

THE DANGER OF SEDATIVES IN CHILDREN.—The *Popular Science Monthly* gives warning on the important matter of using sedatives for the little ones. "One of the great dangers attending the use of the various sedatives employed in the nursery is that they tend to produce the opium habit. These quack medicines owe their soothing and quieting effects to the action of opium, and the infant is by them given a morbid appetite for narcotic stimulants. The offering for sale of such nostrums should be prohibited, as tending to the physical and moral deterioration of the race. In India mothers give their infants sugar-pills containing opium, and the result is a languid, sensual race of hopeless debauchees." In Canada the poison is given in other forms. What of the consequences?

TEA DRUNKARDS.—Dr. Arlidge, pottery inspector, Staffordshire, protests against a very pernicious custom, which rarely receives sufficient attention either from the medical profession, or from the public. He says women of the working classes make tea an article of diet, instead of an occasional beverage, and the result is a lamentable amount of sickness. A portion of the reforming zeal, he says, which keeps up such a lively warfare against intoxicating drinks might advantageously be diverted to the repression of this very serious evil of tea-tipping; tea being as distinctly a narcotic poison as opium or alcohol, is as capable of ruining the digestion, of enfeebling and disordering the heart's action, and of generally shattering the nerves.

LIERNUR'S SYSTEM OF DRAINAGE.—We have received information, says the *Lancet*, that on the 3rd of May the Emperor of Russia signed a contract for the introduction into St. Petersburg, of Liernur pneumatic system of drainage and removal of sewage; which has already been described in this JOURNAL. It is first to be laid in one district containing 15,000 people, and then, if successful, to be extended to the whole city of 600,000 inhabitants. The report of the Russian engineers has been very favorable, and they have estimated the cost of laying down the Liernur triple system at less than that required to put down ordinary sewers on the water-flushing principle.