

any coherent account of their symptoms or even of their sensations an hour after they have been experienced.

From the point of the child's welfare, the necessity of careful watching, of the scrupulous execution of all medical directions, of the tactful administration of medicines often nauseous, and of food often unpalatable, to fretful, irritable, perhaps frightened, children, scarcely requires to be debated.

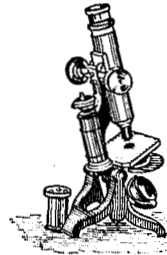
Once it is conceded, therefore, that the sick child requires a nurse, it goes without saying that the latter should be thoroughly acquainted not only with the practical details of her work, but also with the theoretical points connected with the illness from which the child is suffering. She must know, for example, what is the usual course of the disease, so that she may intelligently note any unusual symptoms, and report them to the doctor without delay, as well as the occurrence of those signs which might be expected. She should know what the various medicines, baths, and other applications which the doctor prescribes are expected to accomplish, so that she can intelligently report the actual effects produced, or any untoward results which may unexpectedly occur.

It is in the hope of imparting such information, in as simple and clear a manner as possible, that the following series of Lectures will be written. It is proposed to commence by a general survey of the infant's condition in a state of health, the nourishment it requires, and the manner in which its nutrition can be best secured not only in health but when it is suffering from some infantile complaint. That will lead us to consider the simple disorders of infancy, their symptoms, causes, and nursing—such for example as indigestion, constipation and diarrhoea. From this, we can pass to discuss the various complaints from which children suffer more commonly after infancy is past, and starting with the mouth we can in due order consider the complaints which attack the digestive system, the stomach, intestines, and rectum. Returning to the throat, we can in like manner trace the diseases which affect the windpipe and the lungs, and the heart. After this, the more general affections such as the Infectious Fevers would naturally claim our attention. So, on this regular system, we can consider at some length the common complaints of children, and observe the principles upon which each requires to be treated.

(To be continued.)

Medical Matters.

COFFEE-DRUNKARDS.



THE State Medical Association of New York has recently fully discussed the evils arising from an excessive consumption of coffee, and the conclusion arrived at is that intemperance in coffee-drinking must be stopped, even if the aid of the law has to be invoked.

Some of the chief offenders are said to be hospital nurses, who are accustomed to drink a large cup of coffee every two or three hours. Shop girls and dressmakers not infrequently take from eight to twelve cups a day, while with charwomen and others who have heavy physical work to perform the consumption is anywhere between twelve to eighteen cups a day.

Dr. Leszynsky, one of the principal leaders of the crusade, says, that coffee is merely a stimulant, having no nourishing qualities. In moderation it is good, but in excess it produces tremor, rapid pulse, disturbed digestion, and the depression of neurasthenia, in short all the symptoms of alcohol poisoning. The worst of it is that while alcohol poisoning is fairly definite, the ill effects of coffee are most insidious and difficult to diagnose, and many women who think they are ill from overwork are really suffering from the effects of coffee drinking. When we learn that the annual importation of coffee into the United States is over 781,000,000 lbs. we are able to estimate to some extent the amount of this beverage which is annually consumed.

TELEPHONE EAR.

A new disease, known as "telephone ear," is being developed in the United States as a consequence of the "relay system," whereby the lifting of the receiver serves as a communication with the exchange, or "central," as it is called, in New York.

The sounds of cracking and miniature explosions which are familiar to those who use the telephone, are intensified under this system, and it is believed that the force of the sound waves delivered directly into the ear is the cause of the new disease. The matter is of interest, because the system is about to be in-

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