

most severely attacked, the great bulk of the mortality always occurs within a limited space, while the disease seldom lasts long at any one point, but attacks a number of points in succession. The parts of any city where cases are the most numerous are always less salubrious than those in which the disease prevails in a less degree. The epidemic generally prevails most in sections densely inhabited and abounding in poverty and filth, and vice. As the Doctor puts it:—Cities, localities and individuals who endeavor to guard, if possible, against its approach by instituting timely measures for its prevention, are always those who experience, during a visitation of this pestilence, the successful results of such prudential enforcement of sanitary appliances, in a checking of the progress of cholera, in shortening its duration and in mitigating its severity.

MISSION OF EDUCATED WOMEN.

Mrs. M. F. Armstrong, in the *Popular Science Monthly* for March, replies to Mr. Grant Allen's article in a previous number of the *Monthly*, "Plain Words on the Woman Question;" (part of which was given in this *JOURNAL* of December) as follows: Generous recognition is at once given of the beauty of the possible home, and of the power and importance of the woman who creates it; but that this is woman's only field is emphatically denied. There are now open to her many channels through which she can influence the race, and the question is raised as to whether the advantage in this respect is altogether on the side of the married woman. Two or three of the older women in the group, who have had long and varied experience as teachers, ask if it is not probable that among the many children who have come into their hands there are not some, at least, who owe more to their school environment than to the home life. They claim that they, as teachers, should be credited with the influence which, in the nature of things, is inseparable from the responsibility which is put upon them. "To us" they say, "and not to the already overburdened wife and mother, is given the power to lead and direct the youth of the race. Would you have us, with that in view, aim for anything less than the best? The education of English and American children is, in the main, in the hands of women, and this not because of an anomalous social condition, but because of their peculiar fitness for the

work. On Mr. Allen's own showing, these women should remain unmarried, and, if this involves a sacrifice on their part, it is left for him to show us that such sacrifice is ignoble, or in any sense threatening to the public welfare."

THE LONDON LANCET ON THE BATH.

Nothing in human affairs has a reputation so fixed that it may not be called in question by some one in a moment of originality. This has happened repeatedly in the case of the daily bath. Some critics, for example, suggest that the bather, in consequence of his very cleanliness, lives too fast, is functionally too active, and that delayed and more gradual excretion would better accord with health. Others appear to think that by daily ablution the skin loses a part, or all, of the protection against weather, derived from its own effete products. Yet the bath not only continues to hold its own, but its popularity increases year by year. As regards amenity, both personal and relative, to one's neighbors, there can be no doubt that this is usually much assisted by a habit of regular bathing. Other advantages are not lacking. Among these are when cold water is used, the invigorating exercise of the nervous and circulating systems, the resistance to weather changes, and the tonicity of skin engendered by immersion. Further, it is undeniable that the non-removal of effete matters from the body imposes a most unwholesome check upon waste excretion in deeper tissues. It is said that some savage races maintain a robust life in spite of personal uncleanness; but these tribes, it must be remembered, are exceptionally favored in regard to fresh air and exercise. It is probable, also, that even they do not thrive as they should, and would under purer conditions. For civilized men of sedentary habits, the advantage of possessing a clean and freely active skin is a virtual necessity of healthy existence.

A THEOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS:—Said Talmage, my brother your trouble is not with the heart. it is a gastric disorder or a rebellion of the liver. You need a physician more than you do a clergyman. It is not sin that blots out your hope of heaven, but bile. It not only yellows your eyeball and furs your tongue, and makes your head ache, but swoops upon your soul in dejections and forebodings.