Supplement.

REYNOLDSVILLE, PENN'A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1902.

NUMBER 32.

Supplement.

VOLUME 11.

THE SENSE OF SIGHT

HOW AN INFANT SLOWLY LEARNS TO EXERCISE IT.

At First the Newborn Habe Has the Power Only to Distinguish Between Light and Darkness-The Development of the Power of Vision.

The sense most early exercised by the newborn infant is the sense of sight, but at first it has the power only to distinguish light from darkness and is in comparison with its later development blind, while in many of the lower creatures the senses are at birth fully developed.

What a difference there is between the dull eye of the newborn infant and the sharp vision of the young chick, which is able to pick up with precision a grain of corn or even snap up a fly

while the chrohell niny be still stickwaved before the face, because they ing to its back! The eye of the infant, do not see the hand distinctly. One of the remarkable points of inhowever, is developed very gradually, and during infancy and childhood it learns how to see. In the first few days it notices the difference between light and darkness when the light is very intense, and it may even knit its brow in sleep if a bright light be brought close to its face. On the same principle a striking touch. bright color will also be noticed when

held close to the face. In all these cases, however, the infant follows the of ject by turning its

head and not by the movement of the The cyclids open and shut from birth. but they are not always moved at the same time with the novements of the evoluties until the infant has reached the second or third m mth. Under two or three months of are infants do not wink when the band or an object is

terest in the development of the infant's power of vision is the way in which it learns to appreciate the obtects seen. It has to learn to discover the distance of objects, their shape, size. character, etc., and this it does with the assistance of the sense of

> The face of the mother or nurse is made familiar in that it is brought so

dso begin to understand objects of three dimensions-that is, to find out the difference between a flat surface and a solid body. Here the sense of touch also assists. The infant grasps an object and, putting it to its lips and face, satisfies itself as to the shape, harneter, etc. It is interesting in this connection to

ote some cases in which a person born blind recovers sight when grown.

In one case a young man who had lost his sight in early infancy was so completely blinded that be could not distinguish even the strongest light from darkness.

would put one finger of the hand up before his face, pointing at the object aimed at, and reach forward until his or objects in the room, etc. finger came in contact with the ob

After he had recovered the use both eyes he began to find out that everything was not flat, but that many things had a certain thickness as well as length and breadth, and in this way he began to see solid objects.

But even for a year or two after complete recovery he was unable to decide whether a certain figure was a flat surface, as in a painting, or a solid body. He was also obliged to learn the different animals and objects, not knowing the difference between a cat and a dog until he had touched them.

The care of the eye is a question of great importance for mothers and nurses. The eyes of newborn infants

hould be carefully washed with fresh, clear water, and if anything unusual is noticed the physician should be seen. The infant's eyes are specially to be protected against too bright a light. It is by no means an uncommon thing to nee a nurse wheeling a young infant in the carriage while the t light sun is pouring into the child's eyes. This does

> car with safety and was handlenpped by a heavy bag of tools slung over his houlder. Half a dozen motormen had disregarded his signals to stop and had

run théir cars past the crossing at even greater speed than that with which they approached. The old inborer didn't grumble or swear. He waited on one rail for the next car. As it drew near he signaled

the motorman to stop. The power was increased to run by, as before, and the old man turned as if to get out of the way. The heavy tools slipped from his grasp and fell on the rail. The motorman frantically shut off the power and set his brake hard. The wheel was within a yard of the obstruction when the car stopped. The old man picked up his bundle and smiled broadly as he climbed on the front platform "Think you're smart, don't you ?" said

the motorman. "Much obliged," said the old man, still grinning. "You're the only accommodating motorman I've seen today."-New York Tribune.

not argue hgainst taking infants into close to the infant's face. the sun when the weather is not too After the infant has learned to see warm, but the eyes should niways be objects distinctly at the distance of protected against the bright glare, several feet it begins to use both eyes whether direct or reflected. in common. At first the eyes act inde-After on operation on one eye had pendently of each other, so that it unbeen successfully performed he began We all go through just the same procdoubtedly has double vision and sees everything double. This double vision to see objects without understanding He was too old to fump on a moving ess of learning how to see in infancy. them-not being able to judge their The child may be two or three years. can be produced by many at will by distances from his eye-and he felt as or even older, before it has control over looking "cross eyed." if everything was touching his eye, so its eyes and can judge of the distance "he infant having reached the point that to touch an object he at first

