

it has come!" The boy cried out in very fear, and promised not to repeat it again.

The next night the mother put on a second application, which made the spot still darker and a little sore. Charlie watched the spot as he would a reptile that was lurking about to do his deadly work—and the mother was never again obliged to use the "Iodine." Of course, she told Charlie that when he entirely stopped the habit, the spot would disappear. She also took the precaution of letting him go to bed with a doll, a stuffed dog, or some plaything to handle and cuddle until he outgrew the habit.

Whether this mother was wise we would hardly want to say. In her case it was, perhaps, a bright thought, but if the child, through others, should have known of his mother's false method to cure the evil, all effect would have been lost, and no doubt he would have lost faith in his mother. In mature years, though, if cured by this simple remedy, he would thank his mother to the bottom of his heart.

Right here we want to emphasize the importance of cleanliness. We verily believe that oftentimes these habits originate in a burning and irritating sensation about the organs, caused by a want of thorough washing.

CIRCUMCISION

It is worthy of note that many eminent physicians now advocate the custom of circumcision, claiming that the removal of a little of the foreskin induces cleanliness, thus preventing the irritation and excitement which come from the gathering of the whitish matter under the foreskin at the beginning of the glands. This irritation being removed, the boy is less apt to tamper with his sexual organs. The argument seems a good one, especially when we call to mind the high physical state of those people who have practiced the custom.

Happy is the mother who can feel she has done her duty, in this direction, while her boy is still a child.

For those mothers, though, whose little boys have now grown to boyhood with the evil still upon them, and you, through ignorance, permitted it, we would say, "Begin at once—it is never too late."