CHOLERA INFANTUM.

The Dread Disease May be Prevented and Cured by Proper Treatment.

IMPROPER FOOD ITS PRIME CAUSE.

The "Mechanical Process" Practised by One of New York's Leading Physicians.

"With proper treatment and care taken in time, there is no reason why the most severe case of cholera infantum or summer complaint in young children should not be speedily and effectively cured."

This statement was made by a prominent physician of this city, who is at the head of the department of children's diseases in one of New York's largest medical institutions, to a reporter of the *Evening World*.

For ten years in charge of the children's department of the largest dispensary in town, and later as an instructor and professor, he has made the subject a profound study, and an account of some of the results of his wide experience and research, which he gave to the reporter, are as full of interest to the public as to the medical profession, in which he is regarded as an authority in his specialty.

As every one knows, cholera infantum is the source of great mortality among children, greater even than from all other causes combined, especially in the large cities. Unless the disease can be arrested by medicinal treatment before it has reached a certain stage, children attacked by it were generally given up as hopeless cases. Nothing could save them, it was said.

This is the result of failing to treat the disease in the right manner, and of erroneous views that have prevailed as to its immediate cause. It has commonly been supposed that because the greatest mortality from the disease occurred during the hot months of July and August the prostrating effect of the heat upon the feeble infants was the direct cause. For that reason they have been wrapped in red flannel bandages and dosed with medicines until it is a wonder that any of them ever got well. This theory, however, has been pretty thoroughly exploded by the authority which has been quoted.

By a series of elaborate charts, showing the variations in temperature for the summer months for a period of ten years from 1878 to 1888 compared with the death rate from cholera infantum compiled by himself from the records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics for the same period, he proves that while the death rate follows the temperature to a large extent it has frequently been much larger than the average in very cool seasons, and, vice versa, in the hottest weather a lower death rate is found.

The heat is, therefore, only an indirect cause of the disease. The real cause is the decomposition in the child's stomach of the food which it is given, the great majority of the victims being brought up on the bottle.

Scientists know that milk will absorb germs and bacteria floating in the air much more readily than water, and that by the time milk reaches the city and is given to the babies it is filled with these destructive germs of disease.

That is what causes all the trouble. The entire digestive apparatus gets out of order. Food remains in the stomach sometimes for days without being digested, and whatever is given to the child to nourish it only aggravates the trouble. Drugs are given to kill these germs, but it takes more medicine to destroy them than it does to kill the child, and as for chalk mixtures bacteria enjoy no better diet. They grow and flourish on it.

What, then, is the remedy for what has formerly, in nine cases out of ten, proved a fatal disease?

It is what the professor calls the mechanical treatment. He simply washes out the children's stomachs with lukewarm water, which at once gets rid of the cause of the illness by removing the decomposed and indigestible matter.

It is a sort of laundrying process that is simple but effective, as the result of a single year's experience at the clinic will show. Of nearly five hundred cases treated during the last year and a half by this method only three deaths occurred, and since the beginning of the hot season this year in not a single case has it been unsuccessful.

Children have been brought to the clinic in the very last stages of the disease, where the eyes were fixed and glassy, the nose pinched, the face drawn, and every indication of the near approach of coma. After the brain is affected and coma is complete there is no way of saving life.

The most remarkable thing about the treatment is that as soon as the washing begins the child at once revives, and when it is over in falls into a natural sleep, and then it is only a question of proper care when it will completely recover.

The process is applied on the syphon principle. The apparatus consists of a metal receptacle for the warm water, with a graduated glass tube in front, showing how much water it contains, and a long rubber tube attached to the lower side. In the end of the rubber tube is inserted a short glass tube, with a stop-cock that works by pressure of the thumb in one end. To the other end is attached a soft, velvet-eye rubber catheter, which forms the termination of the tube.

The catheter is passed easily down the throat of the child to the stomach, when the stop-cock is pressed and the warm water from the receptable above flows through until the stomach is full, Then the tube is detached and the outer end held down, when the water will flow in the opposite direction.

The operation has been performed for many years as a remedy for dyspepsia, but not until a comparatively recent date for cholera infantum, especially in this country. Prof. Epstein, of Prague, Austria, was the first to recommend it, in 1880.

For the past few years the disinfection of the stomach and intestines and their contents has been attempted by means of drugs. Naphtholin, benzoate and salicylate of soda have been tried and recommended. All of these remedies may be well enough, but they often fail, if they are retained, which generally does not occur as long as nausea is present.

These drugs do not check the vomiting. They can only destroy a very small portion of the germs of decomposition, as they are hardly strong enough and as they only reach the lower pyloric end of the stomach; while the germs and the tyrotoxicon may adhere in safety to the upper and lateral walls of the organ without ever coming in contact with the antiseptics sent after them.

It is very different with stomach washing. The whole stomach is filled with warm water; the latter is churned and splashed all over its walls by the movements of the child (if necessary brought about by shaking the baby), and every particle of obnoxious material, whether solid or fluid, whether microbe or chemical poison, is immediately drowned in the fluid and within a few seconds carried out of the body, where it can do no more harm. Vomiting and nausea have ceased once and for all.

The Professor, however, is a firm believer in preventive measures, and thinks that the real way to diminish the terrible mortality among the children from this cause is by the spread of information among the parents as to the hygienic treatment of the children and the preparation of their food.

Cleanliness, of course, comes first. Bottle-fed babies should never be given cow's milk without previously preparing it. The germs that it contains are the chief cause of the disease. There is a process called sterilizing milk, which is nothing more nor less than boiling it and then keeping it air-tight. Boiling will destroy all the germs.

Among ignorant people not even the boiling of the milk is thought of by the mother, but the child is permitted to drink the milk just as it comes from the can.

Children are also given all sorts of things which are not good for them by ignorant parents, which will contribute to bring on summer complaint, but the milk difficulty is the chief one.

A curious fact has been brought out by the charts and tables, already mentioned, prepared by the professor, which he used in his demonstrations in the clinic. It is that warm weather (not hot), either dry or moist, showing a minimum daily temperature of not less than 60 degrees F., brings on the epidemic appearance of cholera infantum invariably in every year, irrespective of the height of the maximum temperature, as in the latter part of June of nearly every year.

Again, summer complaint loses its epidemic character as soon as the maximum daily temperature remains below 60 degrees F., as in the latter half of October of nearly every year.

It has been ascertained by chemists and analysts that it requires a continuous temperature of at least 60 degrees F. to produce germs and bacteria in cow's milk and to develop organisms of decomposition.

Here is the real explanation of the apparent effect of hot weaher upon children in developing summer complaint. The heat is really responsible for the disease, but only indirectly, in affecting the only food which very young children and infants can take. Nothing could be plainer or simpler than this.

Another very curious fact is that in the mortality tables prepared the death rate from cholera infantum in New York city has for every year been shown to be just twice as great in July as in August.

Not long ago when this fact was placed before a large body of medical men, it excited a great deal of surprise, for every one supposed that the disease was more prevalent in August than in July, as the weather then was usually more oppressive.

Even Dr. John T. Nagle, Register of Vital Statistics, was under the impression that this was the case until he was shown the figures which had been compiled from the records of his own office. No one could explain why this should be so, though several very profound opinions were advanced by members of the profession present.

When it was suggested by the compiler of the figures that so many children died in July that there were not enough left to keep up the same death rate in August, several of the scientists present recalled the time-honored chestnut about Columbus and the egg.—*N.Y. World.*

"Lady-Bug, Lady-Bug."

Those people in this vicinity who are in any way interested in the cultivation of flowers or fruit, and who, to protect the same, are in the habit of destroying that little member of the entomological family known as the lady-bug, vedolia cardinalis, make a serious mistake. This gaily decorated little insect is one of man's best friends in that its sole mission is to destroy a destroyer. The little green lice that have been such a pest to vegetation this year that have prevented thousands of bushels of wheat from ripening, that have infested the rose bush and the apple tree, the tender house plant and the sturdy oak, is the lady-bug's special prey. This little insect has become so valuable to the horticulturists of California in consuming the cottony cushion scale that they have gone to cultivating them. One man in Los Angeles covered five of his orange trees suffering from the scale with tents, and turned in among them some 7,000 lady-bugs that he had obtained from the lady-bug breeding grounds. The effect was almost magical. The scales disappeared like frost under a warm spring sun. Horticulturists in the Ohio Valley have not hitherto appreciated the services of the little summer visitor.—*Cincinnati Times-Star.*

A Stumbling Block.

Rev. Primrose—Your mother doesn't seem as fond of you as she might be.

Little Johnnie—No, sir; she says if it hadn't been for me, she'd have had sister married years ago.

The "Reference Handbood of the Medical Science," speaking of kidney diseases, says: "Often symptons on the part of other organs, palpitation, dyspepsia, difficult breathing, headaches, or weak vision first impel the patient to seek advice." The symptons mislead both the physician and patient. The only safe method of treatment is a faithful use of Warner's Safe Cure. It not only secures healthy action of the kidneys, but cures the symptons of disease.

—Over $250,000,000 in cash, raised on securities of a face value of about $400,000,000, have thus far been expended on the Panama Canal.

LADY DOCTORS IN INDIA.

Their Great Value Now Fully Appreciated by Natives.

In India lady doctors are now familiar to us, and although at first they may have been somewhat ridiculed by those who could not appreciate their value, they are fast making their presence felt for good in almost every corner of the land. So far as the native women of the country are concerned it is gratifying to note that their success in all branches of college education is progressing to the entire satisfaction of their professors. Not only have they proved themselves to be generally well fitted for the arduous duties attendant on medical studies, but they have in some cases succeeded beyond all ordinary expectation. Bombay, Madras, the Northwest Provinces and the Punjaub all return flattering reports on the subject, and when we say that a class of female students can average over 700 marks out of 1,000 in a surgical examination, as we hear has recently been the case, little can be said against their power or skill or aptitude for gaining knowledge in one of the most important branches in the medical profession. Indeed, it appears not unlikely that women in India may prove themselves by no means inferior to men in most branches of the practice of medicine, if the progress made by native females in hospital work may be taken as a criterion. In many cases they have proven themselves superior to the male students in college examinations, and in no way behind them in application, power of reasoning and resource. The fact that much of their success is due to the great interest taken in their studies by their lecturers and professors is not without a certain special significance.—*Englishman's Overland Mail.*

The Canal of Joseph.

How many of the engineering works of the nineteenth century, remarks *Engineering*, will there be in existence in the year 6000? Very few, we fear, and still less those that will continue in the far-off age to serve a useful purpose. Yet there is at least one great undertaking conceived and executed by an engineer which during the space of four thousand years has never ceased its office, on which the life of a fertile province absolutely depends to-day. We refer to the Bahr Joussuf—the canal of Joseph—built, according to tradition, by the son of Jacob, and which constitutes not the least of the many blessings he conferred on Egypt during the years of his prosperous rule. This canal took its rise from the Nile at Asiut, and ran nearly parallel with it for nearly 250 miles, creeping along under the western cliffs of the Nile valley, with many a bend and winding, until at length it gained an eminence, as compared with the river bed, which enabled it to turn westward through a narrow pass and enter a district which was otherwise shut off from the fertilizing floods on which all vegetation in Egypt depends.

Notes from Scotland.

The Greenland seal and whale fishing has this season been very successful, and most of the Dundee and Peterhead vessels have got remunerative cargoes.

Professor Struthers, who has occupied the Chair of Anatomy in Aberdeen University since 1863, has intimated his intention of retiring in consequence of failing health.

The Scotch Disestablishment Council has issued a circular calling attention to Mr. Gladstone's recent utterances in regard to Scotch Disestablishment, and urging that the time has come when the subject must be firmly pressed by the friends of Disestablishment.

The death is announced of Mr. Edward Fiddes, of Aberdeen, and manager of the North of Scotland Bank, in which institution Mr. Fiddes had been employed since its establishment in 1836.

Negotiations are in progress for the amalgamation of the Glasgow & Southwestern Railway Company and the North British Railway Company in Scotland, on the basis of a 4 per cent. perpetual preferential dividend to the shareholders of the former company.

Novelties in Parisian Sunshades.

Some of the Paris parasols are startling in the novelty of their styles. One is of white feathers with plumes half a yard long. Another is made of buttercups, the flowers appearing to climb upward from the edge toward the ferule. A thick hedge of blossoms fringes the parasol, which has been made to match a buttercup bonnet, to be worn with a white silk dress scarfed with yellow silk sashes. The designs upon some of them are of the eccentric order, consisting of what looks like forked lightning, or Catharine wheels, or the trees in Dore's illustrations of Dante's poems.

Society in the West.

Mrs. Gotham—"So you live in Kansas City? I suppose you know Mrs. Van Astor who moved there from New York?"

Mrs. DeBoom—"Not intimately. The fact is she is not in my set. She associates with very respectable people, of course—lawyers, preachers, bankers, manufacturers and such folks—but she has not been admitted into the real estate circle."—*New York Weekly.*

A Trifling Affair.

Mr. Shawmut—I understand, Miss Kaktus, that there was something in the nature of a personal altercation between your escort and young Mr. Outfit at the Red Fork ball last evening.

Miss Katkus—Nothing more than a passing scrap, Mr. Shawmut. Neither gentleman had his gun.

—He—And you are sure that I am the first and only man who ever kissed you? She—Of course I am sure. You do not doubt my word, do you? He—Of course I do not doubt you, my darling. I love you too madly, too devotedly for that. But why, oh, why did you reach for the reins the very instant I ventured to put one arm around you if you had never been there before?

She—Uncle Chawles, which is the best to have, in your opinion, muscle or brains? Uncle Charles—I don't know. Of course, a collegiate education is a good thing for a young fellow, but when a man gets out into the world, I tell you he needs brains.

—The man who has the most fun in life is most instrumental in making others have a good time. There is no virtue in melancholy piety.

THE NEW ARCHBISHOP.

Something About Archbishop Lynch's Successor.

The Right Rev. John Walsh, Bishop of London, who has been elected Archbishop of Toronto in place of the late Archbishop Lynch, was born in the parish of Mooncoin, county Kilkenny, on the 24th of May, 1830. From an early age he felt a great desire to enter the ministry. Accordingly, after having completed an extensive preliminary course of science and classics, he entered St. John's College, Waterford, where he studied philosophy and a portion of his theology with success and distinction. In the fall of 1852 Bishop Walsh carried out his intention of serving God on a foreign mission and left home and friends and native land. Arriving in Canada he entered the Seminary of St. Sulpice, Montreal, and, together with the late Father Synnott, Father Hobin, of Toronto, and several other ecclesiastics of Irish birth, finished his divinity course with credit to himself and satisfaction to his superiors.

He received tonsure at the hands of Archbishop Baillargeon, who also consecrated him bishop. On the first of November, 1854, he was ordained priest by Bishop de Charbonnel. Brock was his first mission, in which he spent nearly two years. In 1857 he was appointed to the pastoral charge of St. Mary's parish. For a short time he discharged the same duty at St. Paul's. After the consecration of Bishop Lynch he was appointed rector of the cathedral, and was again reinstated as pastor of St. Mary's, where he remained until November, 1867, when he surrendered up his charge to enter upon his retreat for consecration.

Father Walsh enjoyed the reputation among the clergy of being a sound and deeply-read theologian, well versed in the sacred Scriptures and canon law, and an eloquent speaker. He was consecrated Bishop of Sandwich in St. Michael's Cathedral on the 10th of November, 1867, and was installed in the cathedral of Sandwich four days later. In January, 1868, Bishop Walsh, by consent of the Holy See, removed the Episcopal residence to London, and since the following year has maintained the title of Bishop of London. Bishop Walsh visited Rome in 1876, and since that time has quietly superintended his charge.

HICCOUGHS AND SPASMS.

Means by Which Two Unpleasant Things Can be Stopped.

As a cure for hiccoughs a correspondent of the New York *Medical Record* writes: "Drinking water, as slowly as it can be possibly swallowed, for ten or fifteen minutes continuously, seldom fails to relieve the paroxysms in the otherwise healthy person. In a recent severe case of pneumonia in an adult alarming symptons of prostration, with a feeble irregular pulse and almost constant hiccough, on the seventh day yielded to two subcutaneous injections of one fourth grain of morphine and one one hundred and fiftieth grain of atropine, at an interval of 12 hours, after ammonia, whiskey and digitalis had been faithfully given for 48 hours without avail."

Dr. Amos Sawyer of Hillsborough, Illinois, writes: "In two cases where every other remedy has been tried, including the continuous electrical current, without avail, the administration of a fresh infusion of pæonia root—I presume that the fluid extract would answer the same purpose—given every two hours, afforded relief in eight and twelve hours respectively. That this remedy possesses anti-spasmodic properties the above-named cases seem to indicate, but from one or two instances we cannot safely infer the whole, and further trial will be necessary before its value in this complication can be established."

Whetting the Divorce Shears.

A Wednesday's Chicago despatch says: It has been the practice of the courts here to hold that an applicant for divorce must be a resident of this State and must appear in person. Both these requirements were waived to-day in the case of Mary Gottschalk, a resident of Pennsylvania. She was never in Chicago, and on her affidavit that her husband had deserted her for two years, during which time he had lived in Chicago. She was granted a divorce. Her attorney secured this result by fishing up a former forgotten decision by the State Superior court rendered twenty years ago, in which the court held that in the contemplation of the law the residence of the wife follows that of the husband, and desertion for the period of two years by the husband residing in the State, although commenced in a foreign jurisdiction will enable a wife to obtain a divorce.

Speed of Thought.

It takes about two-fifths of a second to call to mind a country in which a well-known town is situated, or the language in which a familiar author wrote, says the New York *Commercial*. We can think of the name of the next month in half the time we need to think of the name of the last month. It takes on the average one-third of a second to add numbers consisting of one digit, and half a second to multiply them. A letter can be seen more quickly than a word, but we are so used to reading aloud that the process has become automatic, and a word can be read with greater ease and in less time than a letter can be named. Mental processes, however, take place more slowly in children, in the aged and in the uneducated.

The Young Know Everything.

Husband—Well, I believe I'll have to go to the public library. I can't find in my encyclopædia what I want.

Wife—Is it very important?

H.—Yes, dear, it is very important. I cannot finish my article without it. But in the public library I think I will be able to find the authorities that I want.

W.—Hadn't you better wait, dear, till John comes home from the grammar school? He might be able to give you the information you want.

Husband faints dead away.—*Boston Courier.*

"I must say," said the young man who had sat down on a bent pin, "that I don't see the point of a practical joke like that." "Perhaps," replied the lady on whom he was calling, "it wasn't intended that you should."

—Edison is just now trying to perfect a plan for taking your picture by wire.

COMMON SENSE IN DIET.

You May Survive Youthful Gorging, but Beware in Your Old Age.

There is in human nature infinite diversity of power and endurance in the general and nervous energy, and in digestion and assimilation; and a man of high-strung nervous temperament, hearing a temperance orator describing the effects of alcohol, might cap it all by similar effects of tea, "the cup that cheers and not inebriates." Even the faculty seldom appear to recognize the injurious results of this refreshing beverage. The poet Cowper seems to have been its slave and victim. Coleridge abused its use and took to laudanum. The "English Opium-eater," well describes its bad result. The Chinese as a nation are tea-drinkers and addicted to the other subtle drug. The alternation of excitement and depression in the votaries of tea is evidence of its unsuitability for many people as a stimulant. Melancholia and religious mania are often to be traced to its habitual use. The question of the use of any kind of food, stimulating or otherwise, is entirely personal. To say that because one man is injured by excess another man should perfectly abstain, is most absurd. Probably more men are injured by excessive eating than by excess in alcohol; and are we therefore bound, for the encouragement and aid of those who need conversion from excess, to cease to eat at all of things well flavored? To say that those who are not injured should abstain is but to make a law without the due preamble. Men vary, not from one another only, but they differ from themselves in different circumstances and at various periods of life. There is no absolute rule, respecting any food or drink, for all men; one man is not to be controlled by other men in his entirely and strictly personal affairs, but each man is to be "fully persuaded in his own mind." Each mind, however, should be open to persuasion; and persuasion in the question of habitual food should be distinctly of an experimental sort. Each man is provided with intelligence for his own preservation; but the pity is that men neglect this precious gift of individual mind in their peculiar concerns. They do as others do. They eat and drink with freedom, while they are so young and active that the system overcomes the injurious attack; but as men advance a little further into life, and are not quite so agile, then begin the troubles that tea, coffee, alcohol and many kinds of even simple food and stimulants and condiments inflict upon the careless and the inconsiderate, as well as on the intemperate and immoderate consumer. Each man should discover for himself what, and how much, and when to eat and drink, at several periods, and in the varied conditions of his life; his organism must be recognized by its possessor as a healthy, life-long study and a happy care. —*Quarterly Review.*

Her Choice.

Amy—I have two suitors I love equally well, what can I do?

Lulu—Who are they?

Amy—Edward, an artist, and Arthur, a reporter.

Lulu—Take Arthur.

Amy—Why?

Lulu—You goose, he can describe your trousseau and the wedding in his paper.

Amy—So he can, dear Arthur.

He Knew a Beau by Sight.

Tommy—You want to see my sister, don't you Mr. Featherly?

Featherly—You are a smart little boy, Tommy. How do you know that?

Tommy—'Cause when you came you asked if pa was in, just like sister's other beau.

Honors Easy With Her.

First Lady—I sympathize with you in the loss of your husband. I am afraid you will find it hard work to win your way alone in this cold world.

Second Lady—Thanks; but I guess I'll get on all right. I have belonged to a church choir for five years.

She Was Qualified.

Manager—You want to go on the stage, you, say Mrs. Terwiliger. Have you any dramatic ability?

Mrs. Terwiliger—Dramatic ability? I should say? I have $80,000 worth of diamonds, a husband who abuses me, and I'm going to get a divorce.

Manager—I'll take you, at a salary of $1,000 a week.

An Old Brute.

Miss Prynne—I wonder why they always call ships "she?"

Mr. Flynne—Because they are all craft.

Taste Not: Smell Not.

He—Young Algernon Browne smelt of gin yesterday.

She—The dear boy! so long as he didn't taste of it!

—Ye editor was married yesterday to Miss Mary Sellet, one of the most charming ladies we have ever met. Those owing us on subscriptions and job work will greatly facilitate the purchase of rag carpets, cord wood, baby carriages, etc., by settling at once.—*Dexter Sentinel.*

BY THE SALT SEA WAVES.

She fell in love with her harbor buoy;
She couldn't have loved him more
Yet one day jealousy spoilt their joy—
He caught her hugging the shore!

They fixed it up in the good old way,
As you can determine with ease;
For her captain wrote me the other day,
"She's enjoying a smacking breeze."

The largest ship in the British Navy, the Trafalgar, launched two years ago, has at last tried her engines, with success. She is 345 feet long, 73 feet beam, and 12,818 horse power drove her 17.28 knots.

—Women who elope with coachmen probably think that class of men will make stable husbands.

—"Your uncle is quite close in money matters," remarked Fangle to his wife. "Yes, he's a regular money maniac," she replied.

—A Pennsylvania editor has discovered that everything in nature is playful. He says: "The lightning plays, the wind whistles, the thunder rolls, the snow flies, the waves leap and the fields smile. Even the trees shoot and the rivers and streams run."