

HOW TO AVOID DROWNING.—Dr. MacCormac, of Belfast, Ire., writes that it is not at all necessary that a person knowing nothing of the art of swimming should be drowned if he depends simply and entirely on the powers for self-preservation with which nature has endowed him. “When one of the inferior animals takes the water, falls, or is thrown in, it instantly begins to walk as it does when out of the water. But when a man who cannot ‘swim’ falls into the water he makes a few spasmodic struggles, throws up his arms, and drowns. The brute, on the other hand, treads water, remains on the surface, and is virtually insubmergeable. In order, then, to escape drowning, it is only necessary to do as the brute does, and that is to tread or walk the water. The brute has no advantage in regard of his relative weight, in respect of the water, over man; and yet the man perishes while the brute lives. Nevertheless, any man, any woman, any child, who can walk on the land may also walk in the water just as readily as the animal does, and that without any prior instructions in drilling whatever.” There is doubtless much truth in this, and if people who cannot swim would endeavor to impress it on their mind when on the water, they might be able to practice it in case of accident.

DIRT IN THE WRONG PLACE.—There could hardly be a more marked instance of dirt in the wrong place than is exhibited in Toronto in the foul matter in the thousands of closet vaults. These deal out liberally—during the warm weather especially—causes of disease and death to the innocent little ones. If householders who use such relics of barbarism would have abundance of their coal ashes thrown down over the excreta, in vaults not retaining too much water, as we have repeatedly suggested, it would tend greatly to, or even entirely, check the poisonous emanations. The extra work in cleaning out the vaults would be comparatively of no consequence, and all much less disagreeable. Try the ashes.

DESTRUCTION OF MALARIA.—According to the *Medical and Surgical Reporter* (Phil.), it would seem from the crucial test of experience that cultivation of the soil of malarious localities is not only the most influential, but really the only means of eradicating the poison, as shown in the Roman Campagna; where the eucalyptus globulosa, however, has been planted on a large scale, along with the cultivation. The improvement in the health of the inhabitants has been great.