

few words. We must insist upon proper intervals of rest for the eyes, and allow the children a liberal amount of play time. To this end lessons should be studied, as much as possible, during school hours, and night work at home should be discouraged. Possibly we can all recall the tired parent saying, as he settles down to his paper after supper: "Now, boys, get your books, and don't let me hear a word out of you, or off you go to bed."

Let the boys have a good romp, and if you possibly can, romp with them, and then after they have been tucked away in bed, you can enjoy, all the more, a quiet chat with your wife or peruse your paper in quiet and peace. And when they grow older and enter the high school or college, see to it that they do not burn the midnight oil, do not overtax the eyes, for as long as they do it, they do damage to the eyes, whether they study in a badly arranged school or in one of our great universities.—*Medical Fortnightly*.

A NOVEL WAY OF GIVING AN ENEMA.

Dr. George Ross reported the case of a man recently under his observation, who had just died from peritonitis, caused by the bursting of the bowel. It seems that he had been in the habit of attaching his syringe to the faucet in the bath-room, and allowing the water to flow into the bowel with all force in the water pipe. He had practised this novel method of taking an enema for years, but went too far this time. A post-mortem revealed the conditions above stated.

LOWERED DUTIES ON DRUGS.

The Senate tariff bill lowers the duty on a number of drugs, that on castor-oil being reduced fifty-six per cent. below the rate under the McKinley law, and that on epsom salts thirty-four per cent. Other reductions are, thirty per cent. on cod liver oil, fifty per cent. on bicarbonate of soda, twenty per cent. on sublimed sulphur, eighteen per cent. on refined camphor, and twenty-five per cent. on strychnine. The duty on spectacle lenses is reduced from sixty to thirty-five per cent. ad valorem, a decrease of nearly forty-two per cent.

A SUCCESSFUL WARFARE.

In *The Journal* of the 15th. Oct., it was announced that the Illinois State Board of Health had begun a vigorous warfare on the itinerant nostrum vendors, "who annually fleece the people of the State out of a sum estimated at more than \$300,000, by means of brass bands, concert troupes, alleged Indians and other mountebank attractions." At the recent meeting of the Board, October 1st to 2nd, the Secretary, Dr. J. W. Scott, reported that there was not a single one of these concerns now do-

ing business in the State; prosecutions had been begun simultaneously in every one of the 102 counties where these itinerants were found, some half dozen convictions were secured, and the rest folded their tents and stole away—not silently, but with loud and picturesque profanity directed against the Illinois law and its enforcement.

MEDICAL OPINION AS TO THE USE OF OPIUM AMONG THE CHINESE.

Dr. Duncan Main, Physician-in-chief of the large Mission Hospital and Opium Refuge at Hang-Chow, gives in his annual report, lately published, his adverse opinion of the evils of Chinese opium smoking in very clear terms. The paragraph here quoted refers chiefly to his observations at the Refuge for opium users who apply for treatment: "During the year, ninety-seven who came to us seeking to be relieved of the debasing habit received our kindly help. The number included all grades of society and all classes of men. My opinion about the evil effects of opium smoking is unaltered. No one in his sober senses can say anything in its favor, unless he talks nonsense. We never come across an opium smoker or a non-opium smoker who has anything to say in favor of the habit, and if it were such an innocent affair as some advocates of it try to make us believe, surely we who live among the people from year to year would find it out. I think far too little is made of this most important fact. Surely the voice of the people should be listened to, and the testimony of those who have paid flying visits to opium-smoking countries and gathered their information through interpreters should be discounted. Many, I fear, are influenced by pecuniary or personal motives, and some, no doubt, take up the cudgels for it, because missionaries are its chief opponents. To me it seems an utter impossibility for any one who lives among the Chinese, speaks their language, knows their lives, and mixes with them from day to day, to do anything else but condemn the base, cruel and demoralizing habit. It affects the Chinaman's person, principle and purse, damages his constitution, degrades his conduct and drains his cash, and in many cases leads to ruin and destruction of body and soul."

FIVE CASES OF GONORRHOEA IN LITTLE GIRLS.

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The following five cases of vulvo-vaginitis were observed during my service at the West End Nursery this winter. The presence of the gonococcus was demonstrated in all. No non-specific cases were met with during this period.