

It is said that internal revenue receipts on alcoholic liquors last year in the United States were nine million dollars less than the previous year; indicating a decrease in the consumption thereof.

On the sanitary value of trees in the city Dr. Stephen Smith recently read a paper before the New York Academy of Sciences. It is well known that during the intense heat of summer there is more suffering and death from sunstroke and high temperature in the Northern cities than in the Southern, a result which may fairly be attributed to the absence of suitable protection. From three to five thousand people die every summer in New York from the effects of heat.

Small lungs, proportionately, are more liable to become diseased. Time and again we have urged the practice of free, full inspirations for gradually and appreciably increasing the size of these organs. A process, termed pneumatic differentiation, has been introduced as a panacea for all lung affections, and a number of articles have appeared in commendation of it in various medical journals. A company has now been formed to manufacture pneumatic cabinets, which will be rented to reputable physicians. The cabinet is simply an air-tight box, in which the patient sits while a slightly greater quantity of air is thus forced into his lungs than he usually inspires. Dr. Shee-marer, a physician of repute in Philadelphia, in an address before the Medical Society of Pennsylvania, says, greater benefit can be obtained by simply directing the patient to habitually breathe fully, slowly, and deeply while pursuing his ordinary avocation. We think so too.

LONDON medical and sanitary journals complain that Lord Salisbury has not followed Mr. Gladstone's custom, and admitted the president of the local government board (which controls health proceedings there) into the charmed circle of the cabinet. Mr. Chaplin, who was first offered the presidency, declined it because he felt that he could not do justice to the work likely to come up unless he had a share in the cabinet proceedings in relation to it.

IN Michigan the public health appears to be steadily improving. Almost monthly, for a year or more past, we have read a report about as follows:—"Compared with the average for the month of June in the eight years—1879-86, remittent fever, measles, intermittent fever, pneumonia, bronchitis and diphtheria were less prevalent in June, 1886." They have a "live" board of health in Michigan, and the public have been largely awakened to the value of public health measures by frequent health conventions which have been held in different parts of the state.

It is said that the cholera has been recently introduced into Australia, for the first time, it having been hitherto unknown there.

IN Illinois there had been a number of local outbreaks of smallpox in the spring, but the disease, according to latest accounts from the State Board of Health, is now exterminated.

OHIO is troubled to find a suitable secretary for the new State Board of Health. The salary is not sufficiently large to induce a suitably experienced physician to abandon his practice and reside in Columbus.

THE Pennsylvania Board has adopted as its official organ the *Annals of Hygiene*, which first appeared as a publication of sixteen pages about two years ago, followed by five additional numbers, when it was discontinued until July last.

MILK adulteration, especially by means of water is of such common occurrence that all consumers would be on the safer side in buying it only in bottles. However good the milk may be when it leaves the dairy, it may be, and often is, adulterated by the retailer, or by the deliverer, in the wagon. Our exchanges contain frequent references to disease being caused by contaminated milk. Bottled milk is much the safer kind.

LIFE Insurance in the stock companies is so costly that many widows and orphans are left penniless, without provision or provider. And it ought not to be so. The profits of these stock companies are monstrous. Think of the "Confederation Life," perhaps, under its able manager, the most desirable company in Canada paying \$83,000 in death claims, and with a premium income of \$380,000. The *Week* says this speaks "most eloquently" for the judgment shown in the "selection of risks." Why should these "risks" pay such a sum? And the "Canada Life" is a colossal speculation far surpassing any in dry goods or groceries. There is a field for mutual insurance and we understand the "Mutual Reserve Fund" Association, of New York, of which Mr. J. D. Wells, of Toronto, is agent, is doing a large business in Canada. No wonder.

EVERYBODY who goes to New York city by rail, and who wants the best and most handy hotel to stop at, should try the Grand Union, on Park Avenue, just opposite the Grand Central Depot. There one will find the very best of beds, the cleanest of linen, the most courteous attention, and as good a table as can be found at any hotel, with prices a third lower. Baggage is taken from and returned to the station free of charge, and special attention is given to ladies. Horse cars pass the door. We give this commendation of the Grand Union on the strength of the personal experience of a Lowell party of seven who recently tested it, and who, having tried some of the best hotels, agreed that this was superior to any of them. So says the *Lowell Daily Courier*.