

"patent medicines;" arsenical wall papers; baking powders; tobacco poisoning; isolation in infectious diseases; heart-disease and the late Earl Iddesleigh; the large infantile mortality and its prevention; why the w. closet should not be in the bath-room; the health officer's place, work and duty, and many other useful and practical subjects.

JUDGE BROWN, of Big Rapids, at the sanitary convention last month in Michigan, after referring to the health regulations of the ancients, said, "As civilization has advanced, and the average of mankind has reached a higher intellectual condition, health laws have become more general and better enforced. It may be stated as a fact that the race of man has advanced mentally and physically in proportion as heed has been given to the laws for the promotion of health. A kind of intuition seems to pervade the human race, aside from and above all law, that it is necessary to care for the public health in order to be comfortable and happy, and to enjoy this life." The "intuition" we fear is very weak in a great many people.

OYSTERS are not generally "fed" for market, but, according to the *Anti-adulteration Journal*, for this month, they are sometimes taken from their original beds and carried to the "floats," where fresher water is allowed access to them. Absolutely fresh water would kill them. The fresh water is absorbed in quantity, and gives them an appearance of plumpness. Oysters can be "water-swollen" in this way in twenty four hours. It is a trick of the dealers, resorted to in order to make their oysters more salable.

A PROMINENT French Government official last summer occupied a house at one of the most fashionable French watering places. When his family moved into the house they were told to beware of the water in the well. On this account they drank only "mineral water," until the last day, when the stock was out, and the servants were too busy to go for more. Madame said, "For once surely there can be no harm in drinking the well water." They drank it. Six out of the nine persons soon became ill and died; others were attacked after their return home. The well has been examined by M. Dujardin-Beaumetz, and is reported to con-

tain the bacilli which are believed to be associated with typhoid fever.

THE registration of plumbers movement is progressing satisfactorily in England. We hear but little about the recent movement in this direction in Canada. The *Sanitary Record* says, "If there is one trade more than another that should be under strict regulation, it is that which has our health as individuals and as a nation at the mercy of its most ignorant journeyman. Let us by all means have the Plumbers' Company registrations and certificates, and let us also have a rigid inspection by the local and independent sanitary officials of all plumbing work before it is hidden away from public gaze." At present the Plumbing Company, being desirous of not attempting too much at once, is only striving for the registration of plumbers. Plumbers who can satisfy the registering committee of sufficient practical experience in the trade are registered at once. Those who cannot so satisfy the committee are required to undergo an examination.

A GOOD SUGGESTION is made by a writer in the *Sanitary Era*.—In putting in systems of water works in small towns, he writes, too little attention is given to the matter of "flushing." Where it is necessary to have "dead ends" on street mains (as it is in all small towns) there should be valves placed at all such ends, of such capacity that the connected section of main could be flushed clean, at least once a month. The natural tendency of the sediment coming into water mains is toward these ends. On opening ends of this description for the purpose of making extensions he has found them, in some cases, nearly filled with mud, and this full of minute animal organisms. He has seen animal organisms, visible to the naked eye, drawn from private hydrants near these ends. He thinks the water hydrants not sufficient for the flushing.

SOMETIMES when it is desired to hit the doctors, it is reported that during their absence in a certain town the mortality decreased. Here is something for the other side: In the parish of Eastwood, County of Renfrew, England, during two weeks of October, there were no deaths recorded at the registrar's office. It is the first time it