

## DISINFECTING CHAMBERS.

Every town should be provided with a hot-air disinfecting chamber for public use. Dry heat, if sufficiently high, is destructive of all organic matter, and consequently, of all infection. For articles which imbibe and retain contagious matter, such as bed and body clothing, it is superior to all disinfectants. The penetration of all others may be intercepted by folds of the material, but heat will find its way in spite of all obstacles. It has been found that the vaccine virus is deprived of its power of reproduction, or "taking," by being exposed for three hours to a temperature of 140° F.; though a temperature of 120° failed to produce this effect. The temperature for disinfecting clothing, bedding, etc., should exceed 200° F. or better, perhaps 250°; but it should not extend beyond 300°

The chamber is built of bricks, and is heated by hot air pipes, lying beneath a perforated iron grating, the floor of the chamber. The products of combustion pass into the atmosphere, but no emanation from the infected clothes can escape into open air.

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