

travelled to Chicago, wearing these through the night. He felt a tingling sensation in the hollow of the foot, which increased, and sores opened about the ankle and calf of the leg. He applied to Dr. Hurlburt, of Chicago, who at once pronounced it to be due to the poisonous dye, and stated that he had had fifty similar cases within the previous three months.

The gentleman was confined to bed for ten days, but it was six months before he entirely recovered from the ill effects.

ARSENICAL CAMBRIC.

A lady who purchased a dress, warranted to wash and to be "foulard cambric," with narrow strips of light and dark blue, having worn the dress daily for a week in warm weather, suffered from sickness, debility, pain in the stomach, and inflammation of the eyes. The dress, on analysis, was found to contain one-half grain of arsenic to the square foot.

ARSENICAL FLY PAPERS.

Several fatal cases are recorded of children who have tasted the paper or the water set for flies. As this paper contains a very soluble salt, viz., arsenite of soda, it is highly poisonous, causing convulsions and death in a few hours.

ARSENICAL TOYS.

The attraction of bright colors to the eye of the child is well known to the toy maker, and oftentimes induces an excess of pigment, of an injurious character, but when we reflect how often these pretty things find their way into the teething baby's mouth, we recognize the importance of excluding arsenic and chrome yellow from these pigments. Arsenic has been found in toy paints, building blocks, India rubber dolls, covers of picture books, and toy candles.

The latter, used for Christmas trees, are especially dangerous, as the arsenic is diffused into the room during burning in the gaseous form, and is inhaled by the lungs. A box containing 50 such candles has been found to contain 35 grains of arsenic. Arsenic is also an ingredient in the wicks of self-consuming patent candles.

ARSENICAL SWEETMEATS.

I am glad to be able to state that the use of mineral pigments in fancy sweets has almost become a thing of the past. I have examined a large number of every class of sugar sweets and have met with no case of arsenical or lead pigment in this district; and the fact of an inspection being regularly made, has had the effect of improving the general quality of this class of food.

I remember a sad case which came under my notice in Liverpool. Five children were left by their parents

on Christmas Day with a large parcel of sweetmeats, of which they all partook; one child died in 12 hours, a second, about 3 years of age, in 24 hours; a third, about 5 years old, in a week. The two survivors were taken to the hospital and recovered, the boy continuing to pass arsenical urine, at recurrent intervals, for six weeks after taking the sweetmeats.

STUFFED BIRDS AND ANIMALS.

It should be borne in mind; that arsenic soap is largely used in the preservation of the skins of animals and birds, and that mounted specimens should be enclosed in glass cases and not handled. Children should not be allowed to play with them, or servants to dust them, as much arsenical dust may be brushed from them, which might prove injurious to health. The art of taxidermy is by no means a healthy occupation, and although some men become inured to the poison by use, still, in dressing a large skin, such as a cariboo's or a bear's skin, the operator usually suffers more or less from arsenical symptoms.

ARSENIC EATING IN STYRIA.

The workers in arsenic mines and some of the Styrian peasants become inured to habitual doses of arsenic, which would be fatal to those unaccustomed to its use, four to five grains being a daily dose, but they feel the usual irritating symptoms if they cease using it, like the opium eater and the coca chewer, they find it necessary to continue the habit when once formed.

It is said that the corpses of these arsenic eaters are wonderfully preserved in the ground after interment, and that they are found almost unchanged and recognizable in feature some years after burial. "In this part of the world," they say, "when a graveyard is full it is shut up for about 12 years, when all the graves which are not private property are dug up, the bones are collected in the charnel house, the ground ploughed over, and burial begins again."

EMBALMING THE DEAD.

This leads me to the subject of embalming, which has recently become a special art of the undertaker. The process consists of the injection into the veins of the body a strong arsenical solution. In one case I know this led to an unjust suspicion of poisoning, and an inquest being held, and an analysis made, arsenic was found injected into the coats of the stomach. In this case the process was adopted without instruction and unknown to the relatives, and might have involved serious complications, had the source of the poison remained undiscovered.

A disinterment for the purpose of determining the presence of poison might under such circumstances have led to very erroneous conclusions.