

pose of "soothing" children contain this same poison in a greater or less degree. And the cases are numerous and well-known to physicians, where children, ranging in age from a few days to a few years, have been sent to their graves by this means; while it is impossible to form any idea of the many older invalids who are suffering from the effects of a drugged infancy.

The less medicine a babe has thrown into its system the better. A little attention to its dress, so that no pins stick into its body, and to its diet so that its stomach be not overloaded, and to its general cleanliness, will prevent much of the fretfulness of which nurses complain. And when it is sick enough to need medicine, it is advisable to know what is the matter with it, and what is being given to it.

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Why do Not Teeth Last?

MOST people who take the trouble to answer this question will probably say, because they are not kept clean. No doubt dirty teeth hasten to decay much quicker than clean teeth; but if this be the only reason, why is it that cows, dogs, monkeys, and other animals not given to the frequent application of a scrubbing brush to their mouths do not stand in need of dentists to scrape, fill and extract their teeth?

There is another reason, and a more important, viz,—teeth are not made of the proper materials. Whose fault is that? you will ask. Let us answer. Nature makes teeth just as she makes rock salt—by combining certain chemical elements in certain proportions. If the elements required to make rock salt are not convenient, the result is that no rock salt is made; and if the elements to form perfect teeth are not to be had, then perfect teeth cannot be made.

The teeth of animals are made perfect, because while the young are dependent on their mother they get lime, phosphorus, silex, and other necessary elements from the milk of the mother, which she gets from her food. But if a human mother has been living on sugar, butter and starch, which contain none of these elements, how can her child obtain perfect teeth? And if during its youthful years it be fed on a similar diet, what opportunity will there be for repairing the mistake its mother committed?