced! Pigs can swim, but it has been a tradition for centuries that they cut their own throats in the act. Some horses are incapable of being taught to swim.

THE ANCIENTS AND OTHERS AS SWIMMERS

I am not a believer in the marvelous or universal swimming of the ancients and subsequent peoples. True we have accounts of the great feats performed, and the further we go back the greater the feats.

Perhaps there were good swimmers in early days, and what they did the whole population seems to have got the credit of being able to do.

¹ I gave these facts on the authority of Mr J. G. Millais, but since they were printed I have met two men, who have spent most of their lives in India: the one denied, but the other positively asserted, that camels can swim. I have looked without result, at several encyclopedias, and an edition of Goldsmith's *Animated nature* published at Glasgow in 1840 in 2 volumes, which gives more information than Wood's well known *Natural history* 1870 in 3 vols. Possibly now that attention is directed to the subject, writers will in future give some information as to the swimming of animals. A friend who has traveled a great deal, informs me that the camel can work three days without drinking, and that the British workman can drink three days without working.

Professor De Morgan has commented on this kind of adventitious fame in his bibliography entitled *Arithmetical books* (1847 p vi), where he suggests that great men would always fill a large space, but they are made by subsequent writers to fill all space.

Mr Froude in the final chapter of his *Cæsar* has some good general remarks on the manner in which distinguished men, Cæsar in particular he thought, were the subjects of legend, which it soothes our vanity to expose, so as to show that the great man was after all not so wonderful.

The earliest account we have of former nations swimming is on the Assyrian sculptures. They were not done with the purpose of illustrating swimming, but because the subject necessarily occurs.

None of the instruction books have ventured to tell us that all Assyrian soldiers learnt to swim, though they write this so glibly of the Greeks and Romans and the modern French and German conscript.

The people now living around the site of what we call Assyria, adjacent to the river Tigris, do not swim for exercise or amusement as do Europeans, but only when it is necessary.¹ The Assyrians had an aversion to swimming, as they had to going in ships. They refer to the Babylonians of South Chaldea as 'the fishes' on account of their swimming.

From the absence of any sculpture depicting a king and his court with attendants swimming, I assume that the Assyrians no more swam for pleasure thousands of years ago than they do now, for many other things are the same as shown in these wonderful sculptures.

¹ Dr Budge, keeper of the Egyptian and Assyrian department British Museum, informs me that in the fifteen years he was in the East he never saw an Assyrian swim for pleasure. It is always on business. He says a mussuk is often a necessity, as a large fish infests the rivers which can grip a man's stomach and draw it out. The mussuk is a protection against this. The rivers too are often rapid, flowing at the rate of nine miles an hour, and a mussuk thus he thinks assists going with the stream. The rivers will sometimes rise from two to fifteen feet in the course of a few hours. The skins are still blown up with the mouth. In North Syria the Arabs still cross the Euphrates on the mussuk.

The fish above mentioned reads so much like a tale from 'le sieur Le Blanc Marseillois' referred to in another place, that I should be afraid to give it except from the source I do. The fish must have acquired this cruel habit from seeing the barbarities practiced by the ancient Assyrians on their prisoners of war so minutely depicted in these sculptures.

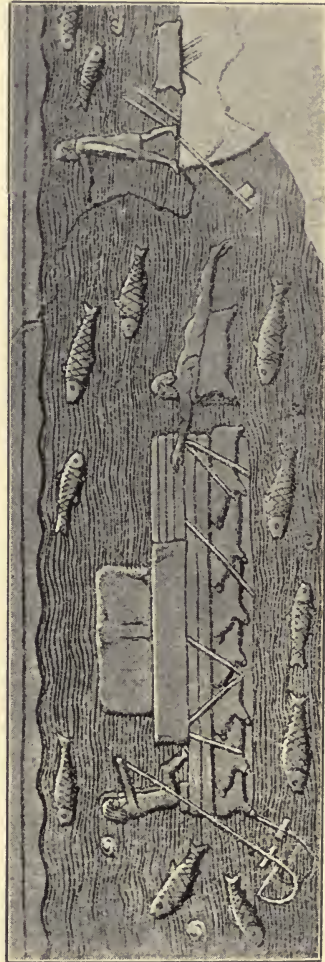
I have made no attempt to check the accuracy of the drawings given by Layard. That the artist did not always follow the original is shown by plate iii second series 1853 as to which Layard says (p 1) 'The details in the wings of the human-headed bull have been added by mistake in the plate, only part of them had been put in by the Assyrian sculptor.'

It might reasonably be supposed by Europeans that the Assyrians were not good swimmers, because of the frequent use of the goat skins and other artificial aids. The contrary is however the proper inference, I am informed. From trials I have made I can well believe it to be true, that it requires long practice to ride a mussuk, and instead of being a sign of want of skill it is the very contrary. To use the mussuk skilfully so as to fish or swim, it requires to be learnt when a child.

When I first saw the illustrations here reproduced¹ it occurred to me how much like the position of the man on the mussuk was to the figures illustrating the breast stroke in some of our books, and yet it is fairly certain he was not swimming this stroke. Although the sculptor has represented both the man's legs straight out at the same time, I do not believe it is correct; one should have been straight and the other bent, about to make the stroke. He is probably helping to push along the raft, also supported on inflated skins. An hotel keeper once told me that when he employed three waiters to do the work, he then had to employ a man to look after them. This is the exact proportion required, it will be observed, in Assyrian days!

We must notice the artistic skill with which the attendant fish are placed about the swimmers. Whether there was any religious

¹ This and the following illustrations depicting the Assyrians are reproduced from sir Austen Henry Layard's works by permission of Mr John Murray, the publisher of Albemarle street.



From Layard's Monuments of Nineveh 1853 second series folio, plate 13 (reduced one fourth).



From Layard's Monuments of Nineveh, second series 1853 plate 41, see next page.

symbolism in their being there is a question that may yet be answered some day, though it is 2600 years ago since it was sculptured (these marbles are all between 880 and 650 B.C.).

Whether the fish were supposed to have accompanied the raft in that regular order all the way is a question I fear can never be answered. But my readers must not grumble, as with my book generally they must be thankful for the crumbs I give, and not want a whole loaf.

We can see a good reason why these four warriors from plate 41 (see p 80 reduced one half) should swim on mussuks, they would no doubt desire to keep their loads as dry as they could. But men below, who have no loads, are preparing their skins.

Here are two men riding inflated skins and fishing, reproduced same size, from plate 12. The pairs of rowers appear to be pulling against each other! This slab seems to illustrate the arts and crafts, as it not only shows the above, but how a sculptured bull was drawn along and other incidents. In the legend of Adapa found at Tel el Amurna, and dating from B.C. 1450,

the fisherman Adapa was evidently using a mussuk and not a boat.

This sculpture from plate 48 (reduced about one third see p 82) depicts at the top the triumph of the Assyrian king, who is receiving the homage of the conquered. The underneath part shows the horrors of war.





I fear that most if not all the men in the water are dead, probably all, but some of them seem to me doubtful. One is the man facing the horse. If the sculptor had only put this man's arms in the usual way, giving the stroke one arm after another, instead of together, it would pass for the 'human stroke.' The men just above him are clearly undone. The man to the extreme right, who is shot with an arrow, is turning his toes up as a sign of weakness (?); but I take the indication of the movement in the water to mean that he is still struggling with his right arm and left leg. The man underneath him is swimming a vigorous stroke, which is apparently given with the heel and foot (animal stroke) not with the instep as in the

human stroke (q.v. § a) and one after another. I fear the accuracy of the artist cannot be relied on.

The reader will observe that all the tunics are short or tucked up, an important detail frequently disregarded by the sculptor.

The only mention of swimming I find in Layard's works is the following

'Three warriors, probably escaping from the enemy, are swimming across the stream; two of them on inflated skins, in the mode practised to this day by the Arabs inhabiting the banks of the rivers of Assyria and Mesopotamia; except that in the bas-relief, the swimmers are pictured as retaining the aperture, through which the air is forced, in their mouths. The third, pierced by arrows discharged from the bows of the high-capped warriors kneeling on the bank, is struggling without the support of a skin against the current.'
Nineveh and its remains by A. H. Layard 1849 vol i p 128.

This must refer to the slab I now reproduce a portion of (reduced one half see p 85).

Sinclair and Henry (1893 p 2) give a reproduction of this slab photographed from the original. With regard to Layard's suggestion that one man is struggling against the current I am doubtful, nor does he repeat it in the folio description, but that the other two who are also swimming the same way, could swim against the current with those mussuks to impede them, especially as each only has one hand free, I feel to be impossible, as I do also the act of the two men who have the aperture of the skin in their mouths. Layard throws no doubt on this. In *Nineveh and Babylon* (p 441) he says they blew up the skins, on land, as they do now.

I think the sculptor has taken artistic licence¹ and he has endeavored in one picture to represent two distinct actions. That their legs are also rendered useless is no doubt another artistic licence, as is also the representation of the thumb away from the fingers. All these details, which I have not the slightest doubt are incorrect, show that the sculptor was not a swimmer.²

There is little doubt that the Assyrian stroke was 'hand-over-hand' with the alternate stroke of the legs. So also was the Greek, to judge from the coin of Abydos, which is illustrated under 'how different nations swim.'

In plate 28 second series, which I reproduce (reduced one third), we see a swimmer towing a boat. I infer from the position of his

¹ This kind of licence is not uncommon. I pointed out one with regard to the omission of rowlocks in the Assyrian boats in N & Q 29 april 1899 p 325.

² I am informed that there is a letter of an Assyrian official in which he states that three prisoners escaped from him, but two were drowned because they could not swim.

legs that he is moving them one after the other and not striking both out together.



Layard calls this 'conquest of a tribe inhabiting a marsh.'



Assyrian warriors discharging arrows against three fugitives, crossing a stream to reach a castle. Layard Monuments of Nineveh 1849 in folio p 8 and plate 33 and slab 6* in the Assyrian room, British Museum. In the inscription of Assurnazir Pal (B.C. 885) which this sculpture illustrates, he says 'they fled — like fishes they crossed the river.' The scene here is at Tul Barsip, the modern Kalat Nedjim on the Euphrates, see p 83.

The following shows that they did not always swim with their clothes on, though they have belts and one has a cap. It also shows



Embarcation of a chariot and warriors preparing to cross a river (reduced one third) from M. of N. 1849 p 16.

the blowing out and tying up of the goat skin. Sinclair and Henry (p 3) reproduce a portion of this photographed from the original slab.

In all these cases we only have the arms. The manner in which the legs are pictured in the Assyrian sculptures does not enable me to decide on the stroke. The same may be said of Leander's on the coin of Abydos. They were both, I should think, the action I call the 'human stroke' (see under breast stroke § a) with the difference that the arms come out of, instead of moving under, the water. The Assyrian artist never depicts any roll of the body as is frequently seen in the hand-over-hand stroke. There could be no roll when an artificial aid is used.

I cannot help expressing a feeling of satisfaction that these ancient works of art belong to us, and are so well housed, so much valued and so well taken care of. Nor can we feel too grateful to all those who had a share in securing these wonderful marbles for this country, and as custodians for the world in general.

I have reproduced a number of these as the only 'literature' we have from the Assyrians, because they are so curious and are only to be found in large and expensive books to which few have access, and also because this subject has never been enquired into before.

Whether the ancient Egyptians were swimmers I have not been able to find out. Mr E. W. Lane never once mentions the subject of swimming or bathing. Sir J. G. Wilkinson (*Ancient Egyptians* 1878 v 2 p 353) says 'we have little knowledge of the nature of their baths,' but he infers that bathing was considered 'a luxury as well as a necessary comfort.' Rosellini in his monumental work on the Egyptians gives no illustrations of swimming, though in one a number of figures are in the water dead.

EUROPEAN NATIONS AND SWIMMING

The vicomte de Courtivron (*La Natation* 1836 p 20) describes Cæsar 'tenant en sa main gauche ses tablettes hors de l'eau et traînant sa cotte d'armes avec ses dents.'

Courtivron pictures these Romans swimming 'avec une célérité incroyable'; well the Italians have not kept it up, for our English swimmers beat them all easily in Italy in August 1901.

The venerable John Williams in *The life of Julius Cæsar* (1854 p 344) says Cæsar 'had to throw himself from a sinking vessel into the water, and to escape by swimming. We read that with a sword between his teeth, and with some valuable papers in his left, he made use of his right hand in propelling himself to a place of safety.'

The reverend gentleman was evidently not a swimmer or he would have used a more skilful term than 'throw himself,' and not omitted Cæsar's legs, which would be more than twice as good as one hand for propulsion.

Cæsar a sketch, by J. A. Froude M.A. (1886 p 448) describing the revolt in Alexandria says 'Once with a sudden rush they carried a ship, in which Cæsar was present in person, and he was obliged to swim for his life. Legend is more absurd than usual over this incident. It pretends that he swam with one hand, and carried his Commentaries, holding them above water, with the other. As if a general would take his manuscripts with him into a hot action!'

Here Froude does not make as much of the absurdity as he might have, as he leaves out the sword in the mouth!

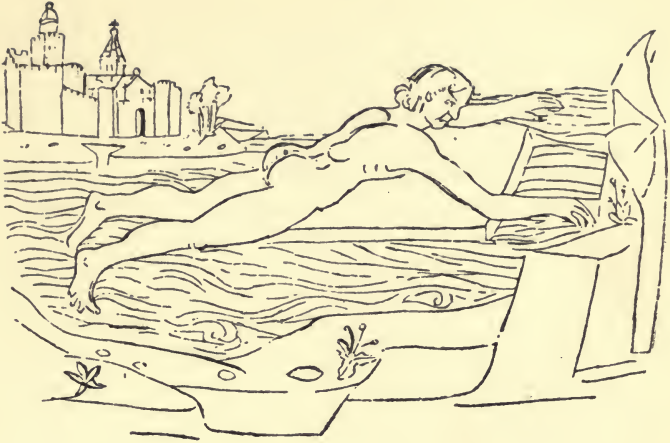
A truly difficult feat. Cæsar was then about 52 so that he must have had good teeth, as it could scarcely have been done by any person who had any acquaintance with 'American crown, bridge and bar work.' But the whole story bristles with impossibilities. If swimming was as universal as presently mentioned, how comes it that tradition has made so much of this exploit which would be thought little of when everybody could do it?

In English the first account we have of swimming is in the Anglo Saxon heroic poem of Beowulf; and in this we find the arms mentioned but not the legs. Beowulf dates from the year 600, the marvels he performed have no parallel. He was seven nights in the sea, in a coat of mail, and killed numerous water demons with his sword.

Clias tells us that 'Charlemagne [A D 768] was one of the best swimmers of his time; and Louis XI [A D 1424] swam very often in the Seine, with all his courtiers. A vulgar proverb...has consecrated the extreme importance which the Romans and Greeks attached to swimming; they were accustomed to say of an ignorant man, he neither knows how to read nor to swim.' This saying is retailed in most of the books, from Mercurialis upwards: it requires more credulity than I have to believe it true.

As to the above kings Charlemagne and Louis they too both lived a long time ago, and Clias observes the usual reticence about that period of 656 years between them. How one would like to know what stroke 'Charles the great' swam, or even Louis XI. I have little doubt as Louis is only a hundred years earlier than Winmann that it was the stroke I describe as 'human.'

As an instance of the impossible take the cut on p 89 from *De re militari* of Valturius, 1472 (reduced). It is needless to say that nothing solid of the size of the float would keep out of the water with a man on it, and in the position represented he could do little towards propulsion.



Or take the cuts I reproduce under Olaus Magnus 1555, who tells what extraordinary swimmers the Norwegians were and how they could swim in armor, and dive and take it off under water, so as to elude an enemy.

Pontoppidan (who was a Dane but became a bishop in Norway) in 'The natural history of Norway' (London 1775 part ii p 246) says that formerly the Norwegian youths not only among the common people, but also among 'those in a more elevated station, were trained up to wrestling, riding, swimming,' etc and on p 248 he quotes a passage from 'Snorro Sturlesen's Norwegian chronicles' where the Icelander says after enumerating his other accomplishments, that king 'Olaf Tryggesen' had no equal in swimming.¹ If the kings and rulers of the present day would only give out that they were even moderate swimmers, it would advance the art considerably.

BATHING WHILE HOT

It is a universal popular fallacy that it is injurious to bathe while hot, and that you must wait until you get cool.

The celebrated philosopher, John Locke, gives this advice in Some thoughts concerning education 1693.

Dr J. Mackenzie in The history of health 1740, says 'swimming in cold water after violent exercise is pleasant but pernicious.'

¹ Mr H. Ellington in The Nineteenth century review, 1887 xxi 525 says 'as we do not know the powers of...swimming that the men of his time had, we cannot judge of his ability from the fact that he excelled them.'

Franklin says

'During the great heats of summer there is no danger in bathing, however warm we may be, in rivers which have been thoroughly warmed by the sun. But to throw oneself into cold spring water, when the body has been heated by exercise in the sun, is an imprudence which may prove fatal' (Works by Sparks vi 291). He then gives an instance of its being fatal, but the instance is that of harvesters who were no doubt *tired* as well as heated, and as Mr J. G. Wood (A handbook 1858 p 17) says, suffered because they were tired and not because they were heated. Moreover it will be observed Franklin says cold spring water, and his harvesters had probably been drinking a good deal. In fact the idea prevails from the earliest to some of the latest writers, notwithstanding its frequent refutation. I will quote some to the contrary. Francois Le Vaillant in *Deuxieme voyage dans l'Afrique* 1783 (volume 3 p 232 or translation p 224) though not a swimmer says, 'Arriving at a picturesque spot, and being worn out with fatigue and the heat I could not resist the pleasure of taking a bath,' which greatly refreshed him.

In James Bruce's *Travels to discover the source of the Nile* 1790 vol 3 p 47 he says, 'In Nubia never scruple to throw yourself into the coldest river or spring you can find, in whatever degree of heat you are,' but he ascribes the immunity from the consequences which are usually supposed to result from doing this, to the heat of the country.

Advice on this subject was given by the earliest writers. In book 1 sec 51 of the works of Paulus Ægineta (AD circa 600 translated by F. Adams 1844) he says 'I think well of the cold bath, and yet I do not say that it is proper for those who use no restriction as to diet, but only to those who live correctly, and take exercise and food seasonably. It may answer with most people very well, when they want to get much cooled, to swim during the season of summer, provided they are young and brawny, and have been previously heated by friction. They ought to attend, however, that they are not in a state of lassitude from venery or any other cause, nor suffering from indigestion, nor after vomiting, nor after evacuation of the bowels, nor when in want of sleep. It may be attended with danger if used at random.'

In *Hints on sea bathing* by Dr E. Dering Walker of Teignmouth [1852] he considered the question as one of importance, and says, p 37 'There is, however, great reason for believing that this plan [of gradually cooling] is injudicious, and that unless the body is in a state of very copious perspiration, it is safer to undress as quickly as possible, and plunge directly into the water. It is safer to do this

than to wait until the body has become partially cool.' This view the doctor supports by various authorities.

Mr Wood repudiates the idea of cooling in A handbook 1858 and in Every boy's magazine 1864 : so does Steedman 1867 p 16.

Brewster 1885 says the common notion is a mistake.

Martin Cobbett 1890 says he never found the slightest inconvenience from plunging in 'hissing hot.'

I have often gone in while in a perspiration as an experiment and found no ill effects. I think if a person who was heated *and tired*, stopped in more than a minute or two, ill effects might perhaps follow.

THE BERNARDI METHOD OF UPRIGHT SWIMMING

In 1794 a Napolitan canon Oronzio de Bernardi published a big book in two volumes quarto, under distinguished patronage, on what he called his method of swimming. It was translated into German in 1797 which enabled Guts Muths to notice it in 1798. After this it had a long rest, for Bernardi and his upright method are not mentioned by any other writer until the vicomte de Courtivron in 1823.

In 1824 there was another German issue. This was noticed in the Quarterly Review 1826. The writer is presumed to have been James Skene.

I have rescued Franklin's name from the aspersions cast on it, and now I do the same for Bernardi. The following errors illustrate over again, how alert is the evil genius of swimming, in which with only half a chance everything will go wrong.

The article in the Quarterly Review is clever, but unfortunately a trap for those with little knowledge ; into this trap the reviewer's own countryman Donald Walker was the first to fall without suspicion. In his Manly exercises in 1834, a book that became very popular at once, he wrote learnedly of the Bernardi method, without acknowledging that it was all from the Review. Thenceforth many of the instruction books gave the Bernardi method, plagiarised from Walker. Not one of the writers ever had any practical knowledge of the method, nor did they know what was the difference between it and what the English call 'treading water,' that is swimming upright and moving the hands and feet in almost any way that does not sink you.

The half chance of going wrong arises in this way. In the Quarterly Review, Skene makes it appear that Bernardi claimed that when balancing himself in an upright position, a person by a stroke of the arms could propel himself the length of his body. Bernardi also

makes, what appear to be, preposterous claims for facility in learning, distance, and speed in swimming of three miles an hour. Skene probably believed in three miles an hour as he does not flout the idea, nor does he that of Nicola the 'fish' swimming fifty miles.

These claims were not disputed until 1857 when Richardson threw doubt upon them. However, this had no effect, the books found it easier to plagiarise from Walker than to test the truth from Bernardi's own book, moreover, at this time so very little was known as to what could be accurately done that most people believed a man could swim five or six miles an hour.

The next writer to throw doubt on the Canon's method is Steedman (1867 p 114); he says

'Certainly Bernardi, who is allowed by many¹ to be a great authority, considers that because mankind adopts the upright posture in walking, it is also the one best adapted for him in swimming, the more especially as quadrupeds use the same action in both.'

He then refutes this idea: 'ludicrous' he calls it; and he says

'There is but one well known exception to the rule that fishes retain a horizontal position when swimming. It is the Hippocampus, or sea-horse, which swims vertically or in an upright position. But as it is probably the slowest of all fishes in its progress, it serves to strengthen the argument in favour of horizontal swimming, and thus to refute Signor Oronzio de Bernardi.'... 'He actually goes so far as to say that a good swimmer, by his method, the upright one, "ought to make a progress of about three miles an hour." This is simply impossible' in still water.

Well the fact is, that Bernardi never made these claims for his method. This is shown by the quotations I give in the bibliography. The mistake has arisen from the Quarterly Reviewer not understanding the passages, or not making himself sufficiently clear as to the first and as to the second 'three miles an hour,' not knowing that no man ever had swum at such a rate. It is true that Bernardi uses the word mile, but a mile with him was not the same as our mile, any more than it is with a German. As I have already said all the writers who copied the review were equally ignorant as to the rate a man could swim, not one of them throws a doubt upon it.

But perhaps the most curious thing is the contempt of the Italian writers for the Bernardi method. Only one mentions it, Abondati, who takes Bernardi's figures without mentioning him, in his treatise on gymnastics 1846.

¹ 'many' refers to the writers, of whose 'authority' I show the worthlessness; but Steedman did not know this.

THE BREAST STROKE

If my account of this stroke is accurate, as I believe it to be, its development is most curious. All the more so because no single writer ever says 'this stroke was formerly swum in such a style, but is now different.' Dr Louis Robinson in 1893, as indeed have previous writers, observed, 'There can be little doubt that the frog-like action of civilised people is purely artificial,' so it is now, but I shall show how it has become so by gradual changes in the course of centuries. It has been evolved from a simple natural stroke, which I call the 'human stroke' (a) to distinguish it from the frog and animals. The stroke most natural to human beings appears to me to be that which most resembles their action in walking and running. This is the stroke (a) which the Slavonic races still swim. Even in this manner the legs do not keep to their natural movements, though the arms do to an extent, at all events to just the same extent as a dog's forelegs. The arms in walking move up and down without purpose, but in swimming they are thrust out in front and one after the other, brought back with a vigorous pull; the legs, slightly separated, give alternately a vigorous and sharp kick from the knee joint, the upper part or thigh not assisting. It is similar to an animal, but an animal kicks with the back part of the leg, and man in this stroke (a) with the front.

I have endeavored in a condensed form to show the various changes. I have marked the above stroke (a). Then I imagine came a small change (b); the hands instead of working one after another were thrust out together, the legs still kicking alternatively, a kick each for one stroke of the hands. In this position (b) the hands started by assuming a position as in praying. Whether there was any religious symbolism in this is beyond my purpose to enquire. Here again some day perhaps scholars may help us. The 'praying' attitude still survives in England though discarded by most teachers for nearly fifty years, but it is the universal way on the Continent.

The next and subsequent alterations are not speculations, they are clearly defined by German and English writers. The first was (c) [the hands together as before and] both legs kicking at the same time the natural or 'human kick,' but a little artificial as the leg kick was no longer alternate.

The next alteration (d) some three hundred years after was most important, as the legs instead of the 'human kick' from the front of the leg, shin and instep gave the kick with the soles wide apart, and then brought the legs together, the insides wedging the water away. But other changes of importance took place before the

stroke got to its present state, these took some fifty years to bring about. It will thus be seen how gradual was the change from the natural to the 'purely artificial.'

Winmann (1538) tells his pupil to watch how frogs swim with their hinder feet. Digby (1587) says 'his legs he must easily pull out and in,' and Percey his translator 'drawing up your legs and extending them straight again.' This is clearly what was considered to be the stroke of the frog and it must have been a common idea, for playwrights do not introduce out of the way things in their plays, but those that are well known. In *The Virtuoso*, a comedy published in 1676 by Thomas Shadwell, poet laureate, he gives the following scene. He of course believed the frog to be a good example, and therefore I have little doubt that he only intended to ridicule the idea of learning on land.

Lady Gimcrack. The truth on't is, he's learning to swim.

Longvil. Is there any Water hereabouts, Madam?

L. Gim. He does not learn to swim in the Water, Sir.

Bruce. Not in the Water, Madam! how then?

L. Gim. In his Laboratory, a spacious Room, where all his Instruments and fine Knacks are.

Longvil. How is this possible?

L. Gim. Why he has a Swimming-Master comes to him.

Bruce. A Swimming-Master! this is beyond all president—
(*aside*) He is the most curious Coxcomb breathing—

L. Gim. He has a Frog in a Bowl of Water, ty'd with a pack-thred by the loins; which pack-thred Sir Nicholas holds in his teeth, lying upon his belly on a Table; and as the Frog strikes, he strikes; and his Swimming-Master stands by, to tell him when he does well or ill. (act ii)

Further on the scene 'discovers Sir Nicholas learning to swim upon a Table, Sir Formal Trifle and the Swimming-Master standing by.'

Sir Formal. In earnest this is very fine: I doubt not, Sir, but in a short space of time, you will arrive at that curiosity, in this watery Science, that not a Frog breathing will exceed you. Though, I confess, it is the most curious of all amphibious Animals (in the Art, shall I say, or rather Nature of Swimming).

Swim. Master. Ah! well struck, Sir Nicholas; &c.

Then other characters enter and Longvil says 'Tis a noble Invention.

Lady Gimcrack. 'Tis a thing the Colledge never thought of.

Sir Nicholas. Let me rest a little to respire. So, it is wonderful, my noble Friend, to observe the agility of this pretty Animal

which notwithstanding I impede its motion, by the detention of this Filum or Thred within my Teeth, which makes a ligature about its loins, and though by many sudden stops I cause the Animal sometimes to sink or immerge, yet with indefatigable activity it rises, and keeps almost its whole body upon the superficies or surface of this humid Element.

Then after some conversation

Longvil. Have you ever tri'd in the Water, Sir ?

Sir Nicholas. No, Sir ; but I swim most exquisitely on Land.

Bruce. Do you intend to practise in the Water, Sir ?

Sir Nic. Never, Sir ; I hate the Water, I never come upon the Water, Sir.

Longvil. Then there will be no use of Swimming.

Sir Nic. I content my self with the Speculative part of Swimming, I care not for the Practick. I seldom bring anything to use, 'tis not my way. The Virtuoso act ii sc 2.

In those days there was no talented caricurist to draw the situation from life, but 200 years after we still find the subject one for laughter, and I am able to give a drawing by Mr Linley Sambourne and an account by Mr Molloy, of a similar event from Our autumn holiday 1874.¹

The author was in France, he had donned his ' costume ' (drawers) and was preparing to plunge, but he was stopped by men with ropes graphically illustrated by Mr Sambourne ; they insisted on attaching him, until they were satisfied he could swim. Nothing else would do, they had been deceived too often by non-swimmers.² Then Mr Molloy says ' While dressing, we remarked two veteran *baigneurs* or swimming masters—with beards like the old Imperial Guards—standing near, smoking their pipes. We happened to ask them for a towel or something.

“ *Pardon—demandez là-bas ! Nous attendons notre Monsieur !* ”

‘ Later on we had occasion to ask again ; but received the same answer.

“ *Nous attendons notre Monsieur !* ”

‘ And presently down the wooden steps, and through the narrow wicket, came a very short absurdly fat man.

¹ By the courtesy of Messrs Bradbury, Agnew and company, limited, the publishers.

² This seems absurd, but it is a common experience in the public baths, for men who cannot swim to spring from the board into six feet of water, when they have to be fished out half drowned. The attendants generally keep a suspicious eye on such bathers. When I observed, ‘ what pluck,’ the reply came sharply, ‘ not pluck sir !—no brains.’

'The two *baigneurs* saluted.

'He squeezed with difficulty into one of the sentry-boxes, and in ten minutes emerged radiant in bathing drawers of defiant red.

'He also wore swimming sandals, and on his bald head an oilskin.

'“Must see him go in,” we said. “What a hole he'll make!”

'But he went no further than the middle of the platform.'

Then Mr Linley Sambourne illustrates the situation.



The 'monsieur' was assisted in this way for a quarter of an hour, when instead of going into the water, he returned to his cabin. The travelers with surprise ask, 'Does "notre monsieur" practise like that often? He must have great perseverance!'

'Persévérance—? Voilà cinq ans qu'il travaille comme ça—et jamais il n'a pas été dans l'eau!'

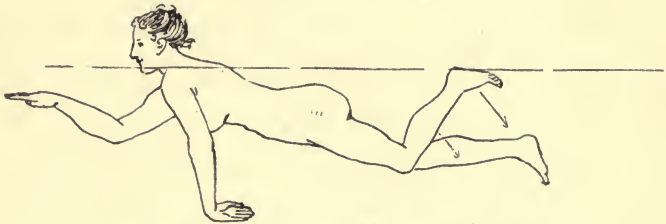
Further details of the changes in the breast stroke will be shown in the account which follows, but I have epitomised the whole thus

(a) Original style with the English previous to 1500 the 'human stroke,' as Slavs now swim, i.e. alternate motion of hands and feet as in walking.¹ Courtivron gives an illustration of this stroke, which I have reproduced, but he erroneously calls it 'swimming like a dog' and he says 'this manner of swimming is the first that one takes to,

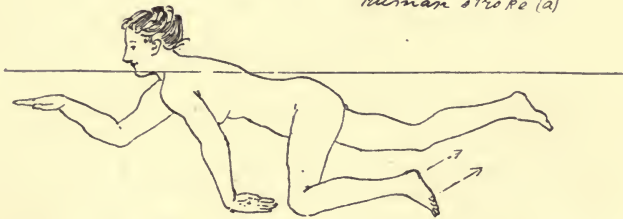
¹ When at Oxford in 1901, I saw a boy who could not swim jump into deep water, but he had on an inflated belt, and was allowed to go in to give him confidence. My astonishment was great to see him swimming this stroke, which he seemed to adopt quite naturally. He swam about the bathing place in the river. As soon as he had become accustomed to the feel of the water, he was to be taught the breast stroke.

no doubt because it is most in conformity with our natural movements.'

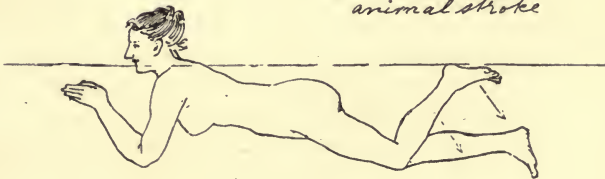
Here are illustrations of the human stroke (a) drawn after my instructions by Mr Percy Thomas, and the animal stroke in which only the leg stroke differs.



human stroke (a)



animal stroke



human stroke (b)

(b) first change in the human stroke ; the hands start in the praying position, with human kick, i.e. legs one after the other as in (a).

(c) 1538 : 1587 : hands praying and both legs giving the 'human kick' at same time : the frog being given as an example.

(d) 1800 : hands praying and kick from the soles of the feet instead of as hitherto the shin and insteps, and legs brought together as a wedge.¹

¹ Benjamin Franklin in 1773 says 'I was not satisfied' with sandals 'because I observed that the stroke is partly given by the inside of the feet and the ancles, and not entirely with the soles of the feet.'

(e) 1816 : same stroke (as d) but a turn of the ankle made after the legs drawn up.

(f) 1846 : hands no longer praying but held flat thumb to thumb : kick as in (e).

(g) 1860 : same stroke (as f) but a further turn of the ankle made at the end of the kick, so that the toes finish pointed and assist the wedge and are ready for drawing the legs up again.

This stroke (g) is now the one prevalent among Europeans. When I began to read again for the purpose of this work, I was somewhat puzzled to find the breast stroke universally called the frog stroke, that animal being a prominent figure in the illustrations. Why I wondered was it so called. First I satisfied myself once again, for I must have done this in 1868, that the two were totally different ; then as I read the old authors I began to realise, what I have already shown, that the so called frog stroke was the old stroke, a mere kick (c) ; and though this stroke is no longer swum, the name has continued, the alterations have been so gradual that no writer has ever noticed them.

The Encyclopædia Britannica (1797) says that some 'very expert swimmers' recommend that some frogs be kept in a tub of water as examples : I fancy sir Nicholas Gimcrack must have been one of these experts. The same writer says 'The art...tho' not absolutely natural will always be acquired by people in a savage state from imitating the brute animals.' Why should man's instinct be considered so inferior that he must have learnt to swim from the example of frogs or animals? Endowed with intellect superior to brutes, surely he would be able to find a way of swimming without their aid. Moreover, notwithstanding all the talk to the contrary scientific and otherwise, man does not and never could have swum like the frog or an animal, as his legs bend the opposite way to that of animals.

Captain Cook tells us that there were no animals in the Polynesian islands, and yet the natives were swimmers. The earliest account of swimming motions is in the Assyrian basreliefs, and here they are swimming a hand-over-hand stroke which entirely negatives the animal theory. Unfortunately we cannot settle with certainty what the stroke with the legs was. It seems to me probable that the hand-over-hand was first swum with the hands under water as in the human stroke (a). Guts Muths, 1798, states that swimming on the breast (of course as he describes it) was the style then used all over Europe, but his evidence does not carry much weight as he does not give his 'means of knowledge.' He also says the upper surfaces of the feet are used not the soles of the feet, and therefore he says it is quite

wrong to compare the breast stroke with that of the frog. The feet have only two movements ; they stretch out and move back. This was the human stroke (a).

Salzmann ¹ just after Guts Muths appears to describe the wedge, as he says 'the soles pushing against the water, till the legs are brought close together.' We know from our experience with regard to other strokes, that even if he was describing something new, he would not have mentioned the fact. No attention was paid to this great improvement. Nicholson in 1806 only describes the human stroke (c).

Frost in 1816 is the first English writer to repudiate the frog as an example. Nevertheless his description of the action of the legs does not give an idea that he knew of the advantage of the wedge stroke, for he says finish the stroke 'until the feet come nearly together.' This was probably the commencement of the wedge stroke in England, though little notice of it was taken by subsequent writers. Even in 1868 Every boy's book (p 330) only gives the kick with the legs, no wedge.

Neither was any notice taken of Frost's repudiation of the frog as an example. Frost also mentions, that at the beginning of the kick 'a turn of the ankle must be made' so that the kick will be given with the flat of the foot (see e).

General Pfuel in 1817 gives the instruction that the legs are to be brought together, and this is so given by Clias's translator in 1825, but Clias adds an original footnote that 'the main advantage of swimming lies in this third part of the motion that is, in the wedge.'

Turbri is the first French writer (in 1840) to give the wedge ; as usual, his countrymen took no notice of it.

It is not until 1842 that we find a writer who tells us decidedly of the advantage of the wedge by name, but it was quite settled by that time, when R. H. Horne says the power of the stroke from 'the soles of the feet is a trifle in comparison with that which is to be acquired by the creation of the wedge.' So that it is clear that he knew that as the legs are brought together at the end of the kick the insides of the legs wedged the water away, the speed being determined by this wedge and the power of the wedge by that of the swimmer. Horne's description was taken little notice of generally, many subsequent writers omitting the stroke with the legs altogether. But though Horne describes the new (or wedge stroke) he still keeps to the old tradition and says that the frog is man's best master. This shows how people write without studying their subject, taking tradition for fact. The idea of studying such a subject as swimming

¹ I quote from the English translation of 1800. I have not been able to compare it with the original.

before writing about it seldom enters the heads of writers in the present day, and is a great deal too much to expect of Horne. He must have learnt when a boy, and as he was born in 1802 we may conclude that he learnt the wedge stroke between 1815-20.

It would appear from Dr Bennet's treatise published in 1846 that in America the human kick (c) only was given. He says 'the kick must be made a little outwards and downwards'... 'the inside of the feet nearly parallel with the bottom.' He has two diagrams with the leg kick, but no wedge. How few people knew the difference is seen from the fact of this treatise being reprinted at London in 1860 with the same stroke and cuts.

F. E. Beckwith 1863 says the legs must come close together at the end of each stroke, and he gives a great improvement, viz that you must 'use the ankle joint so that the sole perfectly meets the water,' and he puts the turn of the ankle after the kick is completed. That is, the wedge must be finished with the toes pointed: in fact the toes should be pointed in almost every position or style of swimming.

But although Dr Bennet only gives the leg kick, he alters the praying position of the hands, which he represents flat not praying, but thumb to thumb thus (reproduced same size).



As usual he makes no special mention of this as a new way. This alteration is most important, for in this position the hands are at once ready for any movement. For the breast stroke no useless turn is required. The same may be said of 'springing' where the springer has to turn his hands from the praying position after he has entered the water to enable him to rise. If in springing with the hands flat, the thumbs are clutched, it insures the arms being kept together over the head.

Richardson in 1857 puts the hands praying, but then he was probably fifty years of age when he published his treatise, and would have learnt about 1814. I know from personal experience that flat, thumb to thumb, was the general way in London at that time, and this is how J. G. Wood puts them in 1858. Steedman's position is a little more correct, as he puts the thumbs under, the forefingers being side by side.

Wilson in 1883 puts the hands flat, though in the text he says (p 37) 'it is immaterial whether the palms of the hands are together or laid flat.' But Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 74 put the hands flat, none of their figures being represented in the clumsy praying position.

w. A. Varian in 1893 says 'A number of swimming manuals teach that the arms and legs should be used alternately in the breast stroke' (as for example Every boy's book, 1868 p 330), but that Wilson gives the stroke properly as he gives it.

The Germans seem to have a most extraordinary way of teaching the breast stroke which I have illustrated under edler von Orofino, 1894. Such a position in the water seems most inconvenient. I had hoped from this figure being omitted from Schwägerl's second edition 1897 that this way had been abandoned, but it appears again in Altenstein 1901.

Though the stroke with the legs is the chief propeller many writers give the arm motions, but as I have already mentioned they omit all description of the leg stroke !

Wilson in 1876 advises the breast stroke to be learnt first, as do most other authors English and foreign, but by 1883 he had altered his mind as he says (S.I. p 40) 'Neat, natural and graceful as it may seem, with all its recommendations of age, "use and wont" &c the breast stroke, so far as its utility, even in ordinary practice, independent of speed, is concerned, will soon be, we opine, almost a thing of the past.' In this he has not been followed by subsequent writers. He also suggests that the sidestroke should be taught before the breast stroke. I have little fear of any stroke ousting the breast stroke for many years to come, if ever, for quiet solid swimming.

H. P. Thorp 1877 in *Swimming for the million* advises all styles to be learnt before the breast stroke.¹

Steedman suggested the dog stroke in 1867 as an easy method of learning to swim, and this idea is amplified by Duffield Osborne in 1900, he calls it 'a common sense swimming lesson ;' but both are weak in the description of the stroke with the legs. Mr Osborne's artist is quite wrong in showing the leg stroke with the foot ; it should be as given by me, the human stroke for ease from the instep (see a). A description of the modern breast stroke will be found in Sinclair and Henry's *Swimming*. I may caution the reader that hardly any of the text books agree in their description of the breast stroke ; some day perhaps a conference of experts will be held and settle what is best, if such a thing is possible.

¹ For further development of this stroke see the English sidestroke, page 120.

THE FROG

It is interesting to see what a prominent part the frog plays in books. In *A handbook* 1858 J. G. Wood says (p 19) 'for the leg stroke there is no better model than a frog, whose action in swimming should be copied exactly.' The same writer in *The boys' journal* 1863, repudiates the frog and gives this description of his action 'It is right and natural for the frog to throw out his limbs in angles and bring them back in similar lines of projection, with a sort of front and back jerk continually repeated.'

Steedman in 1867 repudiates that 'popular delusion' the frog. Nevertheless the scientific book (Pettigrew 1873) imagines we swim as does the frog.

Leahy 1875 says 'I have heard that man took his first lesson from a frog ; but since that time swimming has been vastly improved.' 'The feet of a frog are not worked in a circle, as we ought to work them, but are kicked straight out to the rear, and more or less downwards.'

Wilson 1876 in his chapter on popular errors repudiates the frog which kicks 'in straight lines.'

That in his earlier days Mr Wood should have followed other writers is not perhaps surprising, but it is later on, after he had made a name as a natural historian. We might then have expected from him accurate information. But in this the evil genius of swimming once again comes in, and in 1879 Mr Wood says the frog stroke 'may be well enough for the legs ;' he adds : 'when a frog swims he does not use the fore-legs at all, but tucks them closely to the body.' Leahy says the same, although our man of science Lewes in *The physiology of common life* (1859 vol ii p 257), refers to the frog as swimming with his fore-legs ! In this case I believe the frog was not swimming, but making convulsive movements.

Even as late as 1883 Mr Wilson thought it necessary to say it is a mistaken idea 'that the propelling part of the kick is obtained from the soles of the feet,' in imitation of the frog ; it is from the wedge as well.

It will thus be seen that no amount of refutation has been able to dethrone king frog, and I have little doubt that this fallacy will go on being repeated in the future as it has been right up to the present day. One of the last to repeat it, being a sportsman and natural historian who is writing in the most accurate manner of 'how animals swim' (Mr J. G. Millais in *Pearson's Magazine* for august 1900) says 'it is to the frog that man goes for his lessons...he can never rival the

performance of his tutor.' In both suggestions he is wrong, and if human beings could not do more than frogs they would be poor swimmers indeed.

BREATHING

Winmann in 1538 gives the direction to 'blow through the nose' i.e. after having been under water. This is still a common practice, though the next writer who mentions it is Harrington in 1861 three hundred years after. But there are many fancy swimmers in the present day who prefer not to do this, but to let the water go into their mouths through the nose, rather than make a snorting noise on coming up.

Henry de Laspée in his *Calisthenics* [1856] says for those practicing on land 'breathing should in all cases be carried on through the nose.'

The importance of breathing through the nostrils as a habit is insisted on by George Catlin the traveler among American Indians. He says¹ that 'It is a well known fact that man can inhale through his nose, for a certain time mephitic air, in the bottom of a well, without harm, but if he opens his mouth to answer a question, or calls for help, in that position, his lungs are closed and he expires.'

In an accident such as that of the 'Princess Alice' when many of the people were poisoned by the foul water, the power of breathing through the nose only, might save a swimmer.

Various directions are given about breathing, and one author (J. G. Wood in 1866) says 'the mouth may be set aside altogether' as it was 'meant for eating and talking' but not for breathing.

Captain Webb 1882 says, 'It is best to draw in your breath through your nose rather than your mouth.' Dalton in 1899 gives the opposite advice, which I believe to be the best.

Robert Watson in his *Memoirs* (1899) considers that most writers give insufficient instructions for breathing.

There is another reason for keeping the mouth shut, though it does not concern me in the present enquiry. It is that people who go about with their mouths open look like idiots.

BUOYANCY OF WATER

Winmann believed warm water to be more buoyant than cold, but it is not; the colder the water the more buoyant. In G. A. Cape's *Baths* 1854 p 18 he says 'It is the property of heated water to rise, in even a common kitchen kettle.'

¹ In a booklet he published entitled *The breath of life* 1862. He altered the title to *Shut your mouth and save your life* and the fourth edition was published in 1870 see p 28. See also *Why do we breathe* by Dr P. Black 1768 p 30.

Whether there is greater support for a human body in deep water than in shallow I do not think has been settled. Harrington in 1861 p 13 says 'the water in the bath being so shallow, there is hardly any support given to the body.'

The same idea occurs in the first edition of the Life Saving Society's illustrated Handbook 1891 p 51, Mr Henry says 'Learning to float properly should be practised in deep water: the depth increases the density and floating power, but if once learnt floating is easy in water only a foot deep.'

Good floaters do not find the slightest difference between a depth of 3 and 6 feet of water.

CLEANLINESS

or rather dirtiness is a subject which several authors discuss. There is a general opinion among the writers of all nations, that their countrymen are dirty. That is that they do not wash. The first writer to make this complaint is a German, but as the English translator makes no comment we must consider that he thought it applied to the English as well.

It seems that in Winmann's time there were strict regulations against schools bathing or swimming in rivers, and he expresses an opinion that teachers should be appointed 'with a corresponding salary' to give instruction in 'the life saving art of swimming.'

Louis XIV of France who spent millions in diamonds, is reputed (see *L'Intermédiaire* 1897) to have taken only one bath in his life, and the titled ladies of his court only washed their hands once a week.

Salzmann in 1800 says that the majority of people carry about all their lives a coat of dirt; and he asks 'Is not this universal want of cleanliness intolerable?'

In 1811 Dr Este a navy surgeon says 'no very great number of our naval men bathe or swim.'

Mallison about 1812 says we 'leave our body for months together untouched.'

In 1838 *Familiar hints on sea bathing* was published by a writer who says his name 'is unknown and shall remain so,' but he could not conceal his nationality. He was a Scot and jealous of what he calls the assumption by the English that they were cleaner than all other nations, including Scotch and Irish. The English, he says, 'have assumed, I may say usurped, the reputation of being the cleanest of nations.' He contends that there was not much difference. 'every Englishman, above the operative classes, generally appears with a clean face, clean hands, and finger-nails carefully cleaned. The other parts of his body, except the feet, which are

washed at distant intervals, seldom if ever feel the comfort of ablution. The bodies of the generality of Englishmen are never washed, but are covered with epidermal incrustations of years' duration. Even those who seek recreation in swimming, either in the muddy Serpentine or in any other river, become not a whit the cleaner for such immersion, because cold water cannot sufficiently act in so short a time upon the accumulation of coagulated perspiration and epidermal scales.' Notwithstanding all this he lets out the real truth when he says the itch is 'more prevalent in Scotland and Ireland than in England,' and 'arises from filthiness of body.'

We have the same evidence from Australia, Steedman telling us in 1867 that 'thousands have never been washed.' In 1878 Mr Fisk relates that the employees of an important London firm were enjoying an 'annual dip,' when the filthy state of one caused the remark, 'Oh I say Jim, how is it you're so dirty?' to which the reply of a fellow workman was 'Why don't you recollect he didn't come down last year?'

We get similar evidence from Nederland. Löwenstrom in 1882 says millions of Dutchmen never bathe, but are satisfied with their daily wash. This latter, however, is an advance!

Our Canadian countryman, captain Andrews (1889) says that though they are cleanly in their habits, many have never been washed since their mothers performed that operation for them in the old family tub.

Fortunately there are not wanting signs of a change, for sir Algernon West in *The Nineteenth century* for april 1897 p654 says that now 'everybody is clean,' though I fear he means 'among the aristocracy.'

COMIC

On the comic side of swimming an amusing chapter, or indeed a book could be written.

In Punch's almanack for 1855 John Leech has a half page illustration of the ardent fly-fisherman arriving at a favorite spot where he knows there is a good trout. He finds the water alive with boys bathing.

Even the potter has tried his hand, and skilfully too, on the swimmer.

In the well known collection of pottery of Mr Henry Willett of Brighton is a piece labeled 'Save me from my friends,' and is thus described in the catalogue 'A gentleman bathing from the beach leaves his clothes in the guardianship of his faithful dog; but on returning the dog fails to recognise his master in the undraped

apparition which issues from the water, and, true to his charge, utterly refuses to allow him to touch his own garments.' It is a spirited representation, the dog being evidently in earnest. From the 'top hat' on the beach and the figure having drawers on, I imagine the date would not be earlier than 1860.

For the reason the hon Henry A. Murray in *Lands of the slave and the free*, 1855 (vol i p 213) gives this story, I do too.

'This river is one of the places assigned as the scene of the conversation between the philosopher and the boatman—a tale so old, that it had probably died out before some of my younger readers were born ; I therefore insert it for their benefit exclusively :

A philosopher, having arrived at a ferry, entered a boat, rowed by one of those rare articles in this enlightened Republic, a man without education.

Philosopher (loquitur). Can you write ?

Boatman. I guess I can't.

Philo. How sad ! why, you've lost one-third of your life ! Of course you can read ?

Boatman. Well, I guess I can't that neither.

Philo. Good gracious me ! why, you've lost two-thirds of your life.

When the conversation had proceeded thus far, the boatman discovered that, in listening to his learned passenger, he had neglected that vigilance which the danger of the river rendered indispensable. The stream was hurrying them into a most frightful snag ; escape was hopeless ; so the boatman opened the conversation with this startling question :

Boatman. Can you swim, sir ?

Philo. No, that I can't.

Boatman. Then, I guess, you've lost all your life.

Ere the sentence was finished, the boat upset ; the sturdy rower struggled manfully, and reached the shore in safety. On looking round, nought was to be seen of the philosopher save his hat, floating down to New Orleans. The boatman sat down on the bank, reflecting on the fate of the philosopher ; and, as the beaver disappeared in a bend of the river, he rose up, and gave vent to his reflections in the following terms : "I guess that gentleman was never taught much of the useful ; learning is a good thing in its place, but I guess swimming is the thing on the Mississippi, fix it how you will."

COSTUME

Some people seem to imagine that a person who is in the water is an indecent sight, whether he is clothed or not—at least, in fresh water. C. H. Cook *Thames rights and Thames wrongs, a disclosure* 1894 p 111.

It would appear from a quotation I give under Winmann 1538 that when the young men and girls bathed together around the statue of St Nicolas at Zürich, in his day the 'maidens' wore drawers and the men bathing with them only had to put them on as a penalty for want of skill. The French artist who drew for the first edition of Thevenot 1696 represents his ladies swimming as nature made them.

A German author in 1800 puts his figures in drawers. But none of the early writers do: until within a very few years it was not customary for men to wear them in England. Tegg in 1806 gives his figure a head dress only.

Saint-Clair 1896 says the Parisians began wearing drawers about 1714, but I think this is too early a date.

Briffault says that Parisians began to wear drawers, at least those of them who could pay for them, about 1800, which seems a much more likely date; but the majority did without this 'vain ornament.' In 1844 he puts all his figures in drawers at least, and by that time the custom had become universal in France, but drawers were always charged for.

For over half a century there has been discussion on this question. In *Observations on indecent sea bathing* (by Viator) London 1805, which is a reprint of a letter to *The Sun* newspaper, the writer objects that men were allowed to bathe in sight of females, and sometimes even with them. Of course in those days no drawers were worn, because on p 11 he says that 'not long since, an edict was issued by the Police of Paris, prohibiting all persons from bathing in the River Seine, without bathing dresses,' and he wanted the same done in England.

The judges decided in favor of 'decency' in the celebrated case of *Rex v. Crunden*¹ 1809. Mr Crunden like a true Englishman insisted

¹ Reported in 2 Campbell 89. Crunden was indicted for indecently exposing his naked person, in the presence of his Majesty's liege subjects. On a Sunday afternoon in July, he bathed in the sea opposite East Cliff, undressing on the beach. Till within a very few years there were no houses near the spot and regiments of soldiers used to bathe there at the same time. In spite of the arguments of counsel for the defendant, — that his object was to procure health, and enjoy a favorite recreation and not to outrage decency: that if bathing at the spot

on his common law right to bathe from the beach at Brighton. He would in those days as soon have thought of putting on the king's crown, as drawers. The judges (old men and most probably not swimmers) decided against him.

It is somewhat surprising to find Frost in 1816 putting his figures in costume a little more than A.S.A., as he has short sleeves, for except with Frost who recommends them, not even drawers were thought of until some fifty years after, and then only in large towns. Even now in country towns the healthy and manly practice of bathing without 'vain ornament' of any kind often prevails. Only those dogs who have gone free, know the annoyance of a muzzle.

An Italian writer (Corti) in 1819 puts most of his figures without drawers, though several of them have drawers on with braces.

In his *Voyage to the Pacific* (1831 quarto, see pp 33, 110 and 430) captain F. W. Beechey, writing of Woahoo in the Sandwich islands in February 1827 says

'We were daily in the habit of seeing ladies disencumber themselves of their silks, slippers, and parasols, and swim off in fine style to different vessels, carrying their bundles on their heads, and resuming their finery when they got on board. Nor was it less amusing to observe them jump overboard soon after daylight, and continue sporting and swimming about the vessels in the harbour like so many nereids; practices to which they adhere with as much fondness as ever. Many, however, now think it necessary to put on a bathing gown when they take this recreation.'

Now it appears from the following note from *The Daily Mail* for the 11 July 1901 none, not even native boys, are allowed to swim naked

'One of the first sights which greets the eyes of the visitor in Honolulu is the spectacle of native boys swimming near the steamer, anxious to dive for coins. This sight gives a pleasurable thrill of delight, since it looks quite natural and unspoiled by civilisation. Everybody knows that the Hawaiians love the water, and are able to swim before they can walk. But, alas, the illusion of pristine

was a nuisance the houses had come to the nuisance and had no right to complain of it: that if the building of houses within sight of a spot appropriated to open bathing, rendered it a misdemeanor to bathe there any longer without a machine, the poor might soon be prevented from bathing on any part of the southern coast of the island; and that all bathing must be put a stop to in the Thames, where at Millbank, the Westminster boys had from time immemorial been accustomed to bathe, and even as fully exposed to public view as the East Cliff—it was pronounced a misdemeanor, as whatever his intention might be, said the Chief Baron, the necessary tendency of his conduct was to outrage decency and to corrupt public morals.

naturalness is soon dispelled by cries from the boys of "Right here! right here!" and a closer inspection shows that outraged civilisation has insisted upon clothing the young savages in bathing suits.'

The following paragraph went the round of the press in august 1898 under the title 'Costume'

'An Englishman just home from the West Coast of Africa says he saw a whole village swimming out to the steamer, wearing, as they swam, renovated second-hand London "stove-pipes" in all the glory of the white tissue-paper in which they are shipped out for sale.'

Although Clais in 1825 put his figures in drawers, none of the editions of *The Boys' own book* 1828 and 1849, nor of *Every boy's book* 1855 do.

Walker in 1834 puts drawers, but he copied Clais, who copied some German book I have not seen, but in *Vollständige Schwimmschule* published about 1827 we find the same figures as in Clais also with drawers.

The American Dr Bennet in 1846 indicates no drawers, but they were known, as he says 'Those that swim with

drawers on should have them fit close.' But a book published the same year (Orr's) seems to show that the Americans surpassed the English in 'decency.' Although Orr's is a plagiarism of an English treatise all the figures have been invested with drawers, and we are told that in mixed bathing, such 'as is the fashion all along the Atlantic coast...shirts and trousers are worn.' Here again our American cousins are far ahead of us, for 'mixed bathing' is only 'tolerated' to this day at a few sea side places in England, and has only been suggested with bated breath by the honorary secretary of the A.S.A., Mr George Pragnell (in his weekly paper *Swimming* 1895-6) for our London baths.

The Spanish author Roque Moran in 1855 represents all his figures with drawers.

We have the evidence if any were necessary, of Mr James



the old fashioned bathing gown

Brinsley-Richards (Seven years at Eton 1857-64, London 1883 p 92) that the Eton boys bathed naked in his day—long may they continue to do so; if the masters look after them properly there is a most cogent reason why they should.

J. M. Tronson in his Japan 1859 p 257 says the men, women and children all bathed together absolutely naked without restraint. Since those days no doubt the Japs have taken to costume.

It was about 1860 that the wearing of drawers in the London baths first began. They are now universal, though the Endell street Baths did not adopt them until within a few years, first making bathers pay one penny,



lady's bathing costume from Gurr
(s.s.)



a modern costume

and subsequently, as do all other baths in London, issuing them free. At first they were much objected to.

If the dress given in Suitable bathing dresses as used at Biarritz, 1864, were used it seems hardly worth while undressing. A similar figure is given in Gurr [1866] a woman being dressed from hat to boots.

From Canada 'society' can get a hint how not to be shocked at want of costume: captain Andrews 1889 says 'It is odd that it never occurs to society, to look the other way.'

In an article in The Evening Times (Glasgow) 13 sep 1890 by a lady teacher (pseudonym of William Wilson) we get a good illustration of the old fashioned

bathing gown¹ put on page 109 of this note, and what must now be called 'a' not 'the' modern costume, which would be that authorised by the A.S.A. for ladies. Observe that the awning on the bathing machine given in 1866 has disappeared.

It appears from Brooke 1896 that children in London schools are now made to wear drawers, a ridiculous and even pernicious custom.

I have not mentioned what Dunlop calls his 'aquatic clothing,' because I have only noticed his publications from a swimming point of view. His dress covered the body from head to foot and was priced at the modest sum (for a millionaire) of sixty-three shillings.

That of Brewster was somewhat less than this in price.

'Costume' was first required by the A.S.A. in 1890, and the word with swimmers now has a technical meaning, and 'costumes' must be made, when worn at entertainments held under A.S.A. laws, in accordance with their regulations, which will be found in the third edition 1900 p 417 of Sinclair and Henry's *Swimming*, and more particularly in the *Handbook of the A.S.A. for 1899* for men and women. The costume is much the same for both, but for ladies 'a shaped arm at least three inches long shall be inserted,' and 'the costume shall be cut straight round the neck'; and shall extend to within three inches of the knee.

Since 1901 (*Handbook* p 43) the costume must be worn of black or dark blue; before this red was allowed.

This illustration has been drawn at my suggestion by Mr J. M. Hamilton.² I do not vouch for the absolute exactness of the cut or measurements,



a more modern costume

¹ These two drawings were made from suggestions Mr Wilson gave Mr J. M. Hamilton of Glasgow: with the permission of the proprietors of *The Evening Times* I have got Mr Hamilton to redraw them, as the blocks could not be found.

² I have to confess that this figure does not fulfil the purpose intended, namely to show the most modern costume A.S.A. I only discovered after it was reproduced, that the artist had improved on A.S.A. costume by putting in ornamental white edges and that the sleeve is at least twice as long as the three inches stated in the rules. The figure is shown in a good position for 'about to spring.'

nor that Mr Hamilton's style of doing the hair is of same period as the costume.

It is very difficult to get photographs of amateur ladies in swimming costume: after a considerable amount of persuasion permission has been given me by the ladies who compose this



group to reproduce the photograph, which is a private one taken by Mr Vautier of London whose wife is presently referred to under 'women and swimming.' It shows accurately the most modern costume, namely A.S.A. The professional instructress is at the top in her professional costume—tights. The initials on the badge of the two ladies on the right are those of the Victoria (amateur) Swimming Club. Although ladies who take part in displays under A.S.A. laws

must not wear less than A.S.A. costume, they may put on as much more as they like. This is the costume for women who want to swim seriously, for those who wish to play the 'old fashioned bathing gown' will do. In A.S.A. costume with perhaps a strip of color round the waist by way of 'vain ornament'—although 'beauty unadorned is most adorned'—lady Constance Mackenzie won for the third time the Bath Club challenge shield; ladies only being present, except the gentlemen who acted as judges.

CRAMP

It is most unfortunate that almost every writer makes a terror of cramp. The rev J. G. Wood in 1858 when he was in practice as a swimmer, treats it lightly, but a few years after (in the A B C 1866), when he had got out of practice he calls it 'that terrible swimmer's bane.'

To cramp, for many years, has been attributed nearly every death in the water. Steedman (p 260) probably referring to Wood, says some nervous persons prefix 'terrible' to it. But he repudiates it (pp 61-4) though much subject to cramp himself. Wood was not nervous, but I show above how it came about that he used the word.

The truth is, I believe, as Richardson says, that a person would not drown from cramp alone, but he might from panic, brought on by fear of the effects of cramp.

Writers making such a 'terrible bugbear' of it, frightens people to such an extent that the moment a swimmer feels it, he gets panic, which is far worse.

Leahy the swimming instructor to the Eton boys in 1875 p 92 says 'It is quite time that there should be an end to the servile fear of cramp which now generally exists.'

Wilson 1883 says accidents are in nine cases out of ten attributable not so much to cramp as to long stay in the water.

One book in 1883 even gives an illustration of a figure with cramp. In this year the R.H.S. in their report said that cramp is too readily assumed as the cause of drowning.

The most valuable testimony comes from a doctor, who was a first rate swimmer, and who suffered frightfully from cramp. Dr Hunter Barron in 1886 says that the majority of the cases attributed to cramp have been due to failure of the heart's action resulting from exhaustion.

Cold currents

have from the earliest writer Winmann had the credit of producing cramp, and this has come down to us in the present day.

I look upon it as a mere superstition. I have swum frequently in cold currents and springs, in order to see if they would give me cramp, but without result except the disagreeable feeling the cold produces. But I can get cramp in the toes directly with violent exercise, such as vigorous pushing off from the side of a bath.

Here again science will probably come to our aid some day, with exact knowledge.

CRIPPLES : THE MAIMED AND THE HALT AND THE BLIND

Many people are under an impression that cripples cannot swim. The Penny Cyclopædia thought that the loss of a leg would result in a person being able to 'do little beyond floating.' This is not so however, the loss of a limb only affects speed, and not that to any great extent.

Cripples who are handicapped on land can move about with perfect ease in the water, though Dr Bennet imagined the contrary, as he says 'Every human being with perfect limbs, should learn to swim.'

Andrews (p 31) says deformity is no impediment to acquiring swimming. More remarkable still, the blind can swim and 'see' their way about and go down the chute in the tepid bath built for them at the Royal Normal College, Norwood. Besides they practice the methods of the Life Saving Society, and so do deaf-mutes for whose special benefit the L.S.S. makes alterations in their rules for examiners, as it cannot be expected that a deaf person can follow the instructions and listen for any sound of respiration, nor that the blind will be able to see.

DROWNING

if you can't swim beware of Providence.
Shelley, Julian and Maddalo.

Some of the horrible superstitions about drowning, such as that a drowning man must not be rescued but rather pushed back into the water, I have cursorily mentioned under the Royal Humane Society. It would appear that these superstitions are current all over the world. They seem to arise from the belief that water acted not by natural laws but by life and will, through water spirits, who had to be propitiated.

That anybody could ever have believed it possible to drown by water entering the ears seems incredible, and I believe the idea is evolved from the imagination of Dr Arnott, who says in his

Elements of physics¹ (differently quoted in Every boy's book 1868 p 327) that people drowning 'make a wasteful exertion of strength to prevent water entering the ears.' This seems to me a scientific man's bogey. From all accounts a person drowning thinks of nothing but his past life, or how glad he was he had not his darned stockings on.

All those who have been drowned and recovered testify to the pleasantness of the drowning.² The only modern evidence to the contrary is that of an experienced swimmer who, unfortunately for the credibility of his evidence, has never been apparently drowned. Mr R. P. Watson in his *Memoirs* (p 285) disputes that drowning is a pleasant death. May his credibility never improve. I am inclined to agree with him, notwithstanding the evidence to the contrary.

John Strickland, who says he had great experience, gives a representation (which is r.-s.s. see p 116) of a man who has sunk in the water (from 'drowning') in the position he believes most men assume. That is resting on their feet, the trunk leaning forward, with the arms down, but not touching the ground.³ It would probably be otherwise with women, who generally float with the face upwards, and seldom sink until insensibility takes place.

Some forty years ago I got a man out of the sea who was floating on the surface drowning, with face under the water and arms extended over his head. This position agrees with one of Strickland's. He had remained thus long enough to become unconscious when landed. As usual, he would not believe he had been brought ashore.

¹ I verified this in Dr Neill Arnott's *Elements of physics or natural philosophy* seventh edition 1876. This book is a marvel of modern literature. It has 892 closely printed pages without an index, though it is so packed with information that a scientific fact is given in every few lines. By good luck I happened to hit on p 192 where the paragraph quoted appears. What makes the want of an index more extraordinary is that money was no object, as the book was published by the doctor's executors (he died 2 mar 1874) and he gave away large sums in charity. Yet his executors A. Bain and A. S. Taylor who edit this edition had not any charity towards compilers.

² See a minute account of admiral sir Francis Beaufort's experience of drowning and coming to (in spite of the methods used to resuscitate him) printed in An auto-biographical memoir of sir John Barrow, London John Murray 1847 pp 398-402 : quoted in part by Steedman p 256.

Captain Marryat also had the same experience, but his daughter only gives a very short account in his *Life and letters* 1872 vol i p 74.

³ Wallace Dunlop in *How to save swimmers* says that when air is expelled, the body 'lies at the bottom like a stone,' but he does not give his 'means of knowledge,' and his testimony is valueless on this point, and probably incorrect.

That drowning men catch at straws must be as old as the hills. Steedman (p 231) calls it a proverb, but another writer attributes it to Shakespeare. It is extraordinary that though Shakespeare has dozens of allusions to drowning he does not say this. I have not been able to find out whence the saying comes. The only instance of it quoted in the Oxford English Dictionary is of the year 1869.¹ Shakespeare describes the sensations of a drowning man, which he depicts as of a terrible kind 'What pain it was to drown' (Richard iii act i scene 4). Shakespeare's idea well describes a dream, but not



position of a person after drowning see page 115

the real sensations of drowning according to the written accounts already referred to.

We find the same ignorance with lord Byron, though he was a good swimmer. When he wrote canto ii of Don Juan in 1819 the densest ignorance of swimming prevailed, but as the greatest swimmer of his day he might have known better than write nonsense

¹ Under drowning, but the Dictionary material has kindly been examined under the word straw with no result.

about a strong swimmer in his agony.¹ He is describing a shipwreck and in stanza 53 he writes

And first one universal shriek there rush'd,
 louder than the loud ocean, like a crash
 of echoing thunder ; and then all was hush'd,
 save the wild wind and the remorseless dash
 of billows ; but at intervals there gush'd,
 accompanied with a convulsive splash,
 a solitary shriek, the bubbling cry
 of some strong swimmer in his agony.

What does this mean ? If he means that after a time, each man sank with a cry, it is contrary to experience. A strong swimmer would utter no cry, unless indeed, he was shot through with arrows, like the man in the Assyrian sculpture on p 85, who however is valiantly pursuing his way. The strongest (or the weakest) swimmers would exhaust themselves, until at last they would simply sink unconscious.

That a man rises three times before drowning is another mistake. It is denied by Steedman 1867 and Strickland 1878. It has constantly been refuted and is so in the Handbook of the L.S.S. from the second edition in 1893 (p 10) up to the present time. Mr Watson refutes it as if still current in 1899 (see Memoirs p 285) and well he might, for in that very year Davis Dalton in How to swim seriously discusses the question ' why a man rises three times ' !

Whether every drowning person swallows water or not, and whether the lungs always get choked, has never yet been sufficiently and satisfactorily determined. The matter is of the utmost importance so that although I go shortly into these questions under R.H.S. I will mention the points here in still shorter form.

The Encyclopædia Britannica 1860 says ' in the act of drowning the lungs are filled with water,' but Steedman (p 240) after quoting this says he ' has reasons for doubting the strict accuracy of this statement.'

The L.S.S. Handbook 1893 talks of the ' water swallowed ' and ' the filling of the stomach with water ' as if the matter was quite settled.

Dr Marshall Hall assumed that water got into the lungs, that is,

¹ I knew this line, but was unable to recollect where it was : after consulting a number of books of quotations, I eventually found it in a splendidly indexed book P. H. Dalbiac's English quotations 1896, but unfortunately he gives a wrong reference. I found the indexer of Murray's one volume edition of Byron 1859 had not thought swimming worth indexing.

I presume, that a drowning person swallows water. Dr Silvester assumes that little or no water gets into the lungs. In this idea he was supported by sir Benjamin Brodie. If this is right Dr Silvester's method of resuscitation is perhaps best for first trial, but if, as contended by Dr Bowles, water does get into the lungs then the Hall method would be best to be first tried. But sir B. C. Brodie as long ago as 1821 said that if a little water did get into the lungs it would not interfere with resuscitation, how much less so then would water in the stomach; yet as lately as 1901, Mr Bibbero gives an illustration of his method of getting water out of the stomach. If water in the stomach interfered with breathing, the old torture of forcing water down would soon have killed the unfortunate person and balked the torturers.

Like Steedman, Wilson in 1883 (p 140) comments on the proverbial ingratitude of persons who have been saved from drowning. He humorously suggests that before rescuing, the question should be addressed to the victim 'how much?' I should think Strickland's opinion is right, that victims temporarily lose their reason and would therefore be incapable of answering. Probably the courts would declare a promise obtained under duress would be void, as the English Admiralty Court does with regard to hard bargains made at sea. But here Steedman's suggestion might and ought to come in, that every person saved should give a tenth of his property to the rescuer.

The death grasp.

Although all the books of quotations give lines about the grasp of death, not one of them has any instance of the death grasp being mentioned. I need not point out how totally different the two expressions are.

I do not find these words explained in The Oxford English Dictionary and therefore of course not in any other, and the inference is that there are few references to such a thing in English literature. There is a wide-spread notion that a drowning person who seizes another clutches him in a death grasp which lasts after the grasper is inanimate. But J. R. Hodgson says 'there is no such thing as a death grasp,' at least he had never seen it.

For years past I have read the following inscription on the label to a little book in a glass case at the Bodleian

'The Sophocles taken from Shelley's hand after he was drowned. The right hand end shows what seems to be the mark of his thumb.'

Though I have often examined this among the precious relics

of the great poet, I never thought of questioning the accuracy of the statement, which I took to be correct as a matter of course. Only after this page was in print did it occur to me that if correct, it was an extraordinary instance of the death grasp. When I proceeded to verify the statement, which I am informed was made to Bodley's librarian by the donor, the mistake was soon apparent. Trelawny in his *Recollections of the last days of Shelley and Byron* p 120 says 'The face and hands, and parts of the body not protected by the dress, were fleshless. The tall slight figure, the jacket, the volume of Sophocles in one pocket, and Keats's poems in the other'...

These details made it clear that the otherwise unrecognisable body was that (to use F. S. Ellis's words) of 'the glorious and beautiful spirit for a few brief years known upon earth as Percy Bysshe Shelley' and they also negative the suggestion of the death grasp.

Having myself missed the point of this, or rather having taken the truth of the inscription for granted for years, I realised how Dr Marshall Hall had overlooked the question of resuscitation year after year.

Saint-Clair 1896 p 79 says the death grasp never existed, and that directly a person loses consciousness he loosens his hold and lets go altogether.

Nevertheless I have read within the last few years of two young lovers who had committed suicide being found locked in each other's arms, but not thinking I should want it I made no further note of the fact at the time. None of the experienced men I have questioned have ever heard the novelist's 'drowning cry.' Nor have I any evidence that persons drowning cry out—help! help! Experienced men have told me they never heard any cry from a person drowning.

EASY—IT IS!

I was bathing one day in a deep Pool in the Arno, writes Trelawny in his *Recollections* p 58, and astonished the Poet by performing a series of aquatic gymnastics, which I had learnt from natives of the South Seas. On my coming out, whilst dressing, Shelley said, mournfully, 'Why can't I swim, it seems so very easy?'

Nice little easy word easy is. That swimming is easy is a common delusion which it is perhaps undesirable to dispel, except that we must have the truth at all hazards. Besides, the notion that it is easy is apt to make the learner careless. I believe it to be the most

difficult art there is, and it is certainly one of the most dangerous to learn imperfectly. Clias says 'we can have but little pleasure, and no safety in the water as indifferent swimmers.'

To swim badly, as to do anything badly, is perfectly easy. But to move about, on or under the water with ease and without apparent effort, quietly and without splashing, requires much diligent practice, which well repays the trouble taken. Steedman truly says not one Englishman in a thousand deserves the title of swimmer.

THE ENGLISH SIDE OR RACING STROKE

Under the heading The breast stroke I have epitomised the changes that took place, and I now show the further changes resulting in the invention of the sidestroke. I epitomise them thus

- (h) swimming on the side with the breast stroke.
- (i) 1840¹ arms moving one after the other, but still breast stroke kick with the legs.
- (j) 1840-44 the English sidestroke began, arms one after the other, the legs making a wedge with the inner and outer parts of the legs.
- (k) 1855 the over arm stroke.
- (l) 1880 the North of England sidestroke, all the limbs moving independently.

This side development I trace in this way. From the earliest writer we have, Digby, it appears that swimming on the side was with the same stroke as on the breast.

It was the same with later writers, English and Continental, though many of these while representing the breast stroke on the



side call it the sidestroke. Here is an illustration from Reichel 1897 of a figure swimming the breast stroke on the side, but it is intended by the author for the sidestroke.

¹ The dates are speculative and approximate.

In this (h) the arms appear to take the stroke together. Observe the bad position of the head, out of the water.

The next alteration (i) was with the arms moving one after the other, with the breast stroke kick.

This stroke continued in England till some time about the middle of the last century, and is still the stroke described by the majority of writers, under an impression that it is the sidestroke. But at some time (apparently between 1840-44) some genius whose name is not known invented what I call for the purpose of distinction the English sidestroke.

Martin Cobbett says most truly, history has not handed down the name of the founder of the sidestroke, but he deserves canonisation. 'Nature evidently intended man to swim on his side.'

Whoever may have been the inventor there is not a doubt that it first took root in that part of England called London, and that George Pewters was the first to swim races with it.

Sinclair and Henry (p 80) say of the English sidestroke (not by name) 'The best style is undoubtedly that of the new¹ school. In this the swimmer lies completely on his side, and the leg stroke when viewed from above looks almost like a runner in full stride.'

In this stroke (j) the legs no longer give a kick, but rely almost entirely upon the sidestroke wedge for propulsion. This wedge is totally different from that given for the breast stroke. Several writers pretend that the sidestroke was known to Thevenot who, poor man, could not swim, and translated his book from Digby.

No writer until Harrington 1861 describes the sidestroke, though most of them describe swimming on the side. I feel certain, as with all the other strokes, the inventor was unconscious that he was doing anything new. The next writer to describe it is Steedman six years after, though if his artist is right, his manner of raising the legs for the stroke was not the best. Very few amateurs or professionals ever mastered the English sidestroke on account of its difficulty. As Mr Watson says (Memoirs p 260) 'A great many of our champion swimmers have adopted a style irrespective of teacher or principle.' A sloppy style is so much easier to acquire, and there being no teachers it thus came about that all sorts of strokes were swum. Any stroke that won was imitated regardless of 'principle.' From this constant attempt to imitate the stroke of the last champion Londoners became demoralised, so that not one in a thousand swam a good sidestroke.

¹ 'new' here is very indefinite. It should mean the sidestroke as swum since 1840. As the writers were both such young men 'new' probably meant 1880. But on p 84 they treat of a newer school, presently referred to as the North of England sidestroke.

In the English sidestroke the body is kept absolutely on the side, and has no movement whatever except that of progression. The head is at an angle with the body, so that the face may always be out of water. The legs are drawn up (some writers say as they are in running, but query) and then expanded, one on one side, the other on the other side of the body, to their full reach, and then suddenly brought together with a swish, the sharper and stronger the clip the faster will be the progression. There is no kick whatever. The legs at the end of this stroke should be perfectly straight, and the feet out in a line with them and not kept at right angles. The upper arm and the legs finish the stroke together, while the lower arm (moving downwards) is taking the stroke, so that there is no dead point, progression is continuous but perhaps somewhat faster as the legs finish.

Where all go wrong with the legs is that each is not worked accurately on its own plane, but the under leg is allowed to straggle below its plane, as shown in the illustration under Harrington 1861.

Throughout this work I have been careful in distinguishing swimming on the side (see this title) from (as it is not) the sidestroke, and I have criticised the books from this point of view.

The ordinary swimmer on the side will be seen rolling his body or his head, or both. His legs will be making the wedge with the inner surface of his legs, instead of one outer surface and one inner, or he will give the human kick, or his under leg will be bent at the knee, instead of working in parallel line with the upper leg. A celebrated champion in 1864 swam a kind of sidestroke on his belly, his mouth coming out to breathe at each stroke. It would appear from an article in a New York paper reprinted in *The Swimming Magazine* 1898 p 56 that this bad stroke has got to America and is considered to be indigenous.

In the proper sidestroke it is on record from the earliest writer to mention it (*Swimming & s.* 1861) that the effect on the bystander is that the legs cross each other : this is an illusion.

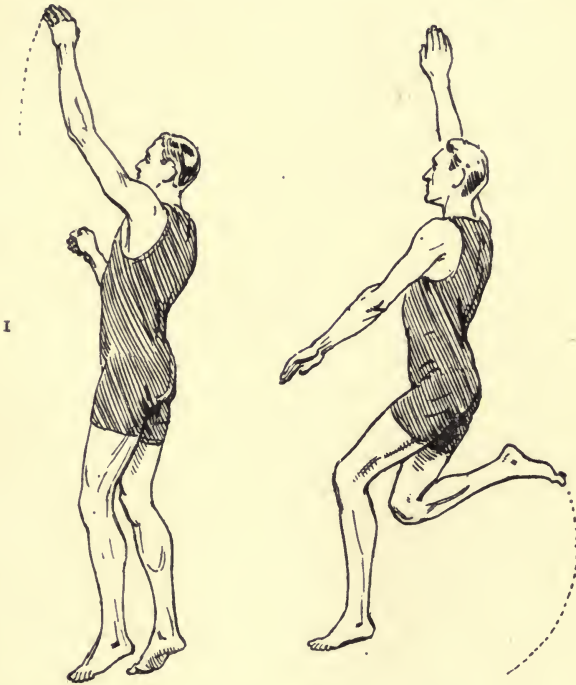
Wilson in his later book called *The swimming instructor* 1883 advocates the right side as preferable to swim on, as the left side being uppermost the heart will be less impeded, other writers have followed him in this advice. Here again scientific men may some day help us.

In the English sidestroke the upper arm is on the surface of the water before it takes the stroke to reach a little in front of the face. If it goes out of the water it becomes the 'overhand' or 'overarm' sidestroke (which I mark k). The overarm stroke did not come in until some years after the original sidestroke. Here again some

swimmer who happened to win with the overarm stroke once more led the Londoners off, all thinking if they swung their arms far enough over their heads they would win, regardless of the fact that the legs are the chief propellers.

North of England sidestroke.

Now we come to the latest development, with which all records have been made of late years. This I mark I. Sinclair & Henry p 84 speak of this stroke as 'slight variations.' But in 1893 they had

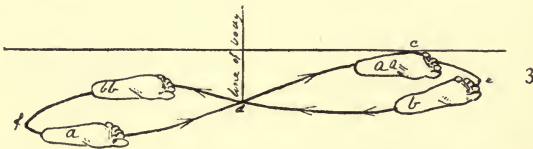


not clearly appreciated the differences, which appear to me to be radical alterations, in fact a new stroke though as usual the developer was unconscious of what he was doing. To my mind it is clear that this stroke arises from some swimmer seeing the English sidestroke swim. He then goes home with an imperfect idea, and in his endeavor to swim it evolves this new stroke, which I believe is inferior to the English sidestroke.¹ This latter stroke is extremely difficult, but the

¹ To test this two swimmers would be required of equal power: for a man with a bad stroke but unlimited wind will win against another with a good stroke but short wind.

North of England seems more so. In it the legs are not extended on either side to their full stretch. The upper leg moves about halfway on either side giving a vigorous kick on either side (kick not wedge), the orbit of the upper foot forming a figure of 8. While this leg takes this stroke, the under leg pursues an independent course, it does not move out backwards, but simply kicks down from the knee joint as shown in figure 2, the orbit of the foot forming a half loop of the figure of 8, terminating where the feet meet at d in the diagram 3.

These two figures (p 123) by Mr s. t. Dadd intended to represent this stroke are from s & H p 85. It will be seen that the movements all differ from the English sidestroke (j), all the limbs seem to move independently. The figure of 8 the left or upper leg describes is shown in this diagram 3. It is constantly crossing from one side to the other: the under leg never crosses the upper. As in running or walking, both legs move in their respective planes.



We will suppose that the upper leg is the one describing the figure of 8 shown in diagram 3, though no doubt a swimmer might reverse the motions. We make the left foot start from d, with the forward, or the backward, stroke. I assume that it begins with the backward stroke heel first, from d to bb to f: then the effective stroke begins with the toes first from f, a, d, aa to e. Then the backward stroke, heel first from e, b, d, bb to f is made. Diagram 3 supposes no progression to be made, but if the swimmer moves, then an elongation similar to that shown in my diagram of sculling, on page 155, would take place.

The splash comes from the upward stroke of the left leg at c. This splash is a bad feature of the stroke. The figure of 8 is a natural and scientific movement, though produced without any such idea.

The above is the best description I am able to give as I do not swim this stroke, nor do I understand it, nor how the speed is got from it. It is what anyone reading the descriptions (already referred to) in the present day might imagine is intended by the words, the legs 'crossing each other.' But I am positive there was no such crossing at that period, since nor until lately, for Steedman and Wilson describe the English sidestroke. So do Sinclair and Henry at p 78, but at p 84 they go further and give a description of (what

I have called for the purpose of distinction) the North of England sidestroke though they do not give it a name. Neither of them swam the stroke, and they therefore (like myself) had to rely on the description given to them by those who did, the result is not so clear or minute as could be wished. To get an idea of the complications of this stroke, sit on a chair, tap your breast with one hand and move the other up and down, and at the same time tap the floor with one foot and move the other up and down.

Dalton in *How to swim* 1899 describes what he calls 'the English racing stroke,' but it is the bad rolling one, not either of the above. He says (p 42) that it is important 'the arc described by the feet shall be as wide as possible' with which I agree for the English sidestroke (j) but not for the North of England sidestroke (l).

It seems probable that we are only at the beginning of these developments, and that in the future, when scientific men think swimming a subject worthy of their talent, a simpler and faster stroke may yet be found.

EQUESTRIAN SWIMMING

is a much neglected subject. I regret, as it got destroyed, that I am unable to reproduce the Assyrian sculpture that sir A. H. Layard

De Bellis Navalibus



De equestrium natatione

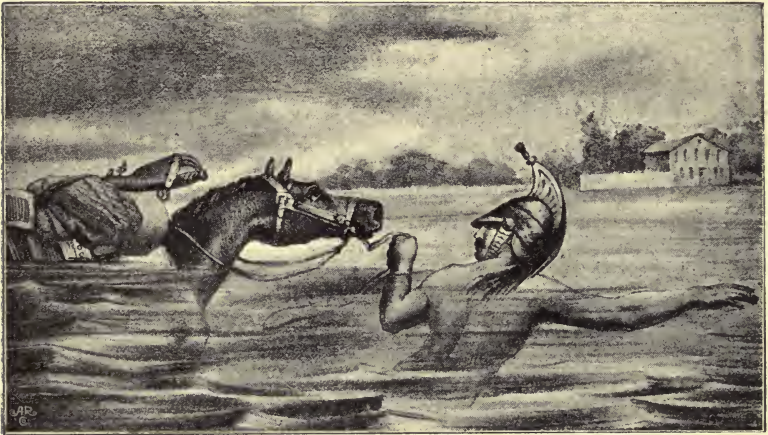
refers to (*Nineveh and Babylon* 1853 chap xx p 441), in which 'horses led by their grooms were swimming to the opposite bank.' I believe

a portion of it is still preserved, and in that, and another slab, the horses are represented galloping and never swimming properly.

Olaus Magnus in 1555 gives a woodcut which I reproduce (s.s.) on page 125 showing both his own and his artist's ignorance of how a horse swims, and should be swum by man.

The Swedes are a sober, honest, and truthful people, so we are bound to believe what their writers tell us. In the English edition I find the following 'One Biorno of Norway, a noted Champion had a very well made horse, which was exceeding swift, and so courageous that he would never faint in swimming over a roaring Whirlpool.' (A compendious history of the Goths, Swedes etc by Olaus Magnus. London 1658 p 128.)

The vicomte de Courtivron was a cavalry officer. In his book in 1836 he gives a chapter on swimming horses with this illustration.

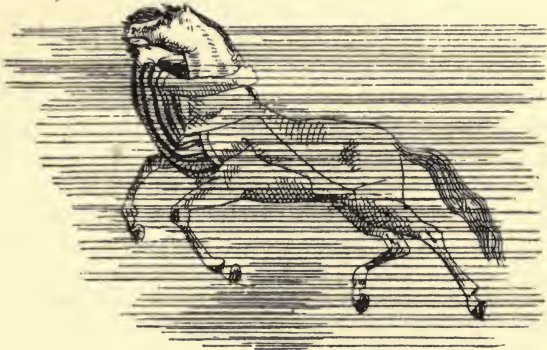


Cavalier traversant à la nage une rivière et tenant son cheval par les rênes

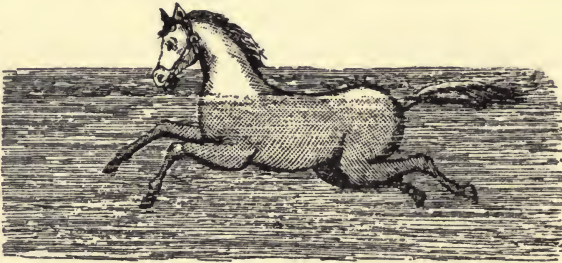
He should have known, but I doubt the accuracy of the horse's position, in fact all the usual mistakes are made by the artist. Thus I believe the horse's head should be resting on the water, as represented by Strickland on the next page. The cavalier is also too much out of the water, but worse still his fingers are open. Horses require to be taught what to do as well as men.

Dr Arnott in his Elements of physics 1876 p 195 says 'a horse while swimming can carry his rider with half the body out of the water.'

The following illustration reproduced (s.s.) from Orsolato 1878 gives an Italian idea.



This one from Abbo 1896 (s.s.) also Italian is even more impossible, as the horse is galloping.



how a horse does not swim

This woodcut is reproduced (s.s.) from Strickland 1878, and is



best way of swimming a horse

the most accurate I have seen, but the horse's left fore leg I believe should be higher for the stroke.

That no attention was paid to this subject by cavalry seems to be shown by its not even being mentioned by Rothery in 1886. Nor is it mentioned in the Badminton Library volume 1895 on riding.

In 1900 (Pearson's magazine for august) Mr J. G. Millais gives accurate drawings of animals swimming, and he tells us that 'In the British and Continental armies the swimming powers of the horse are now so generally recognised, that in certain cavalry regiments squadrons regularly go through the practice of crossing rivers with their horses.'

I have asked all the English cavalry men I have met, and none of them had ever practiced with their horses in the water, nor could they tell of any who did. The same with men in the Indian and African service. I only record one work on the swimming of cavalry and that is a German translation issued in 1894 of the Russian instructions.

I have looked at several modern books about the horse. Those that have indexes have had no mention of swimming : one that does, *Riding and hunting* by captain Hayes 1901, only has a few lines about swimming the horse, and they appear to me to be very insufficient.

The subject will probably receive more attention in the future. The *Daily Mail* for 22 sep 1899 had an illustration of three cavalry men in the middle of the river, but unfortunately none of the horses appear then to have begun to swim : at least they all seem to be on their feet by the positions of the heads. The *Sphere* of 7 sep and The *Graphic* of 14 sep 1901, each had illustrations of men swimming horses, but I fear the artists did not see or did not understand what they have depicted. I must make the same remark about an illustration of a horse swimming with his rider in *Breaking and riding* by James Fillis of St Petersburg, London 1902. The Russian horse's head is out of the water very much in the Italian positions given above. The instruction for swimming horses is relegated to a footnote.

FANCY SWIMMING

will come next to speed and stay for its usefulness in life saving. For something more than speed is required to make a supple swimmer. This is acquired by the habit of going under water with no more concern than if swimming with the mouth out of the water. Swimming in every possible manner develops the muscles and is generally beneficial. Fancy swimming must be done entirely without artificial aids. If aids are used as is sometimes done in the porpoise for example, where a push off from the bottom of the bath is given, it

becomes trick swimming, such also for instance is the Monte Cristo sack feat.

Most of the original writers give their testimony in favor of learning to swim in every variety of manner, which constitutes fancy, or as it is more frequently termed in books but less appropriately ornamental or scientific swimming, both these latter terms I have abandoned (see the glossary).



reproduced (s.s.) from the Spanish author Moran see p 130.

The various feats that can be done in fancy swimming are innumerable. It is curious that one of the neatest, the porpoise, has held its ground from first to last, being described by Digby 1587, Pearce 1842, and Sinclair and Henry 1893, but the manner of doing it I have little doubt is far neater in the present day than formerly.

It is difficult to say what is possible or impossible in fancy swimming. Feats that I at one time imagined to be impossible

I have afterwards seen done. As swimming progresses, more and more difficult feats are performed.

I believe it quite impossible to play even a magic flute as high out of the water as Moran represents himself (see p 129).

Also that no swimmer can put one leg bolt upright out of the water as represented by several artists, that of Ladebeck I have reproduced. A one legged man can do it however.

I believe it impossible for a man to blow up or even to keep a mussuk blown up, while swimming as represented by the Assyrian sculptors.

FLOATING

That every human being is capable of floating is a popular fallacy in which I once believed. So also did some of the most experienced teachers and writers, as Steedman, Wilson and w. Henry. It is upon this fallacy apparently that candidates for the Life Saving Society's swimming diploma are required to float extended at full length on the surface of the water with their toes out for thirty seconds. This is a very hard rule for those who are physically incapable of floating, as it throws them out of competition.

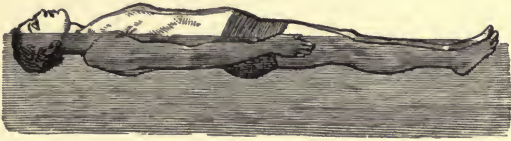
In 1783 Roger says that if the body were not lighter than water, we should always sink. This idea we find repeated in the R.H.S. report for 1865; and J. F. D. was allowed by numerous doctors and scientific men of the day who were members, to repeat in each report for several years, that 'swimming could prevent nobody from going to the bottom if he were not specifically lighter than water.'

Courtivron cites the case of a man who sank, if he did not swim. And Laisné in 1869 says this is what he did.

Wallace Dunlop in 1877 calls the idea that all can float 'a mischievous fallacy,' and yet he himself says that fat people float better than thin. An instance is given by S and H 1893 p 121 of a very thin man who was a floater. When a scientific man writes on the subject, we get no better knowledge, for R. A. Proctor in 1882 uses the word floating when he means swimming, as do many other writers.

But not only do people believe everybody can float, but that it can be done in any way, for example, under The Boy's own book I reproduce a figure floating with arms crossed out of the water. Fifty years later we get much the same instruction from The Book

of sports in this figure, reproduced s.s. from a block supplied by the publishers



how boys were taught they could float in 1881

This could no doubt be done in the Dead Sea, as will be seen from

floating in the Dead Sea 17 jan 1900: the two men floating weighed about 150 and 175 pounds respectively, the one disappearing in a splash about 135 pounds



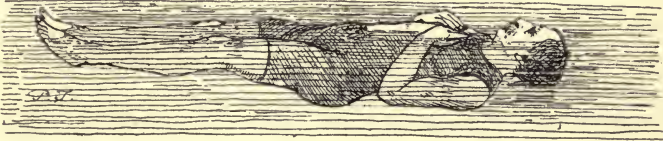
For this photograph I am indebted to Mr E. J. Goodspeed of Chicago.

That fat men float higher or more easily than thin men is I believe another fallacy. Some thin men can float easily while some fat men sink. If two corks of different sizes are put into water, the bigger will float higher than the smaller, but only in proportion to their size. This is all that human beings do: but people imagine that a man twice as fat as another will float four times as high. An illustration of this is given under Briffault 1844.

The Swedish author Olaus Magnus in 1555 gives an illustration, which is reproduced, of how those that could not swim and fat Swedes were helped to cross a river with a rope.

Floating must have been a very uncommon accomplishment in 1846, as a reporter thought it worth mention that a youth at an entertainment floated for a period of ten minutes ! Signs of impatience would manifest themselves after one minute in the present day.

Floating in fresh tepid water with hands by the side, I, in company with all the most experienced swimmers I know, always thought next to impossible for a man. But at the Life Saving Society's fancy swimming contest I saw Mr J. w. Noble, an original member of the

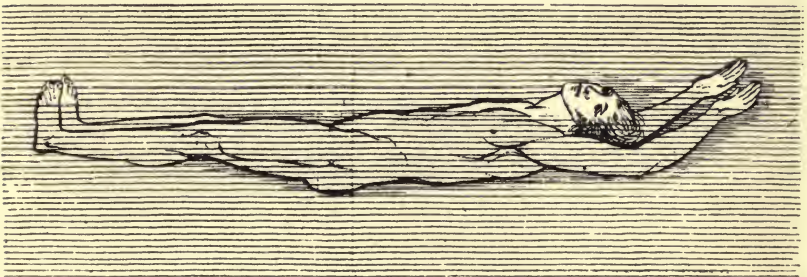


floating with hands on the chest, in A.S.A. costume :
drawn from nature by Percy Thomas

society, float easily in four feet of tepid bath water (72° fahrenheit), with his hands by his side and over his breast. This was on the 5th (and he is pictured in *The Daily Graphic* of the 7th) dec 1900. He had been able to do this for about two years, he was born august 1850, height 5 feet $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, weight without clothes 162 pounds. He can float with $6\frac{1}{2}$ pounds suspended from his neck ; 7 pounds sink him (see p 146).

Floating at the age of fifty is far more common than at twenty.

I have seen Mr Henry float in tepid fresh water with $7\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of iron suspended from his neck. He then weighed 214 pounds. I gradually sank under this weight, the most I could float with was six pounds : my weight was 166 pounds.

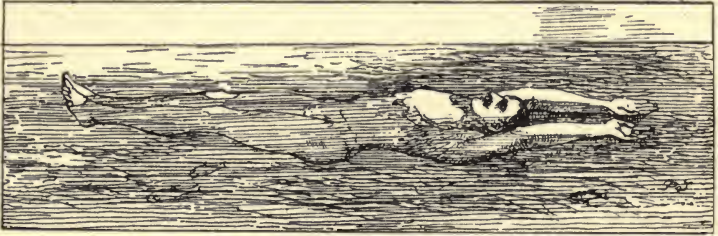


floating in 1816

There are few things that artists make worse failures of than the floating figures. Frost's artist gives us this figure (repd. s.s.) which

is as clumsy as well may be. The unfortunate man looks as if he was on the rack, probably in consequence of his arms being bent in an impossible manner. He however shows about the right amount out of the water.

This figure has been drawn from nature by Percy Thomas and



gives a fairly accurate representation of the parts that appear above water, though everybody will differ slightly.

We are constantly hearing that women float higher than men. I have been unable to procure a drawing of a woman floating. When I have seen them they appeared not to float any higher.

FOREIGNERS BETTER THAN ENGLISH

One of the commonest delusions with English writers, is that foreigners swim better than the English, who the author of *Orion* tells us in 1842 'are not much inclined to swimming.' Horne had been a sailor and made several voyages so may be presumed to have known. Captain Short in 1846 says no progress had been made by the English, and he twits us with the example of foreigners. The writer in *The Encyclopædia Britannica* 1797 knew nothing about swimming, so he is all the bolder; he tells us with absolute confidence that 'nor are there any nations so barbarous but that the art of swimming is known among them, and that in greater perfection' than among civilised people.

In those days there was no reliable evidence either way, and there is not much even now. But all travelers tell us what wonderful swimmers the savage tribes are, except when we get the evidence of good swimmers like Steedman and Webb.

The *Times* of 22 april 1844 p 6 col 5 gives a report of the Ojibbeway Indians swimming for a silver medal presented by the National afterwards the British Swimming Society. The water was heated to 85°. Before they entered the water Harold 'Kenworthy went through a series of scientific feats.' Flying Gull beat Tobacco,

doing the 130 feet, one length of the bath, in less than half a minute. 'Their style of swimming is totally un-European. They lash the water violently with their arms, like the sails of a windmill, and beat downwards with their feet, blowing with force, and forming grotesque antics. They then dived from one end of the bath to the other with the rapidity of an arrow, and almost as straight as a tension of limb.' They afterwards swam against Kenworthy 'who beat them with the greatest ease,' with the breast stroke.

It would have been interesting to know what stroke they used under water, as to this the reporter only gives useless generalities !

Steedman repeats the traditions in favor of foreigners (p 84) but gives his own experience in favor of the British, who are unsurpassed by any foreigner civilised or uncivilised. In British he informed me, he thought the Irish were included.

Captain Webb says 'None of the black people that I have ever seen approach a first class English swimmer.'

In 1857 *The Boy's own magazine* tells us that swimming is much more cultivated in Paris than with us. *Land and Water* 28 aug 1875 p 164 says that though the French oblige all their soldiers to learn to swim, there is no such compulsory rule in our army! This as to the French, is mere theory, but still we have not even the theory in England.

In 1877 Wallace Dunlop says the Parisians swim better than the English, though he says they have not a single tepid bath in Paris, while there are forty in London.

In 1889 P. G. Hamerton in his *French and English a comparison* says swimming is much more cultivated and practiced in France than in England. Now he lived many years in France and died there in 1894, and when he is wrong it is not surprising that the others are. But he could have known nothing of what was going on in swimming circles here or he never would have written, 'In England the accomplishment is much more rare,' though he is, I fancy, right when he says 'and is usually confined to the middle and upper classes, especially in the rural districts.' 'It is characteristic of England, with her vigorous race, to produce the finest and strongest swimmers, though her general average is so deplorably low.'

On the other hand every French writer except one (Chapus in 1854 who says the Parisians are the best swimmers in the world) deploras the universal ignorance of swimming among them ; and they are as strong as the English in their denunciation of the general neglect of swimming in France.

There may have been a time when all recruits had to learn, about 1852 when Napoleon III took an interest in and encouraged a swim-

ming drill ; but in 1864 Adolphe Esprit regrets the want of swimmers in the French army.¹

Christmann a French officer in 1887 shows that swimming was neglected in the French army, and many others are quoted in this work (The Literature of swimming) to this effect.

It would probably be possible to show from English books that we were no swimmers : here is a contribution towards this.

Walter Thornbury in A tour round England 1870 vol ii p 233 gives an account of his bathing in the rough sea at Scarborough, though not a swimmer he makes it appear exhilarating. Moreover he says the young men there 'always go out in a boat to take what they call "a header," and as they can't swim, not one man Jack of them, they are fished up by the man in the boat one by one.'

There was possibly a notion in France that the English could not swim much : it is a common idea with the untraveled that the men of other countries are not equal to their own. This view is favored by the following from Our autumn holiday on French rivers, where Mr Molloy says p 39 they wanted to bathe but thought it was 'not possible, look at the people all over the place.

Pardon, Messieurs, said a gentleman watching our lingering look at the river, it is permitted to bathe anywhere you like !

What, here in front of the town ?

Sans doute, Messieurs !

We had one costume between four, and drawing lots for that, we took in turn a delicious plunge.

Hé donc ! les étrangers savent nager, said a gathering of small boys
Oui dame, et on parle notre langue !'

Auerbach 1873 says that in Germany swimming was not adopted in schools before 1870, and he adds 'Every one must be a soldier in Germany and therefore must learn to swim.' I can only say that I have seen many German soldiers in England and none of them have ever been enthusiastic bathers, they have generally had some excuse for not going to swim, but those who have done so, have all been bad swimmers, merely doing the breast stroke and that in frog fashion and often very badly in that way, being in this respect no better than the majority of French and English men.

Our swimmers however of late have won in several European countries, so that there is probably a higher opinion now of what we can do.

Mr Henry hon sec L.S.S., won the hundred meters championship at Frankfurt, Germany, in 1896 ; and Mr Jarvis won the cups

¹ I can personally testify to the utter neglect of swimming in the generality of French schools, where much less attention is given to it than in England.

presented by the respective emperors of Germany and Austria in 1902.

The English swimmers (L.S.S. team) won all the races they contested in Sweden in 1898. They were however completely out of the competition in acrobatic springing, which we know little about, but in which Scandinavians excel, as I observe under the word 'springing' in this introduction. As I have already said, our want of skill in acrobatic, high and gymnastic springing is not a matter for much regret; these can hardly be called a branch of swimming.

Mr Henry also conducted a team of swimmers from England to compete at the International swimming contests¹ at the Paris exhibition of 1900 (the A.S.A. having intimated that they would not send a team). The English L.S.S. team took all the prizes they competed for against all nationalities, and very splendid prizes they were, artistically as well as pecuniarily.² Although the French feelings were not very friendly towards the English in general, our swimmers as soon as they had won, were received in a thoroughly sportsmanlike manner and cheered with the utmost enthusiasm, ladies getting up to shake hands with them as they passed.

FRANKLIN'S KITE TRICK

As the great Oxford University doctor of civil laws is so often quoted it goes without saying that his relation of his being pulled across a pond by a kite is most popular with instruction books. There is no account of any one else trying it. A French author Duffô in 1866 erroneously credits him with crossing lakes, miles in extent in this way.

The curious part is that the artist, here as generally, goes wrong. He represents it as being done in an absolutely impossible position, with the hands holding the string and the figure moving feet first. The pull of the kite would immediately drag the person round, so that the head would be first and feet last, as illustrated in my article under Franklin 1768, which see also for a perversion of Franklin's advice.

The frog and animals : see The breast stroke.

¹ An official summary of the races by Jules Cocheris was printed at Paris in 1900, 8° pp 44; swimming at p 17.

² It was rumored that only four gold medals were struck for the swimming prizes, one of which was to be preserved by the nation. The other three, with most beautiful bronze statues, of the total value of 3,000 francs, were carried off by one Englishman (W. Henry); and the prizes of another (J. A. Jarvis) were valued at £160 (see his Art of s. 1902 p 94).

HOW DIFFERENT NATIONS SWIM

The information given by travelers is very meagre, and so is that of writers on swimming, and there does not seem much warrant for what they do say. All I quote must be subject to verification.

Under the 'ancients as swimmers,' I have shown that the Assyrians swam a hand-over-hand stroke, as do the present inhabitants near the rivers Tigris and Euphrates.

James Skene writing in *The Quarterly Review* in 1826 says 'Savages are observed¹ to urge their forward progress in an attitude nearly as upright as when they walk or run on land.' No speed can be made in this position.

General Pfuel 1827 says all Slavs (i.e. Russians, Poles, Bohemians, etc.) swim dog fashion. Steedman 1867 says the same and Higginson 1870 repeats it.

Here again no exact information is given. I have seen a Russian officer swim: though 'dog fashion' gives a notion that it is not the breast stroke, it is not a good description. It is really 'human fashion,' that is, the stroke is very similar to human action in violent running. The body is moved a little sideways as each arm is shot out in front under the water and brought back with a vigorous pull. The right arm taking the stroke with the left leg, which is moved upward from the knee and sent back from the knee only with a sharp swish, the instep not the sole of the foot striking the water. I have also described this under *The breast stroke* (a p 93).

Mason 1839 gives an illustration of an Indian man and woman swimming hand-over-hand, but it is of no authority.

George Catlin in his *Letters etc on the North American Indians* (1841 vol i p 96²) says

'At a distance of half a mile or so above the village, is the customary place where the women and girls resort every morning in the summer months, to bathe in the river. To this spot they repair by hundreds, every morning at sunrise, where, on a beautiful beach, they can be seen running and glistening in the sun, whilst they are playing their innocent gambols and leaping into the stream. They all learn to swim well, and the poorest swimmer amongst them will dash fearlessly into the boiling and eddying current of the Missouri, and cross it with perfect ease. At the distance of a quarter of a mile...

¹ What savages and where were they observed?

² I made this extract some thirty years ago, and probably I waded through those two volumes then and found nothing else: at all events I cannot spare the time to do this now. I have however looked at the reprint issued in 1876, in the hope of finding some intelligent editing and an index to the 550 closely printed octavo pages, but in vain.

around this bathing place...are stationed...sentinels, with their bows and arrows in hand, to guard and protect this sacred ground from the approach of boys or men from any directions.

‘At a little distance below the village, also, is the place where the men and boys go to bathe and learn to swim...The art of swimming is known to all American Indians ; and perhaps no people on earth have taken more pains to learn it, nor any who turn it to better account...

‘There are many times also, when out upon their long marches in the prosecution of their almost continued warfare, when it becomes necessary to plunge into and swim across the wildest streams and rivers, at times when they have no canoes or craft in which to cross them. I have as yet seen no tribe where the art is neglected. It is learned at a very early age by both sexes, and enables the strong and hardy muscles of the squaws to take their child upon their back, and successfully to pass any river that lies in their way.

‘The mode of swimming amongst the Mandans, as well as amongst most of the other tribes, is quite different from that practiced in those parts of the civilized world, which I have had the pleasure yet to visit. The Indian, instead of parting his hands simultaneously under the chin, and making the stroke outward, in a horizontal direction, causing thereby a serious strain upon the chest ; throws his body alternately upon the left and the right side, raising one arm entirely above the water and reaching as far forward as he can, to dip it, whilst his whole weight and force are spent upon the one that is passing under him, and like a paddle propelling him along ; whilst this arm is making a half circle, and is being raised out of the water behind him, the opposite arm is describing a similar arch in the air over his head, to be dipped in the water as far as he can reach before him, with the hand turned under, forming a sort of bucket, to act most effectively as it passes in its turn underneath him.’

Of this most wasteful stroke Catlin then gives his own opinion, in which I consider he is entirely mistaken

‘By this bold and powerful mode of swimming, which may want the grace that many would wish to see, I am quite sure, from the experience I have had, that much of the fatigue and strain upon the breast and spine are avoided, and that a man will preserve his strength and his breath much longer in this alternate and rolling motion, than he can in the usual mode of swimming, in the polished world.’

It will be observed that as usual Catlin omits to describe the leg stroke. The Boy's treasury 1844 says ‘The natives of New South

Wales swim nearly upright, and generally backward, yet with much skill and velocity: indeed they swim and turn with such swiftness, even under water, that they see and spear fish while beneath the surface.'

Steedman (p 192) says the North American Indians swim hand-over-hand. As he only describes the stroke with the arms and not the legs he most probably took it from Catlin. They still swim this stroke, Mr Trudgen having learnt it in South America and swum it in London in 1873.

The hand-over-hand is the most ancient stroke, at all events that is recorded. It was swum over two thousand years ago by Assyrians as I infer is shown on their sculptures, and also by the Greeks hundreds of years later as shown by a coin of Abydos now preserved in the British Museum.



coin of Abydos A.D. 193
Hero lighting Leander

I am able to give a drawing of this coin (partially 'restored') by the kindness of Mr w. w. Wroth of the coin department, who supplied me with a plaster cast, which my son photographed, and from these two and an inspection of the original Mr Percy Thomas has made the restoration I give, twice the size of the coin.

A different coin is given in Depping 1869 showing the same position.

Here is another reproduced (s.s.) from a different coin of Abydos which I take from The works of Publius Virgilius Maro by the rev Henry Thompson 1855 see pp x and 72.



from Thompson

These leave the matter without room for doubt, and thus (alas!) dissipate a life long illusion of mine. I always imagined Leander, as lord Byron undoubtedly did, swimming a breast stroke, but as already observed it was a hand-over-hand stroke he swam.

The Kaffirs (or Caffres) of South Africa also swim hand-over-hand I am informed.

It used to be thought that this hand-over-hand stroke, common

to the ancients and the aborigines of America and Africa, was so tiring that it could not be kept up for any length of time. But though not considered a staying stroke, a young swimmer (P. H. Lister of Manchester) in the five mile championship race in the Thames on the 8th (see the News of the World 9th) July 1899 swam hand-over-hand the whole way. He did not win. Experts considered this stroke a disadvantage as his body being so much out of the water he lost some of the advantage the tide gives.

The reason this stroke became so popular was that it is very easy to do it badly, that the worse style in which it is swum (that is the more splashing with the arms and roll of the body) the more it impresses ignorant onlookers. The swimmer appears to go much faster than with other strokes.

The imitation of the Trudgen or Indian stroke Mr Watson says (Memoirs p 261) has 'completely demoralised Londoners as swimmers.' The endeavor 'to imitate Trudgeon, together with short distance handicaps, ranging from 80 to 90 yards have degenerated Londoners to the level of mediocrity.'

Notwithstanding that this is true, the stroke or a modification of it has been taken up by water polo players with the most undoubted advantage.

It seems (professor A. Cort Haddon tells us) that the inhabitants of New Guinea now swim the breast stroke, no doubt having acquired

it from Europeans. In *The Ethnography of the western tribe of Torres Straits* (*Journal Anthropological Institute* 1890 xix 386) he only says the natives are excellent swimmers, he informs me he made no technical observations.

The general stroke among Europeans now is the breast stroke [q v § g] with the wedge of the legs.

LAND DRILL

The German writers Winmann 1537 and Guts Muths 1798, mention rehearsing the strokes on land, but Frost in 1816 is the first English writer to advise this. He mentions his 'course of exercise before going into the water' so as to leave the reader to infer it was his original idea. The treatises that plagiarise or copy Frost give his method of learning on land, it cannot be called a drill, merely making the strokes on land is not a drill.

In 1817 Pfuel began to teach in the Prussian army, it is generally said by means of a drill in the water, not on land. Clias who gives a translation of Pfuel, in a footnote refers to making the motions on land, but his figure is stretched in the girdle and it is not a drill.

Pommer in 1880 said that Pfuel taught entirely in the water.

In 1825 Clias claims to have taught the motions on land as early as 1809 and for the first time. Little credit can be given to this claim when we remember that in the first English edition of his gymnastics, no article on swimming is given and that the article in the next edition is a plagiarism.

Richardson 1857 advises the breast stroke to be practiced out of the water.

But that practicing the stroke on land made little progress, we may judge from there being no treatises about it until 1847, when an officer in the French army, D'Argy drew up instructions for drilling the soldiers. These were enlarged and printed in 1851 and published in French in 1868 by Laisné.

Auerbach in 1873 tells us that he was the first to put into practice teaching the drill on land in Germany, but this is a doubtful claim.

Few things have been more ridiculed not only in England but in France, as will be seen from my article on the breast stroke (p 93).

The first separate publication to introduce a drill in England is that of lieutenant Torkington in 1876 and it is probable that he did a great service by it. In fact his drill was used by the Life Saving Society fifteen years after.

In 1879 count von Buonaccorsi gives numerous figures for both land and water drills.

The rev J. G. Wood in 1879 having just previously told his readers to imitate the stroke of the frog on land, next proceeds to ridicule learning on land. He knew nothing at all about the land drill.

In 1880, as I have already said, Pommer says that Pfuel wished to teach entirely in the water, D'Argy almost entirely on land, but he tells us that he wished to combine the two.

Professor Hartelius of Stockholm published a treatise on land drill, which was translated and published in London in 1881.

The publication of the land drill in Sinclair & Henry's *Swimming* put the seal of authority on it, for English learners, and since then it has steadily increased in popularity.

Orofino in 1894 thinks the motions should be taught on land, but by teachers of swimming, and not as in the D'Argy method by drill officers. I doubt if there is much in this, for we know that many teachers, who cannot swim at all, can teach both on land and in the water. In 1895 land drill formed part of an official French publication.

An elaborate description of the land drill is given by Mr Freeman in *The Teachers' Review* 1898 and the London Schools Swimming Association, of which he was formerly honorary secretary, publish a card giving the drill.

Land drill forms the ground-work of Mr James Kay's *How to teach* issued in 1901. Not only are the drills of the utmost importance, but nearly every stroke in swimming can be done on land with advantage.

LIFE SAVING

How to save life by swimming to the rescue of a person is a subject little attended to or thought of by laymen, but absolutely passed over by scientific men. While the neglect of the latter has continued the civilian has been for some years endeavoring to devise practical methods. These I think have been attained in the L.S.S. instructions and drills.

A common suggestion to a person attempting to save another was catch hold of the hair. Frost in 1816 p 32 in rescue, advises a stick but 'if nothing is at hand, the best way is to lay hold of the drowning person's hair.'

Several authors advise a stick or pole to be taken by any person going to save another: it is a valuable aid to any one, but more especially to those who do not know the L.S.S. methods.

Take hold of the hair was the advice of James Skene in *The Quarterly Review* 1826 v 34 p 40, and also of J. R. Hodgson about 1855, who thought it was of 'primary importance.' Woodbridge in

1864 says never attempt to seize by the hair, and one of those men who are always ready to take advantage of any little failing in the fair sex adds, especially in the case of a woman, as it might come off. To catch hold of the hair is advised by an Australian book as late as 1883, though in that year Mr Wilson thinks that 'The old idea of catching a drowning person by the hair or ears is now pretty well exploded.' But you cannot 'explode' mistakes of this kind easily, they crop up again and again, and lastly on p 78 of Saint-Clair in 1896.

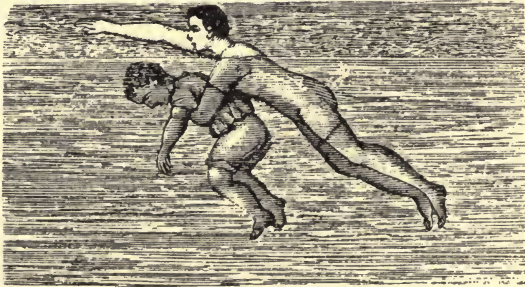
Life saving as an art began with J. R. Hodgson of Sunderland (just referred to) who printed some advice I have not seen (in the original) about 1855. Needless to say his instructions are now entirely superseded.

The next though entirely independent is w. Wilson in 1876, his ideas he well and skilfully worked out and they have borne rich fruit in the present day.

In 1878 John Strickland treats of life saving appliances in the most practical manner.

One of the most original ideas is given by Wilson 1883, it is a list of the clothes and articles a man damages in jumping in to save another. The damage he puts at the low estimate of 33 shillings, which if the person saved does not pay, the saver has to pay himself for the privilege he has had. Such a sordid idea as paying seldom occurs to the person rescued, and if it is a woman, according to novelists, the man who rescues has to marry her, having saved her life.

A person who knows the methods of the Life Saving Society, will be able at once to see how weak the early writers were. Frost for example in 1816, Richardson in 1857 and even Mr Wilson in 1876. Though none of them approach this figure reproduced (s.s.) from Abbo



1896. This method is absolutely shocking for its ignorance. The rescuer should be swimming on his back with the child's face out of

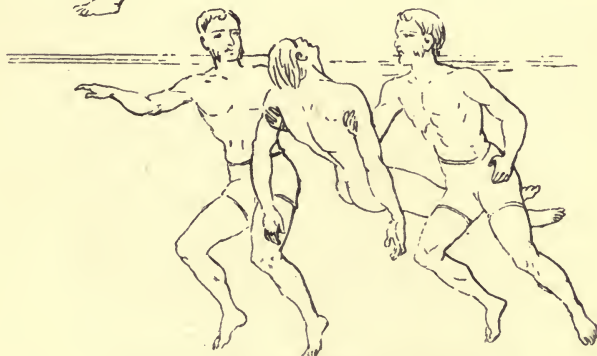
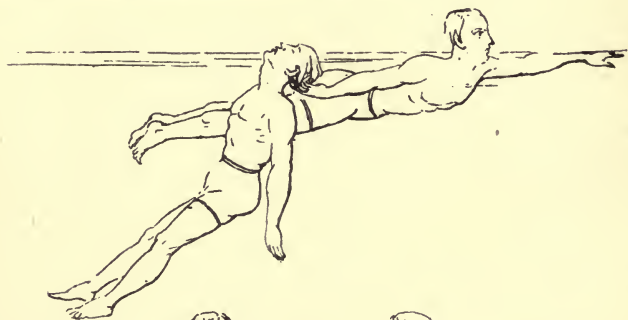
the water. Now the Italians have started a L.S.S. we shall see no more of such methods.



old method of life saving from Clais

The illustration here given is reduced from Clais 1825 plate 9 fig 7. The savers are treading water properly but not together so that there would be a bobbing motion. One is indiscreetly putting his hand out of the water.

The following (see fig 2) from Steedman 1867 is an improvement, as both figures are swimming together and the man saved is on his back, not only a better position for breathing but it would keep the face out of the water.



old method of life saving from Steedman 1867

The two top figures n° 1 illustrate one of the methods of saving by catching hold of the hair.

But all this is done far easier and by one person only in the first method of the L.S.S. an imaginary illustration of which is here given drawn by Mr J. M. Hamilton.



The Life Saving Society's first method

MAN AND SWIMMING

That man swims naturally was asserted by Digby, and his idea has had many supporters, but most writers take the opposite view. Much argument has taken place on both sides. I feel myself unable to settle which is right, but this is certain that with the majority of the human race if they do not learn to swim they sink. The instances recorded to the contrary, that is of persons who managed to keep afloat until rescued, only amount to two or three.¹

Digby also contended that man excels all other creatures in swimming, which I unreservedly endorse. The positions he can assume in the water seem absolutely endless.

As my experience increases it seems to me more and more dangerous to doubt. I once thought Digby's feat of cutting the toe nails with a toe out of the water an absolutely impossible feat, because the moment the hands are put to the foot the body turns over with face under. As given by Digby's artist I do feel certain it is impossible, but then artists who illustrate swimming always take poetic licence.

¹ Such as Huet bishop of Avranches: another of a boy named Katlin, is quoted in *The Quarterly review* 1826 v 34 p 35 from Maude's *Visit to Niagara* in 1800. For another instance of a man, see under Nicholson in the Bibliography.

Here is the woodcut slightly reduced given by Everard Digby, who says in

De arte natandi



Uti demonstrantem me vides

What could have put such an idea into Digby's head is a puzzle. With forty years experience I always thought no man could float with his hands by his side in fresh water, and in this belief I was supported by all the most experienced swimmers of the day. In

1900 I saw two persons float with their arms over the breast, a still more difficult feat, as I mention under the heading 'floating.' But these are phenomenal instances. I should say that not one in ten thousand men would be able to float with arms by the side, and not one in a hundred thousand with arms crossed over the breast, though as swimming becomes more popular probably the proportion of floaters will increase. Constant practice will enable almost any one to float though it might require several years, but no amount of practice will enable a person to float with arms by the side in fresh water.

NAVY AND ARMY

In neither has swimming ever received much attention from the British or Irish.

Lord Nelson's private secretary Dr Este quoted under 'cleanliness,' testifies to the few naval men who bathe or swim. In fact in those days of that shameful terror the Press Gang there was an objection to sailors being able to swim, because it would enable the pressed men to desert. This reason was given as against the adoption of Macpherson's and Mallison's life belts, though the authorities approved of a cork jacket that hindered swimming, because it gave less encouragement to desertion. But though the Press Gang has been done away with,¹ it is notorious that sailors have not been better swimmers; and it is only in the present day that a rumor is current that those who have not learnt as boys are taught to swim in the Royal Navy. In the United States Navy sailors are presumed to know how to swim, but there is no official instruction for those who cannot.

In the Library of the Admiralty, where I expected to find preserved most of the publications on swimming, I only found one. In this respect it appears from the catalogue of the *Bibliothèque du dépôt de la guerre* Paris 1883-96, in nine volumes, that the French are no better, as this library has only an old edition of Courtivron, the worst edition of Thevenot and four others.

¹ Looking this up after it was in print, I find that my idea is not strictly accurate. It seems that impressment has been a right of the English crown from time immemorial. It was not resorted to (Haydn's Dictionary by Vincent says) in the Crimean war 1854-5, but Haydn does not go beyond this, nor do any other books of reference. More information I should not be able to give were it not for an encyclopedia 'of the laws of England' lately published, edited by A. Wood Renton. In it we learn, with some surprise, that impressment 'while now dormant is by no means extinct, any more than the compulsory service in the militia, which can at any moment be imposed by proclamation.'

About English soldiers swimming we have nothing at all, though books in English occasionally mention the great advantage it is to a soldier. Foreign books, on the contrary, are mostly written for soldiers. As to cavalry men, who ought to understand also how to swim a horse, there is nothing, as I mention on p 128.

PROGRESS

The most remarkable thing with regard to athleticism of all descriptions at the present day, is the continued surpassing of former achievements. H. Ellington, *The Nineteenth century review* 1887 xxi p 157.

The common idea with writers of all countries was and still is that swimming had been much more practiced before their day. This is nearly the same notion I have commented on under The ancients as swimmers. We find this idea in Elyot 1531. Pontoppidan says it of the Norwegians, and so do many subsequent writers of other countries. That it is the same with us can be seen by referring to Pamplin 1892 and Sinclair and Henry 1893.

This is another fallacy. The practice of swimming has been on the increase, and the steady progress of difficult feats given in the books of instruction makes this clear. It will go on increasing, and the publications on the subject will greatly improve. That swimming in England has been sadly neglected requires no proof. It is clear from the remarks in *The Quarterly Review* for June 1826 p 45, that at that time swimming was not taught in Scottish schools, nor were there any training places at our seaports 'and we shall equally in vain search our libraries for one tolerably useful and practical treatise on the art of swimming.'¹

Now every school makes some kind of effort to teach, and many schools excel; and towns provide public baths, a great sign of progress.

Until the starting of the National Swimming Society in London in 1837, swimming was never even mentioned in the newspapers. From that time however it has been constantly reported, and the art has gone on increasing in popularity ever since.

¹ James Skene the writer was a Scot. Though it may not have been in the Scottish libraries Frost's work had been published ten years, and was a very 'practical treatise.' Scotland since that day has made vast progress in fact, though the librarian of the Advocates Library [Edinburgh] writes me that he was unable to tell what was in the library on swimming, as the books were not arranged under subjects. The fact is that all our great libraries are behind, none of them are kept up to present requirements. The Scottish count some of the very first swimmers, writers, and water polo players, of the day.

The quicker time in which distances are now swum is a sign of improvement. It arises from more careful attention to details, stroke and training. c. Steedman informed me that he never trained and there is little doubt that the other champions of his day (1850) did not either, though training for swimming was then becoming popular.

It is perhaps a good sign of progress when people begin to observe what is the best that can be done. The first note of this kind I have, is in Stonehenge's Rural sports 1856, where he mentions some of the 'fastest times.' The plunge may be taken as an example: in 1860 fifty feet was considered a long plunge. On the 21st october 1865, Bell's Life has a note of w. E. Harvey, president of the Ilex s.c. 'plunging the extraordinary distance of 52 feet' and the reporter adds 'from the slates and not the diving board, which renders the length of the plunge more extraordinary.' The plunge is always taken 'from the slates' about two feet above the water.¹

Steedman's greatest distance in 1867 was 50 feet. It has since been exceeded by 26 feet. The A.S.A. standard is now 60 feet, and this requires a very good plunger. Though Mr w. Taylor of Bootle on 14 sep 1898 plunged under championship conditions (in A.S.A. costume) 78 feet 9 inches, in the time limit of 60 seconds, which is still the A.S.A. record; and on the 6 sep 1899 he plunged 82 feet in 73 $\frac{3}{4}$ seconds, without time limit, which is a record distance. (A.S.A. handbook for 1902 p 85; and ante pages 41-3 under plunge.)

A good sign of progress comes from Australia in Steedman's suggestion quoted on p 61 about the verdicts of coroners.

A period of progress began about 1869, when swimmers commenced to associate themselves for the government of races. A still further impetus was given when in 1881 amateurs dissociated themselves from professionals, thus getting rid of the sporting element.

It is said that Webb's Channel swim gave a great impetus to the art. This was no doubt so, but we do not as a consequence find any literary increase. The improvement would probably be shown by the number of swimming clubs formed between 1876-8 if much in excess of previous years. But Wilson's Swimming and diving which was published in 1876 was written quite irrespective of Webb's swim. Wilson in 1883 in his chapter on 'swimming as a science' says 'it has undergone very little improvement during its many years' practice.' He adds most truly that it has not 'received that share of scientific study which, in proportion to its usefulness, it is entitled.'

¹ The time seems to have come when the A.S.A. should add the height to their definition which I have quoted at p 42 of the glossary.

An American writer, Richard Lamb in 1883 echoes Wilson's idea, he says 'Perhaps there is no science—at least none of equal importance—that has been less developed theoretically than swimming. In the literature of the subject we fail to find any practical directions that would assist a novice.' These words appeared in *Popular Science*. Mr Lamb is quite right as to the neglect of scientific men, himself included.

Mr Watson says (*Memoirs* 1899 p 260) 'Dealing with natation generally, I am led to this conviction that swimmers, though improved in speed, have not made progress with regard to the theoretical knowledge. The first comes quite naturally, and the last is only arrived at by long study and good sound common sense.'

w. Wilson also suggests that a quicker method might be invented than that of the present slow rate. On p 23 he says 'we await the discovery of a better swimming method' so that we may go faster. Let us hope it will not require hundreds of years like the introduction of the English sidestroke did, which was invented or found out without the aid of science. In his preface he refers to the advance made and that swimming had then such a hold on the public mind he need not apologise for publishing another book. A great note of progress was sounded by this author when he wrote swimming 'does not require to be encouraged as sport but as an educational measure, and as a healthy useful and necessary accomplishment.'

In 1885 a swimming club directory was published, a great sign of progress; so is the *Contributions to a history of the art of swimming* by a German savant Dr Hans Brendicke in 1885; and so is Mr George Pragnell's new combined edition of the A.S.A handbook for 1902, comprising some 300 pages. In his preface he says that since 1886 swimming clubs have increased from 40 to 550.

If difficulty of execution may be looked upon as a sign of progress, the feat given by J. Finney in 1886 may be considered high progress; so also may that of sinking and rising without apparent movement, (described by S and H 1893). A 'nautical quadrille' emanating from Lyon in 1889 is of interest.

No greater note of progress could be sounded than the proposal, in the Board of Education volume 6, in 1890, that swimming should be made compulsory like vaccination, but without a conscience clause. Fifty years before, the House of Commons put the petition of a swimming society into the fire. But the greatest sign of all was the founding of the Life Saving Society in 1891 and the publication of Sinclair and Henry's treatise entitled *Swimming* in 1893.

Certainly from some of the books that have been published in various countries during the last few years, which my readers will be

able to pick out of this list, a person might infer that there had been little if any progress.

The numerous articles in the magazines of the day is an undoubted sign of growing popularity. So is the fact of second hand booksellers cataloguing Clais's *Gymnastics*, and books on bathing under 'swimming.' There is an immediate sale for books on swimming as I know to my literary loss, and pecuniary saving, for I cannot afford to buy *Digby* for £25, or *Thevenot* which I bought for fifty-four pence thirty five years ago at the price of fifty shillings.

The playwright is ever on the alert to reflect what is popular ; and accordingly in Mrs Dane's defence an original play by Henry Arthur Jones first acted in 1898, Lionel Carteret who is in love with Mrs Dane, tells her that after roaming about all night, in the morning he went and had a swim! The finest cure for restlessness there is : water at 48 degrees fahrenheit would put a check on the most ardent lover.

Sinclair and Henry in the third edition of their *Swimming* in 1900, allude to the great advance which has been made in the art, since their first edition in 1893, and also particularly in the accommodation provided in public baths.

From whatever quarter we may look for improvement, do not expect it at our great Universities. The Oxford University Humane Society have a notice on their barge moored in the upper river by Port Meadow, that bathing is not allowed from the barge ; and they add 'the water near the barge is deep and dangerous,' evidently to instil terror into the minds of undergraduates, whose hearts are not inclined to keep this law. Thus showing at how little the Dons appraise the quality of the swimming of university men, who are to be frightened by deep water.

In reviewing the Life Saving Society's gala *The Daily Telegraph* (7 sep 1896 p 7) only echoed the popular notion when it says, 'In ordinary athletics improvement or at least a change, is always taking place, but natation alters not.'

The attention given by the newspapers to swimming in 1840 and now, shows the growth of the art in popular estimation. Then a few lines sufficed, in 1860 we find half a column, in 1870 a column, and after this we get several columns, and papers devoted entirely to swimming. The whole of these latter however seem to have started before their time, for they have all been pecuniary failures.

The idea of reviewing any treatise from an intelligent point of view, and with a desire to improve the art never occurred to any one. It is to be hoped that the swimming clubs and the A.S.A. will take a much higher view of the subject than they have hitherto done. Now

that men of education are paying some attention to the matter, there is little doubt that our books will soon show a marked improvement. Probably men of science will follow in investigating matters they have hitherto neglected.

I have observed in my preface that the practice of swimming has always been in advance of the literature. As an example I may cite the breast stroke with the wedge which must have been swum many years before it is noticed in any treatise. Another within my own knowledge is the English sidestroke, which must have come in between 1840 and 1850 and yet does not get any literary notice for ten years after. Again the North of England variation of this stroke has been swum perhaps since 1880 and yet we have no proper or satisfactory description of it up to the present time, in any book.

The feat above referred to of sinking and rising without apparent movement was one of Daniel Beaton's before 1885, yet he appears not to have thought much of it, for he himself does not refer to it in his pamphlet! It is only mentioned in the press opinions he quotes at the end. Though natural to the elephant, the hippopotamus and fish, for human beings it is, as one of the reporters says, a feat of amazing difficulty, yet it did not get into any book until 1893.

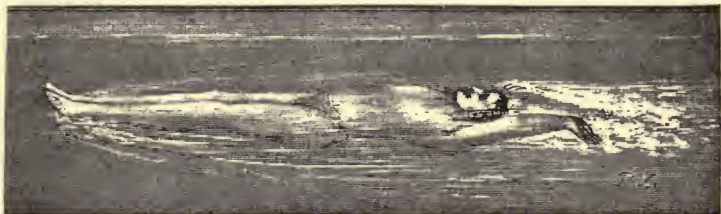
However much the art of swimming has improved, it is immeasurably behind gymnastics and acrobaticism. In these we see marvelous feats performed with such apparent ease that the performer smiles all the time, while a deft, watchful and agile little lady will look on, with graceful action and pretty smiles, as if her husband or brothers were doing the most ordinary thing in the world. The smallest feat in swimming is performed with rigid mouth and features set hard, as if the swimmer's life was at stake.

THE PROPELLER

is a name given to swimming on the back with the hands over the head propelling the body feet first. Though an action or stroke which propelled the body in this way is described by Harrington 1861 he did not know a name for it. Wilson in 1876 is the next writer to describe the action, 'a beautiful and graceful performance,' but he does not give it a name, though he says it is done 'by using the hands like a screw propeller, turning them by working the wrist with a sculling movement.' Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 135 describe it under the title of 'the propeller' with an illustration, the movement of the hands there described is different from either of the above.

The arms should be straight out over the head and the action should be that of sculling, the hands moving from the wrist, keeping

the arms as straight as possible. In the drawing below which is from nature by Percy Thomas in 1901, as in the photograph, from the transparency of the water more of the swimmer than really is appears to be above water. By sculling more with one hand than with the



other the swimmer can move round. I have often thought that a swimmer who could work one hand one way and the reverse way with the other, would go round without moving forward. The 'propeller' enables a person to swim in water that is only just deep enough to float the body.

RESUSCITATION

in England may have been said to have commenced with Dr Hawes about 1770. The struggle he had to introduce the idea I have slightly touched upon under R.H.S. The methods practiced were all wrong, and therefore as likely to kill as to cure. They were wrong up to the year 1856 when Dr Marshall Hall worked out his way, even then the method was chiefly theoretical. In 1876 Mr Wilson went a step further, but it was not until the foundation of the London Life Saving Society that the practical commenced. I need not say more here as this matter will be found noticed under R.H.S. and the L.S.S.

SCULLING

is one of the most useful strokes and is quite indispensable to the fancy swimmer. When the proper figure of ∞ action first came in I cannot say. Winmann mentions a stroke that is common with the self taught, but it is not true sculling. Curiously enough he hits upon a simile which gives the proper stroke, though he did not mean to. He says 'move your hands with swift movements as if shaking them, like the birds do their wings.' Now Dr Pettigrew in *Animal locomotion* 1873 was the first to show us that the wings of a bird in flight describe the figure of 8. So that it is certain that Winmann merely meant an up and down movement of the hands 'as if shaking

them': one that is very inefficient, but is most frequently to be seen. It is here shown by a diagram (reduced) from Dunlop 1877 p 49.



He says this represents accurately 'the movements of the hands if it be supposed the curves are separated by the width of the body.' He is wrong. Though Dunlop gives it the name of sculling he did not know the true action. He says of his diagram that 'the small amount of unprofitable action, in the necessary turnings, is shown by the dotted lines,' but the marvel of proper sculling is that there is no unprofitable action, no slip, and it must therefore be with this stroke nature intended human beings to swim.

In describing swimming on the back Nicholson in (Journal vol xiv p 329) 1806 says he taught his pupil 'to move his hands, in the way of paddling or skulling.'

Dr Bennet the American in 1846 says do it 'after the manner of sculling a boat, first from you with the little fingers inclined up, then towards you with the thumbs inclined up.'

Richardson in 1857 also describes sculling accurately. He does not give it a name, but he shows that by a slight alteration the body will move feet instead of head first.

Harrington 1861 though swimming the proper figure of 8 action, as presently described, had never heard it called by any name.

Though Steedman 1867 gives no detailed descriptions of sculling, he uses the word frequently; and on page 190 says 'sculling the body along by the exterior and lateral movements of the wrist, similar to feathering an oar.'

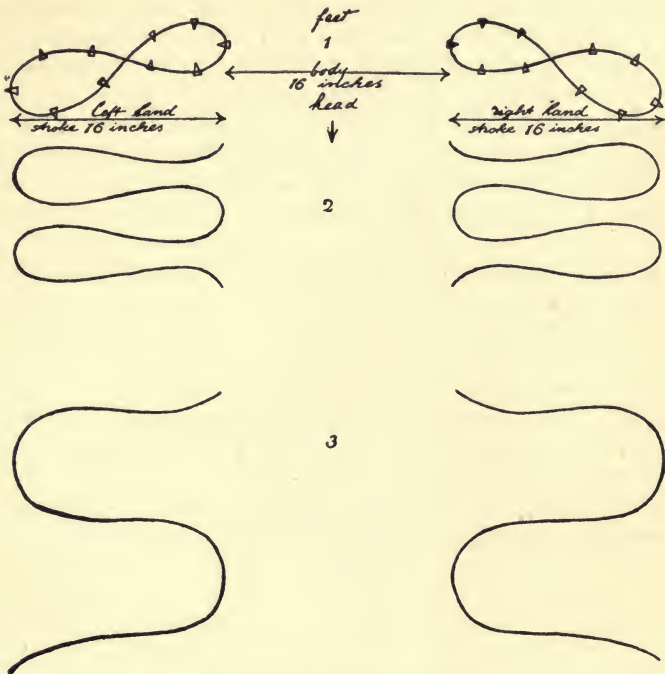
Wilson 1876 is the first writer to give the action its present name of sculling.

How slow is the progress towards the adoption of accurate or any terms is seen from the fact of the word 'sculling' being still unrecognised by Mr Martin Cobbett in 1890, he only knows the action as 'wrist circles.' In 1893 Sinclair and Henry describe it under the title 'sculling,' they however confine it to swimming on the back, it is useful for side or front as well.

The following theoretical diagram gives what we believe to be the true action in sculling.

The swimmer is here supposed to be in the middle with his head to the spectator. The figure of 8 curves on either side represent the orbits of the hands, if the swimmer sculls without progression. Then as a forward (head first) movement takes place the curves in the water are supposed to take the shapes marked 2; and

as speed increases the curves marked 3. In the figure of 8 curves (No 1) the broad parts of the arrows indicate the positions of the thumbs.



Sculling is not to be learnt merely from a desire to do it. The wrists have to be supple so that the hands can make an angle of 45° with the fore arm, and constant practice on land and in the water is necessary to get the suppleness of wrist required.

SEEING UNDER WATER

It is extraordinary to think that any one should contend that human beings could not see under water. Yet this was seriously asserted by Nicholson in his scientific Journal in 1806. It arose out of Nicholson's mentioning Franklin's advice and saying 'I am rather surprised at the Doctor's direction about the egg...because it seems as if he thought the submerged experimentalist could see the egg.' 'The Doctor seems to have supposed that man can see under water. This is contrary to optical science,—and to fact.'

This was at once refuted by several correspondents. Nicholson then proceeded to prove by experiments 'that the human eye cannot discern objects under water.' Then a correspondent takes a 'native of Africa' to Richmond where in eight feet of water, it was shown that objects could be discerned and picked up. There would be no difficulty in the present day in getting natives of Richmond, but there would be considerable difficulty in their discerning objects in eight feet of the present muddy water.

A professional writer on swimming Mr Robert Watson in his *Memoirs* 1899 (p 285) says 'We know that the great Franklin declared it to be physically impossible for a man to open his eyes under water. He was of course mistaken, but men equally great in these days of improved scientific knowledge err more grievously.'

I have relieved the great philosopher's name at last from this aspersion. Although this fallacy has been frequently repudiated it is nevertheless repeated from time to time. We even find it in an article by the secretary of the Royal Humane Society in 1873 who tells us in *The Popular Recreator* that the eyes must be kept open in the act of springing 'as it is very difficult to open them when the head is once under water.'

Notwithstanding that it has been refuted since the above it is nevertheless repeated in Cassell's *Book of sports* in 1881.

SPEED

The ideas as to the rate it was possible for a man to go through the water, were formerly exceedingly hazy ; and so they are still with the greater part of the population.

Richardson in 1857 is the first to throw a doubt on the claim which was made for the Bernardi upright method of three miles an hour. Steedman also repudiates it and says it is impossible.

But we need not be surprised at early writers not having a correct idea of the rate at which it is possible for a man to swim for there has been the same ignorance in our own times.

Payne in 1875 devotes many pages to the elucidation of the subject of speed. He ridicules without mercy (*Art of s.* p 70) the idea that 'We do not think it possible to swim in still water more than eight miles in two hours or four miles in one hour.' If a man could swim four miles in still water in one hour, he would require the staying power of a marine engine to enable him to do one more much less four. Long races are most trying, and at the end of an hour's

race it is a common occurrence for a competitor to be quite out of his senses, and he will sometimes take an hour to recover.¹

In a popular work having a large circulation, Cassell's Book of sports 1881 we are told that three miles an hour in still water is not much more than half the ordinary speed for a man to swim.

The rate of speed has been gradually increasing, since the introduction of the English sidestroke, but this is due to care, practice, and to some extent training, as the stroke has not altered—except within the last few years—and even then the speed has gone on increasing. Still better results will be obtained, when more care is taken to get an accurate stroke. I have never yet seen a champion swimmer whose stroke I did not think could be improved. As for that of the ordinary self-taught amateur it is beneath notice. But not stroke, nor strength nor wind alone, can give speed. It requires the highest cultivation of all three to get the fastest swimmer.

SPRINGING

As explained in the glossary I have adopted this word instead of 'dive,' when the latter is used to mean springing from any takeoff whether firm, a springboard or height. It has been occasionally used by writers in English and is the usual word in German.

It is only of late years that the art of springing (with the usual popular slovenliness of expression under the term diving) has received any attention from English speaking peoples. In fact we may say that it commences with the visit of the Swedish swimmers and springers to London for the L.S.S. gala in 1897. The Scandinavians seem to excel all other nations in graceful springing from heights of 50 feet or thereabouts. In India the natives spring from heights of 50 to 80 feet. In Letters from India and Kashmir 1874 the frontispiece is an illustration, described on p 134, of natives young and old springing from a height of about 50 feet, into one of the 'jumping wells of Delhi' about 60 feet square, which are numerous in India. There appears to be nothing graceful about it. They descend 'with their arms and legs outspread and their features distorted by wild grimaces as they leap from the walls.' In whatever position they may be in the air, just before entering the water they straighten themselves and go in feet first with arms extended over the head.

¹ For health there can be little doubt that the word of caution given in Sea-air and sea-bathing by Chas Parsons M.D. London 1877 is wise, but never likely to be followed 'All emulation in exercise should be avoided, as likely to lead to over-exertion. Our object should be to promote health, and not to perform this or that feat within a given time better than somebody else. This is the rock on which so many young men make shipwreck.'

Springing with the hands palm to palm is a far greater disadvantage than holding them so in the breast stroke; and none but the veriest tyro in the present day will be seen to spring or plunge with the hands in this position. In order to rise with ease in the water the hands have to be turned thumb to thumb, hands flat. However, some of our professional swimmers, to judge by the artist's representation of them in the advertisements, still adopt the praying attitude of entering the water.

The rev J. G. Wood notices the peculiar effect of springing on a person trying it for the first time. In *A handbook* by G. Forrest 1858 he says 'a strange sensation comes over, or rather inside him, precisely as if he left his stomach behind him. 'However when he rises to the surface of the water, he finds that nothing has been left behind, except perhaps a little presence of mind.'

Miss Constance Everett Green in 1898 mentions another feeling which is commoner still, the disinclination that even the best swimmers feel to taking the first plunge into the water.

An elaborate series of figures springing will be found in Martin Schwägerl's book in 1880, but they are chiefly gymnastic. A few acrobatic springs (miscalled Swedish 'diving') will be found in the third edition of *s and H* 1900 p 121. I have elsewhere observed that it is not a matter for regret that English speaking peoples are behind in the art of acrobatic springing into the water. We can hold our own as acrobats on land.

Here is a figure typical of most of those in the books (reduced)



from a popular periodical *Ally Sloper's Half Holiday* of the 3 oct 1896 p 317. It is entitled *The Sloperian showman: girls uncle Boffin's advised.*

Uncle Boffin's advice would have a rather disastrous result. The girl will have to turn her hands before she can rise from the spring, when under water. She will smash her face till it smarts, as well as her chest and thighs. All these parts will be red and smarting.

Now I give a drawing of the same girl by the same artist (Mr George Gatcombe ¹) springing under uncle Thomas's advice. It is the best we could do not having nature for a model.



STOPPING UNDER WATER

There are few things in swimming which have been more the subject of fabulous stories than that of stopping under water. The mythological accounts are far too numerous for me to touch upon as are the various accounts of persons who get their information at second hand. Many such can be found in these pages. A French sailor le sieur Le Blanc who left Marseille at the age of thirteen and was voyaging all his life tells some remarkable stories. There can be little doubt that he could not read or write but he was induced to publish his travels in 1648 and he there tells us (part iii p 122) that

¹ Whose name was obligingly given to my publishers by Mr Sloper.

he had seen pearl divers stay under water three quarters of an hour. Most of the cases we read about are hearsay, this French traveler says he saw it. One hundred years after Bachstrom writes on the same subject and seems to have no doubt that an Englishman could stay under three days and nights. It will be observed that it is generally some person of another country that performs these marvels.

When in 1757 experiments were attempted, Mr Robertson could not get any men to stay under water a second! Nevertheless scientific men have been satisfied with these experiments to the present day; and how long it is possible to remain under water has been left for the unscientific to determine.

The Frenchman who wrote under the name of N. Roger in 1783 says that he knew no diver who could stay under water three minutes, and although he had this practical knowledge he yet credits the fabulous stories, as he says that 'people who stop hours under water are exceptions to the rule.'

Any beginner who first acquires the art of staying under water, will learn to swim much easier than the one who is afraid of keeping the head under. Salzmann (1800) advises the learner to swim under water as long as possible. The next authors who give this excellent advice are Richardson in 1857: *Swimming* [by Leverell] and by Harrington, both in 1861. Sinclair and Henry only refer to two things as liable to produce deafness 'the shock when the contact with water takes place' and 'from pressure when at a depth' both these things can be easily avoided. I have known a springer baulked just as he sprang, and coming on his ear or side in the water break the tympanum, but this is an accident that seldom occurs.

As with everything in relation to swimming bathers must find out what suits their constitutions. It is said that long immersions will bring on deafness but I know of no scientific or expert evidence on the subject, and I know several people who are deaf who have, I believe, never put their heads under water at all.

Under water competitions have had to be abandoned on account of the divers keeping under so long that they became senseless, a description of how this results is given in S & H 1893 p 93.

Mr Wilson informs me he thinks Dr Hunter Barron was the first to discourage public diving competitions, about 1882, in consequence of the number of mishaps he had observed from the divers remaining under too long. A final touch was put when the A.S.A. some time before 1893 passed a resolution discountenancing them.

The habit of stopping under water is most valuable from a life saving point of view, and diving for an object is one of the requirements of all the L. S. Societies and of the Royal Humane Society.

SWIMMING ON THE SIDE

is a general term which may be applied to various methods. From Digby's description in 1587 it might be inferred, but I think erroneously, that the arms were moved much as they are now in the English sidestroke. He is silent as to the legs; and therefore they moved as in the breast stroke (q.v. c) with the human kick. This breast stroke swum on the side is described by all writers (except a few English since 1861) to the present day, but after 1861 most of them ignorantly call it the sidestroke instead of swimming on the side. One of the marvels of swimming on the side is its alterability, as nearly every swimmer takes a different stroke.

WOMEN AND SWIMMING

Pece Muger, five piscis ανθρωπομορφος



the mermaid

reduced from page 77 of an old book author and title unknown

The first book we have shows us that some European women swam three hundred years ago, and bathed in a much freer manner than they have since.

Winmann in 1538 says that at Zürich in his day (thus implying that he was an elderly man and that the custom had ceased?) the young men and maidens bathed together around the statue of 'Saint Nicolai.' Even in those days his pupil asks 'were not the girls ashamed of being naked?' 'No, as they wore bathing drawers—sometimes a marriage was brought about.' If any young man failed to bring up stones from the bottom, when he dived, he had to suffer the penalty of wearing drawers like the girls.

Will the day ever come when the English will have statues to St Nicolas? I doubt it. There appears with us to be some idea that indefinable and terrible things must happen if the sexes bathe together. It always seems to me that nothing so damps human ardor and enthusiasm, for beauty or anything else, as cold water.

The only evidence I have come across of women swimming in England in early days is in a ballad entitled *The swimming lady* (1670) who was 'swimming in a river near Oxford.' 'Into a fluent stream she leapt' and 'turned to swim upon her Back...presently down she dives.' The ballad says on the 'four and twentieth Day of May, of all times in the year.' But I notice that the month of may is a favorite with the ballad writer of the time, for it is in the same month that he makes David see 'Bersheba.'

Thevenot who died in 1692 shows that women swam in France. Bachstrom (1741) tells us he taught his daughters. Clais in 1825 (p 160) asks 'why should the English females not learn to swim' and 'remain inferior...to the women of other countries.'

It would appear from a paragraph quoted by Southey (*Common place book* 1851 vol iv p 180) that Egyptian women were such good swimmers that they were able to swim against the current (?) The author of *Familiar hints* 1838 does not think 'English ladies in general will ever take to the amusement of swimming, which however might prove useful on any emergency.'

A French lady in 1854 treats swimming as a masculine exercise, which will be detrimental not only to women's beauty but will take away their gracefulness. What a woman gains by swimming she does not know, but she knows what a woman loses. Even in 1868 a writer in *Kind Words* assumes that girls will pass over the article on swimming.

It is not until 1859 that we find women making any efforts in London to promote swimming among themselves. Then Miss Harriet Martineau wrote an article making suggestions for some facilities being given to women. As she makes no allusion to it in her *Life* it appears to me most probable that she could not swim, but was asked to write on account of the influence of her name.

Miss Powers also wrote advocating baths for ladies, a most important thing. Not long after, days were set apart for ladies; now London has three score of baths¹ that ladies may use.

The first occasion on which ladies were present in London was at an 'entertainment' given by the Ilex swimming club got up by

¹ Mr Pragnell's new edition of the *A.S.A.* handbook issued in June 192, just after the above was printed, names ten baths for ladies only, and fifty baths in London where ladies have days set apart.

w. E. Harvey the president. It took place at the Lambeth Baths, which were closed to the public, on the 4 nov 1861. The program, a copy of which I have, says 'as ladies occupy the galleries, no one will be allowed to enter the water without vest and drawers, nor to undress in the room.' The vest and drawers we wore had to be made on purpose. At this time no drawers were worn—even by racers. Many ladies were present, though nothing like the numbers to be seen at any 'gala' at the present day, when most of them not only swim but understand the methods of rescue and resuscitation taught by The Life Saving Society.

Chambers's Journal in 1880 says there is a mistaken notion with many women that swimming is scarcely a feminine art, that it is slightly wanting in delicacy. In the same year Miss Amy Croft shows how, notwithstanding her horror of the water, she eventually learns to swim. That it was not feminine never seems to have occurred to her, nor to Mrs Hamer in *What girls can do*.

I have cited so many instances of the incorrect way in which artists draw figures in the water, that it affords me pleasure to give one of a young lady being rescued in an accurate manner. It is by Mr G. v. Reading and is reproduced (reduced $\frac{1}{4}$) by permission from *The London Reader* of 13 July 1895.



One of the latest developments has been advocated by Mr George Pragnell, who is an ardent promoter of all that concerns the

advancement of swimming, not only by word of mouth but in print (and on blushing colored paper), that mixed bathing should be allowed in fresh water in London baths. Hide your faces ladies ! Fall ye heavens !

In 1899 the Amateur Swimming Association settled (as suggested to them by a committee of ladies) a costume for ladies taking part in galas, with mixed spectators. In 1901 they allowed a ladies championship to be swum in the presence of men, or ladies only as they choose.

It will probably not be long before more liberal notions will prevail with us, as I infer from what an American lady, Mabel Jennings, says they do in America.

The first number of *The Royal Magazine* nov 1898 contains a story about a young lady who put on her Trouville costume, and swam in the Thames, a charming illustration of said young lady being given. Needless to say that this freak resulted in a 'marriage being brought about.'

In the volume the countess of Warwick edited, on *Progress in women's education* 1898 there is nothing whatever on women swimming, no doubt in the next book her ladyship issues the subject will not be entirely neglected.

Several ladies are members of the executive of the Life Saving Society, and their services are not only useful but indispensable : so many questions are constantly arising about women and swimming. One of them Mrs Vautier has taken the highest distinction that can be obtained, namely the diploma of the L.S.S. (see Report for 1902). She is the first and only woman who has yet taken it.

Up to the present time teaching may be said to have been in the hands of the men, and a disastrous failure they have made of it. There is very little doubt that better results will be obtained when women can swim. Many of our 'queens of society' have already shown an excellent example.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

A list of works on swimming from the invention of printing to the present time, arranged in chronological and alphabetical order.

The first book of the world on swimming was written by Nicolas Winmann. His name is spelt in various ways: when I am not quoting I adopt that in Zedler's Lexicon.

Winmann was professor of languages at Ingolstadt in Bavaria then and for several centuries a university town. Little is known of him besides what can be gathered from his publications, which are in old Latin full of abbreviations and difficult to read. The first treatise he printed was in 1528 (named by Dr Wassmannsdorff in his reprint p xvii) when he was probably 23; another in 1537 (in the B.M.) and Colymbetes 1538; another not named by Dr W (in the library of Trinity College Dublin) 'Colon, 1541.' I think it also possible that one in Brunet's Manuel is also by him, though by Nicaulus Wimmannus in 1573.

Dr Wassmannsdorff says he thinks Winmann was not wanting in skill in the exercises practiced in his day, such as those mentioned in Rollenhagen's Froschmeuseler (The frogs and the mice first published in 1595, but quoted from Goedeke's edition 1876 p 7) namely 'bathing and diving, skilful swimming, fishing, rowing, fencing.' I may mention that Goedeke only gives general comments, no instruction on swimming.

I think it probable that Thevenot and de la Chapelle never saw the original edition, but only the Dutch reprints, hence Thevenot made the mistake, repeated even to the year 1893 of calling Winmann a Dutchman. Dr W shows clearly (p 24 of his preface, translated in my note in Notes and Queries 7 dec 1895 p 442 and 24 oct 1896 p 346) that Winmann was a Swiss i.e. a German.

The following is a facsimile of the title page (reproduced s.s.) from my own copy.

COLYMBE
TES, SIVE DE AR
TE NATANDI, DIA
logus & festivus & iucundus le
ctu, per Nicolaum VVyn
man, Ingolstadij lingua
rum professorem
publicum.

Propertius lib: 2:

*Qualem purpureis agitare fluctibus Hellen,
 Aurea quam molli tergorum exit ovis.*



Anno M. D. XXXVIII.

Size of print in millimeters height 108 width 67 : without pagination pp 96, signatures A to F.

The colophon is Augustæ Vindeliorum excudebat Henricus Steyner, anno M D XXXVIII.

Translation of the title Colymbetes [i.e. the swimmer] or the art of swimming, a dialogue jovial and pleasant to read.

A copy in the British Museum, one in the Bibliothèque Nationale and one in the library of Trinity College, Dublin.

A copy in Bernard Quaritch's catalogue, vol iii 1887 p 1953, red morocco gilt edges bound by Derome, priced at 21s : another copy from which Dr Wassmannsdorff issued his reprint. It was reprinted in Holland in a collection of tracts with this general title Argumentorum ludicrorum et amoenitatum... Lugduni Batavorum...1623.

And again in a collection with the general title Dissertationum ludicarum et Amoenitatum...1638 and again in 1644. These are in the British Museum

and Bodleian. I have not looked for verbal alterations, but otherwise these three are mere reprints, except that many errors are corrected, and they do not give Winmann's title page, nor his dedication to the young Paumgartner of Augsburg, nor the colophon.

It is again reprinted in the following Nicol Wynmanni Colymbetes, sive de arte natandi dialogus. Das erste schwimmbuch der welt. Neu herausgegeben und mit Anmerkungen versehen von Dr Karl Wassmannsdorff. Heidelberg, Karl Groos, 1889.

Size of print mm height 107 width 70, pp xxxvii then pp 150 including photo reproduction of Winmann's title and cover unpagged. This reprint is not page for page.

Dr Hans Brendicke says there is a good translation of Colymbetes with all Winmann's pedantic elegance by W. L. Meyer in Grenzboten 1866 n° 3 or the same translation in Deutsche turnzeitung 1866 n° 27 p 204 and Dr W has translated portions into German to which he refers in his notes.

Though of great interest it would occupy too much space for me to insert even a summary of the information given by Dr W in his 157 interesting notes. He says that he must leave his readers to judge of the value of Winmann's instructions, from which following his own reasoning we may guess that the learned doctor is not good in the part of Colymbetes! This word he shows must be translated a swimmer and not a diver (p xxx). With page xxxi Dr W begins his summary of contents, which has enabled me to pick out the parts relating to

swimming. I translate some of his notes adding further details translated from Winmann's Latin. Winmann apologises at the beginning (p 6 of the reprint) and the end (p 113) for his frequent digressions from the subject of swimming, on the ground of its not being a prolific one. Two friends Pampirus (the expert and author himself) and Erotos (the questioner) meet, and Pampirus gives the lessons. He advises Erotos to choose a quietly flowing water reaching only to his breast (p 23). P says it would help to have warm water.¹

P tells E to keep the palms of his hands and his fingers close together in starting the breast stroke (p 25) and to turn or move his hands round slightly oblique: 'put your hands to center or breast then stretch out as far as able: keep the hands under the water about half a foot.'

Swimming on one side, which he mentions at p 26, has no reference to side swimming, but that Erotos is to swim well on his breast and not lean from one side to the other, as this is not right and is tiring. Hold your head back, do not splash (p 28), the feet are to be driven like oars. Furthermore to put the instructions in a small compass you will learn best if you diligently watch how frogs swim with their hind feet, for the fore feet being shorter they are unable to use.

Should he require it E could make use of rushes, or cork or two bladders filled with air (p 36). Then comes a digression (p 38) about the swimming of both sexes at Zürich, around the statue of S Nicolai.² Erotos, girls? [the

¹ The contrary is the fact, there is more buoyancy in cold water, but it very much discourages learning: skill in England has come through tepid baths.

² After much trouble and enquiry, not finding the information in any books, I have ascertained that this statue has long since disappeared. I wrote to the director of the museum, who replied (18 nov 1901) in English as follows

'The old statue of St Nicolas standing in shallow water marked the town boundary in the lake, within which the burgesses of the city had the right of free fishing. The statue seems to have been replaced after the Reformation by an

original has a misprint here an n for a u in *puellæ*]. P yes in summer. E were not the girls ashamed of being naked? P they used bathing drawers: sometimes there is a marriage brought about (p 40). The youths take running headers and they must not come out of the water unless they bring up a stone, or suffer the penalty of putting on drawers and be thrown back into the water by the others. They plunge with their hands stretched out over their head. E why not feet foremost? P says this is bad as the concussion might injure the body [quite wrong].

Then they come (p 45) to swimming on the back, and plate-swimming is mentioned on p 46, and he adds a tale of a man on his back pretending to be a corpse; 'but move your hands with swift movements as if shaking them like the birds do their wings, move them like the blade of a ploughshare when you sharpen it on a grindstone, or as if you were cutting smooth water.' 'Keep as much breath as you can and blow through the nose' (p 47).

The third mode of swimming, treading water, he thinks to be an art not sufficient alone for itself. Dangers which threaten the swimmer are, cold currents in the river, which produce cramp (p 51) and deep holes.

As to rescuing P says presence of

mind is the first thing needful (p 55): have a cord or board: do not allow the man in danger to seize you: the deliverer must be able to swim with one hand only (p 59). Swimming in a river or stagnant water is discussed, and through whirlpools (p 62) and taking off clothes (p 68) which P says could best be done when treading water, he would however keep the money belt (p 69). E then gives his tutor a fine opportunity for a digression by asking how he would behave in the event of the world coming to an end, as prophesied (p 78).

Cola the fish is mentioned (p 96) the auxiliary means of divers leads to a story about a shoe maker who was a wonderful diver. P says the art of swimming is less practiced among 'Germani' (p 102) than in olden times. E wants to know why a large piece of wood swims and a small stone goes down at once (p 106): why the island of Delos swam: at p 107 we are told the souls of the dead cross the Styx by swimming.

However much other things have altered in three centuries and a half, one custom, at least, remains the same. Having given Eroses his swimming lesson, Pampirus asks his young friend to accompany him home, in order that they may get an 'inward wet.'

In 1555 Olaus Magnus archbishop of Upsala Sweden published at Roma a volume of nearly a thousand folio pages, full of the quaintest illustrations entitled *Historia de gentibus septentrionalibus*. It is as curious a book as ever was written. Among the numerous subjects

ornamental stone pillar, but the name St Nicolas remained. In 1799 during the Revolution this old landmark was destroyed, but re-erected under the Restoration in 1802. It is still visible though enclosed by land, the shallow lake having been filled for the construction of an embankment.

'Formerly children of both sexes used certainly to swim out to the Pillar and swim round it or rest there in the shallow water. Now the bathing in the lake is restricted to regular bathing-houses where the sexes are separated...Yours truly, Schweizerisches Landesmuseum in Zürich, Der Direktor H. Angst.'

Zürich was then as now, a great center of civilisation. Coverdale's English version of the Bible was printed there in 1535, and many banished protestants in the reign of queen Mary took refuge there.

he treats of concerning war, peace and the arts, we find on p 350 horses swimming, with a woodcut which is reproduced in my introduction (page 125, with the title of the English translation, which is without the illustrations, at p 126) testifying to the writer's absolute ignorance of how a horse swims; and how and where a man especially one weighted with armor should be in the water with his horse, though he says they practiced swimming horses over rivers with their armor on.

Then he treats of the swimming of armed foot soldiers, and especially of fat ones (p 352) with this illustration

De bellis navalibus



De natatione pedestrium armatorum, & præsertim pinguium

Those that could not swim and fat men were helped across with a rope. The men seem to be swimming the breast stroke. Neither of them seems to be fat.

Then by quite an accident, for it is only an initial, we see that the ancient artist imagined people sprang into the water on their faces, just as the modern artist represents them.

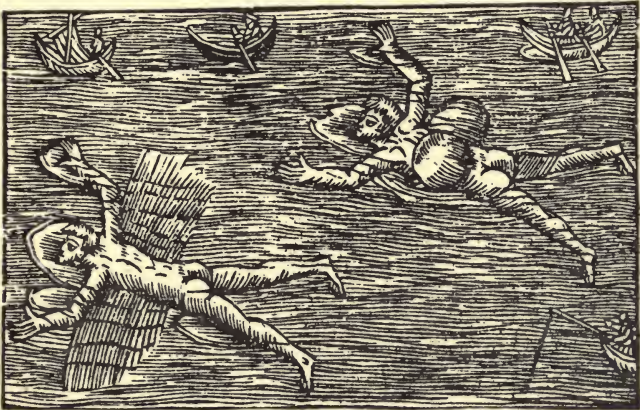


Magnus 1555

The initial is reproduced the same size but the other four cuts are reduced about one sixth.

Magnus gives an account of a Norwegian who was an expert swimmer. He was being taken to sea to be drowned, but making the sailors drunk he jumped overboard although near winter and divested himself first of his armor and then of all his under garments so that he might not be recognised. His world renowned countryman, Nansen, it will be recollected, also had to jump into icy water, under much worse circumstances.

He also treats of artificial aids (p 354) apparently a very necessary thing, as all the men it is clear from his account were not swimmers.



De primis instrumentis natatoriæ artis

Here again we have what appears to be the breast stroke, but it would have been far more satisfactory if the artist had had sufficient knowledge to have given us two different positions of the stroke.

On p 356 is an interesting cut of a soldier upright in the water with a swimming buoy made of leather, which he inflates by blowing through a tube. The author says that boys should be taught, and that Alexander the great regretted never having learnt to swim.

According to the inferences that some authors make on slight grounds, we may assume from the following cut, from p 238, that the men of the 16th century knew how to stand on their hands in the water



De hostilibus incendiariis puniendis

but I feel bound to warn my readers to be on their guard in accepting their facts too readily. That the archbishop does not entirely confine himself to what he actually saw in all instances may be judged from this cut from p 771.



De magnitudine Noruagici Serpentis, & aliorum

In one of the series of very curious and interesting books issued by Mr F. E. Hulme *Natural history lore and legend* 1895 the sea serpent is not indexed and I believe is only incidentally referred to in the book though illustrated on the cover. [He will no doubt like to know of this early illustration.]

Artis gymnasticæ ... auctore Hieronymo Mercuriali ... Venetiis 1569. small 4°.

This is the first issue of what in subsequent editions is entitled *De arte gymnastica*. It is the work of an Italian doctor Girolamo Mercuriale, and treats very shortly of swimming as

a healthy exercise. It is paraphrased in *The muscles and their story from the earliest times, including the whole text of Mercurialis...* by John W[ilton] F[rankland] Blundell M.D. 1864.

De Thermis...A. Bacci...Venetiis 1571.

A latin treatise concerning warm spring baths.

It has passages about the usefulness of swimming while bathing: no instruction.

It refers to Galen frequently for most of its opinions.

'For it is laborious to swim because the hands and legs are moved in such a way that all the parts of the body are exercised. Wherefore Aristotle in the *Problematibus* rightly compares swimming on account of its toilsomness to running.'

DIGBY, 1587

AND HIS TRANSLATORS MIDDLETON, PERCEY AND THEVENOT

The first book published in England on swimming was written by Everard Digby. It is entitled to a far more important place than the first of the world, because, whereas Winmann had never (up to 1866) been translated or copied or even quoted by any one, Digby has been three times translated: twice into English and once into French and through this latter became and probably still is the best known treatise on the subject. The French edition was translated into German, Spanish and Italian, and copied by most writers and actually translated back again into English from the French, the translator never suspecting that Thevenot was not original. Though throughout this work I refer to Thevenot, Digby is really the writer to whom the credit is due.

De Arte Natandi libri duo, quorum prior regulas ipsius artis, posterior verò praxin demonstrationemque continet: authore Everardo Dygbeio, Anglo in artibus magistro. [woodcut]...Londini excudebat Thomas Dawson 1587.

To call this after the catalogues 'small quarto' will give no idea of the size which is about 12°.

Size of the print in millimeters height 150 width 95. Title, 114 pages unpagged including 43 whole page woodcuts with

figures in swimming positions and one chart = 44. The 43 cuts reduce to five, the centers of which are cut out to introduce 43 positions in swimming.

It is dedicated to Ricardo Wourtleio. Berjeau in *Le Bibliophile* 15 sep 1861 pp 17-19 reproduces the cut on p N4 verso, same size but not well done.

A copy was sold at James Bindley's sale Jan 1819 pt ii p 600 50s. A copy in Bernard Quaritch's catalogue for 1866 was priced 32s. He bought a copy at the Ashburnham sale Sotheby's 25 June 1897 lot 1386 for £15 for stock: in his catalogue 1898 for £25, a record price. A fine copy in the Bibliothèque Nationale Paris. Two copies at British Museum, one in the Bodleian, and one in Lambeth Library. One is mentioned in the catalogue of the library of Antonio de Leon Pinelo, Madrid 1737, folio, and the title of a MS is given by the same author. The copies are alike with occasionally the same MS corrections, for there are numerous obvious misprints. A copy in the Catalogue of the library [of the duke of Devonshire] at Chatsworth. London 1879.

It is written in Latin conversations between Geronicus and Nugenes. The illustrations are exceedingly quaint, but some of the text is quaint still. On the whole, the instructions are good, though not sufficient to make a perfect swimmer, as the author expected; and taking into consideration its early date it is the best book that has been written on the subject. Everard Digby must have been an expert and true lover of the art, and from his work it is apparent that little progress has been made since he wrote. So I wrote in 1868 but swimming literature has gone ahead since then.

Digby's introduction is written in a half-congratulatory style, as if the author was perfectly satisfied with his work, and thenceforth all the world would learn to swim.

No copy of Digby, Middleton, Percey

or Thevenot is given in the Index to Book-prices current (1887-1896) but Digby is sold in 1900 £6 6s and 1901 for £9 soiled copies.

Most of the advice and many of the curious ideas that we find in our swimming books begin with Digby, for example that man swims naturally, for Digby contends that (I quote Middleton)

'man swimmeth by nature'

'and in swimming he must excell all creatures whatsoever' and the objection is then anticipated 'that if swimming were so naturall a thing to a man, then should not so many perish in the water, to these in a word I thus answere; that men who have not had some practise in it afore, when by any sinister occasion they fall into the water, the discreet use of their sences is taken away by a suddaine feare, and so unorderly labouring in the water, they by the indirect mooving of their bodies pull downe themselves under the water, and so are drowned, which to avoyde I leave it to every severall mans consideration, how necessarie a thing this Art of Swimming is.'

Another translator Percey (p 6) takes his own view adverse to this opinion 'to man onely Nature hath denied this gift,' but he admits 'that man swimmeth by the help of nature' and 'excels all other creatures.'

The other translator Thevenot (1699 p 2) takes Digby's view.

The following is an epitome of Courtivron's translation of this passage (Digby chap 7)

Geronicus Man swims with the aid of nature. This says Courtivron is not very precise the author means that man swims naturally without having learnt. Nugenes answers Then why do all those who fall into the water, sink and get drowned. G That comes partly from the figure of man who stands upright, and like an arrow with an iron head which sinks - if the iron is off it floats again - so a man if he extends

himself rises, moreover a drowning man loses his senses and strikes out irregularly: if he did it properly he would rise' (pp 455-7).

Digby gives may june july and august as the months for bathing, this has been copied by nearly all subsequent writers. 'Swimming in the night is not to be used.' As 'in the night many deadly dangers occur.' Nor when it rains, advice still good for the open air without protection. Do not select 'a place growing full of weeds or grasse; for therein often lurk Toades, Froggs, and other noisome and hurtful vermine' (Percey p 14). The rivers were evidently as full of weeds as they are in the present day. Digby gives various feats of fancy swimming, which are copied in all the books, through Thevenot, up to the present day. One of these, a rather absurd though no doubt an exceedingly difficult feat to execute, if indeed it is possible, is how to cut the toe nails in the water, a figure - which I reproduce under 'man and swimming' - being represented doing it in an absolutely impossible position. Yet this has been repeated in all the pamphlets to the present time.

The following is all the instruction Digby gives for

the breast stroke.

Its febleness is well illustrated by the figure the artist has drawn (b 2 ch 2).

'Raise your legs from the bottom and expand them together by shooting them out, then stretch out your hands before you and expand them when extended; then bring them back again to your breast and strive to swim carefully and spiritedly, first with your feet and then with your hands, and you will be able to go on comfortably as long as you like.'

Unfortunately, this chapter is not in Middleton's abridgement, but in his instruction for swimming on the back he says, the legs 'he must easily pull out and in, as when he was on his

belly.' Percey's translation is as follows (p 21) 'then stretching straight out your hands before you, drawing them back again to your breast, and likewise drawing up your leggs and extending them straight again.'

I think there is quite enough here to show that there was in those days no wedge action of the legs, but only the human stroke (c) or series of kicks, popularly called the frog stroke.

Many of the positions given by Digby are of the simplest kind, at least so they appear to me. Take one which is reproduced (r) by Sinclair and Henry (p 15) who (erroneously) give it the title of 'floating,' which would I believe make the feat impossible in fresh water, nor do I think it was intended by Digby, who has nothing about floating, and therefore I should say was not a floater. Percey (p 63) translates it thus 'τετραφάνη or the shewing of four parts together above water. 'Tis possible for a Swimmer to shew four parts of his body above water at one and the same time, viz. his head, both his elboes, and his knees. 'Tis a curious piece of Agilitie, nor can it soon be attained unto.'

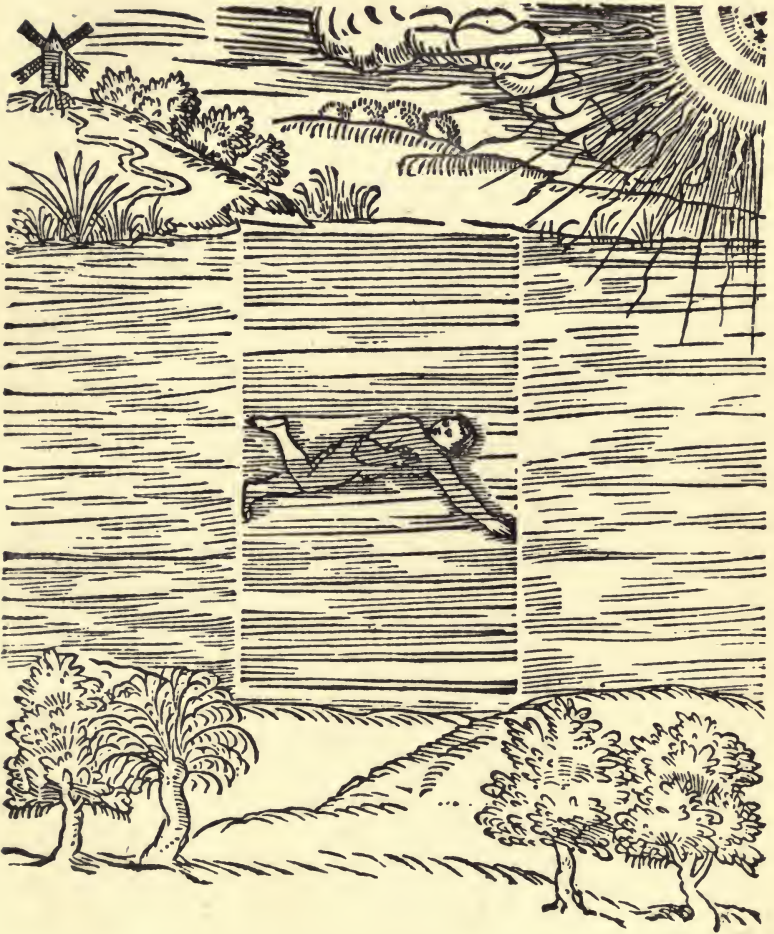
Courtivron also gives this but in quite a different position from Digby's.

Sinclair and Henry (p 17) also reproduce (r) Digby's figure (b 2 ch 6) called by Middleton

'To turne the Bell turne'

but they give it the title 'circumvolution' this is the next figure in Digby (viz b 2 ch 7) which Middleton calls 'To tumble in the water' and says 'as a man would roule and tumble in the grasse' and Percey (page 30) calls it 'circumvolution or turning about in the water.' Digby illustrates this with a figure, which any person not reading the text might assume was the English sidestroke. In fact it is no worse a position than many of the books of the present day give.

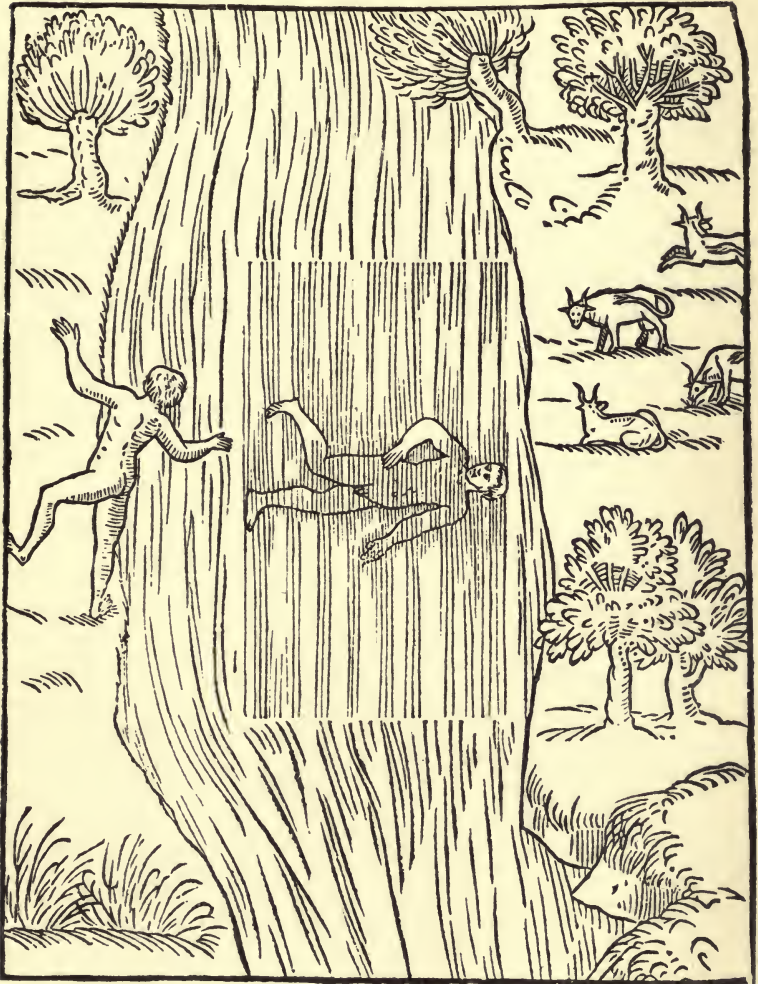
This is the figure of



Digby's circumvolution.

I regret to say that all the cuts reproduced from Digby are slightly reduced, instead of being the original size.

Digby's chapter eleven book 2 is illustrated with this cut, and is entitled
 'Nátare neque ventre neque dorso.'



Observe the interest and astonishment of the cow standing on the bank.

The following is a translation of Digby's directions for swimming on the side though he calls it as above To swim neither on the belly nor the back.

'In swimming thus he proceeds on one shoulder, one arm, one thigh and one leg, whether they be right or left and raised up either on the right or left and almost flush with the top of the

water, as when swimming on back or belly he presses down the left and raises up the right side. While lying thus let the left hand constantly extend itself not by a sweeping movement nor by depressing it downwards, but by extending it as it were in a straight line and drawing it in parallel to the surface of the water.'

Percey's description of the movements is quaint but weak. Middleton's version is entitled

'To swimme upon his side'

and he says: 'This kinde of swimming, though it be more laborious, yet is it swifter then any of the rest, for that lying upon one side, striking with your feete as when you swimme on your bellie, but that the pulling in and thrusting out of his hand, which then did onely keepe him up, doe now helpe to put him forward: for onely the lower hand supporteth his bodie, and the upper hand roweth like an oare.'

On the afternoon of 16 June 1900 I saw several self taught university men swimming in the Isis at Oxford near the college barges in precisely this fashion.

Digby is full of ideas of his day, for example 'Those that are skilful in the art of chiromancy teach, that such as are born in the night time, have their right arm stronger then their left' (Percey p 21). Whether a person was to find this out from his mother, before swimming, Digby does not say, but he advises that arm to be used first which is the stronger, according to chiromancy.

It is pretty clear from Digby's book (Winmann gives no fancy swimming) that little progress was made in swimming for nearly 300 years, for Digby's last feat is

The Nimbleness of the Dolphin otherwise porpoise. This is a difficult but beautiful feat of which Middleton makes light, probably more from ignorance, than knowledge of how to

execute it. Percey says 'This teacheth you to rise up and go down; bobbing up your head a little, and so draw breath, then down again with safety.' But here Digby draws the long bow, he was determined not to be outdone by posterity for he says it 'may be done by those that are put to this extremity to save their lives, five hundred paces together (chiefly in the Summer).'

Thevenot seems to have had doubts of the possibility of this prodigious distance and reduces it to what really is possible, 'fifty paces.' P. H. Pearce in 1842 says this feat 'can only be done when you have acquired some skill in the art,' and in *The warrior's swimming book* 1869 page 7 he says he could take sixty somersaults. But it must be noted that he was then writing from memory, and I fear inadvertently exaggerated.

An interesting biography of Everard Digby M.A. fellow of St John's college Cambridge will be found in the D.N.B. which however does not refer to the Cole, Lansdowne, and Harleian MSS at the B.M. He was a different person from sir Everard Digby who was not born until 1578 and was executed for promoting the gunpowder plot 1606, a crime of which no swimmer would be capable.

Our swimmer got into much trouble from his eccentric conduct, for example one of the complaints against him was that he was in the habit of blowing a horn and hallooing in the college, most unseemly conduct for a clergyman, but no doubt done with the object of improving his wind for 'the Dolphin.' He was under much suspicion with his college chiefly in consequence of his favoring Roman catholic doctrines. He died a bachelor. One account says he was rich, another that he was a poor man, which latter might well be accounted for, when we find him doing such an unprofitable thing as publishing a book on swimming and in Latin too.

Had he followed the example of our good old English worthy sir Thomas Elyot, who wrote all his books in

English, Digby might have had several editions. A MS in the British Museum Library says Digby died in 1592.

MIDDLETON 1595
(first translation of Digby)

A short introduction for to learne to swimme; gathered out of Master Digbies Booke of the Art of Swimming and translated into English, for the better instruction of those who understand not the Latin tongue; by Christofer Middleton. At London printed by James Roberts for Edward White, and are to be sold at the little north doore of Paules church, at the signe of the Gun 1595.

Size about the same as Digby, but nearly every page differs.

The running title is The art of swimming. This book is scarcer than the original, only one copy being known, that at the Bodleian Oxford, which formed part of the library of Edmond Malone (1741-1812) the Shakespeare commentator and was presented in pursuance with his wish in 1821 (see Macray's Annals of the Bodleian). On the title page is written 'very curious and what Mr. Baker of St John's had never seen.' Thomas Baker was 'an eminent author and antiquary' (1656-1740).

It has 42 leaves including the title unpagged; the signatures run in fours, i.e. four leaves or eight pages A to L (eleven letters) but there is no B³ or B⁴ and where C should be 'or' is misprinted.

On the 42 leaves there are 40 whole page woodcuts; if it had two pages more with three woodcuts it would have the same number as Digby, i.e. 43; but three whole page woodcuts are wanting which the two leaves with the signatures B³ and B⁴ (four pages) would give. The 2nd 3rd and 6th in Digby are wanting, which Middleton may have omitted expressly, or it may be that the blocks had been lost. As I say in my letter to The Field (10 aug 1895 p 267) there being

no pagination this can only be settled by another copy being found. If leaves B³ and ⁴ were in their place the cuts on them would not be in their right order.

The wood blocks are those used for Digby's book, not copies: the printer has placed the figures in different frames and occasionally upside down.

I also enquired for other copies in Notes and Queries 7 aug 1897 p 107.

Mr W. Carew Hazlitt (Handbook 1867 pp xi and 391) takes credit to himself for having catalogued this book if not for the first time, at all events more perfectly than had been done previously; but he never can have seen it or he surely would not have omitted the imprint nor have followed Watt's Bibliotheca Britannica in misspelling the christian name Christopher and giving no collation.

Of Christofer Middleton nothing whatever is known. He may be one of several mentioned in the D.N.B.

He dedicates his book 'To the worshipfull and well accomplished gentleman maister Simon Smith' and seems to think it necessary to

apologise for his subject as he says if his present venture is countenanced 'it shall embolden me so to employ my next vacant time, as may in some sort requite your worshipfull favour.'

PERCEY 1658

(second translation of Digby)

The Compleat Swimmer: or, the art of swimming: demonstrating the rules and practice thereof, in an exact, plain, and easie method. Necessary to be known and practised by all those who studie or desire their own preservation; by William Percey, gent. London printed by F. C. for Henry Fletcher at the three Cups in Paul's church-yard near the west-end 1658.

16^{mo} but the Bodleian calls it 8^o, the B. M. 12^o; size of copper plate of frontispiece of seven figures after Digby, height in millimeters 134 width 84; size of print, 124 by 60; size of paper of Bodleian copy which is perfect and uncut as issued from the press about 150 by 100 millimeters pp x 83.

As showing the difficulty of imitating the different types on title pages which some cataloguers attempt I may mention that there are about ten different kinds used on this title page. The running title is The art of swimming.

The copy in the British Museum wants the frontispiece and about three pages at the end. James Bindley's sale 1819-2262, 19s. White Knights, 4116: resold, Heber pt i 5074 15s; resold Bolton Corney 1871 n^o 2514 £1 17s. In Thos Thorpe's catalogue for 1842, n^o 5510, a copy is priced 15s with this note: 'This copy was purchased in the Bindley sale for £1 3s,' which must be an error, for in Evans's own copy of the sale catalogue (preserved in the British Museum) it is priced as above.

A copy was sold in the Lilly sale n^o 3593 at Sotheby's in 1871 for 10s 6d resold by the bookseller for 15s.

In 1896 I saw a copy in the Birmingham Free Library presented by Samuel Timmins; a copy I am informed is in the Edinburgh public Library imperfect.

Carew Hazlitt in his Bib. colln. and Notes 3rd series 1887 spells the name wrongly Percy.

Percey's is an independent though not a complete translation from Digby, but without acknowledgment: how often I shall have to use these two words! Thus with the very first book commence the plagiarisms which have continued to the present day.

Percey's preface however is original, and there are occasionally original paragraphs. He refers to Hero and Leander and to Richard III. It is not in conversations. Percey p 1 sec 1 is book 1 ch 3 of Digby. The style is exceedingly quaint. Several pages are quoted by Sinclair and Henry but modernised and with no attempt at being literal.

I can find no trace of Percey so spelt beyond this title, and I infer that it is a fictitious name. Percey would have his readers believe that he himself wrote the book, for he says (signature A 4) 'I could very well wish every man and woman were perfect in swimming likewise; which with a little practice they easily may attain unto: and that they may do it, this ensuing treatise is on purpose composed.'

And he finishes thus (p 83)

'Now 'tis time to sound a retreat: and lest I should too much offend your weak Stomack by being so long on the water, Ile return to my proper element the Land. I am so reale hearted to this Nature, that I have pen'd down and directed several wayes how men may avoid drowning. As for that usual disaster that attends them by Land, this is my Letany, Good Lord deliver them. Amen.'

THEVENOT 1696

(third translation of Digby)

This is in French (see my summary ante page 71)

Thevenot says that his is the first of its kind published in the French language. I think I am in the position of being able to boast that this (in 1868) is the first bibliographical list that has appeared in this or any other language, solely devoted to swimming.

Thevenot's work being the first, and for a long time the only one popularly known, was in high repute. The great American philosopher Dr Franklin, of swimming renown, used it as the following quotation will show.

While in London he became acquainted with an ingenious young man named Wygate, whom and a friend of his he taught to swim at twice going into the river, and they soon became good swimmers. Having gone to Chelsea, Franklin says 'In our return at the request of the company whose curiosity Wygate had excited, I stripped and leaped into the river and swam from near Chelsea to Blackfriars, performing in the way many feats of activity both upon and under the water, that surprised and pleased those to whom they were novelties. I had from a child been delighted with this exercise, had studied and practised Thevenot's motions and positions, and added some of my own, aiming at the graceful and easy as well as the useful. All these I took this occasion of exhibiting to the company, and was much flattered by their admiration.' Further on he says 'One of these days I was to my surprise sent for by a great man I knew only by name, sir William Wyndham, and I waited upon him. He had heard by some means or other of my swimming from Chelsea to Blackfriars, and of my

teaching Wygate an other young man to swim in a few hours. He had two sons about to set out on their travels; he wished to have them first taught swimming and proposed to gratify me handsomely if I would teach them...my stay was uncertain so I could not undertake it. But from the incident I thought it likely that if I were to remain in England and open a swimming school I might get a good deal of money.' The works of—and a Life by Jared Sparks 1840 vol i p 63.

He was 20 years of age at this time, the summer of 1726 says Nicholson's journal vol xiv 1806 p 326.

Thevenot acknowledges that he has made use of Digby, but he does not say as the fact is, that he simply translated the work of the Englishman and copied his figures. From the French it was translated into English, the London publisher no doubt thinking that a translation from the French would be far more popular than the work of any Englishman.

In 1893 I inspected two copies in the Bibliothèque Mazarin Paris, both very imperfect and the plates much worn and irregularly numbered. I observed a note on the fly leaf in French in a contemporary handwriting to the following effect 'The author of this little book is the same Melchisedech Thevenot, keeper of the printed books in the Royal Library, to whom we owe a valuable collection of voyages. Nevertheless, he never went out of Europe, and he did not know how to swim, he died in 1692 aged 71.' This accounts for Thevenot not adding any instructions of his own.

Not being published until four years after his death, it occurred to me that his reputation had been made use of, but I find in another work *Relations de divers voyages, de feu M. Melchisedec Thevenot*. Paris, Thomas Moette 1696, that *L'art de nager* is mentioned as in manuscript. Moreover (it may be inferred from the biographical particulars I mention in *Notes and Queries* 10 oct 1896 p 292 that) his affairs were in confusion, so that some

L'Art de nager, démontré par figures, avec des avis pour se baigner utilement: par M. Thévenot, à Paris chez Thomas Moette rue de la Bouclerie MDCXCVI avec privilege du Roy.

There is another edition the same in all respects, except that it bears the name of Charles Moette as publisher, and has no date and Roy spelt Roi and the preface and pp i-xii have been reprinted and the word 'toutes' page A v is not faulty.

Size of print mm height 118 width 58; pp 12 and xii and 47 with 35 copper plates of figures the positions all taken from Digby's figures. They bear the page and number of the chapter to which they refer, except chap I which has four plates, that is, three extra. The book has 39 chapters - really only 38 as we are told under chap xviii that it is the same as xv. There are no plates for chapters x xi xii xiii xviii xxiv or xxv, thus only 32 chapters have plates but 3 extra to chapter one make the 35. To the heading of chap xxv levées is misprinted for liées.

Some of the figures represent ladies swimming, shewing that with our fair sisters of France it has been a custom for centuries.

I cannot resist giving the only adverse opinion I have come across, though I believe at one time a common one, strange as it may appear to us. Madame M. E. Cavé in *Le dessin sans maître*, Paris 3rd edit 1854 p 38 says 'Aussi fais en sorte que tes filles ne perdent pas les privilèges de leur sexe, en

years probably passed before anything could be done.

There were six French editions (1) 1696, (2) without date but perhaps the same year, (3) 1769 with 35 plates to each; and (4) a garbled compilation in 1782 with only 22 plates; again in 1786 and 1825.

Three English editions (1) 1699, (2) 1764, (3) 1789 with 40 plates. No drawers indicated in any of the figures, male or female.

figures, avec des avis pour se baigner utilement: par M. Thévenot, à Paris chez Thomas Moette rue de la Bouclerie MDCXCVI avec privilege du Roy.

se livrant à ces exercices masculins qui ne peuvent que nuire à leur beauté et leur ôter toute leur grâce. Je ne sais pas ce qu'une femme gagne, mais je sais ce qu'elle perd à monter à cheval, à nager.'

Some people in the present day, and judging from an old adage it was so formerly too, think that the more women knock about and get knocked about the better it is for them.

But swimming is recommended in a work which must rank as a far better and certainly more modern authority than that of madame Cavé. On p 52 of *Comprehensive physical exercises* by Mabel Jennings, New York 1891 we read

'Swimming is withal an exercise whose value may be tested in ways beyond any given, and it behoves every young woman in these days of travel and adventure to educate all her powers to the point of preparation for any emergency.'

Of the third edition, not so called in the book, there is a copy in the public library Dijon: it is the same as the 1696 edition but the colophon is A Paris chez Desventes de la Doué 1769.

For elaborate bibliographical particulars see *Contributions to a catalogue of the Lenox library*, New York 1897 number iii p 20.

L'Art de nager, théorique et pratique (half-title). L'Art de nager avec des avis pour se baigner utilement. Précédé d'une dissertation, où l'on développe la science des anciens dans l'art de nager, l'importance de cet exercice & l'utilité du bain, soit en santé, soit en maladie. Ouvrage utile à tout le monde, & destiné particulièrement à l'éducation des jeunes militaires du Corps Royal de la Marine. Par Thévenot. Orné de xxii figures dessinées & gravées par Charles Moette. Quatrième édition revue corrigée & considérablement augmentée : suivie de la Dissertation (par Antoine Timony) [and first published in 1762] sur les Bains des Orientaux. Par M. P. D. L. C. A. A. P. [with this motto], *Balnea, Vina, Venus corrumpunt corpora sana. Corpora sana dabunt, Balnea, Vina, Venus.* Baccius de Thermis libri vii cap xxvi. A Paris chez Lamy, libraire, quai des Augustins M DCC LXXXII avec approbation & privilege du Roi. [Pp 363: then is the] Supplément à la iv^{le}me édition de l'Art de Nager, avec des avis pour se baigner utilement par Thevenot, Contenant le Plan d'une école publique de natation, la description de divers nouveaux scaphandres, et de différents pantalons impénétrables à l'eau, tant pour passer une rivière, sans mouiller ses habits, que pour sauver même dans l'hiver ceux qui seraient en danger de se noyer. Par M Le Roux physicien de l'Université de Paris, auteur de plusieurs Machines utiles à la conservation du genre humain. A Paris chez Lamy, libraire, Quai des Augustins 1782.¹

The B.M. catalogue fills up the editor's initials thus Monsieur Poncelin De La Roche-Tilhac Conseiller Avocat Au Parlement: the B.M. copy is on large paper, has no supplement: size of title page height 139 width 65, size of print h 110 w 55, in mm.

A copy of a previous 'nouvelle édition' 1781 [1782?] printed on vellum is described in the Catalogue des livres imprimés sur velin de la bibliothèque du roi [by Van Praet] 1822 vol iii p 84. He describes the supplement as above and he says the Mac Carthy copy with figures colored sold for 80 francs.

C. J. Brunet in his Manuel vol v 1864 seems to have copied this and gives little more information than Van Praet though 42 years after. He mentions other copies printed on vellum, and says that the edition of 1696 and that without date were at a very low price. Graesse Trésor de livres rares 1865 copies Brunet.

Copy on vellum, with broad margins and colored plates, bound by Derome le jeune is in the Bibliothèque Nationale.

J. C. Poncelin

put these four treatises together, but the title is made to read as if it was Thevenot; strictly speaking, the work ought to be catalogued under P. The author of the preliminary dissertation says Thevenot's little work on swimming, in spite of its careless style (he was not aware of its being a translation) the monotony of its ideas and confusion of principles, had the greatest success.

¹ I may observe that there is no accent on Thevenot in any of the early books. Considering as I do that accents are useless, as the pronunciation of every word (as in English) has to be learnt orally, I always write Thevenot without accent, unless I am copying a modern title. With regard to accents on other words, Frenchmen are not themselves agreed, either as to the accents or the value they shall have. In the above title 'particulièrement' is accented thus. There are no accents to the title of the 1696 edition, except to the word ruë, but my printers have supplied them all with such academic precision, I have not had the heart to take them out. When at school I omitted accents from ignorance, such for example as ^ in dépôt and hôtel, which were to inform me that letters had been left out of deposit and hostel, now I would do the same because I believe them to be useless.

Notwithstanding his criticism he reprints parts of Thevenot (without acknowledgment from the *Encyclopédie Méthodique*) instead of composing an original treatise. In this compilation there are 115 pages of the dissertation, then follows Thevenot's *Art de Nager* to page 177 without the preface, and so much altered by the editor to give it 'the tone required by the refinement of his time' as to be unrecognisable: then we have a third part to p 290 mostly taken from *De la Chapelle* (or the *Encyclopédie Méthodique*) then the fourth part to p 363, a treatise on the manner of reviving those apparently drowned: then a supplement of 12 pages.

Thevenot's plates have all been reworked and renumbered. Courtivron (1836 p 461) in his review of this edition says Thevenot (in the 1696 edition) has as many plates as ways of swimming, that is 39 [incorrect he has 35], only seven or eight of which without being well done, have not like the others a forced or unnatural pose, impossible to assume. He expresses surprise that the editor of the fourth edition should have suppressed part of Thevenot's

The *Art of swimming*, illustrated by proper figures, with advice for bathing, by monsieur Thevenot. Done out of French, to which is prefixed a prefatory discourse concerning artificial swimming, or keeping ones self above water by several small portable engines, in cases of danger. London printed for Dan Brown at the Swan without Temple Bar; J. Leigh and D. Midwinter at the Rose and Crown, and Robert Knaplock at the Angel, in St Pauls church-yard 1699.

Small 12°, size of print height 132 width 72 millimeters pp 24 and 60.

Sold at the White Knights sale 1819 4116 morocco, 15s. At the Nassau sale 1824 pt ii 694 for 3s. This is the first English edition, and the only one mentioned by Lowndes, from whom I repeat these prices as a matter of curiosity, but fine copies of this work fetch from 20s to 50s.

Misprint on p A 3 verso 'out with.'

introduction, which he quotes, and instead of amplifying it should give artificial ways of swimming and 'absurd tales' about pouring oil on troubled waters to get vessels into safety! He refers to the 'correction of Thevenot's' style with approval. However he says that authors who have followed Thevenot have not scrupled to copy his book and often without acknowledgment and without regard to the unfortunate author, whom they abuse while robbing him, as for example N. Roger, who says the only effect of Thevenot's book is to make swimmers laugh at him.

Quérard *La France littéraire* ix 413 says that the edition of 1769 has 37 plates and that there should be 39 figures in it and that of 1696, which I believe to be a mistake. He has taken the number 39 on the last plate as a plate number, whereas it is a chapter number. He also says the 1782 edition was reprinted in 1786 and again at the end of the *Guide des nageurs* par Roger in 1825. When Quérard got to Roger vol viii p 114 he had forgotten that he had revealed the pseudonym in vol iii p 119 under Feydel.

The 35 plates of the French edition are re-engraved and reversed and are inferior. Of the forty plates, five viz x, xi, xii, xiii, xxv are original and English and not after Digby.

The translator in his preface says that the theory of swimming 'has never, that I know of, been thoroughly consider'd by any.' This is rather a surprising statement from a writer who immediately after in his translation of

Thevenot's preface says that he knows of two previous works one by Everard Digby 'an English Man whereof I have here made some use; the other of one Nicholas Winman.'

The art of swimming, illustrated by forty proper copper-plate cuts, which represent the different postures necessary to be used in that art: with advice for bathing: by monsieur Thevenot. Done out of French: to which is prefixed [&c]. The second edition. London printed for J. Lever 1764.

Small 12° pp 22 and 60. The cuts in this edition are all reversed, and are greatly inferior to those of 1699. In the edition of 1764 'The reader is desired to correct the cuts from n° 19, as it should be 18, and so on to the end.' Chap 18 is chap 19 in the 1st edit. The better way is to reverse the operation and re-number the chapters.

Figure xxv in the 1699 edition is a very fat man, in the 1764 edition this figure by a slight suppression appears as a very fat woman. Copy in Quaritch's catalogue 1887 p 851 price 15s. He now prices Thevenot at £2 10s see cat. 203 dec 1900 p 105.

The 1789 third English edition is almost an exact reprint of the second: chap VI is corrected to IV, though not on the plate. From the very

Nuevo arte de nadar, recopilado de los mejores autores que han escrito sobre la materia, especialmente de las obras de Mr Thevenot y del célebre Luzo Nicolás Roger; dispuesto en cinco lecciones y adornado con laminas por varios aficionados. Madrid 1848. 16° may. con 3 láminas litografiadas.

Title from Hidalgo's bibliography 1870 iv 228.

Translation of Spanish title

The new art of swimming compiled from earlier authors who have written on the subject, especially from the

Discurso en que se satisfaze a la duda de las conveniencias del uso del nadar...[by] Pedro Geronimo Galtero [Madrid] 1644, 4° ii and 22 leaves.

A copy in the B.M. in the original vellum covers. The title of this

I can only account for this on the supposition that the 'translator's preface,' was written by a preface writer who did not trouble himself to read the book?

worn state of the plates which are signed Barth Warren it is evident that numbers of copies must have been printed, further they have been touched up. About five hundred copies can be taken from a copper-plate without its showing signs of wear.

Thevenot's artist copied Digby's plates as he saw them, so that when printed they came out reversed. The English copyist in 1699 did the same from Thevenot, so that they came out reversed again, being in the same position as Digby's. Then the copyist for the 1764 edition did the same, so that they came out once more reversed.

Thevenot's are superior in execution to Digby's, but they get worse in each successive edition.

works of Mr Thevenot and the celebrated diver N. Roger arranged in five parts with plates by various artists.

This is delicious, an admitted compilation from old writers entitled The new art &c. The word Luzo above I could not find in Mr G. F. Barwick's Spanish Dictionary, so I appealed to him: he was equally at a loss, however, until I incidentally mentioned that in the original Roger was called 'plongeur.' That at once gave him the clue. Luzo is a misprint for buzo i.e. diver.

Spanish treatise exactly expresses what it is about, namely

A discourse wherein the doubt is satisfied concerning the conveniences of the use of swimming from a military and political point of view, and for the preservation of health.

It mentions a number of Latin authors but none specially on swimming, and it gives no instruction.

Nathaniel Wanley

in *The wonders of the little world* a folio published in 1678 has a chapter on the wonderful things the ancients did in swimming and diving. One of the feats he tells of, prompted me to look in his book for a chapter on 'the biggest liars,' to see if he had included 'Vincent Le Blanc, Marseillois,' among them. But Wanley has no such chapter, and quotes the story related by Le Blanc with full faith. In his travels published at Paris in 1648, talking of pearl divers he says 'I have seen them stay three quarters of an hour under water, and I was told they have some have continued the whole hour' (see the English translation 1660 p 386). Thanks to the vast treasures of our National Library I have been enabled, not only to verify the original statement, but to refer also to the subsequent editions, both French and English, to see if the editors threw any doubt on Le Blanc's veracity, but they do not.

Ephraim Chambers published his *Cyclopædia* in 1728. I have not seen this: a short article in the second edition (1738 two folio volumes) takes the contrary view to Digby and says that man does not swim naturally. The writer mentions Digby and 'Wynman' but only from Thevenot. Quotes Borelli.

Larousse in his stupendous work the *Grand dictionnaire universel* (vol i 1866 p lii) says Chambers's is the first encyclopædia of the world. On a previous page (xxiii) he discounts the originality by saying it is mostly taken from French books, but he gives no instances, and judging from the article on swimming it is not the fact. Chambers was translated into Italian and the proposal to translate it into French resulted in the world renowned *Encyclopédie* of Diderot and D'Alembert in 1765 which copies Chambers's article.

1734. Zedler's *Universal lexicon*, Leipzig.

A German encyclopedia in 64 folio volumes. A column and a half on swimming in vol xxvii 1743 pp 498-9: mentions *pesce Cola*.

L'Art de nager, ou invention à l'aide de laquelle on peut toujours se sauver du naufrage &, en cas de besoin, faire passer les plus larges rivières à des armées entières. Par Jean Frederic Bachstrom, docteur en médecine, & directeur général des fabriques de s.a.s. madame la

duchesse de Radziwill, grande chancelière de Lithuanie. A Amsterdam, chez Zacharie Chatelain 1741. 12° pp 70 frontispiece.

This work is not on swimming at all. Instead of the Art of Swimming, it should be called How not to Swim. It describes the author's invention to sustain a person in the water, enable him to cross rivers, &c. It consisted of a cork jacket, which was intended principally for soldiers and sailors, by whom it was to be worn constantly. He explains that he was induced to study the subject on account of his name, which in German means the current of a river.

It was a failure of course, as such inventions always have been and always will be; for the simple reason that they are practically useless to all but those who can swim. These inventions to gull people with the idea that it is unnecessary to learn to swim, do a great deal of harm: inviting the lazy to repose in fancied security which is almost always delusive.

There are many curious things in

Philosophical transactions of the Royal Society, for 1757. 4° vol 1 pp 30-35. An essay towards ascertaining the specific gravity of living men by John Robertson F.R.S.

He acknowledges that his experiments were made under disadvantages as he could not get the men he wanted; moreover each man 'put on a pair of trowsers for decency sake!' Nice science this! He could not get them to duck properly, though he fortified them with a large dram of brandy! And none of them would stop under water so long as a second! The men seemed to consider the dip with feelings of aversion! However he satisfied himself contrary to his pre-conceived idea that most men are lighter than

this little book. He says if we had the nose on the top of the head, or formed like the neck of a swan, there would be no trouble. Here however he soon shows that he was mistaken, for he found when he tried the neck that he could not keep upright, in fact it was necessary to learn the art of balancing in the water - one of the first requisites. Again, he could not see and the long nose was liable to get filled with water!

Then he has a suggestion for stopping the breathing of new born children so as to accustom them to stay under water like aquatic animals (pp 13 and 14); and he cites *pesce Cola* as an example. He says (p 33) that having to stop six hours in (not under) the water, sleep overtook him and he slept awhile. He cites (p 45) the case of an Englishman who was three days and nights in the water.

their equal bulk of fresh water, and that a piece of wood not larger than an oar would buoy up a man.

It appears to me to be most extraordinary that no scientific man has considered it worth while to make these experiments in the present day, so as to give accurate data. He would now have no difficulty in getting any number of men who would volunteer without a single 'dram.' Numbers also would stop under water for one or two minutes.

1765. Diderot et D'Alembert's encyclopédie, see Ephraim Chambers ante p 185.

Benjamin Franklin 1706-1790
philosopher, statesman, scientist and writer on swimming :
his name vindicated.

The advice of this great American is quoted on almost every subject, but I imagine that on swimming has been more often reprinted than anything else he wrote.

It was probably originally reprinted because no questions of copyright were likely to occur, more than from the fact of its being original and good advice well written, not an easy thing to get years ago or even now for that matter.

It is almost always quoted in the cheap publications, in one of which a liberty was taken with the text which has brought on Franklin a good deal of unmerited ridicule, of which I for the first time relieve his name, a great pleasure to me, as I feel certain so expert a swimmer never could have written the nonsense fathered on him.

There is no authorised contemporary copy of his advice, which is explained by Jared Sparks who says that he scattered his writings in all directions. All that Franklin wrote on swimming is comprised in about nine octavo pages in Sparks's edition of his Works. Besides the account of his swim in the Thames we have two letters. The first so far as I can find, was published in a book anonymously edited by Peter Collinson entitled

Experiments and observations...by Benjamin Franklin...London
1769. 4°.

It is letter LV pp 463-8 and is addressed 'to Mr O. N.' It is given by Sparks in vol vi pp 286-290 of Franklin's Works, without date but assigned to the year 1768, though it may have been written several years earlier. It is correctly printed in the Gentleman's magazine vol 47 oct 1777 p 474.

Both letters appear in French, the one to Dubourg for the first time, in

Œuvres de M. Franklin... par M. Barbeau Dubourg... Paris 1773, 4° 2 tom.

The second volume gives a translation into French of the letter to 'Olivier Neave' (p 241) and at pp 246-257 M. Dubourg asks various questions, one is whether an infant might be made to acquire the faculty of living in the

water by accustoming it after birth to be in water the same as it was before its birth. He suggests that if such an experiment seems too delicate and too hazardous, a diver's head might be provided with fresh air by being entirely covered.

This suggestion evidently from Bachstrom is copied without acknowledgment by the Dictionnaire de la conversation 1837; in my first edition (p 14) I referred to it, but without then knowing whence it was taken.

In his reply in the letter to Dubourg, Franklin refers to the diving bell. As to De la Chapelle's 'scaphandre' Franklin says he did not know it.

Robertson's name is given correctly in the *Œuvres* (p 258) and also The

European magazine for feb 1793 vol 23 p 90 but incorrectly as Robinson, by Sparks (vol vi p 291) who seems simply to have reprinted some early translation. This letter is also in n° 19 of The Literary miscellany, printed and sold by G. Nicholson, Poughnill near Ludlow 1801, 12° pp 31 to 33, with the misprint Robinson.

The letter to Oliver Neave is correctly printed in The European magazine vol 60 for 1811 p 20.

I shall not give the various editions of Franklin's works in which these letters are reprinted (with variations in

The letter to Oliver Neave is the one with the egg practice and the seven paragraphs on specific gravity.¹ In it this passage occurs

'Then plunge under it with your eyes open, throwing yourself towards the egg.'

This is quite right, by 'plunge' Franklin meant dip and so that the learner should not lose his position at all, he is advised to dip in with eyes open, keeping them on the egg so that he never loses his balance. Unfortunately about 1812 some ignoramus in one of the catchpenny reprints after 'Then plunge under it with your eyes open' added 'which must be kept open before going under, as you cannot open the eyelids for the weight of water above you.' This nonsense, which at once stamps the writer, and all those who quote it, as ignorant of diving, because it is perfectly easy to open the eyes under water, has been copied from one publication to another, right down to the present day: nobody ever thinking of verifying the passage, but some of the later writers have refuted the idea. In my first

wording) but shall only refer to Franklin's Works by Jared Sparks published in 1840 in ten volumes octavo; another edition was published (from the stereotypes) at London in 1882. The Bigelow edition of 1889 I have not seen.

The relation of his swim from Chelsea to Blackfriars, and mention of the motions and positions of Thevenot will be found in vol i pp 63-4. Sir W. Wyndham sending for Franklin to teach his sons, as he had taught Wygate to swim in a few hours p 65.

¹ In Nicholson's journal 1806 vol xv p 267 James Horsburgh says that Dr Franklin's 'remarks relative to the specific gravity of the human body in salt and fresh water seem liable to some objections, if indiscriminately applied to all persons, there being great reason to think the specific gravity of the human species differs considerably...In company with two friends...at Bombay...neither of them had ever tried to float on the water, without motion...The best swimmer of the two could not float without using a little motion with his hands or feet...when he lay without motion his head gradually sunk till completely under water. This person was of short stature, strong and athletic. The other gentleman was of a spare make, thin, and delicate in constitution; and at the first trial floated on the surface like a cork...whilst the stout gentleman could in no position float.' I agree with this: when I was 19 I had the greatest difficulty in floating. To get my toes out of water would often take me five minutes, now at the age of 59 I float at once; and if I simply stand upright in fresh bath water my mouth is out of the water, so that I can breathe. My weight has been the same since I was 16 namely 166 pounds without clothes.

edition I came across this in *The Swimmer's Handbook*, London Routledge [1841] and ridiculed it, but being given as original matter I was not then aware of its source. Only since I have taken up the subject again, has it occurred to me on seeing it attributed to Franklin that I had not noticed any such passage in the original. Nobody will realise the extent to which this has been quoted unless I give some instances.

The first to refute it seems to have been J. G. Wood in *A Handbook of swimming* also published by Routledge 1858 p 28 where he says 'Some wiseacres advise the diver always to enter the water with his eyes open, as if he tries to open them under water, he will not be able to do so, on account of the pressure upon the eyelids. This statement, made at first by a person entirely ignorant of the art, has been copied from one writer to another, and we find it even in works high in the estimation of the public.'

Gurr [1866] p 17 alludes to it as an 'absurdity,' also without knowing its source.

Steedman 1867 frequently refers to Franklin and on p 140 he quotes the passage which I refer to as the 'objectionable interpolation,' and refutes it as an error of Franklin's.

So also does *The Boys of England* 1868.

Higginson repeats this from Steedman in *The American* 1870, the extraordinary thing here is, that Franklin's own countryman should adopt this statement without verification.

The next worthy of referring to is W. Wilson, a thoroughly competent and careful writer in *Swimming & diving* 1876 p 100-1, where he says 'Dr Franklin...was the first to make this mistake.' Since I have informed him of the real fact, he desires to withdraw his reproof.

Another writer, Dunlop in 1877 p 59 says 'the crudity of current views on swimming questions is shown by the practice still prevalent of quoting Dr Franklin's essay, including the quaint superstitions it contains, as if the latter were scientific facts. In the edition of a popular work of reference published so late as 1873, we find full paraded, his injunctions as to opening the eyes before diving.' The work here alluded to is probably *The Popular Recreator*, which however does not attribute it to Franklin.

Crawley in his *Swimming skating rinking* [1878] p 16 says Franklin was mistaken and adds 'This mistake has been copied by so many writers, that it has almost come to be taken as a fact.'

Sinclair & Henry 1893 p 98 refer to it but without attributing it to Franklin. Finally Robert Watson in his *Memoirs* 1899 repeats the statement boldly and without a doubt. 'There are two theories

advanced by literary nonentities and supposed authorities which are radically wrong.' One was that a man rises three times, as to the other he says 'We know that the great Franklin declared it to be physically impossible for a man to open his eyes under water. He was, of course, mistaken, but men equally as great in these days of improved scientific knowledge err more grievously.' I think I am entitled to great credit for disinterring this interesting statement from p 285 of this book of 513 octavo pages, without an index. I had to wade through pages that bore no reference to my subject. I admit that much of it is most amusing, but when writing a work like mine, one has no time for reading that which is simply amusing, and it is not right to trap one into it, like the swimmer who was the subject of a practical joke Mr Watson relates. He put his face into a basin of water to prove he could stop under five minutes, as his face disappeared so did the practical jokers. Terrible was his wrath on discovering the trick.

The second letter is to Dubourg (pp 290-3) in which Franklin refers to the researches of 'Mr Robinson [sic] in our Philosophical

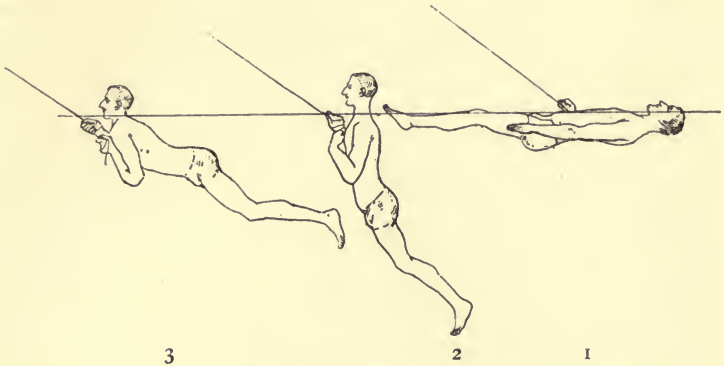


how it could not be done

transactions vol 1 p 30 1757' to 'two oval pallets' (also spelt palettes by Sparks) for swimming; and that 'after having swam for an hour or two in the evening one sleeps coolly the whole night.' This surely was a slip? An hour or two! The letter finishes with the kite trick, when he says he thinks 'it not impossible to cross in this manner from Dover to Calais,' that is pulled by a flying kite. Until it has been done I shall find myself under the necessity of believing it to be absolutely impossible. An extraordinary notion of how the feat is accomplished will be found in The boy's own illustrated handbook [1851] which is reproduced (s.s.) It was not until I tried this that I found it could not be done feet first, because they sink at once, moreover the slightest pull brings the body round. To go feet first the string would have to be attached to the feet.

Here are three positions from nature after my instructions by

Mr Percy Thomas in 1902 showing how the body would move. Mr Henry acted as the kite. First the feet sink, second body upright, third as it would eventually be.



how the kite trick could be done

In 1889 a 'Franklin bibliography' was printed in America by Paul Leicester Ford, who (p 135 n^{os} 299-301) enumerates under the year 1768 - a date he may have taken from Sparks - 1 Hodgson's reprint, 2 Frost's treatise as reprinted in America with Franklin's advice, 3 The Swimmers' hand book 1854 and 4, A picture of Margate 1809.

This is all the information he gives: nothing as to which letters nor anything under Dubourg's French edition. In fact he was quite unaware of the extent to which Franklin's advice has been quoted in English books; so frequently that his name occurs on almost every page of this work.

Encyclopædia Britannica Edinburgh 1771, 4^o.

Only has half a column about swimming of fishes. Second edition 1783, a new article, three columns, quotes Franklin as to specific gravity and the letter with the egg practice correctly. Third edition 1797 five columns, chiefly translated without acknowledgment from the *Encyclopédie Méthodique*, to which it refers the reader for artificial methods of support - a reference omitted in the seventh edition.

The encyclopedist says that swim-

ming though 'not absolutely natural, will always be acquired by people in a savage state from imitating brute animals...so much does this appear to be the case, that very expert swimmers have recommended it to those who wished to learn the art, to keep some frogs in a tub of water, constantly beside them and to imitate the motions.' Now we have no record of men swimming like animals. The earliest we have is on the Assyrian monuments

and they swam a hand over hand stroke.

The English encyclopædia 1802 and the Oxford encyclopædia 1828 both copy this article.

Here is a specimen of the Encyclopædia Britannica's instructions as to how to swim 'with the hands elevated' 'this method of swimming is attended with some danger to one who is not dexterous at the art, for if one should imprudently draw in his breast when his arms are raised, he would immediately sink to the bottom.'

This passage is made more absurd than it is in Thevenot (1696 chap 31 or English edition 1764 chap 30) from the ignorance of the French editor of the Encyclopédie Méthodique. It is really astonishing to find it repeated in Chambers's Information 1857 ii p 679, and actually again in 1889 in The girl's own outdoor book p 68.

In my first edition commenting on the article in the eighth edition 1860 I said it had been reprinted in successive editions, without improvement. This seems to have produced a good result, for the article in the ninth edition 1887 vol 22 pp 768 to 772 is excellent, as might be expected from William Wilson. Though the initials H.F.W. appear before those of W.W., the article is entirely by the latter, Wilkinson having abandoned it through ill health. The statement as to swimming that 'in many barbarous countries it is more

widely diffused and carried to greater perfection than amongst the civilized nations of the world' is not made from personal experience. There is no reliable record of what barbarous people could or can do. All that we have is the wondering and almost worthless evidence of early travelers who were themselves bad or indifferent swimmers.

The statement as to Pewters being the introducer of the sidestroke is also only repeated from other books. In the description of the leg stroke, Leverell's words are used but corrected, with the word 'never,' thus 'The action of the legs should be long and vigorous, and they should never cross each other.'

I disagree from the advice under diving [i.e. springing] 'Do not enter the water feet first.' I think this like all other methods must be practiced. The author of Familiar hints 1838 p 122, is strongly against head first.

Under plate-swimming Dunlop is quoted. Brock's swim is given, also Webb, F. Cavill, Agnes Beckwith and Horace Davenport.

Has a list of books, all of which I describe except Menstery.

Mr Wilson's article good as it is, sadly wants revision and bringing up to date; nevertheless it was reprinted from the stereotypes without any alterations in 1898, though with the original dates of issue.

THE ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY AND RESUSCITATION

Though started after that at Amsterdam the society has had far more success and is more generally known. The English society

which has I imagine a world wide reputation, and has been imitated everywhere, was founded by Dr William Hawes in 1774. He was born in Islington now part of London in 1736 and died there 5 dec 1808 (R.H.S. report 1812 and D.N.B.). His family were connected with it for generations, for the Report for 1847 p 28 mentions Mr Hawes M.P. son of Hawes, the treasurer, and grandson of Dr Hawes the founder.

He had been for some time engaged in the work of resuscitation, giving rewards for drowned bodies brought to him also rewards to any one receiving the body, with security from burial expenses and a reward of four guineas for cases of successful resuscitation.

The transactions of the society almost complete¹ and probably unique will be found in our National Library at the British Museum.

I now give a chronological account, from a swimmer's point of view, of what the society has done.

For this purpose I have several times been through over one hundred volumes of the Reports issued annually by the society. The perusal was not exhilarating reading but was, I considered, necessary. However I think the result will prove to be of great interest and even importance.

In its early stages many superstitions and bad practices had to be overcome; such for example as that it was unlucky to rescue and much more so to revive the drowned, and that it was not only unlucky but unlawful to remove a body until after the inquest.² About the year 1782 Dr Hawes actually took a legal opinion on the point (vol i, 1794 pp 308, 485). They were advised by counsel that it was perfectly lawful for any person to assist to revive another and this fact was stated in every report for years. Even in 1840 it was thought necessary again to negative this monstrous superstition, which is still believed in, in some remote districts of the kingdom. Sinclair & Henry give an interesting account of the R.H.S. in *Swimming* 1893 p 171, with an instance of the survival of this superstition in 1891 in Ireland.

Not only were the public incredulous as to the possibility of

¹ In case any 'benevolent gentleman' should be able to supply the Annual Reports that are wanting, they are those for 1787 to 1799 inclusive, 1803, 1811, 1815 and a 'Manual' issued by the society which is referred to on p 55 of the Report for 1831 and on p 117 of that for 1832. I applied at the office of the R.H.S. but they could not show them to me.

² My father writing of Falmouth in 1829 (*Holt's mag* 7 sep 1836 p 36) says 'the words "a man drowned" instantly passed every mouth. Some persons ran to obtain the Mayor's permission to land the corpse, a dilatory but imperative preliminary, which seems as barbarous and cruel as it is absurd and dangerous.'

So remorselessly are the quarantine laws enforced in Italy, that when at sea, if you render assistance to a vessel in distress, or rescue a drowning stranger, on returning to port you are condemned to a long and rigorous quarantine of fourteen or more days. See *Recollections of the last days of Shelley and Byron* by E. J. Trelawny 1858 p 118.

In *Primitive culture* by E. B. Tylor 1891 vol i p 109 he shows that these superstitions were current all over the world, probably arising from a belief that water acted by life and will (vol ii p 209) and in fact embodied a wilful spirit.

resuscitation, but even 'men of eminence as physicians and philosophers' treated the thing 'as idle and visionary' and Hawes and his associates were considered impious 'and placed nearly upon a level with professing to raise the dead' (vol i, 1794 p 109).

It was a great step in advance when they succeeded in demonstrating that resuscitation was not only possible, but proper and lawful, and the founders considered it necessary in all the early reports year after year to insist upon these facts. In the report for 1802 the means of resuscitation are put into verse, and concentrated in prose in 1804: anything and everything that could be thought of was tried, to make the public interested read and subscribe, for nothing is to be done without money. I am not in favor of the government or public councils becoming tradesmen, but it does seem to me fit that the objects for which the R.H.S. was started should have been carried out by our government at the public expense. That is not the way however these things are done in England, where so far as the state is concerned every subject in the kingdom may get drowned.

One of the chief points insisted on was perseverance for several hours as 'we are ignorant how long the vital spark may lie dormant without being extinguished, since we are not acquainted with any other proof of death but an incipient putrefaction' (vol i, 1794 p 130).

In the early reports hundreds of cases are given of successful resuscitation, so no doubt Dr Hawes very soon had to stop giving rewards.

That the resuscitation ever succeeded is truly wonderful, when we consider the treatment the unfortunate people were put under was more calculated to kill than revive them; notwithstanding that from the first Dr Hawes prohibited several things which (I presume) had been practiced up to his time, such as hanging up the body up by the heels. Thus in The history of Tom Jones by Henry Fielding 1749 book 8 chapter 13 the relator says they 'drew the body to the shore. At first we perceived no signs of life remaining; but having held the body up by the heels (for we soon had assistance enough) it discharged a vast quantity of water at the mouth, and at length began to discover some symptoms of breathing.' The theory being that the person had drowned in consequence of having swallowed a river of water. Some doctors maintain that hardly any water gets into the lungs or stomach, and some on the contrary that the lungs get choked and stomach full of water. It is however generally stated that what is called drowning is suffocation, produced by want of fresh air

impossible
and impious
to resuscitate

possibility of
resuscitation
shown

no sure
signs of
death

rewards

bad
practices

hanging up

water
swallowed

drowning is supposed to be being supplied to the lungs. This can be seen in almost any elementary book so I will content myself with a reference to the Handbook of Instruction for the rescue of the apparently drowned, issued by The Life Saving Society in 1897 where on p 59 we read 'Death from drowning is the result of want of pure air asphyxia, the stoppage of a supply of pure air to the lungs. The oxygen (that is pure air) gradually diminishes while the quantity of carbonic ¹ acid (that is impure air) increases' with the fatal result known as drowning. The word drown is curious, and according to the greatest authority we have The Oxford English Dictionary its origin is doubtful. However it expresses to us word drown that death took place in water or other liquid and not on land. The word is often improperly used, as when a person dies in the water from heart disease or any other sudden cause of death. He is dead before or at the time he drops in or under the water, and therefore does not die from drowning; and then I believe the body is always found in the position shown on page 116.

Dr Hawes also prohibited 'rolling the body on barrels or casks' (vol i, 1794 p 486) which must have been an exceptionally difficult method of treatment; because first you would have to get rolling the body your casks! Even then the process of rolling the body on them is not quite apparent. The rolling of the body would have a tendency to resuscitate.

Oddly enough, among the means advised were several quite as vicious as those prohibited: for example, great importance was attached to blowing tobacco smoke into the intestines to give warmth ² (ibid p 73 and Report for 1806 p 23). An instrument was invented by Dr Cogan one of the founders, for this purpose. It is elaborately illustrated in the Report for 1806 and subsequent years, and this practice was advised by the society up to the year 1811. In this year appeared volume 101 of the Philosophical transactions of the Royal Society, in which (p 186) were given experiments of fumigating living animals in this shown to be bad manner, by Benjamin Collins Brodie, the result being that it killed them in a few minutes! Fumigation is negated in the Report for 1812.

But another practice almost as bad, that of blood letting, continued for many years after, certainly until 1836, though I should

¹ It is not uncommon for boys to the question, 'how is venous changed into arterial blood?' to reply 'by carbolic acid.'

² In a play which was or was intended to be performed in public The Virtuoso by Thomas Shadwell 1676 (p 27) one of the characters says 'I have heard of a Creature preserv'd by blowing wind in the Breech, Sir.'

mention that Dr Hawes always seemed to have doubts about bleed-
 ing and from the first advised caution (vol i, 1794 pp 111,
 bleeding 342, 500). Blood letting however as an ordinary surgical
 remedy among the general public, survived many years after,
 as I well recollect my relations in Tavistock being so treated in the
 year 1850.

Blowing breath into the lungs, was another bad practice advised
 (ibid p 36) and continued for many years. When it became known
 blowing into that human breath (discharged by nature from the lungs
 the lungs because it was deprived of its vital qualities) was worse
 than useless to another human being, blowing air into the mouth
 with bellows with bellows was resorted to. An illustration of the
 bellows was given, up to 1836. It is curious that it never
 occurred to them to suck out of the mouth.

In 1812 directions were given for making a cork jacket by sewing
 thin flat pieces or shavings of cork in a waistcoat (p 105). This idea
 much elaborated crops up again as new and original in
 cork jacket the Report for 1876.

In 1829 a celebrated French doctor printed his researches on
 asphyxia, but these did not get to London for several years after.

They are first mentioned in the Report for 1832, which
 a French contains a review [by John Dalrymple] of Mons Le Roy's ¹
 doctor on asphyxia Memoirs on asphyxia, in which it is shown that there was
 danger not only in the use of the bellows, but of any artificial intro-
 and bellows duction of air into the lungs. Further remarks are
 made on Le Roy's essay in the Report for 1833 and a new
 mode is suggested by John Dalrymple of 'artificial respiration by
 bandage' with an illustration. In the course of his observations he
 says 'the use of the bellows has long and very properly ranked high
 in the list of means...but cases show it is not unaccompanied with
 peril' (p 15). There is an illustration of the bellows on p 92 and
 directions (p 97) are given when and how to use them. This shows
 how hard a bad practice dies, but it was the sounding of the doom
 of the bellows, though the advice to use them with caution was kept
 in the Reports up to the year 1858, as was the bandage illustration,
 neither method probaby having been practiced for many years
 previously. Dalrymple adds 'It is worse than useless to attempt to
 give brandy etc before there is a vital power of swallowing'
 spirits bad (p 25). It had at last been found out that a body that
 could not breathe could not swallow.

¹ Jean Jacques Joseph Le Roy dit d'Etiolles will be found in Quérard's *La France littéraire*. 'it is certain the plan of Leroy can have little efficacy'
 Hall Prone p 24.

The use of bad methods, long after they had been shown to be vicious, illustrates the perfunctory manner in which the objects of the society were, even at this early date, carried on. They always took as long as a government department before they became aware that there was something better than what they were doing. The fact is that by this time there was no head, no man who made it a personal interest to do the best for humanity. They got in their subscriptions, distributed materials and medals and they went to bed contented, for their work (official, all official) was done.

In 1830 they offered prizes for the best medical essay on resuscitation, but not one was deemed sufficiently good (Report for 1832 p 9).

In the Report for 1831 p 55 they refer to their Manual 'which contains the best practical means known'¹ the points were drawn up by Benjamin Collins Brodie [afterwards baronet, b 1783 d 1862] whom I have already mentioned.

In 1840 a case is given where a man of 28 years of age was immersed five minutes and recovered, though air was seen to escape, it is stated that no water got into the lungs.

In 1846 and years after the method of resuscitation was given in French and German.

Carte's lifebuoy.

The 74th Report for 1848 has an account with an illustration of Carte's 'self-acting life buoy,' one of the figures being represented inside the buoy up to his waist with one arm on the buoy and making a signal with the other arm (p 31), a position that could only be assumed by an expert swimmer, and on the next page Carte's lifebuoy with mast, sail and fuze is illustrated.

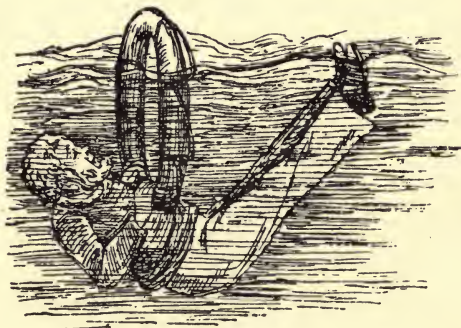
This is the circular buoy now in use everywhere, but never a soul knows the name of the inventor nor do those who sell it. I have only once seen it named, that was in Land and Water 18 sep 1875 p 225. Carte was Ordnance store keeper at Hull, he also invented a Rocket apparatus.

It is one of the most astonishing things on record that this invention should have had such universal success. It was only in 1885 that a clever writer, who treated the matter from a scientific standpoint, F. w. Brewster² demonstrated in a work he wrote entitled

¹ I have I regret to say not seen this : it is not in our National Library ; nor is it included in sir B. Brodie's Works, 3 vols 1865. It might be of great interest, with our present knowledge.

² I hope, should he come across this, that he will forgive this praise, from so humble a writer as myself. As he was an M.A. I wrote to him at Trinity college Cambridge in 1896 but my letter was returned as they did not know his address.

How to avoid being drowned that, irrespective of the danger of greedy traders manufacturing the buoy of 'cotton waste and sawdust' (p 91) instead of cork, Carte's lifebuoy was more of a death trap for a non swimmer than a safeguard, being completely useless to a person unable to swim.¹ Brewster (p 46) gives illustrations, one I reproduce (s.s.) of a person unacquainted with the best way to get into the lifebuoy. Nevertheless it has survived this exposure and flourishes even to the present day, being kept by all our government departments, and public and private bodies, without a rival in England, though in France the more useful, economical and sensible long pole is used. This pole in French use a pole French 'une gaffe' or 'un grapin'² with short strings and small floats is easier to throw, easier to direct, and will go farther.³ It lasts longer, it serves as a push or the hook at the end as a pull for the rescuer, enabling him to effect a rescue without going near the



result of non swimmer using the popular lifebuoy

rescued, a most desirable thing. It does not go over the head when touched like Carte's cork lifebuoy, which sinks the moment it is pressed, nor does it necessitate the drowning man ducking under to come up inside it, as does Carte's lifebuoy. In fact the 'grapin' is superior in everything except its shape, which does not lend itself

¹ He was not aware of the inventor's name for he says (p 43) 'Those responsible for the original production of the old circular life-buoy, still so much in vogue.'

² After much enquiry I was unable to learn that it had any technical name.

³ For rescue take a stick, says The Penny Cyclopædia 1842. Richardson 1857 p 45 advises 'the rescuer to take a walking stick or umbrella.' When I was at Dieppe in 1899 the newspapers reported that a boy had been saved by means 'de la ligne Brunel.' I have never seen this.

to every day use and ornament like the circular shape.¹ It is I presume for its ornamental and mystic attributes that Carte's has been adopted by the Life Saving Society, whose officers are fully aware of its practical defects.

However once again we get an instance of the apathy of the R.H.S. As soon as the inefficiency of Carte's lifebuoy was exposed as it is by Brewster, one would have expected the society either themselves to have instituted an enquiry into the subject or got some public authority to have done so, and thus settle what was best.

I may say here, by the way, that there are numerous other life-buoys and other methods for saving life, given from time to time in the reports; but that is a subject I have not taken up, but rather avoided. There is much want of a historical treatise on lifebuoys belts, etc.

The R.H.S. and

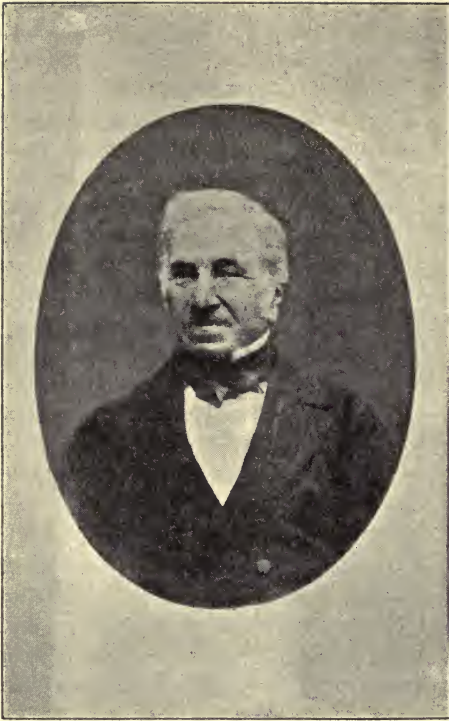
DR MARSHALL HALL THE DISCOVERER OF RESUSCITATION

The foundation of all true progress in the art of resuscitation was first well and truly laid by Marshall Hall. Dr Benjamin Howard of New York in *The Life-boat* 1 feb 1873 p 381.

Surprising as it may seem it is nevertheless a fact that the system of resuscitation practiced by the R.H.S. up to this date was still more calculated to kill than to revive the patient. Although this was demonstrated by Dr Marshall Hall in 1856 they continued their bad and useless system up to 1863, under circumstances I shall now explain. All their efforts were directed to restoring heat to the body and not to restoring respiration. Without respiration heat was useless, as was shown by the patients dying as soon as put into the warm bath before respiration had been restored.

Returning from his holiday in september 1855 Dr Hall happened to look at the Annual Report of the R.H.S. which had been sent him. How many thousands of doctors had done so before, and how often must he have read the reports, having been a subscriber since 1845? On reading the 'rules to restore the apparently drowned' Mrs Hall says (*Memoirs* 1861 p 360) 'I well remember his saying "There is nothing in this treatment to restore respiration."' Curious that this had never occurred to him before. He had been forty years in practice. However once the idea having seized him, he followed it out with his usual energy. His discoveries had made his name

¹ I searched at the Patent Office, but was unable to find that Carte ever patented his buoy, but I found a patent taken out by a person of the same name for 'flutes clarinettes hautboys and bassoons' any one of which, I am prepared to believe Mr F. W. Brewster would contend was better suited to the purpose of life buoys than Carte's, especially that high or haut boy.



Dr Marshall Hall
from a photograph given me by the widow of his only child

known all over the Continent, and had eminently fitted him for this enquiry. He thought out what would be the way, but nevertheless made experiments which are given in his book *Prone*, etc.

He formulated his method of resuscitation and presented a manuscript copy to the R.H.S. in January 1856 and also had it printed and circulated among the members (Report 1856 p 24), in order that the society might be advised whether to adopt it or not. It was printed in *The Lancet* 12 April 1856. He clearly demonstrated, if not that he was right, that the method in use by the R.H.S. was wrong. While the R.H.S. was as usual dilatory, the

Marshall Hall method was at once taken up by medical men and adopted by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

This was fatal to its success with the R.H.S. they could not be second to a younger institution: 'rival bodies' is the term the R.N.L.I. uses (*The Life-boat* 1 Feb 1873 p 379).

Dr Hall's
method

R.H.S.
method bad
in 1856

Only ten replies (out of about fifty men of eminence as scientists and doctors) were received, two of these particularly, advised against the Hall method, sir B. Brodie and Dr Christian, so it was not adopted by the society (Report 1857 p 27). Sir B. Brodie had a settled theory that no water got into the lungs, which according to Dr R. L. Bowles is incorrect (see p 5 of his pamphlet *The resuscitation* 1890).

Though Dr Hall had shown the error of the R.H.S. rules none of the doctors suggested any other method and sir B. Brodie (who how-
 Dr Brodie's mistaken ever was then 74) actually allowed this self congratulatory piece to be printed 'However nearly the resuscitative process recommended and adopted by the R.H.S. may now approach towards perfection'! The Brodie method was killing the patients!

Dr Hall says (Prone p 41) 'I earnestly requested that a sub-committee might be appointed, but in vain.' However with others his method was a success, and just before his death Hall said 'Of all the things I have done for science, this one discovery gives me more pleasure than all the rest' (Memoirs p 430). And well it might, it has made his name known all over the world. He died on 11 aug 1857. His son was not a doctor and unable to champion his method. Dr Hall's death is not even mentioned in the R.H.S. reports.

Dr George Webster says (Hall's Memoirs p 453) 'it is curious to notice the caution and distrust with which this boon to humanity was received by the R.H.S., while it was adopted by the profession almost with enthusiasm and by the National life-boat Institution, so as to entirely supersede the old rules, with the indiscriminate use of the warm bath, or attempt to restore circulation before respiration.' In a footnote he says 'Since writing the above an unworthy attempt has been made by the Medico-Chirurgical Society to burke the Marshall Hall method, which signally failed.' Did it entirely fail? Hall's name is constantly suppressed when his method is given, and though he was the discoverer his method is often put second and even not given at all.¹

To see what a service Dr Hall's discovery was the reader should

¹ The fact is that Dr Hall was originally a country practitioner, and he belonged to no English University nor any London hospital and never became one of the set (Memoirs p 449). But it was not the first time that the scientific men of the day had flouted him and shelved his discoveries. He read an important paper before the Royal Society, and a French writer giving an account (Memoirs p 426) says 'lu devant la Royal Society, ne fut pas admis dans ses Transactions; les médiocrités qui formaient la majorité au sein de cette Société n'ayant pas compris la portée des nouvelles idées émises par Hall.'

look at some of the books published at this time. Take for example an early edition of Dr A. S. Taylor's Medical Jurisprudence which has been a legal text book since 1844, and see how he flounders about in a mire of ignorance when writing of resuscitation. Even in 1883 (vol ii p 9) the article is written (not by the author as he died in 1880) by a writer with insufficient practical knowledge and he states the superstitions against Hall's method as a foregone conclusion, as if from his own knowledge, when he had none. Unfortunately detraction of this kind naturally has its effect. The edition by Stevenson 1894 (vol ii chapter 53) has a masterly article, in which the writer is quite satisfied that water gets into the lungs, but when he comes to resuscitation he repeats, without the slightest original investigation, the assertion of the previous editions that the Hall method is inferior; and Hall is shelved without a word of recognition, simply from ignorance. The writer did not know the service Hall had done. Even this book is behind its time, for in 1886 Finney had stopped under water over four minutes, but the 'latest example' of 'prolonged submersion' the writer can give is of a shorter time in 1882.¹

Next we consult a well written book Forensic medicine by Dr J. Dixon Mann 1898. He says 'Drowning is a mode of death from asphyxia caused by continuous or by intermittent submersion of the mouth and nostrils under water or other fluid, so that access of air to the lungs is either at once or gradually cut off until life is extinct' (p 226). On the next page he says 'water is drawn into the lungs.' 'The body of a person who has died from drowning is deprived of the buoyancy of the lungs, since the air they contained has been almost entirely replaced by water.' This statement is unsupported by scientific evidence such as we get from Dr Mann in many other instances. On p 230 he shows that some authorities assert and others deny the presence of water in the lungs: p 232 he says that animals swallow water in drowning but 'observations made on human bodies as to the presence of water in the stomach after death from drowning yield less decisive results,' and on p 233 he says 'that water is not invariably

¹ Or if we refer to a popular book like the Encyclopædia Britannica (9 edition 1877 vol vii pp 473-6), we find a good general article under drowning by Dr Henry D. Littlejohn in which he gives a case where it would appear that it was quite certain water had got into the stomach. Readers must not confuse this with the lungs. When however he comes to Dr Hall and resuscitation he shows that he has no practical knowledge of the subject, as he says Dr Silvester 'has suggested a still more simple plan of postural treatment which along with that of Dr Hall has been adopted' etc. See also as to this my note under R.N.L.I. 1877.

found in the stomach after death from drowning.' But on pp 241-2 he gives a case and assumes that water enters the lungs. Now according to Dr Bowles if water enters the lungs Dr Hall's method is better than Dr Silvester's which is manifest. ^{Hall's method best} Dr Mann is apparently not aware of this, he does not discuss it, and appears not in fact to know the difference between the two methods, anyway he shelves Dr Hall without ceremony, or rather ignores him, in his observations about resuscitation, and he clearly has no knowledge of the practice and drills of the Life Saving Society in which the police of his town of Manchester are so proficient, to say nothing of the celebrated swimmers Manchester has given us, who are adepts in life saving methods.¹

The first discovery having been made it was not long before other minds set to work.

Dr Robert Henry Silvester first published his system, which he contends is superior to all others, in 1857 in the *The Medical Times and Gazette*, which paper contains numerous letters on the ^{The Medical Times} subject in vol 15 duly indexed under asphyxia.

On the 13 june 1857 *The Medical Times* at the request of the National Lifeboat Institution published the methods then used by the R.H.S. and that of Dr Hall, asking for information as to the comparative value of the two methods. I am not aware whether this has any connection with the fact that in october (Medical T and G 14 nov) 1857 the Marshall Hall method was recommended by the Medical Society of Liverpool to be and was adopted by the Liverpool Shipwreck and Humane Society as being superior to the method then in use by the R.H.S. The Report for 1858 (84th p 22) asks scientific men for any new method or suggestions. It has an illustration (p 39) of an 'apparatus for teaching swimming without water by w. H. Morgan' consisting of two tressels and a ladder placed across them, and the notice of it says 'At a time when natation is beginning to be looked upon as a necessary branch of education.' Truly this beginning has taken a long time, for if I were writing about swimming in the present day, I should still use precisely the same phrase.

The Report for 1860 reprints a most interesting article from Dickens's *All the Year Round* (n° 39 for 21 jan 1860 vol 2 pp 292-5) entitled 'man in,' giving a graphic account of the feelings and reflections of the 'man in.' Being always called a 'boy' by his elders, he tells how he felt much pleasure, notwithstanding the terrible danger he was in from the ice all round that people should call out 'man in.' He also felt satisfaction that he

¹ Dr Poore does the same, his *Medical jurisprudence* was published too late to be noticed here, but will be later on.

had not got his darned stockings on. He gives high praise to the R.H.S. for their arrangements for rescuing people from the ice.

It also contains a letter from sir B. C. Brodie in which he says 'I cannot say that I ever entertained any favourable opinion of what the late Dr Marshall Hall called his ready method of restoring animation.' One is inclined to ask why sir B. Brodie allowed a method he had no confidence in to go on without protest. He says that his opinion is confirmed by Dr 'Sylvester's' experiments, and he considers the 'Sylvester' method better. He has no doubt that the apparatus of the R.H.S. for 'artificial inflation'¹ is the safest etc and he refers to his volume of lectures.² Although he was not too old to make objections, he was to say 'This matter seems all in doubt, I will henceforth devote myself to finding out or see that others find out, what is the best method of resuscitation.'

The Report for 1861 prints a paper read by Dr Christian on resuscitation showing that he considered Dr Silvester's method superior to the Marshall Hall (p 34). He quotes from the R.H.S. 'directions' at the Receiving House, Hyde Park, advising use of 'the inflating apparatus.' Dr Sharpey thought the Silvester method better than the Marshall Hall. 'Mr Spencer Wells believed that insufflation from the mouth was the best method' (p 37). 'The President remarked on the importance of the subject, which made it a matter of great regret that

¹ If this is the scientific way of talking of artificial breathing, it seems to me incorrect. Dr Silvester is always referred to as Sylvester. His name is thus misspelt to this day in fact, and so is that of Dr Hall who is deprived of his christian name by the insertion of a hyphen. In one book he is even indexed under his christian name of Marshall.

In the early days it was thought that the greater warmth they could get the better chance, but the ground now seems to have shifted to the greater air you can get into the lungs the better. Wilson 1883 says (p 137) of the Howard method 'The greatest possible expansion of the chest is thus obtained.' But it may not be desirable to get this great expansion; especially if the lungs have any water in them. One reason against the bellows was that they blew too much air in. In the Hall method if the patient is kept on one side, the uppermost lung will clear quicker than by any other method, and one lung is sufficient for temporary purposes.

² I have not been able to find this volume but in The works of the late sir B. Brodie 1865, I find a lecture reprinted, which he gave about 1821 'On the mode of death from drowning,' in which he says 'It does not appear however that the admission of water into the lungs tends to hasten death...there is no manifest reason why the admission of a small quantity of water should be very injurious...the admission of water into the lungs is prevented by a spasm of the muscles.' I may incidentally mention that this lecture is almost entirely made up of what other people told him.

such a wide difference of opinion should still prevail.' But no suggestion was made for testing the matter by further observation and experiments.¹

In this report (1861) sir B. Brodie again returns to the subject and mentions the Hall method with disapproval and that the 'Sylvester' method would be more effectual. The result of this was that the society, which had already been groping in the dark for nearly a hundred years, continued to grope, but it must have been generally felt that they were becoming ridiculous. What the serjeant-surgeon to the Queen was too jealous to see, doctors who were not baronets and the public did, and the Hall method was not only accepted with acclamation, but another the Silvester had been formulated, both repudiated the R.H.S. method. Something must be done! Sir B. Brodie being now past making objections, and dying in his eightieth year in 1862 the society adopted the best plan possible, an enquiry by scientific men as to what really was the proper method of resuscitation.

In 1863 (and some years after) were printed a series of experiments made on various dead bodies and in the result, but not without a difference of opinion among the doctors, Dr
 Dr Silvester's method
 Silvester's method was given the preference over that of Dr Hall, and the Silvester 'rules for restoring suspended animation' are printed for the first time (p 65) and at p 114 his method is given again with two illustrations, instead of the (warm bath) method which had been previously given, a footnote stating that the method had been approved by the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, to which body, I am informed, we must look before any change can be made.

The R.H.S. is entitled to some credit for getting medical men to do this after having been shown the way by Liverpool. But now it seems it is the medical profession who are groping in the dark. For notwithstanding the recommendation of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society there were dissentients, one of these Dr Bowles, came forward with his objections.

¹ It would have been interesting to cross examine these two medical baronets as to their 'means of knowledge,' and what experience they had of this particular subject to enable them to give an opinion. They really seem to have spoken about what they did not understand. For how are we to reconcile sir B. Brodie advocating the use of the bellows (I presume that is what is meant by 'apparatus'), and [sir] Spencer Wells a person blowing his breath into another, neither of them referring to the experiments which had negated these methods? None of these celebrated doctors seemed to have grasped the true principle of resuscitation.

Dr Robert Leamon Bowles

read a paper on 28 may 1889 which was printed in the 72nd volume of The Medico-chirurgical Transactions and reprinted separately in 1890,¹ in which he says 'I felt at the time that our Society was premature in giving its imprimatur to Dr Silvester's method of treatment, as his method was opposed to the principles indicated by the experiments performed by our own Committee.'

Dr Bowles
on Dr Hall

If Dr Bowles is right (that water gets into the lungs);² the Marshall Hall method would be the better as it would probably clear them, at all events one lung, and the Silvester would not, or certainly not so quickly. That some water may get into the lungs appears to me to be a reasonable theory because we may presume that air escapes from the body of a drowning person (and it is difficult to imagine that water (it would be a very small quantity?) does not at once rush in and take the place of the air, otherwise there would be a vacuum?);

(However there the question rests, it has never been decided, all the doctors and officers of our Royal societies, sleeping quite comfortably while methods to which objection has been taken are being continued.)² The medical profession ought not to rest any longer until this important question is settled.³

In 1864 and some years after an article entitled 'Instructions for saving drowning persons by swimming to their relief' was reprinted from the Life-Boat Journal.

¹ Dr Bowles's pamphlet came to me 'apparently drowned' that is in a doubled up state, folded in two and crushed and as I object to reading anything in this state I was compelled without loss of time to use a resuscitation method; you take it to pieces, then damp every page, press between blankets (of blotting paper), which have to be frequently changed as they get damp. When thoroughly dry stitch together again. Though the patient recovers there are always traces of the severe doubling up treatment received.

² This portion of the ms. from 'It also contains' p 204 to 'being continued,' was kindly read by Dr Silvester (sep 1898) and the parts he ran his pencil through I have put in dotted parentheses, and his answer to the last paragraph is that the Committee of 1862 reported in favor of his method and that it is now employed throughout the world.

³ Written several years ago before I was elected on 28 feb 1898 without request and without my knowledge an Honorary member of the Life Saving Society, since which time I have constantly had this question on my mind. But all my suggestions have been silenced by the answer 'the doctors have approved a method no one dare alter it.' Besides this the L.S.S. teaches three methods though it gives first place to the Silvester. I may observe that I endeavored to avoid this subject as that of lifebuoys, but found it impossible not to cursorily mention it.

The Report for 1865 has a note entitled

The Philosophy of drowning

beginning 'Man is the only animal that drowns naturally' which is not so. This is followed by Floating before swimming or every man his own corks by J. F. D.¹ in which is stated 'that the movements of swimming have nothing to do with the main point of safety in the water, which is remaining on the surface...but swimming could prevent nobody from going to the bottom if he were not specifically lighter than water.' This is also absolutely wrong, for a person can blow all his breath out, when unless he swims, he will sink, moreover I have seen athletes who sink like stones, and yet support themselves by swimming.

These articles illustrate the incompetency (from a swimmer's point of view) of every one connected with the society, that they should not only allow them to be printed, but reprinted until the year 1880 when an outsider came to their rescue.

A summary which might usefully be continued, was published with this title

Acts of gallantry being a detailed account of each deed of bravery in saving life from drowning...[with awards]...from 1830 to 1871... by Lambton Young C.E. secretary to the R.H.S. London Sampson Low 1872.

Being compiled by the secretary he modestly refrained from noticing it in the reports. The report for 1876 has a table of deaths from drowning and 'directions for making cheap cork life jackets out of old bottle corks said to be the invention of two ladies, but this idea was given in the report for 1812.

In 1880 the notice of J. F. D. last appears: when I come to that for 1881 the reason seems apparent. I find this article

How to save swimmers!

written expressly for the R.H.S.'s annual by R. H. Wallace Dunlop C.B. author of Notes on the science of natation and inventor of the system of the Plate-swimming pp 113 to 118 with three illustrations, one of which is from the frontispiece to his Plate-swimming. He points out that his theory is exactly the opposite to J. F. D.'s. This was reprinted in 1883 separately.

In 1882 the society, only moving however like a government department through pressure from without, took a step (but only one) in the right direction and made an attempt to encourage swimming by instituting a silver medal for proficiency in

prize for
swimming

¹ Also issued as a four page leaflet reprinted by Spottiswoode & co London: a copy is preserved in sir John Barrow's manuscript diary, vol 7 p 288 under date sep 1871, in the Bodleian Library.

the art at public schools with reference to saving life from drowning. But though the reports take great credit for this and give the numbers who have obtained the medal, the practical results have been small and can be of little permanent value. The test is too easy and apparently drawn up by people who knew little about swimming.

Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 257 ridicule the 'dummy' instruction, and a writer ¹ who has done much for the promotion of swimming stigmatises the R.H.S. competitions as gloomy farces. In an article in *The Badminton magazine* for July 1896 he says 'I hope the day is not far distant when public school boys will be ashamed to accept a medal for such a silly competition. At [some] schools these [R.H.S.] competitions have been ended, and proper life-saving is taught.'

1883, 109th report the R. H. society's
'Cautions to bathers'

referred to and that cramp is too readily assumed as the cause of drowning. It gives the rules for competitions for proficiency in swimming: one of the 'recommendations' ought to be a preliminary, namely that all competitors should be acquainted with the rules for the restoration of the apparently drowned; and instead of 'rules' only it ought to be the 'theory and practice.' At the end is a suggestion that schools that have facilities for swimming schools should be preferred. This admirable advice was given by Benjamin Franklin in his letter with the egg practice over a hundred years ago. I should go further and say do not send your children (boys or girls) to any school where they do not go regularly to a swimming bath all the year round. The 110th report for 1884 is also said to be for 1883. After this Report, that for the previous year, instead of being as formerly dated that year, is dated the year in which it is issued, all the previous reports were really only printed and issued the year following the year they are dated.

1884 (111th report dated 1885) recommends a new belt as a useful auxiliary to boys in learning to swim; the patentee's name is not given (p 117).

1886 (report 113 dated 1887) prints an extract from *Health at school* by Clement Dukes physician to Rugby school by which it appears that the R.H.S. medal for swimming was instituted at his instance.

Various suggestions have been made to the R.H.S. to teach swimming. For example John Frost suggested it in 1816 (p 48).

¹ The honorable Sydney Holland who for several years acted as judge, see *Swimming* for 7 sep 1895

Clias in 1825 p 153 and Steedman in 1867 p 58. But here as usual they did not hurry themselves, and it was not until 32 years after in the year 1899 that swimmers were startled by the newspaper reports of the annual meeting at which it was stated, by H.R.H. the duke of York that the teaching of swimming was one of the objects of the R.H.S.

This report recommends Jackson's patent cork cloth or floating fabric, which may be the one referred to in the 111th report.

The 121st report 1894 has the list of deaths by drowning in England and Wales from 1860. I observe that the largest number occurred in 1878 viz 3659, there being 1000 fewer in 1894.

The fact is that the R.H.S. began at the wrong end. Instead of letting people drown first, it would have been better to have taught them to swim, when in the majority of cases they would be able to rescue themselves. I must admit that the opportunities for learning or teaching between 1774 and 1874 were few, and the general repugnance to total immersion in water (hot or cold) was an almost absolute bar to founding a teaching society, but this does not affect my idea that the principle was wrong. The institution of a society to teach would have been a far greater benefit. However there would perhaps have been much less support to such a society, and the probability is that few of the founders could swim. I know that one of the past secretaries could not swim or if he could it was but very little.

In its earliest existence the society was as full of energy and activity as it is deficient of both these qualities in later years, and one sees from the reports that as time wore on, and those who took a deep interest in the work became replaced by those who did it because they made a living out of it, the conduct of affairs became more and more mechanical, till at last with a comfortable income of over a thousand pounds sterling a year no attempt whatever was made to 'go with the times.' The result of this might easily have been foretold by any one conversant with what has been going on in swimming during the last twenty or thirty years, namely that a swimmer would arise who would feel that the R.H.S. in no way provided what was required in the present day, in the way of teaching the art of saving life.

Some readers may now observe, that I have evidently a grudge against the Society! Nothing of the kind. When first I took up this subject about 1893, I was totally ignorant of all that concerns the society or its origin, and what I have written is simply and entirely evolved from reading their hundred odd reports and without animus whatever; indeed why should I have any animus against a society of which I have always had the highest opinion and which

has done so much good and for whose aid I may be indebted at any moment? It is however a pity it had not energy and knowledge enough in its later days to do more, which its income would have so well enabled it to do. Even now it may not be too late, though the place is occupied by the Life Saving Society, the London Schools Swimming Association and other societies.

When the society was poor they distributed their literature freely all over the district, now that it is rich an enquirer like myself, though giving name, profession and address on personal application, is refused a copy of the annual report (for 1897) on the ground that it is only printed for subscribers. Not being able to get it, I thought I would try if the Life Saving Society would have the same excuse, not at all, my anonymous messenger was at once without demur or question given a copy of their annual report. I found the L.S.S. was carried on, from a pecuniary point of view, upon principles quite as disastrous to its originators as the R.H.S. though also greatly to the public benefit.

Notwithstanding that the R.H.S. does not appear to have done all that could be expected of it from a swimmer's point of view, I feel bound to give my meed of praise to it for the very great amount of useful and invaluable work that it does, in the way not only of saving life, but the prevention of accidents, from the great experience and caution exercised by all its officers, none of whom in the present day, it is needless to say, had any concern in the events I have related.

Traité de la construction théorique et pratique du scaphandre... par de la Chapelle... Paris 1775.

8° pp xlviij 326 & 6 & 4 plates. I saw this at the Bibliothèque Nationale in 1894. It was translated into German and published at Warschau and Dresden in 1776.

Guy c. Rothery in Colburn's United service mag 1886 p 446 says 'de la Chapelle commences with an elaborate essay on swimming, proving that it is an art, and therefore is not natural to, but must be acquired by man who by art and practice can swim better than fishes; a thoroughly scientific exposé and practical guide. The machine he invented was constructed of cork.'

See also Notes and Queries 7 dec 1895 p 442. Courtivron says he in-

cludes la Chapelle in his list on account of the correct ideas of the author which not only deserve mention but reproduction; and accordingly he quotes fifteen pages on the question whether man without fear and having never learnt, would swim as naturally as quadrupeds, which de la Chapelle decides in the negative, though he says that Thevenot, Digby and Winmann have all three taken it almost as an axiom that man would swim naturally. He refers to Bazin a doctor of medicine of Strasbourg who wrote on the same subject in 1741.

Courtivron also reviews a pretended new edition of de la Chapelle published at Paris in 1805.

Like all the books written to puff the author's invention of a lifebelt, it gives elaborate accounts of previous inventions in order to show their inferiority. This is a subject I must leave to the historian of lifebelts. A summary will be found in the *Encyclo Méthodique*.

I may here record

A Dissertation on the preservative from drowning, and Swimmer's assistant; a new invention, simple, commodious, and of small expence by R. Macpherson gent. London 1783. 8° pp 131, 2s 6d.

Méthode sûre pour apprendre à nager en peu de jours : par Nicolas Roger, plongeur de profession. A Paris chez Legras 1783

18° height of print in millimeters 89 width 51, pp 36. Quérard in *La France littéraire* 1829 iii p 119 says Roger is a pseudonym of Gabr Feydel avocat.

Some of the advice is good. He thinks the best way to begin is to learn to dive first, so as not to be afraid of having the face under water. He reveals some curious notions of the time as he says The habit of stopping up the nose is bad, it is sufficient to hold your breath, but he advises cotton wool dipped in oil for the ears! It is almost needless to say that no healthy person requires this, and yet we find English doctors recommending it, as for instance in a *Manual of the art of*

Essai sur l'art de nager, par l'auteur des préceptes publiés en 1783, sous le nom de Nicolas Roger plongeur de profession, et insérés depuis dans 'l'Encyclopédie.' Londres [Paris] 1787, gr. in 8. avec deux titres, d'ont l'un imprimé en rouge.

Title from Quérard.

Courtivron says Roger is written without method, would never instruct any one who did not know how to swim and would not please him who did: what is good is taken from Thevenot. If Roger could not swim better than he

Nouveau guide des nageurs, ou méthode infallible pour apprendre à nager en peu de jours par Roger plongeur de profession, ouvrage orné de dix gravures aquelles on a joint l'Art de Nager avec la seule

Macpherson invented 'a preserver,' and to disseminate a knowledge of it wrote this book, which however contains much information besides that about the preserver. He quotes Franklin as to specific gravity.

He mentions an inventor whose cork jacket hindered swimming 'it thereby proves the less encouragement to desertion from ships of war p 11. On p 30 he says that it was objected that his life preserver would enable seamen to desert.

preserving health by J. B. Davis, surgeon 1836.

He says that if the body were not lighter than water we should always sink, an error repeated to the present day.

Roger gives the frog as an example and describes the human kick only in the breast stroke. All he says is 'Ensuite pliez les genoux, portez les fesses en arrière, et vous serez le maître de vous redresser' (see ante p 93). He says he knows no diver who could stop three minutes under water and that professional divers only stop two minutes. That people who stop hours under the water are exceptions to the rule.

could write he certainly could not perform all the feats he enumerates. Notwithstanding this Courtivron copies several of his pages from Roger!

Christmann in 1886 quotes this treatise as to the desirability of swimming baths as if Roger was a real name.

aide des membres par M. Thévenot. A Paris chez Delarue, quai des Augustins et à Lille (imp de Blocquel) chez Castiaux.

12° height of print 120 w 66 mm. published about 1820 (?) the figures are badly copied from Thevenot; p 25 'cet élan' is corrected; in the 1783 edition it is spelt 'élans.' It will be observed that the christian name

Traité de natation, ouvrage utile à tout le monde renfermant... Roger ... Thévenot ... nouvelle édition ornée de 22 figures en taille-douce. Paris Delarue quai des Augustins: à Lille (printed by Blocquel) chez Castiaux.

12° pp 216. Announced in the *Bibl de la France* 1825 n° 4544.

See Courtivron 1836 p 537. The figures copied from Thevenot but not so badly done as in the previous edition, besides the 22 there are three on the paper cover of the copy I inspected at the Bibliothèque Nationale.

At the end is a long account of various lifebelts taken from de la Chapelle or rather from the *Encyclopédie Méthodique* which copies him and it quotes a page of B. Franklin's advice, where he talks of swimming an hour or two in the evening: also quotes Buchan (p 167) these last two omitted in the edition of [1881].

Now we have an edition that gave me some trouble. I first saw it at one of the numerous bookstalls on the quays in Paris, in 1893 but as it was in a thin closed cover I was not able to look at it, however I asked for it at the

Traité de natation ou l'art de nager en rivières et en mer, contenant les principes de la natation et la description des appareils et ceintures de sauvetage: par Roger édition ornée de nombreuses (17) figures. Paris, Delarue libraire-éditeur 5 rue des grands-Augustins (imprimerie D. Dumoulin).

8° pp 144 and advertisements among which the book is priced at 2 fr.

I believe this edition was first issued about 1881 and reprinted from time to time but the above is the only issue I have seen. I have not found any announcements in the *Bibliographie de*

'Nicolas' is now omitted; and the addition of the *Encyclopédie Méthodique* to Thevenot's title is adopted, so that probably it is a reprint from the *Encyclopédie Méthodique*. See ante p 183.

Bibl Nat° but they had it not. Enquiring at the publishers about it I was told the author's name was 'Roger.' This did not excite my suspicion at the time, being a hundred years after Nicolas Roger, and I thought I should have an opportunity of inspecting it. However I left Paris without seeing it, but some time after the thought flashed across me—surely this cannot be our old friend the 'professional diver'? I never felt satisfied till I had returned to see. When there in 1896 I searched the bookstalls and asked at every stall whether they had anything on swimming, with the invariable answer, No! so having spent many times the price of the book in this way, I bought it at the publishers for tenpence, when my curiosity was satisfied. The title on the cover is simply

Traité de natation

with an attractive colored illustration of a woman taking a header in about as bad a position as the artist could put her (see ante p 158): this is not repeated in the book. The half-title has the first twelve words of the title. Title

la France. Some of the illustrations have a number, an indication of a previous edition

On p 95 line 2 n is misprinted for u; on p 100 imaginé is misprinted maiginé; on p 131 Boyton is referred to; on p 135 some experiments said to have been

tried before lord Lyons 26 oct, no year given, but he was ambassador from 1867 to 1887 : on p 142 the 25 July 1880 is referred to.

The editor seems to have got a former edition and to have chopped it about, so that Roger and Thevenot and Courtivron are more or less mixed up. It is now a wretched compilation which has become almost vicious. The advice is old fashioned and frequently bad, the positions of the figures are worse : four pp 24, 56, 64 and 105 are unacknowledged cribs from Courtivron reversed.

The following is the order of the plagiarisms so far as I have been able make them out – for it must be observed that ‘Roger’ too is a plagiarism as it is published as an original work of the present century and not as a reprint from the last.

Pages 5 to 13 are from the Encyclopédie Méthodique 1786 (pp 425–7) without acknowledgment, then follow to p 27 quotations from books of travels.

Pp 28 to 31 is from Courtivron 1836 pp 354–359 finishing with a paragraph altered from Roger with the Encyclo Mét p 440. Pp 35–36 are altered from Courtivron p 327, p 30 to p 40 is more or less from Thevenot. Page 40 begins Courtivron (p 360) again ; the figure here entitled ‘plonger’ is plagiarised from Courtivron, which makes it desperately wrong. Pp 48 to 61 is again from Roger or see Ency Mét pp 440–442, this quotation includes a paragraph which Courtivron (p 370) took from Roger.

Then follow a few pages the source of which I have not been able to trace : p 75 is a quotation from ‘a much esteemed work’ it is put in inverted commas, but it is an incorrect quotation from Courtivron pp 386–7. The only original position seems to be one given on p 77, with an illustration in a

correct position on p 113 entitled ‘un plat-cul’ (reproduced r. $\frac{1}{4}$). P 84 to p 90 is from Courtivron, again p 394 to 399. Then we have some more quotations and p 99 to p 131 is given as original matter ; it is all about life saving dresses from the Ency Mét (pp 435–439) which took it from de La Chapelle.

Finally the resuscitation instruction is nearly a century old, all the long ago



un plat-cul

exploded methods – fumes of tobacco, a treatment we gave up in consequence of a Frenchman’s researches in 1811 – bleeding and breathing into the lungs are given pp 90–96.

This edition of Roger is again utilised by G de Saint-Clair in 1896. The following is another reprint as the original work of ‘Poissonnier’ no doubt a pseudonym.

Le guide des nageurs ou méthode sûre pour apprendre à nager en huit leçons : par Louis Poissonnier jeune, amateur de natation : prix 60°, cinquième édition avec une gravure, A Paris, Delacour 1813.

I have never seen any edition but this, which is in the *Bibl Nat^e* Quérard, who did not suspect the pseudonym says it was 'tiré à 2000 exempl.'

For a Spanish translation see under Digby.

M. Roger. Sicherer schwimmeister,

Encyclopédie méthodique : [the volume with] arts académiques, équitation, escrime, danse, et art de nager. A Paris, Panckoucke 1786. 4° pp 425 to 445 in double cols.

It begins with the usefulness of swimming, quotes Borelli & Tournefort to p 428. 'De l'art de nager avec la seule aide des membres' (to p 435) from Thevenot acknowledged on p 440 : pp 435 to 440 is occupied with quoting de la Chapelle on lifebelts : then follows Nicolas Roger's treatise without his proposals for a swimming bath.

Page 442 misprint 'horisotnal.' Cet élan p 443 is corrected ; in the 1783 edition of Roger it is spelt 'élans.'

This article was used by the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

1787. The article in the SUPPLEMENT

Cautions concerning cold bathing and drinking the mineral waters, by William Buchan, M.D. fellow of the Royal college of physicians, Edinburgh ; being an additional chapter to the ninth edition of his *Domestic Medicine*. London 1786, 8° pp 20.

As Dr William Buchan's remarks are so frequently quoted in favor of bathing I give the title of his pamphlet, which seems more against than in favor of bathing. Contrary to all other writers he considers that bathing was too indiscriminately indulged in.

The remarks are as old fashioned as

Manuel du nageur ou de la pratique de l'art de nager [motto]. A Paris chez Cailleau 1788.

24° pp 166 and 2 of errata.

I saw this at Rouen in 1893 where the copy is in perfect condition in the original covers as issued.

oder die beste methode, in wenigen tagen schwimmen zu lernen ; nebst Thevenots Schwimmkunst u. d. dazu gehör. 10 abbildd. aus der Französ. mit anmerkk v. E. Fr. Möller 12 (mit 10 holzschn.) Ilmenau 1826.

Dr Brendicke calls this a poor production. I have not seen it.

of the *Encyclo Mét* confines itself to giving instances where the art of swimming has been of the last importance and usefulness, which was omitted in the previous article.

1822. The article in the volume for this date mentions Digby and Père Bazin, and gives a table of the specific gravity of the human body.

To account for the difference in the date of the first and last of these volumes, it may be mentioned that this work was in progress upwards of half a century before finally completed.

the *Domestic Medicine* itself and indeed he is not much quoted now.

He died in London 1805, his son Dr A. P. Buchan wrote *Practical observations concerning sea-bathing* 1804 but it has nothing whatever in it about swimming. For lives of father and son see the D. N. B.

The dedication to the ducs de Chartres is signed Prevost Desfourneaux avocat au Parlement.

It contains a preliminary discourse

on the advantage of bathing – not to enter the water in a perspiration – that Alexander was nearly killed by doing this – man does not swim naturally (p 17) – of all the masters who teach swimming none are worse than those of Paris – he then suggests a belt and cord to suspend the learner as his own idea – [this way is given in Roger 1783 who says he was not the inventor] he does not describe the breast stroke but says the frog is an example to us (p 23), but with the stroke on the back he says

Another edition A Rouen, Bloquel, août 1821.

8° pp 51 price 1 franc, with one plate of six figures, n° 5 is after Thevenot.

The title is given in the Bibliographie de la France, and in Courtivron who characterises it as a compilation. I was not able to see a copy in France nor at the B.M. the above I went to

the movement of the feet is made by bringing them towards you and then pushing the water away with the sole of the foot (p 36) : pp 15 to 46 is on swimming. The rest is about baths and diving, inventors of lifebelts and he finishes with a poem.

Though he does not mention him he has used Thevenot : quotes Buchan and Tournefort a French traveler, and Franklin. It seems from Quérard La France litt. vol vii p 345 that an edition was published anonymously in 1790.

Birmingham to see at the Free Library in 1895 which enabled me to identify it as a reprint.

The title on the cover differs slightly and as it does not give the author's name, it is probably reprinted from the 1790 edition, but there is no mention of a previous edition.

The progress of man...by the rev Dr Trusler...London 1791 12°

Three pages of general observations, with a woodcut of boys swimming by Bewick but not signed.

BERNARDI

L'uomo galleggiante o sia l'arte ragionata del nuoto [half-title, in addition to this the title proceeds] scoperta fisica pubblicata per graziosa munificenza de' sovrani, e signori delle Sicilie Ferdinando iv Borbone e Maria Carolina d'Austria pii felici Augusti dal dottore di leggi Oronzio de' Bernardi avvocato, esaminator sinodale, e canonico della cattedrale chiesa della regia città di Terlizzi...In Napoli nella Stamperia reale 1794.

In 2 parts 4°. Part i portrait of Bernardi, pp 6 and 237. Part ii pp 4 and 257 and 18 whole page engravings. He refers to Borelli, de la Chapelle and various authors mentioned by him as to life belts &c, and to Il Pesce. The running title is L'arte ragionata del nuotare.

Oronzio de Bernardi's Vollständiger Lehrbegriff der Schwimmkunst auf neue

Versuche über die spezifische Schwere des menschlichen Körpers gegründet. Aus dem Italienischen übersetzt und mit Anmerkungen begleitet von Friedrich Kries professor an dem Gymnasium zu Gotha. Weimar 1797 im Verlage des Industrie-Comptoirs. 8° 2 vols pp xxxvi 251 + 2, vol 2 6 + 242 + 2 and 12 plates after Bernardi but in outline.

This appears to have been reprinted,

or more probably it was a re-issue of the stock of the 1797 edition, still in hand, with new titles, in 1824. The German publishers keep their stocks, they do not sell remainders like English publishers after a few years. This useful custom has enabled me to buy many books I should otherwise never have been able to get.

Arte de nadar compendiado, del que escribó en Italiano Oronzio Bernardi. Madrid, imprenta de Alban 1807.

Height of print 96 mm width 60 mm pp 190. The title is engraved: the eleven plates are small reproductions of Bernardi's.

Unterricht im schwimmen nach der neuen methode des Neapolitaners Bernardi, zum selbstunterricht, so wie für alle freunde der schwimmkunst: mit 12 tafeln instructiver abbildd. in steindruck. Quedlinburg 1834. 8°.

Title from Kayser viii 465; translation

Instruction in swimming, after the new method of the Napolitan Bernardi, for self instruction as well as for all friends of the art of swimming, with 12 lithographed plates of instructive illustrations.

Traité de la natation d'après la découverte d'Oronzio Bernardi, Napolitain: orné de douze planches lithographiées: par M[onsieur] (***)). La pesanteur spécifique du corps humain est moindre que celle de l'eau. Paris chez Audin 1833. 12° pp xvi 126, price 4 francs.

To colonel Amoros the translator says he dedicates the 'second edition.' I have not seen the first.

Courtivron (1836) mis-spells Oronzio without the z, quotes most of the dedication and gives the titles of the eleven chapters. That the specific gravity of the human body is less than that of water (as given in the motto) is Courtivron says the pretended discovery, which he ridicules, and says of the twelve plates only two are in natural positions.

One great defect of the plates (which

are reduced copies of Bernardi's reversed) is the common one, the figures are too much out of the water. The translator (***) refers (at second hand) to Digby, Winmann, Thevenot and to Courtivron's 1823 edition, apparently from the *Revue Encyclopédique* xxv p 474.

The Quarterly Review vol xxxiv June and September. London John Murray 1826.

Art iii pp 35 to 45 is a review, which is frequently quoted but seldom referred to, of the German translation of Bernardi 1824. It is well written, interesting and from the pen of a ready writer of experience. Desiring to know the author's name I wrote to Mr Murray, who kindly informed me that it was by W. F. Skene. Thereupon I wrote to him pointing out that William Forbes Skene was only 16½ years old at that time and the article, good for a grown man, was phenomenal for a boy. Mr Murray replied that W. F. Skene was the name against the article without any doubt. I then was fortunate enough to get the opinion of counsel learned in the law and author of the article in the *Dict of Nat Biog* on Skene, namely that of Mr Æ. Mackay Q.C. who confirmed my conjecture, that young Skene brought the book from Germany, wrote out something about it and thereupon his father James Skene wrote the article and partly in joke, sent it to his friend Lockhart the editor in the name of his son.

The reviewer quotes Borelli's statement that man does not swim naturally and then Robertson's experiments, from *The Encyclopædia Britannica*, and Dr Franklin's letter as to specific gravity; and he says the only other work he has seen is the production of a Napolitan Canon, Oronzio di Bernardi, discursive and long-winded to excess, but at the same time containing many useful hints: he then summarises the Bernardi method.

He says 'The Canon expounds his

system with all the circumstance of a new and important discovery, his chief claim to which seems to rest upon successfully adapting the habitual movements of the body on land to its progress in water.'

The Q.R. article is remarkable as being apparently by a swimmer, and yet is so worded that it reads as if a person in upright swimming should at every stroke be able to urge himself forward a distance equal to the length of his body. He also says that in the upright method a good swimmer ought to make about three miles an hour. This view Walker in his *Manly exercises* took. The reviewer recommends catching hold of the hair in rescuing. For the time perhaps we ought not to be surprised at these statements. Skene however was a literary man and ought to have heard of Frost's treatise and yet he had not, for after lamenting that the country was 'utterly destitute of any regular means of instruction' he says there was not 'one tolerably useful and practical treatise on the art of swimming.'

I had written an article showing the absurdity of Bernardi's claims: but some years after, reading it again, I did not feel satisfied, because I had not gone to the original book, but was like others taking the reviewer's statements for granted. I therefore wrote to the librarian of The Free Library Birmingham, where was the only original copy I knew, and he kindly gave me the name of professor Clovis Bévenot M.A. Oxon and of The University Birmingham, to whom I am much indebted for the trouble he took in reading through the two volumes (18 July 1901) and giving me translations of the pieces referred to and thus enabling me to put the matter right.

As to the first, Bernardi is writing about swimming on the back (not his own method) and professor Bévenot says he describes it thus (vol ii p 99)

'For a perfectly horizontal position of the body lying on its back and parallel with the surface, the head must be under water up to the ears—the legs are crossed along the tibia and over the instep, to make them figure as pointed an extremity as possible. If they were kept apart or widely stretched, when advancing head forward, they would meet the water's resistance proportionately with the angle of their opening, thus impeding or at least retarding the pace.

'Well, to get under way, the swimmer thus composed and prepared has nothing to do but to extend his arms straight out and with the palms of his hands he must swiftly press against the water, until the arms terminate the movement by meeting their respective flank, the jerk of the whole body towards the direction intended must be simultaneous with the action of the arms, and a swimming will result as swift as it is smooth and easy. I have constantly noticed that with each sweep of the arms a distance is covered equal to the whole length of the swimmer's body.'

This is a very different thing, from making the claim for his upright method: moreover in this he is correct. On reading the Q.R. article with this new light one can see that the writer might contend it was what he meant. It is a pity he did not make it clear.

However though there is a loop hole for the reviewer here, there is none with regard to the three miles an hour (vol ii pp 185-6). As to this professor Bévenot writes 'Bernardi does not mean English miles, but the far shorter Italian mile of his time. The good old Canon is for his day too carefully scientific throughout his volumes, for the word mile to have with him the connotation which it has in the English usage.

'Bernardi's is really a remarkable work, with engravings of an artistic classical finish.

'The philanthropic Canon was an enthusiast, but seems to maintain throughout such a high standard of accuracy of detail, and his deductions seem so based on scientific principles and enquiry, that I should feel sorry were this particular assertion to be pigeon-holed together with those other so frequent instances, where over zealousness has betrayed enthusiasts

The art of swimming [plagiarised from Thevenot] with Dr Franklin's directions and Dr Buchan's advice on river and sea bathing [copper plate engraving] London printed for Ann Lemoine, White-rose court, Coleman street.

12°, height 117 width 62 millimeters pp 38 and an engraved frontispiece of a man driving a wagon into the sea, dated 20 feb 1798.

Kleines lehrbuch der schwimmkunst zum selbstunterrichte... von J. C. F. Guts Muths mitarbeiter in der erziehungsanstalt zu Schnepfenthal, Weimar 1798.

A small book of instruction in the art of swimming, for self teaching, containing a full practical manual for all kinds of swimming according to Bernardi and the old German school by Johann Cristoph Friedrich Guts Muths assistant in the institute at Schnepfenthal (b 1759 d 1839).

8° pp xvi & xvi & 124: no plates as he did not want to increase the price.

This is a good treatise written by a man of education as well as a swimmer. He published a work on Gymnastics in 1793 which was republished in 1893.

He repudiates the use of corks, bladders etc: suggests giving prizes for rescuing people from drowning: swimming ought to be a branch of education. He calls Bernardi's system the new Italian school, and his own the old German school. He says his treatise is entirely original, from his own experience and constant observation: he advises practicing the motions on land (p 85): on a narrow board or edge of a table: simple plan is a swimming girdle, which necessity taught him to discover. Swimming on the breast

into fond imaginings and consequent misrepresentations. To me, who am but an indifferent swimmer, the reading of the good Canon Bernardi's book had the charm that Izaak Walton's affords the devotee of the fishing-rod.'

So at last after three quarters of a century we relieve Bernardi's name from these aspersions.

Quotes Dr Fuller's *Gymnastic Medicine*, and Franklin's letter with the egg practice correctly.

(p 99) he says is the most important style used all over Europe, but not always in the best method: arms usual way; thighs spread out and consequently the knees far apart, hips not bent much but knees more so, legs drawn up so that the heels are near the hips, not close together: points of the feet stretched straight out so that upper surfaces of the feet form the most oblique angle with the legs—(he then describes the arms)—feet from this position, in which they were close together into two bows outwards as far as possible and at the same time downwards (p 102) so that the knee joints are quite straight—the feet don't make their bend so that they go from the hips parallel with one another but as they go down they increase their distance—in this stroke the upper surfaces of the feet make the pressure—it is quite wrong to say the lower ones—and therefore quite wrong to compare this style of swimming with that of frogs)—and the external surfaces of the legs press against the water—hereby is the body not simply driven forward, but the lower

limbs, up to beyond the hips, are raised by the striking out apart (p 104) the feet are by the bending of the knee joint again drawn slowly up to the buttocks, the hip joint is not to be bent, that is a mistake in this movement—make the stroke at once (both together)—movement of the hands consists of three movements, the feet have only two movements, they stretch out in a bow and they

Gymnastics for youth...freely translated from the German of C. G. Salzmann...1800.

8° pp 433: chapter x bathing and swimming, pp 339 to 360 with an illustration of figures bathing with 'linen drawers reaching only halfway down the thigh.'

'For what is useful and necessary we must find time; it is our duty' p 121. The author comments on those who do not bathe and 'carry about us all our lives a coat of dirt.' 'Is not this universal want of cleanliness intolerable' as is 'The general custom of leaving the greater part of the body unwashed from the cradle to the grave'? Do not go into the water hot, 'grow cool first' 'All beasts can swim' 'man only or rather the polished european cannot.'

He gives a page in inverted commas as if quoted from Franklin after Campe, the latter says he was taught by Franklin's letters when he was 36 years old. But Campe's is a very free translation, as Franklin does not say 'make the same motions with your hands and feet as you see the frogs' in fact the part quoted is not Franklin's at all. Salzmann says he was taught 'by Christian Augustus Wolf of Halle who travels about as professor of the art,' and he then gives what he learnt from him, 'the learner should try to swim under water and keep himself under as long

move back again (p 104). At p 106 there is a long description of swimming on the side, I only need say that he says the movement of the legs is the same as on the breast. He describes various kinds of fancy swimming and has a chapter on diet etc—temperature of the water—time for bathing etc.

An edition of 1833 is given in Kayser iii 375, which is quoted in Auerbach 1873 p 8.

as possible.' To this the translator adds a note of approval. [In my first edition I credited c. Richardson with being the first to give this advice!] 'With this view I have found it very advantageous, to draw as much air into the lungs as possible immediately before diving, and let it out again slowly under water.'

'In swimming on the belly'...

'While the hands are pushed forwards, the heels are to be drawn up toward the buttocks, either keeping them close together or which is the practice of the best swimmers, crossing the legs at the small [I do not know what this means]; and while the hands are moving outwards and backwards likewise, the soles pushing against the water, till the legs are brought close together in an extended position, which finishes the stroke.'

'My teacher never swims without a linen jacket and long trousers; and he assures me he can swim in his great coat and boots.' He suggests a girdle for teaching.

The illustrations are frequently attributed to William Blake but are not by him, see N & Q 17 apr 1897 p 302 and 4 june 1898 p 454.

JOSEPH STRUTT

the engraver published a laborious book in 1801 popularly known as *The sports and pastimes of England*. A new edition with numerous alterations both in the text and the engravings (though without any notice) was published by William Hone in 1828-30: the last reprint was in 1876.

I do not mention the book here because there is anything on swimming that I need notice, but because the work is so popular that many people knowing nothing of swimming will look for this book and finding I do not mention it, will arrive at the conclusion that my work is not worth much.

Swimming is mentioned in what I may call a poetical manner, in book ii chap ii § xvi. He refers to Pontoppidan's *History of Norway*, and in a footnote says 'We have several treatises on the art of swimming and diving, and in the *Encyclopædia Britannica* [third edition 1797?] are many excellent directions relating to it.'

Instruction de l'art de nager...par C. L. C. (de Lyon). Lyon 1803 8° pp 40. I take this from Courtivron who gives it with faint praise but it appears from his summary to be original.

La gymnastique...par M[onsieur] A. Amar Durivier et L. F. Jauffret, Paris 1803 small 8°.

Courtivron says the seventeen pages on swimming are well thought out and well written; but I found only seven pages and one plate, the figures in which have half their bodies out of the water, contrary to the authors excellent advice that a good swimmer should not show more than his head out of the water; they might have added 'and only half that for most positions.'

The seaman's friend [i.e. lifebelt] by W. H. Mallison [1804] pp 44.

Instead of proposing to teach swimming, Mallison wanted his lifebelt introduced into the Royal navy and he had only heard two objections why it should not be, 'desertion and want of room.' In early times the naval authorities were not desirous that the men should be able to swim for fear of their jumping overboard in cases of emergency instead of remaining in the ship! Another reason was the pressed man might desert!

W. H. Mallison's advice to all who bathe for amusement health or who are desirous of acquiring the art of swimming—price 6d—in which is clearly shown the impossibility of an accident happening when equipped with the invention called the *Seaman's friend* and bather's companion...n° 6 St Michael's-alley Cornhill.

12° [1812?] pp 48. As the title shows this is all about Mallison's cork lifebelt the 'swimming' is thrown in to float it. He reviews other similar

inventions. There are other editions but I must avoid lifebelts, the subject is too prolific.

Gives a number of instances from various authors of the danger of bathing in cold water when in a perspiration and exhausted with fatigue. Quotes Dr Franklin.

'We wash our hands, face throat and mouth every morning...yet leave our

The art of swimming, by Thos Tegg [here is an engraving of two figures swimming in a hurricane, which nearly obscures a light-house and underneath is] 'Now messmate, what do you think of swiming (sic) we shall soon be out of danger?' London published by Thos Tegg n^o 111 Cheapside, price one shilling.

12° pp 40. It has no date, but opposite the title page is an engraving of Blackfriars bridge with a nude figure descending feet first and his arms straight above his head and underneath 'The leap from Blackfriars 1805.'

The pagination is only to p 9, then follow fourteen copper plates of figures swimming (all incorrect) and one not paged of a man floating, he has a head dress but no drawers.

He quotes Buchan and Franklin: Dr [Francis] Fuller's *Medicina gymnastica* [captain J. G.] Stedman [Surinam 1796].

A Journal of natural philosophy (edited) by w. Nicholson 1806.

8° vol xiv pp 324-331 contains Why men cannot swim without previous education as well as brutes: a letter from R.B. who says 'And though in our artificial method of swimming (taken from the frog, and very unlike the methods practised by the Asiatics) a man does act very differently from his manner of walking when on land; yet it will not be pretended that he would sink, if he were to rely on his ordinary walk, as brutes do upon theirs.'

After this letter follows a reply from the editor in which he says he has not 'any writing on the art of swimming except the letter' (liv in quarto *Exper. and Obser.* [this was probably the fifth edition 1774] of Dr Franklin and he quotes

body for months together untouched' (p 34).

In his directions for resuscitation he says 'tobacco smoke is to be thrown gently into the fundament with a proper instrument, - or the bowl of a pipe covered' p 46, and this has 'always been considered an essential part of the resuscitative process.'

Saltzman's (sic) *Gymnastics* 1800 and C. A. Wolf.

'The motion of a frog is that which a man should imitate' p 7. The greater portion of the instructions are plagiarised from the plagiarism of Thevenot 1798.

Tegg was a noted bookseller and publisher of London where he died 1845 aged seventy: see Curwen's *History of booksellers*, a note of mine in *Notes and Queries* 11 Jan 1896 p 25 also p 195, and the D.N.B.

Franklin's egg practice correctly). He makes some good observations about swimming, which I suppose none of the plagiarists made use of, on account of the scarcity of his *Journal*. On p 327 he says 'I am rather surprised at the Doctor's direction about the egg... because it seems as if he thought the submerged experimentalist could see the egg;' and his marginal note is, 'The doctor seems to have supposed that man can see under water. This is contrary to optical science, - and to fact.' Nicholson then relates his own experiences when he was seventeen at the Island of Joanna, of diving for his silver buckle, in five feet of clear water: he dived for it repeatedly but could

never see it under water. He gives other instances in support of the astounding statement 'that vision cannot be performed by the human eye under water,' and he infers that all the stories of wonderful divers must be considered as fabulous.

He then gives instructions which appear to me to be the stroke I have given under the breast stroke (see c p 93). He says p 329 'The body must lie as near the surface, and the head as low as conveniently may be; the knees must be kept wide asunder, in order that the obliquity of action in one leg may counteract that in the other, instead of their joint action producing a libratory motion of the body; and the stroke or impulse must be given with much more velocity than that employed in drawing the legs up again.'

The above is reprinted in the *European Magazine* vol 50, 1806 p 108 but it does not print the replies, for it need hardly be said that such 'scientific' nonsense was refuted in the next volume (xv p 39) by 'A Diver.' In reply Nicholson made some 'scientific experiments' with 'a glass cylindrical vessel two feet high and one foot wide' and proved 'that the human eye cannot discern objects under water.' Thereupon 'A Diver' (p 154) goes to

Proeve eener beredeneerde zwemkunst, of onderrichting hoe men volgens regelen, gemaklyk, behendig en zonder gevaar, kan leren zwemmen; doormengd met de nodige aanwyzingen tot zelfbehoud, by elk voorkomend gevaar. Proefondervindelyk Voorgedragen door c. F. Schmidt.

From the moist meadow to the sandy shore,
led by the breeze, the vivid river runs,
and swells and deepens to the swimmer's eye.

Thomson's Seasons.

Met eene plaat. Te Amsteldam, by G. Roos 1806.

Essay on an intelligent art of swimming or instruction how to learn to swim according to the rules, easily, adroitly and without danger; together with the necessary indications for self preservation in every danger. From

Richmond with a native of Africa and demonstrated by various unscientific experiments that objects could be picked up and distinguished in eight feet of water in the Thames a little above Richmond. James Horsburgh (pp 265-9) says that near the equator 'the bottom is often visible in from ten to fifteen or twenty fathoms water.' He gives an instance of an athlete not being able to float even in sea water.

Nicholson probably had numerous other refutations for he insisted no longer.

At Fiume from the deck of a *Cunarder*, I (R.T.) have seen the bottom clearly and fish swimming about thirty feet down.

On p 330 he gives an exact account of a man who was not a swimmer who fell overboard from the ship *Worcester* in the Ganges in 1770. His life was saved by the commander calling out to him through a speaking trumpet each time he reappeared 'keep your hands down in the water.'

For Nicholson 1753-1815 see D.N.B. He was such a well known man that his name was used for *The British Encyclopædia* by Wm Nicholson 1809, 8°, in vol vi is an article quoting Franklin as to specific gravity and referring to the articles above quoted.

practical experience, given in a lecture by c. F. Schmidt.

8° pp viii, 94. The plate seems to show how not to learn to swim, for the figure in it is half out of the water.

This is one of several works that

I inspected at the Imperial Library, Paris. The trouble I had to see them! I generally gave the title of one work which they had not, but they very considerably brought me one they had. I have no pleasant recollection of this library. The hard seats and wooden tables, both too high. The want of a catalogue, no books to refer to, and only two books allowed at a time! Two! I wanted twenty or thirty. What do the authorities of the Imperial Library imagine one can do with two books? But the greatest annoyance was the want of a catalogue. How could I expect an attendant to go through 500

titles or so in search of a book because I happened not to have given him exactly the right name? There were so many obstacles in my way that I fear I did not see all the books I might have. I was convinced of one thing, that we can teach them an immense deal in France upon the conduct of a library (1868).

In 1893 when I next visited Paris the library had become the Bibliothèque Nationale, I was a little more fortunate, but still have to make much the same complaints, the facilities granted at our National Library spoil us for all others: see N & Q 8 sep 1900 p 191.

Picture of Margate...instructions to sea bathers by doctor Buchan and directions for learning to swim by doctor Franklin...London Sherwood 1809, 12°.

The preface refers to 'former editions.' Franklin's swim from Chelsea quoted, also the letter with egg practice correctly that is without the 'objectionable interpolation' which was only introduced after this date: pp 56-64.

On p 54 it says the 'late Dr Buchan in his Practical observations concerning sea-bathing' [1804]. Here the father William who died 1805, and the son

A. P. Buchan who died 1824, are confused. As they say the late, but really quoted the living - A. P. Buchan being the author of Practical observations: W. Buchan wrote Cautions 1786.

In those days the prices were higher than now 'Gentleman taking a machine, guide included 1s 6d: gentleman bathing himself 1s.'

The following pamphlets numbered 1 to 10 have given me much trouble, chiefly on account of the difficulty of seeing them. They are remarkable for the introduction in Franklin's advice of a passage which I have called the objectional interpolation and explained under Franklin.

1. The art of swimming containing instructions relative to [here are 13 lines of the contents] with cautions to learners and advice for bathing. London printed and published by W. Mason 21 Clerkenwell green, price six pence.

12° about [1810] pp 24 with a plate of four figures, badly done, after Thevenot. The text is taken from the plagiarism of Thevenot of 1798 without acknowledgment. On page 4 of the copies at the Bodleian and Birmingham libraries is a woodcut of a man and dog in a boat in the style of Bewick,

not in subsequent editions. It quotes Franklin's egg practice but without his name and with the objectionable interpolation. The preface begins 'This art may not only be': p 5 'The art of s. While we reflect on the frequent accidents.'

2. New edition...to which are added Dr Franklin's advice...Dr

Buchan's remarks on river and sea-bathing; an account of Mr Mallison's invention called the Seaman's friend or bather's companion and the rules and directions of the R.H.S. for restoring to life persons apparently drowned...

16° pp 36, with engraved frontispiece of four boys bathing, with a wagon in the distance, dated Jan 1st 1815, also has the plate with four figures. The quotation from William Buchan is from *Cautions* 1786 p 8. On p 25 is a chapter 'Fear in s. overcome' wherein Franklin's egg practice is quoted without his name but with the objectionable interpolation. His advice is again quoted on p 29 correctly and with his name. Copy in the Birmingham Free Library.

3. The art of swimming made safe easy pleasant and healthful by attention to the instructions herein set forth; among which are [here are 38 lines of the contents] to which is added cautions to learners [there are none] and advice for bathing by the late celebrated Dr Benjamin Franklin, London printed and sold by J. Bailey 116 Chancery lane and may be had of most booksellers, price six pence.

12° [1819] pp 24, with a colored frontispiece headed The new art of swimming. This is a reprint from Mason: on p 6 it advises the leg stroke 'in imitation of the frog' but these words are interpolated, they are not in Thevenot. In the B.M. and two copies in the Birmingham Free Library both different. The Manchester Free Library has a copy without name but 'printed

5. The art of s. containing easy and simple directions [here are 47 lines of contents] London R. Walwyn and co 68 Wood street Cheapside, price sixpence.

12° [1831] pp 28 with an engraved plate of five figures copied from Thevenot except the middle one repre-

6. The angler's companion; or perfect instructor...to which is added the art of s...London printed for Hodgson 43 King street Snow hill, price sixpence.

12° [1821] pp 28 commences with p 8 on second page of text. I have not seen this, but am indebted to the librarian of the Manchester Free Library for description. Westwood and Satchell pp xiv, 7 & 17 say it is the same as The Angler and Swimmer which is the title on the cover. The art of s. on pp 22-26 begins It is next to im-

Mason issued a 'Fourth edition considerably enlarged' but it is merely a reprint of the 2nd except that the chapter 'Fear in s. overcome' is omitted. Copy in the B.M. Advertised at the end is a publication sold by Mason The angler's assistant, to which Woodward and Satchell assign the date [1813]. 'Fifth edition' precisely the same except that it has an engraved plate of 12 figures after Thevenot, badly done.

for the booksellers.'

4. Fairburn's edition, Art of swimming...[cut of a figure swimming holding his left foot with his right hand]... London J. Fairburn 110 Minorities.

8° [1824] 16 pages unpagged. A reprint of Bailey's. Another reprint 12° [1830?] pp 24 with a colored folding plate four of the figures after Thevenot.

senting a figure springing, with a bridge in the distance. It is a copy of Bailey.

possible to enumerate. Advice to bathers pp 27-28 begins To improve in this healthful and necessary exercise.

Another edition published by Orlando Hodgson 21 Maiden lane Wood street [1828] 12° pp 24, and a plate.

Enumerated by Mr P. L. Ford in his *Franklin Bibliography* 1889: see also Westwood and Satchell p xiv.

7. The new and complete art of s. with full necessary directions... according to the latest improvements showing how to avoid accidents in the easiest manner and finally to enjoy the refreshing influence of the pearly stream: second edition, London printed by W. Newman...for J. Quick 10 Exeter court Strand and sold by [here ten names] price 6d: entered at the Stamp Office [pamphlets were then taxed].

12° [1815?] pp 26: in B.M. (7912 df 3). It has an illustration with four

figures swimming, after Thevenot all bad, signed Berryman. Nobody would imagine from this title that the 'latest improvements' date back over two hundred years, to Everard Digby. Except the preface it is copied from a reprint of Thevenot mixed up with part of Franklin's advice without acknowledgment; and with the objectionable interpolation. On p 15 the top line 'turn yourself on your back' is a misprint.

8. The art of angling with the art of swimming: sold [and written?] by G. Smeeton. Lond [1820] 24°.

These two are well combined, though the angler is generally too much engaged in getting fish out of the water to go into it himself.

I have never seen this: it is no doubt valueless. A copy sold at W. S. Higgs's

sale (Sotheby & Son) in 1830 for 3s 6d, n° 9. This was for the sake of the part on Angling.

Westwood and Satchell p 17 give the date 'about 1822.'

9. The art of swimming. London published by Hodgson & co 10 Newgate str, six pence.

16° [1825] pp 64. Title from the cover which is illustrated front and back. It reprints Thevenot without acknowledgment. Quotes Franklin's egg practice correctly, and Buchan, and the New York Herald of 19 June 1824; rules of the R.H.S. and Macpherson's Dissertation 1783. A copy in the Edinburgh Public Library I have not seen is published by Hodgson & co 43 King st and 43 Holywell st.

Hodgson & co were at 10 Newgate street from 1822 to 1825 when W. Cole succeeded, while at this address they published some of the best prints for the Juvenile drama or Toy Theatre so popular during the first half of the 19th century. A firm of the same name published prints at 43 King street in 1821 but I do not know when they had 43 King street and 43 Holywell street at one time.

10. The whole art of swimming. T. Hughes 35 Ludgate street.

12° [1820] pp 40. On the title, which with another page is engraved, are two figures, the other page has four figures all after Thevenot, but apparently all six are plagiarised from Mason's fifth edition. The text is the same as Walwyn's (with the objectionable interpolation in Franklin's advice)

to p 30, then it gives Dr Buchan's remarks &c and some 'observations' which appear to be taken from an encyclopedia. Then the rules of the R.H.S.

Hughes is in the P.O.D. for many years but W. Lewis the printer is only at 21 Finch lane Cornhill from 1819 to 1824.

For a plagiarism see 1819.

Cursory remarks...on baths...by M. L. Este...London, James Ridgway 1811, 8° pp 60.

This appears to have been republished in 1812 but I have not seen this edition, the title is given in Watt and The Gentleman's magazine, but I have seen

Remarks on baths, water, swimming...by M. L. Este esq M.D. late

of the 1st Life guards, formerly lecturer...at the Royal Institution... London reprinted from the edition of 1812 by Mitchell & son 1845.

He has only a few remarks on swimming partly Franklin's from some edition I have not seen - no instruction. He says he had read Thevenot.

'No very great number of our naval men bathe or swim.' He laments the want of a warm swimming bath in London.

It appears to me extraordinary that a man should allow a reprint after 33

The book of games or a history of juvenile sports...London Richard Phillips 1812, 12°.

A swimming lesson in conversations at a bathing place pp 61-70 with a page illustration of boys bathing: refers to Franklin.

Théorie du nager de l'homme, présentée et publiquement soutenue à la Faculté de médecine de Montpellier, le 1^{er} août 1815 par P. P. Fournier d'Adissan, département de l'Hérault, pour obtenir le grade de docteur en médecine. A Montpellier chez Jean Martel aîné 1815.

4° pp 23. He quotes Borelli. He gives the (incorrect) theory that man sinks if he does not support himself by swimming. He repudiates the theory that man swims naturally. Describes swimming on the belly, thus (p 8) as to the legs 'les étend à la surface, fléchit les articulations des extrémités inférieures, contracte fortement les muscles extenseurs de ces mêmes articulations, et redresse la colonne vertébrale.' This is the human stroke only (see breast

years almost without alteration. In a note at the end he says that swimming baths had been erected in provincial towns and were about to be tried in London.

Michael Lambton Este M. R. C. S. 1803, fellow 1844 was private secretary to lord Nelson - died 207 Marylebone road 26 jan 1864 aged 85.

stroke c p 93). He says man learnt from animals. But he admits man has superior advantages. He credits the stories of travelers who say that in Asia divers stop half an hour under water.

The 'théorie' consists in describing how the muscles act when swimming, and the above is a sample of the inflated style of the pamphlet.

On the last page lorsque is misprinted lorque.

Scientific swimming; being a series of practical instructions on an original and progressive plan, by which the art of swimming may be readily attained with every advantage of power in the water; accompanied with twelve copper-plate engravings, comprising twenty-six appropriate figures correctly exhibiting and elucidating the action and attitude in every branch of that invaluable art. 'The exercise of swimming, is one of the most healthy and agreeable in the world' Franklin: by J. Frost many years teacher of the art at Nottingham. London printed for the author by Darton Harvey and Darton, Gracechurch street 1816, price eight shillings in boards.

8° pp xvi 49.

Another edition

to which is added Dr Franklin's treatise...New York published by P.W. Gallaudet 1818, 8° pp xiv 72.

I take this last title from Ford's Franklin bibliography 1889.

This is the production of a thoroughly practical man; and if any one were ever able to learn from reading, this

book would teach him. It is the second original English treatise, Digby being the first. The style is stiff and would prove dry and uninteresting to modern readers. [I made this observation in 1868 before I found that Walker thought the same, for in his *British Manly Exercises*, he has modernised Frost and copied many of his figures but without acknowledgment.]

The plates and positions of the figures are original and practical, and have formed a basis for many later treatises. At the end of the book is an advertisement from which we learn that the author combined the business of Chimney Surveyor with that of Swimming Master. Probably therefore this book was patronised and seen through the press by some more influential person.

Dr Franklin also wrote on the subject of smoky chimneys and his article is placed just before his letter on swimming in vol vi of Sparks.

Frost is the only work on swimming that I find in the American catalogues. Is it that Franklin's advice is considered so excellent that nothing further is required, or is it for the same reason given me by the librarian of Boulogne-sur-mer in 1867, who upon my expressing surprise that the library had not a single work on swimming, with a shrug of the shoulders good humoredly observed *Ah, c'est comme ça monsieur — on apprend naturellement ici !*

He mentions no previous writer, but he had evidently read Thevenot, and though Franklin's name appears on the title, it does not in the book.

Frost says he was induced 'to undertake the unprecedented task of teaching the art of natation' because so few could swim (p x). He adopted the plan of teaching the stroke on land by which 'system persons are instructed in the necessary evolutions action attitude &c in their own element, and do not go

into the water until they are prepared for it' (p xi).

He is the first English writer to observe that the common saying 'If you would be a swimmer, you must imitate the action of the frog is founded on a gross mistake' (pp 10, 37).

'The first part of the action of the legs, is to draw them in as high as pos-



spinning see p 228

sible; when a turn of the ankle must be made so as to cause the soles of the feet to incline outward' (p 11): finish the stroke 'until the feet come nearly [read absolutely] together.'

Some of his figures are represented in costume, a little more than A.S.A. as

they have short sleeves. This is a most extraordinary thing, as no drawers even were worn in his day, nor for fifty years after, and then only in our large towns.

He is the first to insist on floating being 'of very great importance.' 'All are not equally buoyant; corpulent persons being more buoyant than slender ones' (p 24). I am not prepared to admit this, it is a subject that requires investigation.

Under 'sportive or playful swimming,' Frost describes what he calls spinning with the figure reproduced (s s) on p 227. This is a very ineffective way.

'the action in side swimming is the same as in front swimming with the exception of some difference in the movement of the arms' (p 46).

'It may not, perhaps, have occurred

1816 *The Encyclopædia Perthensis*, 2nd edition vol 22 enlarges its article from Ephraim Chambers, and quotes Dr Franklin correctly: refers to the *Encyclopédie Méthodique*.

Unterricht in der schwimmkunst nebst einem heft abbildungen ... von Carl Heinitz... Wien, Anton Strauss 1816.

Instruction in the art of swimming with illustrations, after the method of teaching in the I.R. school at Wien.

I have not seen this, it is in Brendicke p 36 without date. Not in Kayser, but it is in Vollständige s.

Turnbuch... von J. C. F. Guts Muths. Frankfurt 1817. Swimming on pp 242-271.

Ueber das schwimmen: zweite vermehrte und verbesserte auflage. Berlin, bei Ferdinand Dümmler 1827.

On swimming: second edition enlarged and corrected.

8° pp 51 and a slip of errata; misprint p 36 line 16 spingen for springen.

It is anonymous, but is by general Ernst von Pfuel (b 1779 d 1866): first edition was in 1817, Kayser in 338, also in Rumpf n° 3468, Dr Brendicke and Reichel 1897. In answer to my request to send me Pfuel's pamphlet Mr Karl Schnabel of Leipzig, to whom I am indebted for obtaining a number of German books, sent me the above: the first edition he was unable to obtain.

to the worthy Society for the Recovery of suspended Animation, that a system for communicating the art of swimming might be formed' (p 48).

Frost has no instructions whatever for 'springing.'

Why this book was not reprinted by the catchpenny pirates, instead of Thevenot I am unable to say, unless it was a question of copyright, which did not expire until 1844. Like that of the vicomte de Courtivron it stands out from all others of the time.

It seems clear from all that Frost says that swimming in his day was in a most miserably neglected condition.

Particulars as to Frost who resided at Middle Pavement Nottingham, were enquired for in Notes and Queries 12 aug 1871 p 127 and The Field 10 aug 1895 but without result.

Pfuel begins by saying that 'swimming had been much neglected, probably because the first start is difficult. Many people believe swimming is natural to man, because it is to animals, others say that man being specifically lighter than water all he need do is to keep quiet, but this is not sufficient. If nature had placed man's mouth on the top of his head he would be safe, as it is if he wishes to be secure from drowning he must learn to swim. There are two kinds, imitation of quadrupeds and the frog movement. All Slavs (i.e. Russians, Poles,

Bohemians etc) swim in dog fashion, the frog movement is best for man' p 11 [it is not so now]. Then he describes the method of teaching with the belt, he makes no pretense to its invention. The rest of the treatise is practically translated in Clais (p 159, page 15 of Pfuel).

It appears to me that this pamphlet is celebrated, from constant quotation, far beyond its deserts. The system of teaching with the belt is always called Pfuel's, because he introduced this manner of teaching into the Prussian

army. Guts Muths refers to the belt in 1798.

Sinclair & Henry (1893 p 19) say 'Pfuel's system of teaching by means of a drill' if there was a drill it was in the water. Though Clais in his translation gives it as done on land with a figure, see p 160.

Bell's Life 29 sep 1844 p 4 c 5 says Kenworthy was to exhibit 'the system of military swimming or water drill, as introduced into the Prussian army by Genl Pfeil.'

L'arte del nuoto...da Adolfo Corti...Venezia, Fracasso 1819.

The art of swimming, theoretical-practical: demonstrated according to the principles of physics, with [45] appropriate figures.

8° pp 171. Unconsciously this book is derived from the English of Digby. The compiler has not taken it direct from Thevenot's translation, but from the Encyclopédie Méthodique, and he makes the mistake of thinking that a part he quotes (which is really from de

la Chapelle) was Thevenot's. He could not therefore have taken his figures direct from Thevenot. Nearly the whole of Corti's copper plate engravings, which are signed 'Torcellan inc' are very inferior: they are copied without acknowledgment by Dr Orsolato whose artist has not improved them.

Corti puts some of his figures in drawers, and one of his engravings is of a pair with braces to keep them up.

1819 Rees's Encyclopædia (vol 34) is an enlarged copy of Ephraim Chambers's without acknowledgment,

as the learned editor Dr Abraham Rees does not mention Chambers either in his title or preface, but he probably wrote or translated the article in Chambers.

A Friend in need or the complete art of swimming also resuscitation...recommended by the Humane society of London, to which is added a preventive against the cramp (by John Cook M.D.)...a statement, correctly made, of the many lives lost in the river Eden and other rivers etc in Cumberland from 1798 to the present time... Carlisle printed for the editor Hutton Watson by F. and J. Jollie: price one shilling.

12° pp 37, frontispiece and a portrait of H. Watson 'engraved for the art of s. sept 1st 1819.'

This is one of the books I went to the Birmingham Free Library to see on 7 march 1896. The portion on swimming turned out as I had suspected

- there is not much in this as I suspect everything on swimming - to be a plagiarism of one of the reprints of Thevenot, most likely Bailey's edition: it quotes Franklin's advice, with the objectionable interpolation.

Manuel du nageur, ou principes nouveaux pour se perfectionner dans la natation, suivi de l'art de plonger avec grace, orné de gravures...par M^r P. M ***. Paris, Locard quai des Augustins 1819.

12° pp 127. The author says Thevenot's treatise had become very rare or was only to be found buried in the *Encyclopédie*, and he has kept a few of his 'attitudes' still in vogue. Like many others it indulges in fatal anecdotes.

Courtivron's (p 524) observation is that Thevenot is 'happier this time in having an editor sufficiently judicious not to bury his *Art de nager* under a mass of inutilities' this refers to the so called edition of Thevenot of 1782. He says M*** has enriched his edition with the 'Considerations' etc borrowed from Dudon and finishes with resuscitation methods from Portal.

Portal's methods were old in 1819. The 'Manuel' is taken from the *Ency Mèt* and not direct from Thevenot, but the editor has added much that is his own. He has copied Roger's treatise too, apparently without knowing it. The figures consist of eight, on one engraved plate, showing springing positions only; they are curious and accurate: 'tête bêche' is illustrated in The *Daily Graphic* 16 sep '97 and Pearson's *Mag* July 1900 called the 'double dive.' One man holds another with feet in the air, and in this position he springs into the water.

The Universal spelling book.

This has a plate of three boys in the water of about the year 1770 but the type of the book is about 1820.

I have only seen two pages (45 & 46)

Die Kunst in kurzer zeit ein geschickter schwimmer zu werden ; nebst klugheitsangabe für badende ; aus d. Engl. übersetzt u. mit zusätzen versehen : mit 1 kpft. 1822.

The art of becoming an expert swimmer in a short time, with hints for bathers: translated from the English with additions and with one copper plate.

of the boys that went in the water instead of being at school or at home (see ante p 55).

In Kayser iii, 446. I have at different times given some half dozen German booksellers an order for this, but they have not been able to get it.

The vicomte de Courtivron on swimming in peace and war.

De la natation et de son application à l'art de la guerre, ornée de 12 lithographies, par m[onsieur] le vicomte L. de Courtivron chef de bataillon, capitaine au 6° régiment d'infanterie de la garde royale [motto]. A Paris Boucher, mai 1823.

12° pp xxxij and 146. The second edition is dated mai 1824 and is the first with a new title page and a preface of 60 pages and a lithograph signed 'Boucher del': this lithograph is redone and enlarged and the name left

out in the 3rd edit. In the first edition plates 4 and 7 have the name of the artist 'L. Gudin del' and lithographer 'C. Motte.' In the second edition Motte's name has been erased from all the plates except 4 and 7.

Traité complet de natation : essai sur son application a l'art de la guerre : par m le vicomte de Courtivron, officier supérieur, membre de l'Athénée des arts : troisième édition, augmentée d'un précis historique de la natation chez les peuples anciens, d'un recueil des

faits pour servir à l'histoire de cet art chez les modernes, et d'une revue analytique des divers ouvrages publiés sur ce sujet : ornée de lithographies par MM Gudin. Paris chez A. Pihan de la Forest, rue des Noyers n° 37, 1836.

8° pp xxxvi and (signature 1) 5 to 20 then 1 to 588 including at the end a table of contents and at the beginning a full index, in which oddly enough, none of the styles of swimming, nor the criticism (p 527) of his own book are given. It sells at about the published price 10 francs.

Misprints p 462 line 4 mounement for mouvement : p 478 is printed 378.

Notwithstanding the length of this title it does not give a sufficient idea of the book, a beautiful copy of which I inspected at Dijon in 1894, with lithographic portrait of the author portrait inserted of, and presented by, the author. In this copy there are 21 full page colored plates, 12 of which are numbered and enlarged from those of the 1st edition and six of these which I reproduce represent figures swimming. I saw another copy at the Sorbonne Library, Paris, in the original paper covers. That Courtivron was an enthusiast the publication of this book with so much care sufficiently testifies. He was a first rate swimmer, for his day, able to stop six hours in the water (see p 406)

swim amid ice (p 533), and I have little doubt, had all the qualities he describes as necessary for a perfect swimmer (p 399) as given in the following free translation. 'When you are master of the eighteen ways of swimming I have just described, you will still not have all that is required for a perfect swimmer.

To be entitled to be so described, which strictly should not be applied to any art or science or anything human, you must be able to swim in all situations, rest in one way or another, vary your attitudes and fear neither cramp waves weeds nor whirlpools. The perfect swimmer must have a good constitution, be accustomed to the water, so as not to fear it however cold, and be ready to undertake the longest journeys and cross the most rapid rivers and streams. In the front rank of qualities necessary for a perfect swimmer, we must place sobriety, without which there is no security among the waves, even for the most vigorous and skilful : presence of mind which enables him to see dangers without concern, and to calculate the means of avoiding them, in fact that coolness and courage which is necessary more than anywhere else, to surmount every kind of peril.'

This book is full of good advice. It is curious that the part about swimming has not been reprinted : the copyright expired in 1856. I only know of one garbled reprint i.e. Delarue's [1881]. He says that before publishing his own he read the books which had been previously written on the subject. He was only able to find the following, which he reviews, Digby : Winmann as to whom he quotes de la Chapelle : Thevenot the fourth edition : Bachstrom :

his list of books Roger 1787 : C. L. C. de Lyon : Durivier et Jauffret : P. M*** 1819 : Manuel, Rouen 1821 : his own first and second editions with criticisms: Traité de natation, Lille : Schwimmer by Feltzner [read Tetzner] : Le spectateur militaire 1826 : d'Esmond : Bernardi : and the Manuel d'éducation, by Amoros, most of whose observations on swimming he quotes. He refers frequently to the Considérations physiologiques et médicales sur la natation by le docteur Dudon, Paris 1819, and he mentions other treatises which refer chiefly to military tactics.

In the first chapter, after deciding that man does not swim naturally and that therefore swimming is an art, he devotes some 270 pages to pearl divers,

swimming among the ancients, and the relation of numbers of interesting instances where swimming has been of the greatest utility and the means of saving life, from the earliest times to 1836. The prosperous condition of swimming among the Germans, which is a quotation from an article in *Le spectateur militaire* detailing the Pfiel system and quoting the *Manuel des officiers* par Schels, but no instructions are quoted. He then notices the swimming baths of Paris among which was one for ladies founded about 1820, some forty years before London. The 2nd chapter treats of baths in running water &c, and refers to Buchan (p 320 and 322): the 3rd the good effects of swimming and its utility, precautions before entering: the 4th is instruction and how to succour those apparently drowned: the 5th its military advantages: the 6th a review of the books published (noted above); and here he says he pays a just tribute to those who by their writings or works have endeavored to combat our indifference to swimming and have tried to inspire us with a taste for that useful art.

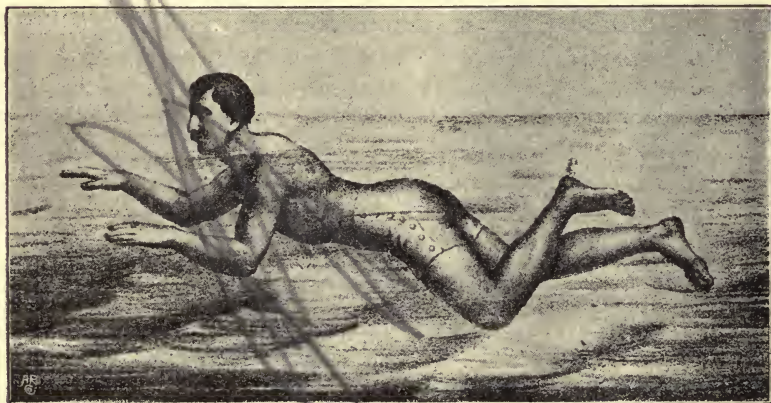
praise of
authors on
swimming

He says do not bathe if in a perspiration and refers to the case of Alexander: that you can take a swim several times a day for half an hour at a time: that it is best not to eat for half an hour after leaving the water, for which he quotes Hippocrates!

old
fashioned
advice

I reproduce some of his figures, all slightly reduced in size.

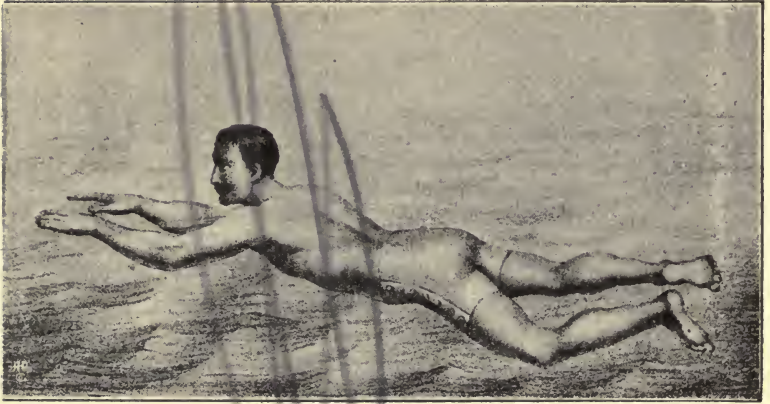
This figure 1 p 360 which he calls 'swimming like a dog,' is what I have described under the 'breast stroke,' as the human stroke (§ a) though both arms and legs are incorrect and it is not the correct dog stroke as swum by a human being. Neither dog nor man puts the fore paws out together.



I, nager en chien

His description of the breast stroke, which he calls swimming like a frog (p 362) is taken almost word for word from Roger (1783), a most surprising fact after his severe criticism of Roger which I have quoted (compare page 362 of Courtivron and p 443 of the *Encyclopédie Méthodique*). It is therefore almost unnecessary to say that the description is most meagre, and that he only gives the human kick with the legs (see breast stroke § c) for although (p 365) he says that the frog does not describe a circle with his paws yet he says he has served us as a model. The 'circle' here only refers to the arms.

breast
stroke
ante p 93

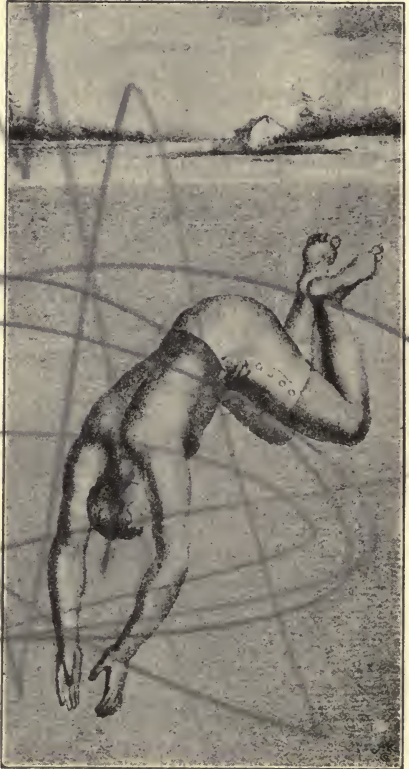


2, nager en grenouille

One can well imagine the above to be a slip but Courtivron plagiarises other parts as well and on p 366 he quotes Roger with approval but suppresses his name, simply saying as has been 'judiciously remarked.' Nevertheless I quite exonerate him of any intention of plagiarising. I believe he was a brave and honorable Frenchman. He most probably copied out the portions he quotes some time before using them, and forgot that he had not written them himself. He is not the only writer who has done this, lord Brougham did the same thing: see my Bibliographical list appended to the xi vol of his Works 1873.

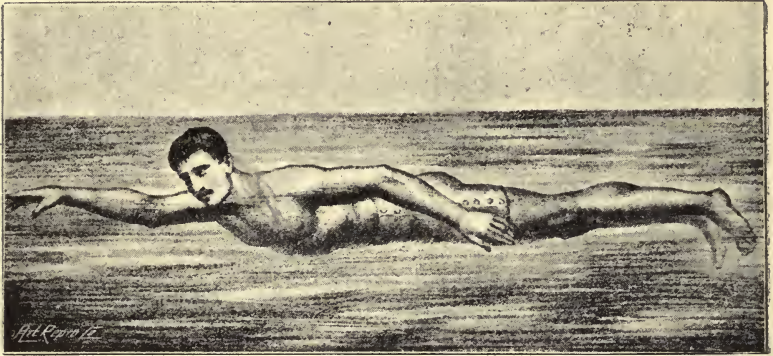
Courtivron's treatise is mostly original; is much more readable than Roger and an advance on anything that had been previously done. His figures are not accurate. Plate 3 p 366. 'swimming under water or diving' is incorrect and the hands are in a most useless position with the thumbs straggling, nevertheless this figure has been frequently copied.

His figure 4 p 371 of the hand-



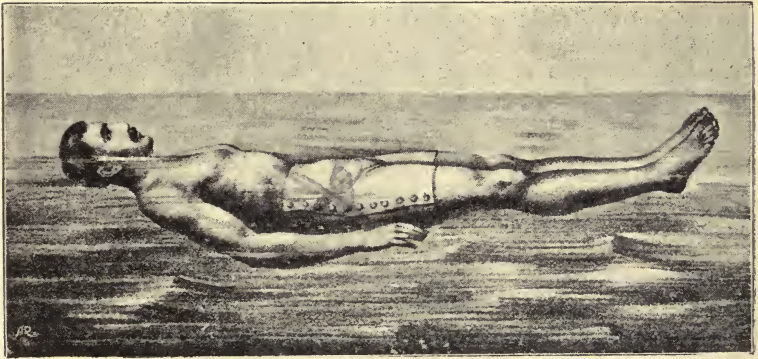
3, nager sous l'eau ou plonger

over-hand stroke, has been also frequently copied. It is fairly correct, the thumb of the right hand should be close to the finger.



4, la coupe

His figure 5 p 374 is good for sculling, but not for floating. His figures 2, 4 and 5 are plagiarised by Clais 1825, by the *Encyclo. des connaissances utiles* [1850]; and



5, faire la planche et nager sur le dos

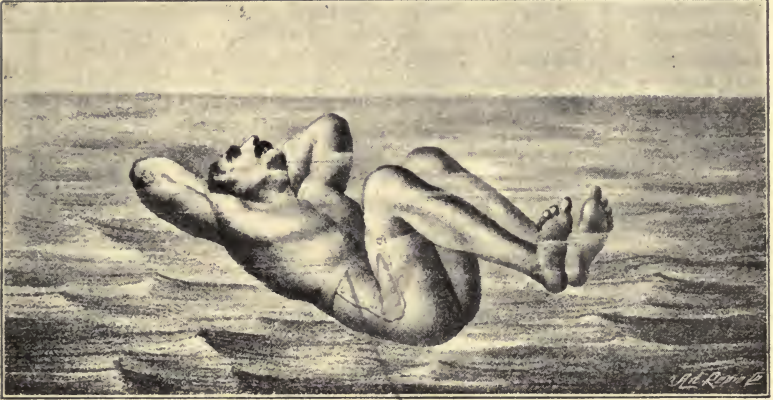
by Cassell's *Popular educator* 1853: fig 5 is also copied into the *Traité* [1881 but reversed, and instead of 'et' they have put 'ou.'

Courtivron (p 378) quotes a passage from [Samuel] Turner's *Ambassade au Thibet*, Paris 1800 vol 2 p 133 (not 153 as he gives it) making it appear that

Turner saw Thibetans swimming upright and not sunk lower than the waist (see original English edition of *An account of an embassy to the court of the Teshoo Lama in Tibet*, 1800 p 342) but on referring to the book itself nothing of the kind appears. Turner says he was 'informed' - he did not see it!

On page 386 he describes how to float (he calls it swim) with head, elbows,

knees and toes out of the water, which he says is very difficult. As done in the floating plate (6) he gives (which I reproduce) with the knees drawn up to the body, and arms over the head it is perfectly easy. For Courtivron to say it is difficult, shows that he could not float. This figure is quoted in Delarue's Roger [1881] p 75 with the same kind of anonymous acknowledgment



6, nager la tête, les coudes, les genoux et la pointe des pieds hors de l'eau

that Courtivron quotes Roger! that is Delarue says the figure is given in 'a much esteemed work' i.e. Courtivron.

Courtivron (p 404) gives an instance of an officer who was 'd'une complexion faible et d'un tempérament sec, malgré ces deux désavantages qui le rendent



Franceschy saves Bonaparte's dispatches

submersible au moment où il reste sans mouvement sur l'eau,' but he only sank in fresh water, as in the sea he kept on his back resting for a quarter of an hour (p 406).

Of the plates, that entitled 'siège de Gênes' represents Franceschy about to jump out of the boat with his sword in his mouth, but the text says nothing of the kind: he was already in the water, when he returned for his sword, to suppose that he would get into the boat again, or that he would spring in with his sword in his mouth is on a par with the other artistic absurdities we find everywhere. Both boat and men are unreal: imagined in a Parisian studio.

Courtivron says (p 19 of the preface) that when about to publish his book he had recourse to a talented young artist Louis Gudin, who went to the bath with him and drew the positions while the vicomte was in the water, but when he had only done three plates (4, 5, and 7) he was drowned in the Seine by the upsetting of the boat in which he was sailing. The frontispiece is a spirited drawing, much spoilt like all the rest by the conventionality of the lithographer, signed Gudin but it is probably by his afterwards celebrated brother Theodore (see Larousse Grand dictionnaire) who escaped drowning by being able to support himself till assistance arrived.

Courtivron commences p 360 with five styles of swimming which he says are indispensable: like a dog: like a frog: under water: the hand-over-hand stroke (called 'la coupe' p 371): floating ('faire la planche') for which he gives instructions at p 382, and swimming on the back.

As his title imports his book treats at length on swimming from a military point of view and he gives the titles of works on that subject.

Ludovic Antoine François Marie le Compasseur vicomte de Courtivron was born 5 aug 1786. His career to 1816 is given in the *Nobiliare de France* by Saint-Allais vol x 1817 p 47. His own book gives some further facts, see the title and pp 401, 404. See also Notes and Queries 13 feb 1897 p 128.

J. D. Holzmann. *Der wasserfreund*. Wien 1824. The waterfriend. In *Brendicke, and Kayser* iii p 181.

J. Jérôme. *Anleitung zur schwimmkunst*. Mainz 1824, 5 tafeln. Instruction in the art of s. Title from *Brendicke* p 35. Not in *Kayser*.

Gymnastique élémentaire...Clais, Paris 1819 8° swimming pp 140-4 He refers to 'l'excellent ouvrage de M Poissonnier' [1813] and to the *Manuel du nageur* [1819].

Above is I imagine the first edition.

Anfangsgründe der gymnastik oder turnkunst von P. H. Clais ...Bern bei T. T. Burgdorfer, kunst und buchhändler, 1820. One engraving pp ii-vi-iv-170 and 8 plates.

This is probably reckoned the second edition. I have not seen it: swimming on pp 121 to 124.

In 1823 an English translation was published without the pages on swimming; this I presume is considered the third edition. The next is called the fourth: it contains a treatise on swimming not in either of the above.

An elementary course of Gymnastic exercises...and a new and complete treatise on the Art of Swimming by captain P. H. Clais superintendent of the gymnastics in the...colleges Sandhurst... Woolwich...Chelsea...Greenwich and...Charter House, with seventy

one engravings, fourth edition. London, Sherwood Gilbert & Piper 1825.

8° pp xviii and 1 and 184 price 10s 6d: swimming on pp 145 to 180 and three of the 9 folding plates, nearly the whole of the article on swimming from p 159 is copied from [Pfuel's] *Ueber das schwimmen* 1817, without acknowledgment. Brendicke (p 34) also mentions this plagiarism. Clias in turn is plagiarised in Walker's *Manly Exercises* 1834, and in Dipple's *Hand-book* [1850] and Every boy's book by G. Forrest 1855, and in A. van Buren 1877, all without acknowledgment.

London booksellers have of late put this book in their catalogues under the heading swimming! What greater testimony to the popularity of the art could there be? It is priced at about 4s 6d.

Clias has some original and good observations.

'In the arts of fencing, dancing, music, horsemanship etc a tolerable progress produces no unhappy consequences, it is even productive of pleasure: it is not thus in regard to swimming; we can have but little pleasure, and no safety in the water as indifferent swimmers. Experience proves to us that more fatal accidents happen to those who swim imperfectly, than those who cannot swim at all, the latter having no temptation to expose themselves to danger' (p 147).

He devotes many pages to showing the importance of swimming.

The system of learning on land Clias says (p 155) he 'put in practice in 1809 for the first time, with the two grandsons of marshal Blucher and in 1811 in our own country, Switzerland [it] has been introduced some years by colonel Pfull (sic) in the Prussian army with great success.'

This paragraph might well be read as if Clias claimed to be the inventor, but he was not.

'We also recommend friction before

swimming' (p 156), this may do for some people but does not suit others.

His instructions (p 168) for 'swimming on the side' appear to be original: they are not in *Ueber das schwimmen*. They are quoted by Sinclair & Henry 1893 p 78 but with an incorrect inference that Clias describes the sidestroke. Clias's translator is so particularly modest that he calls lying on the belly lying on the 'waist' (pp 166-7, 171, 173) which is so copied into Every boy's book. In this edition he refers to no other author on swimming, but has copied figures 6, 10, 11 and 13 plate 8 from Courtivron 1823, figures 6, 4, 3, 5; and 2, 4 and 5 pl 8, and 8 and 9 pl 9 are in *Vollständige schwimmschule*. Other figures are evidently from a German book I have not seen.

Clias refers to several of his figures incorrectly.

Reviewed in Blackwood's *Edinburgh magazine* for august 1826 vol 20 by the editor [John Wilson] who says 'Perhaps the best part of the captain's work is the chapter on swimming' (p 146). 'Christopher North' then says 'In all accidents with boats, the good swimmers it is said, are uniformly drowned. That in the first place, is a lie; but when it does so happen, pray who drown them but the knaves who cannot swim a stroke.' In those days the writers in *Old Ebony* spoke their minds without reserve. Then without knowing it he finishes his article like Percy does 'We must not hope that you may never be drowned, in case you should come to a worse death.'

Peter Henry, or as he is called in the catalogue of our National Library, Peter Heinrich Clias, died in 1854 leaving a considerable sum to his native city of Bern upon condition that his skeleton should be exhibited, *Gent Mag* 1855 p 327 and *Boase Modern English Biography*. I wrote to the Director of

the Natural History Museum, Bern, who informed me (7 feb 1901) that such a bequest as Clias's was against the law, and that it may never have been carried out. At all events there was no such skeleton exhibited anywhere in Bern.

Die Leibesübungen hauptsächlich nach Clias von Dr Hans Heinrich Vögeli professor der geschichte an der Kantonsschule in Zürich. Zürich, verlag von Meyer und Zeller 1843.

8° pp xxxii-232, 16 plates. A German translation of Clias: swimming on pp 175-187.

Tetzner (Dr Thdr Chr) Schwimmer-katechismus für diejenigen, welche das schwimmen lehren oder lernen wollen. Leipzig 1826. The author's name as Feltzner from the Spectateur militaire 1827: iii 665.

swimmer's catechism for those who wish to learn. 8° pp 112. I have not seen this. In Kayser v 419. Courtivron quotes the title incorrectly and gives Brendicke p 35 says this has three chapters on bathing and 20 on swimming: 100 pages altogether. Tetzner quotes Vieth and Guts Muths.

Beknopte handleiding tot de zwemkunst of de kunst om in korten tijd het zwemmen en duiken in alle opzigten volkomen te leeren, met 19 platen: nieuwe uttgate. Leiden, D. Noothoven van Goor.

Dutch. A short introduction to the art of swimming, or the art of perfectly learning in a short time swimming and diving in all its branches, with 19 plates new edition.

16°, H. Brandenburg printer [1826] pp xii & 125. In the preface he says he was induced to write this by there being so many accidents in 1825.

It is a translation with some original matter of (our English author Digby

through the French translation of Thevenot from whom also some of the plates are copied or adapted, most of the figures being too much out of the water.

He mentions Bernardi and Robertson no doubt from the Quarterly Review, Bachtstrom (sic) and others.

On p 82 leerwijze is misprinted with an e for r.

J. Poppe. Taschenbuch zur lebenssicherung und lebensrettung. Tübingen 1827, 3 tafeln.

Pocket book for life saving or adviser and helper for swimmers and those who wish to learn and for travelers. Brendicke p 35. Kayser vol iv p 380 col 1.

Hesse (Jh Chr) Kurze anweis., nach einfachen u. leichten regeln binnen kurzer zeit ein guter schwimmer zu werden. Halle 1827.

Short directions, according to simple and easy rules to become a good swimmer in a short time. Title from Kayser iii p 130.

Hauptmann Purkart, u. graf v. Saporta, Vorschriften für d. schwimmunterricht. München 1827.

Directions for instruction in swimming: with 6 copper plates by captain Purkart count of Saporta. Title from Kayser iv 414.

Vollständige schwimmschule oder deutliche anweisung zu erlernung der schwimmkunst: mit 6 kupfertafeln. Stuttgart zu beziehen von Eduard Fischhaber.

There is a biography of Clias in 'Bernischer Biographien' 1884-1900 vol iv p 175. Clias swam across the Lake of Geneva, see Home Gymnastics by Löfving [1881] p 81.

Complete swimming school or clear instructions for learning the art of s. with six copper plates.

12° [1827] pp viii 54 & 3, & vi folding plates with 16 figures; several of them are similar to Clais's which seems to show that both took them from some book I have not seen (?) probably Heinitz, whose book the writer of the

The naval and military magazine vol iii 1828 pp 107-111.

An article entitled A treatise on swimming, as taught in the Military college of Berlin, by an officer of the Coldstream guards [c. w. Short]. Republished separately in 1846.

The Boy's own book : a complete encyclopædia of all the diversions...of boyhood and youth...London, Vizetelly Branston and co engravers and printers Fleet street 1828.

Square 16° size of print 105 × 75 mm pp 5 & 448 including two title pages, price 8s 6d. Swimming on pp 97 to 110 with six cuts in the text which are nicely drawn and beautifully engraved [by Henry Vizetelly ?] but the positions are not correct.

The article is a compilation, apparently from some plagiarism of Thevenot and as usual without acknowledgment. If the other articles are as weak as that on swimming, it would tend to show how ignorant people were in those days, for this book was immensely popular and brought in some £600 yearly for the publishers. In consequence they started The Young Ladies Book in 1832 but it had no success, at the end of the latter is advertised the 7th edition of The boy's own book.

Quotes Dr [w] Buchan's advice [from Cautions &c] two pages and Franklin's two letters; with the egg practice and the objectionable interpolation (so that it was quoted at second hand from one of the reprints), and part of the letter with the kite trick - four pages. Also quotes Dr Currie and the New York herald 19 june 1824 - see ante p 225 n° 9.

The first edition has no description of

'Vollständige s.' acknowledges he has used. Several of Hoderlein's figures are plagiarised from the 'v.s.'

He gives a list of books all of which I enumerate. When he tells his countrymen they should follow the example of the academies for teaching s. in London and Paris (before 1823!) I fear he is drawing on his imagination.

the stroke with the legs either for breast or side.

'How to float or swim on the back' has a cut of a figure (which is reproduced s.s.) with arms crossed half out of the water; and it says that by 'padding the hands gently by the side of the hips, you will float,' which would be swimming.



how boys were taught they could float in 1828

This cut is plagiarised by captain Stevens 1845.

The Dolphin on p 107, which is quoted by the Oxford English Dictionary for the word 'dive' is left out of the 1844, and perhaps earlier editions, but as none of the 20 editions, between 1828 and 1849 are in the British Museum or Bodleian, I have not been able to trace the various alterations to my satisfaction.

The article concludes thus 'There are many creatures, whose motions in

the water are similar to those of man when swimming, and it has been said, that he who wishes to learn this art, cannot have a better master than the frog.' And there is a tail piece of a frog reproduced in all subsequent editions. Both the above statements are wrong. I gather that notwithstanding some good advice he gives, the compiler was not himself a swimmer.

William Clarke, the author of *The Cigar* was editor and principal author of the first edition, but it seems clear that the writer of such a good work as *Twelve maxims on swimming* published in 1833 could not have been guilty of a simple compilation from tawdry sources

The next to 1833 I have seen is the 21st edition price 6s. London Longman 1844.

And in that s. occurs on pp 129-148 with eleven cuts in the text, [the new cuts are probably by s. Williams? and engraved on wood by Henry Vizetelly?] They appear to be the worse for wear.

An effort has been made to improve the article, but it is apparent that the alterations and additions are by one who had very small acquaintance with the art, as he repeats himself and gives instructions about the same stroke in different paragraphs.

He says 'The writer of these pages has buffeted the billows at a mile or two from land, where the waters have been moved by, what an angler calls, a curling breeze...and although perhaps not an excellent, has been a very tolerable swimmer in his time.' He nevertheless allows the objectionable interpolation in Franklin's advice to pass. This edition (p 136) for the breast stroke says of the legs 'strike them out not downward, but behind' and in the following paragraphs headed 'corks and bladders' 'the legs are to be drawn up as near the body as possible, and the soles of the feet struck out against the water' 'the arms are first thrust forward, and the body propelled by the force of the soles of the feet, striking against

such as this article is made up of: unless indeed he was unable to swim in 1827 when he was 26 and had perfected himself by 1833, a thing not very likely considering the number of works he wrote during those years: see my list in *Notes and Queries* 27 april 1878. There is a notice of Clarke in the D.N.B., chiefly abbreviated, without acknowledgment, from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1838 the year he died. For some amusing observations about Clarke see p 14 of *Glances back through seventy years* by Henry Vizetelly 1893.

For a plagiarism see *Julia* 1838.

the water.' 'To swim on the side...the action of the legs is the same as usual.'

A feat called 'The porpoise' is described but it is the Indian stroke! Under diving it has this nonsense 'In diving, the eyes should be open; you must, therefore, take care you do not close them, as they reach the surface, when you commence your descent.'

The edition without date but published by Bogue in 1849 size of print in mm h 92 w 69, Vizetelly & co printers is the first real improvement, though the illustrations are by first rate illustrators the article on swimming (pp 187 to 205) is a compilation by an inferior swimmer, for the 'objectionable interpolation' is still repeated, and the frog given as an example. The head illustration is by Birket Foster: of the twelve cuts nine are by sir John Gilbert. Buchan's advice is omitted.

Cites the death of Shelley the poet, omitted in the 1868 edition. Refers to 'swimming or floating on the back' as if they were the same. 1855 edition is an exact reprint of the 1849.

The 1868 edition Lockwood-(Harrild printer) has the same article pp 253-267 but omits Franklin's advice and under diving says that 'many persons imagine

that you cannot open your eyes under water. This is a mistake.' Gives the R.H.S. method of restoration. The illustrations much worn.

The subsequent editions have the same article: each was published the end of the year previous to its date.

1830 The Edinburgh Encyclopædia has a general article compiled by the rev Thomas Murray, mentions Bernardi from the article in The Quarterly Review: quotes Robertson: refers to Franklin's 'Essay on s.' and Thevenot and father Kircher as to diving.

L'esprit de l'homme de guerre...par le capitaine L. A. d'Esmond Paris 1830.

8° pp 414 and plates. Swimming is on pp 318 to 336 with plate xvi of three figures, without drawers. He says swimming is not an art; by an art he understands 'une connaissance qui résulte d'un effort de l'intelligence

1870 pp 253-267 Lockwood: Bentley & co printers: 1880 pp 283-297 Crosby Lockwood & co, no printer's name: 1885 pp 283-297 Crosby Lockwood & co, Spottiswoode printers.

plûtôt que d'un mouvement immédiatement inhérent à la nature de l'animal.' He refers to the frog, his description of the breast stroke is very meagre as to the legs.

1832 Lieber's Encyclopædia Americana has a good article, and curious enough, though American, does not quote Dr Franklin. Gives general Pfuel's instructions which appear to be originally translated.

The New-England magazine vol ii from jan to june 1832 by J. T. and E. Buckingham. Boston.

Swimming, a dialogue between Philonao and Colymbao pp 506 to 512, large octavo pages of small print. Refers to Franklin's letters: says they 'have no practical treatises....I know but one (Bernardi) and that has never been translated into English, though the Germans have translated it.' It is an

original and interesting article but has nothing new.

If we may take the above statement as correct (but I fear it is only copied from The Quarterly Review) my list is an accurate one so far as American works are concerned up to this date!

Handbuch der schwimmlehre...von Max Hoderlein...mit 38 lithogr...Würzburg 1832.

Handbook of the art of s. in short chapters easy to understand: suitable for s. teachers and self instruction compiled by M. H., captain in the royal Bavarian 12 line infantry regiment.

12° pp 54, with 30 whole page figures, a frontispiece of the Würzburg open air s. platform with springboard and one of appliances 32 in all: 38 appears to be a misprint.

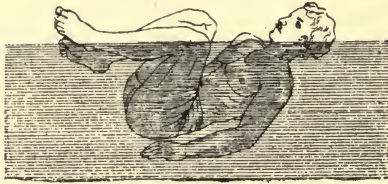
Several of his figures are plagiarised from Vollständige s. [1827] and Bernardi and some of his instructions

from Ueber das s. (Pfuel) 1817.

He says when he began he had no idea of the difficulty of writing on the subject, but he persevered on account of the importance of swimming to all. Practice and theory he says, must go hand in hand, which is good advice. [I have frequently met English swimmers who would have been far more skilful if they had not been able to boast of never having read a book on swimming.] Young and old may learn and make themselves familiar

with a dangerous element so that they may be enabled to help their fellow creatures.

He was an experienced swimmer, as his illustrations seem to testify. I reproduce one (r. one half), called in German

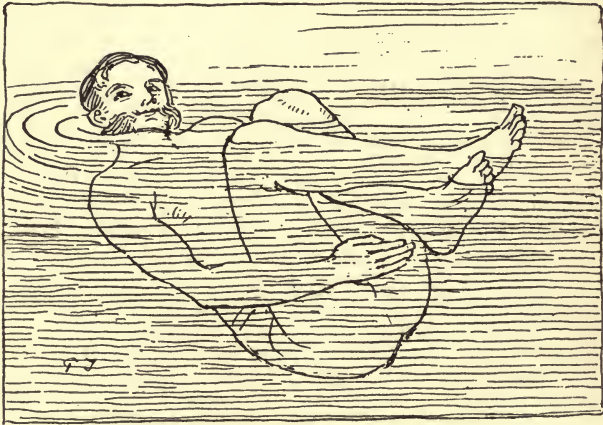


the mill

The hands underneath the body as here depicted would be almost useless.

But here is a more accurate position, from illustration

and recollection of how it was done it 1861, drawn by Percy Thomas in 1901 of



spinning

which is the English name. Only the head knees and toes are out of the water.

The Penny magazine 1832 folio vol i p 143.

A correct quotation from Franklin's letter with the egg practice.

The Boy's week-day book 1833 8° pp viii 264.

Observations about s. pp 156-160 by one who learnt in consequence of seeing another drowned: subsequently he was enabled to save a person. He says 'Confidence enables a boy to swim; an attention to proper rules enables him to swim well.' 'You cannot help swim-

ming. Why, iron itself will swim, when put into a proper form; for I have frequently seen iron boats employed in carrying coals.' 'A person who can swim has a sense of safety; and a delightful feeling that he has the power of being useful.'

Twelve maxims on swimming [vignette by κ. Meadows], by the author of The Cigar, London Charles Tilt 1833.

16° pp 30. The preface is signed c, it is by William Clarke who was editor of The Boy's own book. He refers to himself as Ebenezer Culchick-

weed getting old and gouty. It is very good: energetically written and original. He would not appear to be the author of the article in The Boy's

own book as he ridicules the 'tom fooleries taught in books' such as 'how to tumble head over heels like a porpoise,' a heading I never came across, and 'How to cut your toe nails in the water' one of Digby's titles, which Clarke would have treated

British manly exercises...swimming...by Donald Walker, London Hurst 1834.

12° pp 4 and xvi and 269, 6s 6d swimming on pp 52-74: 13 whole page illustrations of 26 swimming figures neatly executed.

The success of this work was so great that a second edition (s. on pp 54-77) was called for within a fortnight, the pre-faces being dated 1st and 14th march.

Third edition 1835 (pp 54-77) same article but the plates are numbered 9 to 21. In Games and Sports being an appendix to Manly Exercises by D. Walker 1837, the illustrations in British manly exercises are advertised as by F. Howard and H. Alken.

Fourth edition 1838 swimming is on pp 122-150.

The sixth edition 1839 is called Walker's manly exercises by Craven [i e J. w. Carleton], it is published by w. s. Orr. Swimming is on pp 82-100 with 13 plates: it refers to the fifth edition at the end. An edition in 1844 I have not seen.

The eighth 1847 has the same number of figures on 9 plates.

The ninth edition 1856 is vol 44 of Bohn's Illustrated Library and the tenth 1857 and eleventh (G. Bell 1886) appear to be reprints. Even with the 11th edit lord Byron's feat is still the 'ultra achievement' in swimming!

The sixth and subsequent editions finish with the following note 'This art however, has made little if any progress from the earliest records that we possess of it. Ed. fifth edition.' The fifth edition is not in any of our great libraries nor have I been able to see it: probably it is the first edited by Craven and the one that was stereotyped. The article is chiefly taken from

more reverently if he had known it was in the first English book on swimming; and moreover requires a most accomplished swimmer to perform.

'its greatest professor is the frog.' On p iv he refers to Franklin.

Frost as are nearly all the figures, which have drawers only; the others are taken from Clais, all without acknowledgment, but modernised as is the text. In its turn it was translated and the figures copied in the text, without acknowledgment, in Die gymnastik by Julius Kunze 1846.

It quotes Franklin's egg practice (p 60; sixth edition p 90) in this way: 'He must then plunge under it, having his eyes open, before as well as after going under' which shows that Walker only had an incorrect print, but corrected it. Gives Bernardi's system abbreviated from The Quarterly Review 1826 without acknowledgment. The sixth (it is not in the first) edition refers to the abbé Paul Moccia who lived in Napoli in 1760, and says 'Robertson had just made his experiments on the specific weight of man; and everybody was then occupied with the abbé, who could walk in the water with nearly half his body out of it,' because he was so fat. I shall require to see this to believe it.

In 'side swimming' (1st edit p 69, 11th p 97) 'the feet must perform their usual motions: the arms alone ['also' in 11th edition] require peculiar guidance.'

For further reference to this book see under Richardson. Walker's last work was Defensive exercises published by Hurst in 1840. I asked for date of Walker's death, N and Q 25 aug 1900.

This article tawdry from the first, has now got beyond the period when one could call it old fashioned and useless, it is unworthy the notice of any respectable publisher.

The Penny Magazine.

Monthly supplement n° 117, 1834. Quotes on p 34 vol iii a few lines from baron F. H. A. von Humboldt (born and died Berlin 1769-1859) about (and



gives an illustration on p 36 of) 'the swimming couriers of Peru' [which is quoted by Mason 1841].

As I looked at this woodcut and saw the man swimming against the stream,

encumbered with a log, I thought I had better see the original. I had known the great German explorer's travels by name all my life, and considered a few minutes would suffice to verify a simple fact like this. I journeyed to our National Library at the British Museum and in due course, somewhat to my dismay, I was put face to face with a truckload of 24 elephant folio volumes, weighing about 25 pounds each, from the King's library (George iii). However a few hours searching produced the required engraving.

The particular volume has four titles, the second is *Voyage de Humboldt et Bonpland, première partie : relation historique : atlas pittoresque. Paris 1810.* The fourth title is *Vues des Cordillères et monuments des peuples indigènes de l'Amérique, Paris F. Schoell, 1810* (shelfmark 148 i 1).

The engraving is plate 31 at p 221 and is 'dessiné par Schieck à Rome, gravé par Bouquet à Paris.' Baron Humboldt stopped at Paris to publish his travels, which are in French, then the polite language of Europe. In this he was assisted by his fellow traveler a Frenchman Aimé Bonpland.

The text is reproduced but not the plate, in the octavo editions *Vues des Cordillères, Paris 1816*, and in *Researches &c translated by H. M. Williams, London 1814.*

It will thus be seen that there are three chances for incorrectness in detail. First the Baron describes what he wants to his artist, but secondly not until he arrives at Roma, probably a

Chambers' Edinburgh journal... London, Orr & Smith... 1834.

Folio : the number for 30 august (p 248) has three columns addressed to boys. The author says he was a swimmer and yet he compiled this article from

Kort anvisning til at laere at svømme, ved directeuren for gymnastikken. Kjøbenhavn 1834.

Short instruction in the art of swimming by the director of gymnastics. The preface is signed F. Nachtgall.

year or more after, and thirdly this drawing is not engraved until he is in Paris, and then by an engraver who like the artist has to copy what he knows nothing about. If the Baron was not a good swimmer he would inevitably get the position and action of the man wrong. I am of opinion that the position of the man is altogether incorrect. The text says that the postmen or couriers descend the river Chamaya and afterward the Amazon during two days. To assist him in swimming the Indian grasps a log of very light wood, generally the trunk of the bombax. The letters &c he puts in his turban. The 'log or trunk' looks very much like a squared beam.

However incorrect the original of the great scientific explorer may be the copy is more so. The English artist probably made a rough sketch and took it home to fill in details as best he could. There was no marvelous reproducing process in those days. For me, not being able to take the book to the reproducers, the engraving had to be reproduced twice, first by photography and the photograph reproduced by process. Unlike the Bodleian the British Museum has no reproducing department.

In the original the cascades are falling away from the swimmer, but the copy shows them falling towards the man, thus making him swim against the stream, a most improbable thing.

Once again we see the unreliability of swimming information, even from a first class source.

The Boy's own book : he quotes Franklin's advice with the 'objectionable interpolation' and quotes The Boy's own book for instructions !

8° pp 4 and 24. I saw this at the Bibliothèque de la Sorbonne, Paris.

The Penny magazine for 12 sep 1835 vol 4 p 354-5.

Bathing and s. quotes Franklin. Ibid 30 july '36 v. 5 pp 290-2 four columns. An interesting article compiled from various sources, entitled

Feats of s. and diving. Mentions Byron, Bedale, Clais, Courtivron, Bernardi and Franklin but what is quoted as by the latter is really Thevenot's.

C. L. Hoffmann. Die kunst, in 24 stunden ein geschickter schwimmer zu werden, Hamburg 1836. How to become a good swimmer in 24 hours. Title from Brendicke 1885 p 35. Not in Kayser.

The book of sports, athletic exercises and amusements, by William Martin...London Darton and Clark 58 Holborn hill.

16° about 1837 pp iv 238 : swimming on pp 174-194 plagiarised from The Boy's own book with all faults. It has a whole page etching of a landscape with figures, one is springing into the water : without drawers. Quotes 'a celebrated medical doctor' [Buchan], and Franklin with the objectionable interpolation. Quotes Bernardi which he plagiarises from Walker's Manly exercises.

He was a schoolmaster, afterwards a compiler of books and one of those who stole the pseudonym of Peter Parley. He died in 1867 see the Handbook of fictitious names by O. Hamst

1868 pp 96, 207 : and Boase M.E.B.

In the second edition Holiday Library, Darton 1852, the text of the swimming is the same, but the illustrations are all different. It has a head-piece woodcut of a landscape with one of the figures springing into the water : of the six figures in the text five are plagiarised from The boy's treasury 1844. This edition is worth buying for the numerous spirited drawings of all the subjects except the swimming ! I should say the frontispiece is by sir John Gilbert, and three woodcuts pp 21, 49 and 55 are by s. Williams.

Des patins-nageoires et de la natation en général (half title with figure using patins) par m[onsieur] U.-P. de Latour ancien officier [motto cut of figure swimming with 'patins'] deuxième édition. A Paris chez l'auteur quai d'Anjou 33, île Saint Louis, ou rue d'Alger 10 près des Tuileries : Bachelier 1837.

8° pp 38. Written to advertise the author's invention, but the instructions for swimming are good for the time. As

to dangers he says the real dangers mostly arise from want of prudence.

Dictionnaire de la conversation 1837 vol 39 pp 456-8 contains a general superficial article with a suggestion for accustoming us, while infants, to the water; taken without

acknowledgment from Bachstrom or Dubourg. 2nd edition vol 13, 1860, 2 columns, a general article.

Familiar hints on sea bathing...exercise of swimming...London w. Smith, 113 Fleet street 1838.

16° pp xi 146; price on the cover 2s 6d.

These are the best hints I have met with. I do not agree with some of the author's opinions. He says in the preface 'I have no personal interest in

the matter, having neither a reputation to gain nor a professional connexion to form, nor any pecuniary object to carry. Even my name is unknown, and shall remain so. If this little book prove useful, it requires not the support

of a name: its utility will insure its success.'

Success, alas! This excellent little work was read by a few interested in the subject. Then whatever its utility was like numberless predecessors consigned to oblivion; to be succeeded by others written in the same spirit, with the same intentions, and unfortunately with as little effect. The above were my observations in 1868.

He only mentions swimming incidentally, at the time he wrote there was no 'school of natation for ladies' 'in

The Hand-book of bathing by the author of *The hand-book of the toilette*. London w. s. Orr and w. & R. Chambers, Edin 1841.

12° pp xi 146 price 2s. Orr was Chambers's London agent.

The author of 'Familiar hints' was a Scot and writes thus (p 4)

'The Scotch and Irish are taxed by the English with want of cleanliness in their general habits...the people of England have assumed, I may say usurped, the reputation of being the cleanest of nations. As such they affect to despise the dirty habits of the French, and the Italians, and especially the Russians, — to say nothing of their own compatriots, the Scotch and the Irish, who assuredly deserve their censure, but between whom and the English there is not so much difference in real personal cleanliness as these latter pretend...every Englishman, above the operative classes, generally appears with a clean face, clean hands, and finger-nails carefully cleaned. The other parts of his body, except his feet, which are washed

Nouveau manuel d'éducation physique gymnastique et morale par le colonel Amoros. Paris 1838; 12° vol 2, pp 446 to 453 5 figs. *Manuels-Roret*.

Republished with new title as *Manuels-Roret, Gymnastique par &c* 1839.

The observations and instructions on swimming are short but good: nearly all quoted by Courtivron from an

our smoky metropolis; nor do I think that English ladies in general will ever take to the amusement of swimming, which, however, might prove useful on an emergency' (p 119).

He advocates springing into the water feet first as far preferable to head foremost (p 123).

The following book I formerly catalogued as a different publication, not then having seen it. I find it is an exact reprint of the 'Familiar hints' with a new title.

at distant intervals, seldom, if ever feel the comfort of ablution. The bodies of the generality of Englishmen are never washed, but are covered with epidermal incrustations of years' duration. Even those who seek recreation in swimming, either in the muddy Serpentine or in any other river, become not a whit cleaner for such immersion, because cold water cannot sufficiently act in so short a time upon the accumulation of coagulated perspiration and epidermal scales.' However although we 'catch it hot' here, the real truth is practically admitted, when we read (p v) 'the itch is more prevalent in Scotland and Ireland than in England' (see also p 62) and (p 6) 'arises from filthiness of body.'

Some of this writer's ideas first appeared in *The magazine of domestic economy*, London Orr and Smith and w. & R. Chambers Edin 1836.

edition of 1836, but in all three editions, swimming is in vol 2 pp 446 to 453 and the figures on plate 50. Gives instruction for learning on land.

He recommends Courtivron's book which he says is the most military and

the most complete. He gives several instances of heroic life saving including that by the emperor of Russia in 1807.

His full name according to the

British Museum catalogue, was Francisco Amorós y Ondeano, marquis de Sotelo.

Manuels Roret. Nouveau manuel complet des nageurs, et de sauvetage, des baigneurs, des fabricants d'eaux minérales et des pédicures... par m[onsieur] Julia de Fontenelle, Paris 1838.

12° pp x & 361, 8 planches, 3 francs.

This is a compilation of an exhaustive character, too exhaustive, in fact; what have the 'fabricants d'eaux minérales,' and the 'pédicures,' to do with the 'nageurs'?

The article on swimming has been translated from various sources, The Boy's own book 1833 with nine cuts, the rest of the figures are from Thevenot,

Courtivron and Bernardi all without acknowledgment. Franklin's advice is given with the 'objectionable interpolation.' The universal swimming education in France we read so much about in English books does not seem to have been much use to Jean Sebastien Eugene Julia. He was an industrious compiler and doctor at Paris, where he died 1842.

The Philosophy of bathing...with remarks on river and sea-bathing by John Lindsay, surgeon. Glasgow, F. Orr & sons 1838. 12°. Some useful observations, quotes 'The author of The Cigar' giving the frog as an example.

The swimmer's and skater's guide, containing rules founded on experience for acquiring a perfect knowledge of those agreeable, healthful and invigorating arts: to which are added directions taken from the proceedings of the Royal Humane Society, instituted for the recovery of drowned persons. Derby published by Thomas Richardson.

12° [1838?] pp 24 with folding colored plates of figures swimming and skating. It is a reprint of Thevenot

without acknowledgment the figures also from his but badly done, swimming occupies the first 17 pages.

The Swimmer's hand-book; wherein are many valuable precepts, which, if the reader strictly follow, he will soon become an expert swimmer [motto] second edition. London, Robert Tyas 50 Cheapside J. Menzies, Edinburgh 1838.

16° pp vi and 1 and 55, eight cuts in the text and the frontispiece is a wood-cut of boys bathing signed R. Branston: price one shilling in cloth gilt edges.

The limp cloth cover has the cut given on p 25 impressed in gold.

A reprint is the 'third edition London G. Routledge & co.'

16° [1841] in all respects the same except the cover, which is illuminated (and signed J[ohn] L[eighton]. Routledge's sixpenny hand-books: Swimming, with illustrations.

This compilation, chiefly from Franklin, William Buchan, Pfuel, &c, is evidently by one who knew nothing of the practice of the art, and is in many things calculated to mislead. Such stuff as the following, for example 'Then plunge under with your eyes open, which must be kept open before going under, as you cannot open the eyelids for the weight of the water above you'! surely this is enough. I need not quote more. The woodcuts are badly executed and totally useless. It

was originally published by R. Tyas, as one of his Hand-books: he sold it to Messrs Routledge, who in turn transferred it to Hatfield, of Tottenham court road.

The above appeared in my first edition in 1868. I had not then discovered the 'objectionable interpolation,' Franklin's advice being quoted as if it was original matter. Pfuel's method is, the preface says, reprinted from the British Cyclopædia.

The bather's and swimmer's pocket companion, containing precautionary rules in case of accidents both for bathers and swimmers: illustrated by examples taken from real life. Entered at Stationers Hall. London W. M. Clark 17 Warwick lane (Rider printer). Edin: Glasgow, Dublin, York, Manchester, Birmingham &c price one penny.

24° pp 16. I do not know the exact date of issue: Clark was at n° 17 from 1839 (previous to this it was a

A figure in the frontispiece is being drawn along by aid of a kite head first but on the back, on the belly would seem to be the better way.

Gives a list of six swimming baths in London and says that in the season floating baths are moored at Blackfriars, Waterloo¹ and Westminster bridges. I believe there have been none such since 1850, except the floating swimming bath at Charing Cross which was opened in July 1875 and removed 188 ?

public house) to 1852 when he was at n°s 16 and 17. This pamphlet contains much excellent advice.

The National Swimming Society

issued a medal designed by B. Wyon. Here it is reproduced (s.s.) from an advertisement in the Post-office London Directory for 1843 p 1620.



Strachan was in a comparatively humble position, but if we are to judge from the accounts that have been preserved and the adulatory notes on the portraits, he did an enormous amount for the advancement of swimming. I have seen two published portraits and two medals also with his portrait. Though not on record, there can be little doubt that like many a greater man he paid

for these things himself.

It is impossible for the present generation, accustomed to orderly galas graced by the presence of ladies to imagine the degraded condition of swimming in those days, and for many years after. Any swimming entertainment was the resort of low class characters, who chiefly went to the bath for betting purposes.

¹ In n° 42 of Ackermann's Repository of arts pub 1 June 1819 is a colored representation of the Royal Waterloo bath floating in the Thames (24 by 8 feet) in running water.

Under the patronage of H.R.H. prince Albert and the Royal Humane Society. Prize essays of the National, now the British Swimming Society. On the art of Swimming, for 1839 by James Mason, for 1840 (on the utility of &c) by A. M. Payne. Lond print and pub by John Horne 19 Leicester square 1841.

8° pp x 56 ; 2s paper covers.

In 1868 I wrote 'What has become of the British Swimming Society which brought out two such capital essays as these?' and Sinclair & Henry 1893 p 20, say it is 'an exceptionally well-written work,' which is exactly the impression one gets on a cursory perusal. A more careful study has induced me to consider that these essays are simply interesting compilations from various popular sources, but before you are able to find this out, you have to be familiar with those popular sources. Payne's poem at the end is almost the only original thing in the essays. He gives an engraving after a very stiff drawing by himself: quotes Dr Buchan's Domestic Medicine: Franklin: Bernardi: Thevenot's Travels, and the Sporting magazine as to Brock: 'a writer in an excellent periodical' [i e The Penny Mag n° 117 1834 p 34] and many other authors.

The first two pages of Mason's essay are plagiarised from Thevenot. He gives an account of what is known or practiced in swimming in various countries and slightly refers to various modes of swimming. On p 6 he gives an illustration of an Indian man and woman swimming hand over hand. Some doubt is thrown on his own ability to swim when he says 'Diving is an important attainment' let the diver 'throw himself obliquely into the water; at the same time, taking particular care to keep his eyes open that he may be enabled to see objects whilst he is immersed' (p 29). This seems to be the 'objectionable interpolation' cropping up in a modified form. I have little doubt that instruction like this in an essay sent to The Life Saving Society for their Diploma would at once disqualify it. The eyes would

probably be injured by striking the water open, if it was possible to do such a thing, and they must not be opened under water if the diver is going at greater speed than if swimming. Some when springing into the water shut their eyes at the moment of springing off, but they can be kept open until just before entering, when the body can be seen reflected in the water. Mason quotes Clia's 'excellent work' and Bernardi.

Strachan was a wine merchant at 22½ Buckingham street Strand 1835-40, then at 3 Dean st Westminster, but neither his name nor that of his Society occur in the P.O.D. after 1848.

I have seen a colored portrait half length about quarto size, lithographed on stone by A. Parsey; Day & son litho with view of the Serpentine in the background, date about 1838.

Also a very rough mezzotint, a distinct portrait from the above, but painted by A. Parsey and engraved by G. Shade. London published 1842 by G. Shade 76 Charlotte st Fitzroy sq. Arthur Parsey was a miniature painter and author of several books on art: he died in London about 1858.

The advertisement in the P.O.D. noted above says 'this pre-eminent society has since its establishment distributed 86 prizes.' On the 7 january 1902 observing that this advertisement said subscriptions might be sent to Messrs Drummonds, I wrote to them but they could find no trace in their books of any account in either of these three names.

The medal on p 249 is different from one in the Hawkins collection of coins at the B.M. which is a silver medal with ring for suspension, engraved on the edge 'Antonio Marchetti. London champion 1844' He is mentioned in Watson's

Memoirs p 260. On the obverse is a bust of Strachan looking to the left. On truncation Baddeley f, with motto 'art and confidence' on a scroll. Reverse a cupid swimming between two swans and around 'N.S.S. founded' with initials J.B.

Swimming, or racing if there was any, was not reported at all until this society started. The first notice of swimming I find in Bell's Life is of the N.S.S. races, in the smallest print, on the 6 aug 1837 in the 'Serpentine river,' 'promoted by a gentleman named Strachan.' Each year following there are paragraphs. I will now give the most important references, to show the work of the Society and also in elucidation of the words champion and dive, mentioned in my glossary.

With regard to the word champion: on 5 aug 1838 a letter appeared from James Ward (the pugilist) entitled The champion's belt. There was a proposal to have a real belt for pugilism and he says it had never been held except figuratively. There never was a real belt before. In 1825 he says a championship belt was presented to him as a compliment. It is not to my purpose to follow up this question, but in 'Fistiana from 1700 to 1867' London 1868 p 134 there is a list of 'champions of England from 1719.' In 'Pugilistica' by Henry Downes Miles 1880 vol i p 271, it is inferred that a belt was presented to Tom Crib in 1822. But I am inclined to credit Ward's statement: he was not only a pugilist but a clever artist. He died in 1884 (Boase M.E.B.)

I think it is fairly certain that there was no 'champion swimmer's belt' until about 1850.

Unless otherwise mentioned the following notes are from Bell's Life in London, a celebrated sporting paper, on 29 may 1886 merged in The Sporting Life.

I have always followed the reporter in the title of the society.

26 aug 1838 p 3 col 6 The annual

'grand match' of the N.S.S. took place in the 'Serpentine river,' 12 started. The first prize was 'a silver medal of exquisite workmanship and one guinea in money, the second a bronze medal from the same die and a half-guinea, the third a metal medal.' 'Much money was lost and won by gentlemen betting on the different competitors.'

On the 4 aug 1839 p 4 col 2, we are informed that 'a gold medal and chain value 20 guineas will be competed for annually in London by the yearly champions (12 in number) of the parent and branch Societies of the United Kingdom who have gained the Society's first silver medal.' At the annual dinner 'some first-rate swimmers related the plans adopted for rescuing others as well as themselves in times of danger.'

The above is the first time the word champion occurs for swimming.

19 july 1840 p 4 col 5, N.S.S. a note says 'upwards of 3000 youths have been taught,' and that 'the society has resolved to send immediately a silver medal to every city and town of importance.' 'Those who gain the society's first silver prize medal, are according to the rules of the races, termed champions of the town or place where the prizes are won!' when they are 'entitled to become candidates for the gold medal and chain, value 20 guineas, which will be swam for in London, as soon as 12 qualified champion competitors have come together for that purpose. The gold medal and chain become the property of him who gains it four successive seasons: he is then termed "champion of champions."' At the end of this paragraph is a note that

The committee wish to see the man who jumped off London Bridge, and swam to Greenwich for a sovereign.'

30 aug 1840 p 4 col 4, S. Hounslow won the N.S.S. medal, swimming in the Thames at Oxford 'the distance was near 400 yards completed in 7 minutes 9 seconds.'

6 sep 1840 p 2 col 3, report of a

meeting at which it was stated 'the means of the society were inadequate.'

22 aug 1841 p 3 col 6, a man won the 'gold medal of the value of 20 guineas,' the distance in the Serpentine across landing and returning about 500 yards,' was performed in six minutes.

22 aug 1841 p 4 col 5, races in the Avon at Crew's Hole near Bristol distance 440 yards, time 11½ minutes: after this the races became more frequent and a subject for wagers.

The champion of London dived the extreme length of the bath 200 feet.

A report of the dinner of the N.S.S. 12 sep 1841 gives the names of winners of medals. Captain Stevens of the National Swimming Baths, Westminster road, gave a prize. The N.S.S. medal was given to S. Meredith esq for best essay on swimming: but I have not found any mention of the prize essays the society published.

It was stated that the expenses of the society exceeded the receipts.

In the Appendix to the reports on public petitions to the House of Commons: session 1842: app 872 n° 9498 p 475, is a petition presented in August by the British S.S. and others signed by 322 persons in favor of extra bathing places. It states that 2454 persons were drowned annually, 350 of whom were in London alone, mainly attributable to the neglect of the art of swimming. It is signed by Joseph Burt, James Mason &c. I tried to see this but was informed that petitions to the House of Commons are always destroyed.

Extraordinary leap (18 sep 1842 p 1 col 4) is the heading. Thomas Smith announced 'he would leap from the top of the bridge at Sunderland.' Then the report says 'just as the diver was about to start.'

4 sep 1842 p 2 col 3. The first great contests of the kind of swift, long and fancy swimming...between the champions of the N.S.S. Messrs Kenworthy of London and Hounslow, of Oxford for the years 1839 and 1840.' 'Charles

Lewis the London champion of last year, jointly with G. Pewters, open to all the United Kingdom for speed, distance, diving, scientific swimming, and indeed tricks of all descriptions in the water.'

18 sep p 1 col 4, a coffee house keeper is fined ten shillings for assaulting Strachan.

25 sep N.S.S. races, George Pewters swims across the Serpentine and back in 6¾ minutes: is champion. The society had been 'teaching boys of 8 to 10 years of age to swim across the Serpentine which in by-gone years was considered a great feat for men.'

'Smith the diver took another leap.'

23 July 1843 p 2 col 4: the society for the first time called the B.S.S. Besides the Serpentine, races took place at Cremorne, and the National Baths Westminster road until Strachan quarreled with the proprietor when they were held at the National Baths, High Holborn.

30 July p 2 col 2 a challenger 'will dive from the parapet of the bridge.'

6 aug p 4 col 2 at Eton 'a diving match in which three pewter pots were thrown in.' Another prize was for 'running headers.' N.S.S. races announced. Public challenges now became more frequent tho' I do not note pages.

27 aug p 4 col 3 N.S.S. prizes given by Strachan.

10 sep p 1 c 4 B.S.S. third annual dinner.

N.S.S. hold races in the Serpentine, a subscription got up there for the competitors.

Geo Pewters was champion for fast swimming from 1843, see 1 sep 1844 p 2 col 3: 8 sep p 3 col 5: 7 sep 1845 p 4 col 6: 23 aug 1846 p 7 col 3, and 15 July 1849 p 7 col 3.

Branches were formed in many parts of the country, as Glasgow, Aberdeen and Cork, the parent society sending medals and prizes to be competed for, but Plymouth was in such a low condition that they (10 sep 1843) returned the prizes being unable to get competitors.

In consequence of the efforts made by the society many clubs were formed in London.

In 1847 the Holborn Bath s.c. races are reported. Although the N.S.S. drops out, for I find no reports after 1846, the ball had been set rolling and the general reports become more numerous and are in bigger type. In 1848 numbers of challenges appear, one from 'F. Beckwith of the Lambeth Bath,' and others from Stevens, Kenworthy and Pewters, evincing considerable activity.

Strachan's efforts are the more meritorious when we know that even at the great schools no effort was made

The sporting magazine July 1839, 8° vol 19 pp 149 to 156.

An account of Brock the Yarmouth boatman who swam $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours in the sea in Oct 1835 and thus saved his life.

L'art de la natation, par Turbri amateur, prix 60^o. Paris (impr lith de Fayet) 1840.

16° height 102 width 66 millimeters pp 32. Title from the cover: it is lithographed in writing, not print.

There was a second edition which I have not seen, Paris L. Levy 1842.

Turbri is entirely original and the instruction is good: he gives directions for learning on land: gives the frog as an example but nevertheless describes the breast stroke properly with the

Manual da arte de nadar conforme o systema de Turbri, e segundo se ensina nas eschollas de nadar de França e de Henrique iv em Paris; traduzida e accrescentada por Henrique Velloso da Oliveira alumno das mesmas eschollas: mens sana in corpore sano. Rio de Janiero typ Brasiliense de Maximiano G. Ribeiro, rua do Sabão n° 114. 1854.

Manual of the art of swimming according to the system of Turbri, and as taught in the swimming schools of France and of Henry IV in Paris; trans-

lated with additions by &c a pupil of the same schools. 16° pp 27. He says he had already published a translation of Franklin's advice from the English.

Blaine's Encyclopædia of rural sports 1840. Nothing on swimming in this edition but in that for 1852 occur a few lines, quoted from Hints for pedestrians by Medicus [G. B. C. Watson] London Simpkin 1843. This edition was probably stereotyped, as precisely the

to teach. Thus Mr Wasey Sterry in his Annals of Eton college 1898 pp 220, 222 and 306 says that though swimming was a favorite 'amusement, there was in those days [about 1840] no regular instruction in the art, which was taught by certain of the "cads" (sometimes known facetiously as "a private tutor") who frequented the "well," or in a more informal fashion to new boys by taking them out in a boat and throwing them overboard.'

It was not until 1840 that a 'non-nant' was forbidden to boat unless he could swim.

An extract is given in Chambers's journal 19th July 1845 vol 4 p 45.

wedge. From his description of swimming on the side one might suppose it to be the English sidestroke, as he says the legs should be as wide apart as possible, but he expressly negatives this by saying that though the movements of the hands differ greatly in different ways of swimming, that of the legs is always the same. Says there are 33 ways of swimming but six principal.

same article is reprinted in every subsequent edition up to 1870 with the same mistake in the index p 1233 for 1234.

'The book was very useful in its day, but its day is past' Encyclo of sport, 1898 preface vii.

Colburn's Kalendar of amusements...comprising...swimming...
edited by Boleyn Reeves, London, H. Colburn 1840, 12° pp iv 356.

S. is indexed and is found under 'friday, may 22nd' all the dates in this calendar are put in this loose style, that is day, month, day again and year, instead of day, month, year. It begins 'It is to be regretted that swimming is

not so much practised in the present day as it was formerly.' It then gives Franklin's egg practice correctly.

Mr Reeves published a volume of poetry in 1890 and is now feb 1903 living at Wickham Bishops, Essex.

Manuel des baigneurs précédé de l'histoire des bains...suivi d'un traité de la natation...par v. Raymond docteur en médecine de la faculté de Paris. Paris Desloges 1840.

12° pp 4 & 148 : 2nd edit 1841, 12° pp 4 & 158 1 fr 50 c it is the same but a new titlepage and ten pages of

new matter. The swimming instructions occupy pp 103 to 123, they were republished separately and anonymously as

Traité de la natation, où l'art de nager est démontré avec la plus grande précision. Paris, Desloges, imp d'Hennuyer et Turpin : prix 50 cent [1843].

I have not seen this first-separately-printed edition : it is not in the Bibliothèque Nationale Paris. I take the title from the 1846 edition (v p 7331) and the Bibliographie de la France 1843 n° 2711 : in the same publication

for december 1845 I find the following, which like all the subsequent editions, I have seen at the Bibl Nat^e and I give their shelf marks in order to distinguish the editions.

Traité &c, Paris Desloges rue saint André-des-arts 39 (Evreux imp de Thinet) 1846 [1845] B.N. v p 7329.

Issued again with figures on the cover, repeated in the text, cover printed by Lacour (B.N. v p 7330).

tracted from the Manuel des baigneurs but without giving the author's name.

18° pp 36 price 30 cent : three plates or figures in the text. It has an almanac for 1846 and an advertisement of others to appear in september 1845 for 1846. This was re-issued without date in 1846 imp Lacour. B.N. v p 7331.

Another edition without date, but the copy at the Bibl Nat^e has the official stamp 1846 in which year it is announced in the Bibl^e de la France. It is printed by Lacour and priced 35 cent. It is a reprint with four pages of what appear to be original observations on the influences of sea and river bathing on the health of women.

On page 29 (p 30 of the edition without date) is a statement that the treatise is ex-

Another edition, Desloges 4 rue Croix-des-petits-champs (Arbieu printer) 1853.

16° pp 54 : 35 cent B.N. inventaire v 54151. The note at the end that it is taken from the Manuel &c is suppressed,

but the Manuel itself is advertised at the end.

Traité...5° edition...1855. 12° pp 62 and covers. B.N. i v 54152.

In this the edition is stated for the first time : it is in all respects the same as the previous edition except that it has a table of contents of two pages ; the note at the end reappears that the Traité de la natation is extracted from the Manuel des baigneurs by Raymond,

for the first time giving the name of the author which enabled me to identify the work. How well this illustrates the importance of being able to see every edition : but this is perhaps even better illustrated later on by the 8th edition.

La natation naturelle à l'homme ; et l'art de nager : suivi de considérations sur les traitements hydrothérapeutiques et sur l'effet hygiénique des bains froids et des bains chauds : orné de [three] planches [in the text] 6° edition. Paris Desloges (typ Carion).

16° [1859] pp 62 & 1, price 40 cent : without date, B.N. inventaire v 47676. The figures on the cover are different.

Here the title is totally changed without notice, a fact that misled Lorenz and myself in cataloguing this book as two different works.

The 6th edition was re-issued in 1861 without date, in all respects the same except that the three figures on the paper cover reappear and it is printed

La natation...7° ed Paris, Desloges [et] Devresse (typ Lesguillon).

On the cover is the old title : *Traité &c.* 16° [1865] pp 61 & table, prix 50 cent. B.N. invent v 54153.

The same as the previous edition except that the cover is *Traité &c* and the figures on v 47676 reappear but are not in the title ; the plates very

La natation...8° edition par L. D. Renauld, Paris, Arnauld de Vresse 55 rue de Rivoli (imp Loignon).

16° [1868] pp 60 : 50 cent : B.N. invent v 51174.

The cover is the same only the figures are on it, and not in the title.

To this edition it will be observed de Vresse (notice the 'de') has added an author's name. By this time the true history of the book had been forgotten and it was probably generally

Nouvelle édition, ornée de planches, revue et augmentée par J. de Riols (E. N. Santini) officier d'académie. Paris, Le Bailly 6 rue Cardinale.

On the cover the address is rue de Tournon 15. This is a reprint with one additional illustration but no alterations worth mentioning, but it will be observed that Desloges's name no longer appears. Moreover it is advertised under a wrong title 'Natation ou l'art de nager' this 'supercherie' made me buy the book thinking it was a new book of Le Bailly's successor, O. Bornemann, who advertised it in his catalogue in 1899 under the different title.

In criticisms of books we frequently

by Bonnet (B.N. inventaire v 47677).

There are two copies of the 6th edition in the British Museum, one received in 1861 and another in 1864 with cover printed by Varigault and Claye : showing that the edition was kept in stock and issued as required, in both the title is *La natation &c* but on the cover the title is *Traité de la &c*, on p 39 exp gant so misprinted.

much worn : but it would seem that Desloges had died and Devresse had succeeded him. I have not been able to find out anything about either of them ; when I enquired in 1894 Devresse had been dead some years and was hardly recollected.

La natation...8° edition par L. D. Renauld, Paris, Arnauld de Vresse

believed to be by Desloges, who published it so frequently. Lorenz says Renauld was a pseudonym of L. C. A. Desloges. The figure springing in bad position is omitted. It has some tail pieces of steamers such as they were about 1830, omitted in the edition of Le Bailly.

read 'testimony to its merits is found in the fact that it has now reached a ninth edition.' The fact being that this is due to the perseverance of the publishers and is no or very little criterion of merit.

Dr. Raymond is original with some bad advice and some which is good, such as never bathe alone and do not trouble about the head being out of but keep it in the water. With the breast stroke he says can be obtained the greatest speed with the least fatigue. He is

wrong (as has been proved of later years) in saying it is impossible to swim long in the same manner—and that all men displace more than their weight in water.

Every edition was issued in paper covers with figures sometimes colored and the price on the cover only: the three plates in the text are fairly correct: a man is represented about to spring with his head between his arms in the sixth edition (v 47676) but another on p 29 is going in on his face, as usually represented by artists.

I observe that with this writer 'faire

Art of swimming or bathers companion with Franklin's advice to bathers and Dr Buchan's remarks on bathing. London, Dean & co Threadneedle st price sixpence. [1841 ?] 12°. I have not seen this.

Das ganze der schwimmkunst...von T. F. Nickol, candidaten der theologie. Nordhausen, Fürst, 1841.

The whole art of swimming or how to learn perfectly in a few days without a teacher: with clear instructions for executing different feats, and how to use artificial means, so as to cross the deepest water without having learnt to swim: also how to save one's self and others from drowning. Written according to the advice of the old Halloren Grundmann by T. F. Nickol licentiate in theology.

24° pp 84 and covers. It is almost needless to say that the promises of this titlepage are not fulfilled. All that he says might be and probably was compiled

Der philanthropische schwimmmeister...Wien 1841.

The philanthropic swimming master or sound theoretical and practical instruction in the noble art of swimming: with a notice of its advantages, a remark about hidden dangers; with hints and precautions for maintaining health, drawn from the experience of more than fifty years and written by Carl Csillagh, assistant at the royal

Burian (Jos) Nexeologie, oder die lehre vom schwimmen (mit 4 steintafeln) Prag 1841.

Nexeologie or the art of s. Title from Kayser ix 159.

la planche, c'est nager sur le dos, avec les mains seulement' and 'faire la demoiselle c'est conserver en nageant la position verticale.'

He does not quite carry out his title as he argues that it is almost as natural for a man to swim as walk, and that if he were to fall in and stop on his back, the water would not suffocate him, and that by slight movements he could move along. With which we perfectly agree; but man born of woman is so perverse that he will not stop on his back.

from the writers he quotes, Roger, Thevenot, Guts Muths, Bernardi and de la Chapelle. He evidently wrote with the best of intentions and he impresses on the reader the great importance of swimming. Instances 'Paolo Muccia' as floater.

He says 'We have never heard that the Israelites could swim' and that they had a proverb 'the sea is not planked over.' The Bible is full of references to swimming, I have not given them because they are not within the scope of this book: they can be seen in any concordance.

Hungarian Court of Chancery, sworn Hungarian country and Law-court's lawyer, and diplomaed swimmer of the imperial royal military swimming institute at Pesth.

12° pp vi & 1 & 43 & 4 and a folding plate of 12 figures, all in the usual incorrect positions, except the 'opfersprung' or wooden soldier spring.

Chambers's information for the people new and improved edition, edited by w^m & R. Chambers...Edin 1842, 2 vols large 8°.

The first edition 1835 has no article on swimming: vol ii pp 535-6 of the above has an article compiled from various sources: with three original cuts in the text—omitted from the 1857 edition.

'The hands furnish only half the means of advancing. The other half are the legs, which must be sent out behind with a jerk to their full extent, the soles pushing against the water' [omitted from the 1857 edition]. Quotes Frost and Walker. The article is repeated in the 1847-8-9 edition.

A 'new edition' called the third in the preface dated 1857 but really the fourth, has a longer article (vol ii p 677 six columns) quoting Dr Franklin's egg practice correctly: then gives three columns with four illustrations in the text. The positions but not the backgrounds, copied from *The Boy's own book* [1849]: so that the writer knew less than the compiler of the B.O.B. It finishes with quotations from Frost and Walker. The compiler seems to have known nothing about swimming: the breast stroke is omitted altogether. The following nonsense on p 679 describing swimming with one arm, 'Should the swimmer draw in his breast imprudently, when his arms are raised he would immediately sink to the bottom' is copied from the *Encyclopædia Britannica* 1797 where it is called 'swimming with hands elevated.'

1875: fifth edition vol ii p 664, an entirely new article: about three columns, some good advice but several

Kurzgefasste und gründliche anweisung zu erlernung der schwimmkunst... von Otto von Corvin Wiersbitzki, Leipzig 1842.

Short and thorough instruction for learning the art of s.: for self instruction and for use in s. schools: by &c: third edition with numerous plates.

16° pp 88 and 21 plates. The figures are stiff and many in bad positions: they all have drawers on.

His instructions for various kinds of

mistakes. Swimming on the back is called 'floating.'

'The possibility of swimming depends upon the fact, that the human body, when the chest is inflated with air, is lighter than the water which it displaces.' This is repeated in the directions for floating, it is copied from the R.H.S. report for 1865, but it is wrong: see ante p 130.

It quotes Dr Franklin's egg practice correctly. In diving you should place 'the two hands together as a cut water in front, and then plunge head foremost, causing the forehead to receive the force of the fall.' I presume this ridiculous advice was prompted by the figures artists draw of persons taking headers on their foreheads.

'Swimming below the water is so exceedingly easy, that it requires no directions.' Why so is everything easy — when you know how to do it. I have practiced feats for months and then when able to execute them with facility they seemed to be so easy as hardly to be worth doing. The fact is, that to a novice it is most difficult to dive from the surface, with hardly a movement and without a splash or kick. A case lately came to my knowledge (being reported to the Life Saving Society 1898) where two young men were unable to effect a rescue, because they were so unskilful they could not dive from the surface of the water.

There were imitations of Chambers in French and Spanish.

swimming are copied by Auerbach 1871.

In *Bell's Life in London* 18 sep 1842, is a report of a swimming masquerade at Berlin in honor of the 28th anniversary of the 'Royal swimming school' in which 1200 swimmers, for the most part belonging to the army, took part.

Praktische anweisung zur schwimmkunst nach der v. Pfuelschen methode...von F. G. Kettenbeil. Quedlinburg und Leipzig G. Basse 1842.

Practical directions for the art of swimming according to the method of von Pfuel. 8° pp 40 with 27 plates.



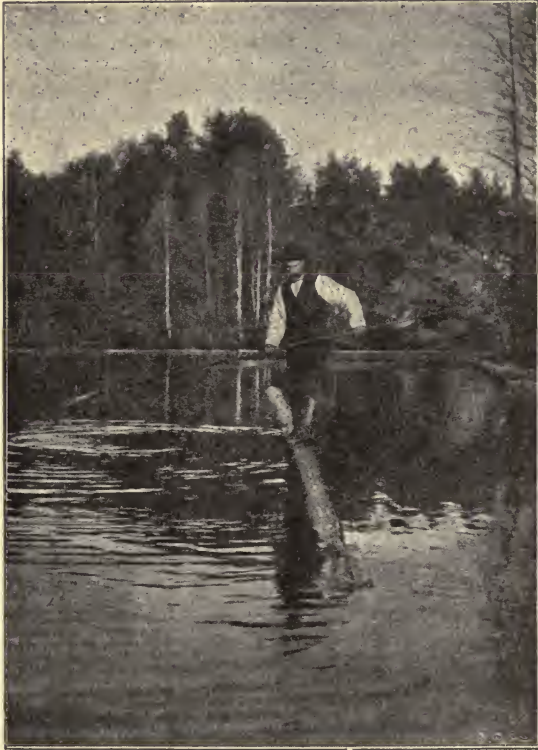
Kettenbeil's figure floating has the arms crossed over the chest and the body half out of the water, showing that the Germans of this period were quite as skilful, or the artists as ignorant, as the English. Some of his positions are copied from Bernardi.

Several of his figures represent the art of standing on a roller in the water : a little more difficult than literary 'log rolling.' First he gives a man upright, with the roller by his side, next he is sitting astride on the roller, then the two I reproduce (reduced).

This and mussuk riding seem to me to be worthy of the attention of professionals. Both require skill in the water, whereas the present popular acrobatic feats out of the water (high springing) only require skill out of the water. Even here the artist goes wrong, for a skilful

performer would have his thumbs close to his hands, and I should think the toes would be clutching the log.

Kettenbeil gives this merely as a feat of skill, but through the good offices of lieutenant colonel Victor Balck of Stockholm, I am able to give a snapshot



log roller reproduced from a stereotype lent by the Svenska Turistföreningen, Stockholm

of its practical usefulness. In Sweden and Canada great numbers of logs are sent down the rivers, and the men frequently have to balance themselves on them. Here is an instance of a log roller on the river Klarelfoen in the province of Werniland who has sent all the logs down but the one he is upon,

and on which he will balance and steer himself to shore.

I attended an interesting lecture (in English) by colonel Balck, at the Alpine Club London on the 18 feb 1902, in which this photograph was thrown upon the screen, as were also some of Swedes springing. When colonel Balck

described these he hesitated each time and eventually said 'it was what the English called diving.' He evidently

felt the absurdity of calling springing diving (see under these headings in the glossary).

A treatise on the art of swimming by Paulin Huggett Pearce, teacher of swimming, printed for and sold by the author 5 Harbour street Ramsgate 1842.

8° pp 32 of which five are doggerel rhymes. The instruction is good and not-copied from Thevenot, whose book, or a plagiarism, he must have read, as he takes some of his titles from it. Although he repeats these titles in future pamphlets the instruction is all varied.

In the preface he says he had performed at Ramsgate, and other places 'cooking and eating food with a knife and fork, smoking pipes, firing off guns and pistols, dressing and undressing, setting sail on the water, flying kites,

Practical swimming book, and poem on swimming, describing its dangers, uses and advantages; interspersed with anecdotes: shipwrecks; ancient and modern Greece compared; the state of ancient Rome and modern Rome; the ancient Romans' and Greeks' practice in swimming; with a description of the British foreign trade; and the glorious battle of the Nile; and a new song—tune God save the Queen, by Paulin H. Pearce esq Ramsgate Kent, London printed by R. Kinder, Green arbour court Old Bailey 1843.

12° pp 48. This title is from the cover, on the title page the first four words are omitted. The preliminary

shooting of bows and arrows, setting off fireworks &c, and exhibiting every mode of swimming numbers of times to the satisfaction of hundreds of thousands of spectators.'

In this year he challenged all the world to swim. Bell's Life 9 oct 1842 p 3 col 4.

Some of the tricks he did are mentioned in Southey's Common place book (1851 vol iv p 371) as having been done by a Catalan in the year 1767.

observations are the instructions of a practical man and are good.

He only describes the kick with the legs, no wedge in the breast stroke.

Just published: a treatise and poem on swimming by Paulin Huggett Pearce esq, ex-champion of swimming, 5 Harbour street Ramsgate, Kent [here is a cut of a figure floating on the top of the water with mast and sail on which is printed P. H. Pearce swimming master] London Roberts printer 6 East road City road N. 1868.

8° the swimming occupies 4 pages and the 'poem' the remaining 28 in double columns! I reproduce (r) the figure as an example of the ridiculous. No man could sail feet first with the mast in that place, the wind would turn him round to go head first. Supposing he did not sink with the weight (I have shown under floating ante p 132 about what weight a man can float with), he would be immediately capsized, even if he were floating properly under, instead of on top of, the water. That the artist should omit the topping lifts and

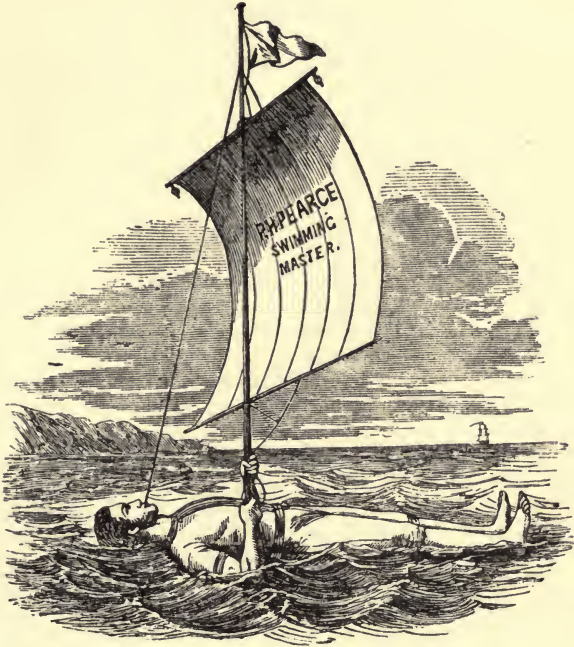
sheets is not surprising, but it is that Pearce who was a sailor should pass this omission, and that he a good swimmer should allow such a preposterous drawing.

The swimming is also reprinted with several other 'poems' as Alexander the great, King Darius and Lord Nelson's battles.

Just published: The warrior's swimming book and ladies' guide by P.H.P. &c London Roberts 1869, 8° pp 16.

Only describes the kick, no wedge, in the breast stroke.

King Petri...and swimming treatise...swimming taught on dry land in a few lessons, apply at 10 Harbour st Ramsgate.
No date but the British Museum catalogue gives it 1874.



an impossible feat
see p 260

Godwin island a play, and swimming book by – [here follow a list of his works and a cut of an opera box] Roberts printer 86 Chiswell street Finsbury square.

8° swimming occupies pp i-vi, copy received at the British Museum in 1872. The swimming instructions though all the same are in different language.

These are a few of the pamphlets which he issued in such variety that it would be almost impossible to give an accurate list. Sometimes the doggerel verses, in one case extending to sixty columns, came first, sometimes the

swimming which was also stitched to different 'poems' or a 'tragedy' or a 'patriotic song.'

Pearce probably started in life as a sailor. On the tombstone in St Peter's churchyard (Kent), it is stated that he was a 'skilful swimmer saved many persons from drowning in various parts of the world, commencing at the age of 17 by saving the lives of captain and

part of the crew of the ship *Colonist* at Barbadoes.'

If he was 80 when he died, 17 above should be 19, unless he was at Barbadoes in 1825 as well as 1827. (See Notes & Queries 8 s vols ix & x.)

He was awarded the bronze medal of the R.H.S. for rescuing Mr Blake on the 31 aug 1837 at Ramsgate: and one gentleman (Mr Blake?) whose life he saved gave him a house that brought him some fifty pounds a year, I was told. If this is a fact it is a most unprecedented piece of generosity for such a service.

From the first he deluged his publications with doggerel rhymes to adver-

The Penny Cyclopædia vol xxiii, 1842, has an original article, anonymous but the name of the writer is given in vol xxvii in the list of contributors. It is by R. H. Horne the author of *Orion*. The D.N.B. says he was a good swimmer, but does not refer to this article.

He quotes the anecdote about Huet, quoted in Bucke, and Pfuel's directions.

Says 'the only correct master is the frog' but he describes the wedge in the breast stroke.

'In London at this present time there are not above eight swimming-baths,' 'the English are not much inclined to swimming' and are unfavorably compared to foreigners: we have reversed this judgment now. In floating [there should be no swimming movement but he says that] the hands 'should gently beat down the water like fins.'

Fraser's magazine vol xxvi n^o 154 for october 1842, 8^o.

on s. pp 477 to 486 in double columns.

A good original article entitled 'The fine and froggy art of swimming by sir Julius Cutwater, bart., K.C.B. [pseud, it is by R. H. Horne].

He says he wrote the article on swimming in a periodical of Cyclopædial renown [i e *The Penny cyclopædia*].

Gives the frog as 'the only correct method' and yet speaking of the breast

tise his business of swimming teacher and proprietor of bathing machines, on which he had 'poet' written after his name: on his pamphlets he always put 'esquire' after his name.

For a swimming master he was well off, but not wealthy as was his brother Charles who kept a boot shop at 10 Harbour street Ramsgate where both lived in a penurious manner. Paulin died 23 nov 1888, according to the tombstone age 80. See also Boase's *Modern English Biography*. There is a hideous portrait of him done about 1848, on the title page of his *Battle of Waterloo*.

To effect a rescue 'take a stick if you can, and present one end to him.'

The article is good for the time though it has many errors and exploded notions, take one for example

'The only exception would be where an individual had lost a leg, in which case he could probably do little beyond floating.' This is absolutely contrary to the real fact, which is much more truly stated in *London Society* for july 1866 p 53, thus

'It may be here noticed that while every other athletic art or game is debarred to the cripple, he can swim, float and dive with no perceptible inconvenience,' and in the course of the article he names two of the most accomplished one legged swimmers.

stroke he says 'the propelling power is in the legs,' that 'of the soles of the feet is a trifle in comparison with that which is to be acquired by the creation of the wedge.'

Quotes Franklin; gives Pfuel's instructions.

To swim on the side 'is little more than swimming in the usual way' i e on the breast.

Encyclopédie des gens du monde, v 18, 1843, 8^o: only a few words.

Kluge (Herm Otto) Schwimm- und sprung-gymnastik. Berlin 1843. Swimming and springing gymnastics, with 53 plates of illustrations. See also 1870. Title from Kayser ix 510.

De gymnastische zwemschool of handleiding voor allerlei zwemen springoefeningen naar het hoogduitsch van Herm. Otto Kluge, met 54 houtsnieplaten. Leeuwarden, G. T. N. Suringar 1851.

The gymnastic swimming school or introduction to all kinds of swimming and springing exercises, after the German of Hermann Otto Kluge, with 54 woodcuts.

12° pp xii 84. The preface of this Dutch translation is signed S. The frontispiece is surmounted by three frogs.

Kluge's book is absolutely unrepresentative in English literature.

It is a commendable use of gymnastics to make it subordinate to or help swimming.

There are two figures on each plate in outline with drawers and cap and the positions are fairly correct, except those on the back which generally have their heads too much out of the water.

Brinkman 1878 mentions an edition, Amsterdam 1868.

1. The Boy's treasury of sports, pastimes, and recreations [written by J. L. Williams ?] with 400 engravings. By Samuel Williams. London D. Bogue 1844 8° pp viii 464.

The reader will find no treasures here, at least not in the 17 pages or 10 woodcuts devoted to swimming, nor is there anything to mislead; except Franklin's advice is quoted with the objectionable interpolation. It gives the letters to O. Neave and Dubourg, quotes Bernardi and Dr Arnott, and the editor had evidently seen Thevenot, or more likely The Boy's own book, from which several of the cuts are plagiarised.

The title page has a full stop after 'engravings,' so that it appears as if S. Williams was the author, and the National Library catalogues this under his name. In my first edition I did so too, and Mr Foster in A bibliography of skating 1898 was also misled. [2] I had the good luck to obtain an American reprint with the same title, except that it says 'with nearly 400 engravings designed by Williams and engraved by Gilbert, fourth American edition: New York published by Clark Austin & Co 205 Broadway 1850.' Swimming on pp 98 to 115. I quite expected Franklin's advice would have been correctly printed in his own country, but it is not. Evidently there was no

editing, for they reprint the information, which could not have been very valuable to a New Yorker, that floating baths are moored in the Thames and that the British Swimming Society was formed for the appointing masters to teach swimming.

The cuts were re-engraved for The American edition, and the beautiful work of Samuel Williams is entirely spoilt. He died 1853 (see Boase M. E. B.)

The instructions in the Bernardi method are plagiarised from The Quarterly Review.

[3] new edition, London D. Bogue (Bradbury & Evans printers) 1847, 8° pp viii 464; swimming p 90 to p 107. This is exactly the same as the 1844 edition.

4. Another called new edition and also dated 1847 pp 454, but it is really a new edition, in which swimming occurs on pp 95-111; there are numerous verbal alterations, the note from Bernardi for example, and it finishes with the paragraph 'to swim like a dog,' but practically all the instructions are the same, and Franklin's advice still has the 'objectionable interpolation.'

In side swimming 'the feet have to perform their usual motions' as in breast stroke. The cuts are reproduced in *Petit cours de natation* 1866.

'Bathing is best performed entirely naked.'

It is plagiarised in *The Illustrated boy's own treasury* 1860.

5. *The boy's own treasury of sports and pastimes*, by rev J. G. Wood, J. H. Pepper, Bennett, Miller, and others, with upwards of 400 illustrations [by S. Williams whose name is suppressed, John Gilbert, H. K. Browne and others] London George Routledge 1866 [1865] (Savill and Edwards printers). 12° pp 6 and 626.

Many of the illustrations are from the original edition but inferior, those to the swimming p 151 to p 163 are the inferior originals. The original article has been cut out altogether, and Mr Wood's treatise from *A handbook of swimming* 1858 inserted instead, but

(1) *Handbook of swimming*, London printed for the booksellers.

16° size of print height 113 width 71 millimeters [1844] pp 36, no title page, no publisher's or printer's name. Title from the cover: the running title is *The art of swimming*, and it commences with page 5. Price probably one penny.

Under diving it gives these instructions: 'when diving the eyes should be kept open, you must therefore be careful not to close them, as they reach the surface,' which nonsense is repeated from *The Boy's own book* 1844 p 145. It refers to 'those who were employed under Captain Paisley in reclaiming the *Royal George*' [1839-43] 'and who are now engaged in similar attempts at other places.'

It is plagiarised from *The Boy's own book* and *Thevenot* from an earlier plagiarism.

On p 31 it quotes Dr Lind who says that persons who soak their clothes in salt water could go a long time without drink, and it adds that by pur-

without any notice of the change. What a shameless piece of trade degradation on the part of author and publisher does this seem to me in the present day: both are long since dead or I should not dare to expose such a piece of deception. A book like the above is never unfortunately seriously reviewed, but only gets advertisement notices. There is not a word of preface to warn a buyer that the title has been altered, nor that the book is an old one republished, nor that he may already have the book. On the contrary it was intended to pass this off as a new book. The names on the title are a trick. Who [L. H. ?] Bennett and [Thomas ?] Miller were no one can tell. Pepper was the celebrated ghost man. I do not believe it ever occurred to Mr Wood that there was anything wrong in all this, I expect he thought that he and the publisher might do as they liked with their own.

suining this plan the lives of captain Kennedy and his crew were saved. This is no doubt quoted from Macpherson 1783 p 73. I have looked through several of Dr James Lind's works for this passage without success. It might do in warm, but what about cold sea water? This passage is also quoted by Dr Bedale. Misprint p 16 e in remain is upside down.

The following is a reprint from the stereos

(2) Price two pence. *The art of swimming made easy* [figure springing], London J. Neal 61 St Johns square E.C.

16° [1868]. Title from the cover: it also has a half title and contents, pp iv then 5 to 36.

(3) *March's handbook of swimming* [a whole page illustration horribly bad, with four figures, all in bad positions] with instructions [here follows a table of contents] R. March, Woodbridge street Clerkenwell London.

4° the copy at the B.M. was ac-

quired under the copyright act in 1874. It is a reprint [from stereotypes ?] of the Handbook [1844], except that four pages are put on one page of March's, which consists of four quarto leaves so that 32 pages only can be got in; and accordingly March's ends at 'any case of emergency' p 32 of the Handbook.

He also published in the same way Out door games, and The noble art of boxing, at the end of which occurs the date 1859, about which time it was issued by some other publisher. Richard March is in the P.O.D. from 1872 to 1875 as a toy card publisher.

(4) Captain Webb's swimming companion [here follow the contents and a portrait of Webb] 32 pages, one penny, R. March & co London.

Paris dans l'eau, par Eugène Briffault : illustré par Bertall. Paris publié par J. Hetzel rue de Richelieu 1844.

8° pp 138 with half title and illustrated frontispiece : it is printed by Schneider et Langrand.

This is a book which will interest the collector and the artist, the swimmer and the non-swimmer. It is profusely illustrated with exquisite drawings engraved by Diolot, Baulani, Lesestre, F. Leblanc and others, chiefly giving the comic side of life, especially natory life. The weak part is the figures illustrating positions in swimming, but the instruction and advice are both good. There is a great deal not to be found in any other book. The art of swimming is put or taught in the pleasantest manner possible : the author says (p 33) Swimming baths had been introduced in Paris about forty years. Drawers were supplied to those who could pay for them, but the majority did without this 'vain ornament.'

This was published at 3 francs Lorenz says, and there was another edition in quarto, Paris Havard 1851 : 40 cents. Bertall is an anagram of Albert (see Quérard Supercheries 1869 v i col 519) i e Charles Albert d'Ar-

16° I am unable to fix the exact year but it was probably published in 1877.

This is a reprint from the stereotypes of March's handbook [1874] with a new title page : it then begins at p 5 and goes to p 26 : so that four pages are left out though one of the feats therein, 'to sit in the water' is given on the title page but is, of course, not included as it occurs on p 27. The next leaf is pages 31 and 32 where it ends, then there are four pages of advertisements, at the end of which is March's address 18 St James's walk London E.C. He is in the P.O.D. at this address in 1877 and 1878, from 1879 it is R. March & co.

I have seen a copy in which the last page of the advertisements gives the name R. Foster & co at same address.

noux who was born Paris 1820, died 1880 (see Lorenz vol x p 130 and B.M. Catalogue).

Briffault relates how when a boy he was drowned in 1813 and that his impressions were still vivid after thirty years (p 120).

The last cut in the book depicts a bather presenting a frog.

It will be found abbreviated in *Le diable à Paris* par George Sand [and others] Paris, Hetzel 1845 pp 123-146.

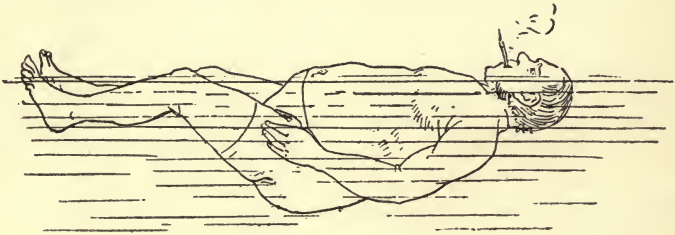
I have reproduced the figure from The boy's own book 1828 giving the then idea of floating (see ante p 239), here we see in the figure I reproduce (s.s. p 266) by Bertall (p 107) that the French idea is the same. Not being able to get the book I had a photograph taken from the copy in the B.M. This instead of a line makes a half tone block and does not reproduce well : it must not be taken as a specimen of the work of the original, as it might have been if it had been taken direct from the cut in the book. It seems unnecessary to say that nobody human or otherwise could keep in this position.

It has been suggested to me that the man would turn turtle.



impossible floating from Briffault 1845

Here I give a drawing by Mr Percy Thomas in the position I imagine the figure would assume. I regret I have been unable to see the actual thing in life,



possible floating 1901

nothing seems more difficult than to get very fat men in the water. I have seen several who weighed 224 pounds, and yet did not seem fat.

The boy's holyday book for all seasons containing complete instructions for angling, swimming. . . second edition greatly enlarged. London G. H. Davidson 25 Water street New Bridge street.

8° [1845]. The article on swimming quotes Franklin's advice, with the objectionable interpolation. is a hash up of some reprint of Thevenot, the illustrations all incorrect. It

L'école de natation, contenant une méthode facile pour apprendre à nager seul en fort peu de temps, destinée aux deux sexes et mise à la portée de tout le monde, accompagnée de dessins, par Alexandre Kugge de Derpt, prix un franc. Paris chez l'auteur, rue Saint-avoie 63, 1845.

18° pp 14. Original and good he figures in the copy I inspected at the refers to no other author, there were no Bibliothèque Nationale.

1845. The Encyclopædia Metropolitana vol xii has a short article not at all commensurate with the importance of the work. Mentions Beckmann, History of inventions, in the article dive vol xviii. Bernardi and Pfuel methods. Quotes

Lehmann (L. J.) Der kleine schwimmer. Hamburg 1845.
The little swimmer. In Kayser x 17.

Captain Stevens' system of swimming ; the only rules for a quick initiation into the same; second edition. London Biggs & son Parliament street: Berger Holywell street Strand, and sold by all booksellers 1845.



‘ professor ’ Stevens

24° pp 24 with a frontispiece (also on the cover) of ‘ captain Stevens exercising his pupils ’ which I reproduce (s.s.) Two cuts in text plagiarised from *The Boy’s own book* 1828: all the figures are without drawers. He says he ‘ taught during the last nine years upwards of 12,000 to swim ’; his ‘ system ’ is all humbug and his instruction is not good.

‘ In diving always keep your eyes

open,’ he then relates his recollection in 1811 of persons being drowned by keeping their eyes shut !! This is quoted in *The Boy’s own illustrated handbook* [1851].

‘ Twenty-five years ago I drifted off Hayling Island upon one of my father’s horses...I had a hymn book which was washed out, and several days after picked up.’ He had it rebound and says ‘ I have it in my possion (sic) I

keep it as a relic as the hand of Providence.' I may remind my readers of a similar accident which happened to St Margaret queen of Scotland who died 1093, it was the subject of a miracle! Her book is preserved in the Bodleian, Oxford.

'The Champion of England for 1844 Mr G. Pewters [then about 17] swam Hounslow [then about 38] of Oxford for £50; Pewters gained the beach 20 yards ahead of his competitor—never was there such a feat of dexterity in swimming.' This was probably on the 2nd (see Bell's Life 8) sep 1844 p 3 col 5 in the *Serpentine* at 7 o'clock morning.

'J. C. Burgoyne esq remained under water one minute 36 seconds.'

At the end are five pages of subscribers since 1837.

Professor Stephens' system...revised edition. London Biggs: Moon: Thread-needle street...price sixpence. G. Hill printer Mount row Westminster road.

Stephens is on the cover, on the title the name is spelt Stevens.

24^a [about 1852] pp 23. There are numerous alterations in this edition and it has no cuts. Begins with the sixth rule of the Universal Swimming

The Penny magazine 1845 vol xiv.

An article pp 68-71 entitled locomotion of animals.

N^o xiii swimming. It is not indexed and is written by a person who had not sufficient knowledge to correct the

The art of swimming exemplified by diagrams from which both sexes may learn to swim and float on the water; and rules for all kinds of bathing in the preservation of health and cure of disease, with the management of diet from infancy to old age, and a valuable remedy against sea-sickness. *Notitia est potestas*: by James Arlington Bennet M.D. LL.D. author of the American system of practical bookkeeping by double entry, of book-keeping by single entry and other literary and scientific works, New-York Collins, brother & co 1846.

12^o pp 103. Entered according to act of congress in the year 1846 by C. H.

Society. On the next page we read 'First Prize given for fast swimming in 1837' but it does not say by the N.S.S. but leaves it to be inferred it was the U.S.S. He says he taught 60,000 persons to swim in 16 years.

I saw this copy in the library of the Admiralty, the only thing they had on swimming. Some years after Steedman sent me a copy from Williamstown.

Stevens lectured at the Polytechnic and his son [John H. Stevens(?) who afterwards went to Australia] gave illustrations in the water: see *Swimming and swimmers* 1861 p 17.

Frequent references to Stevens will be found in *Bell's Life* see 4 sep 1842 p 2 col 3, he takes a benefit 2 october p 4 col 4: also 16 sep '49 p 7 c 1.

He is teaching at the 'Pimlico Basin' 30 july 1843 p 2 col 2: but was in Whitecross street prison for debt (*ibid* 27 aug 1843 p 4): he then had a wife and five children. At this time a debtor could be kept in prison for years for a debt of less than £20 at the expense of the country. Resumed work and appointed teacher to the Royal Military Asylum, Chelsea (*ibid* 31 mar 1844 p 1 c 6).

bad positions of Clais's figures, 9 of which are reproduced with acknowledgment. He misrepresents Clais's fig 13 plate 8 as a figure floating.

Bennet. This is an excellent treatise original and practical. It has seven

cuts in the text : the hands for breast stroke (q v for reproduction) being placed flat, in modern fashion, not palm to palm. He seems to have been a floater, the figure is represented with hands over his breast, he says 'Thin persons may find much assistance in floating by waving the hands gently alongside under water, after the manner of *sculling* a boat, first from you, with the little fingers inclined up, then towards you with the thumbs inclined up.' He is the first to describe sculling. Richardson 1857 was next. Two illustrations are of plates for hands and feet. The part on swimming ends at p 40.

Quotes Philosophical transactions; Franklin as to specific gravity only, and Bernardi.

The art of swimming, for beginners, exemplified by diagrams, from which both sexes may learn to swim and float on the water, by James A. Bennett, M.D. L.L.D. London H. Lea 22 Warwick lane E.C (printed by Adams and Gee.)

16° [1860] pp 32 price 2d.

The cover is nicely illustrated, by the artist who drew the cover to Forrest's in 1858, it is not repeated in the book. The Marshall Hall method advocated by The Royal national lifeboat Institution is given at the end dated may 1860.

This pamphlet was advertised in Once a Month a magazine published by

Die gymnastik... von Julius Kunze... Leipzig und Pesth 1846.

12° pp viii 214 pp 103-128 on s. acknowledged to be from Walker's Manly exercises, whose figures are introduced in the text.

A hand-book for bathers... by a medical member of her majesty's household : with directions for swimming. London E. Churton 26 Holles street.

16° [1846] pp 47. The seven pages on swimming are not we are told from 'the same grave source as the preceding, but emanate from an authority equally veteran.' Yes! and a little more so, considering they have been cut out of Mason's plagiarism of Thevenot and other treatises and pasted together, the compiler adding one or two words of conjunction. Gives the

Bennet only describes the frog kick, he says 'The frog presents the most perfect example for human swimming.' 'The author has, perhaps, exercised as much in the useful art of swimming, between seven and forty years of life, being now fifty-seven, as any other person in America. He has never seen but one man whom he thought a better swimmer than himself, and that man was the Rev Thomas Taylor, Methodist Preacher, his only preceptor in the art.'

On p 38 drawers is spelt draws, altered in the English edition. The entry in the Index catalogue of the library of the surgeon general's office Washington 1893, vol xiv p 16 is dated 1816 in error the librarian informs me.

Lea : n° 2 1861.

It is a republication by an ignorant person of the swimming portion of the American Bennet without any acknowledgment or hint that it had been previously published. The author's name is misspelt and L.L.D. misspelled : misprint p 10 last line 'be' is omitted. It has six good diagrams.

frog as an example.

He quotes Franklin though he 'also is too apt to indulge in homely language'!

On the 17 oct 1898 I received from Mr Charles Steedman a copy of this treatise printed in Australia though unfortunately the imprint and colophon are missing. It is stated on the cover to be 'by D. W. Jobson esq M.R.C.S.

of Edinbro and formerly a medical member of H. Britannic majesty's household.' On the title he puts M.R.C.S. London.

David Wemyss Jobson was born in Dundee about 1810: took licence of the R.C.S. Edin in 1830.

Istituzione di arte ginnastica...per Niccoló Abbondati...Napoli 1846.

Two volumes 8° s. in vol 2 pp 133 to 189 with two folding plates (26 & 27) of figures swimming, chiefly copied without acknowledgment from Bernardi.

Le livre des écoliers... par M[onsieur] l'abbé de Savigny... Paris Havard 1846.

8° pp viii 372: swimming on pp 43-49. According to Quérard (*Supercheries littéraires*) Savigny is a pseudonym of Philadelphie Maurice Alhoy, who died in 1856 (Lorenz).

This article, like the rest of the book, is more or less translated (and the nine

figures in the text copied but reversed) without acknowledgment from *The Boy's treasury* 1844. As usual the cuts of swimming are inferior to all the rest in the book, many of which are beautifully drawn and better than the English book they copy.

Orr's book of swimming as practised and taught in civilized nations and used for the preservation of health and life: illustrated. New York J. W. and N. Orr (stereotyped by Burns and Baner) 1846.

16° pp 36, with covers, on the back of which Rabineau's baths and the Franklin salt water bath are illustrated. This is a plagiarism of the *The Boy's treasury* 1844 slightly altered by one who was a swimmer, but not a very good one, to suit American readers. The cuts all re-engraved and several signed Orr. In the frontispiece the boy standing with his back to us, has been made decent, as have all the others, by being invested with drawers, and following the original he says 'Bathing is best performed when quite naked, but...decency forbids entire nudity, a kind of short drawers is worn, as may be seen in our engravings; and where ladies and gentlemen bathe in company, as is the fashion all along the Atlantic coast...shirts and trowsers are worn.'

The action of the legs in the breast stroke is described with more care than in *The Boy's treasury*. Dr Franklin's advice with the objectionable interpolation is reprinted, without comment.

The editor refers to Courtivron,

Bedall (sic) an English gentleman, and Mungo Park, all without acknowledgment from *The penny magazine* 30 July 1836 p 290: also to Melville's *Typee*, and Dr Arnott: refers to Dr Rabineau who said there were 3000 ladies who could swim in New York.

Bernardi's system can never, the editor says, 'supersede that taught by nature, and the frog, her best professor.'

Another edition, with an illustration on the cover not repeated in the book

The science of swimming as taught and practiced in civilized and savage nations...by an experienced swimmer. New York Fowlers and Wells, Boston 142 Washington st, London 142 Strand.

On the reverse of the title: entered according to act of Congress 1849. No mention of a previous edition: the illustrations are much worn. The British Museum had this in 1864, but as it is deftly hidden by being catalogued under the word 'science' I did not see it then.

A treatise on swimming as taught at Berlin in the Military College, from a German MS. London J. Ollivier 59 Pall Mall 1846.

For more about the author &c, see my Handbook of fictitious names 1868.

The preface is signed c. w. s. and contains some original remarks. I owe this little piece a tremendous grudge. I need scarcely say that I am indebted to the library of the British Museum for an inspection of a great many of the treatises in this list. I got some notion of this little publication, probably from some old catalogue, and imbued with the idea that it was more important than it turned out to be, and that it must be in the library, I searched the catalogues, but without finding it. I looked again and again, under every probable and improbable heading. I should be afraid of not being believed if I were to state the time I occupied in searching the various catalogues. It was all useless. Nevertheless I felt convinced that it must be there. Six months after, in turning over some pages of the new catalogue, I accident-

ally came across — 'c., s. w. A treatise &c.' Here it was, at last! My delight, if I recollect rightly, for it is four years since, was totally out of proportion to the value of the find. I had something of the feeling I should imagine a Californian gold-digger experiences when after much toil his labour is at last rewarded by a glimpse of gold (1868).

The above is the note in my first edition. I inadvertently put c., s. w. instead of s., c. w., a mistake copied by several subsequent writers!

He says his treatise was 'inserted some twenty years ago in one of the monthly magazines [the Naval and military 1828], and since that period what progress has the art of swimming made in this country?' None, he says, and cites foreigners. Well we have changed all that now.

The instructions are on the belt method. He instances the frog as an example.

The boys' own handbook of swimming uniform with The boy's own illustrated handbook of angling. The second edition containing four additional engravings.

I have not seen this, it is advertised in The sportsman's magazine 7 aug 1847 as one of Dyson's penny handbooks. Arthur Dyson was at Paul's alley, Paternoster row. I imagine the following to be a reprint

The boy's own illustrated handbook of swimming [a figure, springing] containing easy rules for self-instruction. London March 12 Webber street.

160 [1851] pp 15 but unpagged after p 11, price one penny. Title from the cover. The cut on the cover is fairly correct, but the page illustration and four cuts in the text are badly done and plagiarised from The boy's own book 1828. Captain Stevens is quoted on p 3 and p 11. It also quotes Franklin's kite trick with a cut representing a

figure being drawn by the kite feet first. I reproduce this under Franklin. It also quotes Pfuel's system from the 'excellent work' of major Jones, whose book I have not been able to find. J. March was also a wood-engraver, he wrote The jolly angler 1833, see Westwood and Satchell 1883 pp xiv xvi 13, 40, 143.

Chambers's Edinburgh journal... vol viii 1847 p 73: 2 columns. 'Aids in swimming' refers to 'the swimming skate invented in France a few years ago' see ante p 246.

He quotes sir George Simpson as to

Sandwich Islanders swimming [this refers to his Narrative of a journey round the world 1847 see vol ii pp 63-65, he

only instances what wonderful s. both men and women were, he mentions no style in which they swam].

Ministère de la guerre. Instruction pour l'enseignement de la gymnastique... Paris 1847.

12° with a book of plates, 1849 4° swimming on pp 97-100, particularly for instruction out of the water; anonymous but an issue almost exactly the

same in 1850, swimming on pp 71-74, is by le capitaine c. D'Argy who also signs the preface as capitaine au 70° regiment d'infanterie.

Instruction pratique pour l'enseignement élémentaire de la natation dans l'armée. Imprimée avec autorisation de M. le ministre de la guerre : par D'Argy chef de bataillon au 18° léger ; suivi d'une notice complémentaire adressée aux chefs de corps par lettre ministérielle du 18 mai 1852 : 6° tirage. Paris librairie militaire de J. Dumaine libraire-éditeur de l'empereur 1863.

12° pp 66 & 2 with 5 plates price 60 cent.

are good : the hands are represented in the old fashioned style palm to palm.

This I saw at the Bibliothèque Nationale, also an edition probably the first dated 1851, 12° pp 48, with three plates; another 1852, 12° pp 55 (no plates): others previous to the sixth edition I have not seen. Defrançois quotes an edition of 1854. In his preliminary notice he refers his readers to Courtivron, but curiously enough to the first edition, evidently being unaware of the later ones.

Christmann p 23 says commander D'Argy in 1849 composed with N. Laisné a treatise on swimming for the army, the MS of which was deposited with the minister of war Paris; and that in 1851 was published L'instruction pratique pour l'enseignement élémentaire de la natation dans l'armée. Otto Lorenz only gives this as published with D'Argy's name in 1863.

Describing the motions in swimming he says that when you open the arms, you join the legs; when you close the arms, open the legs, and that this simple instruction is new, never having been thus described to his knowledge by previous writers. The instructions and figures

Reichel (1897) gives the title of a German edition Berlin 1864.

Charles Henri D'Argy was born in France 1805 (see Lorenz) he was gymnastic master at Vincennes, but Defrançois in 1870 refers to him as le comte D'Argy aujourd'hui colonel des Zouaves pontificaux.

1. Instruction pour le peuple. Paris Dubochet 1848, large 8°.

Stated to be an imitation of Chambers's Information for the people. First issued in numbers, Paris 1847.

Swimming in vol ii cols 2011 to 2016 of either edition: it is signed 'capitaine Schreuder' and is not translated from Chambers (the name of Schreuder is omitted from the Spanish edition) it has three cuts 33, 34 and 35 in the text, badly done and plagiarised and reversed from Courtivron (plates 2, 5 and 4). Quotes Courtivron (pp 367-371) with acknowledgment, as to swimming under water, the very piece that

The following is another edition though with a different title and no reference made to the previous edition

2. Encyclopédie théorique et pratique des connaissances utiles... Paris Garnier [1850?] 8°.

3. Instruccion para el pueblo... Madrid 1859.

Courtivron himself inadvertently took from Roger! Gives some of Thevenot's feats without acknowledgment.

Figures 33 and 35 plagiarised in

Kurze theoretisch-praktische anweisung zum schwimmen. Ulm 1848.

Translation of title in full
Short theoretical and practical instructions for swimming for all ages and sexes and especially to be made use of in cases of emergency by A. Bührlen,

Cassell's Illustrated family paper 1865.

It is quoted in Petit cours 1866: the figures are copied in Manuale del nuotatore 1875.

teacher of languages and swimming, second improved edition with six illustrations.

12° pp 32. The folding plate of six figures gives the breast stroke correctly.

The Swimmer's manual

Under this title a penny pamphlet of fourteen pages with seven figures was published in 12° about 1848. I have never seen it in this form, my copy is the first in

Dipple's handbooks containing complete treatises on the following subjects: swimming songbirds poultry baths angling pigeons rabbits bathing; by Francis Benjamin Thompson editor of the Sporting Life, Record of Science, &c &c volume the first. London Edwin Dipple Strand price 1s free by post 1s 6d.

12° [1850]. On the paper cover, in all other respects a copy of the title, the T in the editor's name is omitted. The part on swimming occupies pp 1 to 14, it quotes Dr Franklin, correcting the 'prevalent opinion' about keeping the eyes open. Altogether it is good. The seven cuts in the text are plagiarised from Clias, from whom also he takes the instructions for 'swimming on the side' but nothing else.

The reader is recommended to take lessons of Harold Kenworthy of the National baths Holborn the champion of swimming. [He died rather suddenly see Swimming and swimmers 1861 p 19.] Each pamphlet is separately paged, and the title pages taken away except that to Songbirds which is dated July 1850, 14th edition. The last pamphlet in the volume is on 'Baths and bathing' published about 1850. It refers to 'the late dreadful epidemic the Cholera of 1849.' On page 14 we are told to read the Swimmer's Manual written by an experienced instructor of our most celebrated 'Swimming schools' so that we must assume that though Thompson poses as

writer on the title page to the volume he was only editor.

Second edition, price one penny, Dipple's handbooks. The swimmer's manual [here is a cut of two figures with the] apparatus for teaching swimming as employed in the Prussian swimming schools. London Edwin Dipple 42 Holywell street Strand (A. Munro printer).

12° [about 1851] pp 11 & 13 six cuts in the text.

Thompson's name is not to this edition, there is no further mention of the Prussian system beyond the title. It suppresses a funny statement which is perhaps correct, but would affect no man wearing drawers, on page 5 of 'vol i'; also the references to Kenworthy. On the last page dated April 1848 (no doubt that of the original issue, left in through inadvertence) is an advertisement of a tale translated by Henry Downs Miles who died in 1889 (see Boase's M.E.B.); he was a writer in sporting papers so that he may have been the 'experienced instructor' who wrote this pamphlet.

Holiday sports and pastimes for boys: by H. D. Richardson author of *Dogs their origin and varieties*. London Orr 1848.

12° 1s. The 17 pages on swimming are from the pen of a practical man. In his preface dated from Dublin the author says 'As a swimmer I was long known as the champion of New-haven, whither it was my custom to resort every morning during a long and happy residence in Edinburgh.' Allibone says he was 'a native of Scotland resident at Dublin some time before his death.'

A treatise on drowning prevented by floating in the water without motion by Dr Bedale (nephew of the late celebrated swimmer Dr Bedale), of n° 8 Hanover st three doors from Shudehill [here is a figure with drawers on, holding his nose in illustration of] Dr Bedale's method of going into the water; with nine engravings. It may be truly called the bather's companion, in which every necessary direction is given for learning and attaining perfection, in this healthy, necessary, and life preserving art. Price one penny...Manchester printed for Jacques, Miller street and 158 Oldham road.

12° [1848] pp 8. The cuts are all badly done. On p 6 it says the business was established by the late swimmer Dr Bedale in 1812 and conducted since 1841 (when I presume he died) by his brother's son. I also have Dr Bedale's almanac 1848 with the 'art of swimming' on pages 22 to 32, being a reprint of some reprint of Thevenot without acknowledgment, and Franklin's advice without his name but with the objectionable interpolation. Both pamphlets are quack advertisements.

Woodbridge says he remembered Dr Bedale and that 'Frequently he might be seen floating in the river Mersey at Liverpool eagerly observed by thousands of spectators having attached to his body a light mast and sail, secured in a belt, by means of which he would for hours enjoy himself.' He was not a surgeon but a quack (N & Q 11 sep 1875 p 219) being by

The National Cyclopædia of useful knowledge vol xi. London Charles Knight 1850 8°.

A compilation of two columns, gives Pfuël's system. Editions to the present time, that printed and published at

Natation, nouveau système par Pierre Louis Auguste Lechevallier du Havre.

8° [1851] it is reprinted in *Mémoire concernant les résultats obtenus dans*

trade an operative cotton-spinner. He is frequently mentioned in books about swimming; H. D. Richardson refers to the feats of 'The celebrated American Dr Biddle who swam from the mouth of the Mersey...a distance of 24 miles,' which *The penny magazine* 30 July 1836 p 291 says he did 10 July 1827 at the rate of six miles an hour. They should have mentioned that there is a tide of about four miles an hour in the Mersey.

Mr Robert P. Watson in his *Memoirs* 1899 p 26, says 'Mingling with drugs of all descriptions was a small pamphlet, describing Dr Bedale as something more than a man of medical science. He was Dr Bedale the great swimmer, the individual who swam from Runcorn to Liverpool and the pamphlet set forth how this great man accomplished the feat.' There is no such description in the above pamphlet.

Glasgow by Mackenzie [1887] has nearly the same article but it gives Webb and Cavill's swims.

l'armée de terre et de mer par l'application du système de natation de P. L. A.

Le Chevallier du Havre, chevalier de la Légion-d'honneur ; membre de la Société générale de sauvetages, précédé d'une introduction par m[onsieur] E. Corbière et approuvé par les rapports des différents chefs de l'armée et de la marine appelés à constater les résultats obtenus. Paris, Beaulé (printed at Havre) 1852

8° pp 16 & 23 with a colored plate of the machine he patented for teaching swimming, but the system itself is not explained. This pamphlet appears to have been originally only 16 pages of results, then follow 16 more of testimonials and then seven pages of facts about Chevallier, who was a sailor and swimming master at Havre : in 1814 he obtained a gold medal for saving lives: he probably could not write. I inspected these

Chambers's journal 1852 vol 18 p 225, a tale with the title 'a swim extraordinary' only recorded here in case anyone should think it is about swimming.

The Swimmer's companion containing the easiest and most beneficial method of learning, with instructions in the most clever feats practised by expert swimmers [cut]. London w. G. Kerton 5 Paul's alley Paternoster row.

16° [1852] pp 15, 1d.

The title of this which I take from the cover is a complete misnomer. The few instructions given are calculated

Cassell's Popular educator vol iii 1853, 4°.

Edited the B.M. Catalogue says by Robert Wallace but F. Boase in his M.E.B. says that G. F. Pardon was projector and editor of this work. So it is a question which of them is entitled to the discredit of the articles on swimming, which are on pp 318 & 333 with three figures in the text plagiarised from

Instruction pour le Peuple 1848.

The curious reader can also compare the figures in these two works, in the articles on gymnastics, all taken from the French without acknowledgment. The figure (representing 'la coupe' in Instruction pour le peuple 1848) is plagiarised from Courtivron but re-

copies which were given by his son in 1864, at Havre public library.

Edouard Corbière performs a very useful office, he writes an introduction showing what a wonderful man the inventor : is that's just the sort of thing I wanted done for my book.

I have my doubts about these systems that profess to teach people in a few hours: swimming requires solid and persevering work, and as many authors observe, it is well worth the trouble. It takes many days to get familiar with the water, without learning any stroke.

In Les sports à Paris par A. de Saint Albin 1889 the author mentions 'Mme Chevallier' the wife of the famous rescuer, 'who has given up counting his medals.'

to do harm, except Franklin's advice which is quoted with the objectionable interpolation. On page 15 is an engraving of a cutter sailing.

versed. I reproduce (under date 1865) fig 36 'la coupe' as it is so often plagiarised through Cassell's 1853. It is plagiarised from Cassell's Popular educator in The Boys' journal 1863, also in Cassell's Illustrated family paper 1865 and a similar figure will be found in Crawley 1878 p 40.

Gives the frog as an example.

Second edition [1862] same articles. Third edition [1867] vol ii p 159 and p 223 with seven cuts in the text. Entirely new and fairly good articles, much on the same lines as those in Cassell's Illustrated family paper 1865 from which the cuts are taken : quotes

Dr Arnot[t] and Walker and refers to Franklin's advice. Says there is no difficulty in 'floating beyond the knack of getting into the proper position.' The figure in the cut representing the 'proper position' (from *Instruction pour le peuple* 1848) shows the figure with the arms by the side, which requires considerable 'knack' before it can be done in fresh water. The same figure serves to illustrate 'swimming on the back'

1853 The 'Encyclopédie du 19^e siècle' has an article of five columns octavo, plagiarised from Diderot, the *Encyclopédie Méthodique* and others, it is signed AD. P...T. i e Pontécoulant.

Le sport à Paris...par Eugène Chapus 1854.

8° pp 316, p 185 to p 189 on swimming in Paris: chiefly as to the baths: says the Parisians are the best swimmers in the world.

The Swimmers' hand book, containing the whole art of swimming [figure springing] with advice to bathers, by Dr Franklin: price twopence. London H. Elliot 475 New Oxford st 1854.

16° pp 30 three cuts in the text. After Franklin's advice, which is quoted with the objectionable interpolation, it reprints Thevenot without the slightest

acknowledgment, from cap i to vi and xxvii to xxx, then xxxiv to the end.

Partly reprinted in *Swimming made easy* [1860].

Arte de nadar y método de bañarse, por D. Roque Moran, obra original. Madrid 1855, librería de D. J. Gonzalez, Plaza Mayor...

The art of swimming and method of bathing, an original work.

16° pp 32 with ten whole page illustrations of figures, all too much out of the water and in absurdly wrong positions, at least according to our notions. The author is represented playing the flute

in the water (see ante p 129). It must have been a 'magic flute,' as the water comes up to his elbows only. This is probably not more incorrect than the figure floating which is also half out of the water. The figures are all represented with drawers.

1. Every boy's book...edited by George Forrest esq M.A. London Routledge: New York 1855.



8° pp x 636: swimming pp 82-98 with twelve cuts [by John Gilbert] several plagiarised from *The Boy's own book* [1849]. The figures are without drawers. I reproduce that of hand-over-hand swimming showing the legs giving the animal stroke. Eighth edition 1863:

another edition pp xvi 816 by Edmund Routledge, who in the preface, dated Christmas 1868, says the book has been almost entirely rewritten. The article on swimming which occupies pp 325 to 341 with thirteen illustrations, is precisely the same, except that one of them is a colored woodcut full page frontispiece on plate paper of boys bathing from a punt signed DM [Du Maurier], which first appeared but without text in Routledge's *Every boy's annual*, edited by E. Routledge. London 1866, facing p 528. 16th edition 1889.

This article is simply scissors and paste compilation. First it quotes Dr Franklin correctly, then Dr Arnot[t]: nearly the whole of the swimming directions are reprinted without acknowledgment from Clias: even copies Clias's 'waist' for belly. Gives the frog stroke only, though Clias gives the wedge. Then it gives Bernardi's system, apparently copied from another book, it is clear the editor knew nothing about it. Then it gives 'the Prussian system of Pfuel,' also from Clias (or major Jones's work ?) see *The Boys' &c* [1847].

The article is also abbreviated in 2. *Every little boy's book* [1864].

Forrest is a translation of Wood.

It seems quite incredible that the rev J. G. Wood, who was a swimmer should plagiarise Clias, but there the fact is. In his preface he says that a compilation from other books 'is always evident, for it wants the freshness and vigour of original writing, and invariably fails to inspire interest.'

A book of a precisely similar kind was begun to be published under the title (3.) *Every boy's book...by uncle Frank*. London Warren 1841, 16°, but only reached two parts, in all 62 pages. In the preface the author refers to 'our instructions on swimming' but they were never published. The illustrations, anonymous, are by S. Williams.

Another book is announced in *The Gent Mag* april 1841 p 408 as

4. *Every boy's book* a compendium of all sports by J. L. Williams, with 400 engravings by Samuel Williams.

I have not been able to see this. It was probably published as *The boy's treasury*.

5. *Every boy's book...edited by professor [Louis] Hoffmann [pseud of Angelo John Lewis]...London Routledge, Manchester and New York 1897. 8° pp xix 900 price 7s 6d.*

Swimming (pp 168-184 with 7 figs in the text) is an entirely new article, by William Charles Arlington Blew (born 1848 see *Foster's Men at the Bar*) with many good points, but with the disadvantage of being written by a man who, I surmise from his writing, is only a moderate swimmer, and consequently fails in details which are now so essential. The writer does not understand the sidestroke, and his description is therefore weak and inaccurate, and the figure 5 is if anything worse, for if not plagiarised from Cassell's (reproduced at page 292) it is in quite as bad a position. Mr Blew's first mistake is calling 'Mr' Digby 'Sir Everard,' which he has copied, with other matter, from Sinclair and Henry 1893, but it shows that he is not acquainted with what has been written on swimming since or he would have seen some of my corrections of this mistake. The assertion that swimming is 'easy to learn' though quite the contrary to fact, is perhaps justifiable, as it will encourage boys: the advice to duck the head is good, but that to 'keep the body perfectly stiff' in springing is not. The body should take an easy curve but not be stiff, just the contrary. The part on floating betrays the man who cannot float. The position of the figure is accurate, but fig 7 should have come first and from that to floating: and this astonishing (that is for 1897) advice is given

'should any great difficulty be experienced in learning to float, the arms may be brought back to the sides, and the hands and wrists make a slight paddling movement,' which tells us that the writer is unacquainted with the fact that this is known as 'sculling,' and that he does not know the differ-

ence between floating and swimming. The Life Saving Society's drill is not mentioned, nor any swimming land drill, and in fact the article is not at all up to date. The article entitled diving is all about headers and springing. Water polo pp 457-460 is by Frank Sachs.

The Boy's own magazine. London s. o. Beeton 1855.

8° vol i pp 141-4. A simple quotation of Dr Franklin's letter, with the egg practice and the objectionable interpolation, and the letter to Dubourg.

Ibid vol iii 1857 pp 204-8.

An original article entitled 'A half hour in the water,' in which the writer considers 'To learn to swim is the easiest of all possible acquirements' and that the body is lighter than water! Tells an anecdote of Dr Franklin falling into a tank when he was 'a philosopher,' whereas he could swim when he was a boy, so could not have fallen into a tank as a non-swimmer when a philosopher; also tells another improbable story which he vouches for and which took place in 1829, of a lad of 16 who could not swim, crossing at the bottom of a river 25 yards wide and 10 feet deep.

'Man swims in water by imitating the motions of the frog' (p 206). 'In Paris swimming is much more generally cultivated than with us' which I believe not to be the case in the present day, see *Swimming in France in To-Day* 12 sep 1896 p 190.

Ibid vol viii (1862) pp 354-357.

An original article entitled 'Swimming and diving' occupying eight columns assigned in the index to H. Williams, who I gather from the article was only an ordinary swimmer. It says 'All animals except the camel, swim naturally. Man is the only perfect [?] animal who has to learn' which is not correct.

'What I mean by useful swimming is, in imitation of the frog, to be able to turn in any direction;' as to the

legs 'stretch them out in the manner of a frog.' Gives a pattern for bathing drawers, of the roomy old fashioned type: gives the headings of some feats in fancy swimming, which are taken without acknowledgment from Thevenot.

Ibid vol vi n° 34 1865 pp 357-9. An article [by the rev J. G. Wood ?] entitled 'Man and the water' with a whole page illustration of 'professor' Beckwith and his family from a photograph, engraved by W. Thomas, including Beckwith's child, who when two and a half years old could on being thrown into the water keep afloat though unable to swim.

Ibid vol ix 2nd series, march 1867 forms the volume of Beeton's Boy's annual for 1868: p 173 has a notice with portrait of rev J. G. Wood who, it says, was for 'a few months co-editor with' s. o. Beeton the publisher, and for a long period a contributor. Below the view of the publishers shop at Temple Bar on the cover of a monthly part of vol i 2nd series 1863, is a cartouche with the words 'edited by the publisher.' This is varied in the monthly part n° 33, 2nd series vol vi for sep 1865, where the name 'edited by the rev J. G. Wood' is substituted for Beeton's, but this occurs only on that single part. An article by Cuthbert Bede in the Boy's own paper for 13 July 1889 p 652 says the rev J. G. Wood was editor of this magazine, which I believe is a mistake except as above. Certainly if he had been editor of vol i he would never have allowed the interpolation in Franklin's advice to pass without comment.

1. Asphyxia, its nature and remedy (pamphlet presented to the R.H.S. january 1856).

2. An article in *The Lancet* 12 apr 1856.

3. 1857. Prone and postural respiration in drowning and other forms of apnoea, by Marshall Hall M.D. (a pamphlet).

I have not seen pamphlets 1 and 3, but they are reprinted in

Prone and postural respiration in drowning and other forms of apnoea or suspended respiration, by Marshall Hall M.D. F.R.S. of the Institute of France... edited by his son Marshall Hall esq. London Churchill 1857, 12° pp xvi 216.

The dedication is to those students of St George's Hospital who worked out the problem of postural respiration, E. L. Fox (d 28 mar 1902 aged 60), C. Hunter (d 8 aug 1878 aged 43), and R. L. Bowles.

Under these titles is hidden what nearly every schoolboy now knows, through the Life Saving Society's teaching, as the Marshall Hall method of resuscitation. On p 21 the rules then in use by the R.H.S. are given and their uselessness demonstrated. I have slightly touched on the resuscitation question under R.H.S. 1774.

In Prone & c p 168 Dr Hall gives two cases where every other effort having failed, the persons were restored by another person sucking at the nose or mouth, one or other being stopped, the effect being the opposite of blowing the breath into the body. Dr Hall observes (p 174) 'that mouth to mouth suction or forcing might be successful; but might also be ineffectual in one case and *fatal* in another. In a word, nothing is *certain*, nothing is *safe*, except in the prone position. The warm bath least of all.' Though it is necessary to keep the tongue forward in the Silvester method (see *The true Physiological & c* 1863 p 20), it is not so in the Hall method.

'It has been objected that the Marshall Hall method begins with expiration instead of inspiration; but by the three reasons just given, in favour of beginning the process with pronation, the objection is more than answered:

for if you start with *inspiration*, you may draw fluid into the lungs; whilst, on the other hand, if you start by producing *expiration*, you open the glottis, clear the air passages of fluid, and get rid of some of the poisonous air before the pure air is inhaled - three great points gained by a single movement.' Dr Charles Hunter in *Memoirs of Hall* 1861 p 507.

Memoirs of Dr Hall 1861 p 362 says 'the carbonic acid retained in the blood acts as a most deadly poison: there is one mode of eliminating this poison - respiration - and one sure mode of inducing respiration - pronation and rotation of the body... We must never forget that the circulation is a self-poisoning, the respiration a de-poisoning process.'

The above I was not able to find in, although it is said to be quoted from Prone & c.

'Some physiologists formerly employed the terms apnoea and asphyxia as synonymous - i.e. to signify the state of lifelessness induced by the stoppage of respiration; but the term apnoea is now [distinguished from asphyxia] applied to that state in which the blood is saturated with oxygen.' *Taylor's Medical jurisprudence* 1894 vol ii p 2. But Dr Bowles writes me that this latter statement is wrong, his view is the one in Mr Foster's *A text book of physiology*, and is generally accepted. Instead of 'saturated with oxygen' it should be saturated with carbonic acid and other impurities. Oxygen having

been denied entrance the blood cannot be saturated with it.

The name and fame of Dr Marshall Hall are so well known that I need only say he was born 18 feb 1790 died 11 aug 1857. See Memoirs by his

Enquire within upon everything. London Houlston 1856, 12°.

By R. K. Philp who died 1889 see F. Boase M.E.B. and the Bibliotheca Cornubiensis by Boase and Courtney. On pp 323-6 there are some observations on swimming suggesting that every one should learn: then Franklin's egg practice is quoted with the objectionable in-

Manual of British rural sports...by Stonehenge. London Routledge 1856, 8° pp xvi 720.

The ten pages 512-521 devoted to swimming are fairly good. The cuts are taken from Every boy's book. For other works by Stonehenge i.e John Henry Walsh who died 1888 see Boase. M.E.B. and the Handbook of fictitious names.

Quotes Bernardi, and Franklin's plan of learning to dive first but not with approval: gives the frog as an example. In swimming on the side 'the feet act as usual.'

The subsequent editions, 2nd the same year, 3rd 1857, 4th 1859, 5th (?), 6th 1865 are mere reprints, to the 7th 1867 or perhaps the 8th, but all the editions are not in our National library or the Bodleian.

Ninth edition 1871 alters the title by leaving out Manual of. At p 657 (the index misprints this 567), begins an entirely new article [by the rev J. G. Wood?] with only one cut, from Every boy's book 1855, of a figure springing in a bad position. It gives some 'fastest times': in the 14th edition 1878 this is headed 'fastest times on record' now it would be simply headed 'records.'

Instructions on the art of swimming, by C. Richardson esq. London James Ridgway, Piccadilly 1857.

8° pp iv 51, 1s. This, if not the best to this date, is one of the best treatises on the subject. It is entirely

widow 1861 with portrait.

See ante p 200, and N and Q 9th s vi 67, 217, 277. His only child, a barrister and captain in the volunteers died 14 apr 1896.

For other references see index.

terpolation, which is actually repeated in the 93rd edition revised in 1897!! There surely ought to be some punishment for publishers who continue to disseminate instruction like this, for thirty years after it has been shown to be bad.

Gives the Silvester method and quotes J. R. Hodgson of Sunderland who 'about a dozen years ago issued instructions for the rescue of drowning persons.' Hodgson says 'It is of primary importance that you take fast hold of the hair.' This is now considered a bad practice more especially in the case of a lady! 'I believe' Hodgson says 'there is no such thing as a death grasp, at least it must be unusual, for I have seen many persons drowned and have never witnessed it.'

'None but those who are sound in wind and limb could accomplish a thousand yards in still water under seventeen minutes' (1871 p 659).

Refers to Coulter as a fast breast swimmer [portrait in The I sporting n. 21 July '66]: to Harvey's plunge, see ante p 149: also mentions Harold Kenworthy and many swimmers, but gives no dates except to Webb and Cavill. The reference to 'Pewtress' as the introducer of the sidestroke is copied from Swimming and swimmers 1861.

17th edition 1888 same article.

original. He is the first to advocate an excellent method of learning to swim. Beginners generally complain

that they go underneath the water : very well, says Mr Richardson, stop there as long as you can. Why not learn the stroke under the water? It is easier, and gives greater confidence (1868).

Keep under water as long as you can and in order to do so 'draw several long inhalations.'

Familiarity with the water must be got before attempting any stroke.

He considers 'the practice of dipping children is very objectionable.'¹ He describes the wedge for the breast stroke but he instructs the hands to be kept palm to palm (p 7) and also in taking a header (p 24). From this I imagine he must have been an elderly man, as when I practiced swimming at this time with others we never held our hands thus but only flat thumb to thumb (see ante p 100). Repudiates the frog as an example.

He advises (p 11) the stroke to be practiced out of the water. On p 14 'starting' is misprinted. He uses float as synonymous with swim (p 16). He describes sculling but without giving it a name 'if the finger ends be raised...progress will be head first; but if the finger ends be depressed at the same angle (45°), the progress will be feet first.'

He is the first and only writer who gives this useful and simple stroke feet first action.

In side swimming 'The stroke of the legs is the same as in front swimming.'

Under the title of 'The Porpus' (p 19) he describes the hand-over-hand stroke which he probably took from The Boy's own book 1828 where he no doubt got the 'objectionable interpolation' which he calls an 'absurd mistake.' To a water polo player it will be amusing to hear that Richardson says the hand-over-hand stroke 'has little real utility.'

He is the first to say that 'the breath should be drawn through the nose, and not through the mouth.' I doubt if he did this himself. To keep the mouth shut is good advice but I consider it impracticable in swimming, when one discharges air and water through the nostrils and almost simultaneously breathes through the mouth in a far quicker and more effectual way than using the nostrils only. Moreover it is a rare accident for a good swimmer to take in any water.

Richardson (p 22) says that writers generally give an incorrect idea of the rate a man can swim. 'For example in Walker's Manly exercises sixth edition (p 93) speaking of upright swimming, which is acknowledged to be slower than the ordinary mode, the following passage occurs "According to this system, Bernardi says, a swimmer ought at every stroke to urge himself

¹ In which he is supported by most other authors, but I will only quote the following from Dr B. W. Richardson, Diseases of modern life 1876 pp 201-2.

'From a sudden terror deeply felt the young mind rarely recovers, never I believe if hereditary tendency to insanity be a part of its nature. A man, who is now the inmate of an asylum, owing to fixed delusions that all his best friends are conspiring to injure and kill him, explained to me before his delusion was established, from what it started. When he was a boy he had a nervous dread of the water, and his father, for that very reason and with the best of intentions, determined that he should be taught to swim. He was taken by his tutor, in whom he had every confidence, to the side of a river, and when he was undressed found himself cast by his instructor, without any warning, into the stream. No actual danger of drowning was implied, for the tutor himself was at once in the water to hold him up or to bring him to land; but the immediate effect beginning with the faintness of fear, was followed by vomiting, by a long train of other nervous symptoms, by constant dread that some one was in some way about to repeat the infliction, by frequent dreaming of the event by night, and thinking upon it by day. At last, all the phenomena culminated in that breach between the instinctive and the reasoning powers which we, for want of a better term, call dangerous and insane delusions.'

forward a distance equal to the length of his body. A good swimmer ought to make about three miles an hour." But at the close of the treatise on swimming, and when recording actual feats that have been accomplished, page 100 he says, "others have performed 2200 feet in twenty-nine minutes." Richardson says his experience agrees with this, that a 'fast swimmer may, if he does his best, get over a short distance, such as a hundred yards, at the rate of a mile an hour; [the record of 1898 is $60\frac{1}{2}$ seconds which is about 2 miles 500 yards an hour] but he does not think that a quarter of a mile (440 yards) has ever been swum in a quarter of an hour.'

The record of 1901 for the quarter of a mile with the sidestroke, or some modification of it—not the breast stroke which was the only one Richardson refers to—is 5 minutes 51 seconds. But Richardson does not seem to have had an accurate idea even for his own time, so it is no wonder that Sinclair and Henry (1893 p 20) call his 'an astonishing statement.'

It is only of late years that there has been any certainty on this question. Webb or rather Payne (1875 p 52) says 'To swim one mile in still water in half an hour is a wonderful performance. It has been said that it has been done but it has never been properly authenticated' (the record made in 1899 is 25 m $13\frac{2}{3}$ seconds). Webb practically repeats this in *The Boy's own paper* 16 sep 1882 p 822 'I do not think that the best swimmer in the world could do two miles in one hour in cold still water where there would be no turning.' Also in *Out-door games* 1892 p 81.

He has a good chapter on 'panic' to which he ascribes most of the cases attributed to cramp (which alone, he says, would never drown a man) or weeds, and all his observations are some of the best arguments that could be adduced in favor of the teaching of the

Life Saving Society.

I do not agree with his advice for getting out of weeds, he advises 'a very upright style.' I should have thought lying on the top of the water sculling or doing the 'propeller' the best. But with weeds as with cramp if 'the swimmer retain his presence of mind there is no real danger.'

He also treats of waves, breakers, shingle, sands and 'on being surrounded.' 'To rescue a drowning person is an important duty...always take it for granted that the sufferer is in a state of panic.' 'The safest way is for the rescuer to take a walking stick or umbrella.' The method of rescue 'ought to be practised beforehand.'

As to ice he 'does not believe that a good swimmer breaking in alone would ever get under' but if with a non-swimmer it might be otherwise. He gives some hints for sportsmen.

Though I enquired in *The Field* (3 & 10 aug 1895) I have not been able to get any particulars about Richardson. No other work is under his name in the *British Museum Catalogue*, he is not quoted by any one until Sinclair and Henry. From the style I should imagine this was his first attempt at authorship, and—finding it a loss—his last. He was not a practiced writer, constantly uses italics and one sentence extends to three quarters of a page without a full stop. But all this is well atoned for by his being a good swimmer, though no floater. He was evidently a man of education and position. He says he was dipped in the sea when a child by a Welsh woman (p 5): he and his brother were in the habit of bathing in the Severn off Portishead (p 21). He refers (p 25) to his riding master in Paris springing from the Pont du champ de Mars. He was skating on a deep pond in Wiltshire and when a boy (p 48) on the Duddingstone Loch near Edinburgh.

Games for all seasons...a sequel to 'Parlour pastimes.' London James Blackwood 1858.

Preface signed G. F. P. [Pardon].

Swimming, with one cut, simply a quotation of Franklin's letter with the kite trick.

An unacknowledged reprint in America, without the cut and the last two lines, in Sports and pastimes for

in-doors and out with additions by Oliver Optic [w. T. Adams]. Boston (1863), 'additions' should be 'omissions' for the swimming.

Surely no man who could swim would have contented himself with quoting Franklin.

Godey's lady's book and magazine. Philadelphia, august 1858, 8° vol 57 p 123. See The illustrated boy's 1860.

A handbook of swimming and skating, by George Forrest, esq M.A. author of The Playground: editor of Every boy's book [rev J. G. Wood]. London Routledge (Clay printer) New York 18 Beekman street 1858.

16° pp 61, illustration on the cover not reproduced in the book. A reprint London, Routledge Warne & Routledge, Farringdon street (Clay printer). New York 56 Walker street 1860.

16° First 40 pages on swimming. The work of a practical swimmer, laboring under the enormous disadvantage of writing 'to order' for a popular series of handbooks. The most depressing kind of writing I can imagine. The illustration on the cover is reproduced in the book, the scene is suggested by 'Parsons pleasure' bathing place at Oxford. In the text are seven

cuts reproduced without acknowledgment from Every boy's book.

Reissued in Athletic sports by Stonehenge 1864 without acknowledgment. Routledge's Handbook of swimming [1872] is a totally different work; in it the kick with the legs only is given, but Forrest though he gives the frog in a bath as an example (p 20) immediately after says it is the wedge that gives force in the breast stroke. 'So that the bather is not fatigued, he may go into the water as hot as he likes.'

He notices the peculiar feeling, on first taking a header, of leaving the stomach behind: see ante p 158.

The playground or the boy's book of games by George Forrest esq M.A. editor of Every boy's book. London Routledge: New York. 1858, 12° pp 105 to 122 conversational lessons in swimming.

The true physiological method of restoring persons apparently drowned or dead and of resuscitating still-born children, by Henry R. Silvester B.A., M.D. Lond...from the British medical journal. Lond John Churchill 1858.

12° pp 20 with four illustrations is. third edition 1863. He shows what he considers to be the advantages of his,

over the Marshall Hall method (see ante p 203 and post p 432).

All the year round 1859 vol 12 p 54.

A good original article 'Can you swim' gives the frog as an example.

Dictionnaire universel de la vie pratique par G. Belezé. Paris Hachette 1859.

A general article compiled from various sources, quotes Courtivron.

Why do not women swim? a voice from many waters. (published by the) Ladies' National association for the diffusion of sanitary Knowledge. [motto] 'Drowned, drowned!' Hamlet. London Groombridge and sons, 5 Paternoster row : price two pence.

12° pp 14 & 2.

This lively little pamphlet asks a question which it does not answer satisfactorily. And if a lady cannot answer it, who can? It is signed at the end with the initials S. R. P., and is written by Miss Susan Rugeley Powers, the assistant secretary to the above Association; she was then about 27 years of age. Great efforts were being made about the time this pamphlet was written [1859] to open a swimming bath for ladies, and they were successful. In the present day forty years after there is hardly a swimming bath in the United Kingdom that is not set apart for ladies some

portion of the week, many in London having baths for ladies solely.

She says 'the best work treating specially of swimming and bathing which the writer knows is a French pamphlet entitled *Hygiène des baigneurs* par A. Debay' (b 1802 d 1890). The second edition Paris J. Masson 1850, has nothing on swimming; but the third edition, Paris Garnier frères [1854] has (pp 223-28) some ordinary instruction.

Miss Powers last called at the office of the Ladies Sanitary Association (which ceased in december 1900) about 1887.

Once a week, an illustrated miscellany, vol i 1859 8°.

An article at p 327 'How to learn to swim' or rather on some methods for enabling women to learn by Harriet Martineau; it begins 'The few remarks lately made in this publication.' These I have not been able to find, nor does Poole in his Index to periodical literature give them. No knowledge of the subject was necessary to write the above article. Refers to the *Englishwoman's Journal*, august 1858 p 413 for an account of the opening of a bath for ladies in London.

Another article p 403. The swim-

ming school for women at Paris signed v.

Another article on p 524.

As to another article on Ladies' swimming dress by Miss Martineau in *Once a week* a correspondent of *The Literary gazette* complained that Miss Martineau had availed herself without acknowledgment of the publications of the Ladies Sanitary Association.

Miss Martineau was not a swimmer, or she would have mentioned it in her *Autobiography* in which she tells us she could sew.

The handbook of summer sports and pastimes. London A. Hinrich, Wine office court, Fleet street.

8° [1859?] pp 16. The five pages on swimming (7 to 12) quote Dr Franklin's advice acknowledged but with the objectionable interpolation and Pfuel's

instructions from Every boy's book and some of Thevenot, both without acknowledgment.

Anweisung selbst schwimmen zu lernen von Theodor Elsner preis 1 sgr. Berlin 1859 zu haben beim verfasser landwehrstrasse N° 7.

Instructions for self teaching for those who cannot afford to pay : price one silver groschen = about a penny. 8° pp 8.

Address to Philadelphians in behalf of the Natatorium and physical institute, by its directors. Philadelphia J. B. Chandler printer 306 and 308 Chestnut street 1860.

The librarian of New York State Library informs me that this contains 'considerable material on swimming

with plans of the Philadelphia Natatorium and a woodcut of its interior.'

Athletic sports for boys : a repository...containing...swimming... with 194 fine wood-cuts and diagrams. New York Dick & Fitzgerald.

12° pp 174. On p 2 is the notice that it was 'entered according to act of Congress in the year 1860' (or 6 or 8?).

S. on pp 62-77 is a reprint without acknowledgment of the article in Every boy's book 1855. The eleven cuts however are different and very

inferior. Why when they reproduced the boats in the article on sailing from Every boy's book, they did not take the cuts of swimming I do not understand. The cuts are plagiarised from The boy's treasury. The tail piece of the frog is from The boy's own book.

Godey's lady's book and magazine. Philadelphia june 1860, 8° vol 60 p 493.

Reprinted without acknowledgment from The illustrated boy's 1860.

The illustrated boy's own treasury...of...sports...London Ward and Lock 1860.

8° pp xii 446 : ten pages on swimming 6 cuts of figures and one illustration pp 326 to 335. This article is a plagiarism of The boy's treasury 1844.

In 1868 I wrote 'contains a trade article apparently extracted from some other publication of the same firm,' but never having up to 1895 found it to be so, I struck this statement out as being unjust, when I came across a curious confirmation of my supposition.

There is an article in Godey's lady's book 1858 which did not arouse my suspicion; but I found this same article republished in the same magazine in 1860, only twice as long.

Reynolds's miscellany, 1860.

N° 627 for 16 june vol 24 p 397 has an article entitled British sports and pastimes by William Watkins, two other articles on swimming are on p 405 and vol 25 p 5.

Gives the frog as an example : objects to Franklin's 'dipping.' Describes 'The mill or catherine wheel' i e 'spinning.' The articles appear to be by a swimmer and yet he did not know enough to negative the catchpenny nonsense 'The eyes should be kept

In describing side swimming Godey says 'the motions of the legs have no alteration.' This I at once recognised as being similar to words I had noticed in some previous book and eventually I found the Godey article of 1860 to be a reprint of The I.B.O.T.

What took place appears to be this. Ward & Lock (?) published an article probably in some periodical : this in 1858 is reprinted in Godey. Then for The I.B.O.T. Ward & Lock add about twice as much to the article, which is also at once reprinted in Godey; the editors not recollecting that they had already printed part of it : both are reprinted without any acknowledgment.

open, as while under water, it is difficult to open them.' Not only this but several other passages show that the writer had read one of the reprints of Franklin and Thevenot.

'The cramp is one of the greatest terrors of the swimmer; but it is not the cramp in itself that drowns the swimmer, it is fear.' He gives the old methods of resuscitation.

It has three illustrations of no value by G. F. S[argent].

No 5. One penny. Swimming made easy, with plain instructions for learners, showing the various styles of swimming, advice to bathers, caution and treatment recommended (by the R.H.S.) to restore persons apparently drowned, &c [figure swimming]. Lond H. Elliot, 475 New Oxford street.

12° [1860?] pp 12 : 3 cuts in the text. Title from the cover.

No doubt the reader expects something after this comprehensive title page. It is, however, nothing but a partial reprint of *The Swimmer's handbook* 1854, only Dr Franklin's name is quoted incidentally instead of being

on the titlepage, it has the objectionable interpolation. At the end the reader is referred 'For a more detailed guide ...to Elliot's Swimmer's handbook'!

These two form part of a series published by the same stationer, all composed, no doubt, of materials as original.

Athletic sports and recreations for boys...swimming...by the rev J. G. Wood, M.A. London Routledge (Savill and Edwards printers) New York 1861.

12° pp iv & 144. S. on pp 45-57.

The text is a reprint, without mention, of Forrest [i.e. Wood] *A handbook* 1858, but it begins with the quotations

from Thomson from *The boy's treasury* 1844 from which also the seven cuts in the text are reproduced without acknowledgment.

Beeton's dictionary of universal information [1861] 8°.

Another edition Beeton's encyclopædia of universal information... new edition by George R. Emerson, London [1892-3].

Only a few lines under swimming describing the breast stroke insufficiently. Nothing in first edition of 1859.

The Dictionary of daily wants by the editor of *Enquire within upon everything* [R. K. Philp]. London Houlston 1861. 12°.

Article on swimming with 6 cuts figures 1, 4, 5, 6, copied from *The Boy's own book* [1849] from which some of the text is copied, and figs 2 & 3 from *Every boy's book* 1855 all

reversed and without acknowledgment, except that both books are given in the list of authorities consulted.

Quotes Franklin's egg practice with the objectionable interpolation.

Instruktion für den militairischen schwimm-unterricht nach der Pfuel'schen methode, nebst nachweisung der vortheile dieser methode vor der d'Argy'schen bearbeitet von K. von Thümen premier-lieutenant im 3ten Pommerschen infanterie-regiment (n° 14) Berlin 1861.

Instruction for military swimming according to the Pfuel method showing its advantage over that of d'Argy. 12° pp 40 price about sixpence.

Sharpe's London magazine July 1861, 8° pp 41-44.

A reprint of the article from *The illustrated boy's* 1860.

Swimming and swimmers (half title on the cover only). A manual compiled under the sanction of *The London Swimming Club*, for the use of members and others; with an account of the progress of the art during the last twenty years, and a short notice of the swimming baths of the metropolis. London printed and

published [and written] by w. h. Leverell 29 Bedford street Strand 1861.

8° pp 4 and 44, 6d : misprints p 6 particulars, on p 36 line 8 'Donvan.' This is a very useful publication, and it is to be regretted that want of support prevented the 'several hands,' as the old form went, publishing yearly, as they intended. I believe that nearly the whole edition rested on the publisher's hands, as almost everything on swimming of any value does. It is only the trade trash that goes off. On this principle I hope I have written some trash ; but even then I doubt of success, for I know it is not trade trash (1868). It is the first summary of the doings of swimmers, covering it states the writer's experience of twenty years. There is no other until Hunter Barron's in 1884, the next is Sinclair & Henry in 1893. It shows however much ignorance of everything past and more carelessness in its compilation. For example, on the first page it says since Leander 'we have no great feats' recorded, while it at once cites that of lord Byron and greater still Brock, who it says was then living. Again on p 6 it quotes the 'school of Den-

mark' and its '105 masters' as 'some 20 years ago' [from *Clias* 1825 p 156] when it should have said '43 years ago.'

The quotation from Humboldt is without acknowledgment from *The Penny magazine* n° 117, 1834 p 34.

A person 'may as well be under the water while learning, as long as he can hold his breath, as to sink while attempting to swim above' (p 11).

Floating, as is usual with those who are unable to do it, is said to be quite easy, 'any swimmer may become perfect in it, no matter what his habit of body' [incorrect]. None of the statements are to be trusted without verification, as for example that it was not uncommon for 100 yards to be swum within the minute (p 12 see also p 16), the record up to 1901 was 60½ seconds (*A.S.A. Handbook* 1902) ; but it has been swum under the minute since.

'The sidestroke is now the universal method of swimming... It is not known positively who introduced it, but we believe in speaking from memory that it was George Pewters.'¹ Leverell

¹ In consequence of this statement, which I now believe to be erroneous, I suggested in A few words on s. 1861 that the sidestroke might be called after his name. The question is too long to go into details here, but I will state it shortly. In 1898 I asked Mr Steedman a number of questions : one was 'can you say when Pewters, the introducer (and inventor) of the sidestroke, as accurately described in your book, died?' He replied that Pewters died in 1863. A subsequent post brought another letter. Steedman had been thinking over the matter, and he enclosed a circular of the Hobson's Bay railway sea-bathing company's baths, Sandridge, 1 nov 1862, in which this sentence occurs 'The Pfuel and the Bernardi system taught ; also the now celebrated sidestroke, for rapid propulsion through the water, as suggested by Benjamin Franklin, but only recently brought to perfection.' Mr Steedman says, 'George Pewters had that circular and raised no objection, which he certainly would have done had he considered himself the inventor.' 'Neither Pewters nor T. Young swam the sidestroke as described in my Manual, the chief resemblance was they swam on the left side. They were nearly face down at the finish of the stroke ; in addition to which Young made a sort of half overhand stroke, and G. Pewters' legs impinged with a tremulous motion.'

Bell's *Life* 29 sep 1844 p 4 col 5 says G. Poulton won his first race, and 'is a side swimmer and adopts the same style as the celebrated Pewters.'

There is little doubt that Pewters was the first to win a championship with swimming on the side, instead of on the breast (see ante p 121).

I mention Pewters' name so frequently that I may say he never did any good for himself, he could not be satisfied with plain water. He left England in 1853, asking himself 'why should the working man work, and not get free drinks?' I cannot say whether he got a satisfactory answer in Victoria, but during the ten years he was there he followed no occupation.

then describes the sidestroke, which he could not swim and never understood, as the following shows 'The stroke is rather peculiar at first; the body is placed almost sideways as near as possible to the surface of the water, if swimming on the right side, the arm is thrown out boldly in front, the body springing to the stroke [what does this mean? anyhow it seems wrong], and the left is worked at the side as a sort of paddle, the hand being hollowed to form a scoop, and the swimmer pulls himself along by it. If swimming on the left side the action is reversed. The action of the legs should be long and vigorous, crossing each other, and working well together with the upper extremities.' Exactly what should not be done; if one crossed the other, in this stroke, that would steer the body out of the straight line just as a rudder; if both crossed it would retard the swimmer, but the stroke has this effect to a looker-on who cannot swim it (see ante p 192 col 2).

However bad, this description was soon plagiarised under the names of F. E. Beckwith and Wallace Ramage into *The rowing almanack 1862* and *1863*, and *The boys' journal 1863*: none of these writers swam the proper stroke with the legs.

That 'the weakest persons may learn to swim' (p 14) is I believe true. It has an account of 'fast swimming' but gives no dates. The match of *Pewters v Hounslow of Oxford* (p 15) is no doubt the one mentioned by Stevens (1845). The race (p 16) when T. Young was first, Charles Steedman second, F. E. Beckwith third and G. Pewters last, is that mentioned in *The Sporting Life* 8 June 1898 as occurring on the 28 Aug 1851; see also Watson's *Memoirs 1899* p 160.

This is the first treatise to use the word *plunge* (p 19) in its present technical sense. 'The great drawback' is the want of baths for practicing.

Manchester has 'turned out some first-rate swimmers.'

'These dangerous contests [diving] have since been discontinued' (p 23).

The following will give an idea of how little was thought of the difference between an amateur and a professional in those days.

Edward Donovan, who swam the English sidestroke splendidly, arms and legs moving like machinery, the boiler (or body) being still, and the legs having the proper scissors clip instead of a kick, was at Ramage's benefit, and after he had swum, 'Mr Ramage announced that Mr Donovan was a member of the London Swimming Club, that he had challenged Mr Aspinall of Manchester for £25, but had received no reply, and that he was considered the *Champion Amateur*' (31 Oct 1860 p 36).

About this time the wearing of drawers of a large roomy pattern was begun at the St George's Bath Pimlico, to the very great discomfort and annoyance of most bathers. It is to this that the authors refer when speaking of this bath (p 40) they say it 'surpasses all other baths in London,' but that 'unfortunately, the comfort of bathers is interfered with by rather obtrusive regulations, strictly carried out. We hope that the board will some day follow the example of other establishments, and leave these things to the discretion of their patrons.'

This matter is still left to individual discretion at Oxford and other places. The wearing of any covering, as I wrote in an article in *To-Day* 12 Sep 1896 p 190 is a dirty practice, it hides disease, if any, and prevents the water from free contact with the skin. However bad men's drawers may be, their effect is small as compared to the absurd manner in which women cover themselves. A.S.A. costume is all very well for mixed bathing, but when bathing otherwise the sexes might be

left to use their own discretion.

W. H. Leverell a printer, sculler, swimmer, soldier, and sporting journalist was born London 1 dec 1832. When he 'was a young man there was no such thing as amateur and professional distinctions, and a crack performer, whether at athletics or any-

A few words on swimming, with practical hints to beginners by Ralph Harrington, London Holyoake & co 147 Fleet street E.C. 1861 price two pence.

12° pp 16. I wrote this on the spur of the moment when I was 20 and published it in october (I was then 21) hoping that I should correct some of the slovenly swimming I saw everywhere. It was published under a pseudonym for fear my father should hear of it and upbraid me for wasting my money. I had one thousand copies printed, but I never got anything for those sold! I have never met with a copy anywhere since.

It is the first to give a correct description of the English sidestroke mentioned in *Swimming and swimmers* 1861. It is extraordinary to think that it is only the sixth original treatise the English managed to bring forth in 274 years. Digby, Frost, Clarke, Pearce, and Richardson being before it.

It has various faults, some of which I will indicate. The preface says 'There have been numerous publications on the subject' which was quite true, but at that time I knew nothing of any others than those I mention: Every boy's book by Forrest and *Swimming and swimmers*. It was not until my pamphlet was published that it occurred to me to see what had been written previously: the outcome of this was the bibliography published in 1868.

As to the breast stroke I am still of the same opinion. I say 'the origin of this method is not known. On consideration, it certainly does not seem the most natural, as one would suppose a human being going into the water would be

thing else, if desirous of earning laurels in the arena, had to contend with anyone who would throw down the gauntlet.' The *Sporting Mirror* 1881 vol ii p 165, where is a portrait of Leverell and signature. He died in 1886 aged fifty-four (Boase M.E.B.).

most likely to adopt some way resembling that of walking or running - i.e. standing upright in the water' (p 8).

But I have altered my mind about several other things, for example I now think artificial aids for learning may be useful, in deep water for instance. As to shallow water not giving so much support as deep, in floating (pp 8 and 13) a theory also to be found in S & H pp 121 and 148, I am unable now to find the slightest practical difference. The statement (p 8) that upright swimming is much adopted in some parts of the continent is of no authority, as I had no knowledge on the subject. *Pewters* I have just referred to under *Swimming and s.* 1861 above. I am not at all sure now, that 'a plunger will go further if he is under water nearly all the way. There being less resistance when entirely immersed than when half so' (p 15). This is one of the numerous things that require scientific investigation.

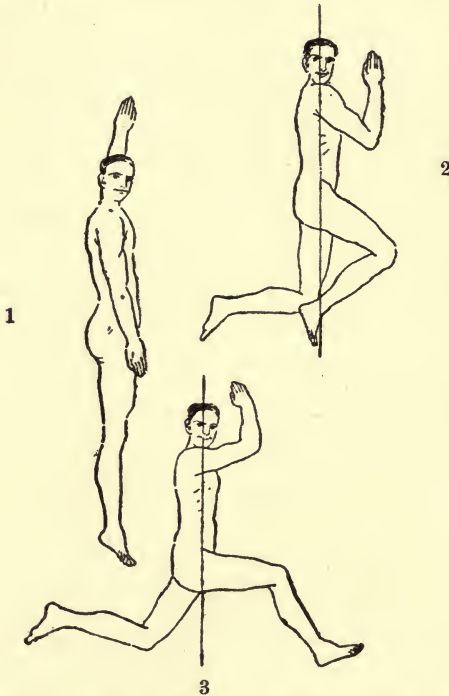
On the other hand it is practically the first treatise that introduces the English sidestroke. It is written essentially for the bath swimmer. It is the first to impress on the learner the necessity of observation. Says that 'a good swimmer never splashes.' The 'fin-like motion' referred to on pp 9 and 10 is now known as sculling; and swimming with 'arms over the head' (p 10) is now known as the 'propeller,' I never saw anyone swim in this way until of late years, and the action of the hands I now use (sculling) is quite

different from the action used in 1861 when the elbows were bent over the head instead of the arms being straight out : it is possible to do the propeller

without being able to float. The action given in Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 135 is not sculling but the hands push the water away (see ante p 152).

The English sidestroke

These drawings after nature give three positions of the stroke.



the English sidestroke in 1860 drawn by Percy Thomas in 1901

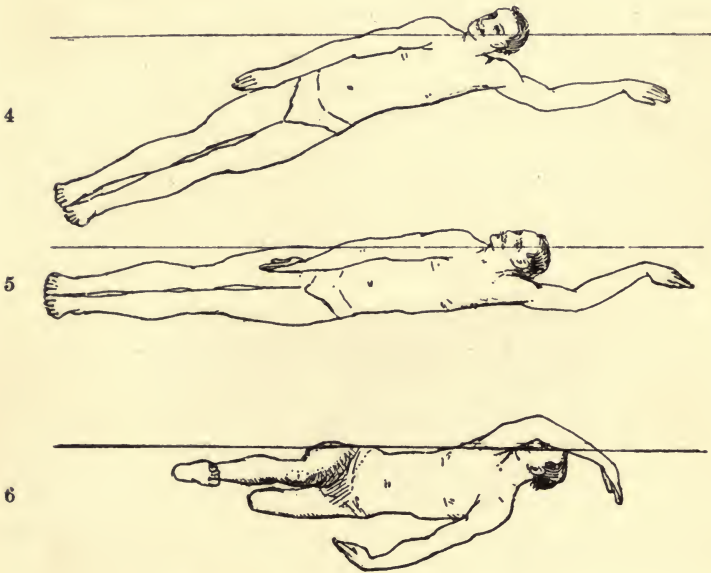
I first saw this stroke (but it had no distinctive name) swum in 1856 in London. I was so charmed with the continuous motion and apparent ease of the stroke, that I never rested until I had acquired it. If I could only have foreseen the importance of the sidestroke, I should have given in 1861 a much more minute description. I will

now do what I should have done then (see ante p 120). I will repeat my 1861 instructions in inverted commas, with the further instructions added.

‘Having enumerated a few of the methods of swimming on the chest and back, we now come to side swimming’ (p 10). Now I should say, we come to the sidestroke.

'This method is not only the fastest and most difficult to acquire, but also the most elegant.' So great is the difficulty that hardly any swimmers ever get it correctly. 'It by no means follows that the fastest swimmer will be the most elegant, nor that he will have that easy gliding movement that is peculiar to some' swimmers, who

move along without any dead point, the motion being continuous. 'This method also requires a good long wind, as in consequence of the exertion required from both arms and legs, it is more exhausting than running.' The wind will come with half an hour's run every day. 'But when once acquired, nothing looks more beautiful in the



the English sidestroke drawn by Percy Thomas
figure 4 shows how it should not be done

water than good swimming in this style. The ease and speed acquired are perfectly astonishing to those who cannot swim.'

'There are slight variations in this stroke;' I admit none now of principle in the English sidestroke, though I admit variations in swimming on the side, but I now distinguish between the sidestroke and swimming on

the side. In the latter the swimmer can adopt any stroke he likes, and most swimmers are only swimming on their side or chest when they think they are doing the sidestroke. Swimming on the side is as easy as the sidestroke is difficult, 'some swimming quite on their side,' which is one of the points in the sidestroke, 'others nearly on the chest, besides being almost

totally under the water all the time they are swimming.’¹

‘In side swimming,’ read, in the sidestroke ‘the arms and legs are not moved alternately as in chest swimming, but if on the left side, the left arm is thrust out and the right arm and legs take the stroke together. The legs do not kick out as in chest swimming, but seem to push the water away,’ as shown in figure 3.

‘It is very important to acquire a good wide stroke, as the speed greatly depends on the width and vigour of the stroke with the legs.’

The width of the stroke for a man six feet high should be about five feet from toe to toe.

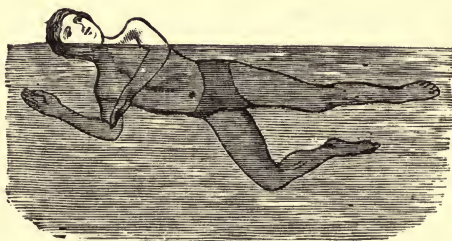
‘A little aching and stretching will have to be gone through before the legs will have sufficient spread for a good broad stroke.’

‘When the stroke has been taken the legs should not be allowed to straggle, but be kept perfectly straight, so as not to impede the progress until the next stroke’ (see figures 1 & 5).

Keep ‘the legs as near the surface of the water as possible without splashing.’² This is of the utmost importance, it is easily seen that a swimmer in the position of figure 4 cannot go so fast as one in the position of figure 5, ‘and always making them work well in line’ as in figure 6.

The feet of figures 5 and 6 should be nearer the surface, as shown in that I reproduced, post p 323, fig 9.

No turn of the body should be made in order to increase the width of the stroke: it must be kept on its side, as shown above, ‘and not let one leg be near the surface and the other straggling a foot or two below,’ thus (fig 7)



7

how it should not be done reproduced from Cassell's Book of sports from a block supplied by the publishers.

‘The stroke can be varied a little by moving the right hand out of the water at each stroke (if on the left side)

passing it beyond the head and bringing it back to the loins’ (see figure 6).

This is now known as the overarm

¹ This easy and unscientific stroke was some years after popularised by Harry Gurr, who unfortunately for swimming became champion for several years. Londoners at once began to swim this stroke, and ever since the English sidestroke has only been swum by a few of the most persevering swimmers. The great fault of the Gurr stroke is the continual movement of the body, which is all retardation. Another fault is that the mouth has to be moved round out of the water to breathe; another is that the body being turned chest downwards, the insides of the legs form the wedge, instead of the outside of one and inside of the other making it, when a far more powerful stroke can be obtained. Another is that half the time the eyes, being under water, are useless.

² Mr Watson in his *Memoirs* (1899 p 259) says ‘I do not remember observing Nuttall swim so near the actual surface of the water as in’ &c, and of Beckwith he says (p 261) his stroke when at his best carried him ‘as near the surface of the water as any man.’

stroke. It must be done without any movement of the head, which remains in exactly the same position as with the original arm stroke.

It will be seen that the sidestroke should be swum without wriggle, only the arms and legs moving. I contradict Swimming and swimmers though not mentioning it, for I say (p 11) 'when the stroke has been taken the legs should not be allowed to straggle, but be kept perfectly straight.'

It is the first treatise to give minute instructions how to float, and to distinguish between the 'passive operation floating' and swimming. 'Plunging' is used when springing is meant, but also used in A.S.A. sense: 'if the swimmer plunge and begin to swim directly, this is diving.'

Is the first to mention and describe the bath 'push off,' next described by Wilson in 1883: 'expert swimmers can push off and go thirty feet or even more,' but double this has now been done. The Eton plunge is mentioned on p 15, the next treatise to refer to the 'Eton header' is The Boy's own paper 1879.

It mentions more ways of swimming than any previous writer, at the same time saying (p 14) they are 'only a few of the innumerable evolutions a swimmer can perform.' I now enumerate them. The names in brackets are those the feats are now known by.

- 1 on the chest
- 2 treading water
- 3 without the hands
- 4 without the legs
- 5 fin-like motion [sculling]
- 6 one hand and one leg
- 7 without either
- 8 backwards on chest using both hands and feet
- 9 on the chest, sideways
- 10 on the back, using legs only
- 11 " " " and arms overhead

- 12 on the back, using legs as in the sidestroke
- 13 on the back, hands only as fins [sculling] also forwards, backwards or sideways
- 14 leg out of water, [called by s & H the steamtug]
- 15 on back feet foremost [propeller]
- 16 legs first [marching]
- 17 the steamer [with aid of sculling]
- 18 side swimming [the English sidestroke]
- 19 side swimming in various ways
- 20 overarm sidestroke
- 21 hand-over-hand [or Indian stroke or trudgen]
- 22 hand-over-hand [waltzing]
- 23 floating
- 24 turning over and over like a revolving cylinder [revolving]
- 25 floating on the chest
- 26 turning head over heels or water wheel
- 27 turning somersaults
- 28 spinning round [spinning] also called the wash tub and the mill
- 29 plunging [is the word used but springing is meant]
- 30 plunge is used with A.S.A. meaning
- 31 Eton plunge
- 32 diving (i.e. swimming under water)
- 33 the push off (front)
- 34 " " (back)

A 'second issue' of this pamphlet was published as

A few words on swimming with practical hints by R. Harrington: to which is added a bibliographical list of works on swimming by Olphar Hamst [anagram of Ralph Thomas]. London John Russell Smith 36 Soho square: one shilling.

12° [1868] pp 16 and 14.

pp 15 and 16 of the 1861 pamphlet only were reprinted and a new title page: see under date 1868.

Ralph Thomas son of Ralph Thomas serjeant-at-law was born in London 18 august 1840.

Chambers's journal 7 dec 1861 n° 414 vol 16 p 353.

Has an article Melibœus at the [Lambeth] bath ; republished as one of a series of Melibœus in London by James Payn 1862, see pp 145-158. It describes an entertainment of the 'champion swimmer' [F. E. Beckwith]: 'that penny paper' was The illustrated

Sporting News, the number of which for the 17 may 1862 quotes part of this amusing article, written however by a man not familiar with the technical part of swimming. Payn died in 1898, see D.N.B.

The rowing almanack, by W. H. R. [Royston]. London Kent 1862.

16° Four pages of good practical advice by 'professor' Wallace Ramage, who was one of the best fancy swimmers of his day. I have two programs of entertainments given by him at the S^t George's Bath, Pimlico, where he was s. instructor, dated 28 aug 1861 and 10 sep 1862, each has his portrait. See also Boase M.E.B. He died about 1883, when superintendent of the S^t George's Bath Berkeley square.

In his instructions for side swimming he gives no description of the proper leg stroke but only says

'Side swimming is universally acknowledged to be the quickest style, and is easily learnt after the breast stroke is perfect. The body is placed as near sideways as possible...the legs should have elastic and vigorous action, and cross each other.'

This would appear to be taken from Swimming and s. 1861 p 13, or perhaps Ramage, who was not an educated man, was assisted by W. H. Leverell who also I believe wrote the article of two pages and a half in the 1863 issue, professing to be by F. E. Beckwith champion of England: at the end it gives a list of races won by Beckwith [but omits those he lost], and a list of swimming clubs.

The article under Beckwith's name is reprinted in The boys' journal 1863 and again in the treatise under the name of Gurr [1866]. Like that of Ramage it is remarkable as giving no accurate description of the English sidestroke. The arms are described but not the legs. Though both swam on their sides neither swam the English sidestroke,

but used the legs nearly as in breast swimming.

Beckwith says 'The ordinary [for a beginner] practice and one which is unfortunately too often recommended and too often followed of plunging in head first, cannot be too severely condemned...the shock to the system frequently produces an amount of discouragement and nervous trepidation which require many lessons to eradicate.' Notwithstanding these observations, they are followed by some instructions which really are the same as Franklin's egg practice, advising the head dip (p 129). 'A good plunger ought to go 40 feet.' 'A quarter of a mile in still water for a first-class swimmer, ought to be done in 8 minutes 40 seconds, if in a bath in less time.' Also gives other feats and times for doing them.

Beckwith says in the breast stroke the legs must come 'close together' at the end of each stroke, and he says that you must use 'the ankle joint so that the sole perfectly meets the water; at the end of the kick let the foot drop so that in drawing the leg up again the instep, or upper part of the foot offers as little resistance as possible to the water. This action of the ankle joint is absolutely necessary before perfection can be obtained. It is much to be regretted that in all swimming books this most essential point has never been mentioned.'

In side swimming the only description of the legs is 'you send your legs out at the same time.'

Frederick Edward Beckwith was born at Ramsgate 16 dec 1821, and died in much distress 29 may 1898. Some account is given of him [by Robert Watson] in *The Sporting Life* 8 june 1898. In his day swimming was simply on a level with the prize ring, of which he was an ardent admirer. He was never able to acquire the true sweep of the legs of the English sidestroke, and was only a passable swimmer all round. Having received forfeit from Pewters he gave out (*Bell's Life* 24 aug 1851 p 7 col 5) that he would 'assume the title of champion of the world.' But in the next issue (31 aug p 3 col 4) the race I have mentioned ante p 288 took place and Beckwith was 'a very bad third.' About 1854 he again assumed the championship when the real champions (Young and Steedman) had left the country. Neither of these men could be tampered with, but for those subsequent it was such a common thing for it to be pre-arranged who should win, that few professional races could be trusted. He was the father of a family of good

1862 The Popular Encyclopædia

reprints the article in Lieber's *Encyclopædia Americana*, without, however, mentioning the fact. It finishes the reprint with Lieber's sentence 'The best treatise with which we are acquainted is a thin pamphlet published

Beadle's dime [=ten cents] guide to swimming embracing all the rules of the art for both sexes: by capt Philip Petersen. [Erastus F.] Beadle and company. New York 118 William st London 44 Paternoster row (1863).

12° pp 40 and cover, on which and on the title is a cut taken without acknowledgment as are the four other cuts from *Every boy's book* 1855. The text (pp 8 to 21) is plagiarised from *Forrest's Handbook* 1858; his heading

The boys' journal...London Henry Vickers. 8° (1863).

An article pp 200-203 reprinted without acknowledgment from *The*

swimmers, his son William being reputed to be the finest swimmer of his day. Beckwith had one quality of the utmost use to a performer, he knew how to get himself puffed. *The Illustrated sporting news* of 17 and 24 may 1862 had portraits of the family. These were all republished (according to the advertisement in the same paper for 2 aug 1862) in *Our national sports and pastimes* 1862 n° 5 swimming, price two pence, issued from Merton house, Salisbury square.

I also have a four page reprint of an article by w. Wilson from the *Glasgow weekly mail* 13 july 1895 writing of Beckwith as 'the father of present-day swimming' which is the popular notion.

The Rowing almanack 1864 has an anonymous note and a record of matches.

Ibid 1865: swimming in Australia: and the Ilex s.c.

Ibid 1866 *Swimming directory*—Ilex s.c.: list of bathing places in and about London.

Ibid 1867 Ilex s.c. report; this is the last note of swimming matters.

by General von Pfuel, in Berlin, 1817.' This is an instance of the worth of cyclopedic articles in general; the compiler reprints this sentence, without comment, thirty years having elapsed.

'diving' is altered to 'deep diving.' The rest is compilation. It gives the English National Lifeboat Institution rules, and Franklin's advice with the objectionable interpolation!

Rowing almanack 1863; it repudiates the frog as an example and says (p 201)

'It is right and natural for the frog to throw out his limbs in angles and bring them back in similar lines of projection, with a sort of front and back jerk continually repeated.' It has four cuts. The second article is at pp 283-285 with seven cuts; several plagiarised from Every boy's book or perhaps by the same artist; the third cut on p 284 (fig s. hand-over-hand) is plagiarised from Courtivron (see ante p 234). Third article pp 350-2 one cut.

The articles are said to be by professor Beckwith champion of England.

The boy's handy book of sports pastimes...and amusements. London Ward and Lock 158 Fleet street.

The printers are Petter and Galpin, Belle Sauvage printing works. 8° [1863] pp x 374: pp 49 to 60 with 14 cuts one by Trichon, some signed E. Coppin (?) as that on p 58 which like many of them seems to be plagiarised from The boys' journal from which

Family Herald handy books. How to swim and How to skate [motto] London.

16° [1863] pp 56: to page 43 on swimming. This is compiled from various sources without acknowledgment, except Franklin. Quotes 'a popular physician' [w. Buchan's Cautions 1786] from some other publication. It copies The Penny cyclopædia's statement 'In London at the present time' [1842] 'there are not above eight swimming baths' without cor-
How to angle and how to swim [on the illustrated colored cover, then there is a second title on page 27] How to swim...with illustrations. New York: N. Y. popular publishing co. main office 37 Bond st.

16° [1870?] pp 59 and 5, s. pp 27 to 59. The eight figures are on separate pages and included in the pagination: original price about sixpence. I bought this copy in 1899 in half morocco for 7s 6d! but it was an American publication, and I have not been able

I have little doubt that they are by the rev J. G. Wood, Beckwith probably giving him the article in The Rowing almanack as his to incorporate, it gives some of the names of those Beckwith beat from The R.A. 1863 p 131.

These articles are reproduced under Gurr's name in 1866 without acknowledgment of course, as they are attributed to Gurr.

The cuts are reproduced without acknowledgment in The boy's shilling book [by the rev J. G. Wood] 1866.

also much of the article is taken without acknowledgment.

Twelve of the cuts are again reproduced in Crawley's Handbook (1878).

Gives a portrait of Dr Franklin and quotes his egg practice, with the objectionable interpolation without comment! By G. F. Pardon?

rection; gives the frog as example and the Pfuel method from same source. Thevenot is made use of from one of the reprints, and Frost. Says Miss Martineau has fully ventilated the subject of women swimming. The only remarks by her I have seen are in Once a week 1859.

A reprint with one or two omissions only in

to get many American books, and great was my disgust when I found it merely a reprint of the Family Herald above. The eight figures have a familiar look of having been made up from other books.

Athletic sports and manly exercises by 'Stonehenge,' rev J. G. Wood &c &c &c. London Routledge, Warne & Routledge (Camden press) New York 1864.

16° pp 477. There was a reprint of the above (from the stereos !) London G. Routledge & sons (Camden press), price on the cover 1s 6d, preface

dated march 1864.

The article on swimming is a simple reprint, without mention, of A handbook by G. Forrest 1858.

Price one penny The boys' of England swimming guide with a chapter on how to save life : contents, by the water - preparations - entering the water - temperature of the bather - a piece of advice [and then follow the rest of the headings of Forrest's Handbook of swimming 1858, from which the book is reprinted without acknowledgment] should be in hands of all wishing to learn the art. Edinburgh John Burnside publisher.

Size in millimeters, height 170 width 111. Published about 1864 I am informed, for I have not seen it : a copy

is in the Edinburgh Public Library.

Also reprinted as The boy's guide to s. Glasgow, Gage & Hunter [1880 ?]

The boy's illustrated magazine : superbly illustrated. London published for the proprietors by Simpkin Marshall & co. Henry Vickers, Strand (Woodfall and Kinder, Milford lane printers).

8° [1864]. The copy I inspected had 416 pages, without covers, which were probably torn off by the binder, so that the dates of publication were missing.

[1864] between Coulter and H. Gurr, in which the latter's style is described as 'most singular. While his left side was uppermost, he threw his left arm out of the water as far ahead as he could...his head immersed. He went in fact, through the leaden, rather than the silvery Thames, like a screw.' Mr Wilson writes me 'Gurr did not throw his arm as far ahead as he could. His over arm, which was his right, not left, had quite a short hook reach over in front of his face.' This is also my recollection of his stroke.

On pp 16 to 18 an article by captain Crawley, with 3 cuts from The boys' journal without mention : the cuts also in Gurr 1866. Another article, four cuts from same source pp 96 to 98, in which he says 'I remember one very important crisis of my life, swimming under water for nearly half a mile,' that is 880 yards ! the record is 339 yards by J. Finney in 1882.

Coulter swam the breast stroke.

At pp 239-243 is an anonymous article giving an account of a mile race in the Thames on 'friday 12 august'

On p 240 the rules of the R.N.L.I., which 'combine' the Hall and Silvester methods, are given.

Chambers's journal n° 31 for 30 july 1864 vol i p 495.

A good article entitled 'drowning,' compiled from the instructions issued by the R.N.L.I., mentions the Hall and Silvester methods.

Every boy's magazine (edited by Edmund Routledge) n° 20 sep 1863 forming the volume of Every boy's annual for 1864.

8°, s. by George Forrest M.A. pp 561-569. A good original article with a frontispiece which is a replica of the cover of A handbook by Forrest 1858, and three cuts from the same source.

'Describes the wedge in the breast stroke.'

'Do not listen to any nonsense about the danger of going into the cold water while you are hot, and do not be

persuaded to sit down until you are cool.'

N° 33 oct 1864 (E. B. A. for 1865) pp 596-599, an article 'The drowning and the drowned by J. E. Aylmer,' in which he quotes Joseph H. Hodgson of Sunderland as to saving life (see Stonehenge 1856) and the Hall method.

Every little boy's book... a new edition. London Routledge, Warne and Routledge, Broadway Ludgate hill. New York 129 Grand street.

12° [1864]. An abbreviation of the article in Every boy's book though not said to be so.

Penny illustrated training for the people, showing how to [train your body so that you will be able to] box, walk, run, wrestle, jump, swim, row, ride, bowl, cricket, &c. London 1 Crane court Fleet street and all booksellers.

12° [1864] 2 pages unpagged and a double page illustration of the gymnasium modeled on 'the famous structure in the use of students at the

Routledge's magazine for boys, n° 30 june 1867 (E. B. A. for 1868) pp 346-351; by Sidney Daryl [sir Douglas Straight]. A good article, but he cites the French as better swimmers than we are, and advises boys to 'teach themselves,' from both of which I disagree.

University, Oxford.' This is solely on training, it gives no instructions in any of the arts referred to in the title.

Petit traité de natation par Adolphe Esprit. Lyon Charles Méra 1864.

12° pp 36 and errata: on the cover price 25 cent.

This is original and reads as if written on the spur of the moment. Advocates gratuitous baths and teaching. The author refers to a voyage he took to America on the 'Calendar' in april 1850 (p 11): mentions the want of swimmers in the French army: strongly advocates

learning various ways of s. In the breast stroke (which he calls 'la coupe' instead of 'la brasse') he says the legs should imitate the frog; and under 'la brasse' he describes what other authors call 'la coupe' and in a footnote he says he knows that in some places what he describes as 'la brasse' is called 'la coupe.'

Suitable bathing dresses as used in Biarritz, with instructions whereby any lady, self-taught, may learn to swim: illustrated edition six pence. Windsor [edited printed and] published by W. F. Taylor, sold by all booksellers.

32° [1864] pp 20, with 12 pages of cuts. Title from the cover, preface signed W. F. T.

France.'

This is chiefly a reprint of the letter to The Times, signed John Hulley vice president of the Athletic Society of Great Britain, from Biarritz 2 aug, entitled 'Sea bathing in England and

The 'self instructions' give the frog as an example; the directions for floating say keep 'the hands and legs extended' but the artist has put the hands by the side of the figure. As for the bathing dresses, people might as well walk in with all their clothes on.

The Swimmer's practical manual of plain facts and useful hints, specially adapted for the use of learners; with valuable rules and instructions on training for matches: also the precautions to be observed and measures to be adopted in rescuing persons when

drowning. By Wm Woodbridge swimming master of Victoria Park : arranged and compiled by D. Ross.

'To swim with ease, and confidence, and grace,
should in Great Britain have acknowledged place
of recognition ; and by law decreed,
be taught as freely as we're taught to read ;
forming a part in education's rule
in every college, and in every school.'

London printed by Jas Wade 18 Tavistock street Covent garden.

16° [1864] pp 40 : on the cover 'price sixpence : entered at Stationers' Hall.'

This is an honest title page, and is refreshing after the Beckwiths, the Gurr, and others. 'Arranged and compiled by D. Ross.' It is really what it is described to be, and there is no swimming cant about 'combating with the mighty deep,' to which most professionals consider it necessary to treat the reader. The novel expedient is employed of reducing the motions into verse, of which the above is a specimen. No other work is mentioned in it. I have to differ from the author on two points: his recommending the frog as an example, and his description of the sidestroke, which he says with the legs 'is precisely the same as in breast swimming'! Woodbridge, who died in 1868, had the misfortune to lose a leg at the age of 19 (he was born in London 1828) so that probably he never was acquainted with the total difference between the two strokes. To some it

may be encouraging to know that two of the best professional swimmers in London were one-legged, Charles Moore, of the Endell Street Baths vying with Woodbridge in his feats in the water. The above I wrote in 1868.

This is the first treatise to give the resuscitation methods, but the author evidently did not understand them, as he says he recommends that of 'the late Dr Marshall Hall combined with those of Dr Silvester : ' as to this see my note under the R.N.L.I. To understand the difference it is desirable, in fact necessary, to learn the drills taught by The Life Saving Society.

On p 15 breast is misprinted breat. I refer to Woodbridge under Bedale and Stonehenge ; there is an illustration of him, standing on his hands in the water in The Illustrated sporting news 24 may 1862. His book has a biographical sketch of him from The Illustrated news of the world 18 July 1863, without the portrait.

The boy's holiday book (by rev T. E. Fuller) London William Tegg 1865.

16° pp 544 : one page illustration and 8 in the text, several seem copied from The boy's own book [1849] or are perhaps by the same artist. Pages 86 to 111 on swimming are a reprint from some catchpenny reprint of Thevenot (compare with Bailey's) quoting Franklin with the objectionable interpolation.

Gives 'restoration' directions after the R.N.L.I.

Another edition said to have 'corrections to the present time 1876' appears to be a reprint from the stereos, the page illustration is omitted.

The B.M. Catalogue gives his name as Thomas Elkins Fuller, I cannot find him in the clergy lists.

Cassell's Illustrated family paper 22 July p 413 : 29th p 429 1865. Quarto. Two articles with six cuts in the text ; 'side swimming' is done as in breast swimming,' and the cut

represents the figure more than half out of the water plagiarised from *Instruction pour le peuple* 1848, from which three of the cuts are taken, the figure illustrating 'la coup' or hand-over-hand stroke (which I reproduce s.s.) being made to do duty for 'side swimming' thus

For the original of this see Courtivron. Repudiates the frog. Says 'Miss Martineau was the first to recommend swimming as an exercise for women' an incorrect statement.

The cuts are reproduced without mention in Cassell's *Popular Educator* and in *Kind Words*.



Cassell's I.F.P. 1865

La science des campagnes. Premières leçons de natation : conseils pratiques sur le sauvetage dans les eaux intérieures, fleuves rivières etc précédés d'une nouvelle méthode pour apprendre à nager en quelques leçons, par m[onsieur] J.-A. Conseil ancien capitaine de port. Paris librairie classique de Paul Dupont rue de Grenelle saint-Honoré 45 1865.

12° pp 4 & III with ten figures, 2 on s. which is on pp 6 to 41.

The half title is *Premières leçons de natation*. I first saw this book at the Boulogne sur mer Public Library in 1894 when the copy had no date, that in the *Bibl Nat^{le}* Paris had the cover, on which the date is given.

It is in the form of question and answer with instructions for learning the stroke on land first. He refers his readers to the *Traité* of Desloges for

Vestdijk (s.) 1865.

A gymnastic book with an intended chapter on swimming which seems never to have been published. I take the title from C. L. Brinkman's *Alphabetische naam list*. Amsterdam 1878 p 1076.

Bibliothèque des salons. L'Art de nager en mer et en rivières appris sans maître. par J. A. P. Duflô, professeur de natation. Hydrothérapie - sauvetage - bains de mer, bains de vapeur. Paris, librairie de Jules Taride, 2 rue de Marengo 2 (imp Simon Raçon) 1866.

16° pp 92, 50 centimes. Another edition dated 1885, same publisher but different printer, A. Lahure, pp 88 and four pages about the Gosselin lifedress.

further instruction. The advice for resuscitation is quite worthless. 'La planche' with Conseil, means floating.

He is also author of a *Guide pratique de sauvetage* [1863] in which he gives instructions for learning the stroke on land, with two illustrations, and advice for saving life; and says if wrecked stick to the ship as long as you can, there will be less danger than in trusting yourself to the sea.

In this no mention is made of a previous edition; they are precisely the same to p 72, when they differ: the figure on the cover is not repeated in

the title. Teaches the learner to swim under the water first. He mentions Dr Franklin who, he says, traversed lakes of several miles in extent by means of a kite; and Julia de Fontenelle's 'remarkable treatise'! The part on swimming is original and good, it occupies the first 48 pages: also quotes Amoros, and notices the method 'Le Chevalier,' which enables a master to teach a great number the stroke out of the water.

He is very complimentary to our Royal Humane Society, which compares very favorably, he thinks, with that of the French. He extracts some 'last advice' from an article in *La Vie Parisienne*, signed 'Gustave Z.' [that is, Gustave Droz, see *Les Pseudonymes du jour par Charles Joliet. Paris 1867.*] It is worth the attention of the next compiler of an *Art of swimming*, who is tired of cribbing

1. Warne's *bijou books*. The A B C of swimming, being easy steps for self instruction, with coloured illustrations. London F. Warne & co. Bedford street Covent garden (Savill and Edwards printers) 1866.

16° h 78 w 51 millimeters, pp 95, 6 pence. On the embossed cloth cover, is an illustration in gold of a figure taking a header not repeated in the book. On pp 28, 32 and 47 illustrations are referred to, but there are none in my copy, which I bought at the publisher's, this induces me to think this treatise was previously published in a periodical.

It is anonymous, but in 1868 I suggested the rev J. G. Wood was the author, and since find this was correct.

2. Another edition without date London F. Warne and co. Bedford street Strand.

This is an exact reprint by Ballantyne and Hanson, who are first in the P. O. D. in 1877. On the cover is a different illustration not reproduced in the book, and underneath 'J. G. Wood,' but his name is not given on the title.

Advises the learner always to take a

from a copy of a plagiarism. Look at a log in the water, says M Droz, insisting on the importance of confidence, do you know why it swims? Simply because it thinks nothing at all about it. From the very moment a log begins to be afraid of drowning, it will sink to the bottom.

Just about this time another writer, J. F. D., in the 91st report of the R.H.S. for 1865 p75 gave quite a different reason, he says a 'log of wood floats because it is lighter than water and floating does not need an exertion of the will.' No, not of a piece of wood, but a human being soon finds out that a great deal of exertion of the will is required.

He mentions the 'Marschall Hall' method, which he calls *cinésithérapeute*, and that it has been perfected by 'Sylvester.'

A B C of swimming, being easy steps for self instruction, with coloured illustrations. London F. Warne & co. Bedford street Covent garden (Savill and Edwards printers) 1866.

rope with him, manilla is best, as it floats (p 22). A figure floating is referred to but there is none: it will be found, however, in *Modern out-door amusements* and in the *Modern playmate*, where it is represented with hands by the side (p 358), and chest too much out of the water.

'If a dead body be flung into the water, some part of it will float above the surface until the lungs get choked up with water' (p 29). But?

'The mouth may be set aside altogether, because there is no necessity for that aperture in swimming. It is meant for eating and talking, but was never intended for breathing' (p 31).

In the sidestroke the learner 'commences by making the usual stroke with the legs' (p 64), that is as in breast swimming, which is what Mr Wood thought was the stroke used by all professionals; in fact he never

mastered the English sidestroke. I said as much in 1868, before I knew who was the author.

3. Modern out-door amusements including swimming... London F. Warne & co (printed by Savill Edwards & co). New York Scribner Walford & co.

small 8° [1870] pp viii 182. On the cover 'Warne's modern manuals' price 1s.

'The A B C of swimming' pp 1 to 30, four woodcuts: with 12 figures in outline, evidently superintended by the author; they are fairly correct.

Observe that swimming is put first in the book. The article is anonymous.

4. At the end is advertised Warne's

5. The modern playmate... compiled and edited by the rev J. G. Wood M.A., F.L.S. London Warne (Dalziels printers) New York Scribner.

8° 1870 pp x 883 price 10s 6d. S. on pp 354 to 372 with four original cuts in the text different from those in Modern out-door &c.

6. The Boy's modern playmate... a new edition thoroughly revised to date

The boy's shilling book of sports... by writers of The boy's own magazine... London F. Warne & co 1866 [1865].

small 8° pp 228, an article on pp 118 to 128, from the style I should say by the rev J. G. Wood.

Quotes Beckwith as to the breast stroke from The boys' journal vol i 1863 p 201. I am inclined to think this article was written for this book. I cannot find it in The boy's own magazine, which was published by Beeton 1855 &c. Quotes Dr Arnott.

For floating we are told you need only 'stretch out your arms behind your head as far as they will go, and your feet will immediately float to the surface.' In swimming on the side 'the legs are struck out in the ordinary way.' It describes 'swimming like a

1. The champion handbooks. Swimming by Henry Gurr, sixpence. London Darton and Hodge, Holborn hill [this is on the colored cover with an illustration not repeated in the book, the half title and running heading to p 48 is] The art of swimming. [title] The art

A reprint, though not acknowledged to be so, in

illustrated bijou books in 48° price 6d each, cloth gilt edges, and among them is [the A B C of] swimming by the rev J. G. Wood, of which this is an unacknowledged reprint, or at all events it is not said to have been previously published.

Another reprint, though unacknowledged as such, but with the author's name in

1890: another edition 1893. Same article apparently from stereo plates. For plagiarisms of The A B C see Caswell's Popular Recreator 1873, and their Book of Sports [1881].

frog,' which it says 'is far more difficult operation than' 'swimming like a dog.'

It has eleven illustrations in the text, all plagiarised from The boys' journal except one, n° 4, which is from Every boy's book 1855; n° 6 is copied into Crawley [1878] p 35. N° 7 is copied into Gurr [1866] reversed, 9 is plagiarised from The boy's own book [1849] p 199: 10th (?), n° 11 is a figure with a hat on top of a stick from The boys' journal, it is plagiarised into Crawley p 28.

It is reprinted under the title of Boys home book [1869], without mentioning the fact of previous publication as The boy's shilling book.

of swimming with observations on the saving of life, sea bathing, training for swimmers &c [cut] by Harry Gurr the champion swimmer of England. London Darton and Hodge 58 Holborn hill (Savill and Edwards printers).

12° pp 56 with 23 woodcuts some by John Proctor, that on the title and on pp 9, 18, 19, 20, 23 and 24 for example, the positions mostly incorrect. On the back of the title 'all rights of translation and reproduction reserved.'

I dont know how to characterise this publication. The reader, however, may be quite certain that Gurr never wrote one line of it, his acquaintance with the three R's not being anything like sufficient. The limited education that professional swimmers receive will account for there being so little about swimming worth reading: those who can swim cant write, while those who can write cant swim. While a boy he was a most expert swimmer, and astonished everybody by his proficiency. He was originally a shoeblick at Endell street Baths, where for occasional assistance to George Dunham [died 4 july '73], then attendant, he was allowed to go into the water, an opportunity he availed himself of very freely, being in the water for hours together. He is now as expert on the trapeze as in the water (1868).

At the time I wrote the above note, I had not sufficient knowledge of books on swimming to find out, and had not discovered that this treatise was all taken from various unacknowledged sources. There is not a word about training beyond the title.

The race for the championship took place on 5 (Bell's Life 10) sep 1864, two miles in the Thames, with the tide of between three and four miles an hour. Gurr won in 32m 4s, defeating Peter Johnson 33m 15s, and D. Pamplin 33m 45s. Gurr won year after year, so the book came out under his name. If either of the others had won, would it have come out under the

name of the winner? Pamplin afterwards distinguished himself by an original treatise, and so did Peter Johnson! not only as the drowning man at London Bridge on 21 june 1871, but by stopping under water 4 minutes 15 seconds in 1882.

The 'publishers' preface' states that 'Gurr is responsible for all the practical instructions,' which is untrue. No description is given of Gurr's peculiar half side half breast stroke: nor do the instructions on floating mention that Gurr could float in the bath with his hands by his side; and on his belly with his mouth and heels out, he was so slight and light. He lost this power as he grew older, as is frequently the case. It returns again I believe after fifty.

Though not claimed for him in this book, in Webb's (p 50) A. G. Payne says that Gurr was the first to bring the overhand stroke to perfection: this statement was at once denied (see Webb).

The following is a sample of the high falutin 'British' bombast some writers fancy will be popular. How is it he asks (p 10), so few swim? and he says 'Not from fear, for among all the people of the world the British alone have entirely succeeded in making a friend and servant and plaything of the sea.' Bravo British! Then we have this piece of crass ignorance 'I propose to do what has *never* been done before—that is to say, teach swimming scientifically and practically,' and he ends by describing in reality what he has done himself, 'all who have written about it have simply gone to other books and repeated old fallacies.'

Now let us see how he has done this book. In the first place nearly the

whole of the illustrations are reproduced from previous publications without acknowledgment. That on p 11 is from *The Boys' Journal* 1863 p 200, as are also those on pp 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22 and 24. Those on pp 22 and 23 are plagiarised from some copy of Courtivron: those on p 31 and various tail pieces are evidently reproduced from other books.

I have spent many hours endeavoring to fix the date of issue, which for some time I thought must have been 1864 or 5, as the publishers gave notice (*The Bookseller* 29 apr '65 p 271) their premises were required for the Holborn valley improvement. On the 31 oct '65 p 677 they advertise six of *The Champion Handbooks*, but Gurr's, which is n° vii, is not among them. On 31 july '66 p 656 Barfoot, Speight & co are announced as their successors, and I presume the book was published before this. I bought my copy in march 1867. In a catalogue at the end n° viii of the handbooks is *Gymnastics &c* 'by captain Crawley author of *Manly games for boys*.' The earliest issue of 'M. G. for boys' I know of is [1869]!

I had formed an opinion (discarding A. G. Payne) that G. F. Pardon was the compiler, when I came across what I think a confirmation of this idea, that is Pardon using so much of Gurr (though he prefers to quote it as Beckwith's!) in *The book of manly games* [1869]. Moreover under his pseudonym of captain Crawley he is acknowledged author of *Billiards* and of *Gymnastics* in *The champion handbooks*, and he was most probably of several others, as that on *Indian clubs*, on *Rowing*, and on *Cricket*, all three published under different champions names. In *The boy's ill^d mag* [1864] several sentences occur in Crawley's articles which are in Gurr.

The whole of the observations in the *Boys' Journal* are reprinted, of course

without acknowledgment: they occupy to p 26 about.

Stonehenge 1856 (and Beckwith in *The Rowing almanack*, but even this is probably copied from *Stonehenge*; and Gurr, but this is copied from Beckwith) is the only writer who disputes Franklin's 'egg practice,' which he says is a bad way to teach beginners, as the sudden plunge is apt to frighten and disconcert the learner. Gurr repeats this as original and says 'Franklin the American philosopher is the father of this serious mistake' (p 12). He then copies the instructions given under Beckwith's name in *The Rowing almanack* into his book, unmindful of the fact that they are the same as Franklin's he has just condemned.

'Some clever writers have advised amateurs in swimming to imitate the action of a frog. Nothing can be more absurdly false.' Gurr in describing the breast stroke, altering Beckwith, says 'When the leg is drawn up for the kick, so to turn the ankle-joint that, *in drawing the leg up again*, the instep or upper part of the foot offers the smallest resistance to the water.' The words I have italicised are too many. He then repeats, though perfectly well knowing it was not true, that this action of the foot 'has never been noticed in any treatise on swimming.' This statement is recopied into *The boys of England* 1868 and Maxwell [1883] p 7. The second paragraph on p 18 is plagiarised from *Routledge's Handbook* by Forrest 1858.

The description of side swimming (p 21) is from *The Rowing almanack* 1863 p 130.

The following statement is repeated from other books and is incorrect. 'In France and Germany swimming in the upright position is much practised.' It then goes on to say it 'was introduced by M. Bernardi, a Prussian' [read Napolitan]. The com-

piller next refers to the Prussian system as taught by general Pfael' [sic]. That 'a recruit on entering the French army is early taught to swim' (p 36), is another theory popular with writers on swimming.

The paragraph 'My pupils begin' (p 29) is [erroneously] quoted as Woodbridge's in Manly games by Crawley (p 233), and the paragraph p 33 'In still water a swimmer ought to make a hundred yards in a minute and a half' is in Manly Games correctly quoted as Beckwith's [it is from The Rowing almanack 1863 p 130].

It gives the resuscitation rules of the R.N.L.B.I. but the compiler shows his usual ignorance, for he says (p 41) 'The rules following are those recommended by Dr Sylvester' and adopted by the R.H.S. This is a nice muddle. The method is that of Marshall Hall with two illustrations, and far from being adopted by the R.H.S., that body would have none of it until they got one of their own, the Silvester, as well. It gives Silvester's two illustrations of resuscitation in a boat.

In 'swimming for ladies' a model 'lady's bathing costume' is given (I reproduce this ante p 110). Says Miss Martineau 'has of late ventilated the subject' p 49, but does not say where.

A letter by 'an eminent physician' [John Hulley] reprinted from The Times occupies pp 50 to 54 advocating mixed bathing.

The number of times this compilation has been reprinted is curious. The first seems to be one quoted by Piscator with this title

2. The champion handbooks &c [with the same illustration on the cover as the original, but price] three pence. London, Henry Lea 13 Paternoster row.

Except the half title and title this appears to be a reprint by w. w. Head (who is in the P.O.D. in 1868 & 9 only) from the stereos. The B.M. date is

[1868]. Lea is in the P.O.D. to 1865 when his name no longer appears.

3. Much of Gurr, as I have already stated, is reprinted in The book of manly games by Crawley [1869].

4. Another reprint in

The champion handbooks, price sixpence, swimming. London The Graphotyping co limited 7 Garrick st w.c. [above is on the cover, which has a colored illustration (not in previous issue) repeated in the book.] The art of swimming...by Harry Gurr.

12° pp 63 no date, but at p 64 the year 1872 is on an advertisement. This is an entirely different type reprint, the cuts are all inferior in printing. There is no mention of its having been previously published. The Hall and Silvester methods correctly given after the R.H.S. The publishers preface says of Gurr 'about three years ago he left this country for America,' where he combined the 'profession of a trapeze artiste with that of swimming-master; he has likewise performed successfully in a glass tank *à la* Natator in the United States.' Natator's real name was N. T. Collinge, he died in 1883. (Swimming notes 29 nov '84 and 1885 p 1).

5. Another reprint

London Dean and son publishers and factors 160A Fleet street E.C.

This was issued some time in 1874 or after, it is paged at the bottom.

6. Another reprint without name of author in Manly exercises [1877].

Gurr's figures are used in British standard &c [1883].

The fig on p 19 'the header' is copied by Boccock [1888].

7. Another reprint in

Dean's champion handbooks; The art of s. by captain Davis Dalton, new and revised edition illustrated. London Dean & son 160A Fleet street E.C.

12° [1891] pp 44 with 17 cuts in the text price 1s. I bought this thinking it was a new book.

On the colored cover [designed and

lithographed by Herbert Benjamin Clayton] Dalton is called 'the Channel hero.' This is a reprint with a few slight alterations: in the announcements Gurr's book is advertised as well as Dalton's! It omits the lady in bathing costume and the paragraph 'swimming baths for ladies are not yet

among the institutions of our free, happy, and highly refined country' Gurr [1866] p 50. It gives particulars of Webb's swim, and says 'the Americans seldom allow themselves to be beaten at anything, and on 18 aug 1890 captain Davis Dalton the champion back swimmer of the world accom-



Gurr A. G. Payne

THE FAVORITE

plished his projected swim from England to France.' As to this see Dalton under date 1899.

Gurr was born in 1847 (A. G. Payne in Bell's Life 26 nov '75 p 10). Portraits in The illustrated sporting news 29 nov '62 as champion of youths under 16, and 1864 iii 392 and 1866 v 476. On 22 July '63 he won the Fraser gold medal swum for in the Serpentine. At this time he was servant to A. G.

Payne, whose mother (she died October 1864) vainly tried to teach Gurr to read. Good portrait in London Society July 1866. A caricature of him, being introduced by A. G. Payne at a bath, in The boys of England 1868. I reproduce this (s.s. with permission of the proprietors) for the portrait of Payne.

Gurr helps to bring to Pamplin (Web 1875 pp 72 and 75). Description by rev J. G. Wood, which is not

reliable being written so many years after) of Gurr's appearance when he won the championship in *The Boy's own paper* 1879 p 415 and *Outdoor games* 1892 p 72.

Gurr's stroke was quite his own, though a modification of several popular at the time. I am glad to say it has almost entirely gone out. His body rolled over at every stroke, or perhaps it would be more correct to say that he lay on his belly and brought his face out to breathe at each stroke. A. G. Payne (Webb p 38) says 'bringing his mouth to the surface with a twist to breathe.' His legs were used as a wedge, but with the insides of both legs instead of the inside of one and outside of the other as in the English

side stroke. His right arm was his over arm (Wilson s. instructor 1883 p 51), but see *The boy's &c* [1864].

Young men immediately copied this stroke, vainly imagining it would enable them to swim fast. In Gurr's case, as with all our champions, it was practice, muscle, and wind that conquered, not the stroke, for Pamplin it is said swam a better stroke.

As soon as he had won a few races, everybody who ever had anything to do with him claimed to be his teacher. Since he left England (it is said in 1870 with the Hanlon acrobats?) I have heard nothing of him, but as an acrobat there is a chance of making a living and very little as a swimming instructor, one of the worst paid occupations.

The champion hand-books : *Gymnastics. . . by Crawley. . .*

The different issues of this are much the same as those I have given under Gurr. It has 64 pages, of these pp 53-5 are on swimming copied from Gurr.

How to swim in three lessons by H. F. price one shilling : to be had at the English library n° 64 Faubourg saint-honoré 1866.

8° pp 8, at the end 'the right of translation is reserved'! and 'Paris printed.' Quotes Dr Franklin : the lessons only occupy about a page so there was not much 'right' to reserve !

London society, an illust^d mag...vol. x. Lond 1866 8° pp 47 to 53.

A very interesting article in the July number entitled 'Swimming and swimmers by a practical swimmer' [W. H. Leverell?] with two portraits of H. Gurr then 19 years of age, and a whole page illustration drawn by Richard H. Moore of full length portraits of swimmers of the day, which I cannot say ever took my fancy. One is of a man I knew, who at all events always looked gentlemanly, and not the cad here depicted. Edward Donovan (a Londoner but son of the phrenologist an Irishman) swam the English sidestroke properly, no wriggling of the body which was quite still while arms and legs alone worked. His

stroke is exactly described by this writer who says 'Donovan with his large body and giant limbs, started off at a tremendous pace, and making a wash like a Thames steamer, completely frightened his opponent out of the water.' He went on telegraph work to the Red Sea and died there. Newman's *Swimmers* 1898 p 26 mentions a namesake who died from the effects of a high spring [see *The Sporting Life* 14, 15 and 16 aug 1888]. Several of the others I know by sight, but the company was not such as I cared for, any one looking at this illustration I think will agree with me.

Petit cours de natation et de gymnastique à l'usage des jeunes gens, illustré de gravures sur bois... et secours à donner aux noyés. Amiens, Alfred Caron fils 1866.

16° pp 66: the paper cover differs from the title page and has also Paris Schultz & Thuillie as publishers.

Swimming to p 38 with 13 cuts, seven copied from *The boy's treasury* 1844 and some of the text without acknowledgment. As usual the cuts are far inferior to those in the part on gymnastics, but the first illustration, of

1. Boys of England a young gentleman's journal 8th june 1867.

In this week's issue was commenced a series of articles entitled *Swimming* by the president of the London swimming club [A. Williamson], they were republished separately with this title on the illustrated cover

2. Boys of England complete swimming guide, price two pence.

The illustration inside the border of the cover is repeated on p 12, it is by the same artist as that on p 118 of *The boy's shilling book* [1866], on the back of the cover is an advertisement of 12 apr 1868, and publishing office 147 Fleet street E.C. Kelly & co printers.

It is 16°, height 12 width $7\frac{5}{10}$ millimeters, pp 32 with 17 illustrations, some good, many bad, as for example the fig p 9 in 'swimming like a frog,' which is plagiarised from *The Boys' journal* 1863 p 284. The first illustration is the Beckwith family. On p 3 is one of *The favorite* (which see under *Gurr* 1866), it is omitted from the 1883 edition. The first figure on p 17 is plagiarised from *The Boys' journal* 1863 p 283 or *Every boy's book* (see 1868 edit p 330), the first on p 20 and p 21 & 25 are respectively plagiarised from *The Boy's own book* [1849] pp 200 & 194.

The second cut on p 21 is plagiarised from *The Boys' journal* 1863 p 285: it is copied in *Crawley's Swimming* [1878] p 28: the illustration on p 8 is cut down for the [1882] edition.

two swimmers getting into a boat is admirably executed, on the left is a name like Burrage, on the right Lacos[te]. What the compiler has taken from the French he acknowledges, as Manuel Roret: Paris dans l'eau: capitaine Schreuder is quoted from *Instruction* 1848 col 2016.

The text is chiefly compiled from other treatises.

On p 7 it says that 'Gurr who is only twenty years of age' holds the London S.C. championship cup: this statement first appeared in the B of E for the 29 june 1867.

Several things are copied from *Gurr's book*.

'Floating seems difficult, but in reality is extremely easy' (p 19) it is clear from this the writer could not float or he would have said exactly the reverse.

It gives Franklin's advice but alters the 'objectionable interpolation' of 'eyes open' to 'eyes shut' and then says 'Franklin made a great mistake in saying that you cannot open your eyes beneath the surface' (p 28).

3. A reprint of this, very much worn, was issued about 1879 with the same cut on the cover but a different border and with the title *Young men of Great Britain*.

Then we have another edition with this title from the illuminated cover.

4. New edition complete, price 2d. *Boys of England complete swimming guide: Boys of England office and all booksellers* [in a circle are a number of figures in bad positions and a bridge in the distance, the title is] *Boys of England s. guide new and revised edition* published at 173 Fleet street E.C. (Vincent Brooks, Day and sons printers).

About [1882] 8° pp 32.

5. There was another issue of this precisely the same but printed by Bradley (published about 1894?) and a different illuminated cover of figures and a boat.

These issues (4 & 5) have twelve illustrations and cuts in the text, of which several are plagiarisms, that on p 16 n° 1 is from The boy's own book, pp 17 & 18 from The boys' journal, p 19 is plagiarised from Delarue's edition of Roger [1881] p 41, or from Courtivron, p 20 is plagiarised from Walker's Manly exercises a plagiarism of Frost: on p 27 is a portrait of F. E. Beckwith.

The text is almost entirely rewritten by a person [Edwin John Brett?] who was no swimmer: gives the Pful method: leaves out the cut 'swimming

Chambers's encyclopædia, a dictionary of universal knowledge for the people. London w. & R. Chambers Edinburgh (printed) 1860-8.

What a difficult and invidious task, to make observations upon an article in so excellent a work as this, probably for its size the best encyclopedia ever published. When I look through it, and glance at the numerous subjects I know nothing about, how learned and accurate does it all seem.

In vol ix (1867) I find only a few words on swimming, and I am able at once to gauge the quality of the knowledge of the writer by his saying the principles of the art will be found explained in Chambers's Information for the people: Routledge's Hand-book of swimming and skating, and The Boy's own book (see *etc.* under these titles).

1874 'revised edition,' the above article is reprinted.

1892 in this 'new edition' the words 'for the people' are omitted: the editor recognises that what was good enough 'for the people' is not for all, and so he gives in vol x pp 17-18, an entirely

like a frog' and the reference to Gurr and the illustration on p 3.

Gives a few words on side swimming 'the feet and legs perform their usual motions, but the arms require different guidance'!

'The side-stroke is by some persons supposed to be the invention of George Pewtress,' this is of no authority whatever being copied from previous writers. The lines I have quoted as to 'floating' are left out.

Hall method without his name and Silvester method taken it says from R.H.S. and N.L.I. rules; and finally 'big swims' the last in april 1882.

The publishing office was removed from 147 to 173 Fleet street in 1872; I was informed that Edwin John Brett was the editor of the last edition, he died in december 1895.

new article, written by C. J. Butcher. It gives all the principal feats and records and refers to Wilson and Cobbett. The next edition also names Sinclair and Henry.

1901 'new edition.' The preface says the records have been brought down to 1895, there are however several dated 1898. But for the editor suggesting that the work was up to date I should not have expected it in a book of this kind. The records given are not always accurate. Too well do I know the difficulties of getting information and of giving it accurately when it is got. As I hope for mercy I will be merciful and only mention the following in evidence of my assertion.

It is clearly an oversight to state that the man who swam 2 miles in the Thames in 25 m 22³/₅ s, took the same time to swim 1 mile on the same day and in the same place.

The record given for plunging was beaten (as indeed has nearly every

other record been since october) in 1898. In this edition we are again told of H. Davenport's mile in still water in 29 m 25½ s 'accomplished on august 11, 1887 [read 1877] remaining unbeaten by amateurs.' This was incorrect in 1892 since which date it has been constantly beaten.

Again we see how incautious it is to suggest that any feat in swimming 'will probably never be equalled' for Finney's stay under water, which gives rise to this suggestion, was exceeded by miss Wallenda in 1898.

A condensed article like Chambers's requires to be written by an expert. It bristles with dates and the reading is

rendered most difficult by their being put out of sequence, making the figures come together thus 'September 18, 1875.'

There is another article I happened to see only lately entitled 'pseudonyms' also a subject I know a little about, in fact it was an unknown quantity in English literature until the Handbook of fictitious names was published in 1868. The whole idea of the article is taken (without the compiler knowing it) from a plagiarism of the Handbook, the title of which is (also unintentionally) suppressed, though it is mentioned under 'anonymous' where it should have no place, as the Handbook treated only of fictitious names.

CHARLES STEEDMAN

whose portrait is reproduced on page 311, from a photograph he sent me taken when he was sixty years of age, was born Cirencester place London 9 july 1830.

After working at map coloring at the age of 11, he became at the age of 13 a chemist's assistant; and began to learn to swim. At 14 he was apprenticed to a cabinet maker. Soon after this time he held evening classes for grammar and mathematics. At 19 he drifted into pianoforte making in which he did well and was proud of having to pay income tax. In 1845 he won £10 in a race of 400 yards, the maximum distance then in first class races. He beat G. Pewters in 1849 winning the championship; on 28 aug 1851 he came in second—T. Young first. He never trained for races but swam after a day of ten hours work. In 1852 and 3 he again beat F. E. Beckwith for the Surrey s. c. championship, and as Beckwith declined to swim again Steedman took the belt with him to Australia, where

'desiring to see something of the world' he went in july 1854. There his manual skill and knowledge enabled him at once to get a living, but eventually he qualified for teaching and became a schoolmaster and journalist. This accounts for what had puzzled me much, how a man whom I thought was a professional swimmer was able to write a scientific mathematical and practical treatise like the Manual. The fact is that Steedman was one of those sturdy clever men who get on anywhere. In epitomising his autobiography sent me in 1898 I have been obliged to leave out all that makes it interesting. He wrote me that he still had the belt deposited in the 'thirty-five guinea champion cup of Victoria 1859.'

He died at North Williamstown, Victoria Australia on the 13 june 1901.

Manual of Swimming: including bathing, plunging, diving, floating, scientific swimming, training, drowning, and rescuing: by Charles Steedman, several years champion swimmer of England and Victoria. Melbourne (printed by Clarson Massina and co) Henry

Tolman, Dwight. London Lockwood & co 1867; entered at Stationers' hall: the right of translation reserved: price five shillings.

8° pp xvi-270 and ix plates of figures. The original part of this work is very good. The part that is compilation might with advantage be omitted or reduced. The work reflects the greatest

credit on the country that has produced it. It never would have been published in England except as a private undertaking. Swimming is an art that will not fully develop unless it has the



benefit of a good warm climate. To the climate of England may chiefly be ascribed the want of general swimming education. The common sense of Englishmen should overcome this [1868].

Republished in London by Lockwood in 1873 price 3s 6d with figures on the cover, and again in 1875 price 2s 6d apparently from stereo plates. In the reissues the title begins 'A' manual and there is no mention of the book having first been published in 1867 and the Melbourne publisher's name is left out.

The copper plates are drawn and signed by O. R. Campbell mostly in correct positions. On p 102 he says do not keep the palms of the hands together, but all his figures springing

are so represented and on page 129 he says for plunging 'the palms held either downwards or together.' Fig 14 should have the toes over the edge of the takeoff.

It is the second book that gives an almost accurate description of the English 'side-stroke,' which it does much more fully than Harrington (q v), but not fully enough or with sufficient explanatory figures. Fig 10 p 104 is wrong, at no period of the sidestroke are the knees in that position: compare it with Wilson's plate iv p 44 in *Swimming* 1876 which Mr Wilson admits to me is not correct. Steedman's description shows me that it is the stroke I learnt when young (except the legs as in fig 10). I also swim on the left side.

Steedman quotes numerous books, but seldom gives dates so that sometimes there are many centuries between authors he gives in support of the same proposition. I shall only mention those on my subject, and as he has no index I must give pages.

He quotes Franklin p 16 as to bathing in a perspiration: p 24 'after having swum for an hour or two': p 50, on the importance of swimming: his 'pallettes' p 122: quotes the 'objectionable interpolation' as Franklin's, p 140. Boy's own book, p 20. The Ency Brit 8th edition is frequently quoted.

Humboldt p 39 [from the Penny mag 31 jan 1834].

Clias p 40: Quarterly review p 57 [1826 vol 34 p 45].

Chambers' Journal p 65 [1834 vol iii p 248].

The Penny magazine [1836 vol v p 290] as to Courtivron military manœuvres p 83: mentions Pfuel's system p 84 and Bernardi's p 114 which he repudiates, and says that it is simply impossible to progress at the rate of 'three miles an hour' by his system or he believes by any other (p 116).

He says 'perhaps the greatest speed ever attained was four hundred yards in four minutes twenty seconds' and he then refers (p 116) to The Melbourne age and herald 10 march 1862.

Steedman is also a witness (p 2) to the neglect of personal cleanliness among [Australian] English 'without exaggeration it may be safely asserted that the bodies of thousands have never been thoroughly washed' see ante p 104.

He gives some interesting experiences of his own, showing that he had been offered by a man sixpence for saving his life (p 48). Suggests that the R. H. S. men should teach (p 58). Repudiates cramp bugbear though much subject to cramp himself (p 259).

'There are at the present time two

swimming masters in London, who have only one pair of legs between them' (p 69) that was Woodbridge and Charles Moore. 'The Slavonic tribes, Russians, Poles etc usually swim in a manner somewhat similar to this' (p 79) that is what I call the human stroke. Don't avail yourself of 'worthless instruction.' 'As, in England, there are but few teachers of certified competency, there is not in consequence one Englishman in a thousand who deserves the title of swimmer' p 81. We have no certified teachers. Then he proceeds to show (from books!) what wonderful swimmers the Germans and French are, but ultimately he says—and this is not from books but his own experience 'There is perhaps no instance of any foreigner, civilised or uncivilised, whose achievements in the water surpass those of the British...the greatest aquatic exploits of the savage heroes of (J.F.) Cooper and other writers of fiction, pale into insignificance beside the authenticated deeds of the English.' He then quotes several big swims such as 'Bruck' p 86 which he says is from the Norwich Mercury and the Nautical magazine. See also his last chapter, where he discredits the superior prowess of savages as swimmers.

'One writer' (?) on swimming so strongly objects to the use of corks that he relates an incident against them (p 91) of a man who had a cork leg.

Repudiates that 'popular delusion' the frog which 'stands as the representative (though an imperfect one) of the old method of breast swimming' pp 93, 99, 100, 106. In the breast stroke he describes an extra movement with the legs, pp 95, 98.

His greatest distance for a plunge is fifty feet (p 130) and for stopping under water 'nearly two minutes' (p 146); he then quotes the feats of 'Nicolo Pesce' of course as fabulous. He treats of vision under water but unfortunately had never seen the theories

of our friend Nicholson. The article on diving contains some useful experiences of the author. His experience leads him to believe that all can float (p 175).

The ape and ant cannot swim (p 179).

The section on floating treats of it in a scientific and mathematical as well as practical way, and the advice is all good as are the positions of the figures. But he does not distinguish between positions that you can only take in salt water, as for example (p 182) floating with hands by the side; but Mr Steedman wrote me in 1898 'I never saw anyone float with hands down by

the side in fresh and very few in salt water.' I can nearly (but only of late years) do this but I have never seen any man do it, and as I have said before I doubt if there is one person in a hundred thousand able to in fresh water.¹ He frequently uses the term 'scull' but gives no description of how to scull.

The abbé Moccia story repeated on p 259 [from Walker's Manly Exercises] That all persons rise three times is a popular error, p 238: 'One writer' on p 260 I have not identified. I reproduce several of Steedman's figures.

The hero of the Humber or the history of John Ellerthorpe foreman of the Humber dock gates, Hull: being a record of remarkable incidents in his career as a sailor, his conversion and Christian usefulness, his unequalled skill as a swimmer, and his exploits in the water; with a minute account of his deeds of daring in saving, with his own hands on separate and distinct occasions, upwards of forty persons from death by drowning: with appropriate reflections by the rev Henry Woodcock author of Popery unmasked... London Elliot Stock 62 Paternoster row; W. Lister, Sutton street Commercial road E. all booksellers and Primitive methodist ministers 1868. 12°.

Second edition London s. w. Part-ridge: Wesleyan book room: Primitive methodist book room 1880.

The first edition has a full table of contents not in the second, which however has an account of Ellerthorpe's death in 1868.

To the honor of human nature every country can boast of heroes like this, though it is very few who have an ardent religious advocate to chronicle their deeds. Ellerthorpe's name will be

found in Acts of gallantry by L. Young 1872.

The chapters on swimming commence on p 53, there is little or no instruction and the 'science of swimming explained' consists of a quotation from Swimming and swimmers 1861. The reason was, no doubt, that though the hero was a swimmer he was no writer, and his biographer who was a writer was no swimmer.

Kind words for boys and girls 1868, London Hall 56 Old Bailey.

8° on p 149 are some sensible observations about learning to swim which begin 'although this is a paper that our girls will mostly pass over without reading.'

On p 156 a short article entitled 'bathing,' with five cuts reprinted from Cassell's illustrated family paper. Gives the frog as an example.

The playground... by Alfred Elliott London Nelson 1868.

8° pp 354. S. on pp 158-170 with three cuts. A compilation without knowledge of s.

Quotes 'a writer in London Society' [not the 1866 article].

Quotes Franklin's egg practice with

¹ This was written some years ago, now see ante p 132.

the objectionable interpolation! from the Boy's own book and Dr Neil Arnott's observations from the rival publication

Every boy's book so as to be impartial: from the latter, other parts of the article are plagiarised.

The Gentleman's magazine London Nov 1868 8° pp 762 to 768.

'A swimming lesson sketched by a lady.' No lesson, but a very clever article describing the ladies and their 'antics' at a swimming bath.

Swimming. A bibliographical list of works on swimming, by the author of the Handbook of fictitious names [Ralph Thomas] extracted from 'A few words on swimming.' London John Russell Smith 36 Soho square 1868, only 25 copies printed.

8° pp 14 and title. These were on thick paper, but about 125 of the small thin paper copies were printed and stitched with the 1861 pamphlet (q v)

It is the first separate list of books on swimming ever printed. Except that it was placed in the Reading Room of the British Museum I had to wait twenty five years before I got any

recognition of my trouble. In their Swimming 1893 p 21 Sinclair and Henry speak well of it and again on p 423 'This publication is of invaluable service to any student of swimming lore,' such praise as this from absolute strangers, who had worked hard at and were masters of the subject themselves, was indeed welcome.

Traité élémentaire pour l'enseignement de la natation à sec et dans l'eau par N. Laisné professeur de gymnastique...chevalier de l'ordre de Danebrog, chargé conjoint avec le colonel d'Argy de la fondation de l'école normale...de Joinville...Paris Hachette 1868, propriété de l'auteur.

8° pp 32 with numerous illustrations in the text drawn by Bocourt. It is dedicated to colonel D'Argy.

This is a most important work. I consider this system 'l'enseignement à sec,' that is what we term 'land drill,' to be the great desideratum for the English. He says the best results have been obtained by learning the stroke on land, to teaching which the whole of his instructions are limited, as he refers those who wish to go further to Courtivron (1824 edition!) Julia de

Fontenelle and D'Argy, who he says could float in any water with his arms crossed (I presume with legs extended and toes out of the water) a feat I never (until lately) saw any grown up person do in fresh water. He does not think all men are lighter than water, as he says he always sinks unless he swims, an opinion I have been forced to concur in, though when I wrote A few words on s. in 1861 I thought any body with breath in it could learn to float.

Amateur Swimming Associations

The pedigree of the A.S.A.

On the 31st oct 1868 Bell's Life printed a notice that a meeting would be, and one was held (ibid 14 nov '68) at which it was decided 'that a code of laws should be established to decide all questions and disputes respecting amateur races.' But no name is given until the next year. The following is compiled chiefly from S & H 1893 chapter ix.

The first association formed for general government among amateurs was called

- 7 jan 1869 Associated metropolitan swimming clubs
title changed to
- 24 june ,, London swimming association
altered to
- 1870 Metropolitan swimming association
R. P. Watson in his Memoirs 1899 pp 121, 282 says
'Round this tempest-tossed institution might be written
a remarkable story'
changed to
- feb 1874 Swimming association of Great Britain
I have a Report for 1882 which says it is the 14th annual
report : and the by-laws &c 1885, 16° pp 8.
It would seem that up to 1877 the Association was not
much known for Wallace Dunlop C.B. regrets there
is no 'ruling body.' On the other hand Mr Fisk in
1878 dedicates the bather's guide to the S.A.G.B.
a new body independent of any of the above was founded
- 7 apr 1884 The Amateur swimming union
The S.A.G.B. and the A.S.U. amalgamated under the title
of the
- 3 mar 1886 Amateur swimming association
They have published a Handbook since 188 ? but not
a single copy is in the British Museum or Bodleian.
The issue for 1899 has 120 pages, price sixpence. That
for 1902 has upwards of 300 pages, price one shilling.
- 1889 The A.S.A. divided into three
Northern counties A.S.A.
Midland ,, ,,
Southern ,, ,,
- 1901 Again divided into five districts ; the additional
ones being north eastern counties and western
counties.

On the basis of the A.S.A. similar associations have now been formed all over the world. Every change in name represents internal upheavings and deadly quarrels. Jealousy among swimmers has, unfortunately, always been very strong, resulting in the bitterest enmity.¹

¹ On reading proof of this Mr Pragnell wrote me (16 apr 03). 'Some loose copies of the rules &c were printed at various times in the eighties, but in 1893 I prepared and published the first annual handbook of fifty pages, and I have now sent one of each year (1893-1902) to the British Museum.'

There is not the slightest jealousy among swimmers, but there are unfortunately a great many non-swimmers who have used their office and talking ability, to oppose everything which has been brought forward on behalf of swimming generally, for the last twenty years.'

I give here the substance of his letter resigning the hon secretaryship of the A.S.A. as it shows so much of the history of the A.S.A. It is addressed to Mr Thomsett, the then president ; on his resigning Mr Pragnell was elected president in 1903.

13 december 1902
After being connected with swimming for 12 years prior to 1893, I in that year, on your own nomination, accepted office as honorary secretary of the A.S.A., and, in a letter to our late colleague, Mr George H. Barker, I gave the following list of reforms which I intended to bring forward and which I then anticipated would take

Even when the enmities had subsided, there were strong differences of opinion, and the discussion of questions often lasted an unreasonable time.

Every proposal was hotly opposed. As an instance I may mention a meeting of the A.S.A. in 1895. There were so many questions to discuss that in the



an (anticipated) all night sitting of the A.S.A.

number of Swimming for the 27 march (p 15) the editor, perhaps somewhat in joke, suggested that the meeting would last all night. Accordingly his artist Mr Salaman shows

what might be the result in the above skit, drawn from Mr Pragnell's suggestions. I reproduce it (reduced) with his permission and that of the artist.

Such was the amount of business to

only two or three years to carry out (1) Institution of an A.S.A. committee (2) an increased number of District committees (3) earlier General meetings (4) annual presidents (5) perpetual challenge trophies (6) application of A.S.A. objects and laws to both sexes (7) inauguration of a ladies championship (8) formation of an A.S.A. for Wales (9) a complete series of international matches (10) improved A.S.A. certificates (11) international costumes (12) caps (13) an additional object in favour of more baths and bathing places being established (14) a list of existing baths and bathing places (15) lifesaving to be exempt from amateur laws (16) certificates for reliable professional teachers of the art (17) decent recognised swimming costumes for ladies and gentlemen (18) improved regulations for entertainments (19) tabulated amateur records and rules therefor (20) a combined A.S.A. year-book, showing the progress and position of the art in each district.

To my great astonishment, every one of these has been more or less bitterly opposed; and now that the last one has been agreed to, and all are in working order, I intend retiring at the next annual meeting, and I am writing thus early in order to give the Council plenty of time to find a successor.

With the enormous growth of clubs in England, and the increased interest taken in everything appertaining to swimming all over the world, the correspondence part alone is a gigantic task for an *honorary* secretary single handed. The cost in wear and tear may be gauged from the fact that I have travelled nearly 60,000 miles in the

be done and the opposition met with, that the anticipation became a fact, it lasted from 4 PM till 4 AM.

The first figure on the left is A. Sinclair. The picture on the left is a skit on G. Pragnell who is represented in swimming costume.

The figure with the mallet is W. J. Read, the newly elected president. The figure pointing is E. J. Tackley who had some documents the A.S.A. desired to obtain. The figure with the life buoy is the hon sec of the L.S.S. The hon sec of the Midland Counties S.A. was H. Thomsett, he is balancing their instructions on his nose. Finally the griffin is intended for H. H. Griffin, who wished not to have any time limit for a plunge. His legs are represented (no doubt incorrectly) in the picture on

the right hand side. This griffin immediately attracted my attention on looking at this caricature. I thought the artist had conceived the same idea as myself and had depicted the evil genius of swimming to which I have several times referred. I was much disappointed to find that instead of being symbolical of the evil genius of swimming it was a griffin.

All this is a small affair compared with the litigation over the Irish championship cups 1901-2, when three K.C.s and two juniors were engaged in a two days argument on technical points, which had nothing to do with the main question, as to who should hold the cups (of nominal value) for twelve months. Eventually the law costs were over £600.

The book of manly games for boys...by captain Crawley...illustrated by John Proctor and others London William Tegg : all rights reserved.

8° preface dated xmas 1869, pp xi 532. 6s. The earliest issue in the B.M. is apparently from the stereos in [1873] again [1876] and [1882] swimming on pp 225 to 253, an article made up by quoting Beckwith from The boys' journal 1863, Franklin's egg practice incorrectly thus 'keep your eyes open before diving, and keep them open while under water': Woodbridge, and reprinting nearly the whole of Gurr

from which the fourteen cuts are taken.

The preface thanks professor 'Beckwith and Henry Gurr for their suggestions on the art of swimming.'

Gives the Hall and Silvester methods.

It is rather remarkable that Crawley is described, in a catalogue of Darton & Hodge which I obtained in 1867 two years before above was published, as 'author of Manly games for boys' (see Gurr).

British Isles, mainly at night and principally at my own expense, on journeys connected with swimming; while the direct and indirect expense of the position financially has never been less than fifty and often exceeded one hundred pounds per annum. I don't take any credit for this, because I suppose if I had not liked it I should not have done it; but when the tactics of one party and the policy of another render the office incompatible with one's personal dignity, as well as revolting to one's ideas of the objects of the Association, I think it better to resign a position which, under happier circumstances, it would have been a pleasure to retain indefinitely.

In conclusion, you know me too well to allow any consideration of a testimonial of any sort, and I hope, my dear Thomsett, you may hold office long enough to see the present tendency to over-legislation, and so-called 'government of the sport' give way to more attention to the 'promotion of the art.' The teaching of swimming to school children is a worthier object than interfering with private organisations which for years have taught swimming gratuitously and carried out their competitions in strict accordance with A.S.A. laws; and if two-thirds of the time, trouble and expense now given up to making amateurs into professionals, and professionals into amateurs, was devoted to teaching the art and obtaining proper accommodation for swimmers, it would be a great thing for you to accomplish before you follow my example and lay down the pen.

I enclose proposals re teaching and the school boys competition, which I hope will be carried.

GEO PRAGNELL

The Boy's home book...by writers of The boy's own magazine...
London Lockwood & co.

8° [1869]. This is a reprint from the stereoplates with a new title page without acknowledgment of The boy's shilling book 1866.

The swimming baths of London by R. E. Dudgeon M.D. London 1870 price sixpence.

8° pp 35 really published 1869. An excellent pamphlet not only for its minute account of the baths but also for the observations on swimming; it should be read by anyone who intends to write on either subject. Not only have the baths increased in number and a few of the abuses been remedied since he wrote but ladies *have* taken to swimming. Whether they have also adopted a sensible dress as he suggests I am not able to say; to judge from the illustration in Leahy it would seem not.

I could write much about his observations on our want of bathing facilities, but it is no part of my subject and this list has already grown far beyond any idea I had at starting. Nichols, Piscator and Dunlop take their lists of baths from this.

The above was written some seven years ago. On my writing to Dr Robert Ellis Dudgeon that a new edition of his treatise was wanted, he wrote that he was upwards of 80 years of age, 30 apr 1900, but anyone was welcome to use his material.

With regard to this subject I may

Bibliothèque des merveilles. Merveilles de la force...par Guillaume Depping...Paris Hachette 1869.

8° pp vi & 376 chaps x xi & xii p 196-235, on s.

Wonders of bodily strength...translated...from the French of &c by Charles Russell...London and New York Cassell Petter and Galpin.

12° [1870] chaps ix x xi pp 190-219 on swimming and diving among the

quote Wm Turner Doctor in Phisicke in his treatise Of the Bath of [the city of] Baeth in Englande printed in The Englishmans Treasure compiled by that excellent chirurgion Maister Thomas Vicary Esquire Sergeant Chirurgion to King Henry the 8...and also cheefe Chirurgion to S. Bartholomewes hospitall...London 1586. At p 106 Turner says

'I doubt whether the niggardly liberalitie or the unnaturall unkindnesse of the riche men of England is more to be dispraised, which receiving so many good turns of Almighty God, now after they know, that the Baths are so profitable, will not bestowe one halfepenie for Gods sake upon the bettering and amending of them.'

Then after some reproaches for money spent in cockfighting &c he says

'but I have not heard tell that any riche man hath spent upon these notable Bathes, being so profitable for the whole common wealth of England, one grote these twenty years.'

Neither have I!

ancients and moderns: nothing new: admittedly culled from various sources.

A cut is given of Hero and Leander from a 'médaille d'Abydos,' but does not say where the medal is: it differs from those I reproduce, though the hand-over-hand stroke is shown.

Dictionnaire encyclopédique des sciences médicales (par Jacques Raige-Delorme and others) Paris 1869, 8°.

In the 2nd series vol 2 pp 800-3 art locomotion 'De la natation chez

l'homme et les quadrupèdes.' No original research, but the article is made

up from previous authors, Borelli being quoted with the fullest confidence.

That man copied and swims like a frog is also asserted.

The American and continental monthly a magazine of choice selections...n° 2 vol i may 1870 price 6d. London Houlston & sons, 65 Paternoster row, Edin, Glasgow, Dublin.

8° pp 159 to 168 a very interesting article by Thomas Wentworth Higginson, a notice of whom (born Cambridge Massachusetts 1823) will be found in Allibone by Kirk and Men of the Time 1895.

No instruction, but some good advice by an expert swimmer: he says p 162 'boys take such special delight in bathing in the rain. The rain-drops titillate so softly, they make a delicious alternation with the more ample washing of the waves. It is like the successive appliances of a Turkish bath. Yet [captain Henry] Wilson says in the Pelew-Islanders [1788?] that they showed a peculiar dislike to this contact of the drops, and always jumped overboard when a shower came on.' 'I am now satisfied that the immoderately long baths of boyhood are an absolute injury.'

Refers to Trench's Realities of Irish Life, an account of a swim performed in a cave at night. 'The American

Indians according to [T.L.] McKenney [New York 1846?] swim 'dog-paddle' as we say, — the crawl stroke as it is sometimes called. It is said by Steedman [in his Manual of swimming p 79] that this is the method employed by the Slavonic races.' He gives a description of South Sea Islands, Van Diemen's Land swimming from the translation¹ of [Houtou de] la Billardiére's Voyage in search of La Perouse [1800].

Quotes 'Bruck's' swim shortly without acknowledgment from Steedman. 'The elephant floats higher, it is said, than any other quadruped.'² He refers to Paul Moccia [from Steedman p 259] and Nicolo Pesce [ibid p 151] 'dip your head beneath it, and then open your eyes, a thing which Dr Franklin, strange to say, declared to be impossible,' a statement Higginson also takes from Steedman [p 140]. I have shown Franklin said nothing of the kind: see ante-p 187.

Bathing and swimming without danger of drowning [cuts and contents] by T. L. Nichols M.D. published by the Aquatic safety company, 3 The promenade Great Malvern 1870.

12° pp 32 price 2d.
also issued with the imprint Great Malvern, T. L. Nichols: London F. Farrah & co 282 Strand 1873, but without mention of the previous issue.

He mentions Dr Franklin: he published this pamphlet to make known his swimming belts: he gives a list of baths from Dudgeon.

Every boy's book: the new art of swimming made easy, containing instructions how to learn to swim, swimming like a frog, to plunge, dive and float, swimming and thrusting on the back, the place to swim, time, dress &c, the cramp, useful hints and general directions.

¹ The French book was published the same year. The author Jacques Julien Houtou de la Billardiére describes the extraordinary power of the Tasmanians but gives no details of the style. This account is repeated in The aborigines of Tasmania by H. Ling Roth 1890 p 163 where he quotes other travelers. The Tasmanians became extinct in 1876.

² In an article on 'How animals swim' in Pearson's mag for august 1899 p 160 J. G. Millais says that the elephant can swim high or low at will.

Price one penny. F. Farrah publisher 282 Strand (w. s. Fortey printer 2 & 3 Monmouth court).

4° eight pages in double columns: title from the cover: published in August 1870 and chiefly reprinted from some plagiarism of Thevenot and Franklin with the objectionable interpolation without acknowledgment. It has twenty five woodcuts, well done with a few exceptions; they are plagiarised from Walker and The boy's own book 1828. The notes on floating and time are from

the Boys of England swimming guide 1868 without acknowledgment.

Reprinted London w. s. Fortey printer and publisher Gt St Andrew st Bloomsbury [1891] a copy in the Bodleian. Another reprint with slight variations [1898] the objectionable interpolation still appearing! It has nothing whatever to do with either of the previous Every boy's books.

The gentleman's magazine vol v 1870, 8° pp 578-588.

Swimming for the million by William Strange M.D. An excellent general article. Quotes Dr Dudgeon through-out and Marshall's Physiology of man

and animals: some good observations against the 'cramp' theories: advocates open air baths for London.

La natation ou l'art de nager appris seul en moins d'une heure: avec cinq figures, par P. Brisset, prix 50 centimes. Paris Garnier, Lyon (printed) Méra 1870.

18° pp 35. The work of a practical swimmer, the instruction and plates very good showing the breast stroke ('la brasse') which is to be mastered before going into the water.

start with his heels together and the elbows at the side, the best position he says that can be taken if you wish to sink.

He mentions no other work but says that notwithstanding all the books that have been written only a few swim, up to the present time. Those who have written on swimming tell the learner to

Lorenz does not give his full fore name and puts the last part of the title reversed—i.e. he gives all the information but gives it in an incorrect manner.

Lehrbuch der schwimmkunst für turner... von H. O. Kluge und Dr C. Euler 1870.

In Kayser xvii 596. I have not seen this, but take the above title from Euler 1891. The translation is Instruction book in the art of swimming for the gymnast, and school and military swimming places: price 4s 6d.

To accompany this there was a folio of eight lithographed plates and title also priced 4s 6d, called Bildertafeln zu dem lehrbuch &c. Euler in the preface to his 1891 treatise says he has epitomised the whole so that the above is not now necessary: see also 1843.

La locomotion dans l'eau, principes élémentaires de natation, par C. Defrançois professeur de gymnastique au lycée impérial de Reims. Reims imp Matot-Braine 1870.

16° pp 66 and 4 and plate price 50 cent. I have often thought what an unimportant subject this is! What a waste of time to trouble about such trifles, it will never be of any use to anyone!

The interesting introduction to this little treatise of Defrançois however has shown me that it is otherwise. It is by Elie Guillemart who had to write considerably on speculation whereas if

he had had my list he would have been able to write from facts. See N & Q 10 oct 1896 p 292.

Defrançois says he has consulted Thevenot, Bachstrom, Courtivron,

D'Argy (Paris 1854 librairie de Blot). The instructions only occupy pages 45 to 50 with a plate showing the motions of breast s. to be learnt before going into the water.

Swimming almanack printed 1871 by the Met. Swimg. Assoc. I have not seen this, it is quoted in S. notes & record 29 aug 1885.

The bath and the beach or all about bathing with instructions how to swim and how to save from drowning: a descriptive list of the swimming baths of London and sea bathing resorts of the United Kingdom by Piscator. London Sampson Low, Brighton A.M. Robinson, copyright secured.

On p 6 the date of issue 1871 is given: 8° pp 52. 'Piscator' is in facsimile. The observations about swimming are very good, no instructions,

the author expressly disclaims these notwithstanding the words on his title page. Copyright cannot be 'secured' in England.

How to swim float plunge bathe and dive, by Piscator. Bradbury Evans & co.

London 1871, 16° illustrated cover with back of a figure springing not repeated in the book.

Another edition 1872, 16° pp vi & 1 & 96, price 1s: illustrated cover not repeated in the book; it has 12 cuts in the text. 'Piscator' on the title is in facsimile.

It would seem that directly this was issued, it was discovered that they had omitted the words '2nd edition,' so a new title page was printed with those words added, otherwise there is no

difference whatever.

For the breast stroke it copies two of Gurr's [1866] figures on stools pp 30 & 31, and the instructions seem based on his: the figure of the header also copied from his, with legs however in a better position: same as to 'side-swimming' (p 45) where it quotes The art of swimming by Harry Gurr, London Henry Lea.

Gives a list of well known sea bathing resorts, and baths of London with acknowledgments to Dudgeon.

The art of travel, by Francis Galton fifth edition 1872.

This has some observations on swimming p 82 which require a little revision for the present day.

Says when a man opens his eyes under water, he can see nothing distinctly.

Galton 'read a short paper on this subject, at the British Association in 1865' [see Report of the proceedings at Birmingham p 55]. And he suggests (p 87) spectacles adapted to seeing under water. See Who's who.

Entered at Stationers' hall. Royal Polytechnic 309 Regent st w. patron H.R.H. prince of Wales. Lessons on swimming by Marquis Bibbero [representation of the square and compasses, indicating that the author was a freemason]. May be had of all booksellers price 3d. Geo Chalfont printer 4 Edward's place opposite Langham hotel.

16° [1871] copy in the Bodleian in a green covered card of four pages: the advice is good and original, though much the same as the Lessons in swimming [1884] the language is

different.

The learner 'must get himself used to the water before he attempts to swim.' 'If any water should get into the ears, all that will have to be done

is to place the ball of the hand over the ear and cause a suction by pressing and withdrawing.' 'The temperature of the water for beginners must be from 72 to 78 degrees.'

In rescuing 'reach from behind' and 'place your hands under his armpits,'

Routledge's handbook of swimming. George Routledge and sons, London the Broadway Ludgate (printed by Simmons & Botten) New York 416 Broome street.

12° [1872] pp 64 price sixpence, two illustrations and 7 cuts in the text: colored illustration on the cover with 7 figures not repeated in the book.

This is a reprint of the article and cuts from Every Boy's book but not so stated. On the cover is advertised S. and skating by the rev J. G. Wood: pp 52 to 64 contain 'S. an essay by Sidney Daryl' reprinted, without acknowledgment, from Routledge's magazine for boys 1867.

Animal locomotion or walking, swimming, and flying...by J. Bell Pettigrew M.D. F.R.S...London 1873.

8° pp xiii 264. The 2nd edition 1874 I have not seen. It is reviewed in The Lancet. This book forms vol 7 of The international scientific series.

Swimming of man is on pp 78 to 88 with four cuts in the text.

The assertions that 'The human body is lighter than the water' and 'will float if left to itself' are incorrect being too general, it should be 'in the majority of cases.'

'Almost all quadrupeds can swim.' Man 'can propel himself by keeping his arms close to his body, and causing his hands to work like sculls, so as to make figure-of-8 loops in the water.' This is the first description of sculling in this way, the suggestion of the figure 8 laid horizontally action being original and valuable. I regret to say however that I have come to the conclusion that Dr Pettigrew was a very poor swimmer, and if the rest of the book is no better than that on swimming it cannot be of much value.

advice now superseded by the L.S.S. methods.

On the back of the cover he gives his address 73 Berkeley st Strangeways Manchester. Chalfont is in the London P.O.D. at above address only for 1871, 2 & 3.

Another reprint was issued without date in 1885, precisely the same except that the address at New York is 9 Lafayette place, and the illustrated cloth cover has two figures, one springing in a good position and the other wiping his head (ditto!).

In describing the breast stroke it only gives the kick with the legs (p 23) no wedge.

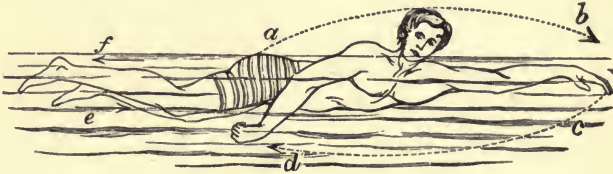
Translated into Dutch see Löwenstrom 1882.

If he understands the proper breast stroke, how could he erroneously say 'The swimming of the frog conveys an idea of the movement'? In fact he only describes the human kick, no wedge. On p 83 he is describing the breast stroke and he says 'the hands are slightly depressed...and hence the bobbing...observed in the majority of swimmers.' In Scotland I presume for certainly the majority do not bob in England. However unfortunately he has a foot note to this, in which he says 'The professional swimmer avoids bobbing and rests the side of his head on the water.' Now here is a confusion of two styles, swimming on the breast, in which (as in all styles) all good swimmers avoid bobbing, and side swimming in which only the side of the head is in the water.

Next he describes, what he calls the 'overhand movement' when it should be the hand-over-hand. The over-

hand movement is a sidestroke, but fig 42 is swimming the hand-over-hand, each hand going forward alternately. The author describes alternate leg movement but the artist has put them

both together. It is inaccurate to suggest that 'scientific swimmers have of late years adopted' the hand-over-hand style in preference to the breast stroke. In the cuts, the thumbs of the

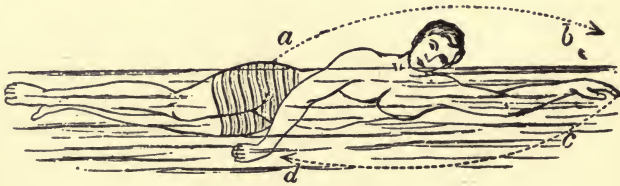


hand-over-hand from Pettigrew fig 42

left arms of both figures are shown straggling instead of being close to the fingers. This defect is as old as the Assyrian sculptures and is also to be seen in the equally useless figure 43 en-

titled 'side-stroke swimming. Original' in which also the position of the legs is wrong. Figs 42 and 43 are reproduced by permission of Messrs Kegan Paul.

I dispute the accuracy of the follow-



bad position in the sidestroke from Pettigrew fig 43



good position in the sidestroke from Steedman 1867 plate iii fig 9

ing (p 86) in the sidestroke 'The lifting of the arm out of the water increases the speed.' This means that the reach of the stroke obtained &c, increases the speed, but I am not prepared to admit this. Then he adds that 'but the movement is neither graceful nor comfortable, as it immerses the head of the swimmer at each stroke.' Dr Petti-

grew evidently saw not only an ungraceful swimmer but a bad one, as it is not only unnecessary but bad form to immerse the head because the arm is lifted out of the water.

With regard to the statement that J. B. Johnson on 5 aug 1872 swam half a mile in 12 minutes and a full mile in 26 minutes, I can only say it has never

beendone since.¹ Nuttall's record is 12 m 7½ sec half mile, and 26 m 8 s the mile in still water. In 1868 Harry Parker was an amateur not as stated a professional, he won the Amateur championship of England for one mile in 1870, 1 and 2 (S & H 1900 p 387).

Wallace Dunlop in Plate-swimming

The Popular recreator a key to in-door and out-door amusements ... Cassell Petter & Galpin, London, Paris, and New York.

4° 2 vols issued in parts and the dates 1873-4 are on the covers only. Swimming by the secretary of the Royal Humane Society [Joseph Hayne Lambton Young].

Five articles, interesting, but partly plagiarised from various sources with ten (9 original) cuts in vol i pp 12, 71, 174, 285.

The R.H.S. find that in the majority of cases that come before it for reward, the persons saved could not swim (p 13). 'Of all athletic exercises swimming is most easily learned, but in learning to swim [first] instead of to float, we begin at the wrong end' (p 71).

For the breast stroke 'The manner of kicking the legs should be precisely similar to that of the frog' (p 72). Copying J. G. Wood he makes a great bugbear of that 'terrible bane' cramp (p 74), which is plagiarised from The ABC p 92.

'Gurr in his races, holds his head more under water than above, well

Das Schwimmen...[cut] von w. Auerbach...mit 22 figuren und 2 tafeln : zweite vermehrte auflage. Berlin Adolph Stubenrauch 1873.

Translation. How to learn swimming safely easily and quickly by w. Auerbach teacher and gymnastic and swimming master, with 22 figures (in the text) and 2 tables, second enlarged edition.

8° pp viii 114 and 1. It reprints the preface dated 1871 to the first edition.

(p 88) refers to this 'excellent work' but he disputes the accuracy of Dr Pettigrew's theories on the swimming of fishes and refutes them! Figures reproduced by permission of Kegan Paul Trench & co limited.

For biography of Dr Pettigrew see Who's who.

knowing that the less there is of the body out of the water, the less there is to carry' (p 174) which is perfectly true² but Gurr knew nothing of the kind, he simply swam that way because nobody ever taught him the English sidestroke.

Now we come to an astonishing paragraph, ridiculed by Wallace Dunlop, which seems to show Mr Young was no swimmer or diver 'with your eyes open - they must be kept open in the act of diving or entering the water, as it is very difficult to open them after the head is once under water' (see ante p 188). In describing the feelings of a drowning man in the resuscitation he says, 'The sailors held him up by the heels, to let the water run out, and gave him gin, and he was quickly restored to animation' (p 285). This is given without protest. The cut on p 286 a figure about to spring is from Cassell's I. F. P. 22 July 1865 p 413.

He quotes Guths Muths (sic) of 1833: Euler and Kluge p 48, and Kluge p 92. Wiersbitzki; D'Argy and Pfuel, in fact it is nearly all compilation, though he says he looked into the literature of swimming and found the first idea of the method of teaching on land in Guts Muths, part of which D'Argy had used in France 17 years previously.

¹ It was not done until 1899 when J. A. Jarvis at Abbey Park, Leicester, swam it in 25 m 13½ secs.

² J. A. Jarvis (q v) holds the contrary view.

He then directed the swimming movements to be carried out on land by several soldiers at once, at the word of command, which he says was the first step towards making the idea given by Guts Muths in 1833 practical. Plate 2 represents twelve pupils learning at once, each being suspended in the water by cords from rafters.

He says that before 1870 swimming was not adopted in schools. Every one must be a soldier in Germany and therefore must learn to swim. Pupils

The swimming rowing and athletic record. London (printed for the proprietor Robert Watson) may 10, 1873, weekly one penny.

4° pp 4. The title was changed on the 24 may with n° 3 which is dated '1870' to The swimming record and chronicle of sporting events and the size to folio: it ceased 9 may 1874. The issue for 4 apr 1874 is numbered 49 instead of 48.

In a parting address the editor Robert Watson, who did his best according to his views to encourage swimming, says he had undertaken the sporting editorship of the Daily Independent, which however though announced never seems to have appeared.

The Graphic 9 august 1873: folio.

A whole page illustration of the London Swimming Club contest at the Crystal Palace, tub-race, pole walking, best means of saving life, tea drinking.

All well done and no doubt correctly

Harberd's complete guide to the art of swimming, price one penny. London H. E. Harberd, Red Lion court Fleet st.

12° [1874] pp 12, with one cut in the text: title from the cover. Original and fairly good, gives the frog as an example.

Letters from India and Kashmere 1874 4° 21 shillings

When I wrote the paragraph about Indians springing ante p 157 with the quotation from this profusely illustrated and interesting book, I had not been able to ascertain the name of the author. It is by Mr John Duguid formerly of Buckingham gate London, but now of Dover. It is dedicated to

should learn in flat baths and not be mixed with swimmers.

Two of his figures for the breast stroke are reproduced under von Orofino.

He published an appendix with this title Anhang zu das schwimmen. 8° pp 32, the date 1888 is at the end.

This is chiefly to make known a belt he invented, he says he obtained a license to build a bath, and that on a hot day he had 5000 bathers.

In an editorial retrospect signed Aquaris [i e R. Watson] all the noted swimmers (i e racers) of the day are mentioned.

The amateur question is frequently discussed, also the S.A.G.B. Nearly every number contained a challenge and yet the editor (9 aug 1873) says that professionals too seldom competed: if they did 'oftener for stakes, the outside world would think more of swimming.' Fortunately swimming was saved such a downfall as this.

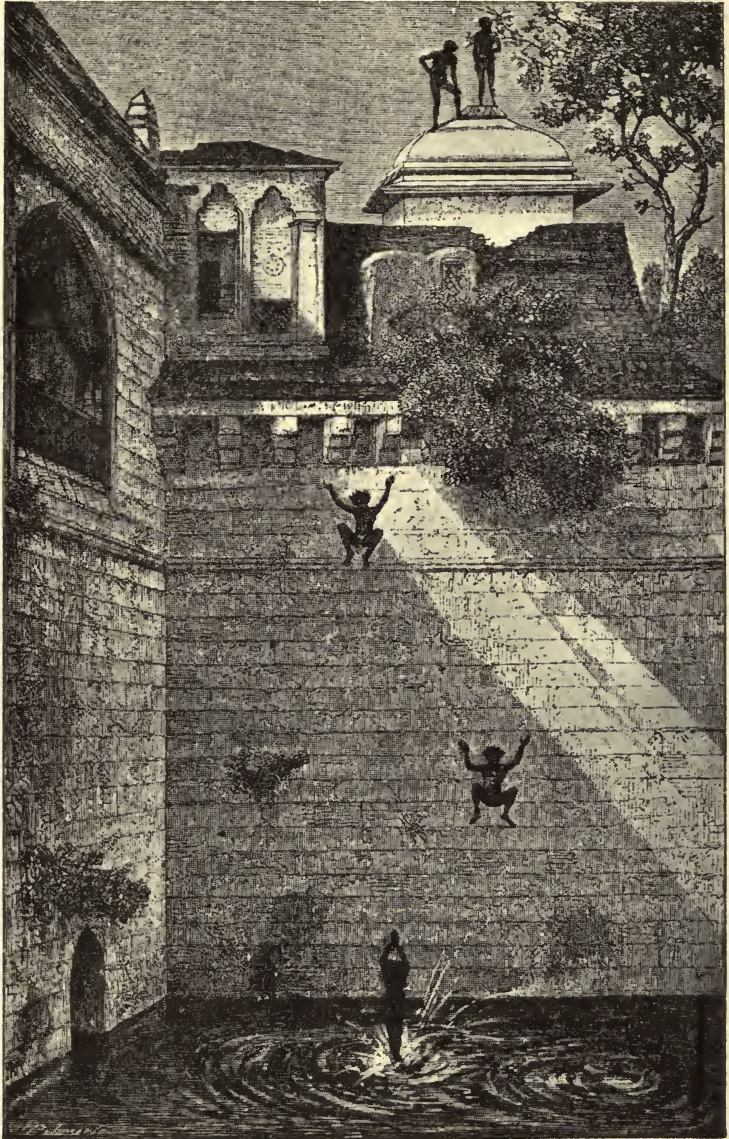
depicts the bad positions the swimmers took.

The same remark applies to a whole page illustration 11 march 1893 of L.S.S. methods.

his father; this was Thomas Duguid of Liverpool who died in 1875, the author-artist was his eldest son and was born at Buenos Ayres in 1827. The sketch of the jumping well of Delhi, made on the spot by Mr John Duguid is reproduced slightly smaller than the original with his permission.

Mr Wallace Dunlop in Plate-s. also gives the following description (p 68) 'Natives in India, many of them mere

children, practise diving from great heights, always feet foremost, into large wells or tanks, in the hope of



jumping Well Delhi

receiving some trifling pecuniary reward from spectators. At the Bawalee [read baoli] or Great Well near the Kootub pillar of old Delhi, the writer has seen boys springing off every stage from top to bottom; and at the Khund or water-hole among the towering ruins of Futteh-pore Sicri near Agra, he has seen native boys climb to the third and fourth stories, then spring from a window, struggling during the descent to keep their position, feet downwards, just as they approach the water

suddenly straightening the body, seizing the nostrils with the finger and thumb of the right hand, the arm close to the chest, the left arm close along the side, or sometimes held above the head, they then appear to enter the water with the rush of a cannon-ball.

For practical purposes however, the feat of diving from heights exceeding the deck of a ship, the side of a pier, or a river bank, may be deemed useless.'

Our autumn holiday on French rivers, by J. L. Molloy, with illustrations by Linley Sambourne, 1874.

This was a rowing expedition, in an outriggered four-oar on the Seine, the Loire, and rivers of Brittany. Once they had to swim for their lives. This was not much to Mr Molloy who was a very powerful swimmer. Since then author and artist have attained world wide celebrity.

It is an account of great interest, not only for Mr Sambourne's illustrations, but for the traits of French character. The portion which concerns me particularly (pp 110-115) I have quoted under 'breast stroke.' I am indebted to Messrs Bradbury, Agnew & co the publishers for permission to reproduce text and cut, which is also done with

the assent of the author-musician and Punch's caricaturist.

Portraits of the author J. L. Molloy M.A. of the Catholic University of Ireland, and chamberlain at the court of the Vatican (see Foster's Men-at-the-Bar) and of the artist occur on the cover and (though it is anonymous) of Mr Molloy on p 155.

In a review in *The Academy* P. G. Hamerton says, 'Another almost unpardonable imprudence was to tolerate a non swimmer in the boat' hey 'may be permitted to *subscribe* to boats, 'but they never should be permitted to enter them.'

The art of swimming in the Eton style, by 'sergeant' Leahy champion of the Red Sea 1849-50; and at present teacher of swimming at Eton college: with a preface by Mrs. Oliphant: illustrated with drawings by F. Tarver assistant master at Eton college: edited by two Etonians. London Macmillan & co, Nottingham (printed by) Shepherd bros 1875.

8° frontispiece, title & pp ii, 2, ii & folding plate & 2, 99, xi & 6, price 2s. Macmillan's Catalogue 1891 p 284 gives the collation thus "Pp. xii. 100, App. xviii. 2 blanks. Cr. 8°," which is different from all the copies I have seen and omits the folding plate, in which fig 1 is intended as a portrait of Leahy.

The title of this book excites curiosity 'the Eton style' but when you have

read it, and found what you suspected is true, that the 'Eton' style is all humbug, it puts your back up—a very bad position for a swimmer. I am not the only reader who has been puzzled by this mystification. I have always heard of the 'Eton plunge,' but though Leahy mentions this 'header' (p 33) he does not give it this distinctive name. The reviewer in the *American paper*

The Nation (v 21 1875 p 75) very justly says 'If the literary editors had done their duty, we might have had a coherent and orderly account of what is meant by the "Eton college style."' It would be difficult to give an account of what does not exist.

But in justice to the editors C. F. M. Mundy and G. A. Macmillan, we must be able to estimate the amount of work they had to do: a consideration of a leaflet of two pages which the author printed in 1888 will enable this to be done. It is entitled *The missing link in teaching the art of swimming*, discovered by the author of the Eton style. This is signed John Corbitt Leahy as he subsequently added his mother's name (it should be printed Corbett) to his own. It is a pity that he issued this leaflet without the editorial supervision his book had. Mrs M. O. W. Oliphant (she died 1897) in her graceful preface is entirely mistaken in saying in excuse for Leahy's want of 'literary style' that 'He knows what he undertakes to speak about, which is the chief matter.' It is not. We have seen from the works credited to other good and professional swimmers that it is essential for a good book of instructions that the author be able to write as well as swim, and no book illustrates this better.

Leahy is very much in favor of floating (see p 92); to judge from the cuts, he is a superhuman floater, as one figure is represented with arms over the breast half out of the water, and another with legs crossed, one leg being entirely out of the water. In fact if the cuts represent the 'Eton style' of floating it is truly wonderful. The fact is the illustrations were done from memory and it says much for Leahy's swimming that the artist carried home such ideas.

In the 'Eton style' we are told (p 1 see also p 66 breast swimming) 'the hands are useless for propelling the

body' 'that office is reserved for the feet alone.'

Sinclair & Henry 1893 p 67 disagree from this, and Wilson 1883 says it is a mistaken idea.

He lays stress on the swimmer 'kicking out with the flat sole of his foot' which is right.

He relates how he swam (p 9) $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour in the Red Sea. I asked Mr Leahy about this and his answer is 'There is no tide that I am aware of: but my improved [breast] stroke or style of swimming is fastest of any, being all speed no stopping all the way.'

It is the more necessary to refer to this performance (in which it is manifest that the author is mistaken in the time or the distance) because it is given as an instance of what can be done, in Johnson's *New Universal cyclopædia*, New York 1877 vol iv, though without naming the source from which it was taken. The statement is left out of the 2nd edition of Johnson 1895.

The following is well said 'There can be nothing more calculated to put confidence into young and timid swimmers than the constant practising of different positions' (pp 13 84 & 85).

After detailing the great trouble he has taken with his book he says (p 15) 'I flatter myself this will be the best book on swimming ever offered to the public.' But he had no means of judging, not knowing what had been previously done: if he had said 'one' of the best books he would not be far wrong.

It is not a coherent book however, it is a series of disjointed notes and you are never certain that you have all he says on any point. This might have been remedied if there had been a good index.

'I have heard that man took his first lesson from a frog; but since that time, swimming has been vastly improved upon... There are two sorts of frogs—

land and water frogs. The land frogs very seldom use their fore-feet or hands (p 31)...The feet of the frog are not worked in a circle, as we ought to work them, but are kicked straight out to the rear, and more or less downwards' (p 32).

He gives fifty ways of swimming (p 34) but on p 86 refers to fifty-four.

He gives directions for 'dry-land teaching which he thinks very useful at inland places' (p 45).

He is most decided in his preference for fresh over sea water for swimming (p 74).

He is not very strong on the side-stroke which did not come into vogue until after his time. He describes it with fair accuracy though he is mistaken in his inference on p 79 'that the under leg does next to nothing...that the under hand as well as the under leg, does not assist much.' This entirely depends on the skill of the swimmer. The A B C 1866 p 64 says exactly the reverse.

Leahy tells us frequently what wonderful results are produced from the 'Eton style' the most perfect in the world: it is 'only at Eton college that it is made a science of' (p 61): but towards the end, the real fact leaks out (p 81) that swimming is as much neglected at Eton as it is at our Universities. Why he asks have we not 'a greater number of good swimmers than we have' because as a sport 'it is only second to all the others.' 'When I see the training and trouble that a boy will undergo to make one in the "eight" or the "eleven," while not a thought is

bestowed on attaining perfection in the yearly swimming sports, till the moment of starting, I don't wonder that boys are not better swimmers.'

We get the other side from Mr Sydney Holland who writing in the Badminton magazine July 1896 (p 82) of bobbing says 'We used to notice this fault very much among swimmers from Eton when I was at Cambridge' [in 1875].

Leahy disapproves of artificial aids (p 94).

Throughout the book we have numerous auto-biographical anecdotes and the appendix gives a short account of the author's life in the army, which is full of adventure but without a single date.

John Leahy was born at Charleville county Cork, Ireland the 16 Nov 1827. He enlisted 27 March 1845 and left for India with the 78th Highlanders: went through the Indian mutiny: returned to England in 1866. Entered Eton college service in May 1868 as swimming master, and joined the Eton college rifle corps, whence his title of sergeant: he was pensioned by the college in 1889. He is referred to in On the use of the word British by Ralph Thomas 1897, and in Wasey Sterry's Annals of Eton college 1898 p 307.

Charles Francis Miller Mundy was born 1854, B.A. Cambridge University (see Foster Men at the bar) died London 7 Apr 1890: his father died 1888, see Boase M.E.B. George Augustine Macmillan was born 1855: at Eton 1871: publisher J. P. See Who's who.

Beknopte handleiding tot de zwemkunst en het redden van drenkelingen door w. c. j. h. Plooster van der Roest. Amsterdam Scheltema & Holkema's boekhandel.

A short introduction to the art of swimming and the rescue of the drowning.

12° [1875?] pp 28. He mentions Hertog's 'popular pamphlet' entitled

'Naar de zwemschool' To the swimming school: though he prefers that of Carl Löwenstrom as being simpler, but he has written his own with special reference to life saving.

Les nageurs célèbres – vigueur, habileté, courage, patriotisme [allegorical etching]. Dieppe imp Paul Lepretre 133 grande-rue 1875.

16° pp 16. It is signed E. S. at the end; and 'extrait de L'AVENIR de Dieppe du 25 avril 1875.'

A magazine article chiefly compiled from the encyclopedias.

Lorenz attributes it to l'abbé Eugène Paul Marie Sauvage, who died in 1893,

Manuele del nuotatore...bagni...Milano presso Emilio Croci 1875.

12° pp 96 & 2 with 8 figures in the text and a figure on the paper cover repeated in fig 4.

This is a plagiarism from several sources: the first part is translated from La natation of Desloges without acknowledgment. The figures are plagiarised from Julia 1838, himself a plagiarist.

Another edition in all respects the

Neue praktische schwimmschule nach der jüngst anerkannt besten und leichtesten methode des Anton Capello; für herren, damen und kinder rationell anwendbar; mit 18 illustrationen, Wien 1875.

A new practical swimming school according to the best and easiest method for men women and children, with 18 figures in the text.

16° pp 31. Brendicke 1885 p 36 gives title incorrectly.

Scientific American 26 june 1875.

An illustration from the Art Journal and a short article, neither of any value.

Matthew Webb

accomplished his great swim across the English Channel, on the 24 and 25 aug 1875. In november following was issued

The art of swimming by captain Webb the Channel swimmer, (edited by A. G. Payne). London Ward, Lock & Tyler, Warwick house Paternoster row.

8° [1875] pp 111 price 2s 6d with a tinted litho portrait looking to the left: also stamped in gold on the blue cloth illustrated cover is a different portrait looking to the right: two medals on breast. Printers, Novello Ewer & co.

A different issue with same title [1876?] has on the illustrated colored paper cover 'Price one shilling: captain

when a Notice of him with portrait was printed by (the then librarian of Havre public library) Léon Braquehais who told me in 1896 that Les nageurs was inadvertently omitted from his 'Notice.'

same but without date [1897?] previous edition not mentioned.

Croci's address is at Corso Genova n° 3, and the cover is a full page colored illustration of figures springing from a board, and of others swimming all in bad positions.

The much vaunted system of Bernardi so popular with English books, is not even mentioned.

Webb on the art of swimming': picture of Webb swimming the Channel, drawn by D. H. F[riston] utterly regardless of the facts, as the sail boat represented is not a lugger, and though the start from Dover is represented, in the row boat c. w. Baker is shown ready to spring in, an incident that did not occur until they

got near Calais. The colored portrait is very much worn or an inferior reproduction.

Another issue by 'Ward, Lock & co, London and New York' [1878?] without the tinted portrait, no printer's name.

Each issue has three whole page figures.

Webb begins with the relation of some of his voyages, which is called his 'life.' It has only one date throughout, that of his birth. Nowhere in the book is his fore name given. He says (p 19) J. B. Johnson's attempt first put the idea into his head.

The part on swimming is good and the general advice admirable. At p 37 he advocates opening the fingers as a relief in long distances. This was probably one of Payne's theories, but on p 107 he says Webb's 'hands now began to drop and fingers open, a bad sign.' Payne's theory and some of his statements were at once repudiated in Bell's Life 13 nov 1875. Payne answered the following week upholding what he had said: on 27th Robert Watson replied on the overhand sidestroke: on 4th dec, Harry Gardener: on 11th dec, Horace Davenport—referring to Thevenot 1789 for the 'side-stroke': 18th dec, George Poulton who traces the overhand stroke to the year 1842, which I do not believe is correct.

Webb's figures swimming are all three incorrect: the position given for the sidestroke is not good, which is amply accounted for when we find the authors saying 'keep the same stroke with his legs as in the breast stroke' (p 43) and stating (p 45) that 'the movement with the legs is exactly the same as swimming on the chest,' neither of them knew the total difference.

Several chapters are reprinted from

Land and Water from which Payne reprints his own account of the swim, (see 7 and 28 aug, 4 & 11 sep 1875) and The Standard which a reviewer in The Field (27 nov 1875) says were by Payne.

'Of course it is a fact that a fat person can maintain [an upright] position far easier than one who is thin' p 59, but I am not prepared to admit this is a fact, it is a question of balance and specific gravity.

'Stories have been told of men remaining in [read under] the water four minutes. I do not believe this to be true' (p 60). This has since been done.

'None of the black people that I have ever seen approach a first-class English swimmer' (p 64).

Payne (Webb knew nothing about them) refers to many of the professional swimmers of the day.

A new edition of this book with an index is most desirable, for it is one that should be in every school library. I think the editor should correct it and bring it up to date (if possible) and leave out or refute some of the nonsense of which I consider the following an example. Webb says (p 11) writing for boys 'I was told by Mr Smith... who examined me after my swim...that he believed more than six hours sleep at a time to be absolutely injurious.'¹ I consider this bad advice, and so I gather from the context did Webb: his growth was most likely stunted by his only having four hours sleep at a time. He was of herculean build and should for his height 5 ft 8 in have weighed 155 pounds (see The spirometer by John Hutchinson 1852 p 56) whereas he weighed 203 pounds stripped (Land and Water 4 sep '75 p 180). Thinking that my readers might prefer a better authority than 'Mr Smith' or me, I referred to Health at school by Clement Dukes M.D. 3rd edit 1894 and

¹ In an article of six columns in Notes and Queries in July 1900 pp 21 & 43 I have commented on this and a number of other points of interest.

I find my views entirely confirmed, he even goes up to eleven hours sleep for a boy of 13. At 55 (1895) I want 8 to 10 hours rest even if I do not sleep all the time.

Watson (Memoirs p 112) gives an account of Webb's trial swim on 22 sep 1874.

Immediately after his swim English enthusiasm was so great that over £1400 was subscribed for him in London. He gave his father £500 (S. notes and record 14 feb 1885). The *Lancet* (1875 ii 359) has a note from Webb's brother T. L. Webb the physician, showing what fine condition he was in: see also p 416 note by Henry Smith of his examination, in which he says Webb stripped to the waist, and that his chest with arms above his head measured on level with the nipples 41½ inches, and around the waist three inches above the umbilicus 35½ inches; and p 576 a diagram showing the regular action of his heart.

In the National Library at the British Museum is one of the three original charts used in navigating Webb. It is 'worked out by Henry Fazakerley Wilkinson' and is a print of the Admiralty chart sheet vii 1895. Attached is an autograph letter from Webb of 30 aug 1875.

Another original chart also sheet vii used for navigating Webb exists and was made by the representative and was in possession (1899) of The Field. The original pencil course, subsequently marked over with red pencil, is discernible and there are occasional observations, which were all omitted from the reduced and altered copy reproduced in The Field of 28 aug 1875, which latter was again reproduced by Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 163. On the original chart Boyton's two courses are also marked.

Part of The Field chart, the same size as the original, was given in Land and Water 4 sep 1875 p 181.

George Toms used his own chart which is different from the others, I saw it at Dover (25 apr 1901) it is entitled 'An improved chart of the English channel with the Bristol channel and the south coast of Ireland ...by J.s.Hobbs·1851, additions 1855.' On this Toms marked the course in lead pencil. The family also have a massive gold ring from inside which I copied this inscription 'Presented by capt M. Webb to Mr Toms for his services as Pilot on the occasion of swimming the Channel.' Toms died on the 20th (notice in the Dover Express of 24th) and was buried at Dover (on the 25th anniversary of Webb's swim) 25 aug 1900 aged 76. He was as proud of the feat as Webb himself.

Doubts about the swim are started periodically, when one doubter is silenced, for they are seldom convinced, another appears. The usual doubts having been mooted The Referee took the matter up 13 jan 1901: on 20 january appeared a letter from C. W. Baker; on 27 jan from Payne's son, that he had a document signed by the crew of the lugger; and from Toms's son; and they settled conclusively that Webb finished the swim. Mr M. A. Holbein who had tried it also wrote as to the kind of man (and luck) required to swim the channel.

The same doubt was again started and the matter gone into all over again by correspondents in The Daily Mail in august and september 1902.

How I swam the channel by captain Webb: The Boy's own paper 1879, 4° vol i pp 6, 26, and 45 with illustration of Webb swimming, and in the boat C. W. Baker ready to spring in and just behind him A. G. Payne, holding a 'bowler' or small felt hat whereas he had a top hat on. This illustration is reproduced in Outdoor games 1892. This is a capital account amusing and interesting and giving details not found elsewhere.

Webb writes 'No really great feat of endurance can be performed unless next door to total abstinence is adhered to.' 'I had previously called and seen a gentleman connected with the "Standard" newspaper, who knew a good deal about swimming. He had years before, enabled Harry Gurr to win the championship of England.' This statement is not accurate, but it clearly points to A. G. Payne. When Webb first had an idea of swimming the channel he went to Robert Watson, who referred him with incredulity to F. E. Beckwith, who coached him until Payne took him up. After some words to the effect that Payne's science was not so good as a sailor's experience, Webb says 'but I must not laugh at my friend, though he did cross the Channel in an open boat in a chimney-pot hat.'

'Long accounts have been written of my Channel swim; and one of the best, written by an eye-witness... is published in my Book on Swimming... In the first place two umpires had been appointed, one Mr A. G. Payne...and another gentleman who was at the time connected with the "Field." One of these was always in the small boat that kept close to me...the "Times," the "Daily Telegraph" and the "Daily News" (were) represented [but they were all incapacitated from sea-sickness] as well as the "Standard."'

'In my opinion it is wicked for a man, merely for the sake of gain or of notoriety to risk his life' (p 45). 'I will quote what my feelings were, from my lecture on "My Channel swim"' which was given in St James's Hall, London 10 June 1876 - I have not seen any print of this. He concludes with the names and addresses of the crew of the lugger Ann. The names I have repeated in N & Q 21 July 1900.

The Boy's own paper for Saturday 16 Sep 1882 p 822 Sea bathing and sea swimming by captain Webb.

He does not believe anyone could swim two miles in one hour - see my quotation under Richardson 1857.

'The longest time I ever remained in the water was seventy four hours i.e. over three days and three nights.' This was at Scarborough Aquarium in salt water, temperature about 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

'I can when in training in a bath swim a mile in [about?] half an hour. It is best to draw in your breath through your nose, rather than your mouth.' Webb gives this advice but I much doubt if he practiced it himself.

Swimming in a rough sea

ibid 7 and 14 Oct pp 14 and 30.

These articles though original, repeat much that is in The art of s.

Reprinted in Outdoor Games 1892.

about Webb

The life of captain Webb by J. Randall F.G.S. Madeley Salop 1875 12°, has a photo portrait, the same was reproduced in Webb's Art of s.

The Channel feats of captain Webb and captain Boyton, with memoir of each by 'Dolphin' of The illustrated sporting and dramatic news. London Dean and sons 160a Fleet street. 12° [1875] pp 64 illustrated cover with Webb and Boyton and a portrait of Webb price 1s. 'Dolphin' was John Latey afterwards editor of The penny illustrated paper. Also wrote on Webb's swim in the Boys' ill^d news 18 May '81 p 75 with 2 illustrations. See Who's who: he died 4 Oct 1902.

This may be the book referred to as Captain Boyton's book on swimming by Robert Watson in Swimming Notes 16 May 1885 p 3.

Captain Webb's swimming companion [1877] see the Handbook [1844].

The adventurous life and daring exploits in England and America of capt Matthew Webb ... by Henry

Llewellyn Williams, Lond. E. Smith 11 Kirby street E.C. in 4° [1883?] pp8 price 1d.

In *The life and death of Llewellyn Jewitt* by W. H. Goss 1889, a chapter is given about Webb (p 597) chiefly quoting the articles from *The Daily Telegraph*.

Medals

Two silver medals were struck by W. Holmes of Cloudesley road Islington, medalist, as a speculation, for swimming club prizes, &c : he was not the designer.

First (in 1875?) obverse: legend CAPT WEBB'S CHANNEL MEDAL W. H. MAKER.

representing the cliffs of Dover with Webb swimming accompanied by the lugger: reverse, wreath of oak and laurel, with clasp and red white and blue ribbon.

Second (in 1883?) obverse: legend: CAPT Webb's MEDAL BORN 19TH JAN 1848 DIED JULY 24TH 1883: on truncation W. HOLMES, bust of Webb looking to the left, three medals on breast.

Reverse in both medals: wreath of oak and laurel, centre left plain for inscription.

When in 1898 I enquired about Holmes I was told that both father and son were dead. W. H. died about 1893; he is referred to in Newman's *Swimmers* 1898 p 10. In 1895 J. Holmes of Cloudesley road advertised that he was the medalist who executed the gold medal given to J. Nuttall.

Arthur Gay Payne

was born London 1840 died 1894 (Boase M.E.B.). While at Cambridge he was coxswain to his college boat; a swimmer and at billiards held the cue for his University. A portrait of him is given, playing billiards, at the head of his article in *The Popular Recreator* 1873 p 225. As a journalist he early became a contributor to *Bell's Life*.

He succeeded John G. Chambers the athlete who died 1883, as a contributor to *The Standard* and was on the staff twelve years. He also wrote for *Land and Water* and for Cassell's. He was an expert cook. He was a facile writer and it is doubtful whether but for him the book to which he has attached Webb's name in large letters and his own in small and in parenthesis would ever have been published. It was evidently got up in the most hurried manner and though Webb says it is 'one of the best' it is far from being a sufficient account of this memorable event.

poor Webb

for several years after his great swim lived a life of pleasure and 'went the pace like a veritable Corinthian' (R. Watson in S. notes 21 feb 1885), until the money so liberally subscribed was exhausted. He then in 1878 started his public swims as exhibitions, and if he could have kept steady might have made a fair income. Mr Watson says (*Memoirs* p 116) 'a fortune was now at the foot of the Channel hero.' For example his share of the week's swim (sixty hours) at the Royal Aquarium London 8 march 1880 brought him £277 11s 3d. This and others were all arranged for him by A. G. Payne, as I know from having seen the original letters and agreements in the possession of Payne's family. At first he repudiated the idea of swimming in public, as he was not going to make a show of himself, and Payne and others always strongly advised him not to. When however he at last wanted money, he was obliged to do something—and to earn, by returning to humdrum work, was no doubt out of the question.

In his S. notes and record 29 nov 1884 to 16 may 1885, and in his *Memoirs* 1899 p 112 Mr R. P. Watson gives a most interesting account of Webb. In the latter he says (p 115) 'We discussed Niagara. "Don't go"

I said "from what I hear you will never come out alive." "Don't care," was the reply, "I want money, and I must have it." As we stood face to face I compared the fine handsome sailor, who first spoke to me about swimming in Falcon Court, with the broken-spirited and terribly altered appearance of the man who courted death in the whirlpool rapids of Niagara...his object was not suicide, but money and imperishable fame.'

In his Channel swim (says *The Times* 26 July 1883 p 6) he wore 'silk trunks.' At another time they are referred to as 'the scarlet breech clout' (S. notes and r. 9 & 16 May 1885), he wore the same in the final swim but they were torn from his body by the force of the water.

A 'portrait model' of him was exhibited at Madame Tussaud's, in Sep 1883, it was lent on the occasion of the contest for the 'captain Webb widow

fund' at the Lambeth Baths. The illustrated London news 28 July (p 100, has a portrait) and 4 Aug 1883 two illustrations pp 105 & 113 of the Whirlpool rapids. There is a notice of him in *The boy's own paper* 29 Sep 1883 p 835. *The Sporting mirror* Sep 1883 has a biography and side face portrait pp 51-3.

'The widow has just (4 Aug 1884) had placed in Oakwood cemetery Niagara Falls, a handsome granite monument of gothic design eight feet high to her husband Webb.'

He married in July 1880: his widow is now Mrs England.

It requires a peculiar temperament to be able to rise from a perusal of Webb's great swim without a tear of joy in one's eye and a feeling of pride that such indomitable courage and endurance should have been exhibited by an Englishman.

The American cyclopædia New York 1876 vol xv.

Has a general article by Philip Ripley, first part plagiarised from the *Encyclopædia Britannica* eighth edition 1860, rest compiled from the authors he names Franklin, Walker, Pettigrew, Leahy and Webb, but showing no special

knowledge of swimming. He mentions that 'scientific swimmers have recently adopted the side stroke' (copied from Pettigrew), but his description shows that he has not grasped its peculiarity.

He mentions no American authors.

Chambers's journal 1876 p 727.

'Swimming' gives the writer's experience of attempting to teach his girls in England - they had to go to

Dieppe. Some instructions: but most of the article is devoted to Webb's channel swim.

Amsinck (J.) *Exposé de la méthode employée à l'Ecole militaire en Danemark pour apprendre à nager et former des maîtres nageurs.* Traduit par v. Molard 1876.

Title from J. Vahl, *Dansk bogfortegnelse* 1881-2, but a copy is in the catalogue of the Bibliothèque du dépôt de la guerre.

Swimming, diving, and how to save life, by William Wilson club-master of the Victoria baths company Glasgow; late of the Arlington s. c.: chairman Associated s. clubs of Scotland &c [cut] illustrated with [20] full page engravings drawn from life by Alex Davidson. Glasgow Kerr and Richardson 89 Queen street 1876.

8° pp viii 142 price 2s. The cover is ornamented. Inscribed to William

Wilson who was no relation. An entirely original treatise, and all good

advice, and the figures in good positions, though I differ from several small matters : those which have been altered in the author's *Swimming Instructor* 1883 I shall not notice.

I consider the position of the legs in plate iv is wrong for the English side-stroke, at no period of which (except when the legs are straight at the beginning or end of the stroke) should the heels touch. Wilson's figure is exactly the same as fig 10 of *Steedman* 1867 ; compare also fig 11 with plate iii. See ante p 101.

He has a good chapter on floating, but he is mistaken in saying (p 56) 'To float, especially in salt water, is possible with every one.'

At p 59 he describes the 'propeller' but does not give it this name. He gives the proper sculling action and for the first time in any book it is called 'sculling' (p 64). Wilson's figure is in an accurate position. He describes 'to undress on the surface of the water' while swimming, but to do it truly on

the surface the exhibitor must float and undress without swimming at all, as the author represents himself doing in the s.i. 1883.

In his chapter on popular errors he repudiates the frog, which kicks 'in straight lines'; also refers to Franklin's essay. The chapter 'to save life from drowning' is original and appears for the first time. The author has improved on the methods since, and is the originator of the life saving drill, which has been taught to thousands and is practiced all over the world, through the instrumentality of the English Life Saving Society. It is difficult to magnify the importance of this drill, it is second only to the discovery of the methods themselves. He gives the instructions issued by the National Lifeboat Institution, but does not say they are Hall's, though on p 132 Dr Silvester's name is given to his method.

Altogether this work is one of the most practical treatises published up to this date.

Swimming drill [cut, fig 5 of the text] by lieut H. Torkington R.H.A. as introduced into the French army by D'Argy chef de bataillon 18th light infantry regiment ; and into the German army by Von Wins II. captain in the 7th Brandenburg infantry : entered at Stationers' hall. London w. Mitchell Charing cross, Woolwich printed by F. J. Cattermole 1876.

8° pp 18, with 17 figures, good for the time, they appear to be copied from a German book ?

My observations under D'Argy apply to some extent to this, which is the first to introduce the system to readers of English.

Bathing in London...by Hadley Prestage hon sec of the Victoria park s. c...London J. Roberts Shoreditch, High street 1877. 12° pp 38.

Advocating greater facilities for swimmers : no instruction.

Johnson's New universal cyclopædia vol iv New York 1877.

A column with some questionable advice as 'swimming is easily learned with or without an instructor' no doubt it was in the way the writer learnt it. Quotes Dr Franklin—omitted in the

See Hartelius 1881 : Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 49 and p 215 where they say this work was one of those taken as a guide for the Life Saving Society drill : it is now old fashioned, but is nevertheless copied in Brooke 1896 by permission of lieut Torkington.

edition of 1895—as is also the statement that 'a British soldier swam 2½ miles in 45 minutes' [see Leahy in this list].

The writer of the article in the 1895 edition (vol vii p 853) seems to have

learnt swimming as easily as he of 1877, his ignorance leads him into a curious mixture from copying, without knowledge of his subject, Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 3, who say

'A drawing made at Pompeii...gives almost the exact position of the stroke popularised in England by Trudgeon,' that was the hand-over-hand or Indian stroke, but this comes out in Johnson as 'the side-stroke is represented in mosaics

in Pompeii and was popularised in England by Trudgeon' which makes it all wrong.

Gives a few records but not up to date. The article could have been made accurate in the hands of a good swimmer without being longer. It shows that for Americans as for English, editors consider anything on swimming is good enough for the public.

Die schwimmschule ... von Anthony van Büren ... Wien : Pest : Leipzig A. Hartleben 1877.

The swimming school: a practical guide for all who wish to learn all kinds of swimming: also a reference book for swimming masters...swimming master: with four lithographic tables of eleven figures.

8° pp 31 price about 1s. In the preface he says he desired to give a cheap and a good book as all previous ones were either deficient or too dear.

In the introduction he gives some

The Life-boat or journal of 1st aug 1877: vol x for 1879.

8° pp 165-168 double column article entitled 'Swimmers' advocating swimming for lifeboat men; very few of whom could swim: quotes Wilson's Swimming.

Another article p 579 showing the advantage of having a pole with you to rescue from drowning: the person clutches it and can be towed ashore: p 592 surf-swimming

The Royal national life-boat institution (founded 4 march 1824) issue a four page leaflet 'for the pocket' with instructions how to treat 'the apparently drowned,' which will be referred to later on. I saw a copy for the first time in 1899 at a seaside yacht club, where it had evidently been many years. In it I came across the statement that the principles were founded on those of Dr Hall combined with those of Dr Silvester. I at once recognised the source of the advice given by Woodbridge.

general advice, such as that you cannot learn from books, you must practice. He gives the frog as an example for imitation. You must get cool before going into the water - he gives instruction in various kinds of swimming 'springing' and diving. He copies some of his text from Pfuel.

The figures are copied without acknowledgment from some German book which was also copied by Clais.

the National life-boat institution

Besides this the attitude of several of the figures hardly showed that they understood what they were doing, and there was the advice in Dr Hall's method to 'vary the side.' It is a mistake to call the instructions as given Dr Hall's.

After considering the matter for a year or so, knowing how much outside suggestions are objected to by public or quasi public bodies, I wrote to the secretary on the 12 June 1901 to the following effect

'I write to direct your attention to what appears to me to be an inaccurate expression in your "treatment of the apparently drowned."

'I am writing on "The Literature of Swimming" and I first came across this statement in a book, and I said that the writer was ignorant of the difference between the Marshall Hall and Silvester methods as he said he had "combined"

them. I have lately been astonished to find that the directions in this book had been copied from your instructions.

'Though apparently to an ignorant person this would appear a mere quibble, neither of the celebrated doctors named would have felt it so. With regard to the great original discoverer of the proper method of resuscitation Dr Hall, we cannot now tell, but Dr Silvester is happily still alive and I feel certain that he would entirely repudiate the necessity for any combination, as would have Dr Hall. Each method is complete in itself. I have no doubt that Dr R. L. Bowles who was a pupil of Dr Hall would give you any information on the Marshall Hall method.

'The alteration I suggest is to leave out the words "combine with" and substitute "and."

'On page 2 in Dr Hall's method the leaflet says "occasionally varying the side." Here I should like to point out that this is a mistake according to Dr R. L. Bowles (see his *Resuscitation & Medico-Chirurgical Transactions* vol 72, 1889) "The change of side, therefore which Dr Hall had originally advised to be adopted during the use of his method must on these grounds in

future be carefully guarded against."

'I am of course aware that your Society was the first to adopt Dr Hall's method about 1857, while others still persevered in the old useless methods. I am glad to see that you put the Hall method first: he is entitled to be put first as the original discoverer and as the inventor of (what Dr R. L. Bowles says is) the best method yet known.

'My sole object in writing is to do the best for humanity. I know none of the parties mentioned above.

'It is most humane of the R.N.L.I. to distribute this leaflet, but I would point out that it is purely theoretical and therefore not of half the use it might be if practical, and that it would be of great use if it went on to say that these methods of resuscitation are taught practically by the Life Saving Society free.'

On the 11th July 1901 I received the following reply from the secretary

'I have had the pleasure to submit to the Committee of Management of this Institution to-day your letter of the 12th ultimo relative to the Institution's Directions for Restoring the Apparently Drowned, and was instructed by them to acknowledge its receipt and to thank you for it.'

Manly exercises, sports and games by the champion players of old England, profusely illustrated. London Dean & son 160a Fleet street late of Ludgate hill.

8° [1877] pp 518 The art of s. pp 404 to 458 is a reprint without acknowledgment and without author's name of Gurr: it omits the last six lines.

1. Manuel de gymnastique... par Dr N.-A. Le Blond. Paris 1877.

Pages 90 to 98 on s. with two figures. Lorenz says Le Blond is a pseudonym of Dr Narcisse Auguste Gérardin born Paris 1856 died Tonkin 1886 and that

(2) Docteur N. A. Le Blond La gymnastique... introduction par H. Bouvier 1888

is another edition the title alone having been changed, but Lorenz is careless in his bibliography for he catalogues this edition under the real name and gives no hint that it was issued under the pseudonym. I consider it most improper to add to or change the wording of titles after an author's death.

'Plate swimming' with notes on the science of natation by R. H. Wallace-Dunlop c.B. author of *Service and adventure, Hunting in*



Wallace Dunlop C.B.

drawn from a photograph by Percy Thomas

the Himalaya &c. London George Routledge and sons The Broadway, Ludgate : New York 416 Broome street : right of translation reserved to the author.

Small 8° [1877] pp 128 with illustrations, the figures on the cover reproduced on p 72.

I put the hyphen to his name, but in several autograph letters I have he only subscribes 'R. H. W. Dunlop.'

If this writer had simply contented himself with advocating his invention, his book would not have had the interest it has for the ordinary reader. Like most previous inventors he studied the whole subject, and the result is an original work of interest and value which should be read by all swimmers. It is however surprising that Dunlop while pointing out the errors of previous writers should fall into one himself. Thus I have quoted him under Franklin for exposing 'the crudity of current views on swimming' and opening the eyes &c and he says (p 59)

'We often hear the mischievous fallacy repeated that the specific gravity

of the body being less than that of water.' At p 88 he disagrees from Dr Pettigrew's motions of a fish, and again 'The public are often misled as to the possibilities of human swimming,' and yet he makes a mistake as bad as any of these for he says (p 83) that if a swimmer on his back went under water 'without closing the nostrils it would cause instant choking'! He advocates nose pincers which pearl divers use, and he gives two illustrations. To a 'fancy swimmer' to use his own word they would be of much benefit in preventing the water from entering the nose, as it does in 'revolving' and other feats to such an extent that the water often runs out in a stream, hours after. Pincers would not be allowed in any competitions.

I have never used Dunlop plates and am therefore not in a position to give an opinion as to the benefit derived

rom their use, but I have tried another 'aid' which he mentions (p 77) the 'mussuk' (an inflated goat skin) and with results I do not feel sufficiently proud of to give further details.

Here a little biography will help us. Mr Wilson writes to me

'Captain Wallace Dunlop was a fine fellow. I passed many a happy and instructive hour in his company in the water and out of it. I have the most pleasant recollections of him. He was a tall soldierlike man, in fact seemed a born leader of men. He had been a district judge in India, and at the time of the Indian Mutiny organised a troop of gentlemen cavalry who had permission to visit villages and requisition food, ammunition, &c., and engage in some guerilla variety of warfare. For his conspicuous bravery on one of these reconnoitering expeditions he was created C.B. He informed me that when in India he was passionately fond of bathing and swimming. His brother officers, however, outstripped him in fast swimming, but, not to be beaten, he set his brains a going, and having seen something in Franklin's essay he determined to try moving thro' the water by the aid of plates. His first set were crude and there were many drawbacks to their use. He however persevered and altered and kept on improving.

'He used to describe with glee and a merry twinkle in his eyes, how he, with his plates on hands and feet could out-pace and out-distance his fellow swimmers.

'He spent much time and money over his invention which he was particularly anxious to make popular, as he had a firm conviction that the use of plates would revolutionise swimming and so cause it to be an art and a science.

'Capt Dunlop was a great shot and if we mistake not was captain of the Scottish Twenty which for years shot for the Elcho Shield. He attended nearly every open rifle-shooting meeting

in the United Kingdom and won many prizes. His residence was at Ealing outside of London and there when at home he lived happily in the bosom of his family. He was however very fond of travel and with his wife and family spent much time on the Continent and in Scotland. I enclose his photo.

'w. Wilson.'

But though he had practiced with his plates until he had become an adept he was not an early educated swimmer, hence I presume the mistakes he makes.

Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 40 say the plates have 'fallen into disuse.'

Strongly objects to the 'good old custom' of ducking. Refers to the bottle-cork jacket as if original. Mentions 'dry land drill' but as he only refers to one person, drill is not used in its ordinary sense but merely as 'practice.'

He quotes Routledge's Handbook of s. [1872] sergeant Leahy, captain Webb pp 28, 44, and 155 and Wm Wilson pp 18 and 43.

He gives a diagram of 'sculling' (see ante p 154).

Refers (p 53) to Pamplin saving Cavill. Assumes (p 60) that fat people float better than thin.

Quotes Dr Black's Respiration (p 63). On page 68 been is a misprint for seen, in the reference to the springing of the natives of India.

He illustrates his invention of 'aquatic clothing' each dress cost £3 and he considered it superior to Boyton's.

'It is to be regretted there is no recognised authority or ruling body for swimming' p 76. This is still a matter for regret, except so far as the A.S.A. goes.

He suggests a championship for diving but this has been found to be so dangerous from the competitors stopping under water till insensible that it is not encouraged.

His chapter on animal swimming is of great interest, and shows (p 81) that

it is not only in swimming books that ignorant nonsense is written.

'A. G. Payne was the first to sweep aside much delusion' as to the speed of a swimmer, in Webb's book. 'We may take it as a deduction from our records of the art, that no one has ever yet accomplished two miles within the hour in still water' (p 84). He considers Borelli's and Pettigrew's illustrations of how a fish swims incorrect and gives his own (p 88). That Borelli's 'unmechanical superstition' had been accepted for 200 years he says 'proves the truth of Huxley's assertion that, in

science at least, 'scepticism is the only phase of mind promising safety, and blind faith the one unpardonable sin.'

He mentions (p 101) that while London has more than forty tepid swimming baths there does not exist one in Paris; and yet he asserts without any evidence to support it, that a larger proportion of Parisians swim.

At the end he gives a list of London tepid baths: the R.H.S. and R.N.L.I. directions.

The author was born in 1828 and died 1887 see Boase M.E.B.

Copyright reserved : first edition : swimming for the million made easy : how to learn in twenty minutes by young or old : swimming reduced to simplicity by Vigo [cut of figure springing] no teacher required : price sixpence.

Same title on the cover: on the reverse of the title we read: The Civil service printing and publishing co. limited 8 Salisbury court, Fleet st E.C. This company is in the P.O.D. from 1876 to 1884.

8° published about 1877 pp 12 with five cuts in the text.

Written by Henry Preston Thorp part owner of the Thorp collieries Yorkshire, son of the rev William Thorp who was vicar of Misson, Nottinghamshire to his death in 1860.

What did he put 'copyright reserved' at the head for? Did he imagine a

Cassell's domestic dictionary [1877-8] large 8°.

Four columns pp 1119 to 1121, with five cuts reproduced from Cassell's I.F.P. 1865 (for one see ante p 300), without acknowledgment. The article is either

by or compiled from J. G. Wood.

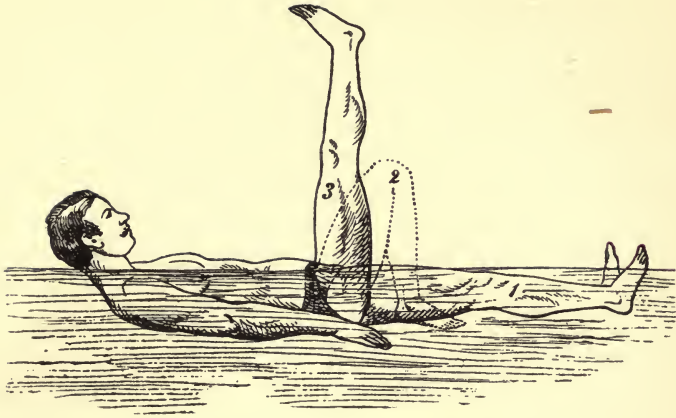
Cassell puts tepid water at 92° to 98° (p 113) but I use tepid for from about 68° to 75°.

Ladebecks Schwimmschule... Leipzig F. Fleischer (1892).

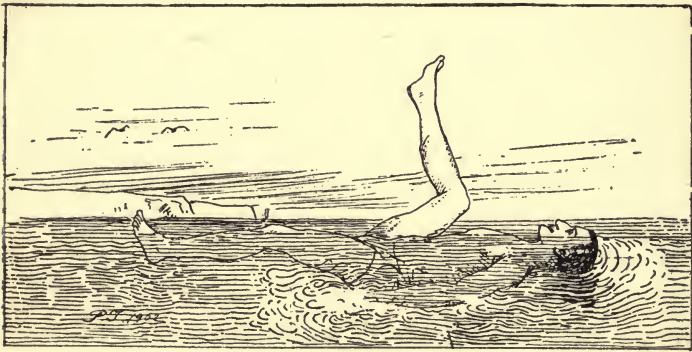
Manual of the art of swimming for beginners and those who already swim by Hermann Ladebeck teacher of swimming in the Sophia Bath, Leipzig, with rules for self instruction, fancy swimming and springing: how to avoid mistakes, with 31 wood cuts: fifth edition.

8° pp 94 with illustrated cover. Previous editions 1878, 1880, 1884, 1888.

The illustrations are elaborate and generally correct, but the usual mistakes seem to be as common with German artists as our own. For example a figure (13) s. on the back with half the



impossible position from Ladebeck 1892



the usual position

body out of the water, though the position of the head is correct; while it is incorrect in a far more difficult figure (19 which is reproduced s.s. from 1892 edition) with one leg out of the water, where to make the feat still more difficult the swimmer has his head too out of the water. The position of this figure is an impossible one. Here is a figure drawn from nature by Percy Thomas.

This shows the way I have seen the feat done.

The feet of the figures springing are all straggling and careless.

The English sidestroke was not known to the author as he says (p 54²) 'swimming side ways—same stroke as on your breast.'

The directions for life saving are quite simple—not copied from ours, they would be better if they were, for the method illustrated is inferior to those taught by our Life Saving Society.

Cobbett reproduces several of the figures.

Methods of saving life from drowning by John Strickland [on the cover, with cut of a swimmer rescuing a person repeated on p 5] one shilling. [title] Life saving appliances with directions for their proper use : saving life by swimming and the means useful for the recovery of the bodies of the drowned, by John Strickland. Melbourne, R. P. Hurren printer n° 7 Post office place (october) 1878.

12° pp 4 & iii & 28.

Entirely original and good : advice excellent the result of experience. Says he has taught for twenty years. The first cut shows position of a man after drowning, it is upright but stooping at the bottom, which position is the most usual he thinks. In a case that came under my notice lately of a man who died in a fit in the water, but was not found for several hours after, the body was found in this position. I do not think Strickland's artist has represented the head sufficiently drooping, see the reproduction of the figure ante p 116.

'The average man is about four pounds lighter than his own bulk of water when the lungs are distended with air, and a little heavier when they are empty' (p 1) an accurate statement I believe.

'The position of men when seen on the surface drowning, is generally with the face in the water, the crown of the head exposed and the body bent for-

Menstery; New manual of swimming. New York 1878.

This is mentioned at the end of the article in the Ency Brit 9th edition.

I have given orders to six different

The bather's guide and athlete's companion respectfully dedicated to the Swimming association of Great Britain by Harry w. Fisk vice-president of the association : hon sec Portsmouth s.c...Portsmouth 1878 ; 6d.

12° over 100 pages : on the illustrated cover signed F. H. Smith is a figure swimming the sidestroke upper part good but legs all wrong : Mr Fisk on seeing this observation wrote me (3 mar 1896) 'This figure was drawn by Frank Smith of Southsea and was a correct representation of his own style of swimming then. He has one leg shorter than the other, he is a well known

wards ; sometimes the face may be seen, in their fruitless efforts to throw the body upwards, the eyes presenting a peculiarly glassy appearance as the water from the head runs over them. I am of opinion that they are sightless.'

Women float 'with the face upwards, and I believe seldom sink until insensibility takes place.' 'That bodies rise three times I cannot agree with.' He shows the danger of the circular life buoy, but not so clearly as Brewster in 1885. He gives an illustration of his suggested improvement : also of a man riding a horse, the only correct one I have seen (reproduced ante p 127), and he also gives practical directions for riding a horse in the water.

There is some good advice on how to swim horses in The Times 20 sep 1890 p 3, in which the writer practically shows that what I say as to the fore-legs striking high is correct.

Strickland is mentioned by w. Wilson 1883.

booksellers in England and America without result.

swimmer and originator of the Walrus Hunt an aquatic farce which he gave at Boyton's show.' I can only remark on the extraordinary resemblance of the figure drawn, to that in Wilson's Swimming 1876 plate iv. Intended to be published annually but no more issued.

Frank Henry Smith met with a tragic end on the night of 30 nov 97

when accompanied by a boy he went out in a gale in Langstone harbor. The dinghy was found bottom upwards, and both bodies were recovered on the 7th dec from the mud lying face downwards. Smith most probably succumbed in a determination to take that boy back to his mother dead or alive: he was 47 years of age, of sober habits, and brother to Mark Melford the actor.

Good advice and instruction: quotes Wilson's Swimming and diving: gives list of s.c. in London and provinces: baths; epitome of Baths and wash-houses acts: champions from 1869.

Among the 'remarkable performances' (no dates given) we find

400 yards	5 m.	10 s.	G. Pewtress	bath
,,	5	35	H. Gurr	,,
,,	5	37	D. Pamplin	,,

I have already quoted Mr Fisk ante p 105 as to the universal want of cleanliness, but he also cites this case 'at a recent Government inquiry in Lancashire, several of the colliers confessed upon oath that they had not washed all over for years' (p 9). Some years ago I had noted the following as a further instance; but since, having looked into the matter, I have had reason to think that the pretended true narrative of the Giants of Patagonia is pure fiction evolved from the fertile American brain (see Notes and Queries for 8 July 1899). Captain Bourne, who it is represented was able to get out of captivity by

Issued by the Portsmouth s.c. for gratuitous circulation How to swim... by Harry w. Fisk... 87 St Thomas' street Portsmouth... Lewis printer.

A card of six pages for the pocket: since its first issue in [1879], 20,000 copies have been distributed by the P.S.C. The instruction is all good.

Harry William Fisk was born at St Helen's Ipswich on the 25 June 1851. He has for many years been an enthusiastic swimmer: in 1875 he founded the Portsmouth s.c.: was hon sec and captain, and is now

swimming, says of the natives

'They are excessively filthy in their personal habits. Hydrophobia, so to speak, is a prevailing distemper; they never wash themselves. Hands and faces are covered with dirt, so thick, and of such ancient deposit, that their natural colour only appears in spots, laid bare by the mechanical loosening and displacement of some of the strata, which curiously variegates the surface.' The Giants of Patagonia, London Ingram 1853 p 30.

In The Anglo Saxon a study in evolution by G. E. Boxall 1902 (p 298) he says 'The great barrier to' our progress 'is undoubtedly the tenacity with which the Englishman adheres to the relics of his mediævalism.' Then we get his testimony that when he 'returned to England after a residence of more than forty years in Australia and two years in America, I was astonished to find public opinion in the mother country so backward.' He thinks we have only recently taken to washing, 'so recently in fact that the Englishman does not as yet appear to have taken this habit as a matter of course, and is always careful to inform the readers of his writings that he enjoyed his tub.' He says with Americans and Australians the habit is so common that it does not to them seem worth mentioning. In both these countries he says there are free baths (p 188) see ante pp 105, 312.

(3 3 '96) one of the v P's. In 1895 the club numbered 682 gentlemen and 655 ladies, according to the 21st annual report issued on 5 Feb 1896.

In 1886 Mr Fisk was presented with a purse of one hundred guineas, raised by public subscription in recognition of his successful efforts to promote swimming.

Clerk to the justices, Portsmouth '03.

If captain Rawdon Crawley's handbooks are all of the poor material that the one on swimming is composed of, they are not worth much. Nearly one half is quoted from other writers (perhaps an advantage), and much of the rest is not original. However, this would matter little if all the advice were good, but it is not. This is what I call a trade publication, that is, it is not published because the writer had knowledge on the subject which he is impelled to impart to others, but the publishers want something on swimming, and unfortunately they find a very incompetent man; or perhaps competency is not of any moment, on such a trumpery subject as swimming, of which publishers consider the veriest tyro is well able to treat! Accordingly, G. F. Pardon is applied to as a professional journalist and author.

In the preface he tells us he has done his best, but the best a man can write on swimming who knows little about the practical part is not of much use.* In other arts, perhaps, you can compile from encyclopedias, but to write about this art it is necessary that you should be a good swimmer, or you are detected at once.

In his preface he gives an anecdote about a country clergyman (who ordered a large number of a sermon to be printed), with which I was sufficiently acquainted to see that he had told it very badly. After vainly endeavoring to trace this to its source, I had recourse to *Notes & Queries* 24 oct 1896: the original is told in *Beloe's Sexagenarian* 1817 vol i p 148.

I mention the manner in which this anecdote is spoilt, as it is a fair sample of the poor way in which the book is compiled, and the reckless way in which he makes his statements. But how could he imagine that some day Nemesis would analyse and dissect his 'pot boiler'? I must do him the credit of saying that he generally cites the source from which he quotes.

At the time he wrote this book George Frederick Pardon was fifty-four. He died in 1884 (see Boase M.E.B.)

One shilling: Swimming, skating, rinking and sleighing, captain Crawley's handbooks of out-door games, London Ward Lock & co.

The above is on the cover, which has a colored illustration not repeated in the book: title

Captain Crawley's handbooks. Swimming, skating, rinking and sleighing, their theory and practice, illustrated with explanatory diagrams. London Ward Lock & co Warwick house, Dorset buildings, Salisbury square (Unwin brothers printers) E.C.

12° preface dated august 1878 pp 128, from 9 to 74 on swimming. It has one whole page and 19 illustrations and cuts, mostly incorrect; so is some of the advice. Twelve of the cuts are

reproduced, without acknowledgment, from *The boy's handy book* [1863].

The copy of this at the Bodleian was not received there until 1881. It is simply a reissue from the stereos,

as the mistake 'swimer' occurs on p 27.

Reissued without preface and without 'sleighting' [1880?] 16° pp 94 price 3d : s. ends on p 52. Ten cuts : author's name on the cover only.

Reissued in a thick volume with the general title Boys' book of out-door games by captain Crawley, Lond Ward Lock & co [1882] each treatise is paged separately.

Reissued as one of Ward & Lock's sixpenny handbooks [1882] 16° pp 52 without Crawley's name : there is no mention of a previous edition, in fact I bought it as a new book.

'All animals swim' (p 14) is wrong. He quotes Franklin's letter with the egg practice, but it is quoted from some catchpenny reprint and not direct from Franklin. The first eleven lines are totally different from Sparks vol vi p 287. Franklin does not there say 'The only obstacle to improvement in this necessary and life-preserving art is fear.' Crawley says he omits the 'paragraph which states that it is impossible to open the eyes under water.' I have dealt with this under Franklin ante p 188.

'Bring your hands together palm to palm' (p 25) should be, not palm to palm but thumb to thumb.

Quotes captain Webb (1875 p 31) for the breast stroke.

'Some clever writer, evidently not a practical swimmer (sic), has suggested that the beginner should imitate the motion of a frog' p 27 : see ante p 102.

Although it is evident he was no floater, the figure on p 31, which seems to have been drawn for this work, is correct, except that very few can float with arms and body forming a cross.

The chapter on side swimming shows the author to be profoundly ignorant of the English sidestroke ; he gives the usual wrong instruction

that 'The legs are employed in the same way as in breast swimming.' The description of Gurr's stroke is wrong, as is the statement that 'Gurr was perhaps the first to bring the over-hand style into vogue,' repeated from Webb notwithstanding its contradiction (see my article Gurr). To illustrate 'hand-over-hand swimming' an old friend crops up again, not taken from the original source, Courtivron (see ante p 235 fig 4), but from a plagiarism The boys' journal 1863 p 285 or else from The boy's handy book [1863] p 54.

'Dr Franklin tells a tale about being drawn through the water by means of a kite.' Then he absolutely misrepresents what Franklin said, and finishes with this nonsense (p 41) 'In an American book I lately saw it seriously stated that the philosopher could not swim!' I should like to see that American book. This ridiculous statement shows how little Pardon knew about Franklin. (See also The boy's own mag 1857.)

'In the military schools of France and Germany *upright swimming* is regularly taught' (p 47). A wild statement made without the slightest knowledge : as is also the following on p 54 'Every recruit in the French army is taught to swim.' The advice that 'a thimbleful of brandy neat' should be taken after bathing is as bad as it can be : on p 59 he says 'captain Webb took no stimulant during his swim.'

On p 56 quotes the Prussian system.

He gives a list of 'Some of the London s.c.' and provincial s.c. Quotes three pages from [H. T.] Cheever's *Island world in [of] the Pacific*. New York 1851. Gives the Hall and Silvester methods. Hall wrong.

Some of the cuts are reproduced in The dictionary of games by H. Frith.

G. Dr Orsolato. *Idroginnastica navigazione pattinaggio nuoto.* Padova fratelli Salmin editori 1878.

8° pp viii 132 and 54 figures: swimming occupies pp 53 to 132. It is a compilation from various sources, particularly from Corti 1819, unacknowledged: refers to Mercurialis, de la Chapelle and Roger. He gives the months for bathing the same as books published in cold countries—may to sep—though most Englishmen would bathe at Napoli all the year round. Figs 9, 10, 30, 35 seem to be from The boy's handy book [1863] or more likely from Crawley. Several are from Courtivron. The figures swimming with horses would drown them in a few strokes: the artist must surely have been a native of Venezia.¹

However inefficient the instruction may be the dress is ample, all the

The swimmer, a journal exclusively devoted to the interest of the swimmers and swimming organisation of Great Britain, published the first of every month; the recognised organ of the S.A. and the Scotch associated clubs; subscription post free 1s 6d per annum received by Wm Ramsden, Goswell hall Goswell road London or H. W. Fisk.

I have not seen this, I take the above from an advertisement in The Bather's Guide 1878, and Mr Fisk writes me the title was afterwards altered to

The swimming news vol i n° 1 London feb 1 n° 16 28 july 1879. Printed and published by [the proprietor and editor] W. W. Ramsden, 14 St Bride street Ludgate circus. 4° pp 8 each number.

The Scotch department conducted by Wm Wilson. Swimming and bathing for females by H. W. Fisk. Referring to the Princess Alice disaster [3 sep 1878] Mr Fisk says out of 339 females, only one, Miss Thorpe, was able 'to make the number of strokes necessary to enable her to reach a place of safety.'

In n° 4 1 may 1879 Swimming in the Royal Navy, Mr Fisk, utilising Steedman's suggestion says, again referring to the Princess Alice, that the jury 'failed to suggest by a rider to their verdict, the necessity of a more general knowledge of swimming.'

figures being in costume with sleeves (though Corti's are not), except those submitting to the resuscitation process, they only have drawers.

No reference whatever to the great Bernardi! Truly no man is a prophet in his own country. For swimming in the 'francese-russo-inglese' style, the figure (21 p 90) is copied from Courtivron's 'hand-over-hand.'

The resuscitation methods of Marshall Hall, Silvester and Filippo Pacini of Firenze are given. The illustrations show the densest ignorance of the way patients should be treated. That illustrating the Marshall Hall method reminds one of that of 'rolling the body on casks.'

After the lapse of twenty-five years in order to verify this statement I have been reading the details of this awful catastrophe, when over 700 men, women, children and babies were drowned in a few minutes. Thorpe age 17 and his brother age 9 and their sister age 18 were resident in the Old Kent road (The Daily Telegraph 11 sep 1878 p 2 col 5). The brothers swam until rescued, but the sister swam to the bank. The person who relates this adds 'I greatly deplore the fact that in the minds of a great number of our English mothers, there exists a very strong prejudice

¹ This was written before I had seen 'Corti,' whose book is actually published at Venezia! Most (32) of Orsolato's figures are plagiarised from Corti (see ante p 127).

against their daughters learning or being taught to swim.'

Some persons will wonder how Miss Thorpe could swim fully dressed. In the first place the clothes would give her buoyancy, then petticoats even with the breast wedge stroke interfere little with swimming. If the breast stroke with the human kick (see ante p 97) were used, the upper part of the petticoats would not be in the way as they would float up above the joints of the legs.

But here is the opinion of an expert in swimming and dress. Mrs Vautier writes to me

So far as my experience goes I think

The art of swimming, with easy instruction for plain and fancy swimming; and important hints to bathers, by captain B. Clayton [illustration signed Clayton]: also directions for restoring the apparently dead, recommended by the R.H.S. London Goode bros printers and publishers Clerkenwell green E.C.



Eight pages folio [1879] one penny.

On the title is a very bad woodcut by [Henry Ashton] Clayton of boys bathing. The seven figures in the text are black with white drawers, the positions copied from Every boy's book 1855. One is here reproduced (s.s.) as a curiosity called 'thrusting.'

Dr Franklin's 'egg practice' is correctly given. The rest of the text

The art of s. by Nageur [colored woodcut by Herbert Benjamin Clayton] Goode bros Clerkenwell green E.C.

12° [1880 ?] pp 12: the head title is 'by captain B. Clayton'; 'captain' was assumed by Benjamin Clayton (b 1809 d 1883). He was like all the family

petticoats, especially of cotton or linen, are a great hindrance in swimming as they cling round the legs. It would require a very strong swimmer to go any distance in cotton or linen petticoats. A skirt made of wool is much easier to swim in.

For a lady going on a boat, a serge skirt unlined and knickers is a good costume, should she be suddenly plunged into the water and have a long distance to swim, she could take the skirt off and swimming would be quite easy. For a short distance the serge skirt would be little if any inconvenience.

EMMA LOTTIE VAUTIER.

is a reprint without acknowledgment from Routledge's Every boy's book 1868. The R.H.S. instructions are the old ones for obtaining warmth before respiration; at the end is their 'scale of pecuniary rewards.'

Another copy I bought at Oxford in 1895 'Goode bros Lion steam printing works London,' otherwise the same.

Another reprint

for generations an artist (Notes & Queries 9 s viii p 411). His youngest son Herbert Benjamin Clayton informs me his father could not swim.

The boy's own paper London Leisure hour office 1879, 4°: when issued in volumes this weekly paper is called The boy's own annual.



the shooter or running header

On p 63 vol I is a paragraph entitled 'Headers in s.' which says 'in Denmark [read Scandinavia] where perhaps swimming [read springing] may be seen in its highest perfection, a platform sixty feet high is erected for... divers' [read springers].

At p 143 the author of the 'Modern playmate' [J. G. Wood] sends a note describing the 'shooter,'¹ see also p 366; and my glossary under spring.

These two paragraphs are utilised in S. plainly taught [1863]. In vol I pp 334, 366, 382, 399, 415 & 429 there is a series of articles 'S. by the author of skating and sculling' [J. G. Wood] with twelve cuts in the text, with which much trouble was evidently taken to get correct. Though bristling with bad advice the articles are generally good and readable. That there are many statements of a doubtful kind, I attribute to the fact of Mr Wood writing more from his memory of swimming than from actual practice. It is most difficult for anyone engaged, as he was, in absorbing occupations to keep up swimming.

'In reality there is no art at all in keeping the head above water...but there is some art in keeping afloat without more exertion than is absolutely necessary.' 'I was never taught to swim any more than I was taught to walk' then his mother sadly neglected

him, but it is nonsense: what do we know about being taught as babies to walk?

'A good teacher is a wonderful help...never mind the stroke.' Then why have a good teacher!

For the breast stroke he says

'I have seen many books' [only two The Encyclo Brit 1797 and Wood's own Handbook 1858?] 'which recommend the learner to place a basin half full of water on the floor, put a frog in it, lie face downwards over a stool and try and imitate the movements of the frog. This may be well enough for the legs [?!], but what of the arms, on which the swimmer depends much more than on the legs? When a frog swims it does not use the fore legs at all, but tucks them closely to the body.'

He is very wrong both about legs and arms, as to the arms see Sinclair and Henry 1893 pp 29 & 66. The leg-stroke is properly described on p 335.

He then ridicules learning on land p 334 as to which he is again wrong, as hopelessly so as when he says (p 335) 'Anyone who can swim six strokes can swim six hundred,' or (p 336) The breath does not require 'any management at all.' He is again wrong in describing the 'side-stroke' (p 383) he says 'the legs are carried just as in breast-swimming.'

The position of the figure floating



¹ The four figures are reproduced s.s. from blocks supplied by the publishers The Religious Tract Society.

(p 335) is good though too stiff. From the context it is evident that it is intended to be in fresh water, but directly after Mr Wood gives his own experience of floating, but puts himself in the sea—a very different thing—he was not a fresh water floater, as this advice would be sufficient to show ‘In floating on the back, it is of little consequence how the swimmer breathes.’

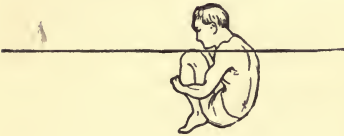
The paragraphs (p 366) on headers are good. He gives p 399 about twenty lines of description for diving from the

surface, but it is all clumsy. A surface dive should be made by simply going under head first, as in the porpoise, no kick with the legs, the only help necessary is the arms under water.

He says (p 415) Hounslow ‘was unrivalled in the “steamer” and there were few ordinary swimmers whom he could not beat, they using the breast or side-stroke and he steaming,’ but not I feel certain in the position of the figure illustrated, with hands over the head.



The position of the figure in the cut of the ‘washing-tub’ or as it is now called



‘spinning’ is not the preferable one, but it would well represent a person who has just jumped in ‘plat-cul’ as it

is put by the French, see the figure reproduced under Roger [1881]. This feat in fancy swimming is first mentioned by Frost 1816: see ante pp 213 and 242.

The illustration below from a photograph taken in 1898 at Oxford by Aubrey R. Thomas B.A. shows the whirlpool Mr Wood describes. ‘By means of his hands he spins round and round, and ought to do it so fast that he creates a sort of whirlpool, of which he becomes the centre.’



The figure has just been turning at the rate of two revolutions a second. This way is illustrated in Hoderlein 1832 and is mentioned by Harrington 1861 p 14 ; and s & H 1893 p 141.

Mr Wood gives a figure getting into a boat (p 429), other figures getting into boats from photographs will be found in Pearson's magazine July 1899. Mr Boccock also gives one, but his position does not seem good.

'How to swim by the rev J. G. Wood' stated to be abridged from The boy's own paper was republished in 16° and formed pp 113-140 of the Religious tract society almanac for 1879 with 7 figures.

Reprinted in Outdoor games 1892.

Fortunately Mr Wood did not rely on such a (secondary?) subject as swimming for his fame, and being so well known as a writer on natural history



the 'propeller' from a photograph by Aubrey R. Thomas at Oxford

I need only say that John George Wood M.A. was born in London 1827 : three years afterwards his father removed to Oxford. He died 3 mar 1889, when The boy's own paper pp 494 and 652 gave notices of him with portrait and autograph. In 1890 his son Theodore published his life, see also D.N.B. and Boase M.E.B.

The following conversation occurred on the 17 august 1895 at Parsons Pleasure bathing place Oxford Mr Wood's favorite resort as a young man.

R. T. To Mr Charles Cox.
Have you been here long ?

Mr Cox. Sixty years, and taught hundreds to swim though I never go in the water myself.

Do you recollect the rev J. G. Wood ?
Cox. Well, as a boy I often had to tell him to come out of the water.

Was he a first class swimmer ?

Cox. Not at all, he was a very moderate swimmer. His great delight was to take headers : he would hardly do anything else. He came here after he left Oxford and told me what he was working at.

Do you recollect Hounslow ?¹

Cox. Ah ! well — he was a fine swim-

¹ Samuel Hounslow was a shoemaker in Holywell street Oxford as well as a teacher of swimming ; winner of the N.S.S. [q v] medal. He could stop in the water

mer. He went to London to swim Kenworthy of the Holborn Baths and beat him: but then came along Pewters with his new sidestroke and he beat everybody easily.

R. T. Did you ever see Hounslow do this (R. T. floating and then propelling himself feet first).

Cox. No, never.

R. T. But Mr Wood says in The boy's own paper that he 'ran Hounslow pretty closely in most points of swimming.'

Cox. Oh! Wood couldnt touch him, he was quite an ordinary swimmer, though he was rather a powerfully built man.

R. T. I thought this was 'The Parsons bathing place.'

Cox. No, it is 'Parsons Pleasure' bathing place. I rent it of the Univer-

sity and my father did before me. We never could trace that anyone of the name of Parsons had it, and we believe it is called 'Parsons Pleasure' because so many of the University men who came here intended to be parsons.

The B.O.P. 16 sep 1882 see under Webb 1875.

ibid 13 aug '87 vol ix of The boy's own annual pp 734-6, an article with 'Some hints on bathing and swimming, by an old hand' which are good.

ibid 29 july 1892 n° 759 vol xv pp 698: an article of about a page signed A.A.

ibid 4 nov 1899 n° 1086 vol xxii a very good article of four pages with six illustrations by T. Peddie (not entirely from nature!) entitled Boys and s. or the L.S.S. its worth and methods by W. B. Northrop.

Brief hints on swimming by professor Marquis Bibbero, price 3d 8° pp 4 [about 1879].

Buonaccorsi di Pistoja



fig 35 from count von Buonaccorsi
intended for the sidestroke

five or six hours in a day teaching. He died at Oxford 2 april 1888 aged 82. The Oxford Chronicle 7 april, p 8 col 2 says he obtained several medals from the R.H.S. but these statements are not to be trusted. His name is not in Young's printed list, which is not to be trusted either.

According to Kayser xxi 237 he has published three treatises (1) Art of s. and (2) On military s. 1879. (3) Introduction to, 1880. I have only seen the second, namely

Leitfaden für den militär-schwimm-
unterricht verfasst von Adolf graf von
Buonaccorsi di Pistoja...Wien 1879.

Manual of military swimming instruc-
tion by Adolph count von B... retired
first lieutenant Austrian imperial and
royal cavalry.

8° pp 4 and 112 and cover, with 45 cuts

Hints on swimming by William Wilson, chairman associated
swimming clubs of Scotland : president west of Scotland s.c. : author of Swim-
ming diving and how to save life : The bather's manual...Glasgow John Somers
printer 75 east Howard street : entered at Stationers' hall.

16° [1879] pp 20. Another edition '10th thousand' London the cricket
press 6 Pilgrim st Ludgate hill...16° [1881] pp 19.

Issued as an advertisement, the advice and instruction are good.

Hilfsbuch zur leitung und ertheilung des schwimm-unterrichts für
den offizier und unteroffizier ausgearbeitet von Bornmüller...Berlin
1879...

Aids for conducting and imparting
instruction in swimming for officers and
subalterns, by Bornmüller lieutenant in
the Prussian army.

in the text, including 24 of positions
for learning on land. There seems
no reason except a commercial one for
introducing the word military. On p 79
he treats of different kinds of springing
and diving. Figure 35 (reproduced r.)
is swimming in the manner popularly
in England supposed to be the side-
stroke.

Figure 40 about to spring should have
the toes over the springboard. All the
figures have the hands in the difficult
and useless position of palm to palm.

12° pp vi and 18. His system is for
teaching in the water ; he refers to the
D'Argy method which he says is only
known to him theoretically.

L'apprenti nageur, ou la natation mise à la portée de tout le monde,
avec figures explicatives, par D. Louvet, suivi des secours à donner
aux noyés. Paris A. Ghio Palais Royal.

12° [1879] pp 20 1 fr.

This is a very ingenious method, it
consists of four figures cut in half so that
you can join them and thus see two.
The movements the text describes.
He refers his readers to Thevenot

Roret, Courtinon (sic), D'Argy and
Duffô. He advises no one however
good a swimmer to bathe alone, nor to
go far unless a boat is near, excellent
cautions.

American health primers : Sea-air and sea-bathing by John H.
Packard M.D. Philadelphia 1880 12°.

This was reprinted with some altera-
tions to 'English' it, in Ward and
Lock's long-life series [1881] 12°, with-
out the author's name or any acknow-

ledgment whatever of its source.

It only gives a few words of warn-
ing on the dangers of which a swimmer
should beware.

one penny : The boys' guide to swimming [cut with four figures]
Glasgow Gage & Hunter 12 South Albion st.

4° [1880?] pp 8, title from cover.
A reprint without acknowledgment of
A Handbook by G. Forrest 1858, or

perhaps it is reprinted from The boys'
of England Edin [1864].

Also reprinted in 12° p 16 with

this title, from the cover

The swimmer's companion, being the whole art of swimming clearly explained and made easy [cut of a figure] containing the rules for self-

Chambers's journal fourth series n° 865 24 July 1880 p 465.

A good general article, the first in the number, strongly advocating that both sexes should be taught.

'Many women and girls entertain

Cox's practical swimmer: price six pence : published by J. D. Cox manager Crown baths Kennington oval, London.

16° [1880?] with illustrated cover.

The five figures in the text are plagiarised from The boy's own paper : these figures are also reproduced in Bocock's swimming cards.

Katechismus der schwimmkunst von Martin Schwägerl...mit 113 in den text gedruckten abbildungen. Leipzig J. J. Weber 1880.

12° pp viii 127 price 2 marks. On the cover this is called Weber's illustrated catechisms n° 97, but it is not what we understand by a catechism, not being in question and answer. On the title Schwägerl describes himself as 'imperial and royal captain of the 19th infantry regiment of the line,' this description is omitted in the 'second edition' 1897, which is a reprint, except that figures 20 and 23 in the breast stroke are omitted, thus showing an improvement in the method of teaching, as these two positions were quite useless. Thus there are only 111 figures in the 2nd edit. They are fairly correct, though some of the positions are impossible. They are nicely drawn, about half illustrating gymnastic

Schwimmbuch für knaben und jüngerlinge...von Louis Pommer... Stuttgart, Schickhardt & Ebner.

Title abbreviated, full translation

Swimming book for boys and youths, a short introduction to learn swimming by simple theoretical and practical means following the father of swimming Gutmuths : with a history of the art of swimming and a list of sanitary precautions to be observed before during

instruction, sea bathing and how to proceed in cases of supposed drowning. Glasgow published by James Kay, price two pence.

a belief that swimming is scarcely a feminine art, that it is slightly wanting in delicacy. This is a mistake.'

Joseph Down Cox left the Crown Baths in 1881. There is a letter from him cautioning young people not to stop to look in the water, in The s. news 12 may 1879 p 33.

feats, such as no English book has ever attempted, and in fact these feats would be more appropriate in a gymnastic book. Many of the figures are copied by Martin Cobbett and by Himmel.

This useful little book is hatefully bound with wire : like all the German books on swimming it has no index, as a superior book of this kind published by a firm of such high standing ought to have.

On the 20 jan 1901 the publishers informed me that when bringing out the last edition they had endeavored to find the author, who was formerly an Austrian officer, but they were unable to and they presumed that he was dead.

and after a cold bath by L. Pommer practical teacher of the art of swimming in Stuttgart with [three] figures in the text.

8° The preface is dated 1880, but the date on the cover of my copy is 1881 pp xi and 83.

Pommer says he found the three

best books were Gutschmuths 1798, Auerbach 1873 and v Buonaccorte (sic) 1879.

In his 'history' he starts with the prophet Isaiah, mentions Homer, the Greeks and Romans, and says that in the time of Charles the great, swimming was much in vogue. He says Luther was against public bathing houses in consequence of the bad use made of them; after 1514 bathing and swimming in the open [by both sexes together?] were prohibited for reasons of morality.

[Those who wish to get a little farther insight into the customs of the period can refer to *Deutsches leben* (German life) von Dr A. Schultz. Wien 1892.]

He says that Bernardi started with the principle that man was lighter

The *Victoria mag con.* by E. Faithfull 1880, 8° v 35 pp 110-114.

An amusing article thoroughly feminine entitled *How I learnt to swim* by Amy Croft.

'Some are born with a natural

What girls can do, by Phillis Browne [Mrs Sarah Sharp Hamer] London, Cassells.

8° [1880] Has some general advice about swimming and bathing on pp 281-4.

Anleitung für den schwimm-unterricht an die mannschaften bei den heeresabteilungen von A. Baetz. Augsburg, G. Reichel.

Instruction for those who teach soldiers swimming by A. Baetz, Bavarian royal captain and 'company-chief,' authorised to be published by the ministry of war.

12° [1881] pp 40. I have a copy of this pamphlet but I have been unable

to find it in Kayser or Heinsius.

It has 18 cuts in the text, 16 devoted to motions on land. He says he follows D'Argy's method. The date not being on the publication is noticeable and also its coming from the same town as Winmann's.

In 1851 D'Argy's method was adopted by the French and in 1864 by the Austrian army.

Pfuel taught entirely in the water and D'Argy almost entirely on land and he (Pommer) wished to combine the two in which way only can you teach successfully, proved he says by Buonaccorsi.

liking for the water—some feel towards it a natural horror. The latter again describes my feelings exactly.'

1. Cassell's book of sports and pastimes with more than 800 illustrations. Cassell, Petter, Galpin & co London, Paris, New York: all rights reserved.

8° [1881] pp viii 760: other editions [1882-3]: [1886] and 1893. Swimming on pp 86 to 98 is the same in all editions.

This article is a plagiarism of *The ABC* 1866 and by a very inexperienced swimmer who does not appreciate the

extreme difficulty the majority of people find in floating; and in fact does not know what floating is, for he says if in fresh water 'just paddle the hands at your side a little, which will prevent your feet from sinking.' The figure floating is represented with a third of

the body out of the water and arms by the side, it seems to be reversed from The popular recreator 1873. It is reproduced ante p 131.

In the breast stroke 'The manner of kicking out the legs should be precisely similar to that of the frog' (p 88). 'There is not so much importance attached to the stroke of the legs as to that of the arms' [these opinions Mr Wood gave in several articles with his name; as to the frog see Forrest's Handbook 1858 p 20 and The Boy's own paper 1879].

As to the arms see the ABC 1866 p 47 and The Boy's own paper 1879. They are discussed by S & H 1893. Gives what it calls the 'upright swimming or the Italian method' of Bernardi (q v) and says (p 91) 'The utmost rate of swimming in this way is about three miles an hour in still water which is not much more than half the ordinary speed,' which is copied without acknowledgment from Stonehenge 1856 p 515.

Shade of the editor of captain Webb's book, what would you say to this, six years after you thought you had ridiculed such nonsense away for ever?

Then you should learn to swim under water with your eyes open, 'they must be kept open in the act of diving or entering the water, as it is difficult to open them after the head is once under water' (pp 92 & 96). This nonsense is plagiarised from The Popular recreator p 174.

For what the writer calls the side-

Home gymnastics...with a short method of acquiring the art of swimming by professor T. J. Hartelius M.D. principal lecturer at the Royal gymnastic central institute Stockholm, translated and adapted from the Swedish original by special permission of the author, by C. Löfving...Wm Isbister 56 Ludgate hill London.

12° [1881]. The swimming is on pp 80 to 94, six cuts in the text: illusions of 'dry' swimming and advice good. The translation is not in good English.

S and H 1893 p 50 say 'in 1883 the

stroke he quotes this 'Mr F. Cavill says Lay yourself on your side, and draw your hands up to your chest, as in the chest stroke' which is absolutely wrong, and I do not believe Cavill wrote it. The rest of the description is quite insufficient and the whole figure is in the worst possible position but it shows well the popular notion: it is reproduced under Harrington (ante p 292). However the quotation (if true?) shows that Cavill wrote something I have not seen as the above does not occur in his How to learn 1884, and he wrote me (20 Jan '98) that he could not recollect it.

Most of the 'Instructions for saving drowning persons' are quite ridiculous, but are copied by Saint Clair 1896 (q v). This article is reprinted without acknowledgment in the following

(2) Profusely illustrated, 1d: Boys of Scotland guide to s.: contents...The Enterprise publishing coy 192 St Vincent street Glasgow.

The above title is from the cover, on the third page of which I find the date 1889: 8° pp 8 with nine cuts in the text.

This was republished with the title

(3) One penny, new edition: Boys of Scotland guide to s. [cut of a figure about to spring] profusely illustrated. J. Burnside publisher, 31 Frederick st Glasgow.

8° pp 8 about [1890]. It is a reprint of n° 2, but not page for page; and under Bernardi it omits the 'three miles an hour' quotation.

Edition 1903 same article.

same translation, without any alteration, was published again in Philadelphia. Under the Hartelius method the directions and commands are not so concise and clear as those of Lieut. Torkington.

A military system of gymnastic exercises and a system of swimming prepared under the instructions of the superintendent, for the use of the cadets of the United States military academy and military colleges by Edward S. Farrow assistant instructor of tactics at the U.S. military academy. New York metropolitan publishing company 252 Broadway 1881.

8°, swimming is separately paged pp 18. He acknowledges that he is indebted to 'the English work Walker's Manly sports' but this is an insufficient acknowledgment. Nearly the whole is taken from Walker: gives the figures of 'dry' swimming (which Walker took from Frost). It is clear Farrow could

not float as he says 'the hands may be crossed upon the breast.' Swimming on the side is given with the breast stroke action. Four cuts under feats in swimming are copied from Courtivron without acknowledgment. Misprint p 1 'handkerchie.'

On the best means of saving swimmers from drowning, written for the Royal Humane Society's annual report, by R. H. Wallace Dunlop, C.B. author of Notes on the science of natation.

12° [privately printed 1881] pp 8 and cover with two hands illustrating the author's 'plates,' the use of which the pamphlet advocates. It was reprinted in 1883 with the date and with several verbal alterations.

'Ocular and irrefutable proof that the human body is heavier than its bulk of water may be shown by almost any good swimmer' though the assertion is 'still often encountered, that the body itself is lighter than water.'

The Professional Swimming Association

was formed 6 July (see The sporting life 9 July p 4 col 4) 1881 in consequence of the decision of S. A. of G. B. that amateurs should no longer be allowed to compete with professionals. 'It collapsed in a few years' S & H 1893 p 313. 'When I conceived in the year 1881 the idea of the P.S.A...it prospered until it became the wealthiest swimming institution in England or elsewhere... It might have gone on prospering if its financial stability had not been wrecked; but ultimately the members killed it.' Memoirs of R. P. Watson p 119, see also Encyclopædia

Britannica 1887 v 22 p 772.

The 'first annual entertainment' was held 24 Oct 1881 at the Floating Bath near Charing Cross. W. Holmes 103 Cloudeley road Islington handicapper; and what I imagine was the last is reported in The sporting life 14 Oct 1891 when an amateur was handicapper. I have only seen one report entitled

The Professional Swimming Association: season 1887. 24° printed at London by W. W. Ramsden. This is a handbook of officers, origin and progress, captaincy races since 1881 and rules.

The squire a monthly magazine for country gentlemen...conducted by Morgan Evans...London Franklyn & co.

8° number for July 1881 pp 602-609 has an article entitled swimming and signed Tintagel who says he was able to swim at ten and was 35 years old at time of writing.

to being quoted several times without acknowledgment.

It is plagiarised and spoilt by a writer in Chambers's Journal 11 Sep 1886 p 587, in which the plagiarist still further disguises the quotations from my 1868 pamphlet.

It is a good general article which would satisfy anyone but me, I object

Eenvoudige handleiding voor hen, die willen leeren zwemmen door C. J. Löwenström directeur van de zwem- en badinrichting aan den

westerdoksdiik te Amsterdam : tweede druk : Amsterdam G. Theod Bom, Kalverstraat 1882.

12° pp 330 & 1. Above is called the second edition. He says he has made use of Routledge's Handbook, from which also he translates Pfuels method : the edition used was probably that of [1872].

It is honest of him to admit that he has 'made use of' Routledge as he would probably never have been found out if he had not, but this admission like Thevenot's two hundred years

earlier is insufficient, he should have said he had 'translated' for that is all he has done.

In the preface he says there is a good deal written about swimming (in Dutch?) but no short or concise book that gives all a swimmer ought to know.

Millions, he says, are living who never bathe but are satisfied with their daily wash.

1. Knowledge an illustrated magazine of science conducted by Richard A. Proctor. London 1882, 4° vol 2 s. on pp 179, 213, 308.

Three articles entitled Learning to swim by Natator [i.e. R. A. Proctor]. The third says 'to be continued' but I have not been able to find any more. They were republished under the title

2. Strength and happiness by Richard A. Proctor. London Longmans Green & co (Wyman & sons printers) 1885.

8° pp x 283 swimming pp 165 to 178. In the preface he says these chapters appeared anonymously in 'Knowledge' in 1882-3.

Another edition of 'Strength' with the 'happiness' left out, appeared with the title

3. Strength, how to get strong and keep strong with chapters on rowing and swimming, fat, age and the waist, by Richard A. Proctor. London Longmans (Spottiswoode printers) 1889.

8° pp 178. This is page for page the same, except that signature K, on p 129 of the first, is on p 127 of the 2nd edition. There is no mention in this edition of its being a reprint of that of 1885, nor is it said to have appeared in Knowledge.

He writes about 'front floating' as if it came quite naturally (p 171 and p 173) : he advises the learner (!) to 'change your floating position from back to front' ! I think he means swimming. Floating is difficult enough but 'front floating' is much more difficult.

On p 166 he quotes, in ridicule, a first lesson from 'an old magazine' (?) beginning 'Suppose a person standing up to his breast in water.' His advice to beginners is good (p 168) 'learn first to balance.' He advises his readers to consult 'the handbooks of swimming - ill written though most of them are - which have been published in great numbers.'

Swimmers need not take fright at 'the waist' in the title, it is the lady's wasp-waist that is arraigned. Richard Anthony Proctor died in 1888 see D.N.B. and Boase M.E.B. Mr. W. Prideaux Courtney (English whist 1894) says he was a good whist player, it is a pity he was not equally good as a swimmer.

Swimming and its attendant accomplishments by P. M. Salmon, for the use of school teachers and others. A short treatise on the art of swimming floating diving etc, which will enable a teacher, male or female, to impart instruction, whether able to swim or otherwise : price sixpence : Williamstown and Footscray [Victoria], printed and published by A. T. Clark. Advertiser office 1883.

24° pp 12. I am not prepared to say that this treatise would do all that is claimed for it on the title. In rescuing 'a lady take hold of her hair'

he says. The instruction is as weak as the grammar but many people can teach though they cannot write or swim.

Ashore and afloat, a weekly review of sports...n° 1 6 July 1883
n° 28 11 Jan 1884, folio, 6d each.

No more appeared: it was well conducted and had a great deal about swimming written for understanding by ordinary as distinguished from sporting readers.

The British almanac 1883

in the 'Companion' is a good article entitled swimming pp 40-6 by J. J. Manley insisting on far greater facilities for teaching. 'Notwithstanding all that has been done, and the impetus given to the desire of acquiring the art of swimming by the performance of Captain Webb' and others the art 'is

still lamentably circumscribed.'

Says that neither navy nor army men swim as a rule. 'Clothes being of less specific gravity than water actually increase buoyancy.' Insists on boats being let to swimmers only and deals with the various objections to the practicability of this proposal.

1. N° 5. British standard handbook price 2d [on the cover, with colored illustration not repeated in the book]. London J. & R. Maxwell. [on the headtitle] Swimming plainly taught and easily learned.

8° pp 32 [1883 ?] 20 cuts in the text. The advertisements give Maxwell's address at 14 Shoe lane and 35 St Bride st and G. Vickers 172 Strand.

original e.g. the Eton header and a figure with cramp kicking the leg out of water. Describes shortly the French system of learning on land, for which two of Gurr's cuts are used. Uses 'plunge' and 'dive' for header or spring. Takes the alarmist view of everything, from which I judge the compiler had not kept up his practice in swimming. Gives a cut of one figure rescuing another by catching hold of the hair. The text says the Denmarkians dive [i.e. spring] from a platform sixty feet high [from The Boy's Own Paper] but this is illustrated by a cut from Gurr of a figure with his legs wide apart. The R.H.S. resuscitation method giving Hall's instructions but attributing them to Silvester is given with the four cuts.

2. Another issue has the address at Milton house 4 Shoe lane, Fleet street (Head and Mark printers). 3. Another is issued by Spencer Blackett successor to J. & R. Maxwell, Milton house 35 St Bride street [1888] price 2d.

4. Another issue Griffith Farran & co [1899?]

This is a compilation from various sources, with some original matter. The rev J. G. Wood's articles in The Boy's Own Paper 1879 are freely used without acknowledgment as is Clais 1825 or perhaps Every boy's Book. Much of the text and nine of the cuts are from Gurr [1866]. Some of the cuts are

Nuova enciclopedia Italiana: (edited by) Gerolamo Boccardo, Torino 1883, 4°

Some general observations under 'nuoto' in vol xv: the shortness of this article shows that in Italia swimming is

held in as little (practical though it has plenty of theoretical) esteem as in other countries.

Rapport de M[onsieur] D. Louvet au Congrès international de sauvetage sur l'enseignement de la natation et sur les secours aux noyés suivi d'une étude sur les pompiers, Paris A. Ghio (imp Bardin) 1883.

12° pp x 23. Excellent advice referring however chiefly to boating.

A review of 'Natant 'atant two' for the benefit of Charles Moore the one-legged champion swimmer, by the author of A little slipper, A fatal bullet...price two pence.

12° pp 7 in verse published about sep 1883, it is by T.C. Easton.

A notice of Moore with portrait of him selling matches in the street appeared in *The People* 7 feb 1897: he lost his leg at eleven years of age: he won a race against W. Woodbridge on the 10 sep 1857 and against Cavill in

1873: he was a good allround swimmer, the loss of his leg was a benefit for swimming, as it enabled him to float with the greatest ease, and to scull with his leg bolt upright out of the water, a feat no two-legged person can do—except, if we can believe the books, a German see ante p 342.

The popular science monthly. 56. Position and stroke in swimming

'Perhaps there is no science—at least none of equal importance—that has been less developed theoretically than swimming...In the literature of the subject we fail to find any practical

New York 1883. 8° vol 23 pp 54 by Richard Lamb C.E.

directions that could assist a novice.'

Gives the legs of the frog as an example. The two (comic?) cuts illustrating the breast stroke appear to be drawn in lamb like fashion.

The swimming instructor, a treatise on the arts of swimming and diving, by William Wilson author of *Swimming, diving, and how to save life: The bather's manual: Hints on swimming: illustrated with plates drawn from life by Alexander Davidson*. London (published and printed by) Horace Cox The Field office 346 Strand W.C. 1883.

8° pp x and list of 12 illustrations and pp 150 and portrait of the author.

This treatise is a great advance and the figures in the illustrations are in correct positions.

Mr Wilson justly remarks that 'The experienced swimmer when in the water may be classed among the happiest of mortals in the happiest of moods, and in the most complete enjoyment of the most delightful of exercises.'

All his advice as to bathing (ch 2) and gradually accustoming young people to the water is excellent, so are his chapters on 'science' and teaching.

He suggests that a quicker method might be invented (p 22) than that of the present slow rate of swimming. Many good swimmers (he says p 24) are not good teachers and are quite ignorant of 'why they travel so fast through the water.'

Has an excellent suggestion for diagrams of correct movements (p 31). As to the quotation from Leibig p 35 see

Brewster 1885. In the breast stroke a 'mistaken idea is that the propelling part of the kick is obtained from the soles of the feet' (p 35 and 38).

He suggests that the sidestroke should be taught before the breast stroke (p 41). He quotes Pettigrew, Thevenot and Steedman as to the left side and Gurr for either side, but Wilson against these advocates the right side as 'there can be no doubt that the left side being uppermost, the action of the heart... will be less impeded.'

'Never mind the fact that the mouth is under water' but I consider the better way is not to have the mouth under water as it never is in the 'English sidestroke': to get the mouth under water it is necessary to be or to turn on the belly. Mr Wilson's figure plate vi has the mouth only partially under and with a slight tilt of the head, putting it in the proper position, it would be entirely out. 'Roll the body as little as possible'; do not roll at all I should say, every roll is a waste of time

and loss of power. [Mr Wilson's reply to this is that 'a slight roll corkscrews the body, as it were through the water.' I don't agree. I once asked a pilot why ships so often had a slight list to port, he said, it gave the screw a bite.]

Swimming 'is a great sanitary, social and, we hold, moral reformer' (p 55). 'rinse the mouth, gargle the throat, and cleanse the nostrils and air passages before going into the water.' I am afraid it will be many years before men will be able to leave off spitting. 'Ladies...never offend in this way' (p 58). Has a good illustration (p 62) of the Eton plunge but does not give it this name: see also plate xii. 'In march 1880 in the Swanston street baths Melbourne Mr J. Strickland plunged 73 feet 1 inch' (p 63 and 139).

This is the first treatise to give directions with an illustration of what the author calls 'touching and turning' which of course includes the pushoff.

He has a chapter on plate s. and speaks well of Dunlop's plates.

In rough sea swimming he advises the sidestroke and refers to Webb who until late in life had never practiced either the side or overhand strokes.

The longest time for stopping under water was Peter Johnson in 1882, 4 minutes 15 sec (p 93). Is against going in feet first (p 97).

In order to convince some anglers that they would not sink, Mr Wilson 'jumped into deep water fully dressed, with the heaviest boots, stockings coat &c that are worn, and without letting go the rod, or loosening the basket, swam about, keeping everything in its place, and afterwards lying still, made the rod an apparent means of support on the surface. Before leaving the water boots, stockings, coat and all were removed while lying on the back' (p 101).

Gives advice for skaters immersed,

and swims dressed with skates on (p 104).

He gives two lists (p 122) of what to 'eat drink and avoid' while training, which seem good and sensible. 'One must be temperate in all things, in food, in drink, in exercise' (p 126).

Gives lists of professional and amateur champions since 1854 - but this omits Steedman, Young and Pewters. The word 'records' used for the first time p 137. As to his chapter on rescuing see ante p 143.

Refers to Young's Acts of gallantry (p 144).

As Mr Wilson has the distinguishing honor of being the inventor of the drill originally used by the Life Saving Society (which drill was first published in the North British Daily Mail in 1889) his chapter on lifesaving will be read with more than ordinary interest, as he foreshadows the methods of rescue now taught by the L.S.S. as he also did in his Swimming 1876.

On resuscitation Mr Wilson was at this date rather weak though far beyond all others, and this again is interesting as showing us how (even among experts) little attention was paid to this most important subject. It is surprising to find the Howard¹ method only given - no reference whatever to Marshall Hall or Silvester is made. This may perhaps be because in his preface he says he has 'taken care to avoid repetitions of anything that had already appeared in former works.'

Having been accused of betting on a certain race in which he was judge Mr Wilson wrote to Swimming Notes 12 dec 1885 'I have never in my life made a bet of any description.' 'My opinion in reference to swimming is that it does not require to be encouraged as sport, but as an educational measure, and as a healthy, useful and necessary accomplishment.'

¹ This method the author says was 'approved of by the humane societies and life-boat institutions of Great Britain' (?) Probably it was but nowhere in print.

W^m Wilson was born in London of Scottish parents on 13 nov 1844 but left when a child, and has lived many years at Glasgow. Swimming for 18 july 1895 has a portrait and biography in which it states that Mr Wilson is the inventor of football in the water now known as water polo. He is constantly writing on swimming. Although only a journalist now (since 1884), Mr Wilson formerly fulfilled the duties of swimming instructor!

s & H 1893 give Wilson's portrait and drill for the resuscitation method, the importance of this drill can hardly be over estimated, for this and other services he was elected first life governor of the Life Saving Society.

Reprinted from *The Field* dec 22nd and 29th 1883. Amateur swimming at the present day, by Hunter Barron M.B. C.M. &c hon sec Swimming Association of Great Britain and Otter s. Club [London 1 jan] 1884.

8^o pp 12. Historically a most valuable and important account of the improved position held by swimming in England, Scotland and Ireland, and how it came about, related from personal experience by one of the best swimmers of the day.

The fight over amateurism and professionalism can only be compared to a Corsican vendetta. Some idea of it may be obtained from Sinclair and Henry's able chapter on the government of swimming. Peace was at last obtained by the resolution of 30 may 1881 absolutely prohibiting all mixing. A professional was an amateur when the occasion suited. How little distinction there was may be gathered from the quotation I give under s. and s. 1861. The 'case' Barron refers to was that of Blew Jones an amateur and member of the Otter s.c. and J. Cairns a professional, although he mentions many noted swimmers he does not name these.

I observe the word 'house club' used for the first time p 11.

It is noticeable that he never once

I fear I have hardly done justice to Mr Wilson's publications. After the amount of trash I have had to notice I leave the perusal of these books with feelings of thankfulness for such good, humane and skilful advice, which one feels is that of an expert swimmer who fortunately is able himself to express what he desires to say, instead of having recourse to others.

Perhaps the highest testimony to the usefulness of this book is that it was one of the text books enumerated by the L.S.S. to be read for their Swimming Diploma: it was omitted from the 1901 publications being out of print.

mentions water polo, showing that up to 1883 he had no idea of the importance the game would assume.

Hunter Jackson Barron was born in London 31 march 1857, took his degrees in Edinburgh in 1883 and M.D. in 1885. He practiced at Finchley and died there of diabetes 9 feb 1889.

While studying at Edinburgh in 1879 as dresser to professor Annandale, he on two occasions gave his blood for the operation of direct transfusion of blood by means of Roussel's apparatus, see *British Med Jour* 6 & 13 dec 1879. He had been captain of the Otter s.c. and was hon sec of the S.A.G.B. 1880 to 1883, and president 1884-5. On his resigning the position of president in 1886 he was presented by the delegates of the Association with a testimonial in appreciation of his efforts to promote and popularise swimming generally. The Swimming club directory by w. Smith 1885 is gratefully inscribed to him 'as a mark of esteem and in recognition of the eminent services he has rendered the

art.' His letter of thanks is printed in the supplement.

Portrait of him on the cover and memoir and same portrait on p 19 of *The Cricket and football times bicycling athletic and swimming journal* edited by Stephen Richardson 4 nov 1880. *The Sporting mirror*, may 1882 portrait pp 165-8.

The dictionary of games and amusements...edited by Henry Frith...Ward, Lock & co. London, Warwick house Salisbury square E.C. (Ogden printer). New York 10 Broad street.

8° [1884] pp 276. The text pp 254 to 261 appears to be original, but the eleven cuts are from Crawley [1878] without acknowledgment.

The book of health...edited by Malcolm Morris. London 1884. 4° Some excellent observations by Dr James Cantile on the 'disgrace' it is to this country that all are not able to swim, pp 453-4 576 & 708.

Every boy's library: the playground by the rev J.G. Wood M.A. [on the cover: title] *The playground* a series of games for boys, with illustrations. London George Routledge & sons, Broadway Ludgate hill New York 9 La Fayette place.

8° [1884] pp x 266: chapter viii pp 103-122 learning swimming in the sea and management of the waves, putting Webb's advice in the form of a narrative.

Le grand dictionnaire illustré 1884-5.

This work in five large quarto volumes was begun under the name of A. Bitard, but it bears generally the name of Chevreuil, without christian name. I looked at the volume with 'natation' at a bookstall in Paris and

See also Wilson s. 1. 1883 p 137. Finney 1886. Obituary notice in *The Field* 16 feb 1889. S. by s & H 1893 pp 311, 314, 316, 398. *Swimming* by A. Sinclair 1894 pp 10 & 81, and *Newman's Swimmers* 1898 p 15 portrait, 34 & 45. 'An interesting pamphlet,' R. P. Watson *Memoirs* 1899 p 122.

The instructions are fairly good but the author was evidently a poor swimmer, without a notion of the English sidestroke or of floating.

saw at once that the illustrations were all reproduced from Cassell's *Book of sports*. I went no farther intending to read the article at the *Bibliothèque Nationale*, but there I was told the volume was mislaid!

La gymnastique...par A. Collineau...Paris 1884.

An octavo volume of over 800 pages without an index. The chapter on s. occupies 504-532, it is well written giving instruction for land drill with figures.

Quotes Clais and Pfuhl (sic): a good article, but the author does not seem to

know the English sidestroke at all, as he says 'La brasse donne, avec le minimum de fatigue, le maximum de vitesse.' Nor is floating mentioned. Collineau was born 1832, he is a doctor in Paris (Lorenz).

How to learn to swim by prof (Frederick) Cavill, with press reports of his swim from France to England and other long swims: [portrait of Cavill teaching the] *swimming class for ladies Lavender Bay baths*, price one shilling, H. Solomon Caxton printing office 114½ Pitt street Sydney.

8° at the end is the date 1884 pp 24 title from the cover. The six pages of instruction are good but those

for the sidestroke are quite indifferent and make one doubt if he swam the proper English sidestroke, though his

son Ernest who I saw swim on the 23 oct '97 does. Ernest Cavill was then the very picture of his father represented on the cover of this pamphlet.

Cavill is referred to as the South coast champion in The s. record of the 20 sep '73.

He says he always swam on his side 'since 1860.' He came in second in a clothes race against Charles Moore the one legged swimmer (The s. record 17 may 1873).

He is spoken of highly in The popular recreator vol I p 75: Crawley [1878] p 12: Wilson '83 pp 82,139. S. notes 10 may '84. He was born in London 16 july 1839 and settled in Sydney 1879.

He wrote me from Eastbourne Elizabeth Bay 20 jan '98 that he was a great sufferer from rheumatism and had lost the use of his legs. He learnt to swim in the Serpentine when ten years old, went to sea at 13, served in the Crimean war and Indian rebellion, holds silver and bronze medals of the R.H.S. also Australian R.H.S.

Cavill first tried to swim the English channel in 1876, a feat he practically accomplished a year later, when he swam from France to England on 20 aug 1877, in 12 hours and a quarter. He had a greased jacket on, and an oilskin cap but the latter he soon discarded. His feat came as a copy and excited very little enthusiasm. He was accompanied by Dr Cunningham and Mr Gretton and others. An account of the swim was published in Land and Water 25 aug 1877 with a map of Webb's course and Cavill's, showing that Webb swam more than twice the distance Cavill did. The editor added Cavill's weight, height and other measurements.

Another account appeared in Bell's Life 1 sep 1877, and the master and mate of the French boat made a declaration that they accompanied Cavill who swam to within fifty yards

of the English shore. However doubts were expressed (Bell's Life 15 sep '77 p 5 c 4) so Cavill made a declaration, the full text of which is printed in The Referee 21 oct '77 p 7, and see p 1 col 3. He says that he swam from cape Grisnez to the South Foreland and received no assistance whatever, with the exception of catching hold of a rope when he took refreshment. He would have swum the short distance left as there was a strong tide flowing to the shore, if it had not been for the refusal of the boatmen to allow their boat to be used on account of the darkness and the rocky nature of the coast.

With reference to the first attempt Cavill declares he 'swam thirty miles in eleven and a quarter hours, captain Webb being within a few yards of me nearly the whole of the time in a small boat.' Cavill explains how it was that though there were six or seven pressmen present at the first there was only one on the second swim.

When I wrote to Cavill I never thought of alluding to his swim, taking it for a fact, especially as I observed that one of the gentlemen who went with him was a friend of mine quite incapable of any 'hanky panky' business. However correspondents in The Daily Mail (4 aug 8 & 9 sep 1902) twenty five years after the event who wrote in the grossest ignorance of the facts, asserted that Cavill's swim was a failure and a physical impossibility. Thereupon I began to make enquiries but it was not until march 1903 that I succeeded in hearing from Dr Cunningham and Mr Gretton. They write to me that they accompanied Cavill the whole way, that he did the swim fairly and honestly, that he was in the water the whole time and was not assisted in any way except when taking food which was cooked by Mr Gretton, an office he had not previously fulfilled so that he very nearly set the lugger on fire.

Dr George Cunningham licenciate of the Royal college of surgeons England is now of Merton Hall Cambridge (M.A. 1887). For his other English and American qualifications see the Medical directory, under licenciates in

dental surgery. He was sometime president of the National Skating¹ Association. John Humphrys Gretton of London is LL.M. M.A. Cambridge and barrister at law 1886.

Entered at Stationers' hall. Lessons in swimming [illustration of a girl about to spring] by Marquis Bibbero, illustrator of the art at the Royal Polytechnic institution: Scarboro' Aquarium; Crystal palace; Brighton Aquarium; and in all the principal cities of the continent and America; and Henry Woods: price sixpence: published by the Crown publishing co 267 Strand London.

12^o [1884] pp 4 title from the cover. The four pages consist of the introduction and two lessons all original; and a table of contents of what 'will be fully explained in the next editions.' 'I have two sons that are teachers.' I had never heard of the author until I read the above, but the very next day I was in one of the London baths, and when I came out of the water I was much surprised at being asked if I was Marquis Bibbero! So I presume there was a resemblance between us. I thought to myself 'That Marquis must be a very fine swimmer'! Thereupon I wrote to him, telling him what I was doing and to know when I could see him swim, and for some information about himself. His reply (on 18 July 1895) was 'When I know who you are, I will let you know.' I presume he has not yet found out as I have never heard from him.

He was at the Polytechnic in 1870-71 (s. notes and record 12 sep 85), and in 1879. 'Before leaving London'

13 nov '71 he was 'prevailed upon' to take a benefit, when he was described as of Manchester and 'inventor of the Life-saving dress.' He then swam a mile on his back in 39½ minutes (they did not trouble about fifths of a second in those days). This is referred to in Wilson's s. instructor 1883 p 138. Advertised his 'Life saving collar' Swimming record 4 oct 1873 from Manchester. He exhibited at Blackpool on 10 July 1874 with Wm. Wilson. Was in America 1880-2, he returned to England (Ashore and afloat p 143) 1883 left again (s. notes 8 nov) 1884. Was lecturing on swimming at Victoria Park London (see Swimming 18 July p 215) 1895. The Brighton herald 1 sep 1883 says 'he was it appears born in Poland; his father being a Jewish refugee, named Bibbero and the fore-name of "Marquis" was given by him to his son...They eventually settled in Hull.' In 1901 he swam a mile in the sea off Dover when he was said to be 78.

NOTES

On 16 Feb 1884 there appeared in octavo eight pages printed by W. Ramsden n^o 1 of a somewhat remarkable weekly publication price one penny called Notes. It had a portrait of Aquarius [R. P. Watson the editor] on the title but no information as to who that was, nor any as to what Notes were about. You could find that out by reading the paper. It did not get

to the British Museum at first, and when it did n^o 2 was out of print, so that number is not in the National Library. It refers to many swimmers all in sporting style and mentions the controversy 'amateur v professional' which raged for so many years. Amateurs of the present day have no idea of the bickerings over this question, nor of the immense service that has been

done to swimming by its settlement. Dr Hunter Barron was one of the combatants and Notes says 'He has an uncomplimentary paragraph all to himself in the Sunday Times.' Mr Watson objected strongly to professionals racing as amateurs. In n° 4 we read 'I say now, that the gentleman amateur generally speaking is nothing but a gigantic fraud.' N° 2 has a portrait of Miss Agnes Beckwith, n° 3 of J. B. Johnson astride of London Bridge, from which he sprang 21 june 1871 to 'save Mr Peters.'

With n° 4 8 mar 1884 the title was altered to Swimming notes and it gave a portrait of James Finney. The illustrations, which were by Edwin Cocksedge, ceased with n° 5 in which is mentioned another much controverted subject 'Would the proprietors of baths compel their patrons to wear drawers.' Watson & co have now got their way on this question.

With n° 6 printed by James Welch it was enlarged from octavo to quarto, and with n° 8 the title was altered to

National Sports with which is incorporated Swimming Notes

Finally with n° 107 vol ii on 27 feb the title was changed to

National Hygiene

Thus it began as a swimming journal, it then adds sporting and athletics, from that it takes up hygiene and finishes by endeavoring to do good by converting sporting people with religious articles. These at the price of 'two-pence' were too much for it, for the last number appeared on 20 mar 1886.

Robert Patrick Watson was born

Easy hints on swimming. Daniel Beaton champion scientific swimmer of Scotland. Glasgow printed by James Hamilton 182 Trongate, price three pence.

8° about [1885] pp 8. It will be observed that Beaton does not say these hints are 'by' him, he fathers them however: it would have been more satisfactory to have had the name of the writer who assisted him. The instructions are original, but not suf-

Swimming notes and record. This gives the names of the most celebrated American swimmers with biographical details (from the New York daily graphic) 4 & 11 july 1885. On 5 sep 1885 the editor declared that the paper was not a success, and it would cease unless better supported; he added 'this is my third effort to run a paper (devoted to swimming) and with a failure it will certainly be my last,' his connection accordingly closing with n° 87 on 10 oct 1885. During this time it was conducted entirely from a sporting point of view, and never once reviewed a book though it incidentally noticed D. Beaton's pamphlet.

In the next issue the title was again altered to Swimming Notes, club record, turkish, vapour and electric bath and bathing guide. On 31 oct the title was again altered. The issue for 7 nov 1885 has an interesting account of Webb's last swim, by the rev H. R. Haweis.

On 2 jan 1886 n° 99 the title was altered to

7 july 1848 at Manchester where he learnt to swim in the bath (Memoirs p 21) and frequently stopped in all day (Swimming notes & r. 10 sep 1885). He is the author of Louise Regnier and other novels and has for many years been connected with the reporting staff of The Sporting Life.

ficiently minuté.

Mr Robert Watson notices this pamphlet in his S. notes 26 sept 1885 with praise, but he says Beaton 'fails to treat of one material element in the tuition of the art, very much neglected by authors, teachers and

swimmers...I allude to the systematic regularity of breathing.'

He was exhibiting at Whitehaven in 1884 (S. n. & r. 5 july): gave a lecture on swimming in Glasgow (North British mail 1 feb 1885); and he signs some verses headed 'Swimming: East-

end exhibition Glasgow, all should see the Misses Beaton.' Addressed from 91 Govanhill (Murray and Donnelly printers 74 Argyle street) Glasgow.

He is a native of Edinburgh: performing in a tank Glasgow 1895: see ante p 152.

The art of swimming with hints on bathing and instructions to beginners by C. E. Stewart hon sec Carnegie swimming club Dunfermline [cut]. Dunfermline W. Clark & son printers 11 & 15 High street.

In 32° pp 25 introduction dated sep 1885, the instructions are good. This pamphlet is inscribed to Andrew Carnegie of New York donor of the baths.

How to avoid being drowned or all about flotation by F. W. Brewster M.A. Trinity college Cambridge. London Roberts & Leete, Lime street square 1885, all rights reserved.

8° pp viii & 2 and 96 and viii of illustrations of life saving garments, with 16 illustrations in the text: dedicated to Angela Georgina baroness Burdett-Coutts.

This is the sort of book that is wanted, facts from actual observation and experiment; and yet although apparently not privately printed this most useful and original book appears not to have been through the usual channels. It is not in The English Catalogue, and no copy is in the British Museum or the Bodleian, nor is it in G. K. Fortescue's Subject Index.

Emanating from a Cambridge man one is hardly surprised to find this work almost mathematical and yet the author says he has used 'the plainest and most elementary terms.' The 'definitions' and 'elementary terms' generally will soon upset the ordinary reader. Such as specific gravity, mass, density, capacity, equilibrium, centre of gravity, meta-centre, displacement, pressure of liquids. The book is full of new ideas and admirable advice on the above subjects and on bathing, swimming and dress. The

observations on lifebuoys and the disadvantages of the round (or to use Mr Brewster's term, spherical) one now so general, one would have thought would have been carefully considered and reported on by the R.H.S. A correspondent of The Times (7 sep 1878 p 6 c 5) believes 'the circular canvas lifebuoy was first brought into use in the Royal Navy' in 1856.

He refers to no other books except on pp 16 & 85, to 'an advanced work on natation' [W. Wilson S.I. 1883 p 34]; and to what he calls 'an astounding statement' which is this 'Experiments made in this direction by Leibig demonstrate the fact that, as a rule, with lungs even only partially inflated, man's body is ten times lighter than fresh...water.'

Brewster gives results of his experiments as to specific gravity of the body, naked and clothed, from which he concludes that only about six pounds flotation is necessary. He says 'books put the dead weight of a man at from 2 to 7 pounds' which is about right.¹

The circular buoy will support 23 pounds (pp 58 & 99). He shows the

¹ This Brewster article was written in march 1896: on 23 feb 1901 George Thorne who could float with his arms over his breast in three feet of tepid fresh water, weighed naked 154½ pounds, age 23: in the water he only weighed 1½ pounds. At the same time I weighed 166 pounds naked and 5½ pounds in the water. Each of us being weighed by Mr W. Henry in the water after having sunk about one foot, from blowing out our breath, and holding a string attached to a spring balance.

uselessness of Carte's buoy to non-swimmers (p 46): see my article on the R. H. S. Like Leahy he considers clothes in the water are a protection against cold (p 36), and so indeed they are, the sensation of extra cold, as each garment is taken off when undressing while floating horizontally, is most curious.

He suggests that baths should have an apparatus for giving a man's floating weight (p 21).

He says 'although I am quite unable to float horizontally in either salt or fresh water, in the former I cannot sink entirely' (p 25) so that he considers his tendency to sink was above the average (p 35).

His advice to a woman suddenly immersed 'is to gather up her skirts and petticoats under her arms' (p 38) the air thus retained in them would keep her afloat for some time.

He does not believe in plate swimming (p 63). He gives a very short description of the breast stroke (p 64). Is in favor of helps or as he puts it 'artificial flotation' p 68.

Zur geschichte der schwimmkunst und des badewesens von Dr Hans Brendicke. Hof. Grau & cie 1885.

Contributions to the history of the art of swimming and bathing. 8° pp 46. This is a most useful little work as showing about the state of the art in Germany up to its date, the preface is dated Salzburg may 1884. It is almost needless to say that swimming in Germany has made great strides since then. No mention whatever is made of the English sidestroke and it is probable that it was very little practiced, if known at all, in Germany at that date.

Dr Brendicke gives all the usual accounts of what the Greeks and Romans did and thought which can be read in most encyclopedias. He quotes Horace, Homer and lord Byron: the fables of Pesce Cola, Hero and Leander, Mercurialis, Winmann, Digby and John Locke.

He quotes Basedow (died 1790) who says that 'every young man learns the

In side swimming advises (following Wilson) 'left side uppermost, as by this means the heart's action is least affected' (p 70).

'The common notion that to go into the water whilst hot or perspiring is dangerous, is a most mistaken one' (p 73) 'prudish regulations' of town authorities condemned (p 77).

Gives his theory of the rising of a drowning person (p 82).

The book was reviewed in Vanity fair 8 aug 1885 p 84 but without any knowledge of swimming on the part of the reviewer.

The author took three patents for Wearing apparel buoyant, 1 June and 25 July 1882 and 10 May 1883. I had written thus far when I ascertained that this admirable book was printed to advertise a life saving dress, and was given away to enquirers, which accounts for the sole advertisement in the book at end, of London life-saving dress, belt and coil co limited 93 Regent st. This Co is not in the P. O. D. after 1889. See ante p 197

expensive art of riding but none swimming, though everyone can ride without learning but nobody can swim and would certainly be drowned. Nobody can be forced to ride but it may very easily happen that a person is forced to swim. Children should be accustomed to fresh air, wet weather, torn boots, hard and changeable beds, to thin clothes, and to swimming.'

On p 42 he gives an epitome of what teachers have to do to get a certificate for teaching.

Brendicke refers to the Pfuell method which was 'teaching with the motion of the frog' [which is hardly accurate, he means the breast stroke].

He gives the titles of some thirty German books on swimming all of which I enumerate, and says a few words about the system of several of them as Kluge and Euler, Auerbach &c.

The Llandudno club prize essays: adjudicators H. J. Barron: R. Watson.

These are referred to in Swimming notes and record 22 aug 1885 p 8 advertisement: four were received (12 sep p 1) award (26 sep 1885 p 2) 3 oct 1885 p 1 and letter (10 oct p 4) from the winner R. Sandon hon sec

Amateur Swimming Club London. The essay was never published, I read it in 1899, it was good but too much out of date for printing: it is still in ms.

Mr Sandon was elected to the executive of the L.S.S. 1899.

Pacific swimming club record and gazette. 8°

N° 1 I have not seen: n° 2 is dated 1886 price 1d 8° pp 17 to 32, and it is stated to be an annual publication: it gives various amateur championships from 1873: has articles by W. Smith of Llandudno: Harry W. Fisk; and Hunter Barron who says 'the great majority of those cases in which swimmers have been said to be seized with

cramp and been drowned, have been nothing of the kind, but have been due to failure of the heart's action resulting from complete exhaustion.'

I have seen Dr Hunter Barron writhing with cramp, lying on the side of the bath with three or four men standing on his limbs to keep them straight.

The swimming club directory 1885 for the united kingdom, containing a list of upwards of 200 clubs, committees etc, metropolitan and provincial championships, champions and captains of clubs, the names and addresses of honorary secretaries, London and provincial baths, amateur and professional records, remarkable performances, laws of amateur swimming, rules for water polo, methods of restoring the apparently drowned, temperature of air and water, hints on bathing etc, compiled by William Smith, Llandudno club, price paper covers 1s, cloth 2s sent post free by the compiler. Llandudno, William Smith, Warrington house: entered at Stationers' hall, all rights reserved.

8° pp 88 + iv. One has to take breath after copying a title page like this! But it is a most important work and one which must be frequently referred to by anyone writing on the progress of swimming. It is 'gratefully inscribed to Dr Hunter J. Barron,' whose name occurs several times in the book and incorrectly on p 77 with a 'G' instead of J. The 'records' begin in 1846; the compiler intended to publish annually.

ming: 17 aug 1846 G. Pewters Thames course: 1851 F. E. Beckwith received forfeit from G. Pewters: 1857 C. Moore one legged.

William Smith was born in London; his early life was spent in traveling; he settled in Llandudno about 1877, he started The Llandudno Advertiser the first newspaper printed in the town: he was an enthusiastic swimmer, and took a dip on Christmas days in the sea, he died 13 march 1895 aged fifty-two.

The professional champions begin in 1845 with G. Poulton 'scientific' swim-

The training instructor for aquatics pedestrianism swimming... London Sportsman office 139 & 140 Fleet street E.C.. (1885). 12°

In a few lines on training for swimming, says it is the same as for other exercises. Reprinted from The Sportsman, J. B. Whitefoot editor.

Why are there so few good swimmers? Why are so many persons drowned? To be completed in four parts: swimming versus natural buoyancy of the water, a reply to Dr M'Cormac's theory of 'walking' the water,

by David Turner Pamplin late teacher of swimming Wellington college, Berkshire; and Kingston on Thames...price threepence.

16° pp 7, title from the cover: the headtitle also has 'late superintendent at the Kingston s. bath, from which I put the date at 1885. I have only seen this part. It is practically included in

his Water Manceuvres.

On p 2 he refers to 'previous papers' which were in the Surrey Comet and the Kingston and Surbiton news.

Nederlandsch handboek voor zwemsport door D. Vrijdag voorzitter van de Amsterdamsche zwemclub. 35 (1886).

Amsterdam H. G. Bom Warmoesstraat

8° pp 12 & 72 & 1 and a plate and illustrated covers not repeated in the book, has 8 page-figures of the breast stroke.

Thevenot, Wallace Dunlop, Joseph H. Hodgson and Routledge's Handbook [1872].

Gives a history compiled from familiar sources quoting ancient and modern authors. Quotes Gutschuth,

It is curious to see the number of English words the Nederlanders have annexed.

The boys' book of sports and outdoor life in America; edited by Maurice Thompson. London Warne and co: New York The Century co.

The preface is addressed 'Crawfordsville Ind., july 1886.'

is not sufficiently minute, the first illustration is a comic one of frogs bathing, there are seven figures in the text all artistically done but more or less incorrect.

8° pp xvi 352. A talk about swimming by Sandford B. Hunt on pp 269-276.

Some good advice, but the instruction

Chambers's journal 1886 p 587.

An article plagiarised from The Squire 1881.

Colburn's United Service magazine London nov 1886, 8° vol 2 pp 439-449.

An article advocating the teaching of 'swimming as a military and naval exercise by Guy C. Rothery.'

ever is M le Vicomte de Courtivron' but he only mentions the first edition of 1823 which he uses frequently without acknowledgment.

'although the literature [of swimming] is voluminous, it nearly all belongs to the Continent,' and he says he has 'searched through numbers of English military works, histories' and encyclopedias in vain. 'The continental literature of s. is very extensive.' This list will show that this idea is wrong, English literature is the most extensive.

'We have seen what Franklin says. Sir Thomas Elliot in his "Boke of the Governour"; Roger Ascham, in his "Schoolmaster"; Locke in his work on education; J. J. Rousseau, in "Emile" all advocate swimming in the early stages of education.'

Refers to many books on lifebelts; and to Thevenot as if it was original 'the author who interests us most how-

I wrote an article of three columns in N & Q 7 dec '95 on 'the first book of the world on swimming' and mentioned Rothery's article.

Hints on swimming by prof Jas Finney the champion all-round swimmer of the world, the amphibious king! price threepence, entered at Stationers' hall. Oldham W. E. Clegg 17 King Street.

12° [1886] pp 16. He says that 'the overhand stroke, which has revolutionised swimming, was first brought into prominence by Harry Gardiner' but this is disputed.

The advice given in the eight pages on s. is all good, but he says nothing on how to stop under water 4 minutes 29½ secs, which is what he did at the Canterbury Music Hall on the 7 (see *The Swimmer* for 10) april 1886, beating Peter Johnson's previous record. This was in turn beaten by Miss Elise Wallenda aged 19 (born Mainz Germany) at the Alhambra Theatre of Varieties, London on 15 dec 1898 she stopping under water, also in a tank, 4 minutes 45½ seconds: as usual both were taken out unconscious, but immediately recovered. For little Elise Wallenda's performance, see the *S. mag* 1 jan 1899 p 71.

Even the champion of the world does not give a correct idea of floating. He says 'in most cases it will be found requisite to adopt a slight motion of the legs whilst floating in fresh water,' but this is swimming! The feat he gives of revolving with the hands holding the feet behind the back is truly 'extremely difficult.'

He gives a list of his records and championships.

This pamphlet illustrates the value of biography combined with lists of books.

Das schwimmen... von O. M. Seidel... Zschopau F. A. Raschte 1886.

Translation of title in full

Swimming at the Royal seminary [i.e. a school of instruction for teachers of elementary schools] at Zschopau: the principal rules of bathing and s. composed for the use of his pupils, after Guts Muths, Dr Lion, Dr Euler, Kluge, and others by O. M. Seidel teacher at the above seminary.

16° pp 62 & 1. Composed especially for the pupils at the above school (or seminary) and does not profess to give new ideas but is compiled from

On p 2 we have Finney's evidence that 'to my knowledge swimming as at present taught is the production of the last thirty years.' Thereupon I wrote that he had been a swimmer thirty years! But when he gives me the date of his birth I find he was only 24, so that he could not possibly have any such 'knowledge.'

James Finney was born at Stockport Cheshire 21 june 1862. Swimming has been his principal occupation since he was 13 years of age. He was assistant teacher, bath attendant and gave exhibitions in swimming at Victoria Baths Southport for the company from 1875 to 1880, when he was made s. master at Oldham for the corporation. He was married in 1882 after which he won all his championships. In a notice of him in the *Sunday Chronicle*, Manchester 22 may 1887 with portrait, it is stated that people said his stay under water had injured his health. Dr Hunter Barron examined him and certified (see copy in *The Swimmer* 1 may 1886) that he was in perfect health, which Finney has verified by giving exhibitions to the present time. For long account see *The Sporting Life* 15 sep 1888. He is referred to with an illustration in the *Strand mag* march 1896. Portrait in *S.* by C. Newman 1898.

the authors he enumerates, namely besides those mentioned on the title page as above Pful 1827: Corvin-Wiersbitkzi 1885: K v. Thümen 1861: H. O. Kluge and Dr Euler 1870, and book of plates (these two books he says ought to be in every school library, but see Euler 1891 who says he has put all into his new book): Auerbach 1873, Euler and H. Rödelius 1874, Alfred Böttcher 1873, Louis Baum 1875, Dr J. C. Lion (ms) several of these I cannot find in Kayser.

The swimmer, a journal devoted to natation. feb 1st 1886 published on the 1st and 15th of each month.

8° pp 16 each number: only 12 numbers published. w. w. Ramsden printer and publisher 9 Furnival street: ceased 22 may 1887.

The year's sport, a review of British sports and pastimes for the year 1885 edited by Alfred E. T. Watson assistant editor of the Badminton library. London Longmans Green & co 1886.

8° pp 549. Swimming by B. pp 470 to 474, interesting accounts of some of the year's races. Neither Alfred Edward Thomas Watson nor the publishers could tell me who B. was.

Illustrered idrotts bok...utgifven af Viktor Balck...Stockholm (1886-8).

This is an Illustrated handbook of sports in the style of Cassell's Book of Sports, from which the article on s. is copied with 17 figures, half of which are reproduced from Cassell's, not mentioned however.

Simning af Carl Smith forms n^{os} 15 and 16 pp 383 to 398 the date at end of the cover is 1887.

A new handbook on training for athletic exercises, including aquatics, swimming...compiled by w. E. Morden. London E. Seale 10 Imperial arcade E.C. 1887: is.

12° pp 58. One page devoted to s. and the writer advises walking [but running is better] as a preparative. Before going into training he gives the excellent advice that a doctor be consulted to see if the young man [now we may say or woman] is fit subject for racing.

La natation et les bains, suivi de quelques indications sur l'art de nager, par Paul Christmann officier d'académie, capitaine au 39^e territorial, [here he gives a number of societies of which he was member] illustré [baths only] par Genilloud. Paris Alicide Picard et Kaan, et chez l'auteur 204 bis rue Saint-Jacques 1886 [on the cover the author's address is altered to] 57 Faubourg Saint-Denis 1887.

12° pp 92 & 1: another edition 1888. S. on pp 79-92: he strongly advocates tepid baths. Shows that s. in the French army was neglected. He refers to N. Roger, Thevenot, Rivet, Defrançois, D'Argy and Courtivron 1823 edition, and Franklin's advice correctly, with the observation that all Franklin wrote deserves to be quoted.

Nature. London 1887 vol 35 p 345.

A short letter from a correspondent F. Morley on the danger of the current in swimming worked out by algebra.

Rough notes on popular sports issued by the Mercantile accident & guarantee insurance co Ltd, gratis.

16° Issued in 1887 the five pages on swimming are by William Wilson.

The art of swimming, a short treatise by professor March the well-known and successful teacher of the art scientific and ornamental. Skegness swimming baths 1888; who holds first-class testimonials from lady and gentleman pupils: patrons [here follows a list]...price two pence. J. Avery, gas power printing works Skegness. [title] a short treatise on the art of swimming being a few useful and practical remarks by professor March...all rights reserved.

12° pp 8. The above which is an advertisement says all, I believe truly, so I have nothing to add.

Book on swimming by professor w. c. Pearson of York, England [illustration of the child] Sidney Pearson the Yearsley midget. Entered at Stationers' hall. (York printed by F. R. Delittle).

12° [1888?] pp 24. Original, only 16 pages on s. At p 17 is a list of 32 styles.

Kleine schwimmschule von Wilhelm Kehl...Zurich Drell 1888.

S. for the young...third edition. third thousand.

12° pp 18 with 19 figures in the text: and cover. The author who was master of a 'secondary school,' gives positions for learning on land as well as in the water.

Swimming cards: complete self-instructor for both sexes, with correct illustrations and practical instructions 'Dulce et utile' [portrait of the author] by professor Hobson Bocoock, member of the Professional Swimming Association Gt Britain, Gainsborough England. Entered at Stationers' hall: rights of translation and reproduction. are reserved. Hannam Gainsborough 1888 vol i.

These cards are enclosed in a case with figures 2 and 9 repeated outside. The size is, height 132 width 85 millimeters.

Each card has two lessons with figures: sold separately threepence halfpenny each. Vol i only was published, though the contents of vol ii are given on one of the cards.

He also issued a chart, with 18 illustrations from his cards: size height 39 width 26 centimeters, entitled Swimming and diving, chart of strokes and attitudes by...price sixpence...Gainsborough Hannam London Collins sons & co [1888].

There is much that is original in these cards. Some of the figures are copied from The boy's own paper 1879 or from Cox [1880], some from Gurr [1866]: n° 4 is, but the head has been put in a correct position, n° 13 is too, but the bad position of the legs is retained. For these and other faults Mr Bocoock might say in excuse it was his first work, and enthusiasm is not alone sufficient. If we could erase the past and do our work over again, it should be more correctly done.

He is wrong when he says in lesson 8 'any person may float.' As if he had not much confidence in his lessons

he gives an advertisement of a life collar to 'save your life...whilst bathing.'

Hobson Bocoock was born at Irby Lincolnshire 1 dec 1857: at the age of 19 he learnt to swim. Since 1893 he has been a most enthusiastic collector of books relating to swimming, he is what the author of the Iconography of Don Quixote would call a bio-biblio-icongo-graphical collector.

He is holder of the R.H.S. medal 22 july 1890. The people's magazine (a provincial weekly now defunct) n° 31 vol i for 1 aug 1901 p 566 had a notice of him with portrait; and articles by him at p 583 with a drawing by him of articles he dived for without artificial aid and recovered from an old boat about 12 feet under water: p 598 on s. with six illustrations: p 614 on the difficulty of non-swimmers using [Carte's] lifebuoy: p 646 lives saved by him, with illustrations of s. from his cards.

I am indebted to him for the loan of many books on swimming in all languages and some manuscript translations. He is author of Ancient books and manuscripts 1898, and of a Historical handbook to Mablethorpe 1901.

The family doctor and people's medical adviser July 20, and Aug 3, 1889 vol ix p 321 and p 353.

Two articles entitled 'learning to swim' with two illustrations of figures in various positions: quotes Dr Franklin and Mr Wilson. It actually uses Thevenot without mentioning his name so that this is probably copied from some reprint.

The figures representing the side-stroke are incorrect. There is also a paragraph in vol x p 24: and also in the number for 14 June 1902 entitled 'learning to swim,' written by a person whose ignorance of the subject is astonishing.

The girl's own outdoor book...edited by Charles Peters...London the Religious tract society.

8° [1889] pp 510: reissued from The girl's own paper office in parts price sixpence, that for 2 June '91 has an article pp 66 to 75 How to swim I should judge compiled by a lady. It is in conversations between Alicia, Kate and Charlie, with a whole page illustration, by John Dinsdale, of ladies in a s. bath, not well done (how could he do it well, when they would not let him in?) A girl about to spring has her hands right, but feet wrong.

It quotes Franklin correctly. The article in the Encyclopædia Britannica seventh edition 1842 vol xxi p 41, is used without acknowledgment, but as

the E.B. article gives no description of the breast stroke, that is probably taken from some other source.

The author terms the frog man's professor and puts one in water to show how to swim and finishes (p 68) thus 'In the same manner you must move your hands and feet to push yourself backwards or forwards.' The frog does not use its hands and never goes backwards!

The incompetence of the writer is also shown by her taking an absurd passage from the Ency Brit quoted ante p 257.

Musical drill for infants by A. Alexander F.R.G.S. director of the Liverpool gymnasium...3rd edit...London Philip 1889.

12° s. on pp 26-37. To criticise the music is beyond me, but I hope the drill is better than the s. The author uses 'floating' when he means swimming.

A. de Saint-Albin. Les sports à Paris. 1889.

An amusing account of a race in a bath pp 205-208. The death of a 'Mr de Saint-Albin' editor of *Le Sport* is notified in *The Athenæum* 7 sep 1878 p 309. The above book is under the name of Albert de S-A. born Paris 1843, in Lorenz; there was also an Alexandre Denis Huot de Saint-Albin.

This book will interest anyone who

wishes to see the extent to which the French have adopted sporting words from the English.

He admits that the majority of French people cannot swim. He gives the death of Webb as an instance of the result of being too good a swimmer, which is too patently absurd to require refutation in an English book.

Manuel pratique de natation, par François Berthillot membre de la société Lyonnaise de natation: suivi du Quadrille nautique créé par le capitaine Chabuel et des réglemens de la société Lyonnaise de natation, ouvrage avec figures. Lyon librairie H. Georg 1889.

8° pp 111 & 2 folding plates. The illustrated cover has a figure springing from a height in such a position that he

would come flat on his face on the water.

I saw this book at the Bibliothèque

de la ville de Lyon in 1894 to which the copy I inspected had been presented by the author. He first treats of the importance of the subject: he then gives a historical notice mentioning various nations, then a few words on diving and professional divers and the feat of great swimmers particularly lord Byron and capt Webb.

On p 32 he begins his instructions on swimming which are copied without acknowledgment from Thevenot and one of his titles from Courtivron. The

Les exercices du corps...par E. Couvreur chef des travaux de physiologie à la faculté des sciences de Lyon. Paris (Lyon imp) 1890.

Four pages on swimming: it gives a representation of the bath built in the rue Rochechouart, Paris; showing the steps projecting into the bath in the middle on either side, thus considerably

Swimming and life-saving by capt w. D. Andrews G.C.V. of the Dominion of Canada life-saving service; gold life-saving medallist of the first class; medallist of the R.H.S. [motto] Toronto William Briggs 78 & 80 King street east: C. W. Coates Montreal Que. S. F. Huestis, Halifax N.S. 1889.

8° pp 136, frontispiece portrait of the author with autograph and 9 page and 78 minor illustrations, and one on the cover not repeated in the book: the copy in the B.M. is dated 1896 called second edition—ten thousand copies pp 160. It is an original work.

'In the schools of France and Germany every scholar receives instruction in the art of swimming.' A complete fallacy so far as France is concerned; and nearly all he says about s. in these countries is incorrect.

Referring to bathing without drawers which shocks society so much he says 'It is odd that it never occurs to society "to look the other way" when the boys are about to swim' p 15.

There can be no question about Andrews being proud of his country for he quotes these verses to show that whether they come from England Scotland Ireland or France, once

Assembled on St Lawrence brink,
we stand together man to man,

only author he names is N. Roger, whose treatise he gives without saying where he took it from, but as the Bibliothèque de la ville de Lyon had not a single work on swimming until Berthillot gave his, he no doubt took it from the Encyclopédie méthodique.

On p 54 he treats of aids to swimming, baths &c. The instructions for the 'nautical quadrille' are most elaborate for four to sixteen 'dancers' and are illustrated by the two folding plates.

E. Couvreur chef des travaux de physiologie à la faculté des sciences de Lyon. Paris (Lyon imp) 1890.

lessening the width of the bath for races, with a view to which it appears to have been constructed as it has three galleries. This bath is referred to in my article in To Day 12 sep 1896.

capt w. D. Andrews G.C.V. of the Dominion of Canada life-saving service; gold life-saving medallist of the first class; medallist of the R.H.S. [motto] Toronto William Briggs 78 & 80 King street east: C. W. Coates Montreal Que. S. F. Huestis, Halifax N.S. 1889.

and all our vain distinctions sink in the proud name, CANADIAN. Nevertheless he is obliged to confess that

'The Canadian people are, as a rule, cleanly in their habits; yet there are many...have never been washed since their mothers performed that operation upon them in the old "family tub"' p 24.

Nothing is more calculated to give confidence 'than the constant practising of the many different positions' in the water p 29.

His description of the sidestroke is incorrect both as regards the position of the head arms and legs. He refers to several of our swimmers and occasionally incorrectly.

'The ability to float is one of the first essentials in swimming' (p 45) but on the next page he has a figure floating with arms by his side and he remarks 'A slight movement of the hands...so slight as to seem almost imperceptible

to the onlooker, is quite sufficient to maintain this position'! and in 'perpendicular floating' you are to beat 'the water with the hands' (p 46) thus giving a very loose notion of floating! and the onlooker too! who is to be deceived?

He gives most of the well known anecdotes about swimming, but never cites the source from which he takes them, as for instance the seaman belonging to H.M.S. Canada, see ante p 34.

I should think the author would not have allowed such a spring as a lady is represented taking on p 58 if he had been able to see the sketch. He had lost his sight when his book was published.

He mentions Bernardi (p 61) and French drill on Pfuest's (sic) system (p 62); he refers to Courtioron (sic) from the Penny magazine [30 July 1836] in support of the s. drill, but it had nothing whatever to do with Courtivron's exhibition which was to show his life dress. It took place many years before the French adopted the s. drill and it is quite false to quote it as indicating 'the high standard of excellence maintained by French soldiers' who were not taught in those days, nor are they now with any regularity.

Several of the figures are in incorrect positions, such for example as the spinning top (fig 40 represented with both legs out of the water) and 'the washing tub' fig 41 half out of the

water and in wrong position.

He mentions several s. clubs and gives an illustration of the medal of the A. S. A. of G. B. which depicts a man taking a header, like the lady, on his face!

The poetic quotations, his own and others, are numerous.

The figures (p 97) illustrating 'restoration' are far more pleasing than the formal hideous ones we have been inflicted with for so many years by the R.H.S. an account of which society is given on p 100-104. The resuscitation instructions are those of Hall, but the method is that of Silvester, except that instructions are given (with an illustration) to place the patient prone: neither doctor's name is mentioned. Other societies are also given with illustrations of their medals and lifeboats, and the book finishes with the numerous lifesaving and other deeds of bravery of which the author was the hero. It should have had an index: for example who could find the paragraph (p 86) on the management of the breath occurring under the head of races? He mentions no other authors on swimming.

Andrews (born in Canada 1853) was s. instructor at the Wiman Island s. bath (named after Erastus Wiman). 'While in Toronto general hospital he wrote an admirable exposition of the art' say S & H 1893 p 176, where is an account of him, he is also referred to on pages 74, 258 and 424 and on p 21 of the first edition.

Marvellous records of professor David Turner Pamplin the successful tutor of [Davis] Dalton [who styled himself] the great American champion back swimmer of the world.

This consists of two quarto pages of Pamplin's feats beginning with '1858 commencement of Pamplin's career, at the age of ten years.' In those days

though clearly a professional according to present ideas, Pamplin was s. in the amateur races. The extracts finish in 1890.

Pastime series n^o 3, second edition: copyright: entered at Stationers hall. The swimming handbook, 1890, price 6d. London 'Pastime offices 11 & 12 Rose street E.C. printers C. & E. Clayton [on the cover—on the title] Edited by A. Sinclair and Arthur Cook [of the Patent Office London].

12° pp 75. Pastime was a weekly periodical edited by N. S. Jackson : it disappears from the P.O.D. after 1892. The handbook contains hints on swimming, training, water polo, entertainments. A.S.A. championships records and remarkable performances. Life-saving : lists of baths and clubs. It is well written and full of information, some of which appears in s & H's s.

Popular s. lessons by William Wilson, author of s. diving &c. 'The bather's manual ; Hints on s. ; The s. instructor ; Easy lessons in s. [still in ms] : joint author of s. in the current volume of Encyclopædia Britannica. London, Hay Nisbet & co 169 Fleet street and 25 Jamaica street Glasgow...Edinburgh 1890.

32° pp 39. Portrait of the author p 10 with list of the various offices he held. On the illustrated cover not found in the text are two figures springing ; price 1d. the issue for 1892 is 50th thousand : 97th thousand, preface dated jan 1902. The preface is dated

The all-England series : swimming by Martin Cobbett, price one shilling [above is on the cover with an illustration of a figure springing not repeated in the book : title] Swimming by Martin Cobbett with sixty illustrations. London George Bell & sons 1890.

12° pp 4 & 64. Is in vol 2 of Handbook of athletic sports edited by Ernest Bell 1890. Same but 'by Martin Cobbett and J. Racster Cobbett' 1891 again 1895, frequent reprints since. On the whole this is one of the best books on the subject ; but there are many things that are debateable and many of the figures are in wrong positions : figures 5 to 17 and 41 to 47 are copied from Schwägerl 1880, and figs 22 & 26 from Ladebeck figs 10 & 8 without acknowledgment. He says 'I have never found the slightest inconvenience from plunging in "hissing hot"' (p 3).

He has known many athletes who could not float. Quotes Franklin's egg practice with approval. Uses the word 'float' when he means 'swim' (p 7).

Learning on land he calls parlor practice (p 8). Says he has had long experience (p 12). In the breast stroke

but very much improved, as will be seen for example, by comparing the articles on s. entertainments.

'The absence of any instruction in s. in Board Schools has to answer for the loss of many a life' p 5. The London Board schools commenced giving instruction chiefly through the efforts of W. Henry of the L.S.S. in 1898 (Report of the L.S.S. 1899 p 10).

July 1890 and says 'the greater part of these lessons appeared in the Glasgow Daily Mail.'

The advice is good and so are the cuts : on p 35 is a list of Scottish s. clubs.

'keep the head thrown back so as to clear the mouth and chin' (p 26), this is just the contrary of what Mr Sydney Holland tells us.

The breath should be inhaled 'through the nose as much as possible' p 26 (but see my index)

Does not give the frog as an example but writes of 'the frog action in the breast stroke' (p 28).

'History has not handed down the name of the founder of the side stroke, but he deserves canonization...Nature evidently intended man to swim on his side' (p 27).

He then uses the term 'leg kick' [I contend there should be no kick] for the stroke of the legs and he calls the under arm 'the sustainer' and the upper arm 'the propeller' showing a very imperfect idea of the stroke as both arms should be propellers. Any good swimmer can swim the leg stroke

without using 'the sustainer' or arms at all!

As to sculling see ante p 154. On p 46 line 3 an is misprinted for and.

The practical swimmer by One. Darlington: the North of England school furnishing co Ld.

16° pp 28 date at the end I sep 1890. In floating 'if the legs sink, paddle gently' which at once makes it swimming.

'Ld.' is the shortest abbreviation of limited I have had to print: it is also put as Lim. Ltd. Limd. Lmtd. The companies act 1862 sections 8 and 109 require the word limited to be put after the name of the company on all occasions, not one single letter less will do. Though universal, any abbreviation is illegal and renders the company liable

Journal of physical education (originally issued as Physique) edited by c. Roberts 1891.

Aquatic sports and pastimes (pp 64-7) by w. p. m. Black, B.L. [Glasgow university: of the Faculty of procurators 1903.] He is author of a pamphlet entitled How to obtain capital, at once and honestly, without security, free from interest, and never repayable.

The boating man's vade-mecum by William Winn, with illustrations by the author. London Swan Sonnenschein 1891.

8° pp viii 336. Another issue dated 1892 exactly the same only at the price of 2s instead of 5s. A book full of useful and sensible advice. That on s. occupies pp 268-275.

'A scull will support two men in the water with the greatest safety' query two quiet men! but not if one wants to get up to his waist out of the water! 'The reason why a man is able to float

s and H 1893 p 425 praise this book. It was advertised by Gamage Limited of Holborn as one of their series in 1898.

to prosecution; and heavy fines under section 42.

The capital L to limited is part of the effort continually going on among English speaking peoples to aggrandise and make themselves look important. In fact they would prefer the word all capitals. If put to a letter sent abroad to the poste restante it would probably be placed in the pigeonhole under Limited just as letters are put under Esquire.

(for his actual density is greater than that of water) is that the body is inflated with air, and so displaces more than its own weight of water.'

Preface addressed from Woodfield cottage near Leigh, Essex, where he is now living, and wrote to me I decline to give any particulars about myself on the ground that they concern nobody.

The Life Saving Society

In my article on the Royal Humane Society I have said that it began at the wrong end, and that the proper thing to have done would have been to have started a society to teach swimming. The L.S.S. is one started almost on the right principle, as it is necessary to be able to swim to save life from drowning, nevertheless the L.S.S. though a teaching society is not a swimming teaching society, but a lifesaving teaching society.

Readers who see the progress that swimming had made up to

1891, will probably have come to the conclusion that something more was required than what was provided for by existing societies. Of this opinion was an energetic young Londoner who had already made his mark among swimmers by name William Henry. He looked about to see what practical effort could be made. The first thing was to get some kindred spirits to be of the same opinion. One of the enthusiasts to concur was another energetic young man by name Archibald Sinclair, a Londoner bred though not born, just the contrary of Henry who was born but not bred in London.

They thought that the R.H.S. was the proper body to undertake what was necessary, for the promotion and teaching the art of lifesaving. Its ample funds and organisation for getting in more, seeming to make it peculiarly fit for the new enterprise. Accordingly Mr Henry called on the secretary who however gave him no encouragement. Notwithstanding this, as they had determined something ought to be done, they drew up a scheme and forwarded it in a letter dated 29 nov 1887. This scheme provided for forming classes of instruction in the most approved methods of lifesaving. It was signed 'Arch^d Sinclair, Hon. Sec. (swimming division) Ranelagh Harriers' and was to be under the entire control of the R.H.S.

However the R.H.S. secretary was not going to be bothered with a scheme of this kind; and without any hesitation he wrote a reply dated the following day, that the R.H.S. had already instituted a prize for swimming; and he added 'the committee can do no more without neglecting the legitimate work of the society.' He might also have said, that neither he nor the committee understood anything about this new fangled 'life saving' fad, and they had no idea of taking in a number of young men, who could swim, to reform their society.

For several years the subject lay dormant, during which time w. Henry and Arch Sinclair were constantly thinking of what was required, and how it was to be done.

The A.S.A. were asked to undertake the thing, and they appointed a committee which advised on 11 may 1889 the establishment of life saving classes. A drill in manuscript was submitted to them and they formulated a scheme which is set out in Swimming by Sinclair & Henry 1893 p 213. Nothing came of the A.S.A. scheme, neither does practical teaching seem to come within the province of the A.S.A. if one may judge from their annual Handbook.

However Mr Henry was not going to let the matter rest, he had confidence in the necessity and utility of teaching life saving as an adjunct to swimming. At last he got together some staunch friends, and the following are their names: H. Hewitt Griffin, F. w. Moses, E. w. Stafford, w. Brickett, c. Val Hunter and Archibald Sinclair.

They called a meeting for the 3 jan 1891 at which about 60 others attended. This may be considered the real starting point.

Sinclair & Henry were appointed honorary secretaries and in their Swimming they give an account to which I must refer the reader, as I do not repeat what they say. But I hope that Mr Henry will some day publish the story of the origin and progress of the L.S.S.

The Handbook of instruction

The first publication is entitled thus

Entered at Stationer's hall : established 1891 : Swimmers' Life-saving society : illustrated handbook containing drill for teaching rescue and resuscitation of the apparently drowned etc.

(1) square 16° pp 56 and blue cover: another issue the same year has 'price onesilling' on the front cover and name of printer &c on the back cover. It has 18 illustrations nicely drawn, six (on pp 40, 41 & 52) being reproduced from Wilson 1876 : and acknowledgment is made to him for the drill. It was revised by Drs Andrew Clark and w. Collingridge. It gives (p 16) a preliminary explanation of the Silvester method, subsequently omitted. The name Silvester is incorrectly spelt with a 'y' and Marshall Hall has an incorrect hyphen, the latter repeated in subsequent editions. Also gives useful hints on swimming. In this issue we find the first print of the Constitution of the Society. This like all subsequent editions was written and edited by w. Henry from whose house 3 Clarendon square it is issued.

With the next issue the title was altered : it was found that persons imagined only swimmers could join, so that word was omitted, making the title more general.

The next issue is

(2) The life saving society, founded 1891 honorary president H.R.H. the duke of York. The handbook, second revised edition 1893 : illustrated : published by the L.S.S. 3 Clarendon square London N.W.

Square 16° pp 102 and covers.

This issue shows a great advance in

the methods and throughout. I find here the theory that water is swallowed and that the stomach fills with water (p 10) neither of which seems to be proved ?

It is impossible for me to deal with all the work of the energetic honorary secretaries at this time, by handbills lectures, demonstrations, classes of instruction, posters, etc etc and especially in getting notices in the press. Much of it has not been preserved.

(3) The next edition the third is dated 1895 and is called 17th thousand pp 107 and cover, and again shows numerous improvements as does also

(4) fourth or 'diamond jubilee edition'

(5) 1897 still issued from Mr Henry's house but now changed to 8 Bayley street w.c., 25th thousand [a figure repeated by inadvertence in the] fifth edition 1899, which in its 121 pages exhibits the constant and loving care the now sole honorary secretary had bestowed on it, aided by suggestions from all quarters.

This edition contains the conditions or examination for the swimming diploma of the society. Also a series of questions on rescue and resuscitation [by E.W. Lynch honorary instructor to Framlingham College who first printed them for his own use in april 1899].

Great improvements have been made in the successive editions of the Hand-

book. I cannot go into details, but I notice that things inserted in the earlier editions have been omitted as the society gained confidence and knowledge.

In the edition of 1899 the Marshall Hall method comes last but in the first edition he is put second though 'first to be tried,' and we get a comparison of the three methods omitted afterwards. Thus we read 'there are three well-known methods.' Marshall Hall and Silvester 'are best known...in Britain and the Continent,' 'that invented by Dr Howard of the New York Life Saving Association,' is practiced in the United States.¹ Dr Hall's method 'is the mildest, though perhaps the least efficacious² and is generally the first to be tried. When this has been unsuccessful Dr Silvester's method must be put in force.' All three methods leave the patient with pains over the ribs etc., but life must be restored at all hazards. The Executive of the L.S.S. decided on adopting the Silvester method as 'being easily carried out by one person.'

The Hall method can also be carried out as easily by one person. Here I must refer my readers to the observations on these methods made elsewhere in this book.

The later editions of the Handbook have been, wherever it was possible, so worded that the remarks apply to no sex and do for either.

(6) 1901 sixth edition, 33rd thousand a reprint of the previous edition with some corrections. Two misprints on p 99 leg for left.

(7) 1903 seventh edit, a reprint but several important modifications, one is that as advised by Dr Bowles in 1889 the side is not changed in the Hall method.

The Handbook is the copyright of the society, but permission has been given to several foreign societies to translate it, and electros of the blocks have been supplied them at cost price.

To compile this Handbook must have been one of great difficulty at first and therefore all oversights may well be excused. The present one is the growth of years. I think the time

¹ To judge by the following from an American paper it is not practiced with much effect.

VAN WYCK IN A NEW ROLE

Mayor of New York makes a record as a life saver

He dashed to the rescue of three young women who were drowning
in Jamaica Bay and unaided saved their lives.

New York, aug. 3 [1898].—Mayor Van Wyck, who has been summering at Freeport, L.I., to-day distinguished himself as a life-saver of no mean ability by rescuing three young women from drowning. The rescued were: Miss Jennie Lowdnes, daughter of Rev Arthur Lowdnes, assistant rector of St Thomas' Church, of this city; Miss Clara Pritz and Miss Eliza Heinsheimer, both of Cincinnati.

The three young women went in bathing in Jamaica Bay, about 200 yards from the hotel where Mayor Van Wyck was stopping. Miscalculating the depth of the water on account of the tide, Miss Lowdnes, the only one of the trio who could swim, got out over her depth and could not get back to the beach.

The other young women, although they could not swim, started to her rescue. They were instantly beyond their depth. The cries of the struggling young women attracted the attention of Mayor Van Wyck, who was sitting on the porch, and he immediately threw off his coat and ran to the rescue. Unaided he brought the three to the beach. They were all unconscious.

The Mayor then gave orders to the excited spectators to procure barrels. Three were brought and each of the unconscious girls was placed over a barrel, at the direction of the Mayor, and rolled until revived. Miss Lowdnes and Miss Heinsheimer regained consciousness in a few minutes, but Miss Pritz's condition is much more serious, though not necessarily fatal.

² I have shown that doctors do not agree with this, at all events it is a matter that still requires investigation.

has now come when it requires revision.

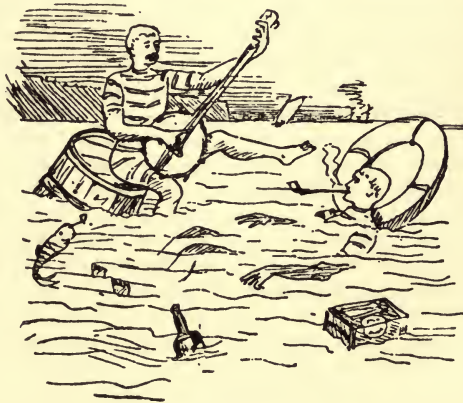
I have always thought a short history of resuscitation should be included, now however that I give one it may perhaps be dispensed with.

As the Handbook is intended to be theoretical as well as practical, the Hall, Silvester and Howard methods might usefully have been set out in full. In the first editions there is a preliminary note to the Silvester method, but somehow this has slipped out of the last. When each method is set out most people will be surprised to find

that all the essential directions are Dr Hall's.

The first smoking concert was given on 12 May 1892 when a quarto pamphlet of 14 pages was issued. The 1st article is historical [by Frank Sacks] 2nd L.S.S. its work and objects [by A. Sinclair] 3rd, formation of classes [by W. Henry].

In the program a humorous sketch of a smoking concert in the water [drawn by the honorary treasurer E. V. Salaman] is given: it is probably in ridicule of the illustrations of artists: the positions being laughably impossible.



water concert

REPORTS

1893. The first annual report also in blue cover was issued like subsequent ones without date but it is for '1891-2 and prospectus for 1893' 8° pp 48. At the head is the emblem or medalion of the society with the motto from Seneca 'quemcunque miserum videris, hominem scias.' Whomever you see in distress recognise in him a fellow man.

It gives the 'Constitution of the L.S.S.' and bylaws and balance sheet, list of subscribers and various information showing the extraordinary progress that had been made.

1894 pp 53. This and the subsequent reports give illustrations of life saving and a copy of 'the certificate of the L.S.S.' In this year the first annual demonstration of life saving was held at the West India Docks London (see Report for 1895 p 10).

1895 pp 65, by this time branches had got into working order, and this report has those of New South Wales and Manchester.

When my attention was directed to the Society by one of its publications, I at once thought that it was a most desirable one but that I was too old

to learn their methods and drills and that moreover the only thing that could be of use to them, money, I was unable to give and therefore amid various occupations I did nothing. One day however in 1896 Mr Henry introduced himself to me and it was not long before I found that I could be of some use to my great pleasure. I did not do half what I should like to have done, but I found that I could not get on without a knowledge of the drill and resuscitation methods which I forthwith proceeded to learn with my son who had already been taught at school.¹

1896 pp 50. This contains rescue of the drowning and reviving the apparently drowned, reproduced from *Sporting Sketches*. It has altogether eleven illustrations and the autograph signatures of A. Sinclair (portrait page 50 in straw hat, on the platform) and W. Henry. Photograph of a man taking a spring from a height of 30 feet and 'starting a race' reproduced from *The Sketch* 24 July 1895 p 687.

1897 pp 72. Has a portrait of the honorable Sydney Holland, and several new illustrations showing rescue girls at practice—ladies resuscitating. An able article *Teaching in schools* by Sinclair and Henry; and a *Swimming drill* both of which might with advantage be reprinted as a pamphlet—with other articles on swimming that have appeared in the reports.

In this report is announced that the 'Diploma of the Society will be awarded to such persons as pass an examination in the theory and practice of swimming.'

¹ My experience of the ease with which all the Society teaches can be learnt does not exactly coincide with Mr Henry's view as given by him in Mr Jarvis's book p 86. 'The knowledge is so easily acquired that any one member of a club can learn the system in a week, and afterwards work as instructor. Therefore, to those who wish to acquire this knowledge, the expense is nil, and they would be getting something for nothing. Do they want more?'

Here the question is solely what work is to be done during that week, only working at the practical part eight hours a day, and reading the parts about the diaphragm, thorax and the theory of the circulation of the blood at meals, I think it could be 'easily' done in a week.

The circular convening the Annual General Meeting for the 18 Feb 1897 is addressed from Mr Henry's house 8 Bayley street and signed (in facsimile) by the joint secretaries for the last time.

In this year the Society held a diamond jubilee gala at which their R.H. the duke and duchess of York were present and about 13,000 spectators, the majority of whom had paid sixpence or one shilling for admission. The occasion was further memorable for the presence of 12 Swedish springers or amateur acrobatic swimmers in the printed program, in which their names are given, called 'high and fancy divers' [there was no diving whatever]. Also for the mile championship being wrested by J. A. Jarvis from its hitherto invincible holder G. H. Tyers. The German champion Arnold Toepfer coming in one minute later swimming the English sidestroke in almost perfect style and better than 99 out of 100 English can swim it.

J. Hellings the Australian won the 100 yards race and finally Victor Souneman a Belgian won the prize for springing gracefully into the water, taking it from H. S. Martin the English champion springer. A most important outcome of this gala took place in the following year when members of the L.S.S. visited Sweden.

An octavo pamphlet of 16 closely printed pages [by William Henry] with two pages 15 & 16 [by the honorable Sydney Holland from *The Field* of 31 July 1897] was issued in pink covers, giving a full account and names of all the competitors. It has no title and no

date, page 5 is entitled 'the L.S.S. diamond jubilee international gala.'

The whole of this monster gathering was organised by him during the previous year and was carried out without a hitch or an accident.¹

w. Wilson and A. Sinclair acted as referees and judges.

Although no French swimmer was present that country was represented by its humane society and one of the best speeches was made by Mr Taillant on behalf of his countrymen (and women) on conferring the decoration of 'La Société nationale de sauvetage de France' on Mr Sydney Holland who had been elected a 'president of honor.'

1898 pp 69 & 3 & cover. The most important event in this report is the publication of the conditions for obtaining the 'Diploma' which was instituted 'owing to the absence of any test for accomplished swimmers, whether professional or amateur' (p 14). There is not the slightest doubt as the report says that 'the test is an extremely severe one both in theory and practice.' This is the first test of swimming ability ever instituted in England.

Besides other societies, reports are given by hon. district representatives from all parts of England Scotland Ireland and Jersey, showing the spreading of the useful work.

On the 1st april an entertainment was given at Liverpool in aid of the L.S.S. the program and words of the songs consisted of 24 pages.

As already mentioned the first great demonstration of L.S. was held at the West India Docks London in 1894, and subsequent years until 1898 when the gala was held at the Highgate Pond

by permission of the London County Council, all then being free.

In august a number of members of the society visited Sweden, an event only second in importance to the gala of 1897. An account is printed in the Report for 1899, altered from the Swimming Magazine. It was on this occasion that one of the party saved a man from drowning, under most interesting circumstances and was awarded a gold medal by H.M. the king of Sweden (see Report for 1900). The result of this visit was the formation of a Swedish L.S.S.²

The 1899 report also records the adoption of swimming and life saving in the Board Schools of London, chiefly at the instance of the L.S.S. whose honorary instructors taught over 1000 teachers to teach the L.S.S. drill, and issued a special certificate of ability to teach to each teacher, the whole having been gratuitously instructed.

On p 32 is an illustration of 'ladies class at practice' (reproduced from *Hearth and Home* of 18 June 1896) 'imitating breathing, Silvester method' it should be 'prepared to clear the throat' (compare with Report 1897 p 16).

1900 pp 58. This Report contains that of the L.S.S. formed at Ancona, Italy on the model of the London L.S.S. it is printed in Italian with this title

Società italiana di salvamento L.S.S. natatorium: fondata in Ancona nel 1899: Manuale illustrato...I edizione 1900. 12° pp 135.

1901. This contains the first report of the Italian L.S.S.

1902. Full report of the tour of the L.S.S. team in Italy.

The next is dated may 1903. It has an interesting account of the enthu-

¹ Except the loss in transit of the tickets and notices required at the gates, which only appeared when it was too late.

² They translated the Handbook, and the title of the instructions they have issued is Svenska lifräddningssällskapets handbok...Stockholm 1900, 12° pp 90. Literally translated, to show that the English language is equal to the occasion, this is Handbook of the Swedish lifesaving association. It has some original illustrations, besides those reproduced from the English Handbook.

siastic manner in which the English swimmers who went to Germany and Austria were received.

It informs us that H.M. the king signified his intention of presenting a cup to the society to be competed for. Having in view the importance of the gift the society decided to make the contests open to all the world.

The king and queen having both witnessed one of the races on the 10 July makes this event the most important that has ever taken place towards the general advancement of swimming in the king's dominions.

Other events were decided on the following day in the presence of 40,000 people. The entries represented France, Italy, Hungary, Sweden, Australia and Canada: the king's cup was won by England.¹

This is the first time in the history of the country that any recognition or

The Royal magazine for november 1898 n° 1 p 86 has an article entitled Swimming on dry land by Lewis Stevens. It is a reproduction of the L.S.S. drill and the photographs in their Reports, but without mentioning the society, of which the writer had evidently never heard. The society's drill is ascribed to a German!

For this extraordinary series of mis-

Pearson's magazine for july 1899 has an article (pp 127-134) written by M. L. Ewes under the auspices of W^m Henry hon sec of the L.S.S. giving the methods adopted by the society for rescue and resuscitation, with numerous photographs all taken on land notwithstanding that the figures appear to be in the water. It is at

The penny pictorial magazine 29 july 1899 8° has an article (p 385) by Charles K. Merton, illustrated by Harry Evans entitled When you see a man drowning how to save his life.

It is entirely copied from the L.S.S. publications, without acknowledgment.

¹ In his English literature 1903 p 2 Dr Garnett, says England, a term used here for convenience sake, but, when not obviously restricted to south Britain, always to be understood as denoting the British empire.

attempt to encourage the art has been made by a king or queen of England.

Whatever energy he may display Mr Henry will hardly be able to score a greater success for his society than this.

At the time when I wrote that it would be a good thing if kings and rulers would only give out that they were swimmers, it would benefit the art, I had no idea that king Edward VII would so soon make my words things of the past.

In the near future I hope amateurs will take a higher stand and that in all amateur championships, instead of an article of value a small bronze medal of great beauty or a certificate only will be awarded.

Here ends my very insufficient account of the splended work done by this society under the able auspices of its honorary secretary and founder.

takes the editor expressed his regret to the honorary secretary. It was unfortunate for the L.S.S. as a million copies of this first number were advertised as having been printed.

On p 18 is a snapshot of a number of bathers springing from a stage in the water, they are all in bad positions.

present impossible to photograph figures under water.

The result is extraordinary and good. The figures represent Messrs A. B. Chatwood (L.S.S.) and W. Henry, who is also represented getting into a boat at the stern.

Max Hesse's illustrierte katechismen n° 27. Katechismus der schwimmkunst...Leipzig (1891).

Max Hesse's illustrated handbooks n° 27. Instruction in the art of s. by Hans Müller assistant master of the Hamburg life saving club.

8° pp x & 1 & 101 with 20 figs in the text. The Katechismus is in Kayser xxviii 212 who also gives Der kleine schwimmlehrer 1893 under Müller's name.

In the preface he says he felt urged to publish because he found so many swimming teachers did not know enough about the right method, good swimmers were by no means good teachers: this book he intends to be a guide for teachers. He gives some account of the schools he has taught at and says he has the German Life saving medal and diploma.

This is the first German book I have come across that describes the English sidestroke, it says (p 60) In English swimming the body lies on the right or left side: there are three strokes, which

Kleines lehrbuch der schwimmkunst bearbeitet von prof D^r Carl Euler...mit 21 abbildungen Berlin Mitler & sohn 1891.

Little teacher of the art of &c. 12° pp 6 & 58. The author describes himself as director of instruction at the royal school of teachers of gymnastics. In the preface he says he has in the above epitomised all the instruction given in the larger work published by H. O. Kluge and himself in 1870.

P. Coerman professeur à l'école normale de Bruxelles. Petit cours de natation, 8 figures dessinées par J. Heylemans, prix 50 centimes. Bruxelles. Société Belge de librairie (société anonyme) Oscar Schepens directeur 16 rue Treurenberg 1891 [on the cover and titlepage: halftitle] Petit cours de natation.

8° pp 23 and table. When I bought this, I found from the preface that it was an extract from the same writer's Cours complet de gymnastique éducative a work published the same year and crowned by the Académie royale de Belgique. All I can say is that the Royal academy of Belgique was easily

are very difficult to be taught separately, therefore you must exercise the strokes together [this is entirely wrong]. Supposing the swimmer to be on his right side, his right hand and arm are struck out ahead. At the number one, the swimmer moves the right hand with the palm downwards as far as the breast, and he effects a slight pressure on the water, which is sufficient to hold up the body for that short time [probably so, but progression is the object of all the strokes not holding up the body]. The second movement is carried out by putting the left arm close beneath the surface of the water out before the head; and at 3 that arm is drawn back vigorously. At 2 the legs approach the body, at the same time, and at 3 they are stretched out step fashion and brought sharply together at the same time as the putting out of the right arm.

There are chapters on life saving.

He refers to the D'Argy and Pfeul methods. Figures 20 and 21 representing the resuscitation movements are even uglier and more repulsive than those of our Royal Humane Society from which they are copied, but even worse than this the book is bound with wire and has the corners cut off.

satisfied. The treatise on s. would not have taken a third class place in England.

Coerman's opinion as a gymnast is welcome, he says the man who swims regularly can if necessary dispense with gymnastics, and that swimming fortifies body and mind.

He quotes H. Pergameni who talks of the breast stroke, using hands alternately, but says nothing about the legs.

He gives a description of what he intends to be the sidestroke with fig 7

both show that he does not understand how to swim the English sidestroke in which he does not describe the action of the legs. In resuscitation mentions the Howard method only.

The Swedish system of educational gymnastics by baron Nils Posse...2nd edit Boston 1891.

4° Four pages entitled 'Preparatory s. exercises' from 'Gymnastiska dagöfningar' by C. H. Liedbeck, describing the movements on terra firma.

Chums, an illustrated paper for boys...Cassell and company limited, London Paris and Melbourne.

folio 1892. S. by McCullum Hill ex-champion. The articles are clearly from the pen of a ready writer and evidently not by the ex-champion.

First article p 587 portrait of Webb

and the whirlpool Niagara. The second article is at p 668, third at p 685 says only 'by an ex-champion.' It has thirteen cuts from Cassell's Book of sports.

Lippincott's monthly mag, Lond. and Phila. 1892 vol 49 pp 230-4.
A good general article by Hermann Oelricks.

Outdoor games and recreations a popular encyclopædia for boys ...edited by G. Andrew Hutchinson...London the Religious tract society 1892.

8° pp 576. This was published in parts and that for 2 June 1891 pp 56 to 76 chap v is on Swimming and bathing by an Oxford M.A. and coach. That is rev J. G. Wood, but nowhere in the book is his name given, though it occurs with others on the title page. It is a reprint of the articles in The boy's own paper 1879, except that the last two paragraphs under the sidestroke and Mr Wood's personal adventures with his brother are omitted.

Before reprinting, these articles should have had considerable alterations from the pen of a practical writer and good swimmer.

Chap vi pp 80 to 84 is On sea bathing and s. in a rough sea by the late captain Webb with a portrait and six illustrations: chap vii pp 85-87: chap viii pp 88-89 directions for restoring &c. These are from The boy's own paper 1882 p 822. There are several humorous illustrations.

1. Water manœuvres an original pamphlet by David Turner Pamplin: 2,000 drowned annually in the United Kingdom. [ships lost] Princess Alice! Seaman's glory! Northfleet! Whitstable! Kapunda! Benvenue! Pegasus! Norwich! Geiser! Deeds worth chronicling, Webb's! Rogers'! Brock's! Whistler's! the Dixie's! Cheverley's! capt. Lovett's! Price sixpence. A. K. Baldwin printer Grosvenor works Tunbridge Wells.

12° pp 40 dated at the end March 1892: title from the cover. The author thanks Mr F. J. Collier of the Tunbridge Wells Cygnus S.C. for editing this work, which is well worth perusal. It has much good and sensible advice. I hope the citations I have been unable to verify are more

correct than the following from p 13. Shakespeare says 'drowning men catch at straws.' I have said ante p 116 that Shakespeare does not say this. [Since I revised that page I have found an earlier instance. In Gnomologia: adages and proverbs by T. Fuller 1732, n° 80 is a drowning man will catch at

a rush : n° 1339 is the same with men in the plural.

There are various other adages, n° 1340 drown not thy self to save a drowning man. n° 1729 good swimmers are oftenest drowned. This is slightly different in Outlandish proverbs by Mr G. H. 1640 n° 801 good swimmers at length are drowned. This, to use Christopher North's words, is a lie.

Another adage which shows how few could swim in early days and what fear there was of the water is n° 207 the river past and God forgotten. This is reflected in Fuller's n° 3920 praise not the ford, till you are safe over, or n° 3921 praise the sea but keep on land.]

At p 14 for 1870 read 1875 : p 18 quotes Wilson, and Webb, sir Andrew Clarke (p 34), and other authors I have not been able to identify, though I have spent hours in trying to.

Repudiates the frog as an example. He quotes a writer (who? p 19-20) who says 'consider yourself an empty pitcher' and 'people should not begin to struggle when they fall into the water,' which Pamplin says are 'guides to drowning.'

He is wrong (p 23) when he says 'the excellence displayed in past years is a long way ahead of that which prevails in these days.'

He very properly says (p 26) 'I will not in these papers, touch at all upon the subject of side swimming [read the sidestroke], it presents too many difficulties for novices.'

He is quite right when he says (p 32) we should say spring 'To the water hands first - it is erroneous to say head first': head first is a distinct spring, from hands first, which is the popular way; head first with arms by the side is not popular.

Pamplin exhibited as a professional swimmer under F. E. Beckwith in 1858 when he was ten years of age. See also S. and S. 1861 p 32.

In 1862 he went to Australia and returned dec 1863 Portraits in The illustrated sporting news 22 oct '64 p 484 and p 481, this one is reprinted on 21 July 1866 p 437.

On 5 sep '64 he came in second, Gurr being first. On 14 sep '65 made a record, swimming 480 yards in 8 min 22½ secs (S. notes & record 11 July '85 p 4).

Referred to in London Society July '66 p 52 with portrait, and as 'the most graceful swimmer' by Robert Watson in the s. record 31 may, 13 sep and 25 oct '73. Webb's Art of s. pp 72, 75 & 82. Wilson S. 1876 p 43. In 1876 he accompanied F. Cavill on his first attempt to swim the channel when he saved Cavill's life (Plate s. by Dunlop p 53).

Misprint p 10 line 39 'hat' for that. Water manœuvres was partly republished in.

2. Swimming versus walking the water, a reply to Dr McOrmoc, and hints on bathing and saving life by D. Pamplin swimming master at Camberwell and Dulwich Baths [then follows a list of his performances] London H. B. Skinner & co, Camberwell green S.E. price twopence.

12° [1898?] pp 12 and covers.

One page (5) of this pamphlet is new and in that we have Mr Pamplin's objection to captain Webb's (or rather Payne's) description of 'treading water' done something like a man on the treadmill, which Mr Pamplin very properly says is 'not the correct way to tread the water.' The better action is short strokes similar to those in breast swimming as adopted in the 1st 2nd & 3rd methods of rescue of the L.S.S.

He recognises the good the clubs have done, but is right in saying they do not go far enough as they look upon swimming mainly as a sport, instead of a necessity to human beings.

I have been told that Dr Henry MacCormac wrote his advice in The

Field. In Whitaker's almanack for 1882 p 404 are some observations by him entitled 'How to prevent drown-

ing,' but they are not those quoted. He practiced at Belfast and died 1886 aged 86.

Zdarsky (Frz). Anleitung zur ertheilung des Schwimmunterrichtes auf dem Lande (luftschwimmen). Wien A. Siegl 1892. Instruction for teaching s. on land (air-swimming). In Kayser xxviii 968.

The Athletes' directory and handbook for 1892, price 2s 6d, compiled and edited by Albert Saunders.

A general article on swimming by A. Sinclair, rules, records, clubs etc pp 251-268 1893 price 1s 6d.

Another general article (pp 195-213) by E. J. Tackley hon sec A.S.A. and

hon sec S.C.A.S.A. whose portrait is in Swimming n° 6, 25 apr '95 p 65 by E. v. Salaman and in Newman's s. 1898. He was elected to the executive of the L.S.S. 22 feb 1900.

Essays by sir Morell Mackenzie 1893.

The last is on s. pp 302-306 it is posthumous, edited by his brother: it was intended as an address on presentation of prizes at a local S.C.

He quotes Thevenot 1711 (sic) as having maintained that it was fear of drowning that prevented people s., from which he disagrees.

'In the French army s. is now compulsory.'

'P. H. (sic) Hamerton notices how many more people swim in France than in England, but at any rate we have produced better swimmers than France.'

Hamerton was wrong (see ante p 133) and this anyone can find out by going to the seaside places of England and France. We begin a month or more earlier and go on longer than the French. Moreover there are only two public tepid baths in Paris and we have over fifty in London, many of them open all the year round.

The sum of the doctor's advice is, be moderate in bathing, headers, diving etc etc. He considers s. the finest exercise there is.

Illustreret idrætsbog...af Victor Hansen...Kjøbenhavn 1893.

8°: vol 2 s. on pp 641-668, with 14 cuts in the text, most of them being from Cassell's Book of sports: including the very bad one purporting

to illustrate the sidestroke: see ante p 292.

It gives the three methods of resuscitation adopted by the L.S.S.

Physiology of sport: contributions towards the physiology of a maximum of muscular exertion especially modern sports as...swimming etc by George Kolb M.D. second edition...from the German, London 1893.

The German edition was first published [1888 ?] s. and diving pp 150-157 with ten illustrations of the action of the heart, normal and under exertion.

If the observations are accurate I should think this the right way to study the subject.

Outing an illustrated monthly magazine...New York, Lond. 1893.

8° pp 279 to 284 in double columns with ten figures in the text vol xxii n° 4 for july an article entitled: Practical lessons in s. by Walter A. Varian.

and cuts are all good with slight exceptions which I will be very particular to point out as the article is so well written.

A thoroughly practical article by a good swimmer: the advice instruction

Sculling is thus to be taught 'Also teach him...with the arms straight

down by the sides, the hands paddle-shaped and slightly bent at the wrist, to turn the whole limb in the shoulder joint so as to face the palms away from the hips, close to which they are resting, and sweep them away from the body about a foot or eighteen inches, then to turn the arm in the socket without moving the wrist or elbow joint, so that the palms of the hands again face the hip joints and thighs, sweeping them back.' Uses float when he means swim thus 'very soon the scholar will float by himself,' and the cut plain floating has the arms by the side though we are not told the figure is supposed to be in salt water.

'Able to float with the aid of the hands.'

'A number of swimming manuals teach that the arms and legs should be used alternately in the breast-stroke.' He properly disagrees from this and says 'The writer on this subject in the Encyclopædia Britannica [which means the 9th edition 1875] gives the stroke as I do. His essay is a good one. The old English standard author, Walker, in his manly sports' [a pla-

Outing for July 1896.

s. by Ed w. Sandys pp 285-290 : a general article with instruction, which is so far good that the author only talks about what he understands ; but it is

The Nineteenth century magazine vol 34 for nov 1893.

An interesting article which however hardly comes within my province, but I give it the benefit of the doubt. It is

g iarism of Frost] 'gives it the opposite way.' Here the author suddenly changes his observations to the side-stroke as if something had been editorially cut out.

'A large number of those who pick up this art by practice only, learn very badly' which is exemplified by those Mr Varian has seen swim what he calls the 'racing sidestroke' in 'London, the world's metropolis of swimming.' The figures are represented turned slightly on the breast, and he talks of the 'kick' with the legs. Both are wrong, in the true sidestroke the swimmer never moves from his side, he is always lying on his side like the last figure he gives on p 281, which is nearly right the defect being that the legs are not perfectly straight at the finish. He says the partial breast sidestroke is called the 'sailor's side-stroke.' I have never seen it so called in any English book ; this is the French name for it.

The two figures springing are good but I do not think¹ palm-to-palm is best and the figure springing feet foremost should have the toes extended.

old fashioned ; he is evidently not aware of the progress made in England during the last ten years. He advises beginners to learn dog fashion first.

entitled 'Darwinism and swimming a theory' by Dr Louis Robinson.

He argues that during the vast space

¹ Barnum's 'greatest show on earth' was in London in december 1898 and placarded the town with an immense colored poster of figures swimming, springing and diving in all positions during the 'water carnival' 'on the easy breezy end of Coney Island.' This poster was exceedingly interesting as showing that however skilful American swimmers may be they all 'spring' into the water badly. It may probably, as is usual, be the artist's ignorance, as it is with the English artists. Every figure springing is represented in a very awkward position with his or her hands palm to palm and the head up, so that the face would get the full force of the contact with the water.

In the large posters advertising J. Finney and his troupe at the Hippodrome London 1899 all the figures were in correct positions : some perfect, but this was no doubt due to the champion himself.

of time that man has been on the earth he has never acquired the art of saving his life by instinct when thrown into water as animals do.

'All savages are' swimmers 'at the present day' [this is not so see p 425]

'The cat and the donkey have a strong instinctive dislike to entering the water, yet both can swim with ease on a first attempt.¹ In fact every quadruped is able to swim in a measure without antecedent practice' (p 722).

'There is strong presumption that... the orang and gorilla...are as helpless in the water as man is...Some of the slim South American monkeys, such as the *Cebidæ* swim' (p 730).

'According to the statements of early travellers in North America, the

New Zealand A.S.A. annual...Auckland 1893-4-5.

An excellent publication from which many hints can be obtained. The editor was Roland W^m St Clair. It gives local statistics of drowning.

The report (1893) dated 1894 says that instruction should be given to all coroners (see ante p 61).

A well deserved note of praise is put on record to Sinclair & Henry for their L.S.S. and for their book on Swimming 1893.

Dr Ripault : Petite école de natation : nage et plongee, avec une figure schématique : prix 0 fr 90. Dijon (imp Darantière).

12° pp 30 & table.

The dedication is dated 5 août 1893.

He commences with the breast stroke or 'swimming like a frog' but he describes the stroke properly and not as

Schwimmschule...von H. D. Wieting...Bremen Gustav Winter.

Swimming school: method of instruction for self teaching...sixth edition. 12° [1893] pp 28, 5 figs in the

aborigines, when first discovered, all swam with an alternate movement of the arms,' and Mr A. R. Wallace informs me that both the Amazonian Indians and the Malays of the Eastern Archipelago, at the time when he was exploring these regions, also swam in this way. Professor A. C. Haddon, however, who has made a special study of the Melanesian races, tells me that 'the inhabitants of New Guinea and the adjacent islands now swim in the manner customary among Europeans.' Doctor Robinson here refers to the breast stroke as on p 732 he says 'There can be little doubt that the frog-like action of civilised people is purely artificial.'

The cut of the figure springing feet first is copied (reversed) from Cobbett p 50 (with feet still in a bad position) and the humorous sketch is copied from the L.S.S. (see ante p 382) both without acknowledgment. The issue for 1894-5 has several portraits. I believe no more reports were printed (?) one of those unfortunate coincidences I refer to under the pedigree of the A.S.A. having occurred.

that 'tailless amphibious animal' swims.

The instruction is good and most useful for beginners. The author evidently had no notion of the English side-stroke.

text, illustrated cover. Fig 2 is in a useless and fig 3 an impossible position.

¹ When I was at Havre in 1899 a sailor threw into the dock a bag full of kittens just born, in a few seconds the brown paper gave way and the kittens began swimming until they were drowned in about half a minute.

Swimming by Sinclair and Henry

The Badminton library of sports and pastimes edited by his grace the duke of Beaufort, K.G. assisted by Alfred E. T. Watson: swimming. [halftitle: title] Swimming by Archibald Sinclair and William Henry hon secs of the Life-saving Society¹ [illustration] with illustrations by S. T. Dadd and from photographs by G. Mitchell. London, Longmans Green and Co 1893: all rights reserved.

8° pp xvi 452: illustration on cloth cover, of a sportsman's library. A list of the illustrations reproduced by Walker and Boutall is given in the book. The advertisements say there are 119: price 10s 6d.

There were 250 large paper copies printed of the first edition with illustrations on India paper in 4^{to} pp xviii 486 price 30s but copies have been sold at double this price.

The large paper is a different copy in respect of pages, the text being rearranged to give more space to the illustrations. For example W. Wilson's portrait and the reference to Ralph Thomas's list are on p 22 instead of 21. Andrews and Martin Cobbett are referred to on p 23 instead of 22. The title is partly in red and round each page there is a border line.

Second edition 1894 with many alterations.

The third edition published June (see Longman's Notes on books 31 August) 1900 (and there was a reissue dated 1901) has numerous important alterations and additions, with ten pages more than the first. They say that many of the suggestions they made in the first edition have been almost universally accepted. The price is reduced to six shillings net, at which it is the cheapest book for its size ever published on swimming.

This is the best book that has been written on the subject. It goes farther, says more and shows more clearly the state to which swimming has been brought by English swimmers,

than any previous publication. The joint authors seem to have arisen just at the right time, and they make a combination that has produced a most happy result. The one Archibald Sinclair a facile writer and good swimmer, the other William Henry not only a writer, but what was equally necessary the most expert swimmer England has ever had. But both went beyond the mere pleasure of the subject, they devoted many years of their lives to founding a philanthropic society, whose aims and objects have spread in an amazingly short time to nearly every quarter of the globe, now known as The Life Saving Society.

I cannot sufficiently praise this work. It is most original and more calculated to advance the art than any previous publication. It has paved the way for the beau ideal of a swimming book. It marks an era in swimming, nothing will give a better idea of the enormous progress that has been made during the last twenty five years, than comparing it with any previous publication.

No book has given me so much trouble, or caused me so much hesitation in criticising as this. However I must do here, to the best of my ability, what I have done with other books and remark on the points which appear to me to be wrong, or from which I differ. I have generally quoted passages of the books I have noticed, which I have considered new or original, but to do so with this book would be far too voluminous: it teems with excellent advice and good instruction. Neither have I named the

¹ As to this wrong hyphen see my preface ante p 28.

authors they quote, they are too numerous, about thirty.

Chapter one is a historical introduction which must have cost the authors much trouble, having to look up their facts themselves. The first point on which I differ from them is their inference after studying the Assyrian bas reliefs 'that the older swimmers were not altogether deficient in the knowledge of the side-stroke, which swimmers seem to imagine is quite a modern development' (pp 3 & 79), and so I believe it to be, as I have shown in my introduction. In the quotation from 'one of the earlier writers' [i.e. Percy] no attempt is made at literal correctness (pp 16 to 18). The oft quoted advice of Dr Benjamin Franklin 'is nearly all from Thevenot' I disagree from. The rest of the writers mentioned I have dealt with under their respective books.

The observations in chap ii on the teaching of swimming are admirable: the part on 'mechanical appliances' is the first written on the subject.

The land drill to teach swimming motions, which the authors advocate (p 49) is of the utmost importance.

Following w. Wilson they advocate the stroke of the legs in breast swimming being taught before the arms (pp 29, 63). Richardson suggested this in 1857. The article on the breast stroke (pp 61 and 29, legs 65 arms 74) is of great interest, no such attempt at elucidating it ever having been written before.

On p 74 we are given the key note to all good swimming, namely 'small details carefully studied.'

The sidestroke is treated of on p 78 and I find I differ from the authors in many points. They infer that it was side swimming which Cliaas taught the grandsons of marshal Blücher, but Cliaas does not say this, he says (p 155) it was the system in which the pupil is suspended

from a belt in the water by which he taught them.

Under Harrington I have given a minute account of the English side-stroke, and I must leave students to make their own comparisons. I must content myself with noting one or two points only. The fig 7 on p 81 is wrong in position, not only in showing the body half out of the water, but of the head, in which the face should be turned upward. In fact the heads of figures 7, 8 and 10 are incorrect for any sidestroke. I have reproduced (ante p 123) figure 10 p 85 as illustrating the North of England sidestroke. On p 83 we are told that 'a peculiar screw-like leg movement is the distinctive and most important feature of this style,' but this screwlike action is not described, nor is it a reality.

'In the old style of over-arm the leg-kick is practically a mere modification of the breast-stroke' (see ante p 28) and Mr Sinclair repeats this in Newman's Swimmers (p 6) the overarm stroke 'is practically the breast stroke done on the side.' But this means a totally different stroke from what I understand by the overarm. This with me means the English sidestroke as described under Harrington (and see ante p 120), with the variation of the upper arm being brought out of the water. But with Mr Sinclair overarm seems to be used to mean the side belly stroke as described by me under Gurr.

The following advice is given as to breathing for the sidestroke (p 84) 'The egress of air should be stopped at the back of the mouth by the tongue and uvula, instead of at the lips...it washes in and out of the mouth quite naturally.'

The quotation from Cliaas p 86 as to the hand-over-hand stroke is copied by him from Pfuel.

According to my glossary the heading 'under water' (p 92) should be entitled 'diving' and the heading 'diving'

(p 95) should be 'springing.' I disagree from the sentiment that 'the beautiful diving [i.e. springing] of past-masters of the art is almost forgotten.' At no period was the art of entering the water gracefully by springing into it, brought to greater perfection than at present.

The 'objectionable interpolation' as to opening the eyes under water is disposed of at p 98. Under high dive (p 107) is this sentence 'the usual dive is a mere drop at a downward angle,' these words are quoted in the Oxford English Dictionary as explaining the word 'dive,' but the learned editor Dr Murray has been misled by the improper use of the word dive. The words mean, that what beginners do in springing from a height is just to drop down instead of taking a fearless leap into space eventually entering the water gracefully.

In chapters iv and v Mr Dadd is particularly happy with the positions of his figures, but in 'marching on the water' the action given is not the neatest way, which is described by Dalton 1899 (see also Harrington 1861). As to the way in which the leg is placed out of water in what the writers call 'the steam tug' (p 142) see ante p 342.

The advice and instruction in chap iv on 'diving' plunging and floating' and chapter v on fancy swimming is good and original, many of the subjects never having been treated of before.

We are told that 'theoretically, it is possible for every person to float' (p 120). I do not know what this means, as practically there are persons who not only sink in fresh, but in salt water; nevertheless the advice as to floating (pp 58, 119-125 and 148) is the best that has ever been published. I endorse the dictum (except for those of proved physical disability?) that 'a

swimmer cannot lay claim to be an expert unless he can float.'

On page 139 'some writers' are mentioned, but I have not come across them or either of them. 'Sinking and rising' like many of the other feats is described for the first time in any book (p 148).

Then we find a good chapter on 'bathing in the open' in which however I should be glad not to see the old fashioned idea that 'cramp is the dreaded bane of the swimmer' (p 160).

Chapter vii is on lifesaving—R.H.S. and L.S.S. with the methods of treatment adopted by the latter, then in an early stage: these have been greatly improved since.

Never before did 'water-polo' (ch viii) form part of a treatise on swimming: here is given the first history of the game. In this game the Scotch (see p 276) take, as they do in most things, a very prominent place.

The 'government of swimming' is also entirely new and one of the most important chapters in the book: Dr Hunter Barron here gets credit for his invaluable services. The evils of betting are mentioned.

Misprints p 92 back for bath and on p 328 or in the first line should be for, both are corrected in the third edition.

In chapter x our universities Oxford and Cambridge make a poor show: even to this day neither has a university tepid bath. Such neglect is no credit to the authorities, men of the highest education be it remembered, with some five thousand students in residence each term.

Chapter xi on the management of swimming meetings is invaluable, Mr Henry as honorary secretary of the L.S.S. has shown great power of organisation and management. He has successfully carried out L.S.S. galas at

¹ 'diving' is used by them in the dual senses, the reader must guess which is meant from the context; see ante p 36, and my index.

which tens of thousands of people have been spectators.

The chapter on training is full of good sound common sense advice. In this chapter (p 376) the advantage of the 'push off' is mentioned. With regard to the records, nearly every one has been beaten since 1893.

Archibald Sinclair was born about 1866, son of Archibald Sinclair of 12 Schofield terrace, Kings road Chelsea London. Notice of him with portrait in *Swimming* for 16 may 1895 p 101 : portrait (in straw hat) L.S.S. Report 1896 p 50 : also in *Newman's Swimmers* 1898 pp 29, 92. On the staff of *The Sportsman* : sub-editor of *The Referee*.

William Henry son of Joseph Nawrocki a Pole and Elizabeth Amour

Boy's illustrated annual. London Sampson Low, Marston & co limited (1894).

4° on pp 119-20 is an article (or rather a fairy tale about 'easy learning' in) A lesson in swimming by captain Lindsay Anderson.

Alexander Christie captain in the merchant marine, who wrote under the name of Lindsay (his wife's maiden name) Anderson (his mother's) was born at Montrose about 1841, educated for the church but took to the sea and

Handbuch für den schwimmunterricht zum gebrauch an militär-schwimmanstalten : von Robert von Bartsch, Berlin 1894 Mittler & sohn.

Handbook of instruction in s. for use in military institutions.

12° pp 31 with ten cuts in the text. The author describes himself as second

How to swim by James Ferguson, superintendent of the Paisley Corporation baths, quarter-mile champion of Scotland in 1876-7-8-9-81-82. Paisley, W^m A. Lockhead Express buildings 1894.

32° pp 30 price one penny.

An original treatise, all good, including five figures, one illustrating the sidestroke : he advocates and gives an

his wife an Englishwoman, was born in London on the 28 june 1859 and christened at St Pancras parish church. After a long residence in Russia they returned to England in 1877 when Mr Henry left off the use of his surname, in consequence of the impossibility of getting English people to pronounce it properly Navroski. Having been known so long as Henry he formally took that name by deed poll dated 14 and enrolled in the Supreme court of Judicature 16 march 1896.

Numerous biographical notices have been published, the best being in *English Sports* 27 aug '92. Portrait in *Newman's S.* '98. *Watson's Memoirs* '99 pp 121-3. 'Noble work of a famous swimmer.' *The Sportsman* 6 feb 1901.

traded to China and the East. He wrote three tales of seafaring life, chiefly autobiographical published in 1891-2-3 (see *The English Catalogue*), and articles in magazines.

He lived at 247 Mile end road London, and died from the effects of a fall into a cellar in that road on 6 oct 1895, inquest held.

lieutenant in Queen Elizabeth's grenadier guards. The figures show no improvement on previous publications.

epitome of the D'Argy method of learning on land.

Ferguson was born in Paisley 11 july 1858.

Instruction für den schwimmunterricht der russischen Cavallerie
...Wien druck und verlag von Kreisel & Gröger 1894.

Instruction for teaching swimming in the Russian cavalry, complete translation reprinted from the *Minerva*.
plate of appliances. Paragraph 11 p 5 says that officers who cannot swim must be instructed by their fellow officers.

4° in double cols pp 11 and folding

Notice sur les exercices physiques par Jules Wallon professeur de gymnastique (breveté) titulaire au Lycée d'Amiens...chez l'auteur 1 rue de Boucaque, Amiens 1894.

12° pp 18, s. on pp 8-16, no instruction, he puts the art in the front rank as a gymnastic exercise and as the most useful from every point of view. He says there are very few swimmers, and he suggests a tepid bath for Amiens, where I saw the author on 15 oct 1899, he was then about sixty years of age.

The 'Oval' series of games edited by c. w. Alcock. Swimming by Archibald Sinclair with (six) illustrations. London, George Routledge & sons limited, Broadway Ludgate hill, Manchester and New York 1894.

8° pp 96: a good treatise epitomised to some extent from s. & h.'s *Swimming*. He gives a portrait of w. Henry and refers to most of the swimmers of the day and gives the championships from 1878.

Schwimmen als kunst und sport...von Carl edlen von Orofino...
Wien 1894 Seidl & sohn.

S. as an art and a sport: summary of known methods, especially of the method Himmel introduced in the imperial and royal armies. and not, as in the D'Argy method, by drill officers.

12° pp portrait & 56 and cover same as title page: thirteen figures in the text all correct. He gives the methods of Pfuell, D'Argy and Himmel, as to the latter he says (p 16) that people do not eventually swim as taught but in a more comfortable way: Himmel teaches the more comfortable way at once.

This is a posthumous publication with a memoir signed Raffay, and a portrait of Carl von Orofino - 'edlen' is a title of nobility - who is described on the title page as 'imperial and royal captain of the reserve: commander of the imperial and royal swimming school in Wien.' He was born in 1834 and died 6 feb 1894. This pamphlet purports to be reprinted from the Austro-Hungarian officers newspaper of 1 march 1894. There certainly does seem something very uncomfortable in the following positions which are taken from Auerbach 1873 pp 71 and 79; similar figures will be found in Wieting [1893] p 12 figs 2 & 3 and other works and even in Himmel's *Schule der schwimmkunst* 1895 these same positions are found see figs 12 & 16.

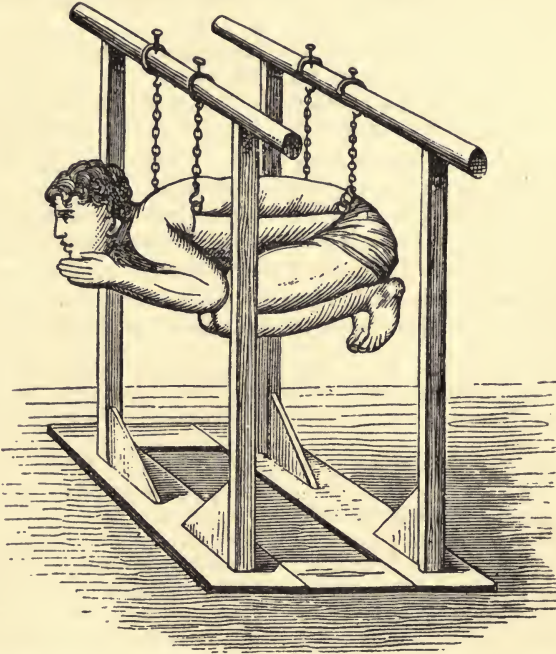
It says Orofino published a pamphlet in 1879 entitled *Der ausdauernde schwimmer* (The persevering s.) He says D'Argy was unacquainted with any books outside his own country¹ (France) and he imitated Courtivron but improved the latter's method with so many new mistakes, that it found adherents outside France: it was taught in the Austrian army from 1868 to

Orofino says the motions should be taught on land, but by teachers of s.

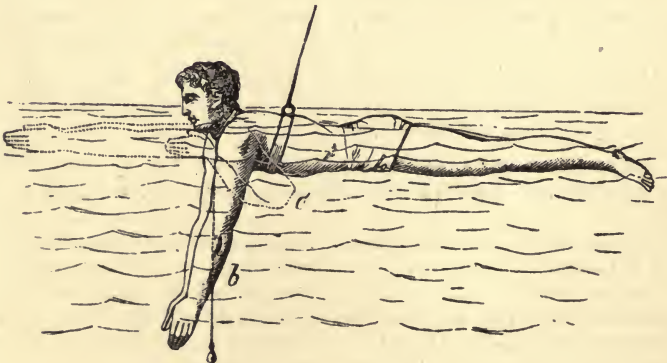
¹ The same may be said of German authors who seem to know nothing of English books on swimming, nor do the English know the German books.

1884. Among the attempts to improve the D'Argy method was one by count Buanacorsi (sic) in *Schwimmkunst*, Wien 1879 and *Instruction for teachers*

1880. The first attack on the D'Argy method was in *The persevering swimmer* in which Orofino made use of the posthumous papers of major Bayer.



1 German position for teaching the breast stroke from Auerbach (s s) 1873



2 German position in the breast stroke from Auerbach (r) 1873

He describes the Orofino-spring invented and carried out by one of his pupils which consists of springing from the takeoff backwards hands first turn-

ing round while at full length and eventually going in feet first.

It finishes with a list of athing places in Wien. See ante p 71.

Simprof för erhållande af den större belöningen...Upsala, den 5 juni 1894.

12° pp 8. The s. test for obtaining a greater prize, a wreath of oak leaves; or a smaller prize, a wreath of willow leaves; together with a diploma

for various degrees of skill or proficiency.

What would our professional 'amateurs' say to these Swedish wreaths!

The Windsor magazine june 1895 8° pp 677 to 691.

An interesting article, by Archibald Sinclair, s. its value and progress, but perhaps a better title for it is that given by the indexer 'Swimming as a

recreation.'

He is evidently writing from memory about Winmann and Digby and confuses them.

Brockhaus' Konversations lexicon vol 14 1895 8°.

Two columns, mentions several German authors (an edition of?) Pettigrew, Leipzig 1875.

Country pastimes for boys by P. Anderson Graham, with 252 illustrations. London, Longmans Green & co, and New York 1895: all rights reserved.

8° pp xvi 448: bathing and s. on pp 389 to 397.

Seeing that the four illustrations of figures in this article were taken from s. and H. I assumed that the article was by them too, but on reading it was at once undeceived by the following 'A man swims precisely in the same way as a frog does...imitate with your arms the movement of a frog's fore legs and feet,' and by the author treating floating as a perfectly easy thing to do.

After reading advice of the kind given in this article for centuries past, by easy and fluent writers like Mr. Graham, who has the art of making it interesting, one cannot help asking, what is the use of it. Every writer in every boys book considers it necessary to give this sort of general advice—running through all kinds of swimming in a few pages. It is like giving a hungry boy a jam tart when he wants a hunk of bread. In fact it is 'jamtart' instruction, nice but not substantial.

Ministère de l'instruction publique et des beaux-arts. Manuel d'exercices gymnastiques et de jeux scolaires. Paris imprimerie Nationale 1895. Preparatory land drill pp 68-70.

Braumüller's militärische taschenbücher: bd 4. Schule der schwimmkunst...von Joh Himmel...mit 109 figuren im texte, Wien and Leipzig 1895.

The following is the information given on the title

School of the art of s., a guide for instruction singly or in numbers, especially in military s. schools; also for artistic s. on the Himmel method, and

with his patent appliance: for teachers and learners: written by Johann Himmel head s. master at the imperial and royal military school in Wien, possessor of the silver cross of merit, with the crown.

12° pp vii 152. His method he says has been used in the Austrian army since 1884.

Like Orofino (and in the same words !) he disapproves of the D'Argy method.

The 109 figures in the text are well done : many of them are copied from Schwägerl 1880.

In s. on the side the motion with the legs is the same as in the breast stroke (p 79).

Price one penny : new edition : The swimmer's companion [cut with four figures bathing and church in the distance signed Nisbet] the art of s. made safe and easy with caution and advice to learners by Dr Benjamin Franklin. Glasgow and London, Inglis, Grigor & co manufacturing stationers and fancy goods merchants.

4° [1895 ?] pp 8 in double cols the running title is The art of swimming. On p 3 the introduction begins There is no season wherein a man. Then follows

Norley's Technique of natation.

I found this title as of a published book in William James Norley's patent n° 11, 320-1895 of methods for teaching s. in or out of the water.

The German authorities declined to grant a patent as they said the invention was not new. The English patent office will patent anything a person likes to offer — with the fees.

Norley's idea is described in s. by A. Sinclair 1894 p 14.

[begins] Supplement to English sport (sic) and amateur wheelman. Swimming [a weekly paper issued] 13 march 1895, 4° pp 8.

At the head is a notice that on 20th march it would be (and it was) issued 'in a cover and separately from English sport.'

N° 1 is entitled An offshoot from English sports : Swimming and lacrosse ...one penny. It was printed and published by Boot, son and Carpenter 24 old Bailey.

With n° 13 on the 13 june a supplement of portraits was given and another with n° 33 for 31 october. The issue for 7 nov n° 34, contains a notice of

This statement in a book so lately published would lead one to imagine that the English sidestroke was unknown in Germany, but this is not so as it is mentioned in Müller 1891, and herr Arnold Toefer when over here for the L.S.S. gala in 1897 swam the English sidestroke.

The greater part of the figures illustrate what I should call water gymnastics — not swimming.

a reprint of some plagiarism of Thevenot. On p 7 Franklin's advice is quoted with the objectionable interpolation : it finishes with his kite trick.

The inventor who has been a 'diver' and is instructor at the Portsmouth public baths informs me that he intended to publish his book with the specification.

It is still in manuscript.

Norley was a real diver of the Royal Navy who went under water, not the 'diver' of all our books, who takes a spring into the air and eventually goes into the water.

N° 35 was published 12 dec ; n° 36 is dated 16th on the cover but inside 'january 18, 1896.' The next number advertised for 15 feb never appeared.

It was energetically edited and partly financed by George Pragnell hon sec A.S.A. whose portrait is given on p 429, 24 oct '95. It was written almost entirely in sporting style and much of it was far from understandable by ordinary

beings. It has numerous portraits many of which are reproduced in Newman's Swimmers. The L.S.S. was well noticed throughout, and n° 8 for 9 may 1895 p 89 has a portrait of w. Henry as admiral of the L.S. ship

The Badminton magazine of sports and pastimes, edited by A. E. T. Watson. Longmans Green & co. London, New York & Bombay 1896.

8° n° 12 for july pp 80 to 88 article entitled 'Swimming and life saving by the honorable Sydney Holland' with five illustrations by s. t. Dadd. Mr Holland says of captain Webb 'If I remember rightly he never was any good at any of the side strokes' [quite correct]: gives the entirely new advice that in the breast stroke 'you will see every good swimmer in the world swimming with his mouth under water till the arms separate.' This is good advice, though it only applies to fresh water. None of the illustrations in the books of 'the world' show their figures in this position. It is practically what I have insisted on throughout this book that the more the head is under water the better, as the swimmer then has less to support: cites the frog as 'the best exponent of the art of the present day as to his back legs': says of J. H. Tyers: 'His pace is got by [what appears to be] a wonderful screw-like motion of his legs below the knees:' gives his records.

N° 14 sep 1896 pp 362-372 s. for ladies by Mabel Veronica Batten with two whole page illustrations by Lucien Davis. A charming article with sensible and judicious advice, of its occasional indiscretions as to costume we must leave the ladies to judge. Mrs Batten objects to the absurd bathing arrangements at most of our seaside places. The illustration of a young lady swimming on her side has the head entirely out of water, a bad fault. She advises girls (and we say boys too) to take their

signed 'Sally' the familiar appellation of Edmund Vannutelli Salaman (born 4 jan 1857) honorary treasurer of the L.S.S. to 1899. English sports 28 dec 1892 has biography and portrait.

first lessons in warm calm water.

Vol vii n° 37 august 1898 pp 216-29 has an article by Constance Everett-Green entitled 'swimming for ladies' with two whole page (allegorical?) illustrations.

It is excellent, in fact one of the best articles I have read, the advice is all good and the experience I should say of a good swimmer. Miss Green shows the difficulty of, but absolute necessity for 'balance.' She very properly ascribes most accidents to loss of nerve, instead of to 'cramp the usual scape-goat.'

'Almost any candid swimmer will acknowledge that he still feels a trace of that same dread when about to enter the water.' I admit I do at all times, especially if I am alone in a large bath and am not certain of the temperature of the water, and I have swum almost every day for years past just five or ten minutes.

'The joys of really deep-sea swimming are difficult to describe,' and also to get inexpensively. I have been to Brighton Pier head for years past: there bathing is allowed until one o'clock; no such freedom is allowed at any other town in England (or the world?)

For four full length portraits (or what appear to be so) of Miss Green with her bicycle, see the number of the Badminton mag for december 1897 p 643. She is a daughter of Mrs M. A. Everett Green (b 1818 d 1895) the historian (N & Q 6 apr 1901).

Handbuch für schwimmvereine... von Georg Kallenbach. Breslau 1896.

A andbook for s. clubs. 12° pp 4 & 157 & covers.

How to teach swimming in class together with directions diagrams hints etc for those learning to swim by themselves, by rev C. W. A. Brooke, M.A. diagrams and drills by colonel H. Torkington R.A. London George Philip & son 32 Fleet st E.C. Liverpool Philip son & Nephew 45 to 51 South castle st-1896.

12° pp 34 & 4 and ornamental cover.

The date of the minute which he quotes authorising swimming in Board Schools is 24 mar 1892. This book was intended to be written for school board teachers. In default of a better they may find this book useful, but many of the directions are old fashioned, and we find the usual incorrect instruction that floating is 'perfectly easy': keep your arms by your side and 'Sometimes the arms are thrown behind the head' (p 32-3).

Is the following wise? 'Any child coming with unclean body should be at once told to dress again without going into the water; should this occur a second time he should be warned that he will be excluded throughout the season' (p 16). I should have thought take him to the tap with a piece of soap and see that he washes. It seems to me absurd to require boys (or girls?) to wear 'costume.' If anything is necessary to distinguish one set from another, the wide band round the arm Mr Brooke suggests (p 13) would be ample.

The sidestroke ought not to come into an elementary book of this kind at all. The children should simply learn to keep under water and be taught the breast and back strokes, and to spring from the side.

'Opening the mouth and swallowing water, instead of only breathing through the nostrils' (pp 19 & 23). If Mr Brooke can swim breathing through the nose only I cannot: getting water in the nostrils is much worse than swallowing it, but it should not be swallowed!

Mr William Wilson author of the Swimming Instructor who has had great experience in teaching children has kindly read this work for me and sends me the following notes.

The suggestion pp 14-15 that a roll

should be systematically kept as to each child, is good.

My experience teaches me to disagree from the dictum that indiarubber inflated belts never last, becoming rotten through water. I have invariably found that the coverings of cork belts and cork jackets rot and wear much faster than rubber. Moreover old or discarded lifeboatmen's jackets are much too clumsy and cumbersome, and interfere with the children's movements.

I consider that to recommend the children to be in the water itself, rather under than over half an hour (p 15) is a grievous mistake. I should give the time as not more than 10 or 15 minutes. No class requires one hour in the bath. Supervision (p 14). I should say that one teacher of swimming be of course present to instruct & c and that one or two assistants from the schools attend to supervise the children, keep them quiet, under control & c & c.

Numbers. To say eighty scholars should be in the bath at one time is absurd, unless at land drill. There might be 80 present but there should never be more than 10 or 20 under instruction at one time in the water.

Eating (p 16). This paragraph is to some extent at least contradictory or confusing. Diving (p 33) and the header p 34 are too meagre and incomplete. Not a word upon how to spring off, the inclination of the body, angle & c. The drill (pp 25 to 30) given is nearly all an old drill published as long ago as 1876, since which time many improvements have been made

W. W.

Since the above was written in 1897 the School Board for London has authorised swimming in their schools.

Manuale del nuotatore con 97 incisione [half title—title] Prof. Abbo Pietro Vittorio : Manuale del nuotatore : norme igieniche teoriche pratiche riguardanti il nuoto ed i bagni : infortuni : soccorsi : trasporti. Ulrico Hoepli editore. Milano 1896.

Manual of s. taught theoretically and practically, and as to health : accidents : succor : transport.

16° height of print 127 width 72 mm pp xii 118 with blank paper for notes, on the cover is the price 'lire 2.50' and Manuali Hoepli with a figure of a woman in costume about to spring (also repeated in the title page) her feet in a bad position as her toes are not touching the springing base, but the rest is better drawn than any of the other 97 figures. This number is made up by duplicating and triplicating them for instance fig 5, 18 & 43 are the same and so are 7 & 35 : 8, 36 & 64 : 12 & 28 : 14 & 37 : 15 & 45 : 16, 41 & 67 : 17, 42 & 69 : 19 & 39 : 47 & 68.

The figures are all represented in

Petite bibliothèque athlétique, publiée sous la direction de M[onsieur] G. de Saint-Clair. La natation par G. de Saint-Clair. Paris, Armand Colin et cie, éditeurs : Librairie de la Société des gens de lettres, 5 rue de Mézières 1896 : tous droits réservés.

12° pp ix & 102 with 37 figures in the text.

On its publication I ordered this book with some curiosity, to see whether our neighbours were 'up to date,' and on a cursory glance observing 'water-polo' and a number of nicely executed figures in outline I began to peruse with avidity. As I advanced I could not help thinking that I had read much of this before, and finally for the rest of the day I kept on exclaiming 'Well ! I am astounded !' and monsieur G. de Saint-Clair if ever he reads this may possibly add 'How strange to think I should have been found out, au diable soit cet Anglais.'

Astonishing as it may seem, part is an unconscious plagiarism from the *Traité de natation* of N. Roger 1783 through the publication of Delarue about 1881. Saint-Clair never probably

costume and are not only badly drawn, mostly in bad positions, but half out of the water ; one would not have expected such a poor production from the country that has given us such great masters of the pencil.

It is really surprising to find a work got up with pretensions to be scientific, so simple and so inaccurate. The inferiority of the illustrations gives notice of what may be expected of the text and shows again what I have said before, that it is not sufficient for a man to be a good swimmer (which I presume professor Abbo is, though he is unacquainted with the English sidestroke) but he must also be a good writer.

For his idea of how to rescue see ante p 143.

having heard of N. Roger, who thus after a hundred and thirteen years comes to us in another new dress, for M de Saint-Clair has given him a nice new dress and touched him up a good deal. Many passages are inserted verbatim : compare for example pp 2, 3, 28, 29, 36, 40, 49, 59, 75 with the *Traité* [1881] pp 7, 8, 53, 55, 62, 64, 70, 52, 88 and other places, or the *Encyclopédie méthodique*, article natation.

Some portions are translated from Cassell's *Book of sports* [1881] with the 17 figures taken without acknowledgment, and as all the mistakes are repeated it is needless to observe that M de Saint-Clair knows very little of what he writes about. Figures 4 & 6 to 15 and 18 are from Martin Cobbett without acknowledgment. How little did, Saint-Clair suspect that he was

copying German figures, at second hand too.

He informs us that in 1706 the Parisiens bathed naked, but not long after they became decent and wore drawers.

He cites some long swims (all English) which he calls 'records,' but only two are acknowledged as such by our A.S.A. This is in the 'historical' introduction which finishes with a record plunge which he makes the mistake of imagining to be a dive of 75 feet 7 inches. He says the plunger 'atteint une profondeur de 23^m 61.' This probably arises from his mistranslating plunge into French as plonger, which is wrong, because plonger means dive not plunge.

On p 18 & 29 we are told the movement for the breast stroke is exactly the same as that of the frog, but his figure n° 6 (a combination of Cobbett's figures 18 & 22) contradicts this. The breast stroke which is really as unnatural to man as any could be, he says 'is the most natural.' These fallacies have been frequently contradicted but here they are again like the clown in the pantomime as great favorites as ever.

He says (from Cassell's) the breast stroke is preferable to the side-stroke in an agitated sea – the contrary is the fact. Then the nonsense (p 44) that in the sidestroke there is never more than one arm working, is copied from The ABC 1866 p 65 from which (p 69) part of p 47 is also copied without acknowledgment. The advice about its being difficult to open the eyes when under water p 48 (from Cassell's) is also wrong.

In the lifesaving, mostly from Cassell's, we are told that when you undress to save 'if you wear drawers, undo the bottoms, otherwise they will fill with water and drag you to the bottom' (utter nonsense). The clothes are written about as usual as if they would drag the swimmer down instead

of helping him to keep up. Their chief inconvenience is in trying to go fast. The 'death grip' is repudiated. Seize the person by the hair is old but bad advice (p 80).

At the time I was criticising Cassell's Book of sports I did not consider all these things worth noticing, but when they are translated it is different. There are numerous other mistakes for which see my notes on the books plagiarised.

The piece cited as Dr Franklin's (p 88) is not his – at least not in that form.

The water polo cut on p 95 represents players standing in three feet of water (no standing is allowed in the English game): others are making believe to be in deep water!

It is a painful thing to criticise a book like this. First I look upon its fair face with pleasure, then as I read on I find it false. I then make some severe remarks: next in accordance with my usual custom I search for some information about the author. I do not find him in any French biography. Then I search the Catalogue of the British Museum (that of the Bibliothèque Nationale afforded me no information) and find two works ascribed to two different persons Saint-Clair artist and Saint-Clair football player. The latter is our man, but who is the artist? I will show that he is the same. Searching further I find a work entitled *A bord de la Junon par Gaston Lemay, ouvrage illustré... par G. de Saint-Clair*. In the middle of a double page imaginative border illustration signed 'Saint-Clair invent, et del,' I find the names of the ship's staff and among them is 'G. de Saint-Clair Stevenson secrétaire.'

In Saint-Clair Stevenson then we have further identity. I see from Allibone that under that name was written *Alsace and Lorraine, London 1873*. On looking at the book I find

it was 'sold for the benefit of the emigrants of Alsace and Lorraine.' The author notwithstanding his name of 'Stevenson' and his writing English in a style that captivates and makes you read his book, claims to be a Frenchman and a soldier (p 87). If he did not claim it, no other than a Frenchman could write of France and her wrongs as he does. The object of his work was a noble one, to help the helpless. Now I have gone far enough to make one regret that I have had to lay bare the blot that Mons^r Saint-Clair has made on his escutcheon: regret which would have been intensified if he had been a good swimmer. He could not have been much of a swimmer in 1876 when the third edition of Voyle's A Military dictionary was published and the author says he was 'assisted by captain G. de Saint-Clair-Stevenson F.R.G.S.' ancien officier d'état-major auxiliaire' as no treatise is given under natation. Nor was he in 1878 when on board the 'Junon' or he must have given a drawing of the way some of the tribes he visited swam. Mr Stevenson

was 'le jeune secrétaire' then (p 4): he is simply called 'Saint-Clair' on p 110 (where he is referred to as 'secrétaire') 155, 240 (where it is said he long resided in Edinburgh) 345, 393, but on p 379 a view of a harbor (New York?) full of movement is signed G. de St Cl. St which seems to put his identity beyond a doubt. Nor could he have been anything of a swimmer in 1896 when in 'La natation' referring to the inconveniences of playing water polo in the sea he says 'Besides the frequent gulps of salt water would end in making the players sea sick, and tired with the contest they would be in danger of getting drowned.' They must indeed be poor swimmers who would take in gulps of water - without spitting it out again.

It is truly a pity that this artist author and soldier should have demeaned himself by so trumpery a plagiarism from compilations like the *Traité*, The ABC and Cassell's when writing English with a facility many Englishmen would envy he could have translated one of our best books.

The above was written in 1896.

Water polo and how to play it by Fred G. Bretton and J. S. Gowland, printed and published by J. S. Gowland 25 Seaside road Eastbourne 1896.

16° pp 41. Mr Bretton was hon sec County Water Polo Association and Mr Gowland hon sec Eastbourne s.c. and honorary representative to the L.S.S. etc 1895.

Ulula: the Manchester grammar school magazine march 1896 pp 33-37. Advice all good.

Every girls book of sport...edited by Mrs Mary Whitley. London Routledge, Manchester and New York 1897.

8° 1896 pp viii 504 pp 200-3 on s.

series: a note to this effect ought properly to have been put in the book.

This article is adapted from 'Swimming by A. Sinclair' in the 'Oval'

How to learn to swim by Donald Morrison, president of the Rosebery s.c., R.H.S. medalist [cut of figure repeated in fig 8] London the Sunday school union, 57 & 59 Ludgate hill E.C. price twopence.

Title from the cover: the headtitle Forth s.c. and humane society A also says he was 'late master to the paper reprinted from Young England.'

¹ These letters in England indicate a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society but his name does not appear among the list from 1872-6.

[for July 1897] Alexander & Shephard are the printers.

12° [July 1897] pp 16 with 14 cuts, which are plagiarised from *La natation par G. de Saint-Clair*. The text is edited by someone for D. Morrison, if

indeed he did more than give his name.

Morrison seems to have known a little of water-polo as Saint Clair, he reproduces the French cut (14) with the men standing while playing.

Jahresbericht des verbandes Hamburger schwimmvereine 1897.
Hamburg s. association annual. 12° pp 168.

Leitfaden für wassersprünge herausgegeben von Georg Hux, dritte, verbesserte auflage. Berlin 1897 32^{mo} pp 32.

Literal translation of title *Directions for waterspringing* edited by Georg Hux, third corrected edition.

Meyers Konversations-lexikon. Leipzig vol 15, 1897, 8°.
Two columns, mentions several German but no English authors.

Neue und beste art zu schwimmen [on the illustrated cover - title]. *Das schwimmen in zwei zeiten und seine vorzüge vor dem Pfuelschen und d'Argyschen schwimmen in drei zeiten: nebst drei bildlichen darstellungen.* Von Alfred Reichel, Ritter des eisernen kreuzes [motto] alle rechte vorbehalten. Breslau G.B. Aderholz.

The title is *Swimming in two movements and its superiority over the Pfuelschen and D'Argy methods with three.*

8° pp 16.

This is only the fourth German publication I have seen without a date on the titlepage. The date is given at the end however 'Written in 1866, confirmed 1897.'

Reichel's movements are the same but the author counts two instead of

three. He quotes Pfuels' pamphlet 1817 as 'über das Schwimmen (Berlin, Ferd. Dümmler 31 pages)'; and a German translation of D'Argy's instructions Berlin 1864.

The instruction for s. on the side appears from the figure reproduced under English sidestroke ante p 120 to be the breast stroke swum on the side.

Price two pence: *Swimming annual* compiled and arranged by A. Thomson Mylles, amateur champion d ver of Scotland, containing careful and reliable information regarding records, winners &c of the various championships [first in 1858] with photos of winners for 1896. Edinburgh Athletic Times office Chapel lane.

24° 1897 pp 41 and cover with contents. To the portrait of the author is put winner of the 'graceful diving' championship from which we may infer

that 'springing' not diving is meant, there is no championship for diving i e swimming under water.

Young England, an illustrated magazine, London Sunday School Union: part 167, aug 1895 large 8°.

Swimming and saving by Riccardo Stephens M.B. late hon sec Edinburgh University s. club on p 292-5 with a figure s. which (without the background) is taken without acknowledgment from Cassell's Popular recreator

fig 6 p 73.

An excellent article of good instruction, making the pupil work under water first. The author calls himself a Cornishman and says he has 'dived in, clothed, at one end of the s. baths and

come out at the other end with all my things in my hands and between my teeth.'

In part 190 for July 1897 p 260-3 an article appears which is reprinted as How to s. by D. Morrison see p 404.

The encyclopædia of sport, edited by the earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, Hedley Peek and F.G. Aflalo. London Lawrence and Bullen Ltd. 1897-8.

Large octavo, issued in 22 numbers at 2s each, the first in March 1897 the last in October 1898; s. is in the July part xvii pp 420-435, 28 columns, with 15 illustrations in the text, chiefly from photos.

Reissued by The Standard newspaper London 1901.

Before reading this article I endeavored to settle what should be the form it ought to take. I even sought the assistance of the readers of N & Q 12 Aug 1899 p 126, but met with no response.

I think an encyclopedic article should comprise short notices of the following

1 a history of the literature of swimming.

2 the different strokes most used and in what country each prevails.

3 the land drill for the breast stroke, and instruction how to execute the principal strokes including balance, confidence and floating.

4 some feats and strokes in fancy swimming.

5 springing and diving.

6 life saving and resuscitation.

7 the best performances.

to these after reading the article I add

8 organisation and

9 water polo

Though in an encyclopedia of 'sport' the articles fortunately got into the hands of experts who treat of swimming as a useful art of national importance, rather than as a 'sport.'

The young man, an illustrated monthly magazine: July 1897: price 3^d. 8^o pp 217-222 with 7 illustrations.

S. on land and in water: a chat with the hon sec of the L.S.S.

They are uniformly good. They begin with the breast stroke. The sidestroke is mentioned as 'being practically out of date now, having been supplanted by the over-arm,' which if true is unfortunate. The sidestroke is the grammar, the overarm should be learnt when the grammar is perfect. If the sidestroke is not now learnt first it is on account of the paucity of good swimmers and teachers, and the rage for copying the stroke of every champion however bad; for the present knowledge is so poor that very few are able to judge whether a stroke is good or bad.

It then treats of fancy swimming—without a name. Then 'diving'—for which read springing; diving as an art is not treated of except to mention that 'under-water competitions are not encouraged.' Then racing records—'hints to swimmers' and details of the L.S.S. diploma for swimming. Finally water polo and life-saving. The Marshall Hall method of resuscitation is passed over, the writer¹ stating that it is the least efficacious, but Dr Bowles says it is the simplest and best (see my article on the R.H.S. ante).

In the preface the editor refers to the 'glossaries under each subject,' needless to say none are given under swimming. Such a thing would not only have been of great interest, but the first ever given.

Part of these articles were republished in The young sportsman edited by A. E. T. Watson 1900.

¹ There are two names, but the article is solely by W. Henry, the other name being added without his knowledge.

Der schwimmer, illustrierte wochenschrift für die interessen des schwimmens. Redaction und verlag von Carl von Gruchalla, Charlottenburg.

8° pp 8 each number and covers.

N^o 1 dated 5 jan, and 45, 9 nov 1900. It is said to be in its second year. N^o 45 has a halftone of a 'snap shot' of F. Lane the Australian coming

out of the water after the International s. contests held at the Paris exposition.

The number for 24 sep 1902 has a table of 53 different ways of springing, divided into numerous subdivisions.

Die schwimmkunst...von Alphons Minch...Münster 1898.

The art of s. : theory and historical sketch with a guide for teachers and pupils by -, teacher of s. to the s. society called 'Deutsche Kraft.'

12° pp 27 and covers. He quotes 'Franklin' but I do not think it is Benjamin; A. H. Niemeyer on baths and s. : D'Argy, and 'Colymbetes' without the author's name. Byron's

feat of swimming across the Hellespont about one mile on 3 may 1810 is still with herr Minch the greatest.

He mentions 'English swimming' as being on the side, but his description is insufficient.

Twenty-one ways of springing are given.

Our boys' own book of swimming and rowing [cut of a full rigged ship]: one penny.

32° [1898 ?] pp 8 - 5 on s. It is very badly printed on worse paper, but seems to be written by an educated person: the instructions are too short to be of any use and it does not describe

the action of the legs, only the arms, in the breast stroke. It is one of several curiosities presented to me by Mr C. W. Sutton librarian of the Manchester Free Library, the first in 1872.

The out of door library: Athletic sports...London, Kegan Paul 1898, 8° pp xiii 318.

This is an American book printed at New York and copyrighted 1896 by Charles Scribner's sons.

The frontispiece is 'water polo at the New York athletic club.'

An interesting article entitled 'surf and surf bathing by Duffield Osborne' with 12 illustrations in the text occupies pp 235-269.

Program: New sporting journal.

This is an extra number of the New Sporting Journal published at Stockholm 21st august 1898, it is in quarto and there is an article in Swedish and English on the history of swimming in Sweden signed Arvid Ulrich. It has an illustration of the ladies swimming place

and of a figure executing the 'swan-dive.' Dive here means spring. This was published in honor of the visit of W. Henry and other members of the Life Saving Society to Sweden: for an account see The Swimming magazine for october 1898.

On saving life from drowning: printed at the office of Svenska Dagbladet, Stockholm 1898.

16° pp 14 signed at the end Arvid Ulrich who writes in English: this was also printed in honor of the visit of L.S.S. to Sweden.

The 'House' on sport, by members of the London Stock Exchange: compiled and edited by W. A. Morgan. London Gale & Polden Ltd. 1 Amen corner 1898.

8° article on s. by R. G. F. Cohen pp 377 to 384 with six illustrations in

the text, to which the writer makes no allusion, and therefore I presume his

article was cut down by the editor. It is a good general article on the neglect and progress of the art, by a practical man who however I consider is mis-

taken in imagining anyone can be a swimmer, though anyone can learn to keep from sinking.

Swimmers and swimming or the swimmer's album by Charles Newman superintendent and instructor Westminster Baths...London The Pictorial press ltd. 24 Bouverie street E.C. 1898, copyright.

8° pp 4 & 93. This was more or less written and edited by Mr Archibald Sinclair for Mr Newman. It has upwards of two hundred portraits many reproduced from *Swimming* 1895-6, and some good articles. In that by Mr Newman I disagree from him when he says the overarm stroke 'is practically the breast stroke done on the side.' The inaccuracy here is calling Gurr's roll stroke *the* overarm, true it was an overarm but not *the* overarm which I describe under Harrington. I entirely agree with him when he says (p9) 'with regard to diving [i.e. spring-

ing] from heights, take my advice and don't attempt it.' A second edition was advertised. The sale was a success for the publishers but unfortunately the evil genius of swimming took part in this matter, and turned Mr Newman's profit into a loss, for when he went to receive his money from the publishers, the doors were shut! they were bankrupt! There is a portrait of Mr Newman in *Swimming* 8 may 1895: he was born in London: was awarded a testimonial by the R.H.S. on the 20 nov 1877.

The teachers' review...edited by J. Edward Parrott published by Waddington & Jackman ltd. Bolton. vol 1 may 1898.

N° 5: n° 6 for june, n° 7 for july contain articles, with five figures, illustrating 'teaching to swim' by land drill, they are by James Frederick Freeman hon sec London Schools Swimming Association: his name is given on the covers.

He begins with the right leg, but the practice is to begin with the left,

as in the 'form of land-drill for class-teaching of s. recommended by the L.S.S.A.' which is a card with the drills and practice in the water, issued by Mr Freeman as hon sec to the Association: in 1900 he resigned the hon sec after six years and was made a vice-president.

The swimming magazine, n° 1 for june 1898, n° 12 may 1899.

Quarto pp 106 and covers to each number price 2^d each: a balance sheet was issued 1st june 1899. It was started by w. Henry not as a speculation but for the promotion of swimming and life saving. It was subscribed for solely by s. clubs: received insufficient support and was abandoned, the promoter bearing the pecuniary loss. It did much good during its year and was the first s. journal started irrespective of sporting. There are numerous subjects of interest mooted. Perhaps the most important article is

that in the january number, which gives an exact description [by w. Henry] of Miss Elise Wallenda's record of 4 minutes 45²/₅ seconds stopping under water. Mr Henry was requested by the manager of the Alhambra theatre of varieties London to act as timekeeper, and gives all the precautions he took to test her genuineness, and a minute account that leaves nothing to be desired. No such account has ever before been published. This is the kind of report we should like to have of the feats of the ancients,

who stopped days under water, when no expert like Mr Henry was by to time them.

Although this magazine was started

Physical culture edited by [Eugen] Sandow 1899.

An article by A. Sinclair in february, on p 109 is a print of the blind swimmers going down the chute at the bath of the Royal Normal college for the blind [originally appeared in *Swimming* 7 nov 1895 p 457].

p 117-20 an account of Miss Elise Wallenda's stay under water by w. Henry. The account in the *S.* magazine is more complete.

In march number two articles, one

The *Cosmopolitan* an illustrated monthly magazine july 1899. New York price sixpence, vol xxvii, 8° pp 332-336.

An article entitled What one should know about s. by John Fletcher.

Many of the old fallacies are repeated. It is clear that the writer is no swimmer or at all events he must be as poor a swimmer as could be found except perhaps one, and that is 'Hy s. Watson' who has drawn the six figures, all incorrect. For instance the one 'ready to dive' should have his feet

How to swim, a practical treatise upon the art of natation, together with instruction as to the best methods of saving persons imperilled in the water, and of resuscitating those apparently drowned, by captain Davis Dalton champion long-distance swimmer of the world: chief inspector of the United States Volunteer Life-Saving corps &c, with [30] illustrations (signed c. h. Warren) drawn from life: second impression. G. P. Putnam's sons, New York and London [printed at] The Knickerbocker Press [New York] 1899.

12° p x and half title, and 133, price 3/6. On the colored cover is an illustration of a man swimming hand-over-hand not in the book, but it is reproduced in outline on the extra paper cover with initial s.

Davis Dalton was born (his son informs me and I have no doubt truly) 25 oct 1846 at Vegesack near Bremen Germany, but in *The Times* 19 aug 1890 p 5 col 4 it is stated that he was born in New York 26 oct 1851.

Though he spent the last thirty

on entirely different principles from all the other s. periodicals, the end was the same - pecuniary loss.

by A. Sinclair on the long-distance championship.

In april 1900 p 310-15 'Swedish diving [i.e. springing] by A. E. Johnson' chiefly from sketches and information supplied by w. Henry hon sec L.S.S. portrait of herr Chas Mauritz, the gymnast. On p 357 is an article in which s. is mentioned, with portrait and facsimile of signature of George Pragnell hon sec A.S.A.

over the edge of the takeoff. The result of starting badly is seen in the 'high dive' with arms and legs straggling. The figure 'floating' has the arms by the side, though the text is here correct in saying 'Stretch your arms above your head.' The figure of 'the overhand stroke' is too incorrect for criticism.

years of his life in London and New York he never lost his native accent, nor did he become acquainted with the English language sufficiently to write this book, nor did the experts in London consider him a good swimmer. In answer to my enquiry Mr F. E. Dalton who is swimming instructor at the Battery Baths, New York, wrote me (16 jan 1900) that 'my late father gave me his ideas and I wrote the book from same and my own experiences, I also posed for each one of the position

illustrations.' The book appears to me to be chiefly the work of a professional writer. However putting authorship on one side I will criticise it as I have other books, and irrespective of the blazoning of a 'championship' which was assumed — the recognised champion being in England.

On p 19 he says when in 1890 he swam the English Channel he was in the water $23\frac{3}{4}$ hours and swam sixty miles. It is not admitted in England that he ever got across. It was immediately disputed (see *The Times* 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 & 25 aug 1890 also *The Daily Mail* 3 & 5 sep and 1 oct 1902; and *Watson's Memoirs* p 116). But Dalton did a most foolhardy thing, which might have cost him his life, though he did it in ignorance, he jumped off the Ostende boat going at full speed (*The Times* 11 july 1890).

The advice in chapters 1 & 2 is all good, that on pages 13 to 15 is taken from Franklin's observations on specific gravity without acknowledgment.

The instructions on the sidestroke (p 27) and the illustrations are all wrong or not in what I consider the best form. A little farther on (p 35) we come to what Dalton calls the 'English racing stroke' which gives a better idea of the English side (or racing) stroke, but it is a rough one. For example the upper hand in fig 2 p 38 has passed the middle line of the body and is therefore useless, if not becoming a backward stroke. 'The head sinks,' is bad form, the mouth should never be under. The 'double kick' (p 40, 43, 45) is not described though surely most important if there is anything in it, and the head of the figure on p 41 is bad in position, though apparently copied from Sinclair and Henry 1893 p 85. The way given to undress in the water is a clumsy one, and for nonfloaters.

That upright swimming (p 52) is used in France and Germany is an error

copied without knowledge from English books. Curious that a native of Germany should let this pass.

The reasons given (p 56) for breathing through the mouth instead of the nose are original and good.

The directions for keeping the mouth open under water may be good for clean water, but would not do for a closed bath.

The instructions for avoiding cramp (p 81) are right, except the first.

That arms and legs only are subject to cramp (p 83) is a mistake.

The figures springing [in the book called diving] are all good, that on p 88 is a portrait of F. E. Dalton who was born in London 30 may 1878.

In describing the action for the propeller it would be simpler to say use 'sculling,' instead of saying 'twist the wrists,' but that most important of all actions 'sculling' is not described.

Swimming feet foremost on the breast as shown on p 90 has never been given in any previous treatise.

Nobody could keep both legs out of the water in the position shown on p 91.

The 'steamer' is described under the wrong heading of the 'steam tug' p 92.

The fig. for the 'spinning top' (p 94) is quite wrong, and so is the statement that 'to spin with ease the person should be somewhat buoyant.'

Marching or walking on the water (p 99) is properly described, the action to come from the kneejoint.

Several of the feats are from our old friend Digby (through Thevenot) see p 78 & 79 & 95 (to sit in the water).

Some of the descriptions in the 'fancy swimming' 'by professor F. E. Dalton' show that he had read Clia's or one of his copyists.

On p 118 fig 5 is referred to, there is none.

The chapter (vi) on life saving is astonishingly weak, but the illustrations

are nicely done. The writer was apparently totally ignorant of the English Life Saving Society's drill and methods. It is truly extraordinary that in 1899 we should have the old exploded theory seriously discussed 'why a drowning person rises to the surface two or three times' (p 119). This is one of the pieces I ascribe to the professional author who wrote the book assisted by Messrs Dalton.

The final chapter on public education in swimming is excellent, but the English are given far too much credit, as it is not the fact that 'in England by Act of Parliament instruction in swimming in public schools has been made compulsory,' although in London

La grande encyclopédie v 24. 'la natation' is beneath notice, considering that this is one of the largest and most pretentious encyclopedias published.

The article is the sort of thing that might be expected from a schoolboy writing an examination essay after having read the articles in one or two encyclopedias. Quotes A. Tartivel. The writer says the D'Argy method is that

Revue encyclopédique : Georges Moreau, éditeur. Paris, librairie Larousse 1899 n° 313 2 sep: 9^e année: in quarto.

An article entitled 'la natation' signed 'Dr Turbaux (de St Quentin Aisne)' on pp 718-20 with five figures from photographs, the one floating has the arms by the side, although the text says they must be over the head. The other four are of the breast stroke on land. The English sidestroke is called 'la coupe anglaise,' the description is

Board of education : special reports on educational subjects. vol 6 ...English secondary education...London 1900 price 2s 3½d

8° pp xv 531. Swimg. by A. J. C. Dowding formerly head master of St Ninian's, Moffat, Scotland pp 360-3.

Some admirable advice, but the writer does not sufficiently insist on the necessity of tepid baths at all schools, with an even temperature of over 70° in the winter, and compulsory swimming at

almost the same result has been produced by voluntary means.

It will thus be seen that this book has been put together from various sources, with a sprinkling of originality (supplied by the Daltons?), by a person who if a swimmer at all is a very poor one.

Davis Dalton was married at Philadelphia: his death occurred at Far Rockaway, Long Island N.Y. of apoplexy while giving a swimming exhibition with his son on 6 aug 1899.

There is a portrait of him in the 'supplement to Swimming for 31 oct 1895 as an advertisement of his cigar store 292 Fulham road London.

Paris [1899] pp 828-830.

employed in the French army. Gives the date of Webb's swim incorrectly!

Ch v Langlois in his Manuel de bib^lie historique 1901 p 20 compares the list of books at the end of each article favorably with other works. Under natation LA GE does not cite a single book, whereas the Encyclopaedia Britannica gives sixteen references.

not sufficient to be of any use; and the stroke is not understood, as we are told the legs have the breast stroke 'coup de jarrets ordinaire.'

It quotes Les nageurs hydrophobes (Bordeaux Revue des jeux scolaires août et sep 1897) and april & may 1898.

least three times a week. Ten minutes is too short an allowance. He says 'the obligation of acquiring reasonable competence in swimming should be imposed by society on the individual,' 'society' is no good, an Act of Parliament might be. 'The child possesses as much aptitude as the adult,' I should

say more. As to the absurdity and indecency of making boys wear drawers he says 'The decency of the clad, or the secluded is negative, that of the unashamedly naked is positive.' The boys 'would chat with us as unconcernedly in their garb of nature as they

did in their ordinary attire.' Refers to 'fancy swimming.'

But the chief point and value of this article is that it forms part of an official governmental publication: swimming is at last obtaining official recognition.

Dott[ore] Eugenio Fazio: Il 8° pp 52 the first edition informs us that this is extracted from the Rivista internazionale d'igiene, xi year, of which prof Fazio was founder.

Second edition pp 84 price 2 lire.

Translation of title of 2nd edition in full Prof Eugenio Fazio: swimming: s. among primitive and uncivilised peoples. Physiology of exercises in relation to s. Various gymnastic exercises. Opinion on s. Institutions of nexodromi, the clubs and s. schools of Italy. Foscopia and fototerapia, baths of solar and electric light.

The words I have not translated I do not understand so I do as the English-French dictionaries, repeat the same words assuming the reader will know them. There is another word in

Munsey's magazine n° 4 July 1900 8° vol xxiii pp 493-98.

How to swim by Lillian Baynes Griffin. It would appear from this article that the Americans are not ahead of the English in swimming. Fortunately the writer is a better swimmer than the ten illustrations would lead us to believe. They are from photos, but it would be difficult to give illustrations more incorrect. The girls who sat for them are not serious, know nothing of the art or the proper positions. Nearly every fault I have commented on in

nuoto. Napoli, Tremontano 1900. the text in the same category namely Nectical clubs printed as if it was English, I do not know the word nectical.

There are many misprints, as p 7 vfaggio and p 16 wimming.

This treatise gives a general view of s. compiled from the authors he quotes Mercurialis, Pfhul (sic) Clias 1819, Poissonier, Christmann, de Bernardi, Orsolato, Abbo, the L.S.S. Handbook, and numerous others ancient and modern, but no special knowledge of s. is shown.

In England he says great importance is attached to baths heated during the winter: and the teaching in schools is obligatory [unfortunately it is not].

previous notes is here committed. With the exception of the first figure about to spring (p 494) every position is incorrect. The last figure p 496 in the breast stroke is finishing with the hands close to the knees. The most ordinary swimmer would be able to tell her (as in Sports for girls p 56) 'The hands in making the stroke must never be allowed to pass behind the bend of the elbow.'

Pearson's magazine July 1900, 8°.

On pp 72-76 is an article Diving as a fine art [this heading is also on the cover as the special article of the number] by W. Henry, illustrated with photographs.

Instead of 'diving' I should prefer as a title 'Swedish acrobatic springing,' the subject of the article. There is

nothing about diving, that is swimming under water, except a few words when it treats of 'diving from the surface' and in his instruction p 75 that this can be performed without the ' [add 'apparent'] 'use of hands or feet.' The feats performed are out of the water.

It is needless to say that an article by

the hon sec of the L.S.S. seems good and accurate, but in fact it is on a subject of which I have no knowledge. Probably no other Englishman knows more about high springing than Mr Henry, who the editor says is 'one of the most expert swimmers and divers living.' Diver here, as usual, means springer, but though also a good diver, the 35 feet depth of the Swedish bathing place was more than even he could manage to fathom.

The representation of Mr Henry about to plunge is a perfect and speaking

likeness, though only 27 mm high. The way the plunge is shown is cleverly done. I do not much like the advice to put cottonwool in the ears. However delightful the exercise of high springing may be, it seems to me better not to indulge in it if it injuriously affects any part of the body.

Mr Henry's article was written before that in *Physical Culture*. It was reproduced in the *Chicago Tribune* of 22 July 1900 without the slightest acknowledgment.

Outing for August 1900.

8° vol 36 n° 5 pp 522-24 one cut in the text. 'A common sense s. lesson' in which the author Duffield Osborne advocates learning 'dog fashion' as an easy way of keeping afloat. Compare the figure with s & H 1893 p 129.

At p 547 to p 531 'surf bathing' by Frederic J. Wells' with ten illustrative figures and some good advice, but that on 'rescue' is very weak, including the bad instruction to grasp the hair.

The Leisure hour [a magazine] 'Natural diving [and springing] useful and ornamental' with eight illustrations in the text. The article is compiled from Sinclair & Henry's *Swimming* unacknowledged and from information and illustrations supplied by W. Henry, acknowledged. Pearl divers do not enter head but feet first, they do not go to a depth of 100 feet (p 993) nor do they bag forty shells (p 994).

sep 1900. 8° pp 993 to 9. The draughtsman Tom Peddie has omitted the supports to the board on p 997, for Swedes do not spring from a board with a spring in it. The position of the figure in outline p 998 is much too high: these mistakes are not Mr Henry's. The article, which is named on the cover of the monthly part, is signed W. B. Northrop. Neither author nor artist show any special knowledge of the subject and go wrong directly they venture on originality.

The cliff illustration col 1 p 994 is imaginary as is also the shipping p 995.

Sports for boys by Howard Spicer editor of the 'Sports library'... London, Melrose [1900] 8° pp 137 1s.

An article of the 'jamtart' instruction class (I refer to under P. A. Graham) pp 129-137 with five illustrations in the text from Donald Morrison n°s 1, 8, 10, 11 & 12, without acknowledgment. Gives the bad instruction

I have pointed out over and over again, such as that on 'floating' and that in 'The side stroke' 'the action of the feet will be exactly the same as that in the breast stroke.'

Sports for girls, with an introduction by Mrs Ada S. Ballin... edited by H. Spicer. London Melrose.

8° [1900] pp 143, 1s. chap iii s. by Neptune pp 48-65 with six photos.

Some excellent advice so far as it goes, but the writer is not up to date, for he does not mention the land drill nor the drills and practical resuscitation

methods of the L.S.S. It is totally insufficient to refer to the 'instructions' issued by the R.H.S. As usual 'dive' is used for 'spring' and 'plunging' is used synonymously for diving.

The photos are nice but not practical except one 'learning to float,' which however would take a long time to do with the head in the position shown. In the illustrations s. as usual comes off

The Strand magazine oct 1900. 8° pp 452-6.

'An extraordinary s. race' the competitors putting on top hats clothes &c by degrees. By Albert H. Broadwell. With eleven amusing snapshot photographs.

The training of the body by F. A. Schmidt M.D. and Eustace H. Miles M.A. Cambridge. London Sonnenschein 1901.

Has an article on s. which Mr Miles cannot know much about, as he reprints a figure in the position which Schwägerl has discarded in his last edition.

Some high divers and their ways described and photographed by Walter Kilbey. The Windsor magazine, august 1901.

8° on pp 254-263: with thirty photographs from life.

This is a most valuable contribution to the art of springing - there is absolutely nothing about the art of diving in it. These photos not only illustrate how well the figure looks if the spring is properly executed, but as they are not all

worse than in the other articles, compare those for example in the article 'physical training of girls.'

The feet in the two figures about to spring are wrong, though the author (p 63) gives correct instruction.

The word 'rigid' should not be allowed in s. vocabulary, never should any part of the body be rigid.

in perfect position, how bad they look when the spring is not in a good position. The great value of these photographs is that they give actual and original facts, without any touching up.

This article has been copied by other periodicals.

Bibliothek für sport und spiel. Der schwimmsport von Axel v. Altenstein.

Library of sport and games. The sport of s. by &c with 79 plates of figures by Karl Spilling. Leipzig Grethlein & co.

8° [1901] pp 184 price 4/8.

If this had been an English publication I should have said it was not up to date. In these days, not even a foreign writer can afford to ignore what has been done in England. The English sidestroke is unknown to the author, nor does he give any of the fastest times, in fact the book is just as insular as English books are. I presume Miss Sneltwith on p 123 is intended for Beckwith. Webb is called an American.

It is surprising to find what an old-fashioned book this is. The figure I com-

ment on (which is reproduced see p 397) as being omitted by Schwägerl is here again illustrated see pp 48, 65, 85 and 88. The hands of most of the figures are given in the old praying attitude. None of the figures have the toes pointed - this defect is noticeable in the fig 43 springing (but the hands are right) and the fig 54 with one leg out of the water bolt upright, at right angles with the body. Many of the figures may be compared with those of Ladebeck which they much resemble.

It gives two figures (59 & 60) of the Silvester method without naming him, but it omits to illustrate the most important movement - with the arms pressed on the chest.

Water polo is more minutely de-

scribed than usual and acknowledged as 'das englische waterpolo.' American water polo is also described with two tables of positions, this part is quite

up to date.

The pages devoted to acrobatic springing would have been better in a gymnastic book. It has an index.

The Brigadier, a monthly magazine for the boys of the Boys Brigade, edited by Herbert Reid, vol 1 n^{os} 6, 7, 8, & 9 June to Sep 1901. 4°. Swimming and life saving by W. Wilson with illustrations.

Published by the printers R. & R. Clark Edinburgh and London.

Athletic and physical training, for land and water, by professor Marquis Bibbero, instructor in physical culture. London Walbrook & Co Ltd.

12° pp 24 with a portrait on cover and three full length inside: swimming on pp 14 to 23. The notices from the newspapers on the cover refer to his swim in the Channel on 19 Aug 1901, at the age of 78.

The author gives the Silvester

method, but does not follow the doctor, who contends that no water enters the stomach. Mr Bibbero gives an illustration of how he gets water out of the stomach! This is quite an unimportant thing—breathing is the point.

How to teach s. in schools and colleges, by James Kay, hon sec to West Ham children's s. association. West Ham teachers' s.c. Maryland point day school s. classes. Maryland point continuation school s. classes. Awarded gold medal of the L.S.S. for essay on 'S. and life saving' 1900. Illustrations drawn and engraved under the direction of the author for land and water drills, breast stroke, back stroke, and overarm s. Movements for the arms and legs & c: with introductory note by F. S. Marvin esq M.A. H.M.I. New Brompton Cro-
neen & Co 5, 7 & 9 High street: price 1/ nett: entered at Stationers' hall.

12° date 1901 at the back of the title pp 10 & 64: there are 20 illustrations which are process reproductions, not engravings.

There is much excellent advice, not only that is old put in an original manner but also that is new from the member of the executive of the L.S.S. Mr Kay's experience as an instructor has been of the utmost use to him, for he shows in a clear manner how the breast stroke 'on land and sea' is to be made.

The book is dedicated to H.R.H. the duke of Cornwall and York K.G.

On p 3 substitute i for y in Silvester: pp 22-3 the knees of the figures 7 and 7^a are drawn up too much.

In the advice to beginners (p 29) Mr Kay tells the truth, instead of telling them swimming is quite easy to learn, he says learners must be told that they are 'entering upon a task which

requires persistence of purpose, undaunted reliance in one's self and self control.' I have some difficulty in following Mr Kay's rule throughout, not to mention the sex of the learner. I have only detected the pronoun 'his' twice viz on p 44 and there 'the' would do as well!

I doubt if the sidestroke should form part of an elementary treatise, it is far too difficult, but it is perhaps necessary to give learners some idea instead of the miserable strokes they perpetrate, for they will do it.

The reference to Harry Gurr p 36 is not accurate and he might have been referred to as a 'valet' or an 'acrobat' instead of the occupation he abandoned with boyhood.

The trudgeon stroke would be more accurately called the 'hand-over-hand stroke' which includes the 'trudgeon' and all other varieties.

I am not quite satisfied with the statement (p 37) that floating is 'comparatively easy to learn.'

The popular injustice is done to Dr Hall (p 45) in putting his method of resuscitation last of the three.

Mr Kay boldly asserts, as if it had been proved, that 'England is far behind other countries in her absence of a national system for teaching swimming.' He may be right, but query whether we have not more swimmers in proportion than those countries (?) that have a 'national system.' I fully

believe we should come out much ahead of other countries.

The explanation (p 53) of how the A.S.A. is composed is very welcome. So also are the 'records of national events.'

The authority for calling the 220 yards 1900 record the 'world's' should be stated.

Mr Kay, as his book shows is a school teacher and beyond that he is one of the noble army who voluntarily give a large portion of their time to gratuitous work and instruction. He was born at Manchester in 1862.

Die Woche [The Week] Berlin 12 juli 1902, 4°.

This weekly has a short article in n° 28 pp 1302-4 entitled 'schwimmen und tauchen' that is swimming and diving, showing that the writer adopted his title from the English, as the article is not about diving but springing, and in German should have been entitled 'schwimmen und sprungen.' The observations are of a general and elementary kind, not a bit above what would be found in an English periodical, nor would they tire or puzzle the most cursory reader. No description is given of the six snapshot halftone reproductions, of which about four are of figures pringing from the stages at

the West Pier Brighton. Two are the same photos, but slightly different, as those in The Windsor magazine.

The writer says there are very few good swimmers: it is the best bodily exercise: England has, in swimming diving and springing ('schwimm-, taucher- und springsports'), played a leading part: at one English bathing place [Brighton] there are four springboards ('sprungbretter') of different heights up to 50 feet: springing from such a height is an art, and anyone who has not had an education for it had better not try.

Chambers's journal, n° 245 vol v pp 568-71, 9 aug 1902.

Swimming in peace and war with personal experiences by Karl Blind. A good sound article, but the part of the title 'in peace and war' might be omitted. He asks why do English swimmers venture out so little—well they go out much farther than swimmers are allowed to in France and Belgium. Though a German he uses

the word dive to mean spring or dive according to the sense. Mr Blind's advice is good and that of an experienced swimmer. He is the sort of man it would give me immense pleasure to know was interested in my book.

For biography, which should be read before this article, see Who's who.

The A B C of swimming, a royal road to the art, by ex-club captain. London Henry J. Drane, ye olde saint Bride's presse Salisbury house Salisbury square Fleet street E.C.

16° [1902] pp 83 price one shilling, illustrations on the cover not repeated in the book: dedicated to his wife

Basilla de Clare late member of the Corinella s. society, S' Kilda Melbourne.

There is no royal road to swimming, there is a good road and that is constant practice with an instructor pointing out defects.

The author says the book is written to give 'instruction to the entire novice' and it may well serve this end, for there is much excellent advice in it. The way suggested (with an illustration) for teaching children to get confidence in an ordinary slipper bath is excellent. I have advised it for years past. The difficulty is that those who should carry it out are not swimmers.

Forcible entry or dipping, he says 'is not only brutal but positively wicked' p 7. Children should be taught as soon as they can crawl, p 11.

He assumes as a matter of course that drowning people cry out help, p 19.

His so called sidestroke is the one I condemn under Gurr and elsewhere,

The art of swimming, with notes on water polo and aids to life saving (by W. Henry, and handicapping by H. Thomsett) by J. A. Jarvis, the world's amateur champion, edited by W. H. Clarke. London Hutchinson & Co Paternoster row 1902, all rights reserved.

8° pp 108, price on the colored cover, one shilling. It has 15 halftone reproductions from photos and a portrait of Mr John Arthur Jarvis on the cover.

Mr Jarvis's hints are of great interest, but this book appears to me to take no serious view of swimming. Why should a man with solid claims to fame condescend to assume a bogus title, like many professionals have done, as can be seen from their books I have enumerated, in which with slight pretence they claim to be champions of the world? Mr Jarvis is admitted champion of England, and he has won the championship races in France, Germany, Austria, and Italy. In these competitions he has met the best known and fastest swimmers of these countries, and beaten them in their own waters, but even all these countries do not comprise the world.

Assertions are made about various things of which Mr Jarvis who is only

but the author is not up to date generally: the record he gives p 54 was exceeded in 1898 (S & H 1900 p 149), in his method of rescue he advises catching hold of the hair (see ante p 142)! He does not seem to know of the Life Saving Society. He gives the R.N.L.I. rules for restoration with four original illustrations 'extracted from Everyone his own doctor, published by H. J. Drane.' The artist has not understood the Hall method; and the figures begin with inspiration instead of expiration.

In the advertisement p 84 the author is called 'an ex-captain of a London S.C.' but this is incorrect, it should be the Stoke on Trent S.C.

This conscientious little book was written by Robert Marriner Painter born at Hanley Staffordshire in January 1859, now living at Brighton.

30 years of age (born 24 Feb '72) and Mr Clarke who is two years younger can have no knowledge. Thus the statement as to the inventor of the North of England sidestroke is clearly not within the knowledge of the writers and they quote no authority; it appears to be taken from S & H, but the rumor grows in strength with repetition.

The same may be said of the statement on p 28 as to the English side stroke that 'it was found...the calves and thighs retarded progress' nothing of the kind was ever found, and if it was, when, where, and by whom? (see ante p 123.)

I am not satisfied that Mr Jarvis's theory (p 21) that 'as much of the body should be kept out of the water as possible' in racing is right, neither are other swimmers I have asked about this.

I do not think anyone will be able

to learn the stroke Jarvis swims from his description; but he is the latest champion (see ante p 121).

The simile of the scissors clip is accurate (p 20) as quoted from Webb for the breast stroke (and would be also for the English sidestroke); but it is inaccurate as given on p 28 for the North of England sidestroke, which the writers call the Lancashire kick. In this we are told, p 28 line 21 'the whole of the movement is a progressive one.' It is not (ibid line 8) but this statement is nevertheless brought in evidence against the English sidestroke. My description of the N of E sidestroke was in print before Mr Jarvis's book was announced, but I do not find that it alters what I have said. Being a would-be learner of Mr Jarvis's kick I am not after careful study able to endorse his statement that his diagrams are 'plain and instructive.' They appear to me to be confusing and wrong: if Mr Jarvis will only swim in the position of his diagrams he will never win another race. One defect is apparent at starting, namely, the text says the legs should be near the surface of the water and the illustrations put them a foot or two below.

On p 30 Mr Jarvis says that during 'one half of the stroke the face is under water,' but all his diagrams represent the head so much out of the water, that only a very big bob would bring it under.

The two photo illustrations of the 'plunge dive' (?) are the best in the book, being in fact the only genuine ones, the others are all faked: done on land and water put about them afterwards, which accounts for the bad positions they are in.

The new coined words the 'plunge

dive' I do not understand: they add another piece of evidence in proof of my contention that we want swimming terms settled. I presume these two words are intended to mean a header or spring, the word plunge alone means this, perhaps dive here means that the plunge is continued into a dive (i.e. swim under water).

In this book trudgen is used as a word with a small t, and we find a 'trudger' referred to (p 35), so that to trudge may be considered to be firmly fixed in the language, as indicating any kind, but not a special kind, of hand-over-hand swimming. Surely no man ever obtained so much fame for so little as Trudgen.¹ The inventor of the English sidestroke is unknown, but Trudgen will always be in evidence, from the accidental circumstance of his winning a sprint race with the South American Indian stroke.

On the question of amateur and professional Mr Jarvis's frankness is perfect and will I should think, to use a vulgar expression, make the A.S.A. 'sit up.' It would seem that this knotty question is not yet settled to the entire satisfaction of the non-champion amateur (see p 94). Perhaps the abolition of all valuable prizes for amateurs would have a good effect, only certificates being awarded, we might then get rid of the 'promateur.' But I must leave this matter to others.

He is not a smoker and is a 'practical abstainer' (pp 38 and 93), two of the greatest necessities for a good swimmer, captain Webb tells us. It will interest some persons to know that Mr Jarvis is not one of the population of 100,000 unvaccinated people of his native town of Leicester.

¹ And so I will give some particulars about him, and here again his memory is luckier than John Strachan, Pewters and the inventor above referred to. John Trudgen was born at Poplar, London 3 may 1852: in 1863 he went to Buenos Ayres with his parents, his father being taken out by Blyth & co engineers of the Isle of Dogs. While there he learnt 'to trudge' from the natives. He returned to England in 1868, and won the race referred to ante p 139: he was a machinist at Woolwich Arsenal 1879 to death on the 2 may 1902.

The new vols of the Encyclopædia Britannica, constituting in combination with the existing vols of the 9th edit, the 10th edition. The 9th of the new vols, being vol 33 of the complete work: published by Black Edin & Lond [&] 'The Times' 1902.

On the back of the titlepage we read 'copyright, 1902 by the Encyclopædia Britannica company.' These words are required to secure copyright in a book in the United States of America, in this country they are useless; for in England (or—but I do not feel quite so certain of this—in the British dominions which are defined in the Act 5 & 6 Vic c 45 s 11) copyright in a book accrues as a statutory, in continuation of the common law right, and no notice in the book, or registration of any kind, is necessary until it is desired to restrain an infringement in a court of law, in which case the book must have been registered at Stationers Hall previously to issue of writ: though for what purpose I cannot say except to give the Stationers company five shillings. Registration can be done at any time before the expiration of the copyright. Nobody need waste their money on anticipatory registration.

The words I have so often recorded 'entered at Stationers hall' printed as a warning to those inclined to steal, are not obligatory and confer no right whatever except as just stated. Stationers hall is usually printed with an apostrophe as if it was pronounced Stationerses hall as Jones's hall is. The Act of 1842 prints it properly without the apostrophe.¹

In vol 33 s. by the honorable Sydney Holland LL.D. is on pp 120–1. He modestly refrains from mentioning the useful work done by the L.S.S. during the time he did the society the honor of being its acting president 1896 to 1900: for Mr Holland see Who's who.

The article which is a good general one, shortly states the progress made in the last fifteen years (see ante p 148). It is beautifully printed, with the

exception of the heading 'swimming' which is in great black letters coarse and obtrusive, but the appearance of all our books of reference is now spoilt with this vulgar type, fit only for iron-mongers catalogues and advertisement posters (see N & Q 19 aug 1899 p 146). Other references to s. will be found in the splendidly compiled index volume 35, also vulgarly printed with clarendon type, a great contrast to the nice printing of the first index volume, published without serial number in 1889.

The words 'scientific' swimming and 'diving' are used in the usual loose manner without definite meaning (see my glossary): real diving is not even mentioned, nor is the latest stopping under water record given, though most other records are. All the numerous dates are put in proper sequence. Only two subjects are mentioned in the inlet headings, floating and water polo.

The writer says Joseph Nuttall is the greatest swimmer of his age, which appears to me should be the 'fastest professional swimmer of his time,' for all his records have been exceeded by Jarvis, and there are many amateur swimmers who might be put before Nuttall for celebrity. It describes Nuttall's stroke of which the writer says 'a peculiar screw movement of the leg is the distinctive feature.' This screw movement is not described, but it is left for readers to conceive their own idea of the screw movement—which is not 'scientific.'

What is popularly called the trudgen stroke also mentioned, but Trudgen's stroke was the South American Indian hand-over-hand with the human kick, (see ante p 93 a) whereas the writer says 'The leg kick is the same as in the

¹ In this view I am supported by C. P. Mason's Grammar 1876.

ordinary over-arm stroke.' This is I presume the stroke described by s & H p 79, which is a sidestroke and certainly was not what Trudgen swam.

Here we see the difficulty of description when there are no terms with exact meanings to describe what is intended in a 'scientific' manner.

No list of books in continuation of

Lectures pour tous. Paris and London, Hatchete 1902 8° pp 829-33.

An article on high springing entitled *Virtuoses et fantaisistes du plongeon*: with nine halftone reproductions of photos, three are from the same photos, though they differ, as those in *The Windsor magazine* august 1901.

The article is probably exactly suited to the readers of the *Lectures*: it is written chiefly with the view of producing wonder in the reader. Everything that will bear it is exaggerated.

Quain's Dictionary of medicine, third edition, Longmans Green and co, London 1902 8° pp xviii 1892.

The first edition was published in 1882, sir Richard Quain baronet died 1898.

Being a technical work of great reputation with the medical profession, I presume we may consider it is representative of the best knowledge of the writers of the articles on the subjects I shall quote. That knowledge falls short of what it should be, as will be seen from some of the extracts that follow. I shall only quote such portions as appear to me to relate to the questions of drowning and resuscitation.

I apnoea 'literally signifying breathlessness, is used by some [early?] writers as synonymous with asphyxia.'

2 artificial respiration by C. Carter Braine. He says the subject is one of the highest importance. For the treatment of persons drowned he refers to the article drowning. He first mentions the Howard method, which he says 'is so important that it is con-

those in vol 22 (see ante p 191) is given. Notwithstanding these little matters of difference between us, I invite the reader to see how favorably these two articles on swimming (in vols 22 and 33) compare, not only for matter but printing, with that of *La grande encyclopédie*, which I have noticed ante p 411.

There is a great difference between this writer who knows nothing of the subject, but pretends to know a great deal and he of the *Windsor mag*, who on the contrary knows something but modestly pretends he knows very little. The French article is worked up like a romance, the English is written in a matter of fact useful style.

sidered separately under "Resuscitation." Then he gives 'Sylvester's method,' and as to this he says the plan that has been adopted of 'raising the chest on a high cushion or box...is objectionable.'

Lastly he gives the 'Hall ready method' (with the roll or pillow, which is far more objectionable in this than in any other method!) Dr Braine recommends the Hall method in cases of drowning 'as fluids can drain away' but it 'is not nearly so effective [I presume this means that air cannot be forced into choked lungs so quickly by the Hall] as Sylvester's, but if no assistant is at hand it [the Hall] is the best mode of artificial breathing that can be adopted.'

'Mouth to mouth insufflation is not to be depended upon, because of the difficulty of keeping the larynx open, and also of preventing the air going down the gullet.'

The above article is altered from the

first edition of Quain 1882 where it is signed by J. T. Clover, he died 27 sep 1882.

3 asphyxia by D. Ferrier and R. G. Hebb. This word 'though literally signifying pulselessness, is generally understood to mean the condition that supervenes on interruption of the function of respiration. The term apnoea, formerly suggested as a more exact one, is now definitely employed by physiologists in a totally different sense, viz the cessation of the respiratory movements consequent on artificial hyperoxygenation of the blood.'

'It is to the deficiency of oxygen rather than to the excess of carbonic acid that the phenomena of asphyxia are to be ascribed.' This article is slightly altered from the first edition.

4 drowning, an entirely new article to that in previous editions, by J. Dixon Mann. This is the article to which the lay reader would turn for knowledge of what should be done. Dr Mann shows a better acquaintance with the subject than in his book *Forensic medicine* (see ante p 202), but he is still unaware of Dr Hall's services, for though he gives a good method founded on Hall's, his name is not mentioned, though Drs Bowles and Silvester's are. The method described is partly that of Dr Bowles, but Dr Mann seems to be rather afraid of it: the article is not thorough and systematic.

'The specific gravity of the human body is slightly greater than that of water, so that an individual who falls into deep water tends to sink.'

'The bodies of men, unless there is excess of abdominal fat, float in the prone posture with the head and limbs below the water level. The bodies of women, on account of the adipose tissue of the breasts and abdomen, float in the recumbent postures' p 420.

'When the smallest sign of spontaneous respiratory movement is observed, the artificial respiration may be

discontinued.' Finally he refers to the articles artificial respiration and resuscitation.

5 resuscitation (re = again, and suscito, I arouse): asphyxia from drowning p 1408 by J. T. Clover and Carter Braine. This article is a reprint from the first edition where it bears the name of Dr Clover only. It is apparently written without regard to the previous articles, for instead of referring to that on drowning it proceeds to give another method, the Howard, and further refers the reader to the article syncope for a continuation of treatment.

Then they quote the directions of the R.H.S. all of which are founded on Dr Hall's discovery though they do not mention his name, but they say the R.H.S. recommends the 'Silvester' method! as if the R.H.S. was a greater authority than themselves. Then they make some observations, which show how uncertain they are, as 'probably the Silvester' and the modification by Bain 'are less useful than the Howard plan.'

It is fortunate, however, that the R.H.S. directions are given, for none of the articles start with Dr Hall's most important injunction to treat the patient at once on the spot.

Not one of the methods has been given after a study of the original, but all are taken from second hand sources. Thus there is very little if any authority in Dr Hall's text for the great roll or pillow. He only says 'a folded coat or other article of dress.' There is no authority for the direction given in Silvester's method by Dr Mann (*Forensic medicine* 1902 p 242) to empty 'the mouth and throat by turning the patient face downwards for a few seconds.' On the contrary Dr Silvester begins with 'place the patient on the back,' but it shows that in Dr Mann's opinion this direction of Dr Hall's is desirable. We find the same instruction in the L.S.S. Handbook in 1893 on page 56.

There seems in all this a want of exact and certain knowledge, and generally there is no editorial supervision which should have brought the

articles into harmony with one another, or said that the practice of resuscitation appeared to be only imperfectly understood by the writers.

The royal magazine for July 1903 8° pp 277-9.

An article with six halftones from photos of horses in the water, entitled A swimming school for horses by W. G. FitzGerald.

The text of the photo on p 279 says 'the horses are now swimming. Although very powerful swimmers, they can only [!] keep their heads and necks out of the water.'

If they are swimming they are not in their natural position, they are represented with necks out of the water, as if standing, the result of being pulled by the reins. In this position greater exertion must be required from the hind legs; and the hind quarters are

sunk lower than they would be in the animal's natural position with the head craned forward.

As a literary or bibliographical point I may notice the words to other articles 'copyright, 1903, by C. Arthur Pearson Ltd., in the United States of America.' This is a little more full than the entry I have commented on above (see Encyclopædia Britannica) as it states that it is for America, but if the U.S. law requires the real name to be registered, as the English law does, 'Ltd' would invalidate the registration, it being no part of and not the true name of the company as required by the Act.

Swimming by Montague A. Holbein with illustrations [12 in the text] London C. Arthur Pearson Ltd. Henrietta street 1903.

8° pp 115 then advertisements to 127, price on the cover 1s and a figure springing in a good position, not repeated in the book: it has a contents and index, is on nice light paper and is clearly printed.

The first thing we notice is that there are no words after Mr Holbein's name, though the editor might without brag have put 'of world-wide celebrity.' Beowulf's feats were done hundreds of years ago, but Holbein's are of the present day. He has four times swum the English Channel, but as he has not actually trodden on the shore at the finish, he is not satisfied!

I have so frequently commented on the various matters of which this compilation treats that I shall now leave my readers to compare passages for themselves.

The following statement I have not seen elsewhere 'If a person were to faint in the river his shoulders would appear above the surface of the water,

but none of his head would be seen (p 26). This is probably correct.

The figure floating is very good in position.

It seems to me undesirable to give new names to feats that have well known names. Thus why give a new name to the Monte Cristo sack feat?

It is curious that though this book quotes the R.N.L.I. and the R.H.S. it does not name the L.S.S. whose drills are copied. But they are so altered as to be rendered useless for practical purposes and the old drill is used.

Dr Hall's instructions are given (pp 85, 86, 87) without his name being even mentioned; and Dr Howard's method (p 85) is called (without his name) the American method. Dr Silvester's is first given on p 85 without his name and again on p 88 with his name. On page 91 are some instructions in nine paragraphs which were issued by the R.N.L.I. They begin '1st when you approach a person

drowning in the water, assure him, with a loud and firm voice, that he is safe.' The 2nd instruction says loosen 'the foot of your drawers if they are tied, as if you do not do so they fill with water and drag you.' The 4th says 'it is of primary importance that you take fast hold of the hair,' as to this see my index and ante p 142. The 5th 'It is believed there is no such thing as a death-*grasp*, at least it is very unusual to witness it.'

The 6th says that after a person has sunk to the bottom, the place of the body may be guessed from air bubbles rising. The L.S.S. has this instruction in their Handbook.

When I wrote the article on Saint-Clair (ante p 403 col I, see also p 119) I had my doubts about the originality of his rescue instructions. Here I find where he got them from, but I never came across them in English before! It will be observed in the second instruction that the drawers drag you, not 'vous tireraient au fond' as put by Saint-Clair. I think it probable that these instructions are copied from those issued by Hodgson, referred to ante p 280, where *grasp* is not put in italics, though it is printed as above in the instructions issued by the R.N.L.I., a copy of which has just been sent to me by the secretary (5 aug '03).

On p 97 we are told the Bernardi system is universal in France! and in consequence French soldiers can cross rivers very heavily accoutred? Before any compiler copies these statements I would advise a reference to my index under these names.

'How I train' (pp 111-113) is of

interest. Water heated to 125 degrees fahrenheit causes him no inconvenience. He never smokes and seldom drinks alcohol.

I have not noticed any misprint except Montagu on pp 4, 116, 127.

Trudgen's name is not once mentioned. If to trudge meant any particular style of swimming (describing legs as well as arms) I would keep the word, but it only means any style in which the hands are brought out and stretched forward out of the water one after another. The legstroke not being in any way described, nor even thought of.

In the account of Webb's swim it is stated that the temperature of the water was about 65 degrees fahrenheit; and Mr Holbein says 'the most extraordinary part of the feat was the fact that Webb never complained of cold.' The same observation may be made with regard to Brock (q v).

The preface is written for 'Britons.' The celebrated British poet James Thomson (1700-1748) made up for being born elsewhere than in England by living all his life at Kew near London. The neighborhood of the Thames at Kew must then have been a lovely rural spot, for there were no gas exhausts rending the air with loud reports, no coal wharves, waterworks or gasholders near to vulgarise the landscape, so no wonder his muse was inspired.

There he wrote rule Britannia which we have sung for over a century and a half, and told the world that 'Britons never will be slaves.'² But it seems to me this refrain will have to be altered for swimming to 'always have

¹ I was assisting at an examination and was the man to be brought up. I dived and waited at the bottom as long as ever I could and then came up, saying to the examinee, why did you not come down and bring me up? Why, he replied, I was waiting for the air bubbles.

² In Robert Chambers's Cyclopædia of English literature 1844 vol ii p 22, this is incorrectly printed never shall, though rule Britannia is correctly printed without a comma after rule, so frequently put in - as by Brewer in Phrase and fable 1895 p 1083. But in Chambers's third edition 1876 vol i p 615 shall is properly corrected to will; though we find a comma after rule which is not in the original poem.

been slaves' of copying and cribbing from other people's works. Well in this preface 'Britons' are told that 'when the novice becomes an expert, if he is so minded he can easily acquire the history of swimming at the nearest library.' And for want of this simple piece of knowledge I have wasted upwards of ten years in ferreting out bits of this same history!

Mr Holbein whose power of staying in hot or cold water is quite pheno-

menal, was born at Twickenham near London 11 august 1861, educated at Manchester Grammar School 1871-76: he was in business in the city of London as a warehouseman and manufacturer of silesias, pocketings, printed linens &c. He was celebrated as a cycling record breaker before he took to swimming, though his fame has become far greater in consequence of his long swims. See *The Windsor mag* october 1903 pp 501-6.

supplementary

P. L. Ford (1865-1902 see *Who's who*): it is with extreme regret that I record the murder of this bibliographer by his brother. I had already pictured to myself the pleasure he

would take in looking at my observations about Franklin. Bibliography can ill spare any worker, much less one with ample means to carry out his projects.

Smeeton

I have now seen *The art of s.* London G. Smeeton, in 16^o pp 64, it has a copper plate vignette on the title and an engraved frontispiece of a youth springing into the water.

It is made up from Thevenot, Buchan

and Macpherson with the directions of the R.H.S. I should say it was always a separate pamphlet and that the title ante p 225 is only the auctioneer's description of two pamphlets bound together.

Samuel Brock

The note ante p 253 was written some years ago, since it was printed I have considered I ought to give an account of his swim.

About 1 o'clock p.m. on the 6 oct 1835 a leaky vessel distant about twelve miles from Yarmouth harbor¹ signaled for assistance. A yawl with three lug sails went out and reached the ship about 4 o'clock, five miles to the eastward of the Newarp floating light off Winterton, on the Norfolk coast. Having left men on board she was sent home as the weather was squally. After they had put off from the brig, they took in a sick man from the lightship, so that there were then nine men in the yawl. They talked of 'the job' (their earnings) and calculated that they should be back by ten o'clock, when without the slightest notice a terrific squall took the yawl's sails flat aback, and the ballast which they had trimmed to windward, being thus suddenly changed to leeward she was upset in an instant.

Brock says 'Mixed with the hissing of the water and the howlings of the storm, I heard shrieks for mercy, and some that had no meaning but what arose from fear. I struck out to get clear of the crowd, and in a few minutes there was no noise, for most of the men had sunk,' and shortly after he saw none.

Brock reflected that it was about half past six p.m. and the nearest land was

¹ So spelt in *The sporting magazine* for July 1839 from which I take the account related by a person who went to Yarmouth to see Brock. This magazine has a much better account than any given in the papers at the time. I suppose at this early date this magazine will not be accused of employing 'American spelling' the severest reproach an Englishman can utter against any book, but I notice the words labor rumor and valor, though oddly enough the corrupt e is put to dispatched.

six miles distant, with a flood tide setting off the shore making to the southward, so that if he ever reached the land it would take him at least fifteen miles setting up with the flood before the ebb would assist him.

He supported himself with a rush horse collar, while he cut the waistband of his petticoat trousers and other things 'but he dared not try to free himself of his oiled trousers, drawers or shirt, fearing that his legs might become entangled,' the horse collar he abandoned as it retarded his swimming. Then he 'to his great surprise, perceived one of his messmates swimming ahead of him, but he did not hail him.' Presently he saw 'this last of his companions descend without a struggle or cry as he approached within twenty yards of him.'

Then a thunderstorm burst over him. Not until this time according to the account did he attempt to free himself from his heavy laced boots. Then he finds himself near the chequered buoy S^t Nicholas gat opposite his own door but distant four miles, he had been five hours in the water. He got on the buoy, but his sailor's experience taught him that he would soon perish in the night air, so he took to the water again, though in doubt whether he should be able to swim any more.

His last trial in which sailors superstitions played a terrible part was to beat away some sea gulls that mistook him for a corpse.

For two and a half more hours he floated or swam about with the tide, for this is all a human being can do in the sea for any time.

At half past one o'clock a.m. on the 7th october he got near a collier at anchor in Corton roads. He sang out to her, was heard and picked up fourteen miles from the spot where the yawl was capsized. The moment he got on board he fainted. 'Round his neck and chest he was perfectly flayed: the soles of his feet, his hands and his hamstrings were also excoriated.'

The Meteorological atlas of the British isles, published by the authority of the Meteorological council, and sold by E. Stanford 1883 plate 37, gives the mean temperature of the sea surface during the month of october off Yarmouth as from 53 to 56 degrees fahrenheit.

Brock was of herculean build, height 5 feet 5 inches, weight without any protuberance of body, 196 pounds, age 31. He died at Brock's buildings on the 14th and was buried in S^t Nicholas churchyard Great Yarmouth on the 18th dec 1873 aged 69.

To a good swimmer who can undress with ease in the water while floating, the difficulty Brock makes of this simple feat can only be accounted for by supposing that he was only an ordinary swimmer. He infers that but for his knife he should have gone down.

I believe nobody but a sailor who understood the sea and knew where he was would have survived, as it was his heart sank within him several times. Brock's is one of the greatest feats ever done in swimming, he had no boat near to pick him up, or to give him refreshment, but started under the sudden and terrible circumstance of eight fellow creatures going down within sight.

All savages are swimmers, ante p 391.

This is not a fact. In The child a study in the evolution of man, by A. F. Chamberlain (of Worcester Mass.) 1900 p 252 we are told that 'it was the reproach of the Choctaws, living on the Mississippi river, that they could not swim, and Dr D. C. Brinton says of the Tapuyas, a very primitive people of Brazil, that 'they manufacture no pottery, build no canoes, and do not know how to swim.' And he tells us that the Fuegian men around Cape Horn could not swim, though the women could. They swim nearly as dogs do.



sculpture

In 1903 at the Royal Academy of arts London, I noticed a connecting link between the Assyrian sculpture of the past, or which I have given illustrations, and the sculpture of the present. I have never come across any other modern sculptured illustration of figures swimming.

N^o 1696 was a fine group, lifesize, representing two young men swimming entitled Sons of Poseidon by Oliver Wheatley of London. The general action is admirably depicted. The men are swimming a hand-over-hand stroke. The second swimmer has two faults, his thumb is away from his fingers, a fault I have mentioned ante p 83, and his left arm has passed the point where it would be useful. I should have preferred a higher class of human type than this figure represents: it is a very low form, not only of the face but the body. The right arm is lying on the water instead of being in action as if about to start. Notwithstanding these little technical matters, the group is a masterpiece of skilful work, full of action, such as English sculptors have lately devoted themselves to, as witness the splendid examples in the Tate Gallery.

The Assyrian sculptor was bound by rigid religious rules, in Mr Wheatley's we see the result of absolute artistic freedom. The above photograph (reproduced by permission) must only be looked upon as a diagram, it gives no idea of the beauty of the original group.

Beowulf

is the title of an Anglo Saxon poem, which has come down to us for over a thousand years, and takes us back to the days when the church of St Frideswide was built in 727.

Two doorways of this church are now to be seen in the lady chapel of Oxford cathedral,¹ they form part of St Frideswide's church in which Ethelred the second burnt the Danes in 1002. These doorways show us how our ancestors built, and the manuscript of Beowulf gives us an insight into their manners and customs, over twelve hundred years ago.

The celebrated French historian Taine had a desire to write the history of a literature, he says 'I had to find a people with a grand and complete literature, and this is rare: there are few nations who have during their whole existence, really thought and written...I have chosen England' because she has 'a series of authentic and unutilated memorials.'² He then comes to the heroic achievements under supernatural guidance, related in the poem of Beowulf, probably composed in the sixth century: the only account of which that has survived is a manuscript in Anglo Saxon copied about the year 980 by a scribe who did not understand what he wrote.³

In his latest work⁴ Dr Garnett has a masterly summary lucidly giving the present views about this epic, which he says is 'the most remarkable of all Anglo Saxon poems' it 'is justly regarded as Anglo Saxon and national, for the language is English and the manners depicted are those of the Anglo Saxons.'

If Beowulf only had illuminations we might have been able to compare the style of swimming with that of other nations, though even then they would have been 1600 years later than those of the Assyrians I have reproduced. It is curious that we should have ocular evidence in their sculptures of the stroke of this non-swimming nation, whereas we have none of ourselves earlier than Digby in 1587; though there can be little doubt that the English have, for the mere pleasure of it, always been a swimming people.

The numerous translations that have appeared testify to the great interest of this poem to all the world.

Not only has Beowulf a great swimming feat, but seven other subjects I have commented on in these pages are to be found mentioned in this ancient parchment: such as bravery, bravado, the hands in swimming, feats assigned to persons of other countries, sadness of the English, and drink.

(1) the swimming feat

That there should be anything in Beowulf at all to interest the swimmer is remarkable, but still more so that the greatest feat performed is in swimming, and that it should be in the very earliest romance in the language.

Directly after Webb's Channel swim, a celebrated Anglo Saxon scholar prof Skeat, drew attention to the fact that swimming for a very protracted time was

¹ Recent discoveries in Oxford cathedral by J. Park Harrison M.A. reprinted from the *Archaeological journal* 1888.

² The history of English literature by H. A. Taine D.C.L. translated from the French by H. van Laun 1886 vol i pp 35, 62. Taine was made honorary D.C.L. in 1871, the highest compliment that our great university of Oxford could pay him.

³ Benjamin Thorpe's literal translation, Oxford 1855 p xii.

⁴ English literature by Richard Garnett C.B. LL.D. published in June 1903, vol i pp 1, 6, 9-18, 39. This deeply interesting work is the outcome of a life of study and observation by an accomplished scholar who combines worldly wisdom with learning.

to be found, with full particulars in the very oldest piece of writing which exists in the English language.¹ I am not so satisfied with the particulars! The learned professor is mild in his suggestions of a 'fear the description is exaggerated' when the epic says that Beowulf and Breca swam side by side for five nights, while the ocean boiled with waves, with winter's fury. Then the flood drove them asunder, when Beowulf continued in the water for two more nights² and met with some thrilling adventures, killing several sea monsters with his sword and slaying nine water demons.³

(2) bravery

A jealous courtier taunts Beowulf with his performance : he asks

art thou that Beowulf who strove with Breca 506
 on the broad sea in swimming match,
 when ye two for pride the billows tried
 and for vain boasting in the deep water
 risked your lives? You two no man, 510
 nor friend nor foe, might then dissuade
 from sorrowful adventure '...'⁴

Then Beowulf boldly answers, and tells the courtier he would not talk in that way if he was not 'drunken with beer.' He asserts that he had greater strength and more power of endurance in the sea than any other man.

(3) bravado

In the above lines and in other places we get the bravado, 'for foolish vaunt in the deep water ventured your lives'⁵ is Thorpe's translation (line 1022).

(4) Beowulf's stroke

As to the question of stroke, how did Beowulf swim? I should say the human stroke a I have described ante pp 93, 97, popularly but incorrectly known as dog paddle, which was the European stroke to about the year 1500. That it was other than our present breast stroke never occurred to any of the translators. Thus Thorpe gives a literal translation

when on the sea ye row'd 1030
 when ye the ocean stream
 with your arms deck'd,
 measur'd the sea ways,
 with your hands vibrated them :
 glided o'er the main.

¹ Notes & queries 4 sep 1875 p 186 also in A student's pastime by w. w. Skeat 1896.

² They reckoned by nights not days as we do, see Clark Hall 1901 p 159.

³ Would that he had also slain another, the 'evil genius of swimming' that has survived to this day.

⁴ For the purpose of this note I have looked at ten translations, and I have chosen the text which seemed most suitable for my purpose : it is that of professor J. M. Garnett, Boston 1882 p 16. I have not followed the printing of the translation in putting initial capitals in the middle of sentences, nor the absolutely wrong hyphen to swimming match. Every one of the translations is over hyphenated. I should be inclined to favor Grein and Sweet's plan and discard hyphens altogether; see Beowulf by A. J. Wyatt 1898 p ix. All the editions are most deficient of general indexes, and some are confusing in their arrangement, as to which see Notes & queries 1 august 1903 p 83 and p 198.

⁵ Of this kind of thing we have a later instance, for it is related of Dr Johnson that he was cautioned against a pool which was reckoned particularly dangerous; upon which Johnson directly swam into it. Boswell's Johnson by Hill vol ii p 299, probably about the year 1730.

Here he assumed that it was the breast stroke, because when we row we work both sculls together.¹ Colonel H. W. Lumsden (1883 p 25) does the same

then ye twain did on the waters row ;
ye stretched your arms upon the flood ; the sea ways ye did mete,
o'er the billows glided—with your arms them tossed—

Thomas Arnold assumed as a matter of course that it was our breast stroke, which it undoubtedly was not. He translates these lines (1876 p 37) in this way 'then ye two rowed on the sea, where with your arms [outspread] ye covered the ocean stream.'

Arnold's suggestion in brackets of outspread clearly shows his idea.

The stroke I mean would be more correctly described if it said each arm in turn outpushed ; or 'outstretching' as translated by J. Lesslie Hall (Boston 1892 p 19 line 15).

I do not like the translation of this part by Clark Hall (p 33) so well : like Arnold he seems to have had the breast stroke in mind 'when ye compassed the flowing stream with your arms, meted out the sea paths, battled with your hands.' The word battled would apply more to the hand-over-hand stroke which is the same as the human stroke a (see ante p 93) only each arm is in turn brought out of the water instead of underneath it.

Dr J. M. Garnett's translation also suggests the hand-over-hand.

when ye the sea ways with your arms covered, 513
measured the sea ways, brandished your hands,

which seems to show that he tried to make his translation literal, not that he had in mind any particular stroke.

I do not pretend to give a new translation, but if the following words could have been used, they would more nearly coincide with my theory of the stroke Beowulf swam.

when on the sea ye swam ;
when ye the ocean stream
with your arms in turn outstretching
measur'd the sea ways :
with your hands moving to and fro
glided o'er the main :

It will be observed that in the poem the arms are mentioned, without a word about the legs, an omission I have frequently pointed out in authors. As Beowulf not only had his sword but had on a coat of mail, his legs would have been of more use than his arms, if we can put aside the supernatural.

In the earlier days of Northern rule, none but leaders wore body-armor John Hewitt tells us in his *Ancient armour*² (1855 vol i p 61) and he gives quotations from Beowulf showing how his armor is described in the poem.

¹ According to my theory the word measured is correct for it well figures the motion of the hands one after another as in measuring. I do not feel satisfied with the word vibrated it seems meaningless, it describes no action in swimming : what the poet meant was 'with your hands moving to and fro,' which would be accurate for the human stroke, but the minute moving to and fro expressed by the word vibrate would not.

² This remarkable work full of knowledge from every European source was issued without preface or any general overlook of the subject, no bibliography and with such an insufficient index that we do not find the names of Beowulf or Henry VIII.

Clark Hall has two illustrations of the corslet of ring-mail (plate 6 and see p 179) but neither he nor Hewitt tell us what the probable weight was.¹

The Bible and swimming

Just after I had written the above I happened to see verse 11 chapter xxv of Isaiah, the original date of which is B C 760.

'And he shall spread forth his hands in the midst of them, as he that swimmeth spreadeth forth his hands to swim :'

This clearly refers to the breast stroke, which I have said began some time after the year 1500 (see ante p 97 stroke b the hands starting in the praying position) and made me fear that my date should have been 1300! Then I thought I had better see if the earlier versions had the same words. I referred to Wycliffe's Bible² and his translation of the year 1380 reads

'And he shal strecchen out his honds vnder hym, as a swymmere streccheth out to swymmen ;'

This seemed to me a confirmation of my theory, it shows that the stroke was one hand after another under water in Wycliffe's time, but that the stroke had changed previously to the revision of the present authorised version of the year 1611, the revisers altering the language to make it suit their then stroke with both hands striking and spreading out at once.

Professor Skeat writes to me (september 1903) as follows

I do not see that the passage in Wycliffe is of any point, as it is a mere translation. All it proves is that the Latin *natare* meant to swim. The Vulgate has *sicut extendit natans ad natandum*, following upon *extendit manus suas sub eo*. It is remarkable that the Septuagint version is totally different; and does not allude to swimming at all.

All pronunciation of English and French and most European languages is

¹ Mr Guy Francis Laking, keeper of the King's Armory, informs me (26 sep '03) that 'a hauberk of mail is, as a rule between 16 and 22 pounds in weight.'

A strong man could swim, but not for long, with 25 pounds weight about him, but no man could swim in a suit of armor such as that in the Tower of London said to have belonged to Henry VIII which weighs about 95 pounds or 41 kilograms.

When professionals give diving exhibitions in which the tricks they perform are all under water, they have their costumes weighted with from five to ten pounds. The ease with which they stop at the bottom seems quite natural to the spectators, most of whom believe that they sink naturally. Others use little floats!

² Edited by Josiah Forshall and sir F. Madden. Oxford 1850 vol iii p 268.

Coverdale's Bible 1535 and Tyndale's 1537 are not quite so explicit, their verse reads 'for he shall stretch out his handes upon him, like as a swimmer doth to swimme.' If 'upon' is not a misprint for 'under' it seems to show that the translators did not understand what they were translating.

Dr B. F. Westcott in his History of the English bible 1872 remarks on Tyndale's translation being original, but no originality is shown in this passage which Tyndale copies from Coverdale.

In Isaiah ch v verse 25 (and other places) we have the words 'he hath stretched forth his hand.' In the revised version of the present authorised 'version set forth a.d. 1611 [James I] printed for the universities of Oxford and Cambridge' 1885, no alteration is made.

The holy bible...first published by the English college at Doway a.d. 1609, Dublin 1816, prints verse 11 of Isaiahs as in Wycliffe's, only altering the spelling. The same in F. C. Husenbeth's edition of the bible.

In The prophecies of Isaiah a new translation by the rev T. K. Cheyne 1882, he copies the breast stroke idea, though he makes an alteration, he translates it thus 'and he shall spread out his hands within it, as a swimmer spreadeth out (his hands) to swim.'

I thought I might get some help from the dictionaries, but Dr W^m Smith's Dicty of the bible has no entry under swim, neither has that of J. Hastings 1902.

based on the Roman pronunciation of Latin. This is why it is not taught in schools, nor ever will be till we get more sense. Consequently Beowulf is pronounced as Latin, with e as in Italian *vena, velo*, followed by a short o, as in English *o-bey*; and wulf as in modern English *wolf*, which keeps the old sound, but substitutes a Norman o for the old u in the written form. Hence if you say *bey-o* instead of *o-bey* (transposing the syllables) and add modern English *wolf*, you are near enough to the old sound for all practical purposes.

The examples of swim in Anglo Saxon poetry do not help much. 'Fishes swim' in the Anglo Saxon poem on The Whale (line 57 or p 363 line 21 of Codex Exoniensis edited by Thorpe). In The Wanderer (line 53 or p 289 line 25 of the Codex), it is used quite metaphorically. In The Riddles (xxiii 14 or Codex p 404 l 28) the past tense swom, 'swam,' really means floated; and is said of a boat. So also in another passage. Noah's ark is called *se swymmenda arc*, the swimming (i e floating) ark, in Thorpe's Homilies (ii 60).

Swim does not happen to occur in Gothic, but there was such a word, as it gives two derivatives, viz *swamms*, a sponge; and *swumsl* (sic) a swimming-pool = the pool of Siloam (John ix 7). This takes the English verb back to the fifth century, but it was probably in use 1000 years before that. People fail to realise the antiquity of the Teutonic: it was spoken somewhere B C 2000. It is pretty clear that the Teutonic *swimman* properly meant to float originally; and that the sense of swim is secondary. We still say sink or swim; that gives it.

W. W. S.

(5) foreigners

The wonderful feats performed in Beowulf are all assigned to people of other countries presumably Scandinavians.¹ I have frequently had to notice how common is the idea of attributing great feats to other nations, who do the same for us.

(6) sadness of the English

But that the poem itself is English is shown by 'the general sombreness of hue and the tone of sadness which runs through most Anglo Saxon poems' (Clark Hall pp xvii, xix). There is a saying popularly attributed to Froissart, though not to be found in his works, that the English take their pleasures sadly. This ancient manuscript of Beowulf relates events seven centuries earlier than Froissart who flourished in 1400. I have already (ante p 152) cautioned the fancy swimmer against looking sad, especially as he lives in 'merrie England.'

(7) drink

Another English trait which we have to a great extent got rid of, but only during the last century, is the habit of heavy drinking, which is mentioned in Beowulf. Clark Hall says (p xiv) 'We gather from the poem that excessive drinking was a failure of the fighting men in general' a debauch generally being the prelude to any great feat or fight. As swimmers we know how fatal any kind of excess is to success, to excel we must lead a godly righteous and sober life.

¹ Thorpe and also J. M. Garnett p xviii, see also R. Garnett's English literature.

On the methods
for the resuscitation of the
apparently drowned.

I have already said (preface p 20) that I could only touch on this question; but in the progress of this book through the press during the last two years, I have from time to time had to go more subject in confusion deeply into the subject, and I have been surprised to find that the confusion I had supposed finished with Dr Hall's publication On drowning in 1856 has continued to the present day! I have by degrees come to feel that I might usefully show the state of our knowledge on the resuscitation of the apparently drowned¹ to the present time. In the previous and following articles I show

a How much this most important subject has been neglected (see pp 53, 192, 279, 420-2, 433, 438).

b That all the methods in use are more or less bad (pp 439, 441, 442, 444).

c That Dr Hall's principles of resuscitation 1, treat the patient at once 2, clear the air passages 3, get air into them gently, have not been properly understood (pp 433, 438, 440-444, 450).

d That lying on the back is a bad position for the apparently drowned² pp 438, 448 [though it may be good for a person who is breathless from some other cause?].

e Lying on the face is better (p 435 and R.M.C.S. report 1903).

f Lying on the right side is best (p 448).

g That the old idea was that warmth restored life (pp 199, 439).

h That Dr Hall's theory that breathing is the first essential of life, has been universally accepted (pp 199, 437, 438, 440, 442, 443).

i That there is no authorised method pp 420-2.

j It is doubtful, from the experience of the past, if it is desirable that there should be an authorised method, as a bad method can then hold its own against an unauthorised better method (see pp 53, 54, 206, 449). In consequence I give

k Dr Hall's method in full, as it will enable students to see how other methods are founded on it (pp 434, 438).

l a better method in full, namely Dr Bowles's admittedly founded on Dr Hall's (p 446).

m a simple method of working the above with certain omissions (p 451).

¹ I put the word 'apparently' as I have been called to task (by a reader of p 115 ante) for using the word drowned with the sense of apparently drowned. Not only English but French writers did this: thus Debay in *Hygiène des baigneurs* sixth edition 1878 p 110, and Saint-Clair 1896 p 81 both use *noyé* for apparently drowned, *secours à donner aux noyés*. In fact in past times persons were said to have been drowned even when they recovered, but now the word drowned is most properly and conveniently being used to express one thing instead of two, namely the fact of death by means of water or from being immersed in water.

² Will some Anglo Saxon scholar give us one short word for these two, which is not a hideous Greek or Latin combination? The breathless is not sufficiently exact as it would include breathlessness from other causes.

The last part of modern treatises is usually on resuscitation ; though never intended by me, fate has decided that my book shall conclude in the same way.

It will be observed that our medical bodies decline the responsibility of formulating a method, but after we have read Dr E. Smith's words we may excuse them. He says committees cannot work out methods. I should be inclined to go further and say that generally a committee can only criticise and frequently spoil the work of one man.¹

In my article on the R.H.S. I show what confusion the question was in up to that time and in the notes on Quain's Dictionary 1902, I show how that confusion still prevails. The methods of doctors Hall and Silvester have been patched up and mixed to taste, until neither method is now given as invented by those doctors themselves. Thus the R.N.L.I. 'combines' the two exactly opposite theories of Hall and Silvester, and begins Hall's with inspiration instead of expiration to make it pair with Silvester's, which does begin with inspiration. Then the R.H.S. begins Silvester's method with Hall's directions: none of them give either method in these doctors own words. Dr Mann in Forensic medicine p 243 gives the Silvester method (and others) but he says 'first place the patient on the face' which is not in Dr Silvester's directions.

On pp 195 and 202 I have quoted Dr Mann and the L.S.S. Handbook as authorities for the statement that the general notion is that drowning is the result of want of fresh air; and in my preface (p 20) I comment on the uncertainty there is in swimming matters. I ought to have added resuscitation. I really did think this point was settled, but Dr Bowles wrote to me (august 1902) 'I have shown in my paper on Practical points in the treatment of threatened asphyxia 1901, that in the R.M.C.S. Transactions 1862 vol 45 pp 459-61 there is every evidence that can be wanted to prove that 'it is the entrance of water into the lungs and the effects thereby produced, which causes death in drowning.' And Dr Mann² says 'this together with the absence of movement causes the body to sink and to remain submerged.'

Dr Hall³ says 'The effects of apnoea [now read asphyxia] are not the result of the exclusion of oxygen, but rather of the retention of carbonic acid.'⁴

Professor Poore treats the subject in quite an original way, but he relies too much on text books. He says⁵

'The man who is really drowned dies by inhaling water into his lungs instead

¹ As I am on the executive of the L.S.S. I may say that I have not communicated with any member of that body, nor has any member of the society seen this article, except Mr Henry and Mrs Vautier. I alone am responsible for the opinions expressed.

² Forensic medicine p 228.

³ Prone p 14.

⁴ In Respiration or why do we breathe by Patrick Black M.D. 1876 he says The doctrine of asphyxia, as laid down by the highest authorities, cannot be believed, be maintained.

⁵ A treatise on medical jurisprudence by George Vivian Poore M.D. F.R.C.P. 1901 p 369.

of air. It does not follow that every man who is found dead in the water has been drowned, and so the definition is perhaps a little important. When a man is really drowned he dies asphyxiated...if he falls into it with his circulation already stopped...you will not find the signs of asphyxia.'

'If a man is getting water into his air passages and then he blows air from his lungs into that water, and backwards and forwards, he whips up the water and air into foam.' 'If a man has been drowned...his stomach and his lungs may be full of water. On the other hand he may have water in his lungs, but none in his stomach.'

His directions are very good and given in a homely but most effective manner. Into the practical details he does not seem to have made personal investigation, and he is satisfied with its 'being generally admitted that Silvester's method is the best.' Nevertheless he thoroughly explains the true principle of artificial respiration. When he compares the methods practically I feel certain he will at once appreciate the 'ready method' of Dr Hall, quite irrespective of the improvements Dr Bowles suggests.

Dr Hall's instructions 1856

Being an invalid suffering from an incurable complaint all the practical points Dr Hall required to know were worked out for him by the three young men named ante p 279. I have quoted ante p 199 Dr Howard's opinion of Dr Hall's discovery, but he also said 'Since the time of the good and great Marshall Hall, and the establishment of the principle that the one remedy is artificial respiration, an entire change in the treatment has universally prevailed'¹; and that Hall's principle that 'respiration is the one source of vital heat caused a revolution in the treatment as complete as it was marvelous.'²

Nowhere are Dr Hall's instructions to be found in full, except in his treatise *Prone* 1857, I shall therefore give them here, but first I will give a summary. It will be found that Hall's directions are set out under the various methods incompletely and are always attributed to other doctors. Hall's is sometimes called 'the ready method' or 'the rolling method.'

Summary

Dr Hall's entirely new idea was that breathing must be resumed first, before the patient was treated in any way. With this object the patient is to be treated on the spot, in the open air. First lay the patient prone on the face, which compels expiration: then wipe the mouth: secondly press on the back, which compels further expiration: thirdly turn the body on to the right side and a little beyond, this compels inspiration: repeat fifteen times to the minute.

Dr Hall's method in full from *Prone* 1857

to which work I must refer the student for the reasons and scientific effects of the movements.³

¹ The New York medical journal 1872 vol xvi p 638.

² The Lifeboat journal 1873 p 381 see also 1 nov 1880.

³ See ante pp 199 and 279, on p 91 of *Prone* there is a misprint cases for causes. I have not followed Dr Hall's style of printing with words and parts of words in italics and various varieties of type. All the words in brackets are my interpolations. Any person who desires to study the subject historically should refer to Dr Hall's *Prone*. By altering his style of printing, which is quite unnecessary in the present day, I have partly obliterated the history. The short title on the original cloth cover is Dr M. Hall on drowning.

New modes of treatment of apnoea, from Hall p 25

The patient is to be laid prone on his face. In this position, the tongue falls forward, draws with it the epiglottis, and leaves the glottis open, while all fluids will flow from the fauces [the cavity at the back of the mouth from which the larynx and pharynx open out] and mouth. The tongue may even be drawn forward, to secure its removal, and that of the epiglottis, from the rima glottidis.

In order that the face may not come into contact with the ground, the patient's wrist is to be carried upward and placed under the forehead [in Dr Bowles's method this is dispensed with].

It will now be perceived that the thorax and abdomen will be pressed by a force equal to the weight of the trunk. This pressure will induce expiration, and additional pressure being now made on the posterior part of the thorax and abdomen, the expiration will be more complete. This latter pressure is to be then removed. Its removal will be followed by slight inspiration. The weight of the body is then to be removed from the thorax and abdomen, by gently turning it on the side and a little beyond, placing one hand under the shoulder and the other under the hip of the side moved. [The forearm on which the patient's head rests being moved straight as the body is turned—not necessary in Dr Bowles's modifications].

In this manner a fair degree of inspiration is induced. And thus, without instruments of any kind, and with the hands alone, if not too late, we accomplish that respiration which is the sole, but sure effective means of the elimination of the blood-poison.

Then on page 30 he gives

New rules for the treatment of asphyxia, divided into two series.

1 the essential, or the means to be adopted in every case.

2 the occasional, or means to be further tried when convenient [these I do not give, they refer to galvanism].

Rules to be adopted in every case

i send with all speed for medical aid, articles of clothing, blankets, &c. but
ii lose not a moment of time: treat the patient on the spot, in the open air, exposing the face and chest freely to the breeze (except in too cold weather); then

to excite respiration

iii place the patient gently and for a moment on the face, to allow any fluids to flow from the mouth

iv then raise the patient into a sitting posture, [not in the Bowles method] and endeavour to excite respiration

1 by irritating the nostrils by snuff, hartshorn, &c.

2 by irritating the fauces by a feather, &c.

3 by dashing hot and cold water alternately on the face and chest. If these means fail

to imitate respiration

v replace the patient on his face, his wrist under his forehead (vide frontispiece)

and (1) turn the body gradually, but completely on the side, and a little more; and then again on the face, alternately [not alternate in the Bowles method].

2 when replaced, apply pressure along the back and ribs and then remove it, and proceed as before.

3 let these measures be repeated gently, deliberately, but efficiently and perseveringly, sixteen (sic) times in the minute only.

vi continuing these measures, rub all the limbs upwards, making firm pressure, energetically.

vii replace the wet clothes by such other covering, &c. as can be procured.

Unica spes est, unicum remedium.



— *sævamque exhalat* — *Mephitim.*

VIRG. ÆN. lib. vii, l. 84.

frontispiece from Dr Hall's Prone including the motto

Then at p 100 he gives the following which is a practical recapitulation with some new matter.

Rules for prone and postural respiration, to be applied in every case

I Treat the patient instantly, on the spot, in the open air, exposing the face and chest to the breeze (except in severe weather).

I to clear the throat

2 Place the patient gently on the face with one wrist under the forehead ; all fluids and the tongue itself then fall forward, leaving the entrance into the windpipe free.

If there be breathing — wait and watch ; if not, or if it fail

II to excite respiration

3 Turn the patient well and instantly on his side, and

4 Excite the nostrils with snuff, the throat with a feather, &c. and dash cold water on the face previously rubbed warm.

If there be no success, lose not a moment, but instantly

III to imitate respiration

5 Replace the patient on his face, raising and supporting the chest and abdomen well on a folded coat or other article of dress ;

6 Turn the body very gently on the side and a little beyond, and then briskly on the face: ¹ repeating these measures deliberately, efficiently, and perseveringly fifteen (sic) times in the minute. ²

When the patient reposes on the chest, this cavity is compressed by the weight of the trunk, and expiration takes place; when he is turned on the side, this pressure is removed, and inspiration occurs.

7 When the prone position is resumed, make equable but efficient pressure, with brisk movement, along the back of the chest; removing it gently immediately before rotation on the side.

The first measure augments expiration, the second commences inspiration.

The result is—respiration; and if not too late—life.

IV to induce circulation and warmth

8 Rub the limbs upwards, with firm grasping pressure and with energy, using handkerchiefs, &c.

By this measure the blood is propelled along the veins towards the heart.

9 Let the limbs be thus dried and warmed, and then clothed, the bystanders supplying coats, &c.

10 Avoid the continuous warm bath, and the position on, or inclined to the back.

At the time Dr Hall published the above method and for some years after, considerable attention was drawn to this subject. Probably one of the outcomes of this was a large board being placed on a house at the foot of the bridge over the river at Arundel. It is entitled *How to prevent drowning*. The writing is now partly obliterated by the weather, but enough is left to show that it is the Hall method that is given.

When I wrote the observations on the Hall method (ante p 199) it was then the best known. Since that was in print (august 1902) Dr Bowles has shown ^{four} me his modifications, which though slight are so important that I set ^{methods} out his method. Before doing this however it is necessary to go back a little: I shall also have to make comparisons between the Hall, Silvester and Howard methods, which I have hitherto tried to avoid doing, though I have shown how it came about that the Silvester method was taken in preference to that of Dr Hall by the R.H.S.

It is commonly assumed that the medical profession in England is generally if not unanimously in favor of the Silvester method, as that of America is in favor of the Howard method. ³ True most English writers recommend the Silvester, but as the quotations I give show, this is from one copying another.

I have already referred ante p 205 to the enquiry on this subject at which Dr Edward Smith ⁴ said

‘The committee had in one part of the Report, disclaimed any intention to say how far the Silvester method was fitted for the restoration of the drowned; and yet in their recommendations they advise the use of this method almost exclusively, without having in any experiment tried it under these conditions...Hence he regarded this Report as but the commence-

Dr Smith
on the
committee

¹ Here I omit the direction to vary the side.

² Ibid.

³ For this statement I rely on the L.S.S. Handbook 1903 p 58; see also ante p 381.

⁴ He died in 1874 see Boase M.E.B.

ment of the enquiry...as to the great object had in view in the appointment of the committee – the scientific determination of the best method for restoring drowned men – he thought that it altogether failed.’

He added this admirable dictum ‘for the solution of complex questions (as all questions of practice are) committees would fail, since the essence of such an inquiry is the invention of a new method, and new methods can never be devised to order, but only through long continued thought without the investigator being commonly able to trace the steps which led him to the result.’¹

But nothing further was done until the Report of 1903 presently mentioned.

On page 205 I have mentioned that the R.H.S. state that the Silvester method as they give it, had been approved by the R.M.C.S. Was this a special approval or merely the committee’s recommendation referred to by Dr Smith?

An excellent article over which much time and thought had been spent in the february issue of The lifeboat journal of the R.N.L.I. 1873 pp 379–386 says

Hall and Silvester combined they issued the Marshall Hall rules in 1857 discarding the rules of the R.H.S. they had previously circulated. In 1864 however, upon the ‘advice of the medical profession’ they decided to ‘adopt a combination’ of the Hall and Silvester methods and they issued new rules. ‘At the same time...it was not felt that the door would be shut against future change,’ if desirable. But they should make none unless moved by the medical profession. They then give details of the method of Dr Benjamin Howard who had sent them his essay.² His ‘direct method’ they say

Howard method Dr Silvester’s, whilst it has [a movement copied from Dr Hall which has] the great advantage over his [Silvester’s] of providing [like Dr Hall’s] in the first instance for the discharge of water (p 380). Dr Howard (amplifying what Dr Hall wrote in Prone p 2) says ‘after the signs of life have vanished there is a period during which life still lingers at its seat, its signs being subject to recall. This period is brief. It is usually too short for the procuring of absent appliances; the mere removal of the patient to a place of shelter, involving the risk of forfeiting the possibility of resuscitation.’ The honorable Dr Campbell in a lecture reported in The lifeboat journal 1 nov 1880 from the Adelaide observer Australia ‘informs us that the heart does not entirely cease to beat until from three to eight minutes after respiration has ceased, and that it is during that interval’ that restoration is possible.

The lifeboat journal quotes the following from Dr Howard, who says the Silvester method ‘has the serious defect of placing and retaining the body exclusively on its back, and thus affording no opportunity for the discharge of water.’³

¹ The Lancet 12 July 1862 p 40.

² Dr Howard’s prize essay is not in any of our libraries, the title under his name in the Index catalogue of the library of the surgeon general’s office, United States army is Plain rules for the restoration of persons apparently dead from drowning New York 1869. It was printed with two cuts in the British medical journal 11 June 1881. The cuts are quite different from those in The lifeboat journal.

³ Dr Hall showed the danger of the supine position in Prone p 23 before Dr Silvester gave out his method, which has been popular notwithstanding, first in consequence of the R.H.S. (of high renown) advertising the approval of it by the R.M.C.S. and next from the R.H.S. discountenancing the Hall method.

This objection appears to me to apply to Dr Howard's method, in which also more air than should be is forced into the lungs; but it really applies to any method. The Encyclopaedia Medica Edin 1899 under asphyxia says 'Silvester methods are somewhat exhausting for the operator, and it is well when two can relieve each other.' Working any method is exhausting.

They give six illustrations, two each of the Hall, Silvester and Howard methods. The two of the Hall method I shall as a matter of history disfigure my pages with (see p 441).

Dr C. Carter Braine says of Dr Hall's method 'if no assistant is at hand it is the best'¹ and he sets out² the R.H.S. rules, the most important instructions in which are Dr Hall's fathered on Dr Silvester, but Dr Braine does not point this out. Take one for example, the instructions to 'treat the patient instantly' was never thought of before Hall worked it out.³ The R.H.S. 'methods of treatment' previous and up to 1863 began by providing first for the removal of the body, thus 'i. Convey the body carefully on its face, with the head and shoulders supported in a raised position, to the nearest house. ii. Strip the body and rub it dry: then wrap it in hot blankets, and place it in a warm bed, in a warm chamber free from smoke. iii. Wipe and cleanse the mouth and nostrils.'⁴

Nothing about restoring breathing! In fact the rules, as Dr Hall says⁵ 'may be summed up in one word — warmth!'

The movement of carrying the body and those required to strip it would have a tendency to bring about breathing, if the 'spark' was not extinguished before the patient arrived at the house.

The lifeboat journal (1873 p 379) says that Dr Silvester claimed that his method was 'more effectual by causing a deeper inspiration,' but the writer says that the success of Hall's method 'may perhaps be from the air being so gently introduced.'

In the Silvester method two things are requisite which require mechanical means. First the tongue has to be kept in position. I have seen an instrument of wire invented for the express purpose of attaining this object! It is doubtful if any method can be good that requires the tongue to be interfered with. Next Dr Silvester says⁶ that in his method 'it was essential to place the body on an inclined plane' another mechanical aid and difficult to get.

In order to see what a bad position lying on the back is for breathing, the reader can try this experiment: get a bad cold in the head.⁷ Then lie on your back, you will soon find that you will have to use your mouth as an auxiliary for breathing. Then lie prone, you will find breathing through the nose only, easier. Then lie on your side and you will

¹ Quain's Dictionary 1902 p 104.

² *ibid* p 1408 and ante p 421.

³ R.H.S. report 1863 p 114.

⁴ *ibid* 1862 p 76.

⁵ Prone p 21.

⁶ British medical journal 30 may 1903 p 1259.

⁷ This is really quite 'easy.' One way is to get into a perspiration, and then ride outside a vehicle. Another way to show how easily the head can get choked without taking a cold, is to practice the feat of sinking and rising. To do this lie on your back in the water with the legs bent, blow out just enough air to sink you a foot or so under water, wait till you come up again by the buoyancy of the body, then breathe and repeat. You will find it takes several hours to clear the head of the water or air and water or mucus that has formed in this short time.

find the uppermost nostril will clear itself, and that it will also be sufficient for breathing.

Foreign books

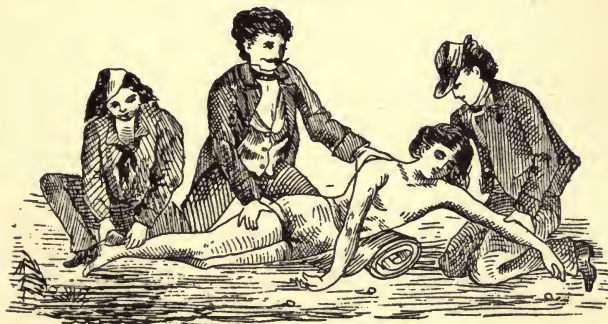
are much behind ours in the art of resuscitation. I have treated bleeding as having gone out in England about 1850; but in the sixth edition of Debay's book in 1878¹ his principal and first thing to be done is bleeding; 'la saignée large, abondante' it is 'le remède sur lequel on doit le plus compter' and the administration of wine or rum and water!²

Saint-Clair (ante p 402) gives a mixture of the R.H.S. old warmbath method and Silvester's with some of Hall's directions, but without names; and it is clear that the matter is not understood. On p 83 he says that the [Silvester] method should be practiced 16 to 18 times a minute. The reason of the 15 times to the minute of Dr Hall is because that is in imitation of the normal function of breathing.

Dr Orsolato³ gives what he supposes is the Hall method with this illustration

Fig 51 p 129

II.ª Posizione



Metodo di Marshall-Hall

Here the patient is on the left side evidently following some English book, but all the figures are in such bad positions that further comment is useless.

Abbo (see ante p 402) represents men being carried on stretchers, chiefly on their backs: those on their sides are properly represented on the right side.

If it is absolutely necessary to carry a patient it should be done with the face downward or on the right side, and if anything the feet should be slightly higher than the head: and it would always be best to carry the body right side downward, if artificial respiration has been tried on that side.

¹ Which I have only obtained since pp 196 and 284 ante were printed.

² Debay pp 110-116.

³ See ante p 347.

Nevertheless there is not much to be said for the articles on resuscitation

of books in English.

Here I reproduce the two positions of the Hall method from blocks presented¹ to me by the R.N.L.I.¹ They were issued under the new rules in 1864 and have done duty to the present time.



1 inspiration

The first block is labeled in the printed instructions as above. It is wrong as it begins with inspiration, thus keeping in any fluids until the second movement takes place; and is not in accordance with the text which begins with 'place



2 expiration

the patient on the floor or ground with the face downwards.' For the reasons for beginning with expiration, see ante p 279.

¹ Needless to say how much I feel the base ingratitude I am guilty of, after the courtesy shown me by this invaluable institution, which is doing by private subscrip-

These figures are unsatisfactory, the artist did not know or understand what he was doing. Here to express expiration, the doctor should have both his hands on the patient's back in the position shown in the illustration of n° 1 expiration under Dr Bowles's method (p 446).

There is no warrant for the body being bolstered up as the artist has put it, and the doctors allowed it to be, so that no fluids could drain off. Hall's instructions which they quote only say 'raise and support the chest well on a folded coat or other article of dress' even this however is wrong. The illustration forming Hall's frontispiece (ante p 436) has no great roll. That he did not intend it to be bolstered up is shown by the further direction 'replace the patient on his face, his wrist under his forehead.' The right arm in diagram n° 1 being totally out of the position intended by Dr Hall is useless for the purpose he mentions, namely to prevent the patient's face from coming into contact with the ground, because the arm cannot get near the ground.

Gurr (see ante p 303) begins (p 40) with the bellows method, but without attributing it to the R.H.S. Then he mentions the 1857 rules of the R.N.L.I. but Gurr in 1866 says that he gives the 'new rules' which 'are those recommended by Dr Silvester [they are Dr Hall's] and adopted by the R.H.S.' Then the text begins with expiration (p 42) which is right, but the illustration is that of inspiration instead of expiration; and the expiration is put next (p 44) following the R.N.L.I.

Then the R.N.L.I. blocks being supplied without lettering, persons who knew nothing of the subject misplaced them, thus Crawley (see ante p 345) begins the 'Crawley' Hall method with the figure prone representing expiration p 441 but in 1878 he labels it inspiration (p 68), and the next figure which is really inspiration is labeled expiration. Like Gurr he says the rules were those adopted by the R.H.S. which they were not.

The method would be just as efficacious with both movements, although the operators might be producing expiration when they thought it was inspiration.

A celebrated French physiologist published his method with this title

Le traitement physiologique de la mort : les tractions rythmées de la langue par J. v. Laborde Paris 1894 8° pp iv 187.

This consisted in seizing the tongue by its tip and drawing it forcibly forwards, rhythmically, about 15 to 20 times to the minute.

We should like to see the drill the hon sec of the L.S.S. would devise to work this method, so as to teach a large class. It was ably reviewed by men who understood what they were writing about, but adversely.¹ Laborde is not even mentioned in Quain's Dictionary, nor in the Report of the R.M.C.S. 26 May 1903 when ten methods were tested.

'The Humane society of the commonwealth of Massachusetts (instituted 1785) report, Boston 1896' 8° pp 132 begins with an elaborate 'investigation into the methods of resuscitating the apparently drowned.' The writers reviewed the whole subject and came to the conclusion that neither the Hall, Silvester, nor the Howard methods are satisfactory, with which I entirely agree.

For reasons which are all untrue or overstated, they dismiss Hall's method out of hand (pp 21, 22 and 42) and treat him just as if he was one of the crowd!

tion public work that ought to be done at the expense of the nation. When I wrote the letter ante p 337 I had not studied these questions and had not observed the mistakes I point out, or I should have mentioned them.

¹ The Lancet 8 sep 1894 p 577. The B.M.J. 21 July 1894 p 131 [by Dr Bowles].

His method is only 'better than nothing' chiefly because enough air cannot be forced into choked lungs. The dominant idea of the writers of the report is that you cannot force in too much air (pp 24, 42). They did not find out any of the real defects of Hall's method.

They echo Howard's praise of Hall and they give Howard credit for what he did, though they say (p 35) 'As a scientific experimental study Howard's essay is of small value.' The same observation applies to their own work. They say 'Although the literature of the subject after 1880, is very scanty, it shows that Howard's method has not displaced Silvester's.' But Howard's prize essay appears to have prompted the writers in the views they give. They went thoroughly into the literature of the subject tracing it from the year 1650, and they give a bibliography of three pages, mostly of articles from periodicals. Hall's Prone is not in the list.

Their own new method is founded on the theory that the more air that can be forced in the better. It is a combination of 'Howard's and Silvester's' with the patient lying on the back (p 36) Dr Hall's discovery being the chief feature of the method. I have already dealt with all the points they discuss.

On pp 75-9 they quote from Andrews's Swimming (see ante p 375) and



reproduce his five illustrations of rescue. I reproduce one (s s) showing a man lying like a stone on the bottom in accordance with the popular idea. No man

who had all the air in him which is shown escaping, could lie at the bottom without movement to keep him there.

This report quotes a paragraph with reference to rigor mortis or the stiffness of death, which sets in about six hours after death. It seems to account for the lovers mentioned ante p 119. They were 'locked in each other's arms' not from any deathgrasp but the stiffness that comes on after death. There is no such thing as a deathgrasp.

They reprint Hodgson's instructions (see ante p 423) without acknowledgment, as if their own (pp 72-4).

The work of the Life Saving Society was unknown to the writers of the report.

The direction ante p 114 to 'listen for any sound of respiration' they do not give, but it will be found in the L.S.S. Handbook 1893. It appears to be a useless waste of time: and there is no necessity for the instruction 'attend to tongue' unless indeed the patient is in the bad position of lying on the back, when there is every necessity for this direction.

Dalton 1899 gives Hall, Silvester and Howard methods, the Hall he says was adopted by the R.H.S. and printed by them [which is wrong it was the Dalton in Silvester method they adopted]. He then has one illustration, ¹⁸⁹⁹ original of three figures employing the Hall method and properly beginning with expiration, and without the wall or bolster to support the patient.

Dalton then gives the Silvester method, with the patient on the back only, with three original illustrations.

Then he gives the Howard method without illustration and without his name, so evidently there was no attempt to favor Americans!

Finally The A B C (see ante p 416) quoting Everyone his own doctor¹ begins
The A B C Hall's method with an original illustration with the patient placed on
1902 the left side² and starting with inspiration instead of expiration, though on p 75 the text says 'the first measure increases expiration.'

Placing the head on the forearm is a defect, as the arm is likely to get strained, and also it requires one person to attend to it and bring it out straight
defects of Hall method as the body is moved to the side.

In the bolstered up positions this direction is quite useless, as the head cannot reach the arm. No roll or pillow is required, moreover it is bad to use either, as also it is to interfere with the tongue in the prone method.

Another defect was alternating the sides.³

These three defects are obviated in Dr Bowles's method which can be carried out by one skilful person, though others, even if they do not understand the remedied by system, can be very useful by assisting to move the body and legs
Dr Bowles and in clearing the mouth and nostrils.

If Dr Hall had lived he would probably have seen the practical defects, the theory he enunciated is the same. I have already mentioned, ante p 206, Dr Bowles's important paper on resuscitation, but he has written others showing how

¹ This is a small encyclopedia by Alexander Ambrose M.D. Dublin [published in 1895]. It does not profess to be original but to give 'the latest knowledge on the subject.'

² A bad fault, justifiable for a layman to make before Dr Bowles pointed out the mistake in 1889, but it shows how little attention is paid to the subject when a man with first class qualifications like Dr Ambrose passes these mistakes.

³ In the L.S.S. Handbook 1903 p 83 this has been altered to rolling on to the right side only in pursuance with Dr Bowles's advice and without waiting any longer for the R.M.C.S.

he has kept this subject in view. His second treatise is reported in *The sanitary record* 6 june 1901 : a third is in *The Lancet*.¹



1 expiration



2 inspiration see p 446

I first saw Dr Bowles in may 1902 when I ascertained that he still held to his published views. He told me he was drafting some rules of his own in modifica-

¹ Three lectures on the practical points in the treatment of threatened asphyxia ...by Robert L. Bowles M.D. St Andrews [university] F.R.C.P. London, consulting physician to the Folkestone hospital : physician to St Andrews convalescent home [Folkestone]. Reprinted from *The Lancet* 22, 29 june & 6 july 1901. 8° pp 40.

tion of Dr Hall's method. He practically showed the points to me. At that time he had no photographs of positions and had only two movements.¹ These two I in turn showed to Mrs Vautier, who had kindly undertaken to get me photos of them. One of my objects in this was to find something less repulsive than the drawings we have been accustomed to look at with a shudder all our lives. Her husband who is a professional photographer took and presented me with the two photographs on p 445 (for the purpose of this book only) in illustration of Dr Bowles's method.

The hands of the 'operatora' would have better illustrated this position perhaps, if they had been pressing on the back, as shown in Dr Bowles's first position below. The patient's left arm in N^o 1 on p 445 is in the natural position with the palm upward.

I fear I can make no excuse for the patient having her eyes open in the first position but in the second she is probably just come to !

In december 1902 Dr Bowles sent me his method in writing with two photographs, as he still only had two positions. Some time after he sent me a revision with three photographs. From these I have had three drawings made, and so that there shall be no mistake as to the order of the positions, I have numbered them on the blocks and they are signed by Dr Bowles.

Dr Bowles's method
for the treatment of the apparently drowned
founded on that of Dr Marshall Hall

Treat the patient at once and upon the spot. Undo any tight clothing. Kneel and place the patient on the right side and quickly wipe out the mouth and throat.

If there are no signs of breathing, spread a handkerchief on the ground where the patient's mouth will come, and carry out

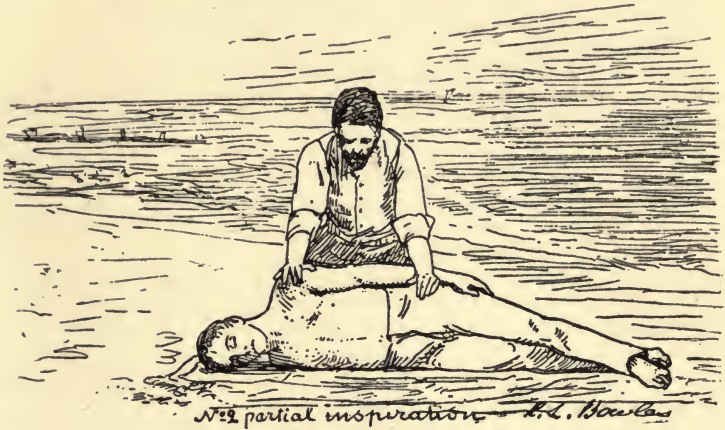


Movement N^o 1 Turn the patient flat on the stomach and at once with widespread hands press firmly for three or four seconds on the back of the ribs on both sides to squeeze out the froth, fluid or foul air (see diagram 1). Then suddenly

¹ Though his third movement is mentioned on p 22 of his Three lectures.

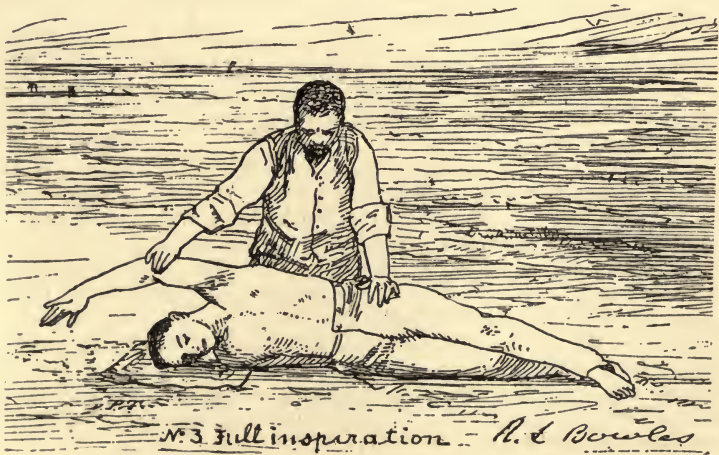
remove the hands to allow the entrance of air by the natural recoil of the ribs, and proceed to

Movement N° 2 Take hold of the left hip and shoulder : roll the patient on to the right side, the right arm being allowed to remain behind and out of the way (see diagram 2).



Repeat first and second movements in succession for ten minutes or more (if necessary) when some of the froth or fluid will have drained away from the lungs, and then proceed to

Movement N° 3 Each time the patient is rolled from the stomach on to the right side, take hold of the left or uppermost arm and raise it above the head



in a line with the body. This movement expands the chest still more and allows air to enter the upper left lung (see diagram 3). Then bring the arm down to the side, roll the patient on to the stomach and begin again at movement N° 1, and continue each movement in succession as before, for an hour or until signs of natural breathing begin.

Always turn the patient on to the right side, never on to the left, and under no circumstances on the back. From time to time wipe away froth from the mouth and nose.

The neck should be kept fairly straight and the chin away from the breast bone, the head may then be left to take care of itself, and the face will take no harm, as it will remain chiefly on its side and yet perfect drainage will be ensured.

Dr Bowles's reasons for the above movements

1 The patient is placed on the stomach because the tongue then falls forward and all fluids, whether from the lungs or from the stomach, can dribble away and leave the entrance to the windpipe free. In drowning cases there is always in the lungs froth and foam, in consequence of saliva, mucus and some blood perhaps, being churned up with the water which has entered during the struggles of the drowning man. This froth will not run away like water, but it will be slowly squeezed out by the application of pressure on the back while the patient is lying face downward. This same pressure will act on the heart and force the blood onward in its course.

2 The patient is placed on the right side and continuously treated on that side, because then the liver is downward and at rest, and the heart is relieved from pressure and free to fill again. The fluids and foam which have accumulated in the tubes of the lower lung will not find their way across the windpipe to the left or uppermost lung, and thus one lung becomes more empty, more free, and more capable of good respiratory movements. Whereas if the patient is turned alternately from one side to the other, both lungs are equally blocked.

3 The arm is raised above the head as a continuation of the second movement, constituting the third movement, to assist the expansion of the chest and so to allow more air to enter the upper lung which has become free, or nearly free of frothy fluid by the first and second movements.

4 The patient is never to be turned on the back under any circumstances whatever, as in that position the tongue, foreign bodies and contents of the stomach and lungs, which often find their way into the back of the throat, not only prevent the entrance of air, but fluids will again be sucked into the lungs, if forced respiration be employed.

5 These rules for the treatment of the apparently drowned are the outcome of experiments made in 1855 and 1856 by the late Dr E. L. Fox, the late Mr Charles Hunter and Dr Bowles for the late Dr Marshall Hall, and of the further experience gained by Dr Bowles from actual experiment and observation of the apparently drowned, extending over many years. They are also in strict agreement with principles based upon the experiments of the committee of the Royal medical and surgical society in 1862. That committee proved that drowning in animals 'is mainly due to the entrance of water and the effects thereby produced,' and again 'the air tubes were completely choked up with a sanious foam consisting of blood, water and mucus churned up with air in the lungs by the respiratory efforts.' These conditions exactly accord with those found in human beings under like circumstances.

6 It therefore necessarily follows that, if the patient is placed on the back as is recommended in the Silvester method, the difficulties of respiration will be increased, whereas by the method now described the fluids must by gravitation and pressure be expelled and the lungs set free for the entrance of air.

On the matter of breathing Dr Bowles informs me that when it begins to return it does not take place regularly but in gasps.

I have to acknowledge Dr Bowles's kind assistance in this matter of resuscitation. He has enabled me to state more clearly many technical points, but is not responsible for what I say, nor has he assisted in writing any of the articles.

The R.M.C.S. report

On the 26 May 1903 after the previous part of this article was drafted I attended to hear the report of the committee appointed by the R.M.C.S. to enquire 'into the phenomena attending death from drowning, and the means of promoting resuscitation in the apparently drowned.'

The report was drawn up and read by doctor Albert Edward Schäfer, professor of physiology at University college London 1883-99.

In introducing the lecturer the chairman explained that the committee was first appointed in 1889 at the request of Dr Bowles, and that they had done very little during the thirteen years that had passed. He excused for delay obliged to earn their living regretted this but it was unavoidable as they had all been under the necessity of earning their living.¹

It appears to me that the net result of the enquiry was to recommend the principle of the rolling method of Dr Hall, though modestly refraining from connecting his name with it; and that the weak point of the experiments made is that they were performed on animals. Dr Bowles considers this not to be reliable for human beings. Dr Silvester also on dogs says 'the results of experiments on animals are unsatisfactory, and would not probably be applicable to man' (1863 p 6).

Nevertheless the information obtained fully justified the experiments, and moreover that if these experiments on dogs are applicable to human beings, we are still a long way from knowing the exact results that will be produced by given facts. I will only cite these examples

The report says as to the experiments on dogs, 'One of the most striking results shown in this series of experiments is that of the complete disappearance of the water which is taken into the lungs, even in cases in which artificial respiration is not followed by recovery.'

'It might be supposed that a part of the water which is taken in by dogs dont swallow water in drowning would be swallowed, but there was no evidence of this in any of our experiments.'

'The amount of water absorbed was in some cases very large, but it appeared to bear no proportion to the result—a fatal result occurring quite as readily with absorption of a small as of a large quantity. That the water is absorbed into the blood there can be no doubt.'

'Another striking fact which comes out in these experiments is the great length

¹ It has been suggested to me that I should omit this statement. I leave it in because the moment I heard it I was struck with the fact, as I had surmised that this was the difficulty from the beginning and did not myself like to say so; and it seemed to me to show the necessity for an endowment for enquiries of this sort, which though humane are unprofitable.

of time during which immersion may last, and yet be followed—with efficient artificial respiration—by complete recovery.’

Now from all that the committee say about the danger of over pressure, and from what Dr Hall says, and from being told that boys in practicing the pressure methods often press too heavily on one another (only for a lark !) I have with my son been working at the methods, and now I venture to throw out a suggestion of another practical method to which the general instructions of Drs Hall and Bowles apply. It is simply these methods with modifications, which make the practical part more simple. There are only two movements. The pressure on the back is omitted, which is in fact following Dr Hall’s instructions that ‘whenever we attempt artificial respiration, the procedure must be effected with gentleness and slowness’ (Prone p 25).

It may be said that this pressure on the back assists the heart’s action, but Marshall Hall thought that increased vigor of the heart’s action in the absence of spontaneous respiration was injurious.¹

From personal experience I can say that the pressure on the back leaves the patient with pains for several hours after, supposing it to be done by a skilful person, but in the hands of the unskilful, or of a very big strong man, it might be as dangerous as the old bellows method. The R.M.C.S. committee say ‘There is one serious danger to which the pressure methods are liable (especially that of Howard) viz that of causing injury to the internal Organs. The greatest danger is to the liver, which in all cases of drowning...is enormously congested and enlarged...very little excess of pressure...is sufficient to produce rupture.’ As to this Dr Bowles said ‘The need for gentleness in employing methods of artificial respiration was emphasised’² in professor Schäfer’s report.

Notwithstanding that this pressure on the back is recommended as a special feature by the Committee—they even seem inclined to say that it should be solely used—I still abandon it. Moreover the committee again demonstrate that any forcible introduction of air is as already quoted ‘a serious danger’ and for this reason the Silvester method is mildly and the Howard method severely condemned by the committee; and in the result as already stated, they recommend the prone position [of Dr Hall] and they say ‘the rolling method’ is also a method which is very simply performed, with less exertion to the operator than’ the other methods, ‘especially in dealing with the apparently drowned, lying upon the ground.’

When I began writing on this subject about 1895, I was in favor of the Brodie and Silvester theory that no water got into the lungs, but all the evidence being the other way, I have felt inclined to believe that water may get into the lungs and stomach. In the article ante p 206 I have mooted this question, but now I think that it is not so very material, for the latest authorities say that the efforts a person makes choke the lungs with mucus etc, and they then require clearing, and this is done better in Dr Hall’s method with Dr Bowles’s modifications than any other.

From what has taken place in the past, we may observe that doctors methods have not been infallible, though they have been a little more successful than scientific men have with swimming.

¹ The Lancet 1894 p 577.

² British medical journal 30 may 1903 p 1259.

The following is the
'suggestion' referred to in the sixth paragraph above.

The simple method

This way is that of Dr Hall with Dr Bowles's modifications, but it omits the pressure on the back and the raising of the arm (on account of the power these movements give of forcing too much air in) and it is worked in an easier way, with the right foot in front of the patient's head.

The simple method



position I expiration



position I from a different point of view



position 2 inspiration

The rolling or partial rolling must be done gently and slowly not roughly and rapidly, as has sometimes been recommended (R. M. C. S. report 26 may 1903).

If this method is not effectual then the case would seem to be hopeless, but any other method and everything that can be thought of should be tried.

The reasons this method is to be recommended are precisely the same as those given in favor of the Silvester and Howard methods—to which the reasons do not truly apply. But in addition it may be said that there is a greater advantage than in any of the other reasons, namely that no roll, inclined plane or other mechanical aid is wanted; and above all it is not necessary to resort to the brutal and next to impossible expedient of tying the tongue forward.

It seems almost needless to say that if the right arm were injured, the patient must be placed on the left side; and that the operator must be guided by common sense and circumstances. He can for instance lessen the hardness of the ground by placing something soft under his knee.

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ibid 24 september :—...is in some respects a model for future bibliographers...

The ATHENÆUM 25 june :—‘Prodigious’ is the only epithet to be applied to this painstaking and exhaustive compilation. Besides his own admirable exposition of the theory and practice of swimming, the author seems to have collected in the bibliographical portion of his work all that has ever been written on the art in this or any other country, all that has been depicted, and almost all that has been thought. Criticisms of most of the methods of the writers are included, and many biographical details. So full of matter is the book that it is necessary to observe the precept that ‘the reader should always consult the index.’ With this guidance the swimmer will find much pleasure and profit in its pages... most (of the illustrations) are more or less connected with some useful lesson.

The author’s diagrams, especially on this point of the true English side-stroke, are very informing...We are glad to see Mr. Thomas mentions the Badminton volume with high praise...The book ends with some suggested modifications of Hall and Bowles’s system of resuscitation, which seem very sound.

The BIRMINGHAM DAILY POST 8 july:—The writer goes on to indicate the lines on which further improvements are to be sought, and urges reforms he considers necessary.

The BOOKMAN for august:—...for instruction and amusement would be hard to surpass...the volume is one not to be passed over by anyone...

The BOOKSELLER 1 september:—...The author, whose own knowledge of the subject is remarkable, having received the assistance of a number of distinguished scholars and swimmers of all countries. The result is a work both scientific and amusing, which appeals not only to swimmers, and those interested in them and their deeds and 'records,' but to book-lovers and bibliographers as well...One has, however, only to glance through the thirty-six pages of the index (compiled by the author's son, Mr. Aubrey Ralph Thomas, M.A.) to see the wide range taken. The book, in fine, is quite a marvel of painstaking erudition... The illustrations are numerous and excellently reproduced, and the printing and presentment unexceptionable.

The DAILY CHRONICLE 25 july ($\frac{3}{4}$ of a column):—...Certainly, whether it be swimming or the Socratic method, this [author's] is the way to proceed...If it is *not* complete, nothing on this subject ever was. Our own opinion is that nobody will venture to write a book on swimming during the next twenty years. It may be...rather a work for reference than for reading; but there are some people who will want to read it right through, and the rest will find something interesting or amusing on every one of its 488 pages...

The author had his trials, and it shocked him especially to find that Mivart's book on the common frog contained no mention of that animal as a swimmer.

...it will call for some erudition in natation to detect many omissions of importance in these exhaustive and supremely careful pages.

The DAILY NEWS 30 june:—...We confess to not having read the four hundred and fifty pages, but we feel sure that the author's statement that the work is the result of many years' labour is indisputable...As a swimming encyclopædia...the book must be unequalled.

The DAILY TELEGRAPH 9 november [an article which appears to show that the reviewer had 'read the 450 pages']:—...the author has a happy knack of sprinkling a work of reference with entertaining matter.

...in the course of the labour which went to the building up of this work.

The FIELD 12 november:—His motto should be *Spartam nactus es, hanc exorna*, and he has certainly carried it out to perfection.

...whatever he has touched he has certainly left in a fair way towards final settlement.

[With reference to] Beowulf, or when he imputes to the translators of the Bible an erroneous indication of the breast stroke in the expression

‘spredeth forth his hands to swim,’ he may appear to be guilty of over-refining, but he is always candid and honest in his quest of truth.

The comparison of the different methods of life-saving that have from time to time been put forth ought to be of great practical value, showing as it does, how they have been confused with one another, and how much still remains to be done in the way of scientific observation and experiment.

C. B. FRY’S MAGAZINE for october has a review of a page entitled ‘Where progress is needed’ of what it terms ‘this admirable book.’

The GLASGOW HERALD 5 july :— ...a work in which everything connected with swimming is most thoroughly and excellently dealt with.

The KING 25 june :— ...has already aroused a certain amount of interest owing to the bad fortune which befel the author. After two years or more of work on the subject, the author was unlucky enough to leave his proofs on an omnibus, and never to this day have they been seen again.

Mr. Thomas’s is a learned work, and will no doubt become the leading authority on every subject connected with the science and sport of swimming.

The LANCET 23 july :— ...No better present could, in our opinion, be given to the young.

LAW NOTES for august (in a review of three columns entitled ‘the book of the month’) says :—One of the objects of the book (which will become a classic) is to get swimming placed on a scientific basis. The author shows throughout how disastrous to the art has been the neglect on the part of scientific and educated men.

...we should doubt if the racing strokes have ever before received so much attention ; all for a historical purpose, not because they are racing strokes.

Mr. Thomas seems unable to dis sever himself from the law, on which we find several incidental notes. One mentions the illegality of any abbreviation of the word ‘limited’ after the name of a company... Then copyright ; the Press Gang, which he points out is still a possible thing ; and indecent bathing, arising out of the case of *Rex v. Crunden*— a case which from the narrow-mindedness of our judges (and their not being swimmers?) has restricted the rights of the bathing public since 1809.

That part of the book on the resuscitation of the apparently drowned is of importance to lawyers, who are wont to rely on Taylor for their guide. As to this Mr. Thomas says, ‘Take, for example, an early editor of Taylor’s *Medical Jurisprudence*, which has been a legal text-book since 1844, and see how he flounders about in a mire of ignorance when writing of resuscitation.’ But it appears that the modern [works] only command a little more respect from Mr Thomas...

...it must be the greatest pleasure to him to see that his book has been received with universal commendation by the press.

Many of our readers possess the volume on Swimming in the Badminton series. The present work in no way supplants that ; on the contrary, it is referred to so frequently as to become useful to its proper understanding. With these two volumes a student has all he requires on swimming ; and herein the student on swimming has a great advantage over a student of the law, who must study many volumes, and then know that he has as yet hardly begun his labours.

The book is a very mine of learning and information, sweetened for its readers by the author's pleasant style.

The LITERARY WORLD 22 july :—...is quite justified in calling his volume 'encyclopedic,' for it would be difficult to name anything relevant that has been omitted. Altogether, and not the least for the eccentric way in which much of it is printed, Mr. Thomas has produced a curious book, which will no doubt be appreciated...

The MANCHESTER GUARDIAN 21 june :—We have racked our brains for anything important, curious, or amusing that has to do with swimming and is not in this volume. One has to go to such literary enterprises as the Furness Variorum edition of Shakspeare for parallels to an exhaustiveness which embraces everything worth embracing, to say nothing of some other things ; and one feels a hearty respect for a man who freely devotes the enormous labour packed into this book to a subject which is pretty certain to yield little reward but the sense of having done extremely well a thing worth doing.

The MORNING POST 30 june :—It is rather surprising that so extensive a book could be written on 'swimming' as the present volume... the author is an enthusiast who neglects no aspect of the exercise, whether practised by men or women at home or abroad. In fact he does not hesitate at what some might regard as dangerous ground, as for instance, when he impugns the Royal Humane Society's method of resuscitation, and the attitude of the medical profession towards the question.

The NEWSAGENT 16 july :—It is undoubtedly one of the most valuable books ever published on this important subject, and it is by an expert.

NOTES AND QUERIES 2 july [in a review of over a column which unfortunately we are compelled to abbreviate] says :—...conscientious and thorough...It is an exhaustive treatise by an expert. Everything connected with the theory and practice of swimming and resuscitation is told, and notes are supplied on the progress of swimming during four centuries, upon the breast-stroke and side-stroke, the ancients as swimmers, the different forms of swimming in various countries, the method of Bernardi, swimming on horseback, &c. ; and such things as costume, cleanliness, and the like are not neglected...On p. 139 is a representation of a coin of Abydos, A.D. 193, showing Hero, alone and naked in a bower that will not hold a second denizen, stretching out a

light to the struggling Leander. A second, on the following page, depicts her with a torch in place of the lamp of classic shape, but with even less place in which to lodge the struggling youth...Beowulf's stroke is, of course, commemorated, and Mr. Thomas gives a new translation of his famous lines descriptive of swimming in the sea. Here we take leave of this entertaining and useful volume, which we commend warmly to our readers. When once begun the perusal is not readily abandoned.

The PALL MALL GAZETTE 30 July :—The whole art and mystery of swimming...a truly portentous book, covering nearly five hundred pages of closely printed matter, and lightened by upwards of one hundred illustrations, ranging from an Assyrian *bas-relief* of B.C. 885 to a drawing cut out of Ally Sloper in A.D. 1896. Mr. Thomas is an enthusiast. Mythical feats of natation performed by the Ancients are as interesting to him as the latest high dive from a Brighton pierhead; and he discusses every phase of the art with a devotion that becomes contagious if the reader be sympathetic. He discusses life saving, fancy swimming, ancient and modern methods, breathing, and a hundred other subjects in learned fashion, and shows the right way and the wrong of every dive, stroke, and exercise in the water. In the hurry and fire of his enthusiasm he occasionally disdains such trifles as capital letters and the construction and punctuation of his sentences, and sometimes the artlessness of his style lends an archaic touch to an essentially modern reference, as in the following :—

‘The playwright is ever on the alert to reflect what is popular; and accordingly in Mrs Dane’s defence an original play by Henry Arthur Jones first acted in 1898, Lionel Cartaret who is in love with Mrs Dane, tells her that after roaming about all night, in the morning he went and had a swim! The finest cure for restlessness there is; water at 48 degrees fahrenheit would put a check on the most ardent lover.’

In no section of his admirable book, however, has Mr. Thomas deserved better of the public than in the exhaustive bibliography of swimming which he supplies, covering not only the English language but German and French and other European languages, and including critical remarks on each book. The compilation of this must have been a task indeed, and our author has done it well...it is a very mine of information, often lightened with a pleasant and manly humour.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: official organ of the National Physical Recreation Society [for september, a whole page review entitled ‘the book of the year’]:—The illustrations taken altogether are like the cartoons in ‘Punch,’ a liberal education.

...the author has spared no time or research to make the book a standard work.

The list of books in European languages on the subject is certainly astounding, but the author probes and criticises them all impartially

and with profound knowledge of the subject, hence the value of his remarks...No one should be without this master work...

What will please our readers in this 'classic' for it is nothing less, is the fact that Mr. Thomas declaims against the vulgar notion that swimming is 'sport'—he declares, and rightly so, that it is an essential part of sound physical education...The author has a pleasant fluent style, which makes the perusing of the work a pleasure.

The book is a handsome piece of workmanship and ought to be in every library,—like Shakespeare, you can take it up and find profit in it at any spare moment.

The PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR 25 june :— ...with an index giving over seven thousand references to swimming or matters in some way connected with it.

Mr. Thomas has done good public service by producing this book... which will probably always be the standard work.

The RAPID REVIEW for july :—The entire theory and practice of swimming, with no less valuable hints on the resuscitation of the more or less drowned.

ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE 28 june :— ...as a book of reference will be much prized as distinct from an ordinary handbook on swimming.

[The notice occupies seven lines, but just above it is a notice of a book on dogs which occupies fifty-two lines.]

The SCOTSMAN 20 june :— ...a great mass of information, technical, historical, and educational...it deals with popular beliefs...must also prove useful and instructive to everyone...

The SHEFFIELD DAILY TELEGRAPH 8 july :—No monetary return which it is ever likely to bring the author can compensate him for the time and trouble which its preparation must have cost him...It is not only a history of swimming...it is also a history of the literature...it tells of famous swimmers and their feats ; it discusses the teaching of swimming, and the resuscitation of the apparently drowned. The author... plays ducks and drakes with the recognised canons of typography, in order to set forth his ideas as he thinks they ought to be set forth ; and this adds a piquant note of strangeness, almost crankiness, to the book... [which] cannot fail to delight and interest...

The SPECTATOR 25 june :— ...it seems to contain all the information, historic and other, that can be acquired about the art of swimming. It is the result of long study and experience...

The SPORTING LIFE 25 june :— ...some excellent cuts which show the various strokes and positions in swimming, as well as those which are faulty or impossible to success. One cannot help being struck by the unusual manner of printing...to say nothing of other strange eccentricities ...it can be thoroughly recommended as a practical treatise...

The SPORTSMAN 30 june [a long review] :—Throughout the author has dealt with swimming from its highest standpoint.

...although racing is only mentioned in order to establish certain facts, Mr. Thomas has done the next best thing for the racing man by his exhaustive description of the various strokes. For this purpose there are diagrams and plates illustrating possible and insoluble problems... Indeed the subject of strokes has been treated in a manner that quickly places the book above anything ever published on the matter, excepting in Badminton. It is impossible not to respect the man who has saved so much time for the writers that will follow him.

At times Mr. Thomas manages to get away from the serious side and create a laugh.

The STANDARD 27 june [in a leading article] says:— ...permeated with a vein of dry humour, and exposing with scant mercy the frequent plagiarisms of authors...In short when every boy and girl is taught swimming—as they ought to be—instructors will find his book a mine of information, not the least valuable being that on the art of life-saving and the resuscitation of the partially drowned.

The TIMES 1 july:—This is for the student and book-lover; it deals with the history and literature of swimming...The book is one of great research and full of all kinds of matter interesting to students of the art and to bibliographers...

We call attention to this feature [the typography] of the book because Mr. Thomas means it to be, so far as printing is concerned, a model of what a bibliography should be.

The WESTMINSTER GAZETTE 18 june:— ...fully—and in an original fashion—illustrated.

The WESTERN MORNING NEWS 22 july:— ...the most valuable and important literary work—with perhaps one equal exception—that has been published with regard to this popular pastime. In clear language, and with many clever illustrations...he has drawn a comparative history of swimming...

...the volume is of intrinsic worth, added to which there is a charm both in the writing and compiling of the work which deserves the appreciation of all...There are nearly 500 pages of excellent reading...

The YORKSHIRE POST 27 july:—The man who devotes thirteen years of his life to compiling and commenting upon a Bibliography of Swimming, from Assyrian times to the present, may be laughed at for his pains. But we do not laugh at Mr. Ralph Thomas. Whatever is worth doing is worth doing well, and we cannot recall any example of literary drudgery which has been more thoroughly done than his Swimming Carlyle drudged in a dreadful temper; Mr. Thomas has drudged with a cheerful devotion to a task which he not only found interesting, but has made interesting even for the book-lover who cannot swim...The volume which at first sight might be considered dull and unprofitable, is therefore full of curious information and practical advice.

PROSPECTUS



coin of Abydos A.D. 193
Hero guiding Leander

SWIMMING

BY

RALPH THOMAS

HONORARY MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE LIFE SAVING SOCIETY
1898-1904

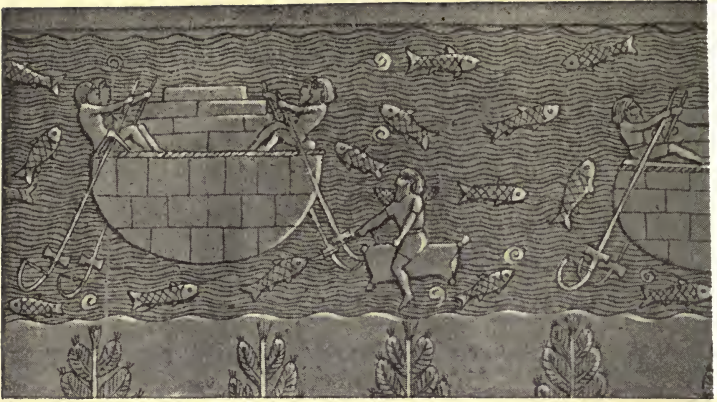
OBJECT OF THE BOOK—The title fixed upon at the commencement of this book some thirteen years ago was *The literature of swimming*, but when the last pages were in type early in 1904 that title was discarded as being quite insufficient, as during the course of years the work had become encyclopedic.

It not only shows what has been written about swimming and resuscitation up to the present time, but also traces the progress made in the theory and practice.

Everything that swimmers or nonswimmers old or young might wish to know about the subject is treated of. The young more particularly it is hoped will take an interest in the subject, for it is to them that we must look for the various reforms so necessary to the advancement of swimming; and to settle some of the principles on which improvement should be made.

HISTORY—Swimming generally and also the various strokes are treated historically so that what was formerly and what is now the condition of swimming and resuscitation in England and other European countries can be seen.

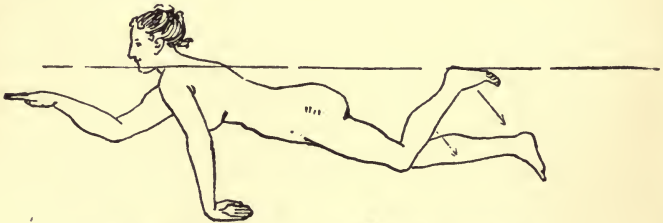
The period comprised is from Assyrian times to the present.



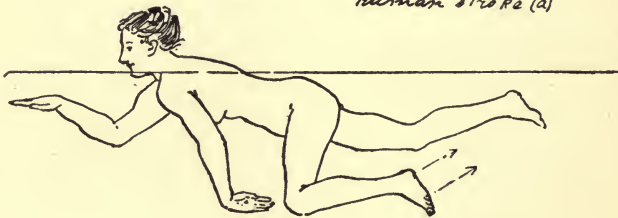
one of seven pictures after the Assyrian sculptures : reproduced from a photograph taken at the Bodleian Library by the Clarendon Press Oxford

LITERATURE—England is foremost in works written on the subject Germany and France coming next, other nations being represented by a very small number of publications ; and it is curious to find that in practical skill each country takes the place to which it is entitled by its literature.

PROGRESS OF SWIMMING—This book shows how swimming stood still for hundreds of years, the stroke of the Anglo Saxon Beowulf being almost the same as that of Digby, whose work in 1587 was the first English book on swimming.

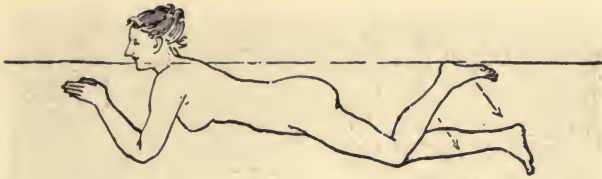


human stroke (a)



animal stroke

diagrams in



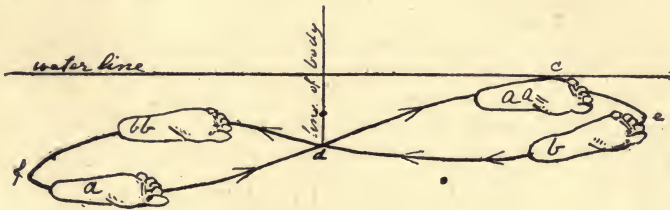
human stroke (B)

illustration of this change

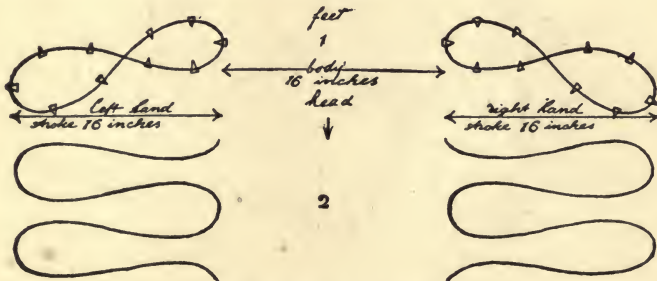
About the year 1500 a gradual but very slow improvement in stroke commenced, and from this the development of our breast stroke is traced, the simple and natural human stroke of the Anglo Saxon being changed step by step to the present complicated and unnatural one.

Short notes are given on the following among many other subjects The ancients as swimmers, Bernardi method, the breast stroke, Benjamin Franklin, buoyancy, cleanliness, costume, diving, the English sidestroke, floating, the frog, how different nations swim, man and swimming, navy and army, speed, women and swimming : these subjects being elucidated by one hundred and twenty six illustrations.

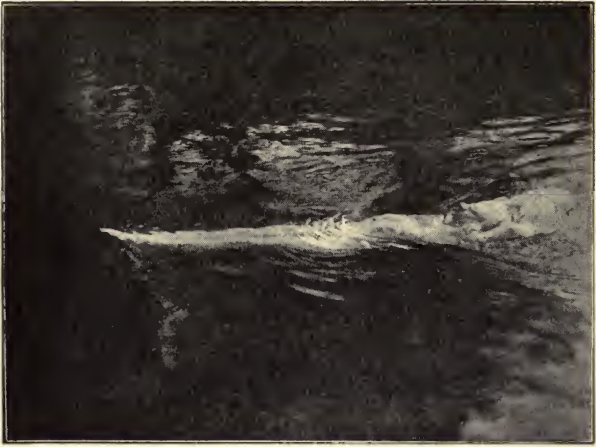
The following is a diagram of the orbit of one foot in the North of England sidestroke



SCULLING—The most useful action in fancy swimming is discussed and illustrated by the following theoretical diagram



notice that a figure of 8 is formed



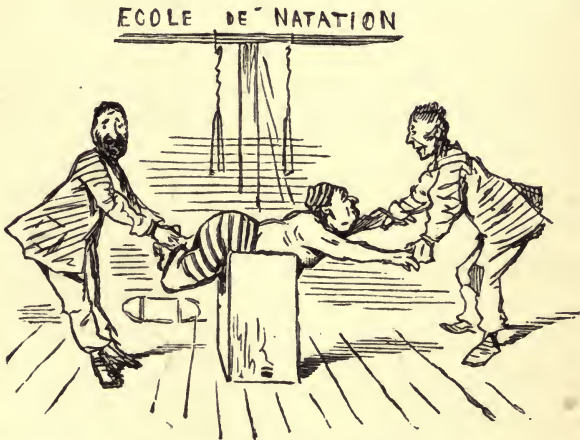
the 'propeller'

The figure in the above photograph is sculling with the hands on the head, the body moving feet first.

THE GLOSSARY shows for the first time how the meanings of many of the words used in swimming are confused and suggestions are made for obviating this.

SUMMARIES — In order to show the result of the author's investigation summaries of the literature are given so that the reader can find the points of the literary part of the book in these short accounts.

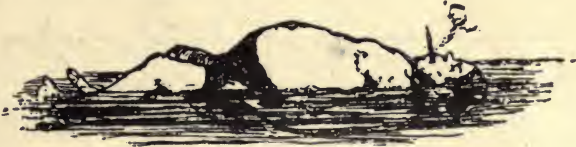
LAND DRILL — The practice of all the strokes on land is most useful but this from ignorance has always been a subject of ridicule



as is shown by this illustration after Mr Linley Sambourne.

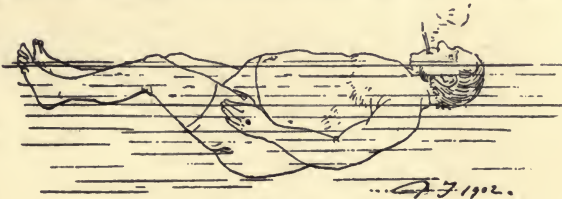
THE IDEAL AND THE REAL—Artists as well as the public have the most absurd notions of positions in floating and swimming. Bad illustrations are criticised by the author and correct drawings given showing how the position should be depicted.

Thus the man in this illustration is in an



impossible position

The following drawing has been made to show what would be the



possible position

SCIENCE AND AMUSEMENT—This book appeals to the man of science as facts are accurately stated and all things not proved are treated as doubtful, but those who read merely for amusement will not peruse its pages in vain. The subject easily lends itself to this end on account of its great variety.

Throughout the book are notes and criticisms intended for those who take an interest in swimming, for the historian, the literary man and the bibliographer.

HISTORIC SWIMS—The feats of Leander, Caesar, Beowulf, Byron, Brock, Webb and the heroes of other great swims come under notice.

RECORDS—The best and most interesting performances are given, when they necessarily arise out of the subject.

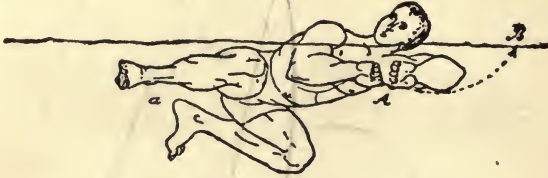
COSTUMES of the past and present for men and women are illustrated.

The knowledge of how **DROWNING** persons act is of great interest and even importance in enabling others to render aid. The subject is illustrated by two drawings, showing the position a drowned person is supposed to assume under water.



about to spring

This book is intended to bring about improvement in the arts of swimming and resuscitation and is not written for racing purposes, nevertheless the English racing strokes are minutely described and there are several diagrams illustrating the correct position for an effective stroke.



bad position for a sidestroke



good position in the English sidestroke

THE AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION—A pedigree is set out of this the ruling body in swimming.



inspiration

RESUSCITATION—The origin, history and work of the various societies is shown, thus giving a short account of the humane efforts made

by The Royal Humane Society, The Royal National Lifeboat Institution and The Life Saving Society in the art of resuscitation from 1774 to the present day. Methods of resuscitation are illustrated which the author considers best according to our present knowledge.

This photograph, one of many others, shows the movement suggested in what is called the simple method.



HELP RECEIVED—Scholars and swimmers of all countries have freely assisted the author. Their help is most gratefully acknowledged. The following are some of the names of these specialists, and each represents at least one fact accurately stated.

H. Angst Schweizerisches Landesmuseum in Zürich

G. F. Barwick BA British Museum

professor Clovis Bévenot Birmingham University

F. Boase author of Modern English Biography

R. L. Bowles F R C P

Dr Wallis Budge keeper of the department of Egyptian and Assyrian antiquities British Museum

w. Henry L S S, joint author of Swimming by Sinclair and Henry

H. Kasser Historisches Museum Bern

professor w. I. Knapp Chicago University

Guy Francis Laking M V O keeper of the armory of king Edward VII

professor E. Ray Lankester

Falconer Madan MA Bodleian Oxford

G. Pragnell president Amateur Swimming Association

H. R. Silvester M D London

professor Skeat Cambridge

Aubrey Ralph Thomas B C L MA Oxford

Percy Thomas R E

Mrs Vautier first lady holder of the swimming diploma of The L S S
 w. Wilson of Glasgow author of The Swimming Instructor
 w. w. Wroth coin department British Museum

BIBLIOGRAPHY—It has been attempted to make the bibliography a
 model list of books (1) as to arrangement (2) the remarks on the treatises
 (3) the style of printing.

There is an elaborate table of CONTENTS and a full INDEX which
 bring all the numerous matters treated of under notice at a glance.

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