

and impermeable to moisture.. Flag-stones and asphalt fulfill these conditions. Wood pavement, pleasant as it is in some respects, does not. It absorbs damp filth and gives off foul air and ust. The population actually living on the banks of the Thames whose every breath is a distillation from its water, is not especially liable to fever; not so much so, indeed, as the population whose dwellings skirt the banks. And this littoral population, it must be borne in mind, is exposed not only to the malaria arising from the banks, but also to that same class of pernicious influences attached to bad sites and badly constructed houses, which are found alone sufficient to generate fever.

"MOST ERRONEOUS ASSUMPTIONS still continue to guide the exertions of those who are most earnest in favor of the present scheme of what is called the dis-pollution of the Thames. I had studied the Gulf Stream as it flows in a distinct current across the Atlantic; I had seen the Plata propelling its stream of fresh water unmingled many miles into the ocean; I had traced the confluence of the Rhine and the Main, whose streams are colored, one red, the other green, running on side by side, two rivers in one bed, and I concluded that the great sewage stream would hold its course, a concentration of pollution. Sir John Simon, in his admirable reports, expressed conclusions in harmony with the above.—Health.

A DIETIC EXPERIMENT.

The medical department of one of the infantry regiments of the Guards stationed in Berlin is engaged in carrying on gastronomic experiments, not on the usual patient laboratory animals, but on medical students (candidates for the army surgeon examination) who volunteer to serve as subjects of experiment. These young martyrs to science undertake to eat and drink nothing beyond the regimental rations during the period of observation, which lasts from a fortnight to four weeks. Daily they may be seen in full equipment marching out with the regiment, sharing its fatigues to the full. Immediately on their return to barracks every day they turn into the Charite Hospital, where their temperature is taken, pulse,

body weight, amount of perspiration, &c., registered, and even the stomach-pump used on some of the most devoted. These experiments, which are carried out with true German thoroughness, are to furnish data for further improvement in the nutritive value of food supplied to soldiers on march.

PRESERVED EGGS.

In Germany systematic experiments have recently been made for the purpose of securing the most rational method of preserving eggs. Twenty methods were selected for these experiments. In the first days of July, 400 fresh eggs were prepared according to these methods (20 eggs for each method), to be opened for use at the end of the month of February. Of course, a most essential point of the success of preservation is that only really fresh eggs be employed. As the most infallible means of ascertaining the age of the eggs, the experimenter designated their specific weight. With fresh eggs it is from 1.0784 to 1.0942. If the eggs are put in a solution of 120 grammes (4.23 ounces) of common salt in 1 litre (1.0567 quarts) of water, the specific weight of which solution is 1.073, all the eggs that swim on this liquid weigh less, and consequently are not fresh. Only those eggs that sink are to be used for preservation. When, after eight months of preservation, the eggs were opened for use, the twenty different methods employed gave heterogenous results:—

- (1) Eggs put for preservation in salt water were all bad (not rotten, but uneatable, the salt having penetrated into the eggs.)
- (2) Eggs wrapped in paper, 80 per cent. bad.
- (3) Eggs preserved in a solution of salicylic acid and glycerine, 80 per cent. bad.
- (4) Eggs rubbed with salt, 70 per cent. bad.
- (5) Eggs preserved in bran, 70 per cent. bad.
- (6) Eggs preserved with a cover of paraffin, 70 per cent. bad.
- (7) Eggs varnished with a solution of glycerine and salicylic acid, 70 per cent. bad.
- (8) Eggs put in boiling water to fifteen seconds, 50 per cent. bad.