

entire treatment gains cumulative impetus thoroughly to do its work.

**IMPORTANT EXPERIENCE — CAUSES OF DYSENTERY &C.**—At a recent meeting of the New York Chirical Society, Dr. Briggs said (N. Y. Med. Jour.): He would give another excellent illustration of the relation of bacteria to intestinal diseases which had come under his notice during his service in the Almshouse Hospital on Blackwell's Island. During June and the first two weeks of July there had been an epidemic of dysentery among these adult patients, in which about a hundred cases had occurred and thirty deaths. He had been told that they always had dysentery there during the hot season. For that reason, apparently, nothing had been done toward preventing it. He had next discovered that the water-closet, or rather privy-vault, had not been cleaned out for a year, and at the time was four feet deep with semi-solid faecal matter, and that the outlet of the drain was almost choked with old clothes that had been thrown into the vault. He had had the vault emptied and cleaned, and thereafter flushed out daily, with the surprisingly good result of not having another case of fatal dysentery so long as these sanitary measures were kept up. In about ten days the disease had almost entirely disappeared. However, they had stopped flushing the vault, he had learned, after his term of service had expired, and in September dysentery had again appeared in the wards.

**GREAT VALUE OF THE GARDEN AS A RESTORATIVE.**—A writer in that handsome periodical, Vicks Magazine says: I have at least three personal acquaintances who owe much for renewed youth and new beauty of face and form gained by work in the garden. One is a woman of ample fortune, who loves her lawn, with its trees and vines and flowers as things of beauty. I doubt if the thought of health occurs to her, but the effect is patent to all her friends. Another is a lovely little woman who has been in ill health for years. This season, moving to a new home where friends and acquaintances were scarce, sheer loneliness drove her to her garden. There the needs of the growing things appealed to her, and day by day her visits were repeated, until at last all her morning hours were spent among them, planting, training, weeding, thinning and digging. The result is a renewal of health and strength unknown before for years, and new happiness and greater contentment. The third is a good woman whose sorrows

seemed piled mountain high through the loss by death within a few months of her husband and child and of property as well. Trained to no work as a girl she seemed helpless. But her little garden demanded attention, and her very losses compelled her to work with her hands. Here, too the soothing balm of pure air, exercise and occupation worked its marvels in recovering health, contentment and a spirit of self-helpfulness.

**IMPURE WINES.**—The following will apply as well to Canada as to "America" (From N. Y. Med. Times): There is a very good reason for the constantly increasing popularity of our American wines, especially claret, from the fact that their absolute purity when purchased from reliable houses can be taken for granted. The extent to which the adulteration of foreign wines is carried can be seen from the statement made by a correspondent of the *London Lancet* of the seizure by the police of 1,500 casks supposed to contain wine. On analysis the so-called wine was found to contain no grape juice whatever, but was made up of impure alcohol, water, a little glycerine, a Chilian coloring matter, a considerable amount of plaster-of-Paris and salt. This atrocious mixture was intended to finds its way to our tables as different varieties of Bordeaux. Moral—use Canadian wine.

**A CASE OF CONSUMPTION FROM CONTAGION.**—At the meeting of the Finnish Medical Society, at Helsingfors, Mr. Runeberg reported a case of consumption undoubtedly caused by contagion. The patient was a peasant, thirty-nine years of age, who had an untainted family history, and showed in his own constitution no tendency to phthisis. Two years ago he was in perfect health; but the symptoms appeared a little after the death of his wife from consumption. He had occupied the same bed and nursed her during an illness of several years.

**A CREMATORY IN DES MOINES, IOWA,** cost only \$1,700. As an indication of its effectiveness there was at one time recently burned in it, in one hour, two dead horses, seven dogs, eighteen barrels of garbage, three hods of manure, fifteen bushels of rotten eggs, and three barrels of rotten fish, and no offensive smell was emitted.

**A WRITER ON Consumption** Dr. L. F. Flick, says: Sufficient fresh a. sufficient food, and sufficient rest and sleep are the watch-dogs of health, and where they are on the alert consumption can never enter.