

thorough familiarity with the subject which will enforce the conviction that the alternatives of pleasure or pain, health or sickness, long lives or short ones, are, except from chances infinitesimally small, wholly in our power. Precisely that which prevents sickness will also prevent the stamping of an inherent defect upon the organization.

MUNICIPAL BOARDS OF HEALTH.

Professor Le Conte read a paper on the subject of the "Organization of Municipal Boards of Health." The gentleman prefaced his remarks with a quotation from a recent letter from Paris, France, in which the neatness of Paris streets was described. Prof. Le Conte said the fundamental cause of most of the complaints in regard to the inefficiency of officials arose from the fact that those in authority were chosen without due regard to their fitness for the duties to which they were assigned. The speaker then presented a plan for the formation of the board, which would do away with many if not all the evil results of the present system. He recommended that the members should comprise three classes of citizens: First, students of sanitary science, to be appointed or recommended by some responsible medical organization; second, business men eminent for prudence and thoroughness in the discharge of their duty; and third, politicians or men familiar with the workings of the municipal departments. The duties of the first would be to determine and order what is necessary to the public health; the second to see that it is done with the least possible inconvenience and expense to citizens, and the third to procure the necessary appropriations.

HEALTH AND HIGHER CULTURE.

The Rev. Samuel Osgood, D.D., delivered a discourse on "The Relations of Health and Higher Culture."

After noting the difference between modern society and the society of the ancients, he said, that the demands upon us had increased until we were in danger of becoming a nervous, uncomfortable, discontented, wretched race, unless we use our best thought and effort to bring the highest wisdom, and virtue, and order that are within our reach to bear upon our way of living. Hence the excellence of this American Health Association that now calls us together. * * * Strictly speaking, health is a part of the higher culture, for body and mind are practically inseparable, and we know nothing of the sound mind apart from sound blood and brain. I am willing,