

QSB
M838L
1850



ADELAIDE.

CHANG.

ENG.

SARAI.

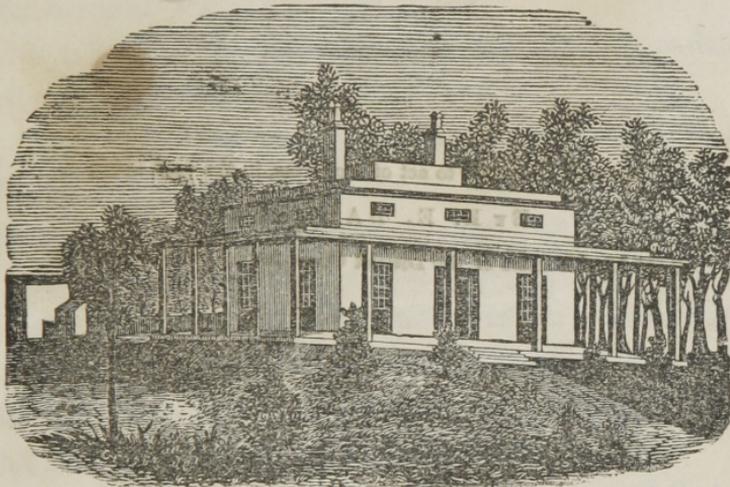
LIVES, ADVENTURES, ANECDOTES, AMUSEMENTS, AND

DOMESTIC HABITS

OF THE

SIAMESE TWINS:

ONE OF THE GREATEST WONDERS OF THE PRESENT TIME, BEING TWO PERFECTLY FORMED PERSONS, WHOSE BODIES, BY A SINGULAR CAPRICE OF NATURE, ARE UNITED TOGETHER AS ONE.



Residence of the Siamese Twins, Surry county, N. C.

THESE GENTLEMEN, AFTER TRAVELING EXTENSIVELY IN THIS AND OTHER COUNTRIES, FINALLY MARRIED AND LOCATED THEMSELVES ON A FARM IN SURRY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, WHERE THEY AND THEIR WIVES ARE AT PRESENT RESIDING.

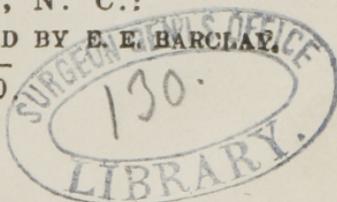
~~~~~  
"Distinct as the Billows, yet one as the Sea."  
~~~~~

BY HON. J. N. MOREHEAD.

RALEIGH, N. C.:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY E. E. BARCLAY.

1850



LIVES AND DEATHS OF AMERICANS
DOMESTIC SLAVERS
OF THE
SLAVERS

QSB
M838L
1850
c.1

Entered, according to act of Congress, in the year 1850,

By E. E. BARCLAY

In the Clerk's office of the District Court for the District of Ohio.

THESE ARE THE NAMES OF THE SLAVERS
WHO WERE CONVICTED BY THE DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF OHIO, IN THE YEAR
1850, AND WHOSE NAMES ARE
RECORDED IN THIS BOOK.

BY HON. J. N. MORSEHEAD.

RALEIGH, N. C.
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY E. E. BARCLAY

1850

INTRODUCTION.

THE question is frequently asked, 'What has become of the Siamese Twins?'

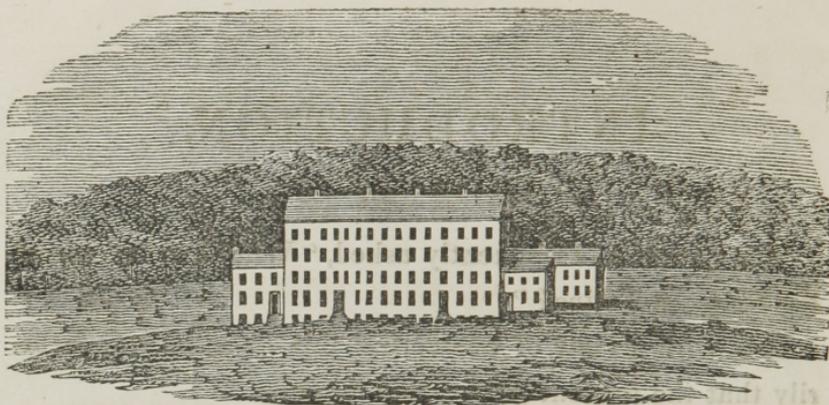
It is with a view of answering this question satisfactorily that the present publication is made.

The writer has been personally acquainted with them for several years, and has visited them frequently at their present residence in Surry county, North Carolina, on which occasions they furnished him with the greater part of the facts and incidents contained in the following pages.

Theirs, it is supposed, is the first instance that any one has ever seen of a double living child; and it is improbable that such another will ever occur again.

The public have heretofore been fully satisfied that there is nothing either deceptive or offensive to delicacy in the exhibition of these gentlemen.

This pamphlet is respectfully dedicated to such persons as intend visiting the Twins, during the tour which they have in contemplation through the United States, and are anxious to obtain more information concerning them than it is possible to procure from a few minutes conversation in a crowded room.



Mansion House of the Twins, at Trap Hill, Wilkes co., N. C.

They were attracted to this spot by the purity of the air, the salubrity of the climate, and the rich and beautiful mountain scenery, where, amid the silence and solitude of nature, they could enjoy that retirement and tranquillity which is so much desired by them; conscious, too, that to some extent, they would there be free from the scrutinizing gaze of the public eye.

THE SIAMESE TWINS.

8

attention to times and seasons. The keel must be laid on a particular day, at a particular hour; and the tree which is to form the mast, must also be cut at a particular time. The Twins have met with many superstitious persons in this country. On one occasion, they stopped for a few hours at the house of a family of Welsh descent in one of the charming valleys of the Alleghany mountains. The family, including a venerable old lady, upwards of eighty years of age, did not leave off work until the storm had ended. The old lady very gravely testified that they were anxious to finish

LIVES AND ADVENTURES

OF THE

SIAMESE TWINS.

THE kingdom of Siam is situated between the Chinese and Burmese Empires; and Bunkok, which is the capital, is in lat. 13° N., and long. 101° E., on the river Manam, thirty or forty miles from the sea, and contains about five hundred thousand inhabitants.

The king's palace is surrounded with a wall which is about three miles in circumference. His majesty's household consists of about three thousand individuals, of whom *seven hundred are his wives*.

The people of this country and Europe know very little about Siam, as the government only suffers Americans and Europeans to come to Bunkok; and they are not allowed to travel in the interior under any circumstances.

The Chinese, on the contrary, are allowed to trade with every port, and to travel through every part of the country; in fact, one half the population of Siam are emigrants from China, and they have many more privileges than the natives.

The people are generally superstitious; and their adherence to particular days and hours appears very absurd in the detail. The building of a junk, for instance, is an affair of much moment, and attended with much form and great

attention to times and seasons. The keel must be laid on a particular day, at a particular hour; and the tree which is to form the mast, must also be cut at a particular time.

The Twins have met with many superstitious persons in this country, and seem to think that none are entirely free from it. On one occasion, they stopped for a few hours at the house of a family of Welsh descent, in one of the charming valleys of the Alleghany mountains, in Pennsylvania, and observing all the family (including a venerable old lady, upwards of eighty years of age), very busily employed in planting potatoes, during a very severe rain storm, they asked why the planters did not leave off work, until the storm had ended. The old lady very gravely replied, that they were anxious to finish planting before the dark of the moon!

On another occasion, they inquired of a Dutchman in Ohio, why the shingles on his house presented so very rough an appearance; and the answer was, that the workman had nailed them on at the most unlucky period of the moon's age!

The Siamese mode of evidence is, in some respects, similar to the practice of the ancients. When any controversy about a fact becomes too intricate for their judges to unravel, they have recourse to what they call the judgment of God; that is, to fortune: and their methods of consulting this oracle are various. The most remarkable custom is by the ordeal. It is practiced, generally, by boiling water or red hot iron. The water or iron being consecrated by many ceremonies, the person accused is required to take up a stone immersed in the former a certain depth, or carry the latter a certain distance. His hand is then wrapped up, and the covering sealed for three days. If there appear, on examination, no marks of burning, he is pronounced innocent; if otherwise, guilty. The trial by cold water is different. Into this the culprit is thrown, his feet and his hands being tied. If he swims, he is guilty; if he sinks, he is considered innocent; though, to us, it appears extraordinary that any innocent person could

ever be acquitted by the one trial, or any criminal be convicted by the other.

Besides the usual methods of fire and water ordeal, both parties are sometimes exposed to the fury of a tiger, or other ravenous beast, let loose for the purpose; and, if the beast spares either, that person is accounted innocent; if neither, both are held to be guilty. If he spare both, the trial is incomplete.

Eng and Chang (or, as they are generally called, Chang-Eng*) Bunker, were born of Chinese parents, in May, 1811, at the city of Maklong, sixty miles from the capital of Siam. Their mother states that they were very small, and that she suffered no more inconvenience at their birth than at the birth of any of her other children. She is the mother of nine children, of whom four were older, and three younger than Chang-Eng; but none other were twins. Their father died in 1819, leaving their mother in straitened circumstances, which rendered it necessary that they should attend to business at a very tender age.

The first regular employment in which they were engaged, was the manufacture of cocoa-nut oil, which is such a very laborious employment, that they found their strength unequal to the task, and were compelled to relinquish it. They then commenced peddling, a business which is carried on very extensively in Siam. They were exempted, by special favor, from paying the tax which others of the craft had to pay. They say they were pretty keen at striking a bargain, and seem to think that the roving merchants of Siam are not a whit behind their brethren of Connecticut. Having become tired of peddling, they turned their attention to the rearing of young ducks, and dealing in eggs, and using artificial heat in hatching (by which means a great many more can be reared than by the old plan), they were enabled to drive a profitable business.

* Pronounced as if written *Chunn Inn*.

Chang-Eng went a considerable distance to sea two or three times a week, for the supply of a small shell fish, with which they fed their ducks. Ever since then they have been attached to the sea, enjoy a voyage, and never recollect having been in the least sea-sick. They preserved their eggs in a singular manner: being first dipped in a soft mixture of salt and clay, and afterwards covered with dry ashes; they are then more easily handled, and, it is said, will continue fit for food two or three years.

They remained in this business until their departure for the United States, and they left a very flourishing business to their brother.

They excited a good deal of curiosity in their native country, especially when they were very young. The king of Siam having expressed a desire to see them, they went to Bunkok, and saw not only his majesty, but his seven hundred wives; some of whom made presents to the Twins, as did also the king.

Chang-Eng left Siam on the 1st April, 1829, under the protection of the captain of the American ship *Sachem*, with whom an arrangement had been made by their mother and themselves, by which the Twins were to come to the United States; they did not think it likely that they would be absent more than one or two years. They arrived at Boston, on the 16th of August following, and remained in the United States until the middle of October, during which time they visited Providence, Philadelphia and New York; from whence they embarked for England, on board the ship *Robert Edwards*, commanded by captain *Shearburn*, and arrived at *Dartmouth*, in *Devonshire*, about the middle of November; from whence they set sail for London, at which place they landed safe, after having encountered a severe storm whilst passing through the British channel.

On the 24th of November, the Twins were visited at the Egyptian hall, in *Piccadilly*, by a great number of medical and

scientific gentlemen, and submitted to an examination, in order that through their report, the public might be assured that the exhibition was in no respect deceptive, and that there was nothing whatever offensive to delicacy, in the said exhibition. After remaining in London several months, they took a tour through England, stopping at Windsor, Reading, Oxford, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Bath, Bristol, Worcester, Birmingham and Liverpool; from thence, they went to Glasgow, and thence by Edinburgh and Dundee, to Perth; thence returning once more to Glasgow, and went thence to Dublin. They staid two or three weeks in Dublin, and then crossed to Liverpool, from which place they went to Chester, Manchester, Leeds, York, Sheffield, Birmingham, and thence to London, once more. They remained in the metropolis only a few weeks, and having embarked on board the *Cambria*, Captain Moore, they landed at New York on the 4th of March, 1831.

After their return from England, they continued to travel under the protection of the captain, until May, 1832, at which time they reached their majority. Up to that period, they had derived no benefit from their exhibitions; but since that time, they have been acting on their own account. They have not departed from those habits of economy, which they acquired when young; but by industry and the other advantages which they have, they have been enabled to accumulate an estate of about sixty thousand dollars, about ten thousand of which is invested in real estate, slaves, and other personal property; the remainder is in the hands of an importing merchant in the city of New York. They will not, under any circumstances, draw on their banker, for more than the interest of their money.

The Twins have traveled very extensively throughout the United States, having visited nearly all the states; a list of the counties, in which they have exhibited, is attached to this pamphlet, from which the reader may form some idea of

the immense expanse of territory which was encompassed by them in almost an incredible short space of time. They generally traveled in their own conveyance, which was much more pleasant for them, and enabled them to journey in any direction which was most agreeable to themselves, and also to stop at many places which they would not have had it in their power to visit. They have visited the Natural Bridge, in Virginia, and were much pleased with the grandeur and sublimity of the scene. They have also been permitted,

“To look on nature in her loftier mood,”

during a visit to the grand and magnificent falls of Niagara. They have also visited Upper and Lower Canada, and the Island of Cuba.

In the year 1835 they went to Paris, and spent several months very agreeably in that city, visiting many of the public places. They went twice to the Garden of Plants, in which is a splendid museum, a cabinet of comparative anatomy, containing a collection of various animals, from the smallest to the greatest, and also, a very large and well arranged collection of living beasts and birds. They speak of the Giraffe as having attracted most attention. They also visited the celebrated china ware manufactory at Sevres; the palace and gardens of St. Cloud; the royal mint; the church of the Magdalen; the grand opera, and several other places of interest.

From Paris they went to Brussels, and visited the palace which a few years before belonged to the Prince of Orange. From Brussels they went to Antwerp. There the churches are very superb, and are ornamented with excellent paintings. The cathedral of Notre Dame is one of the noblest structures on the continent. It is five hundred feet long, two hundred and thirty feet wide, and the spire, which is remarkable for the beauty of its architecture, is five hundred feet in height.

The Twins climbed to the top of it, but the view is very uninteresting, and scarcely worth the trouble of the ascent.

From Antwerp the Twins went to Rotterdam, in Holland, after having been very much annoyed, owing to the police regulations between Belgium and Holland, which renders it necessary for a traveler to procure a special permission to pass from one government to the other. Having obtained the requisite papers (as they supposed), they started for Rotterdam; but when they reached the Belgian frontier, and showed their passport to the commanding officer, they were informed that they could not pass the boundary, as their passport had not the signature of the chief of the office of public safety, which was indispensable. It was in vain that the Twins reasoned with him, stating that they had not come into Belgium with any traitorous design, and that allowing them to pass could not endanger the safety of the state; and also stating how they had been misinformed by the passport officer at Antwerp, who assured them that their papers were all correct. But to all this the officer replied firmly, that he could not suffer any person to pass whose passport had not the signature of Monsieur Francois. Finally, they were obliged to go back again to Brussels, at a considerable loss of time and money. Having obtained the requisite signature, they made a fresh start, and passing through Breda and Dordrecht, arrived in Rotterdam; and after spending a few days there, they went to the Hague, where they had the pleasure of seeing the Dutch Parliament in session; and also his majesty the King of Holland, who resides at this place. They were highly delighted with their visit, and represent it as being a most beautiful town; adjacent to which there is a charming wood, about three-fourths of a mile wide, and two miles long, which is used as a promenade by the inhabitants. In this wood is a small but very neat palace, with handsome apartments, which contain a choice collection of pictures. The Royal Family go frequently during the summer to this

“Palace in the wood” as it is called, to drink tea and walk in the delightful gardens which surround it. The Twins rambled through the wood several times, and saw the palace and gardens. There is an apartment in the palace called the “Painted Saloon,” which is represented as being truly magnificent. The museum at the Hague, which they also visited, is worthy of the attention of a stranger, containing a very extensive collection of curiosities, of which a great portion are from China and Japan.

From the Hague they went to Amsterdam, which is a fine well built city, with a population of several hundred thousand, and a very extensive trade. After a short stay in the city, they embarked on board the American brig *Francia*, Captain Edwards, bound for New York, at which place they landed in August, 1836.

After traveling through several of the states, they located in Wilkes county, North Carolina, where they continued some five or six years, engaged in agriculture and merchandizing on a small scale. They were attracted to this spot by the purity of the air, the salubrity of the climate, and the rich and beautiful mountain scenery; where, amid the silence and solitude of nature, they could enjoy that retirement and tranquillity, which is so much desired by them; conscious too, that to some extent, they would there be free from the scrutinizing gaze of the public eye.

They have been naturalized according to law, and the Legislature of North Carolina has by a special act, legalized the adoption of their surname (Bunker), which they assumed some years ago, in honor of a lady of New York, who treated them with great kindness during their stay in that city.

They were married in April, 1843, to Misses Sarah and Adelaide, daughters of Mr. David Yates, of Wilkes county, N. C. and have four daughters and two sons.

Since they left home, they have had several opportunities of hearing from their mother; the last time was in 1845, through

the medium of one of the missionaries of the Methodist E. Church, who saw their mother, and was able to assure her of their having been in good health when he left the United States.

Having given a few slight sketches of the lives of the Twins, and also of the countries which they have visited, it only remains to allude to the wonderful and curious union of their bodies, which has rendered them the objects of intense interest wherever they have traveled.

They are united to each other by a ligature or band, about three and a half inches in length and eight in circumference, formed at the extremity of the breast bone of each, and extending downwards to the abdomen. The upper part of the band is a strong cartilaginous substance; the lower part is soft and fleshy, and contains a tube or cavity, presumed to be about half an inch in diameter. Great difference of opinion exists among medical men, concerning the contents of this cavity. On the lower edge of the band, exactly in the center, is situated the umbilicus, or navel, there being but *one* in common between them. If the band by which the bodies are connected be touched in the center, both are equally sensible of it; but, if half an inch from the center, it is only felt by one.

The question of the probable success of an attempt to separate the Twins by a surgical operation, has, naturally enough, been often discussed by professional men. In the United States and England the Faculty, with very few exceptions, thought it would be attended with fatal results; whilst on the European continent, every medical man who examined them declared, that there would be no more chance of their surviving such an operation, than of surviving the cutting off their heads.

Chang (who, it may be observed, is always on the left), weighs 110 pounds, and is five feet one inch in height; and Eng is five pounds heavier and one inch taller; but, to obviate the inconvenience arising from this difference in height,

Chang has heel-pieces to his boots, sufficiently thick to raise him on a level with his brother.* They can only walk in one position; but the flexibility of the cartilage is so great, that they can readily turn those shoulders outwards (which are close together), when they walk. Indeed, it is probable, that, if attention had been paid to the subject when they were young, they might have been taught to walk either way. Although they stand so close together, yet they do not seem to be in each other's way; and whatever movement is made by one, is responded to so immediately by the other, that it seems as if they were moved by the same impulse. They never thwart or oppose each other in any way, but appear to be as nearly as possible alike in their desires and opinions, and in their friendship for particular persons, and also in their preference of places; and in their dislikes they are equally as uniform.

An exception to this, however, came under the knowledge of the writer. At the congressional election, in 1847, there were two candidates of the same political party, in the field, and one of the Twins having formed an attachment for one of them, voted for him, whilst his brother voted for the other candidate, who was the nominee of the party to which they belong.

They can run very fast for a short distance; they also can swim very well. They are very industrious, and appear to be happier when actively employed than at any other time. They seldom speak one to the other; but this is not very surprising, when it is recollected that they have always been placed in the same circumstances, and that their sphere of observation has been bounded by the same limits.

They are very expert in the use of a scythe, an ax, and

* It is worthy of remark, that the aggregate weight of their white family, consisting of ten persons, exceeded that of their mother-in-law, at the time of her death, which occurred in 1847, only a few pounds, she having weighed upwards of five hundred pounds!

most other implements of husbandry ; and, also, tolerable good shots, and are fond of hunting birds, squirrels, &c., and once had the pleasure of killing a deer.

When in bed, they are not confined to any particular position, but rest on either side, as may best suit their convenience—generally, however, with their faces towards each other. They usually sleep quite sound, and almost invariably awake at the same moment.

They play chess and draughts tolerably well ; but it affords them no amusement to play these games in opposition to each other. They have learned to read and write sufficiently to amuse themselves during their hours of relaxation.

They have adopted the American style of dress, and speak the English language tolerably distinctly. They are very talkative ; and when they first came to this country, would both speak at once, but now only one speaks at a time.

In relating a narrative, if the one which is speaking pauses to recover his breath, or for any other purpose, his brother continues it, apparently with as much ease as if he had commenced speaking.

They are generally lively, and sometimes humorous ; and frequently amuse their visitors with such anecdotes as the following :

While traveling through one of the Southern States, they met with a very inquisitive lady, who, after having asked them a great many questions, very gravely inquired whether they always occupied the same bed. "Oh," replied one of them, good humoredly, "for the convenience of the landlord, sometimes we do."

On another occasion, they were visiting a neighboring gentleman, who, on conducting them to bed, very politely asked them if they would prefer separate beds. "I believe, as it is very warm to-night," replied one of them, laughing at the absurdity of the question, "that we will."

The Twins expect to commence another tour through the

United States in October next, passing through South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, and Illinois. The three last mentioned States they have never visited. It depends somewhat upon circumstances as to the direction they may journey from thence. They informed the writer that their families (as has been erroneously reported), would not accompany them.

For the satisfaction of the curious and scientific, three papers are annexed.

1st. Extracts from the written opinions of Drs. Saml. J. Mitchell and Wm. Anderson, two eminent physicians of New York.

2d. Extracts from a paper read before the Royal Society of London, on the 1st of April, 1830, by Geo. B. Bolton, Esq., who was the medical attendant of the Twins in London.

3d. A statement signed by the most eminent professors of surgery and medicine of London.

OPINION OF DRs. MITCHELL AND ANDERSON.

* * * * * The ensiform cartilage at the end of each sternum is united to its fellow, and has been in part ossified, forming a hard elastic upper edge to the band which connects these boys. This is convex upward and concave below, becoming the upper boundary of a canal, which is in the band that communicates with the abdominal cavities of both the youths; from which fact, the canal is necessarily lined by a continuation of the natural peritoneal membrane of the cavities, and the whole of this is covered by common integuments. At about midway in the under edge of the band, is exhibited the cicatrix of an umbilicus, showing wherein the single cord (but no doubt containing two sets of vessels), entered for the nourishment of these two children before birth.

Into the canal of this almost cylindrical band there is a protrusion of the viscus from the abdomen of its respective boy upon every effort of coughing or other exercise; and these

protrusions, from their particular hardness and size, more at some times than others, we might suppose to be made up of any of the abdominal viscera, as intestine, liver, stomach or spleen, as each should happen, in the various positions of their bodies, to be presented to the openings; since we believe that parts of every abdomen or pelvic viscus, excepting the kidneys, have been found from time to time to enter into the composition of hernial tumors.

A question has arisen, which has been discussed with some warmth, whether they could be separated with safety. We think they could not; and would barely refer to the experience of Scarpa and Sir Astley Cooper, with whom might be included a host of others, quite familiar to the well read surgeon, for a decision upon the ill success of the operation for exomphalos. Dionis, you know, says, in relation to the operation for umbilical hernia, that those who have the misfortune to be afflicted with an exomphalos, should rather dispense with a shirt than a well adapted truss; and Acister says much about the same thing. Sir Astley Cooper has said, in the hearing of one of the writers in his public lectures more than twenty years ago:*

“Gentlemen, I have operated for umbilical hernia once, and shall never do it again;” hinting at the general fatal issue of the operation then in practice, since he had cut into the peritoneal cavity at the umbilicus. Professor Scarpa, the acknowledged and distinguished anatomist and surgeon, speaks of the great fatality of the usual operation for exomphalos; and recommends the one, when necessary, which has of late been in practice by Sir Astley Cooper, which consists in dividing the stricture and performing the whole operation without cutting into any part of the hernial sac or peritoneal membrane; under which circumstance it has with Sir Astley Cooper been twice successful. Now, if such an operation could be practicable for the liberation of these boys, then it might

* This opinion was given some 15 or 20 years ago.

be deemed advisable, other permissions coöperating; but since any cutting accomplishing their separation (if our description of their connection be correct), would expose the peritoneal cavity, then in that situation, it would be attended with the most dangerous consequences.

EXTRACTS FROM A PAPER READ BEFORE THE ROYAL SOCIETY,
LONDON, APRIL 1st, 1830, BY GEORGE B. BOLTON, ESQ.

* * * * * The band of union is formed in the following manner: At the lowest end of the sternum of each boy, the ensiform cartilage is bent upwards and forwards, meeting the other in the middle of the upper part of the band, where moveable joints exist, which admit of vertical as well as lateral motion, each junction appearing to be connected by ligamentous structures. It is difficult to define precisely where the respective cartilages from each body meet, and whether a slip from one of the cartilages of the false rib enters into the structure of these parts; but it is certain that the ensiform cartilages have assumed an extended and altered figure. The cartilaginous portion occupies the upper region of the band. The outline of the band is convex above, and arched below. Under the cartilage, while they stand in their ordinary position, are large hernial sacs, opening into each abdomen, and into which on coughing, congenital hernia are forced, probably in each boy formed by a transverse portion of the arch of the colon: generally, however, and under ordinary circumstances, these herniæ are not apparent. Whether there is a communication between the two abdominal cavities, or a distinct peritoneal sac, belonging to each hernia, is by no means obvious. * * * * *

When these herniæ protrude, their respective contents are pushed forward to the middle of the band. The entire band is covered with common integument; and, when the youths face each other, its length at the upper part is two, and at the lower not quite four inches. From above, downwards, it is three inches and a quarter; and its greatest thickness is one

inch and five-eighths. In the center of the lower part of this band, which presents a thin edge formed only by skin and a cellular substance, there is the cicatrix of a *single navel*, showing where the umbilical cord or cords had entered, and which, no doubt, contained two sets of vessels. Small blood vessels and nerves must, of course, traverse the substance of the band.

I have had an opportunity of examining a preparation of united female twins, now in the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, in London. The union extends from the lower part of the sternum of each twin to the navel, and there is one umbilical cord common to both. On dissection, the following appearances were observed: The umbilical vein, in its course towards the twins, is divided into two nearly equal sized branches, the division taking place about one inch and three quarters from the umbilicus; one branch passing upwards, in front, to the porta of the anterior liver, and the other behind, to its proper liver. The number of arteries is four,—two from each fœtus, and are included in the same theca with the umbilical vein as far as the body, retaining the appearance of an ordinary funis.

A STATEMENT, SIGNED BY THE MOST EMINENT PROFESSORS
OF SURGERY AND MEDICINE, IN LONDON.

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY, Nov. 24, 1829.

Chang and Eng—Two youths born in the kingdom of Siam, whose bodies are, by a wonderful caprice of nature, united together as one, arrived in London on Thursday, November 19th, and on Tuesday, 24th, were submitted to the examination of the most eminent professors of Surgery and Medicine of the metropolis, as well as some other gentlemen of scientific and literary pursuits, in order that, through their report, if favorable, the public may be assured that the projected exhibition of these remarkable and interesting youths

is in no respect deceptive ; and farther, that there is nothing whatever offensive to delicacy in the said exhibition. These youths have passed their eighteenth year, are in possession of full health, and extraordinary bodily strength ; display all the faculties of the mind to their fullest extent ; and seem, in fact, in every respect, to enjoy a state of perfect happiness and contentment.

Hon. LEIGH THOMAS, Pres. Royal Col. Sur.

Astley Cooper,	J. M. Latham,
Thomas Copeland,	John Webster,
R. C. Headington,	Wm. Babbington,
W. B. Lynn,	J. A. Paris,
B. C. Broadie,	Geo. Birkbeck,
B. Travers,	Anthony Carlisle,
Charles Locock,	J. McBraire,
Francis Hawkins,	J. D. Broughton,
James A. Wilson,	J. Harrison Curtis,
E. C. Thomas,	William Clift,
W. Reid Claney,	John Ashburner,
J. Frost,	Wm. Manning,
Wm. Blizard,	Edward Stanley,
J. H. Greene,	E. H. Phillips,
Geo. Langstaff,	Henry Hunt,
James Duke,	John Scott,
Henry Halford,	&c., &c., &c.

Having seen and examined the two Siamese youths, Chang and Eng, I have great pleasure in affirming that they constitute a most extraordinary *Lusus Naturæ*, the first instance I have ever seen of a double living child. They being totally devoid of deception, afford a very interesting spectacle, and are highly deserving of public patronage.

(Signed), JOSHUA BROOKS.

For the satisfaction of those who are disposed to doubt the truth of their marriage, the writer has procured correct copies of their marriage license and certificates, only one of each is hereby attached. The others are precisely like these, with the exception of the names; Chang and Adelaide being inserted, instead of Eng and Sarah.

The two couples were drawn up in front of the parson, and the ceremony of joining together the elder sister, Adelaide, and Chang was performed; immediately after which the other couple were joined likewise, and have since that time, lived agreeably, occupying the same room and the same *bed*.

The fact of their purchasing a farm in the county of Surry, some forty or fifty miles from their mansion house, and placing one of their wives there, for the purpose of superintending the domestic concerns, while the other remained in Wilkes, gave rise to the report, that their wives had disagreed and parted. The twins superintend the management of both farms, and pass alternately from one to the other.

That the twins had a legal right to unite themselves to different persons in the bond of matrimony, cannot be questioned, since they (as has been shown) are in their natural formation as distinct as the billows, and are, in the eye of the law only joint partners, and as such hold property, seal obligations, &c.

It must remain a mooted question, as to the liability of one of them to receive corporal punishment at the hands of the law for the acts of the other, which would be the case, if the punishment extended to the depriving either of them of life, as in that case, it must necessarily affect both alike (See page 15).

The opinion is entertained, by gentlemen of respectable legal standing, that if one of them were to "commit a crime, which by our laws would be punishable by death, contrary to the will or wish of the other, and in defiance of his efforts to prevent it (which, judging from their sameness of feeling in other matters, it is not likely will occur), that notwithstanding the judgment of the law should be pronounced on the offender, yet the execution could be stayed, on account of the punishment that would be thereby inflicted on the other." A case may be cited in support of this opinion, of a woman under sentence of death, who it is made to appear,

is *enccinte*; the execution is invariably stayed until after the birth of the child. The maxim of the law being, that it is better that ninety-nine guilty persons should go unpunished, than that one innocent one should suffer.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, }
 Wilkes County. } ss.

To any regular minister of the Gospel having the care of souls, of whatever denomination, or to any Justice of the Peace, for said county:

You are hereby licensed and authorised, to solemnise the rites of matrimony between Eng Bunker and Sarah Yates, and join them together as man and wife.

Witness Wm. M. Mastin, Clerk of the County Court, at office in Wilkesboro', the 10th day of April, A. D. 1843, and in the 67th of our independence.

WM. M. MASTIN, C. C. C.

To all whom it may concern.

This is to certify, that I have this day solemnised the rites of matrimony between Eng Bunker and Sarah Yates, of Wilkes Co., N. C.

JAMES L. DAVIS,
 Minister of the Gospel.

In the presence of

David Yates,

Thos. Yates, C. H. Jones, and others.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE



NLM 03204835 1

ARMY
MEDICAL LIBRARY