

hour in a wafer, or mixed with a little milk or brandy. If the diarrhoea is not important, the bismuth must be left out, and only the naphthol given; and if, on the contrary, there is constipation, then give the following: R.—Naphthol beta, 2.50 grams; magnesia salicylate, 2.50 to 5 drams. M. Divide in ten powders, and give one every hour until the bowels are free, and then continue with naphthol only, as before. There will be found a diminution or entire suppression of intestinal meteorism, and that the stools are disinfected, no longer giving the fetid smell of typhoid. The mouth and tongue will clear up, the general condition will improve, and the disease will run a short course.

SWEATING AND SUICIDE.—Our special reports on sweating in various provincial centres have sometimes been described as overdrawn. This was particularly the case at Manchester. It, however, so happens that at the Manchester City Police Court a woman has just been acquitted for attempting to commit suicide, though her only excuse was the extremely low wages she earned when working for a sweater. During the whole of the previous week she had worked as a costume finisher from half-past eight in the morning till seven in the evening, and yet only earned 2s. 2d. She lived on tea and bread, and out of these wages 6d. was deducted in consideration of the hot water supplied for her tea! Then she had to repay a loan of 6d. to the forewoman. With the remaining 1s. 2d. she had to meet her rent, which amounted to 2s. 6d. a week. All this was corroborated by the evidence of others who worked in the same place. One of the women, who gave testimony, had earned as much as 12s. in a week, but only by breaking the Factory Act, and this in the manner often described in our special reports on Sweating; that is to say, this witness worked from half-past eight to seven in the workshop, and then took work home, and continued toiling for the better part of the night. This seamstress was paid 4d. for making a woman's dress. Under such conditions of work how can anything approaching decent sanitation be maintained? The clothes at times are con-

taminated, the workers so starved and exhausted that they must soon fall victims to wasting disease when they are not actually driven to suicide. This is a matter of such immediate importance, and in which every sentiment of humanity is so concerned, that petty quibbles over the details of *doctrine* political economy must not be allowed to stand in the way of those sweeping and far-reaching reforms that alone can deal with the widespread evils now fully revealed to the public.—*London Lancet.*

[NOTE.—With a vast expanse of the fertile prairies of Manitoba open for settlement such cases as are depicted in the above article should be unknown.—*Editor MANITOBA LANCET.*]

MODERATE DRINKING.

If the statement of Mr. G. King in your last week's issue be correct the statistics of the United Kingdom Temperance and General Institution are, of course, vitiated. I am, however, inclined to think, on other and independent grounds, that total abstainers would come out well as subjects for life insurance. Those who have paid attention to the point have failed to notice that teetotallers are, for the most part, something more and besides abstainers from the use of alcohol—and that they conform to a fairly distinct type of character. A teetotaller is usually a man careful of his health—steady and regular in his habits. He gives heed to his clothing, his food, exercise, rest, and amount of work. He fights the battle of life warily and not recklessly. These are just the kind of men that insurance agents like to get hold of. For the purposes of life insurance total abstainers are, I apprehend, comparable rather with clergymen and Quakers, and perhaps Jews, than with the mass of moderate drinkers. It is notorious that clergymen and Quakers are exceptionally good livers, and this was well ascertained before the wave of teetotalism invaded the land. According to Seisen's tables the death-rate among the Protestant clergy, between the ages of 25 and 65, was only 10.6, whereas that of the general community was 18.0. In