

parentage, and one of six children. He was found to have diphtheria. On the following day the youngest daughter, 2 years of age, presented symptoms of the same disease, and on the next day the father and two more children were attacked. After this all the other members of the family, except the oldest boy, contracted the disease. A thorough examination of the house elicited no source of contagion, but in the barn a cat was found having the characteristic lesions of diphtheria. On inquiry, he ascertained that this cat, during its period of sickness, had been played with by the children. On August 20, 1881, he saw, with his son, Dr. W. C. Bunce, a lady, eighteen years old, who had diphtheria of a very severe type, which terminated fatally on the third day. In a short time the disease developed in the mother and remaining two daughters. A half-grown cat in the room was found to have well-marked diphtheritic membrane in its throat. It was also ascertained that its mother and her four other kittens had been in the same condition. The girls had endeavored to cure the cats by removing the deposit, in this way exposing themselves to the contagious influence of the disease. After the recovery of these cases, and the removal of the diseased animals, the spread of the disease ceased. He thinks it fair, therefore, to conclude that the diseased condition of the cats was the cause of the diphtheritic manifestations in the cases reported. Mention is made of these cases as they are of importance in the consideration of comparative medicine.—*Medical Record*.

**Poisoning by Winslow's Soothing Syrup.**—In the *Sanitary News*, December 15, 1881, there is a report of another death of a child, eight months old, from the administration of a teaspoonful of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," the symptoms of poisoning by morphia being well marked. Analyses of this dangerous nostrum have shown that each ounce of the syrup contains *one grain* of morphia, so the dose, according to the directions on the bottle, for a child eight months old, contained *one-eighth* of a grain of morphia. It is about time that legal proceedings should prohibit the sale of such dangerous compounds, when advertised as inoffensive.