

The author of this last paper thinks there can be no doubt that to "lack of proper ventilation, and want of suitable heating apparatus, three-fourths of the lung diseases which affect our school population may be traced."

REPORT ON CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS TO THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF MICHIGAN, by H. B. Baker, M.D., Secretary of the Board, Lansing, Mich.

This appears to form a part, and a large part, of the report above noticed. It is very interesting; the author discusses several possible causes of this disease, but does not arrive at any very satisfactory conclusion. A large portion of the report is devoted to the consideration of the possible share which goods containing poisonous fungi—ergot, smut, rust, &c.—have in causing the disease; and it is remarked that the symptoms of ergotism are very like those of cerebro-spinal meningitis. In summing up, the author says: "I conclude that: 1. There does not seem to be sufficient evidence to prove that the disease is contagious, in the ordinary sense of the term. 2. I am not satisfied that it has a general atmospheric cause. 3. It does not seem probable that epidemics of this disease are caused by over-crowding, imperfect ventilation, bad drainage or sewerage, or by any of the ordinary unsanitary conditions acting alone, although the death-rate may undoubtedly be increased thereby when the disease occurs under such conditions. * * As regards ergot, smut, and all fungi which cause great contraction of non-striated muscles, they are probably capable of being prominent causes of this disease, and further evidence is very desirable as to whether epidemics of this disease usually owe their violence in great degree to the presence of such substances in the food. The writer has been directed to continue this investigation: he will be duly grateful for any material evidence relating to the subject."

MUSIC contributes to happiness, and therefore to health, and we take pleasure in noticing a new piece, "No Friendly Voice to Greet Me," which is said to be already a general favorite, and which is certainly good, by H. P. Danks, author of "Don't be Angry with me, Darling," &c.; the words, too, are beautiful and touching. Mailed, free of postage, for 35 cents. W. H. Boner & Co., 1102 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, U.S.