

maximum in December, while the maximum for deaths from bronchitis is in January, the minimum for both being in August. It is, therefore, chiefly a cold-weather disease, and statistics are scarcely required to prove the well-known fact that the mortality from it is greatly increased during a spell of cold weather. This by no means disproves its specific febrile character. The depressing effect of cold may be regarded as simply lowering the resisting power of the system, and thus laying it open to the attack of the pathogenic micro-organism or micro-organisms of this disease.

Wet soils have been considered to be favorable to pneumonia; but Hirsch has given elaborate statistics showing that epidemics of this disease "have been prevalent equally in dry weather and in wet, and on low and damp soil as well as on elevated and dry ground."

*Influence of Race.*—It appears clear that natives of the tropics, and particularly negroes, are peculiarly subject to pneumonia, not only when they live in colder climates, but also in the countries of their birth. Of the former fact there are abundant statistics in the United States. The following are taken from Dr. Billings's Census Report, 1890. At ages 0-5, the colored population had in Washington, D.C., a death-rate from pneumonia which was 252 per cent. in excess of that of the white population at the same age. At ages 15-45 the excess of colored over white mortality from pneumonia was 180 per cent., and at ages over 45 the excess was 63 per cent.

*Influence of Occupation.*—The decennial supplement to the Registrar-General's Report (part ii., p. cxlv. *et seq.*) enables us to form some conception of the relative prevalence of pneumonia in different occupations in the years of 1890-92. Thus, the total mortality among all males in England and Wales aged 25-65 years being represented by the figure 1,000, that from pneumonia is 107. Among clergymen the comparative mortality figure for pneumonia is only 45, among lawyers 55, while in teachers it is as low as 43, and in farmers only 36, in fishermen 53, and in grocers 56. Doctors are represented by the comparative figure of 93, musicians by 92, innkeepers 158, carmen 184, hotel servants 197, dock laborers 220, employees in iron and steel manufactures 248, and coal-heavers 249. In the higher figures, the effects of dust and of alcoholism are probably combined.

*Epidemics of Pneumonia.*—For particulars of a large number of epidemics of what appears to be true croupous pneumonia, the reader must be referred to Hirsch's "Handbook of Geographical and Historical Pathology" (*New Syd. Soc.*, vol. iii. p. 125 *et seq.*). Only a few can be briefly mentioned here. In the eighteenth century many such epidemics are described, par-