

water-supply, but at the water supply at his office in town. The lead was ultimately discovered in the domestic water-supply which was used by the whole family, but which Mr. Milnes did not suspect, as after breakfast he spent his whole day from home at his offices and business in the town. Notwithstanding, my cases show that more men are affected than women. What is the explanation of this unexpected disproportion? If the lessons of my twenty cases have been rightly understood, I have a clue to the explanation in the greater alcoholic consumption of the male sex.

Examining my thirteen cases more closely, I find that one died with all the symptoms of abdominal obstruction; two had wrist-drop, two had general convulsions, with more or less complete unconsciousness. The remaining eight cases suffered from nothing worse than colic, though that is bad enough. All the eight colic cases occurred in workingmen, and in every case but one there was no evidence to show that the patients were otherwise but steady and usually abstemious men; indeed, one was a total abstainer. Of the five severe cases, three were drunkards or "soakers;" the fatal case was that of a man who worked as a cloth finisher in a very hot room, had the pot-belly of a drinker, and always drank beer, although his wife never knew him to be the worse for liquor more than three times. Of the two cases in which there was wrist-drop, one man is known to be unsteady, and, though preferring beer, never turns up his nose at spirits. The other wrist-drop case is employed at a hotel, where the opportunities for getting drink are many. Then we come to the two cases where general convulsions with unconsciousness occurred. One of them caused me much anxiety, and when the man's condition was at its worst, as I was leaving his house a neighbor stopped me. The neighbor, after enquiring after my patient, asked me where the lead came from that was poisoning him. I told him the drinking water. He shook his head doubtfully, and said he was sure it could come from nowhere else but the top of the patient's beer-barrel, the beer having taken it up as it ran from the barrel. The hint thus given was followed up, and I elicited that the patient had