

THE SPANK CURE.—The *Chicago Inter-Ocean*, quaintly but sensibly, remarks: "Among the good old customs which are falling into disuse, that of spanking the coming generation into behaving itself is leading the procession. There are no such spankings now as there used to be in my time, and I am sorry for it. Things in the spank line are certainly degenerating, along with the drama, the flavor of strawberries, and phenomenal weather, as the years go by. Children just entering the heated, base-burning epoch of spankhood now have "nerves," and must be humored. They get to balking and skulking, and the family physician is called in when the good old housewife remedy of a warm application of slipper is all that is needed. The spank cure is not appreciated in this generation as it was in the last. Looking back on a stormy and tempestuous career in the woodshed with Jones *pere* at the helm, I now feel like writing him a kind and encouraging testimonial on the efficacy of his unapproachable spank treatment, although at that time I felt more like kicking him in the shins, and, I regret to say, sometimes gave vent to my emotions."

—A "Surgeon," who had used alum, belladonna, bismuth, and boracic acid for sweating feet, with little good result, wrote to the *British Medical Journal* (quoted in *N. Y. Med. Abstract*) and received the following replies: 1. Wear low shoes, wool socks, and dust the feet over twice a day with iodol; they will soon be as hard, sweet and comfortable as one could wish. 2. Wash the feet at night with very hot water, put on white cotton socks, and immerse the feet, thus covered, in methylated spirit, poured into a basin; wear the socks all night; they will soon dry in bed. During the evening wear cotton socks and common felt slippers, and keep the socks constantly saturated with spirit. In a week the cure will be complete. The best ventilated boots are made of stout canvas. 3. Liq. plumb. diacet., acid carbolic, aa ʒij ; aquæ ad, ʒij ; M. One teaspoonful to be mixed with a pint of warm(ish) water, and the feet washed every morning and dried with a soft towel. 4. Wash the feet night and morning with soap and water, and after careful drying sponge them over with the following lotion: Plumbi acet., ʒj ; acet. destil., ʒj ; sp. vini methylat., ʒij ; aq. ad ʒxvj . Sig.—Ft. lotio. I have found this so efficacious that I use no other treatment. Shoes are preferable to boots, but whichever are used I recommend those of buckskin, which is very soft and easy to the feet. The inner sole has several perforations communicating with the outer air by a tube in the heel. Patients have expressed the greatest comfort from the use of these boots.

—*College and Clinical Record.*