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About sixty years ago an immortal Englishman, a lover of his fellow-men, especially of those who from poverty, disease or other untoward circumstance were handicapped in the race of life, thus graphically describes in the story of Nicholas Nickleby the disease Consumption:

"There is a dread disease which so prepares its victims as it were for death; which so refines it of its grosser aspect and throws around familiar looks, unearthly indications of the coming change; a dread disease, in which the struggle between body and soul is so gradual, quiet and solemn and the result so sure that day by day and grain by grain the mortal part wastes and withers away so that the spirit grows light and sanguine with its lightening load, and, feeling immortality at hand, deems it but a new term of mortal life; a disease in which death takes the glow and hue of life, and the gaunt and grisly form of death; a disease which medicine never cured, wealth never warded off nor poverty could boast exemption from; which sometimes moves in giant strides and some-

times at a tardy, sluggish pace, but slow or quick, is ever sure and certain."

This description in its essential features will be readily recognized by almost anyone. It is a classical picture of the advanced case of Consumption, and, while no less true of such cases in the present day, some consolation at least may be had from the fact that the number of such cases is not so great as formerly, and that increased knowledge in respect to this disease—as to its cause, the methods of prevention and the care of advanced cases—has in the last three generations materially lessened its ravages.

In England in the year 1851 the death-rate from Consumption was 247 per 100,000 of population. This has so far been reduced that fifty years later it was 136 per 100,000. In Germany during the period from 1877 to 1881 the death-rate was 357.7 per 100,000. From 1897 to 1901 it was 218.7, and in 1902 it had dropped to 190 per 100,000. In the adjacent State of New York the rate for the year 1890 was 205 per 100,000. Ten years later it was 158 per 100,000, and for a period of