into the chinks and crevices inhabited by insect life and into which nothing else will penetrate. Such a plan of treatment is always the most advantageous in small-pox, diphtheria, and scarlet fever. It is probably unnecessary in any other kind of disease. But aerial disinfection alone is never enough; the place must be well lime-whited after the walls have been scraped, and the scrapings should be at once put into a furnace, and not into the dust-bin; and it would be advantageous if the floor of the infected rooms could be afterwards washed over with a solution of bichloride of mercury. It is a rather dangerous means to use unless the greatest judgment and dexterity are employed; but carbolic acid is dangerous, and chloride of zinc is a fatal agent sometimes; whilst neither are anything like so effectual as the use of a solution of corrosive sublimate. Its greatest objection is its expense. It is the only known disinfectant which without any previous moistening destroys the most persistent micrococci in a few minutes by means of a highly dilute solution. It is rapid in its action; a solution of one part in 5,000 of water will in one quarter of a hour destroy every living thing or germ, dormant or otherwise, with which it comes into contact. This statement has been thoroughly proved by actual experiment on living organisms. The cracks in a floor should be always so treated in rooms in which small-pox patients have resided. But the floor must be well washed before the mercuric chloride is used; otherwise so much more of the reagent will be necessary to overcome the reaction induced by the presence of albumen or of sulphuretted hydrogen, both of which render the corrosive sublimate inert. I do not recommend the use of mercuric chloride in any other cases, or any other places, because of its highly poisonous nature

Chlorine gas is not of much use except in the presence of moisture: but it is easily obtained. The rooms require to be steamed well when chlorine is used. Rooms must be saturated with it; it should be continued for some hours, and then the place well ventilated. But the chlorine has not touched the dormant germs, though every other thing objectionable has been destroyed which depended upon oxygen for its power to live. Such also is the result with sulphurous acid. The vapors are easily diffused, but without other means they are not sufficient. The other means being anterior to the use of the gases —viz., scraping down and burning the scraped matter in the fire; freely lime-whiting after the gas has been used, and treating the floor with corrosive sublimate solution if the case has been one of small-pox, scarlatina or diphtheria. Some other agents are sometimes used, such as nitrous acid, bromine, and iodine; but their use is expensive, and more difficult than either chlorine or So_2, and it is not necessary that I should describe their action.

THE BEDDING ETC., AND STEAM.

But there are the contents of the house—the furniture and the hangings, the carpets, the bedding, and the clothing. What is to be done with these?

The heavy wooden furniture need not be removed from the room; the bedstead should be treated in a manner similar to that recommended for the floor, if it has been slept upon by a small-pox patient. The carpets and hangings may be exposed to the sunlight if there should be a chance of obtaining it for some consecutive time. If not, steam heat or hot air in a proper hot-air chamber should be used. The use of steam is superior to all