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Report of Cases of Lead Poisoning by which eight persons were the victims of Colica Pictonum. By THOMAS J. O. EARLE, M.D., St. John, N. B.

About eleven in the evening of June the ninth, I was called to see a family who were said to be suffering from cholera or some dangerous poison, I went to the scene as soon as possible, and found six men stretched on the floor of a large room vomiting and suffering excruciating pain which they located in the gastric region. Their pulses were feeble, slow and irregular, pupils of eyes normal, skin clammy, some tympanites, bowels constipated. They were so extremely weak, I at once administered alcoholic stimu-It was evident some irritant poison was at work. so I gave oil, whites of eggs and milk ad libitum. about half an hour the vomiting ceased and they had rallied considerably, though still suffering intense pain. Hot flannels and turpentine were applied to abdomen and "Liquor-Opii Sedativus" (Battley) was given to each, which relieved them considerably. I now searched the house thoroughly for poison, examining the edibles and also the spring from which they obtained their water, but could find no clue to the mystery. No rooms had been newly painted and no new pails had been in use. I had given up the search as fruitless when one of the women asked me if lead in the "Tea kettle" would do it. Here was the key of the secret. On examining the kettle, the bottom and sides were coated with lead.