

	Total monthly,.....	3,609,000
WEEKLY.—Religious,	289,000	
Useful and moral,	734,000	
Containing novels,.....	1,653,000	
Romances,	195,000	
		6,094,981
		9,713,981
Free thinking literature,.....	5,000	
Immoral and impure,	9,000	
		14,000

That is to say that out of 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ millions of periodicals issued, only 1 in 700 is of questionable character ; only 1 in 2000 of an infidel nature ; and only 1 in 1100 of an impure cast.

Pleasant indeed would a review of society be, and most hopeful its condition if these were the only characteristics of our age. But alas they are only the bright lights of the picture ; there are dark shadows in the back ground, telling of evils which it is not only unwise but criminal to ignore. There are many social facts that are a disgrace to our civilisation and wear a sad and portentous aspect.

Amid all our advance in science and its application to improved domestic life and social habits, DISEASE holds its fatal sway. We know and practise a great many things conducive to health. Society now eats and drinks less of what it should not, and more of what it should ; has learned to use freely soap and water, and prize pure air ; is every way cleaner and more temperate in its habits ; ventilates its buildings, cleans its streets, drains its cities, opens its parks, buries its dead in cemeteries ; and yet, because of ignorance, vice, poverty, and overwork, disease, which, but for these, could find neither its materials nor its victims, is ravaging with fatal effect on every hand. Maladies that should disappear are perpetuated ; others, whose very existence is a shame to us, are on the rapid increase.

PAUPERISM, VICE, AND CRIME, in spite of all our improvements and reforms, benevolent enterprises and philanthropic schemes still maintain proportions which if not what they once were are still of fearful magnitude. We need quote no statistics, urge no proofs it is all too self-evident and too well known to require either. There is an eastern story that runs something like this. In a large city there was once a deep dark well into which no one dared