

any means an expensive one—of abundance of good, pure milk and cream, by keeping a cow.

SAD FATALITY.—We learn from the *Alliston Herald*, of November 25th, that diphtheria has made sad havoc in the family of the editor and publisher of the *Sentinel* of Keenansville (S. Simcoe, Ont.). Four of the family have been buried within a period of about a week, including two sons, aged 18 and 21 years, respectively. Another, a young woman, is "at the point of death," and two or three other children and the father, all the others indeed but the mother and wife, are down with the disease, "with the barest chance in their favour." Outbreaks of disease like this should receive close investigation, that others might benefit thereby, and avoid the causes of the like. But who is to make such investigation? In this Canada of ours there is no provision, no organized body, such as there is in almost every other civilized country or state, for looking into such matters.

MICHIGAN BOARD OF HEALTH.—We have not space for the full report, taken for this *JOURNAL*, of the quarterly meeting held in October; but we note that a large amount of work is being done by the Board. "Dr. Kellogg described a water-cooler which was designed to avoid contamination of the water by impure ice, as would happen if the ice were placed directly in the water. A bill has been prepared for regulating medical practice and suppressing quackery. Two candidates had passed the examinations in sanitary science, and the Board had granted them certificates. It was voted to hold two sanitary conventions, such as were held last winter, for the reading of papers, discussion of sanitary subjects, and exhibition of sanitary appliances. The Secretary, Dr. Baker, presented specimens of pine infected with a fungus which had completely destroyed the floors of several rooms, constructed of that wood, in a new building. The fungus seemed to grow most where the floor was covered, as with oil-cloth or by boxes resting on the floor; and in one room the decayed floor corresponded with the portion not exposed to light, though that

case may be explained by a greater amount of moisture in that part of the room, because of dampness underneath. The odor in the room was that mouldy or musty odor not infrequently met with in close rooms. It caused frontal headache, and a person engaged in repairing the floor had spells of sneezing on two occasions some months apart while thus employed.

ABOUT THE MOST SENSIBLE THING YET—The Sanitary Protection Association of Newport, Rhode Island, offers the following prizes, open to all inhabitants of Newport: First. A prize of fifty dollars to the person, not the owner of the house occupied, who shall put his or her premises in the most satisfactory condition by January 1st next, and keep them so until the first of June. Second. A prize of fifty dollars to the house-owner who shall do the most between September 1st, 1880, and June 1st, 1881, towards improving the sanitary condition of any occupied dwelling. Attention is to be given especially to ventilation of the house, dryness of the cellar, the water supply, condition of cess-pool or drains, and of the exterior premises, including outbuildings. Advice as to the best means, in each instance of effecting the several conditions required, will be cheerfully and gratuitously given upon application to the Corresponding Secretary of the Association, Dr. H. R. Storer.

MALARIA PREVALENT.—In New England malarial disease, especially intermittent fever, is unusually rife. The Massachusetts State Board of Health, having been led to look into the question of its alleged increase, is in the possession of facts which abundantly prove that it is not an imaginary increase, or a mere fashion to speak of the prevalent malaria,

AMERICAN NEWSPAPER DIRECTORY.—We take pleasure in drawing attention to this directory for 1880, published by Geo. P. Rowell & Co., New York. This book illustrates the marvellous results of persevering labor and industry directed to a specialty. It is a neat volume of upwards of 1,000 pages of small, clear type, containing not only the names and character of every newspaper and periodical in the United States and Canada, but a brief description of all the cities and towns in which they are published.