

thumb beneath cold water, boil them again for a short time. When the fleshy matter is found to be sufficiently softened, rub them separately but very gently beneath cold water until the perfect skeleton is exposed. The skeletons at first are of a dirty white color; to make them of a pure white, and therefore more beautiful, all that is necessary is to bleach them in a pure solution of chloride of lime—a large teaspoonful of chloride of lime to a quart of water—if a few drops of vinegar is added to the solution it is all the better, for then the free chloride is liberated. Do not allow them to remain too long in the bleaching liquor, or they become too brittle, and can not afterwards be handled without injury. About fifteen minutes will be sufficient to make them white and clean-looking. Dry the specimens in white blotting-paper, beneath a gentle pressure. Simple leaves are the best for young beginners to experiment upon; the vine, poplar, beech, and ivy leaves make excellent skeletons. Care must be exercised in the selection of leaves, as well as the period of the year and the state of the atmosphere when the specimens are collected, otherwise failure would be the result. The best months to gather the specimens are July and August. Never collect specimens in damp weather; and none but perfectly matured leaves ought to be selected.

IN CASE OF ACCIDENT.

When a serious accident occurs, it is proper, of course, to send for the doctor; but it frequently happens, especially in the country, that a considerable time must elapse before he can arrive. In such cases those who are not doctors are often compelled to do something immediately for the sufferer, and a few hints for emergencies of this kind may be acceptable to our readers. We offer nothing new. Everything that we have to say has been said before, but there are some things which can not be too frequently or forcibly impressed upon the mind and simple facts and directions like those which follow ought to be learned as often as they are forgotten. Our first words are those of caution. We would give all lay practitioners the warning that we would give to the owner of a fine clock. To the latter we would say, Clean the case if you will, even move the hands or regulate the pendulum if it is necessary, but be very, very careful about meddling with the works. Leave that to the clockmaker. The human body is infinitely more complex and delicate in its mechanism than a clock, and yet its works are meddled with daily by thousands of ignorant and utterly incompetent people.

Until the arrival of a medical man much may be done for a sufferer from sudden ill-

ness or an accident; but, as far as possible, medicines and meddlings of all kinds with the internal arrangements of the body should be avoided.

With this caution we will proceed with our hints, most of which we owe to an admirable little work called "*Till the Doctor Comes*," recently issued by G. P. Putman & Sons, of New York.

IN CASE OF BURNS.—If the victim of the accident is a woman, it generally happens that her clothes are burning, and the first thing to be done is to put out the fire. Begin by being very cool yourself, and then be prompt and energetic. Make her lie down on the floor and roll over on the flames until you can come to her assistance. Seize a coat, a blanket, or a piece of carpet, and after covering well your own hands—for another patient will not be needed at such a time—wrap her up and extinguish the flames by smothering them. When the fire seems to be out, drench the patient well with water, else the cinders of her clothes will burn her. Then give her a drink of something warm and stimulating and send for the doctor. In the meantime, if the doctor lives at a distance and it is necessary to do something before he comes, remove the clothes very carefully, cutting and ripping wherever necessary, and cover the burns with soft linen cloths, wet with a mixture of linseed oil and lime-water, or, if this is not convenient, with milk and water with a teaspoonful of carbonate of soda added to a pint of the mixture. Or, if this is not at hand, use warm water with plenty of soap in it. At all events, keep the parts, in case of either burn or scald, thoroughly wet until the doctor comes. If the burn be small, you can dress it with some simple ointment—such as common whiting mixed with lard without any salt, or chalk and linseed, or olive oil mixed with vinegar so as to form a thin syrup. This last is a very soothing application. If burnt by lime, use vinegar and water: if burnt by acids, use lime-water, or chalk, or soda.

IN CASE OF A SPRAIN.—Wet the injured part with a flannel dipped in hot water, or, if the sprain be very painful, wet the flannel with laudanum and cover the whole with a dry cloth. Then, with the arm in a sling if it be the wrist that is sprained, or the leg in a horizontal position if it be the ankle, wait and see if it will be necessary to send for the doctor.

IN CASE OF POISONS.—Make your patient vomit by giving a tumbler of warm water with a teaspoonful of mustard in it, and send for the doctor. If it be necessary to act without the doctor, and the poison is arsenic, give large quantities of milk and raw eggs, or flour and water. If the poison is an acid, give magnesia and water, or