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## INFANT FEEDING.

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The mortuary returns of the summer months in infantile life prove that the subject of infant feeding has not as yet reached perfection. Take, for instance, our neighboring city of Montreal, with barely a total population of 300,000; the records show that in two recent weeks the deaths amongst infants amounted to 116 and 107, respectively. It is a melancholy fact that at the end of the nineteenth century, a period which boasts such rapid progress and development in civilization, and undoubted advancement in all branches of medical science, that one-third of all infants born die before they have attained the completion of their third year, and this largely due to improper feeding methods. While we have undoubtedly made substantial progress in this particular branch of sanitary science, that progress is, in the main, mostly theoretical and not practical. We are not as yet able to supply a synthetic breast milk exact with the normal product. There may be probably too eager a desire on the maternal side of the problem to entirely cease from nursing where the natural product fails, or is failing, instead of endeavoring to supplement the deficiency by other methods, which have now practically fallen into disuse. The physician who conserves the energies of his patient in the direction of due and proper encouragement to continue the baby at the breast, be the pabulum never so little, will in the long run reap better rewards than they who abandon this entirely for the various diversified proprietary foods of which the times are prolific. Even when the breast has to be abandoned entirely, and substitute feeding commenced, much will be accomplished by him who bolsters up the all too meagre knowledge of the mother for her bottle-fed baby. The mother is generally imbued with the idea that the bottle-fed baby requires less attention than the breast-fed one, and that any one can supply this attention as well as herself. This