

air in a rough board chamber which was freely open for ventilation. Dogs alone were used, because these animals are affected with phthisis only extremely rarely. Full liberty of motion was permitted while in the chambers of observation. In all cases military tuberculosis developed in the lungs, proven by post-mortem examination. The symptoms began on the third week from the day of the first inhalation. The quantity of sputum inhaled was in some cases very small, as in the last three experiments, but one gramme was atomized, and as most of all sputum is water it may be seen how minute a quantity suffices to induce the disease. *Per contra*, the author caused other animals to inhale other substances. Limburg cheese, calves' brains, etc., and in no case was tuberculosis developed. The author concludes from his studies and experiments that the inhalation of particles of tuberculous sputa engenders tuberculosis in dogs without exception.—*Cin. Lan. and Clin.*

SMOKING AGAINST FOG AND DAMP.—The smoker fortifying himself against fog and damp with a cheerful glow of a cigar in front of his face and the fragrant incense beguiling his nostrils, is apt to forget that nicotine is a potent depressant of the heart's action. We do not assert that it even commonly acts as such when used in moderation, or that a good cigar is to be despised. We have no sympathy with prejudices against wine or tobacco, used under proper restriction as to the time and amount of the consumption. A mild and sound stimulant with meals, and a cigar when the mood and the circumstances are propitious, are not only to be tolerated, but approved. Meanwhile, it is desirable that these things should be used with an intelligent appreciation of their effects, and it is beyond question that one of the most formidable effects of tobacco is its influence on the heart's action. Now it is upon the integrity of this function the heat of the body depends, and nothing could be more shortsighted than to weaken or hamper the central organ of the circulation at a time when it is especially necessary that its work should be performed with due celerity and completeness. In warm weather a cigar exercises a cooling influence by lowering the heart's action. In the cold season it may—we do not say it will—possibly depress, and so increase the mischief it is sought to mend. Fogs and cold vapor tend to reduce the oxygenated properties of the air taken into the lungs, besides exercising a specific influence on those delicate organs. Tobacco-smoke may warm the air; it is scarcely possible that it can affect its quality or render it innocuous. There is, however, a peril that it may depress the circulation. Hence the need of moderation and care.—*London Lancet.*

SCARLET FEVER AND MILK.—In his Annual Report for 1878 on the Dorking rural district, Mr. E. L. Jacob chronicles the following interesting facts:—In the middle of the year there was a small, but alarming outbreak of scarlet fever at High Ashurst, which is partly in