

At the end of the first week, however, the baby should have made up its weight to what it was at birth. Then, from the end of the first week, it should gain an ounce a day. "A baby," he says, "which gains half an ounce a day is doing fairly well, but a child doing thoroughly well gains double that amount or more. This should continue until the fourth month, after which a daily gain of half an ounce a day is satisfactory." Accurate observation and careful recording of the weight of an infant gives the earliest warning of digestive troubles, and should be looked on in the light of a duty by those who undertake the responsible task of bringing up a child by hand, for on the success with which the child digests the food presented to it depends, in large degree, the perfection of the framework on which the future man is built.—*The Hospital*.

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SHOULD WOMAN RIDE HORSEBACK ASTRIDE?—One of the riding-masters of a popular riding-school in this city has proposed to give a course of lectures on equestrianism in all its phases. He further proposes to devote a whole evening to the discussion of the question, Should woman ride horseback astride? The questions which he will deal with, put more categorically, are these: "Is there any reason why the sense of propriety should hinder a woman from riding on horseback astride? Is there any reason why a costume, both elegant and modest in design, and which reveals less of a woman's form than the habit worn for the last years, should not be used by woman when riding? Will it add to the comfort, ease, repose, relaxation and firmness in woman's seat on horseback, and thereby increase endurance and facilitate the learning of horsemanship for woman? What is the opinion of competent and learned physicians as to the advisability of riding astride, from a physiological standpoint?" We are sure that many, if not all, of our readers will say that there is absolutely no physiological reason why woman should not ride astride; but probably none of those who say this will consent to let their wives or daughters ride in this way. The mighty power of fashion, custom and habit is infinitely stronger than that of reason, logic or physiology. There are probably more reasons why man should ride side-saddle than that woman should not sit in the natural bifurcated position, for the disease of the Scythians was produced by this latter posture as assumed by the male. Perhaps, however, some of our readers can conjure up some real physiological argument in favor of the side-saddle style; and if so, we shall be glad to hear from him. So far as physiology goes, it teaches that man should ride side-saddle and woman astride. This may be the final evolution of the matter.—*Medical Record*.