

provide a towel for *himself*." Now, I thought any such children were not allowed to attend school; it used to be so, it appears to me, towel or no towel. In section 60 one is led to suppose that it is only wall papers of "gorgeous hues" that are liable to be dangerous from containing arsenical colouring matter, when it is a well-known fact that the most chaste and delicate tints may contain much arsenic, and be equally dangerous.

In section 330 is a list of "disinfectants." Some of these, as recommended, are now known to be not disinfectants at all, and to be quite unreliable, hence dangerous to be depended upon. Certainly the eleven disinfectants given might be reduced to about three—heat, corrosive sublimate and chlorine fumes. In all the lists of disinfectants I am able to find, this one alone excepted, abundance of fresh air has always been named and recommended as a most important one. The principles of disinfectants, or the uses or action of disinfectants, are not explained at all, although space is given to so many other things of much less consequence:

Finally, in relation to water and its purity, the reader is told that, in those cases where a physical examination gives only negative evidence, chemical examination must be made, and

then four or five pages are devoted to chemical tests, all of which I think entirely lost; for if the source of water leads to suspicion as to its purity, a portion of it should be sent to an expert, as I think all well informed physicians will advise. No other than one well experienced in "testing" is competent to "pass" a suspected water, as otherwise valuable life might be thus jeopardized or even lost thereby. And moreover, and most important of all, chemical tests have been long known to be unreliable, and will not reveal the presence in water of infectious germs. All suspected water should certainly be submitted to the biological test—the gelatine culture and the microscope. In no other way can the presence of infectious organisms in water be made known. Yet not one word is there in this manual bearing upon the most important point.

Is it not too bad, sir, that a book like this one, to the exclusion I believe of all others, should be forced upon teachers and students; or, indeed, that this Province should spend many thousands of dollars yearly upon a Board of Health which could put forth such a work, and for every copy of which teachers and others must pay \$1? Yours, etc.

M. D.

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#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

IN this number of the Magazine, Drs. McCurdy and Eaton press the claims of their chosen studies on the attention of school and collegiate authorities, as well as on the reading public generally.

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#### VIVAT REGINA.

A PERSON by the name of William O'Brien visited Canada for the avowed purpose of driving the representative of the Queen from his high

office, thus causing strife and much ill-will among our people. He paid us his visit unasked, in the face of the protests of the true friends of his own country, and he has departed from us unblest. In connection with this unwelcome visit two meetings were held in the Queen's Park, Toronto. The first—large (15,000 said to have been present), orderly and influential, presided over by the Mayor of the city,—was called in the interests of law and order, and