

no longer necessary. Prof. Zidekauer, consulting physician to the Emperor of Russia, comparing the treatment of the cholera in St. Petersburg during its ravages in 1836, 1848 and 1855 with those in 1866, affirms that in the first three attacks, from 47,000 to 50,000 were struck with the disease, of whom 50 per cent died. In the epidemic of 1866 from 57,000 to 60,000 were affected with premonitory symptoms, but under the improved treatment of advanced sanitation, only about 5 per cent died. All are familiar with the fact that even among more favored conditions of society there was, a century ago, an average life of thirty years, while now the average length of life in like circumstances is fifty years.

But boards of health and sanitarians in our own country are, year by year, bringing about results which must fully vindicate the principles they advocate, as, for instance, the reported reduction of the death-rate in Michigan, and the reduction of the death-rate of infants in New York city; the general control or dissemination of typhoid fever, scarlet fever, the limitation of the yellow fever in the last year of its recent terrible prevalence; the success of the quarantine of New York city, the story of which reads like a romance. Nor should we forget manifold other results of their endeavors, such as the improvement in tenement-houses, in the drainage of soils and sites productive of consumption and malarial fevers, or the success with which they are enforcing upon architects the doctrine, in the language of Bacon, that "houses are built to live in, and not to look upon, therefore let use

be preferred before uniformity, except where both may be had;" or the regulation of abattoirs and of systems of water supply, drainage and sewage, of market inspection, the interference with the sale of adulterated and other unwholesome foods. It is to be hoped that by the aid of their sound sanitary counsels the people of Memphis, by their good sense in future municipal administration, may rejoice that their city shall be known as the city of health and not as the city of desolation.

Sanitary subjects should have a larger place in schools of medicine, engineering and architecture, that all possible may be done to advance the qualifications of experts, and to keep their art and science up to the very advance line of human acquisition. Dr. Bodwitch affirmed in 1876, after a correspondence on public or private hygiene with sixty-two of our universities and colleges, exclusive of medical colleges, that—

First—Instructions in public hygiene and State preventive medicine is woefully neglected.

Second—On private hygiene only about one-third of the colleges give any instructions.

Third—A full special course of instruction on either of the above themes is almost unknown.

Fourth—But incidentally, in connection with some other not necessarily allied subjects, these topics are treated by about three-fourths of the colleges, while one-fourth of them do not even perform this small duty in this most important matter.

The attention given to the gymnasium and the physical condition of the students at Amherst by Prof. Hitchcock is hardly duplicated in this country.