

never suckled, receive early attention, even before the birth of the infant. Tightness of dress around the breasts, as indeed upon every part of the body, should be avoided, and from time to time gentle traction should be made upon the nipple if it is depressed. It may be drawn out by the fingers several times a-day; or by a common breast pump or by suction with a tobacco pipe."

We give the views held by Dr. Smith, with regard to the time when the new born-infant should be first given the breast, although they are contrary to what we follow; we invariably direct that the child shall not be applied till there is some sign of milk. We have always found, or at all events believed we did, that the immediate putting the child to the breast, worried it, gave it colic, irritated the nipples, and did not bring the milk an hour sooner. Dr. Smith takes an opposite view, and we give our readers the benefit of it. He says, "occasionally lactation is rendered difficult and painful by the long delay before applying the infant to the breast. When the mother has rested a few hours after her confinement, from three to six in ordinary cases, lactation may commence. There is at first, but very little milk, often only a few drops, but the secretion is promoted by nursing, so that the requisite amount is sooner obtained than when the infant is kept from the breast for two or three days."

The chapter on weaning is excellent. We quote an extract: "Weaning ought to take place, as a rule, between the ages of twelve and eighteen months. It is well, if the mother's health is good and her milk is sufficient, to defer weaning till the canine teeth appear. The infant, then possessing sixteen teeth, is able to masticate the softer kinds of solid food. *Weaning should be gradual.* Mothers often speak of weaning on a certain day. They have given but little artificial food, and have suckled at regular intervals, till at a fixed time they have denied the breast altogether. This abrupt change of diet should be discouraged. It is apt to derange the digestive organs and it causes fretfulness and sleeplessness on the part of the infant for a week or two. Weaning should commence by feeding with the spoon through the day and nursing less, and by discontinuing the practice of suckling at night."

We commend the volume as being a peculiarly practical one, and in our opinion all the more valuable on that account. It is well worth the price asked for it. It is got up in good style.

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*Handbook of Zoology with examples from Canadian Species Recent and Fossil.* By J. W. DAWSON, L.L.D., F.R.S. Part 1 Invertebrata with 275 illustrations 8vo. pp. 264. Montreal: Dawson Brothers, St. James Street, 1870.

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