

enough to grudge the necessary expenditure for ridding your town of destructive pests, then you will have to pay for your sordid economy in the loss of your dearest. You will see your children pass away before your eyes, and you will be utterly unable to stop them or to recall them. You will have to pay the piper somehow; if not in money, then in some far more costly and tragical fashion. Bacilli are more troublesome and more destructive than even rats; because they destroy the most valuable of all property, and they cannot easily be got rid of without spending money. Disease is the costliest of all conditions for a town; while the expenditure on sanitation is the wisest economy. The shade of Browning will doubtless forgive us if we have in any way misread the impressive lesson taught by his "Pied Piper of Hamelin."—*The London Sanitary Record*.

The Value of the Hands and of the Fingers.—Surgeons have often to estimate the chances of saving injured hands, and the comparative values of hands and fingers. According to a scale of value furnished by the Miners' Unions and Miners' Accident Insurance Companies of Germany, the loss of both hands is valued at 100 per cent., or the whole ability to earn a living. Losing the right hand depreciates the value of an individual as a worker 70 to 80 per cent., while the loss of the left hand represents from 60 to 70 per cent. of the earnings of both hands. The thumb is reckoned to be worth from 20 to 30 per cent. of the earnings. The first finger of the right hand is valued at from 14 to 18 per cent., that of the left hand at from 8 to 13.5 per cent. The middle finger is worth from 10 to 16 per cent. The third finger stands least of all in value; although, like other useless members of the community, it is surrounded by riches, its value is only from 7 to 9 per cent. The little finger is worth from 9 to 12 per cent. The difference in the percentages is occasioned by the difference in the trade, the first finger being, for instance, more valuable to a writer than to a digger.—*Med. News*, July 22, 1893.