

good practice, which ANY ONE forced to go near a case of infectious disease might wisely and easily adopt.

ANOTHER illustration of the value of Hygiene : typhoid fever is never absent from New Orleans, says Dr. Kaine, and with no other change in conditions except the enforcement of sanitary regulations, the death rate from that disease has been reduced from 68 per 100,000 of population to 16, in less than twenty years. In Philadelphia (Ann. of Hyg.) where the water is contaminated with sewage, the death rate from the same disease has increased from 56 to 66 per 100,000 in the same period.

WHERE CONSUMPTION LURKS—Carnet experimented with the dust obtained from the walls and floors of various dwellings in which tuberculous patients had been; and inoculating guinea pigs with it, carefully excluding all possibility of infection from other sources, he obtained positive results. Twenty one rooms of seven Berlin hospitals were examined, and bacilli found to have been present in the dust from most of them. Positive results were also obtained with the dust from insane asylums and penitentiaries. The dwellings of fifty-three tubercular patients were investigated in the same way, and the dust in the neighborhood of twenty patients found to be virulent. It was the case with absolute regularity that the dust was always virulent when the patient had been in the habit of spitting on the floor or in a handkerchief, while it was not so when a spit cup had been employed.

ANOTHER SOURCE OF CONSUMPTION—Dr. E. di Mattei reports (*Arch. prio le Sci. Med.*) a number of experiments made to determine the possibility of transmitting tuberculosis through the medium of the sweat. In the first series, in which the sweat was taken from the skin without any precautions, numbers of tubercle bacilli were found. In the second series the author cleaned carefully a portion of the integument, covering it subsequently with a glass to prevent possible contamination from the air, and then examined the sweat excreted on this part. Here no bacilli were found, showing that the micro-organisms found in the first instance were deposited upon the skin from the surrounding atmosphere, and that none passed through the sweat glands.

RELATING to the percentage of tannin in different teas, the following note of the result of some experiments on three samples, unblended, sent to the British Medical Journal, (Jan. 12th, 1889,) by Dr. Hale White, of Guy's Hospital, is of much interest. A was the finest Assam; B the finest China; C common Congou; no green tea being used. The percentage of tannin by weight extracted by infusion for three minutes was in sample A, 11.30; in B, 7.77; and in C, 9.37. The percentage of tannin by weight ex-

tracted by infusion for fifteen minutes was 17.73, 7.97 and 11.15, respectively. The result, Dr. White adds, is what might have been expected, as tannin is very soluble in hot water. It is of course true that any tea which has been infused for some time has a more marked effect than tea which has been infused a shorter time; but this difference is due not so much to the tannin as to strength. The moral, therefore, is to select the best China tea and not to drink it strong; to be satisfied with flavour and not desire intoxication.

CONSUMPTION in New Hampshire, according to Dr. Watson, Secretary of the State Board of Health and also of the American Public Health Association, causes about one-eighth of the total mortality in that State. The greatest number of deaths occur in May. The prevalence of the disease is greater at low elevations with a maximum soil-moisture than in the higher elevations with a less moist soil; and the death-rate is relatively much larger among the foreign-born residents.

THERE are three general grades of flour usually in the market (N.Y. Med. Times): "Patent," "Clear" and "Straight," as known to the trade. "Patent" contains most of the gluten of the wheat, its strongest and most nourishing part, and has all the good qualities of bran flour without its objectionable sawdust property. "Clear" is flour made at the same time as the patent; it is mostly starch, very white, but has little strength. "Straight" is the two combined in one flour. The "Patent" is the highest priced, "Straight" next, and "Clear" the cheapest.

THE celebrated old New England divine, Cotton Mather, of Salem witchcraft notoriety, when asked to define malaria said it was the devil, a definition which, as the N.Y. Medical Times says, has in it more of truth than poetry. The poison not only produces nervous prostration, a lack of appetite, aches and pains with sleeplessness and weariness of life, but localizes itself in distinct organs, and holds on with the tenacity of death.

THE Queen of Sweden is undergoing peculiar treatment to "restore her nerves." Her doctors have ordered her to rise early, make her own bed, do up her room, and take a walk in the garden before breakfast; to work among the flowers afterwards, and lead an active outdoor existence all day. Already she has been benefited by this "chamber-maid" treatment.

IF a man adulterates money by mixing base metal with it he goes to the penitentiary, an exchange says, but if a man adulterates food he gets a high seat in the synagogue, and when he is quoted in Mammon as having made a million of money by poisoning his fellow creatures his surviving customers burn incense in his face, and implore him to "run for something" that public honors may crown successful private enterprise.