

## HICCOUGH.

I do not know how this may be cured now—days possibly by scientific means the world has grown so clever, but in my childhood a good fright used to be thought the most efficacious and expeditious remedy. I well remember it being tried for me:—"Baby, did you break that jar in the drawingroom?" I can realize at this moment my horror, not at the breakage, which would not have troubled me much had I done it, but at the undeserved accusation. The fright, however, was effectual. I have seen a finger pressed on a baby's nose, at part adjoining the forehead, and also the administration of a pinch of brown sugar, (white was useless to an older child) both had the desired effect. Three licks of salt taken in the name of the Trinity are a certain cure, so are nine sips of water, if you do not draw breath between. These two, however, must be given, that is, administered to you by some one; to take them yourself would not do the least good.

In Cornwall they wet the forefingers of the right hand with spittle, and cross the left boot or shoe, repeating the Lord's prayer backwards.

I found the following cure in a very old *Family Herbal*, of which the title page had disappeared, and there was no clue left by which I could discover the writer. The engravings of wild flowers, very numerous, are coloured, and the most natural I have ever seen:—

"The seeds of Dill are said to be a specific against hiccough, but says the old Herbalist, I have known them tried without effect."

Whoever he may have been he was an honest man.

Shifting a ring from one finger to another is considered a cure in some parts of England, but the best cure of all, according to the natives of that part of Antrim called Island Magee, is a  
 think of them you kissed last }—IRISH MOLLY.