

most efficacious in preventing over-crowding. Three hundred (300) cubic feet of space is allowed for each adult, and one hundred and fifty for each child. Ordinary dwellings and lodging-houses are distinguished by the character of the marks or ticket.

COMPARATIVE LONGEVITY.—It is generally supposed among life insurance people that women's lives are shorter and more precarious than those of men. In view of this it would be well for such authorities to furnish an explanation for the circumstance that women furnish most examples of prolonged longevity, as found in the collection of the following statistics:—"Official documents establish that, per million inhabitants, there will be found 71,602 who have attained their 60th year in Italy; 72,910 in Great Britain; 76,982 in Holland; 78,187 in Sweden; 86,659 in Denmark; 88,432 in Belgium; and 101,495 in France. Of centenarians, there are 15 per million in Great Britain; 7.3 in France; .7 in Belgium; 2.6 in Sweden, and 1.3 in Holland.

QUININE WINE, ITS COMPOSITION.—Quinine wine, which is so extensively advertised and used at present under the impression of its valuable tonic qualities, is according to an analysis made by Dr. Edwards of Montreal, nothing better than a drunkard-maker. Only one of the samples was of the general character and strength of the official preparation of that name ordered in the British Pharmacopœia. That known as Collin's Quinine Wine, containing "Orange wine," comes nearest the prescribed formula. It is slightly alcoholized and contains one grain of sulphate of quinine to each fluid ounce. That sent for analysis by Mr. John Gardner, and known as Gardner's Quinine Wine, is of this character; the rest are highly alcoholized wines, containing only one-third or one-half the proportion of quinine. Messrs. John F. Lewis & Co's Quinine Port Wine, consisting of inferior red wine (colored with log-wood), citric acid, sugar, tinctures of gentian and orange, and traces of strychnia and brucia, from a small quantity of nuxvomica, should certainly be tonic were not its properties in this regard greatly overbalanced by its stimulating character—its alcoholic strength being 68 under proof, equal to 18.5 per cent. of absolute alcohol by weight and 20 per cent. by volume,

while there is but one grain of the alkaloid in three fluid ounces, surely a moderate proportion. Campbell's Quinine Wine consists of sherry, tincture of orange peel, citric acid, sugar and sulphate of quinine, the latter in the proportion of half a grain to the fluid ounce. It yielded by distillation, 20 per cent. by volume of absolute alcohol, equal to 64 under proof. Lyman's quinine wine consists of sherry, sugar, citric acid and sulphate of quinine, the latter in the proportion of one grain to three fluid ounces. Its alcoholic strength is 75 under proof—equalling absolute alcohol—15.5 by weight, or 16 per cent. by volume. Messrs. Devine & Bolton's quinine wine consists of Italian or light Sicilian wine, citric acid, sulphate of quinine, the latter in the proportion of one grain in two fluid ounces. Alcoholic strength 77 under proof; absolute alcohol, 14 per cent. by weight or volume. Gardner's quinine wine consists of light Sicilian wine, citric acid, sugar, and sulphate of quinine, the latter in the proportion of one grain to the fluid ounce—as before observed, he is more generous, than the rest in his distribution of the valuable alkaloid. The alcoholic strength of the wine is eighty under proof; absolute alcohol, thirteen per cent. by weight; twelve per cent. by volume. For a temperance man this wine is strong—too strong. A retired druggist, speaking of the above "wines," says there are more *drachms* than *scruples* in them—he knows how it is.

ANIMAL VIRUS.—The "*Doctor*" says the practice of vaccination with human virus seems to be nearly falling into decay in Belgium, and giving place to vaccination with animal virus. We quote from the pamphlet of Dr. C. R. Drysdale London, the following statements made before the London Medical Society last year.

In 1873, 800 of the 1,000 practitioners in Belgium, using vaccine, sent to the State Department for supplies of animal vaccine, and Dr. Warlomont reports that the *points* sent out by him in that year succeeded in 96 per cent. of vaccinations, and in upwards of 60 per cent. of re-vaccinations.

We believe in the superiority of the protection afforded by direct vaccination, and sympathise fully with the statements made by Dr. Warlomont who tells us that "of 10,000 children vaccinated by animal vaccine, and passing through the epidemic of 1870-71, not one was attacked by smallpox."