

of the devil. At least we are told in "Paradise Lost," that

"Him there they found,
Squat like a toad close at the ear of Eve."

Hence it will not strengthen the case to bring in the religious factor. But Dr. Abbott puts the case most strongly when he pictures the indolence which the American temperament exhibits in the water-closet—the only place where he is not in a hurry.

"How far from nature," he says, "is the woman, who, perhaps intensely interested in the question of blue or green for her bonnet, will sit in deep contemplation for ten minutes, straining, between thoughts, as if in childbirth, finally concludes she was mistaken and goes back to the bonnet, to return to the closet again only after three or four days constipation have given her a splitting sick-headache. Man abuses his blessed privileges in the same way, figuring perhaps on a real-estate deal instead of a bonnet, or perhaps with magazine in hand making increment above, but failing in excrement below."

If the primeval posture suggested will make men and women distribute the time devoted to their emunctories more judiciously, it may be a wise measure to adopt, although we fear that it is not destined to have a fair trial in any but strictly rural districts.—*Med. Rec.*

LACTIC ACID IN THE DIARRHŒAS OF CHILDREN. Dr. G. Hayem, more than a year ago, called attention to the remarkable utility of lactic acid in the diarrhœas of children. Recently, in a communication to the Academy of Medicine (*Revue de Thér.*, February 15), he has renewed his suggestion, and presented new evidence of the value of the remedy. He finds that better results are had from larger doses than he formerly advised. In the more severe cases he has administered a 2 per cent. solution up to twenty teaspoonfuls in the course of twenty-four hours. The formula employed by him is the following:

Lactic acid (pure)	3ss.
Syrupi	3j.
Water	3iij.

The strength of this is about one minim to the teaspoonful. The quantity given will vary with the age of the subject and the nature of the attack. M. Sevestre, one of the physicians to the Children's Hospital, confirms the statement of Hayem regarding the therapeutic power of the remedy in question, and he also finds that a considerable quantity is required to effect the best results. The latest experience demonstrates that a teaspoonful of the 2 per cent. solution should be given every five minutes in the worst cases, and from this up to a teaspoonful an hour, the amount required varies with the conditions present.—*Am. Jour. Med. Sciences*

SEVERE EFFECTS OF CASCARA SAGRADA.—Although the testimony of every one is almost unanimous as to the satisfactory and pleasant action of the fluid extract of cascara sagrada, yet its very severe and even prostrating action in a couple of cases reported by Dr. R. O. Cotter in the *Atlanta Med. and Surg. Journ.* (March, 1888), calls attention to the fact that even this substance cannot be used without care in its administration. The first case was that of a man 60 years of age, who was given a drachm dose at night for several days' constipation after an operation for cataract. The dose not acting, he was given the same quantity in the morning following, and the dose again repeated at noon. The howels then began to act, and for twelve hours the purging action of the drug was so severe as to very closely resemble regular cholera morbus, and greatly prostrated the patient. But perhaps these doses were too frequently repeated, and Dr. Cotter states, and his experience will without a doubt be confirmed by others, that he has taken it himself in the same way with no unpleasant results. Then, again, he states that he prescribed a drachm dose for a lady patient at night, and a second dose was followed by a very severe action and great prostration and feebleness for three or four days.—*Therap. Gaz*

WARNER'S SAFE KIDNEY CURE.—The following purports to be the formula: Take of

Liverwort	1 oz.
Potassium nitrate	320 grs.
Water	q. s.
Alcohol	2 ozs.
Glycerin	12 drs.
Essence of wintergreen	40 mins.

Infuse the liverwort in one pint of hot water for two hours, strain or filter; dissolve the nitre in the infusion, and when cold add the alcohol, glycerin, and essence of wintergreen, and finally add water to make one pint.—*National Druggist.*

THE clergy have lately become much concerned over the future of physicians. Sam Jones says he would not care to go to heaven if he thought there were any doctors there. [The doctors have yet to be heard from—ED.] He doesn't know how it is that the study and practice of medicine makes men irreligious. In his experience it has been a rare thing for him to meet a religious doctor. At the late commencement exercises of the Detroit College of Medicine, the clergyman who made the address, also expressed the belief that there are no doctors "over there." He, however, was not ungracious enough to ascribe their absence to their wickedness, but simply to the fact that there are no sick angels. It did not seem to occur to our reverend brother that physicians could take part or pleasure in the exercises of the place, but that, as is the case here below, they must be doctors or nothing.—*Med. Age.*