

of Russia sent for Professor Oppolzen, at the request of the faithful Viceroy.

"Some six years since a physician of Vienna, Professor Dr. Diettel, (now of Cracow) made some experiments in the treatment of pneumonia by blood-letting, by tartar emetic, and by the expectant method, or by diet alone. The results which he arrived at were as follows, viz. :—

In cases where blood-letting was in use, the mortality was .....	20.4 per cent.
Where tartar-emetic was used.....	20.7 per cent.
Those by diet alone.....	7.4 per cent.

"These statistics may be relied on, as they are often quoted here. Now, to show that homeopathy is something more than nature, the results of the treatment of pneumonia in the Homeopathic Hospitals in Vienna, and the one in the city of Linz, in Austria, when all averaged, show a mortality of only 3.37-71 per cent.

"I have seen already sufficient evidence to convince me that homeopathy—that is, homeopathic remedies—produces better results than nature alone. Most of the graduates here attend the homeopathic hospitals some time after they have received their degrees before they commence practice.

"Quite recently, Dr. Bednar, private *docens* to the Vienna University, and who conducts a clinic for children's diseases, has published a new edition of his work upon the diseases of children. In this he says he has been forced to change his views and adopt the homeopathic practice, by no means exclusively, but in the greater number of cases; and, consequently, through the whole book, in some diseases homeopathy is recommended, and in others allopathy. It professes to be the result of his experience. This work has made a decided impression through all Germany, from the fact that Dr. B. is the second highest authority upon children's diseases in Germany, and his book (the old edition) had been a standard work and acknowledged as authority.

"It is my opinion that what gives the new school of medicine so much more dignity here than with us is that homeopathic hospitals are enabled to

present statistical evidence of what they can do, and they are open to all physicians who are sceptical, who can never visit them without at least admiring their simplicity and their arrangements. The health of the city is unusually good; there have only been some five cases of cholera this summer (1856). One of these was sent to the homeopathic hospital, and treated by *nicotine* alone, successfully. This case I saw. Last year the disease raged epidemically, and although the homeopathic treatment cured more than any other, yet the mortality was frightful. "J. G. C.

"Vienna, August 3, 1856."

#### CAUSES OF DECAY OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH.

Two things are generally conceded, viz. :—That the American women are not as healthy as the European; and that the present generation, especially the women, are not as healthy and vigorous as former ones.

What are the causes? Not our climate, for that is the same as it was when the women of this country were as healthy as the English, Scotch and Irish, and when both sexes were as vigorous as their ancestors, or any other people. The change, then, must be owing to changes in our domestic habits and modes of education. Some of these will now be indicated.

Nothing so certainly deteriorates and undermines the body as habitually breathing impure air. The open fireplace in kitchens, parlors, bedrooms, and work-shops, secured to our ancestors pure and cool air. But at the present day, close stoves and close sleeping rooms, with no proper ventilation, are debilitating perhaps nine-tenths of the people, while children are crowded into school-rooms heated with stoves, and almost never properly ventilated.

Four-fifths of all the food and drink taken are thrown off through the lungs and skin. Every pair of lungs vitiates one pint of air at every expiration.—That is equal to one hoghead of air each hour for every pair of lungs.

No room, then, can be properly ven-