

# DR. FOOTE'S HEALTH MONTHLY.

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"The time has come when scientific truth must cease to be the property of the few; when it must be woven into the common life of the world."—Prof. Agassiz.

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## The Seventh Volume.

Time rolls around so rapidly we wish to remind our readers that in a comparatively short time we shall begin volume seven of THE HEALTH MONTHLY. We want to start volume seven with as large a subscription list as possible. Our old and tried friends and interested readers everywhere (and we are thankful we have many of them) know what an effort there has been to discourage us and, if possible, to suppress our paper. We will be thankful to those who will put their shoulder to the wheel and help us in moving the car of progress forward in spite of such obstruction. By calling attention to our paper and the vital subjects which it presents, its subscription list ought to more than double by the first of January. Will it do so? This very much depends on the good word our friends may say for us and the efforts they may make for extending the circulation of THE MONTHLY. If we were to increase the subscription price to \$1 and give no premiums whatever we could doubtless make THE HEALTH MONTHLY pecuniarily profitable to us. But it so happens that we issue THE HEALTH MONTHLY for the purpose of propagating popular physiological knowledge, and we feel much the same enthusiasm in this work that the religious societies do in theirs when they print and throw broadcast their little tracts, or the same that the Liberal League feels in extending the circulation of its "League Man." Hence we are disposed to continue the subscription price of 50 cents per annum, and at the same time to furnish premiums which, in themselves, are worth all that is charged for the subscription. Under these circumstances we think our friends can make common cause with us and feel that they are working for the common good rather than for our aggrandizement in giv-

ing THE HEALTH MONTHLY an extensive circulation. All that we may say in our columns may not suit all our readers. But there is much said by our correspondents and contributors that antagonizes our real sentiments. Let each one have his say so long as it is his honest expression, and let us all be tolerant all around while presenting our individual views. It is only in this way that we can reach the hard pan of truth. Meanwhile bear constantly in mind that an American newspaper is practically in exile because it treats of sex topics and opposes the American Inquisition, and that only one hundred years ago efforts were made to suppress the works of the great botanist, Linnaeus, because they treated of the sex of plants and their methods of propagation. Let us see to it that one hundred years hence the prejudice against the former shall be as effectually overcome as has been the prejudice against the latter.

We trust that our readers will bear with us until we get somewhat used to the business of having our paper printed so far away from us as Canada. It was near the end of the month before our subscribers received THE MONTHLY for September. It was all in type and in electrototype plate before the last week in August; but the delays in getting things started right produced a prolonged and unexpected delay in the printing and mailing of the papers. We hope to do better this month, but cannot at the present writing tell how far some unforeseen obstacle may prevent us from making our timely appearance. Our editorial work on the October number will have all been finished by the 15th of September preceding.

HERETOFORE our readers have not been bored with what might be called long articles. We think the long articles this month are of sufficient interest to prevent any one from feeling bored. Nevertheless, it is our desire to keep up our custom of giving brief and crispy articles on the live topics of the day. We shall adhere to this plan as closely as possible, and seldom make any deviation from it.

Those interested in the Institute of Heredity will be pleased to learn that the celebrated naturalist, Charles Darwin, in a letter to the Social Science Association, which held its meeting in Saratoga Springs in September, suggested that it would be well if statistics could be gathered in regard to the mental and bodily development of infants, noticing how far they are influenced by the education of their parents, and various other points. In our September number we quoted from the *Scientific American* its regrets that babies have not a market value like hogs. The editor said that a death rate among pigs less than one-third that of babies excited the attention of state governments and led to costly investigations by order of the U. S. Government.

THE TRIBUNE employed a reporter to go among the various insane asylums to see if there had been any increase in insanity growing out of the excitement produced by the attempt to assassinate the President. The report seemed unanimous all around that there had been no perceptible increase in insane cases. It was thought, however, that such a circumstance would hardly be liable to affect such patients as would find their way into the hospitals. The highly sensitive, more intelligent and well-to-do people would be those who would be the