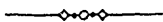


100,000 children to the poorhouse; 5. Has committed at least 150,000 people to prisons and workhouses; 6. Has determined at least 1,000 suicides; 7. Has caused the loss, by fire or violence, of at least 10,000,000 dols. worth of property; 8. Has made 200,000 widows, and 1,000,000 orphans.'—*Sanitary Record*.



FASHION AND ITS PENALTIES.

BY WASHINGTON L. ATLEE, M. D. Annual Address before the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania.—From the *Sanitarian*.

Gynæcology (the diseases peculiar to women), as a branch of study, was scarcely known half a century ago. The vast discoveries made in uterine pathology, and the advance in the treatment of the diseases of females, even in the life-time of many of us, are beyond estimate. A large majority of the members of the Society can well appreciate the extent of this progress. Old Physic, if he has kept pace with the course of events, will acknowledge that in the early part of his professional career he knew little or nothing, comparatively, of the proper treatment of such diseases. He can look back and call to mind scores of patients who went down into the grave without relief, and who could have been saved had he possessed that knowledge which the profession now claims. The proportion of female diseases, however, was no doubt much less in the earlier part of the century than it is now, because the habits of the people were much more simple and healthful than in the present day. Ladies then occupied the good old-style one and two story houses, well ventilated by wood-fires on open hearths; wore six yards of material for a dress; supported their garments by suspenders upon their shoulders; did not constrict their bodies below the waist to the smallest possible wasp-like dimensions, but allowed their lungs to expand in the normal direction; wore low-heeled shoes to enable them to walk erect, and throw the centre of gravity on to the spinal column, where it properly belongs; walked and lived much in the open air; rode on horseback instead of going in carriages, which are a modern luxury; retired early to bed and arose therefore early; did not revel most of the night in over-heated, crowded, and badly-ventilated rooms, nor slumber away the whole of next morning in their close chambers, while the balmy fresh air outside was inviting them to its embrace. Age may have blunted my sensibilities and clouded my judgment, but I remember that, in the ardour of my youth, I admired the girl of that day as eminently healthful, rosy, buxom, and