away from the dwelling, as to a large field, to be shaken and beaten. It is surprising that municipal authorities permit, as some of them do, carpets to be beaten in towns and villages in vacant lots quite near to dwellings. Windows are commonly open at such a time, and the objectionable excremental dust from the carpets is often in such cases blown directly into neighboring houses. The floors and walls of dwellings should be so constructed as to be impervious to moisture and dust. Those who have read the valuable paper in this and the previous number on micro-organisms in the air of rooms will readily understand how important it is that floors should be absolutely dust proof. A layer or two of good paper under a carpet will help greatly to prevent dust getting into the cracks of ordinary floors. The ordinary plastered walls absorb the moisture of the breath with its poisonous contents and all walls should be made impervious to moisture and of such material as to permit of being well washed. With impervious walls and floors and no cracks at joints or elsewhere, a house can be perfectly cleaned, otherwise it cannot be.

SUBJECT as we all are in our intercourse with society to receive into our body at almost any time, the microscopic organisms which constitute the infections of disease, any facts relating to the nature of these organisms can hardly fail to be of interest to all intelligent readers. There is a great deal yet to be learned in regard to the bacteria of infectious disease, yet almost daily new and important facts are being brought to light for the benefit of mankind. No part of the subject is of greater interest than that which relates to the manner in which these organisms "take root" in the body, and which explains how it is that while, on exposure to infection, some contract the disease and others escape. The fact is, as Watson Cheyne, F. R. C. S. (Surg. Kings Col. Hospital, Lond. E.) said the other day in a lecture at the Royal College of Surgeons, Lond., in these diseases we have two opposing forces—on the one side the bacteria, on the other the body, and these forces are by no means always equally matched; nor do they always bear the same relation to each other in different species of animals. In some animals the bacteria are more powerful than the body, the resistance on the part of the body being scarcely, if at all, evident; in other species of animals the same bacteria are much weaker than the body, and if they chance to succeed in entering the animal organism, they only do so by the aid of other conditions, and when these conditions cease to act the bacteria again die out. Inoculate guinea-pigs with tubercle bacilli and we constantly produce a rapid and general disease which has little or no tendency to remain localised, and no tendency to undergo spontaneous cure. On the other hand, in man, we see that opportunities for infection with tubercle bacilli are frequently present without being followed by infection; that the disease assumes a variety of forms under a variety of external conditions; and that it has comparatively little tendency to become generalised, but has a strong tendency to get well.

IN most cases it appears the organisms are not of themselves able to set up action and disease. What is their fate when they fail to get the upper hand?