

Who more charmingly than Burns stamped the character of insect life, when he saw a louse on a lady's bonnet?

Hal where ye gaun ye crawlin' ferlie,
O wad some power the giftie gee us,
To see oursels as others see us,
It wad frae monie a blunder free us,
And foolish notion.

Salvarsan as a therapeutic agent is attracting increasing interest. Lenzman (*Wen. Med. Klin.*, Nov., 1912), has tried the effect of this remedy in cases of severe scarlet fever by intravenous injections. The effect was quite typical after injections of a weak alkaline solution, subcutaneously under chloroform, the rash quickly lost its vivid color, appearing only sparingly on arms and legs. The speedy relief in throat symptoms was even more remarkable. The conclusion thus far arrived at is that treatment of scarlet fever by intravenous injections of salvarsan, or by subcutaneous injections, of weak alkaline solutions, exercise a favorable influence on the cause of this disease. Epilepsy is now being treated successfully by the inoculation of patients, with the venom of the rattler of the rattlesnake. The alleged cure of a Texas epileptic from a rattlesnake bite originated this idea. Dr. Spangler, of Chicago, has made fully 2,000 injections of the venom in solution, in 110 cases of epilepsy, with marked benefit, and already institutions for this venom treatment will be opened in Philadelphia, and Germany. In every case which Dr. Spangler treated with venom, there resulted not only permanent cures, and a decrease in the epileptic attacks, followed by a general building up of the physical and mental condition of the epileptic.

In educational matters the London County Council, England, has taken an advanced step of considerable interest, recommending the appointment of a psychologist, to assist head masters of the schools in the detection of mentally deficient children. Every teacher who has studied problems of the brain, must be aware that mentally defective children present many special mental faults. This educational experiment is on a line with modern thought, and if a process of curing recognized mental incapacities can be achieved for a new generation, a truly great advance will be brought about, and more especially as the presence among normal children, of those mentally deficient, is a most serious obstacle to educational progress. This educational recommendation is welcome as evidence of a progressive spirit in mental development, and that in due time the example will be widespread in Canada.