

A JUDICIOUS CUSTOM.—Attached to the notice of the death of a little child, of scarlet fever, published in a contemporary, is the following significant warning: "In consequence of the nature of the disease, the funeral service will be private, and, therefore, hour and place are not given." This evidence of good sense, and of feeling for others, on the part of the parents, should entitle them to the increased love of their friends. Malignant diseases are often spread by contact at funerals, simply from the fact that invitations are extended to the services, to old and young, without intimation being given as to the cause of death.—*Med. & Surg. Rep.*

VALUE OF HYGIENE.—In the *Bulletin General de Therapeutique*, Dr. Dauverge (pere) alludes to a recent article by Prof. Bouchardat, which concluded, "As they advance in life, young practitioners will find, like myself, that pharmaceuticals do not fulfill all their promises, and they very frequently return to the employment of well-directed hygienic modifications. Such is the history of all reflecting and observant practitioners."

AVERAGE OF LIFE.—The yearly mortality of the globe is 42,403,000 persons. That is at the rate of 115,200 per day. 4,800 per hour, 80 per minute. Among 10,000 persons, one arrives at the age of 100; one in 500 attains the age of 80; one in 100 to the age of 70. In 100 persons, 95 marry.—*Ec.*

POISON OF TOBACCO.—Science has sped another dart at the peace of the tobacco-smoker. It has heretofore been made known that nicotine, hydrogen-sulphide, and cyanogen exist in the smoke of tobacco; but now Dr. Krause, of Annaberg, declares that he has found in it carbonic oxide, a principle never before detected in the substance. The quantity of the oxide and of carbonic acid differs according to the kind of cigar used, the way of filling the pipe, etc. The manner in which the smoke is drawn, whether by strong or weak inhalations, also influences the products by effecting the combustion. From twelve experiments made by Dr. Krause, it appears that the quantity of carbonic acid varied from 5.2 to 13.8 in 100 of smoke, the average being 9.3. As the consumer of the weed never gives out all the smoke, but takes a portion of it into his lungs, a certain amount of carbonic-oxide poisoning is inevitable. "The more awkward the smoker," says Dr. Krause, "the more rapidly will the action of the carbonic oxide make itself felt. Hence the evil effects of early studies in smoking, the results of which are commonly ascribed to nicotine alone."—*Health Reformer.*