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◇ MEDICAL CRITICISM. ◇

No. 17.—DECEMBER 23rd, 1882.

A Weekly Sheet, by DAVID EDWARDS, published on Saturday, and sold at Hawkins & Co.'s, 67 Yonge Street, Toronto.

PRICE 50 CENTS—Copies of any single number can be had, in quantities, at 15c. per dozen.

STATISTICS.

The statistics of the Mattawa Hospital, (which is conducted exclusively by Nuns) disclose the noteworthy fact that the deaths therein are fewer by twenty-five per cent, than those of any other hospital in the Province; the nearest doctor resides at a distance of one hundred miles from the hospital; it is to be hoped that no one will draw an inference, unfavourable to the medical profession from this latter circumstance.

SIX DAYS' HICCOUGH AND VOMITING.

A gentleman in Orillia, who had been attended by two physicians, with the advantage (?) of having two others in consultation, had reached the evening of his sixth day's suffering; the physicians had announced that he could not survive the seventh day; some five weeks subsequently, the restored sufferer met a friend at an hotel, and was informed by him that himself had died at the Russell House, in Orillia, five weeks previously: the recovered man enquired if his informant would know the deceased, if he saw him, and was answered in the affirmative; the convalescent then told his friend that it was he who was to have died on the seventh day, but didn't; a physician from Toronto had arrived on the evening of the sixth day, and frustrated the calculations of the other four. The convalescent subsequently found a landlord of an hotel at which he was staying, suffering in precisely the same manner as *he* had been, and as he was treated similarly to himself *for the first six days* of his own illness, on the arrival of the tenth day, he joined that majority who need no physician.

INDISCREET ADVERTIZING.

The discovery, on the part of a neighbour of ours, of the means of conquering catarrh, in his own case, in the case of his wife, and that of other relatives, is traceable to the emphasis laid by the advertiser of "a sure cure," on the necessity of first using salt and water, as directed in our last number; our neighbour, who has obviously paid some attention to the ways of men, concluded that the virtue of the remedy lay rather in the inexpensive salt and water, than in the advertized nostrum; he tried the experiment, and was rewarded with a decided "cure."

DIPHTHERIA.

Four persons in one family, in this city, were suffering from the above-named disease, in August last; one of them died, and a physician who has contrived to gain some celebrity as such, remarked

that the others would follow him ; the sufferers naturally clung to life, and availed themselves of the power of magnetism ; in the course of an hour they were decidedly better, and the following day, the previously sick children were playing about the house.

SYPHILIS.

A case of the above-named description, in this city, was so far advanced that the sufferer was covered with sores, notwithstanding some five months' of allopathic treatment, the doctor advised his patient to go to the hospital. (as a preferable sphere from which to bid adieu to life, to his own home), but the patient preferred testing the value of electric treatment, and is rapidly recovering as a consequence.


The subjoined extract is from "The Cincinnati Price Current," of the 30th ulto.—a commercial paper of high standing:—"Patent medicine soothing syrups are responsible for the deaths of many infants, according to a paper read before the Chicago Academy, of Homœopathic Physicians. The syrups are said to be composed of two cents' worth of laudanum mixed with a cent's worth of molasses and water, selling for twenty-five cents or more. This stuff is administered with criminal freedom by lazy nurses and ignorant mothers. The doctors call on the legislature to pass a law forcing the makers to label the mixture "poison," as a druggist would do if putting it up on a prescription.

TINKERS.

Slender *would be* the prospect of payment of any operator on saucepans, who, as the result of his operations, should leave a hole in the bottom of those which he had pretended to mend ; slender *should be* the prospect of all medical tinkers who operate with similar lack of success.

The ills which flesh inherits will be arranged in alphabetical order, on the basis of those given in the Rev. John Wesley's "Primitive physic," in the numbers of this periodical for 1-83 ; Mr. Wesley's suggested modes of treatment will be given, so far as they may appear to be desirable: Hydropathic treatment—Homœopathic—Medico-Botanic—Electric and Magnetic—Physio-Medical treatment—and even Allopathic (or *the other* pathic) treatment, whatever that may happen to mean, and this, as in all the other cases, when the cure affords a presumption that it has been effected by the means employed, and not by the aid of colored water, bread pills, &c.

It is intended to double the size of this sheet, after the expiration of the year, and to introduce a considerable proportion of matter of the nature of that which occupies the present number.

 In the event of any irregularity occurring in the delivery of this publication, the Editor requests that he may be addressed respecting it.