

disease of many forms without any change appearing in the milk which could be detected by the most careful chemical analysis. Notwithstanding this fact, the milk is in some way so changed by the existing disease as to occasion in many cases serious illness in those who make use of it as food. This fact shows the great care which should be exercised by those who make use of milk that the cows by which it is produced be in a healthy state.

STUDIOUS.—Schopenhauer, who was a vigorous hater of all noise, observes in a characteristic piece, "On Noise and Din" (*Ueber Lärm und Geräusch*), that people who are indifferent to noises are intellectually dull, being "insensible to reasons, to thought, to poetry, and art, and, in short, to mental impressions of every kind." To this he adds—"The most intelligent and intellectual of all European nations has indeed erected the rule 'never interrupt' into an eleventh commandment." There are instances of remarkable power of self-abstraction in students. "Mrs. Sommerville," says Harriet Martineau "in her Autobiography, could write on a scientific subject amid a complete clatter of voices."

HOT-WATER BOTTLE EXPLOSION.—At Birmingham recently an inquest was held on the body of a lady who was accustomed to warm her bed by means of a half-gallon stone bottle, which, being filled with water was heated in the oven. On the 7th ult. the bottle, which was tightly corked, was left in the oven, and in the evening the deceased was lifting it out to carry it upstairs when it suddenly exploded, and she was severely injured about the head, receiving, besides other wounds, a compound depressed fracture of the skull and a fracture of the upper jaw. On the 26th she died from exhaustion produced by the injuries she had sustained.

THE TOTTENHAM SANITARY ASSOCIATION.—The Tottenham Sanitary Association, which, it will be remembered, is a local body established to watch over the sanitary condition of the parish, has recently issued its sixth annual report for the year 1879. The annual death-rate was only 16.9 per 1000. An indication of the rapid increase in the population of Tottenham during 1879 is afforded by the increase in the number of births, which have risen about 18 per cent. In twelve of the other suburbs of London the increase in the birth-rate is less than 6 per cent.