The Forum

CAUSE AND CURE

BY REV. V. J. EGGLESTON.

When anything goes wrong in this world—and how many things do go wrong—we are apt to direct our attention chiefly to the evil as it manifests itself to us and to apply our remedies there. We are less disposed to go back to causes and by removing them to make a complete and permanent cure. Many examples might be cited in illustration of this general oversight of real causes and the tendency to deal only with effects.

The babe in the cradle cries and the more it is rocked and coaxed and fed and carried and trotted and tossed the louder it screams, because all that is done only aggravates the real cause, which may be an excess of clothing or impure air or over-feeding or a wicked pin. The wise nurse finds and removes the cause; the ignorant one does not know the cause, does not know how to seek for it, and so makes the matter worse with each new remedy.

A child hates its books and plays truant. The cause is supposed to be the natural depravity of the child but it may be the unnatural and unwise method of instruction and the "naughty boy" may only be kicking against something that ought to be kicked. The true remedy may be a better study of child-life and the adaptation of instruction to nature, for nature is the worst abused thing in the universe.

A man has a miserable digestion and a complexion that shows bad blood or exhausted vitality, and he believes all the wonderful tales of the patent medicine men and doses and doses and remains an invalid. The true remedy was pure air and healthful work and the control of the appetites and passions, but it takes more wisdom than some people possess to discover real causes and apply correct remedies in this matter of health. (By the single means of restraining the excesses and abuse of the sexual passion a most potent cause of physical and mental weakness would be removed, but who knows or dares to talk of this cause of evil? What parents know how to save their children? What young people are able to save themselves?)

Another example: A boy or girl on coming to years of maturity displays an utter hatred and contempt for all useful employment, cares for nothing but sport and fashion and outside show, develops appetites and passions that set at defiance all laws of health and even of morality and decency and so goes to the bad beyond all hope of recovery. Who knows the real cause of the many cases of this awful wreck and ruin? They may lie hidden away in the first few years of that child's life. The unwise parent may have innocently and unknowingly started that loved and petted child on the very road in which it has gone. The indulgence of an its appetites, the saving of it from all the useful employments that would have given to its unfolding mind a serious and thoughtful turn, the excessive pride in all the child's smartness and all its cunning ways, the over-dressing and displaying of it on all possible occasions until it was little more than a baby actor or actress, the premature wearing off of all the bashfulness and modesty that adorn true childhood, the stuffing of it with sweetmeats and the indulgence of it in stimulants, the irregularity in its times of eating and hours of sleep, the permitting of it to "rule the house" and lord it over those it should obey, all this and more has been the cause of the physical and moral ruin that is now deplored as the work of the evil one,—ah, that "evil one" who has to bear the blame of human folly as well as of his own badness; with a good lawyer he could make a strong plea at the judgment day. He could prove an alibi in many a case. He "wasn't in it." He was asleep, knowing now many things would go wrong without his meddling, knowing that human ignorance would do as much harm among those who wished to be good as he could ever do with all his tricks. Oh no, he don't do a bit more than half the mischief that is done in this world. Give him his due. Not by punishing him or his victim, but by letting in the light of wisdom upon the human mind, will his kingdom be the soonest overthrown. The realm where the light of wisdom should shine the strongest is the realm of child-life, the realm of dramatic causes in human affairs, the realm of home, away back to the first germs of life!

One of the best mental habits that a human mind ever acquired is that of looking into causes and correcting evils by removing causes, or still better, anticipating future evils by preventing their causes, for the cause must exist before the effect, and causes are flexible, managable, easily planted and easily torn up by the roots. They are to their effects what the seed is to the tree, what the fuel is to the heat, what the child is to the man.

Let us then learn to deal with causes, for in the face of results we are often powerless. Who, for example, can deal with the rum traffic and extinguish it? But we can deal with its causes. The manufacture of rum is not its cause. Its cause is the perverse appetite that creates the demand for its manufacture, and as long as the demand exists there will be a supply. The cause lies away back at the beginning of life. The child that knows no artificial stimulants, not even tea or coffee, and that is habituated to eat and drink only to supply nature's real demands and who thinks of maintaining health only by a life in obedience to natural laws, such a child will never grow up to think that it needs alcoholic stimulants either to cheer the mind or sustain the body.

It is the unhealthy child, the nervous and passionate child that fancies it needs artificial stimulants. It is such children that pass naturally from the stimulation and perverted appetites of youth to the higher stimulation and greater indulgence of mature life. Yes, sad as is the truth, the appetite that leads down to the drunkard's grave is often created at the family table and at the hand of loving parents.

Here is a lesson in cause and effect that is certainly worthy of attention. The child whose means of pleasure largely relate to the mouth, that must always be sucking candy or chewing gum or sipping tea or nibbling sweatmeats, is cultivating a perverted taste that may one day demand stronger and stronger stimulation until nothing but "fire water" will satisfy it.

It is not the signing of the pledge that will save the children from rum; it is the wise prevention of the appetite that renders such a pledge necessary. Ah, the child that needs to sign a pledge against rum! That child is not half so strong as the rum fiend. Put the child where he will truly say: "I never had any appetite for stimulants," not even for that little beginning of stimulation, the insidious and seemingly harmless sip of tea; put your children there and they are safe. In this complete abstinence from all stimulation and the indulgence, in childhood, of only normal and healthful appetites is complete safety. Eat and drink for health and strength and with a good appetite for all that nature really demands and beyond this suppress all hankering for things that merely tickle the palate and that create ever new demands for higher degrees of stimulation. Suppress all these abnormal demands and you have "laid the axe at the root of the tree" of intemperance, you have destroyed a gigantic evil by preventing its cause.

I have said that one of the best mental habits is that of enquiring into causes and dealing with effects through their causes, and I wish to repeat this truth and try to influence others to bear it in mind and try to cultivate this habit, and I would apply it to all the little affairs and experiences of life; for example I meet with a loss and I turn at once to an investigation of the cause. I find that it was due to my habit of acting too impulsively, with too little reflection, and thus the little loss saves me a greater one another time, for I guard myself against impulsiveness. Again, I lie awake for hours at night unable to obtain needed rest. I ask myself the cause. It was perhaps improper food or undue excitement the evening before. I guard in future against the cause and escape the consequences. I find that a friend has been alienated from me. I regret it, and instead of accusing him of inconsistancy, I recall the imprudent word that hurt him and put a bridle on my tongue. Or again, I am in debt beyond the means of paying. I revise my habits of life and reduce expenses within my income, and so on indefinitely. Instead of fretting and accusing and lamenting I look to cases and deal as far as possible with them.

Philosophers are much inclined to discuss the question whether this is a good or bad world. My own conclusion is that it is both. It is a good world for the wise and a bad one for the foolish. A good place to be healthy and happy in, but also an easy one in which to be weak in body and wretched in mind if one does not know how to resist evils by removing their causes, as physicians now-a-days combat diseases by discovering and exterminating their germs.

STOP THE CHILD'S COLDS; THEY OFTEN RESULT SERIOUSLY

Colds, Croup and Whooping Cough are children's ailments which need immediate attention. The after effects are often most serious. Don't take the risk—you don't have to. Dr. King's New Discovery checks the Cold, soothes the Cough, allays the Inflamation, kills the Germs and allows Nature to do her healing work. 50c at your Druggist. Buy a bottle to-day.—Advertisement.

FORBES' GREAT FEAT.

His Newspaper Story of the Last Days of the Commune.

One morning after the siege of Paris, when the city was believed in London to be still in the hands of the commune, Sir John Robinson, manager of the Daily News of London, reached his office to find the late Archibald Forbes lying on the floor asleep, his head on a postoffice directory, while the printers were hard at work on his manuscript, the story of "Paris In Flames," a most vivid description of the last days of the commune.

"Forbes had telegraphed from Dover announcing his coming," said Sir John Robinson, "the printers had been waiting, and thus the country heard of those terrible days for the first time.

"London was ablaze with excitement. Bouverie street was impassable through the newsboys shrieking for copies, and in parliament Mr. Gladstone was questioned that afternoon and could only say he hoped the story was exaggerated.

"When Forbes wakened from his slumber amid all this turmoil what a spectacle he was! His face was black with powder, his eyes red and inflamed, his clothes matted with clay and dust. He was a dreadful picture. He had been compelled to assist the communists in defending a triangular space upon which three detachments of the Versailles troops were firing and had actually taught the citizens how to build a barricade."

By aid of dummy dispatches addressed to Lord Granville and the queen Forbes escaped from this threatening triangle and wrote all the way to England, being the solitary passenger on the mail boat.

Grammar and the Lord's Prayer.

A party of gentlemen were discussing literary subjects when one asked another to point out the grammatical blunder in the Lord's Prayer. Half a dozen tried. Some thought it lay in the words "which art in heaven;" others placed it elsewhere, but not one detected it in the expression, "For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory." To be perfectly correct the word "is" should be "are," but people have used it in the present form so long that they never think of regarding it as a blunder. There are teachers who say such an expression is right because it sounds right, but reverse it and say, "The kingdom, the power and the glory is thine," and the fault is soon perceived.—Exchange.

Why Indians Are Red.

A German doctor has evolved a queer theory about the coloring of the human race—that the tint of the skin is determined by the food eaten.

Originally, he declares, the human species was black, because our primitive forefathers subsisted on fruits and roots containing manganese. The American redskins owe their color to the consumption of raw flesh. The Mongols are yellow because of their descent from a tribe which consumed great quantities of herbs rich in chloride, and the Caucasians have to thank the salt, for which they have so great a liking, for their dainty pink and white or delicate brunette complexions.—Philadelphia Record.

Try our "B. B. B." column.

EXTRA! January 7th the Day EXTRA!

MAMMOTH Clearance Sale

Gus Veit & Co.

Corner of Main & Broad Sts.
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Our entire stock of Men's and Boys' Suits, Overcoats, Trousers, Hats, Caps, Underwear, Shirts, Hosiery—in fact a complete line of Men's and Boys' Wearing Apparel will be re-marked to startling low prices.

A SALE WITH A REASON

ONE PRICE TO ALL

Circumstances have combined to make this sale advisable at this season of the year. We bought very heavily this Fall, anticipating a big trade but disastrous conditions throughout the country brought on by the European War have left us heavily overstocked, and we are compelled to sacrifice our large stock in order to sell while merchandise is in demand. We must sustain an immediate loss or risk a greater loss later, so prefer to face the situation squarely and start this MAMMOTH SALE now, at a time when our friends and patrons can benefit to the fullest by this great bargain treat in the heart of the Winter season. The loss we sustain in this sale will be fully compensated by the accomplishment of our purpose—turning our surplus stock into cash as quickly as possible. A word to the wise is sufficient. Nothing like it before. Nothing like it will occur again.

Sale Opens Jan. 7

Nothing but our Regular Stock is involved in this sale. No Cheap-John Stuff brought in for sale purposes.

MEN'S SUITS

Men's	$25.00 Suits now	$14.95
Men's	22.50 Suits now	12.95
Men's	20.00 Suits now	11.95
Men's	18.00 Suits now	11.45
Men's	16.50 Suits now	10.95
Men's	15.00 Suits now	9.95
Men's	12.50 Suits now	7.95
Men's	10.00 Suits now	6.95

MEN'S OVERCOATS

Men's	$25.00 Overcoats	$13.95
Men's	22.50 Overcoats	11.95
Men's	20.00 Overcoats	10.95
Men's	18.00 Overcoats	10.45
Men's	16.50 Overcoats	9.95
Men's	15.00 Overcoats	8.95
Men's	12.50 Overcoats	7.95
Men's	10.00 Overcoats	6.95

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Boys'	$9.00 Suits	$5.95
Boys'	8.00 Suits	5.95
Boys'	7.00 Suits	5.45
Boys'	6.00 Suits	4.45
Boys'	5.00 Suits	3.95
Boys'	4.00 Suits	2.95
Boys'	3.50 Suits	2.45
Bays'	2.50 Suits	1.95

BOYS' OVERCOATS

Boys'	$9.00 Overcoats	$5.95
Boys'	8.00 Overcoats	5.95
Boys'	7.00 Overcoats	5.45
Bays'	6.00 Overcoats	4.95
Boys'	5.00 Overcoats	3.95
Boys'	4.00 Overcoats	2.95

BOYS' KNEE PANTS

Boys'	$1.50 Pants	$ .95
Boys'	1.00 Pants	.75
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Men's	$1.00 Pants	$ .75
Men's	1.50 Pants	1.00
Men's	2.00 Pants	1.35
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Men's	3.00 Pants	2.25
Men's	3.50 Pants	2.75
Men's	4.00 Pants	2.95

Our stock of Corduroy Pants is included in the above prices.

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Men's	Shirts	$.38
Men's	$ .50 Shirts	$ .38
Men's	1.00 Shirts	.75
Men's	1.50 Shirts	1.05
Men's	2.00 Shirts	1.35

These prices also include our Large Stock of Flannel Shirts:

MEN'S UNDERWEAR

Men's	$1.00 Union Suits	$ .75
Men's	1.50 Union Suits	1.05
Men's	2.00 Union Suits	1.35
Men's	2.50 Union Suits	1.65
Men's	3.00 Union Suits	2.15
Men's	$ .50 Shirts	.35
Men's	1.00 Shirts	.75
Men's	1.50 Shirts	1.05
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Men's	1.00 Drawers	.75
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Men's	$ .50 Hats	$ .35
Men's	1.00 Hats	.75
Men's	1.50 Hats	1.05
Men's	2.00 Hats	1.35
Men's	2.50 Hats	1.65
Men's	3.00 Hats	2.25

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Men's	$ .50 Caps	$ .35
Men's	1.00 Caps	.75

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Men's	$8.00 Sweaters	$5.45
Men's	7.00 Sweaters	4.45
Men's	6.00 Sweaters	3.95
Men's	5.00 Sweaters	3.45
Men's	4.00 Sweaters	2.95
Men's	3.50 Sweaters	2.55
Men's	3.00 Sweaters	2.45
Men's	2.00 Sweaters	1.35
Men's	1.50 Sweaters	1.05
Men's	1.00 Sweaters	.75

MEN'S HOSE

Men's	$ .10 Hose	.07
Men's	.15 Hose	.11
Men's	.25 Hose	.19
Men's	.50 Hose	.35

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