

epidemic infectious diseases is not uniform. In general, the well-endowed, except the very richest, are more seriously afflicted than the poor. The diseases which more commonly affect the poor, are cholera, small-pox, measles, and typhus, while the aristocratic diseases are diphtheria, croup, whooping cough, and scarlet fever. Infectious diseases are, as a whole, 60 per cent. more prevalent in the cellar homes than in high life. Diphtheria and scarlet fever show a decided aversion to downstairs life. Croup is less at home there than measles and whooping cough. All diseases are not affected alike by cellar life. Again, considering three, four and five persons per room as over-crowding, Körösi found that measles and whooping cough are greatly increased by over-crowding, while scarlet fever and diphtheria are not affected. The increase for measles was found to be 364 per cent. in houses with more than five persons to a room. This fact awakens questions regarding the method by which these diseases propagate themselves.

EARTHWORMS AGAIN.—The science column of the *Independent* reports as one of the most remarkable scientific discoveries of the day, that of Miss Adele Fielde, formerly a missionary in China. Miss Fielde found that the common earthworm, *Lumbricus terrestris*, after its head has been cut off, has the power of regenerating the whole of the dismembered portion. She recounts her experiments with great minuteness. Many incidental facts were discovered during her investigations. "For instance, no worm lived more than a few hours when exposed to the air, but they would live in water from eleven to fourteen days, when the water was changed daily, a very little air seeming to be necessary to support their lives. This explains why worms can live in the earth for days saturated by water during heavy rains. Eight posterior segments of worms, of from twenty to thirty segments, during forty days of observation, did not lengthen at either end, but increased in length by the growth of new half-segments between the others. The brain of the earthworm lies in the third anterior