

The acid in liquid form is colorless, very cheap, and smells like burning sulphur; is antiseptic, a preservative fluid for some substances—sample fruits, etc. Sulphur is often burned to disinfect sick-rooms of disease germs, and to kill rats, mice and vermin, but its use with food is objectionable. Ants and other insects, it is said, will not touch sulphured fruit, while they readily attack well ripened fruit that is not sulphured. The instinct of insects and animals is sometimes better than the practice of human beings. In general, substances that repel such creatures are hardly safe for human food.

#### THE EFFECT ON CONSUMPTION

has seemed to be a decided falling off in demand among the more intelligent class of people. Retail grocers know that many who once used dried fruit extensively, say, "Somehow we have lost our relish for it," and have almost ceased to use it since the craze for sulphuring fruits began. Fruit men say, "The public demands sulphured fruit, will pay more for it, and we will supply it." The public will yet show them that it can get its eyes open. As the green and canned fruit interests are the only permanent gainers by the sulphuring process, they are interested to have it continued.

#### DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN.

It is not easy to obtain a superior quality of unbleached fruit. In 1889 several retail grocers who understood the question corresponded with parties evaporating apples. The reply was, that "if an order for not less than twenty barrels was received at one time, apples would be furnished unbleached, otherwise not."

#### SULPHURING NOT DESIRABLE.

The slightly yellowish-brown color of unbleached dried fruit is an evidence of ripeness, good quality and proper drying. The more rapid the drying the lighter will be the color, and the fruit will keep well if at once properly excluded from the air. When sulphured, the good, the poor, and the unripe all look alike. Not so with the unbleached. No poor nor unripe fruit can make good dried fruit. The gain of sulphuring is always with the dealer, and not with the consumer.

#### HEALTH AGAINST LOOKS.

In preferring looks to quality, the people are

often at fault. Public enlightenment will correct most dietetic errors. Good health is now sought by many, and will be by more in the near future, through correct living, rather than by the swallowing of drugs. And in that more excellent way, "in the good time coming," there will be no demand for sulphured and other drugged fruit among intelligent people.

#### DANGERS.

There is danger from fruit in metal cans, as is well known, and fresh fruit is frequently unobtainable, while both are often more expensive than dried fruits. Good, unsophisticated dried fruits are always harmless. If green fruits are at times unobtainable, canned fruits dangerous, and a popular craze has rendered dried fruits also dangerous, what can the suffering public do? It is between the alternatives of using no fruit, or that which is injured or poisonous. Is the sulphuring of fruit a mistake, or a crime?

#### TO CORRECT THE ERROR,

enlighten the people, and prohibit injurious practices. Legal suasion only will stop it at present. The common schools in many states are required to teach the effects of alcohol and narcotics. Why not also include the effects of different foods?

### REPORT OF A CASE OF PUERPERAL ECLAMPSIA.

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Mrs. McG., æt. 24 years, felt faint on the 20th July, 1891, shortly after eating her dinner (noon), and went out doors for fresh air, but was not out long when she took a fit and fell down. She came out of the first fit in a few minutes and walked into the house and sat down. In the course of half an hour another convulsion came on, and I was summoned to her aid. Having to go some six miles, it was five o'clock when I arrived. She had had seven convulsions and was in a semi-conscious state, with pulse 110, temperature 102°, respiration—which was somewhat labored—35 per minute. I gave 20 grs. of pot. brom. in solution, and a second dose in half an hour. Between doses patient had a convulsion and emesis was produced. It was found on inquiry that patient was pregnant four months, and had been feeling quite well up