

diffused; it is the medium of influence between the heavenly bodies, the earth, and animal bodies; it is extended so that there is no vacuum; its subtlety is beyond comparison, etc.

The commission placed the claims of mesmerism under close observation. They studied the class of cases treated, the effects of the treatment, and its method of application. As the result of these studies they made a lengthy report. This report is interesting reading in the light of modern hypnotism and suggestion. The term suggestion is not used in the report, but the whole trend of the report shows that the influence of mesmerism is of this sort. Powerful influences made upon the mind, and, through it, upon the body.

The commissioners came to the conclusion that the animal magnetic fluid could not be discovered in any way, and that it did not act upon the patients which they submitted for test. They also came to the conclusion that the pressure and touches of the mesmerist were not favorable to the animal economy; also that stimulation of the imagination would effect the same results as those claimed to arise from the animal magnetism of Mesmer.

It would appear that this law of suggestion was known to the ancients, and is often called into operation by many tribes in all parts of the world. Faith healing, Christian Science, and such like are of the same nature as mesmerism, and the hypnotism practised at the present day by Arabian bedouins. The disciples of Mrs. Eddy cannot feel proud of such cousinships.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Dr. W. J. Dobbie, in his annual report of the Toronto Free Hospital for Consumptives, of which he is physician-in-chief, gives some interesting figures showing the decrease in the death rate from tuberculosis in the Province of Ontario within little more than a decade, and a noticeable decrease shown in the records of the past year. In the decade preceding 1899 the death rate from this disease in Ontario was on the increase, until in that year the figures amounted to 3,405 (a rate of 1.4 per 1,000 living estimated population, or, in other words, 11.8 per cent. of the total deaths).

During that time there were no institutions for the tuberculous in the province, no dispensaries, no special visiting nurses, no educational agencies at work, no general information regarding the prevention of this disease. In 1899 there was only one institution, now there are 12 of them in the province and others projected; four dispensaries, and an increasing number of visiting nurses, while a general campaign is