

A Peculiar Suit.

Miss Lizzie Jackson, a young woman of Toronto, has entered suit against Mr. W. H. Scripture, a well-known west end druggist, claiming that he dispensed a prescription in such a manner as to occasion her physical injury, and demanding as compensation a legal equivalent to the extent of \$200.

From information obtained, it appears that the preparation in question, written by Dr. Winnett, contained 12 grains of extract of cannabis indica, two or three drams of bromide of potash, and water to two ounces.

Mr. Scripture's clerk, a graduate of the college, and a careful and competent dispenser, dissolved the extract in a little alcohol and added it to the other ingredients whilst agitating briskly, thus obtaining the best result possible from the formula as written, and finished by attaching a "shake the bottle" label.

The cannabis indica was, as a natural result of the menstruum ordered, thrown out as a bulky precipitate, and in appearance looked as though an excessive quantity had been used. The doctor, upon seeing the mixture, claimed that two drachms, at least, had been dispensed, and expressed himself so strongly that the young woman took legal proceedings to recover for the supposed injury she suffered from taking the medicine.

It appears that Miss Jackson, who lives with a widowed mother, is not worth anything; and, as the doctor has been careful to avoid legal responsibility, Mr. Scripture has no opportunity to obtain redress for the wanton injury done to his trade by the charge preferred.

The druggists of Toronto are a unit with Mr. Scripture in defending the action should it ever reach judge or jury, and are determined to keep such a suit from ever acting as a precedent for the institution of future proceedings of a similar nature.

The Nature of Cholera and General Precautions to be Observed During its Prevalence.

The principal points, in a decree issued by the Russian Ministry, are:—

1. As the cholera virus is contained in the evacuations of the patient, it must be remembered that with them the pestilence can be conveyed and transferred to other people in the most various ways and by most various vehicles, such as linen, clothes, articles of food, water, milk and other drinks; and that the pestilence can be equally well spread, even if only the slightest traces of the evacuation exist in these vehicles, so as not to be perceptible to the natural senses.

2. As the contagion is frequently carried from place to place either by cholera patients themselves, or by persons who have come into contact with others suffering from or infected with cholera, the public is warned against attempting to escape the danger

er that threatens them by leaving their places of residence. In the first place they may already be infected before departure, and in the second they are better able to protect themselves from infection at home than whilst travelling if the following precautions are taken.

3. Visitors should not be received from places where cholera exists, but persons coming from those parts should be regarded as the possible bearers of the germ of disease.

4. A well regulated life should be led, as experience has shown that digestive disturbances are especially favorable to the development of cholera. Excess of food or drink, and food difficult of digestion, should therefore be avoided, and especially anything that is liable to cause diarrhoea, a doctor being at once consulted if diarrhoea does occur.

5. No food should be partaken of that comes from an infected house, as this is very likely to transmit the disease, whilst it is advisable to avoid fruit, vegetables, milk, butter, and soft cheese altogether, or at least take them only after being cooked, the consumption of milk especially being dangerous in the unboiled state.

6. The avoidance of water polluted by excrementitious matters, urine, kitchen refuse, and similar materials cannot be too strongly insisted upon, and even water drawn from the ground under inhabited places, or from swamps, ponds, drains and rivers must be regarded with suspicion, because as a rule the source is contaminated. Naturally, water polluted in any way by the evacuations of cholera patients is especially dangerous, and for this reason attention is called to the danger that may arise to a community by allowing water used to wash infected vessels or clothes to flow into any brooks or waters in the neighborhood.

7. The best means of insuring spring water free from contamination is no doubt afforded by sinking Abyssinian wells or iron tubes driven straight and sufficiently deep into the earth. Wherever it is not possible, however, to procure water free from suspicion, it must be boiled, and only boiled water used.

8. With regard to these regulations concerning water, they are intended to apply not only to drinking water, but also to all water employed for household purposes, as the germs of disease in contaminated water may also find admission into the human body by means of the water used in cleansing cooking utensils, in cleaning and preparing food, in washing and in bathing. It is essential to get rid of the belief that drinking water is alone the carrier of virus, and that ample protection is ensured by drinking only boiled water or water beyond suspicion.

9. As every cholera patient may be regarded as a centre from which further spread of the disease may take place, it is advisable, if possible, to send such patients to a hospital and not nurse them at home, or, if this course cannot be pursued, at

least to keep every unnecessary person at a distance.

10. Visits should not be made to an infected house, unless impelled by duty, and for the same reason all places should be avoided where cholera is prevalent, as well as all large gatherings, as fairs, and convivialities.

11. No food or drink should be partaken of in buildings in which cholera patients, and even for one's own sake, smoking in such places should be avoided.

12. As the evacuations of cholera patients are so dangerous, their dirty linen or clothes should be at once burnt, or disinfected in the manner described in the second part of the decree.

13. Especial care should be taken that the evacuations of cholera patients are not brought into the neighborhood of springs or other running waters used for household purposes.

14. All articles that come into contact with patients that cannot be destroyed or disinfected, must be rendered innocuous by means of hot vapors in special disinfecting establishments, withdrawn from use for at least six days and placed in a dry, airy and sunny spot.

15. All those who come into contact with cholera patients, their beds or clothes, should at once disinfect their hands, especially if they have been polluted with the evacuations of a patient, and neither food should be touched with uncleansed hands, nor articles, such as eating and drinking utensils, cigars, &c., be introduced into the mouth if they have been in an infected room.

16. In the event of a death, the corpse should be removed to the mortuary as soon as possible, not even washing of the body being undertaken unless it can be performed in the mortuary, whilst the funeral should be as simple as possible, and the mourners should not enter the house of death nor take part in any funeral feast.

17. The clothes, linen and other articles of apparel of the deceased should not under any circumstances be worn or given away until they have been disinfected, and especially should not be sent to other places unless disinfected. Receivers of articles that have been sent from places in which cholera is prevalent are urgently advised to send the package at once to a disinfecting establishment, if possible, or to execute the necessary precautionary measures themselves. The linen of cholera patients should not be accepted for washing, unless it has been previously disinfected.

18. This last piece of general advice warns the public that no other preservatives are known except those described in this decree, and advises them to abstain from the various medicaments like cholera-brandy that are always recommended during cholera epidemics.

Make it a rule to watch your want book closely and never get out of staple goods.