

These reports should certainly give the death blow to the banishment of our invalids for pulmonary diseases. They serve to show the salubrity of our own climate, and to diminish our aspirations for the "sunny South." Statistics dispel these illusions, and prove that consumption lurks as fatally in the balmy zephyr, or the sultry tropical breeze. If we examined the grave stones in the cemeteries of the various localities that, from time to time, have been the fashionable resort of consumptive invalids, we should quickly find that the reputed favorable influence of the climate has been a delusion and a snare. Contrast the maximum of injury resulting from fatigue of travel, deprivation of home comforts and associations, with the minimum of prophylactic influence of climate, and the prudent result arrived at would be the quietly awaiting the issue of the disease, surrounded by the loved ones at home. Instead of endeavoring to avert a termination, which in nine-tenths of the cases of patients sent from home to die, is inevitable, it would be far wiser to endeavor to direct the attention of the public to the factors of the disease. That the greater number of the ailments to which mankind are subject, are entailed upon them by their ignorance, carelessness and apathy, is an observation familiar to every practitioner in medicine. How large a proportion of his patients might, by the simplest hygienic precautions, have altogether avoided the maladies they are suffering under, or have rendered their duration less prolonged and their character less grave. In the fourth annual report of Board of Health for State of Massachusetts, the death from consumption in ten years were 45,000. The most prominent cause, Dr. Bowditch clearly established, to be soil moisture. Dr. Elisha Harris thus speaks on the subject.—"Inquiries that I had begun upon general sanitary questions in every town in the State of New York in 1859, as a committee of the State Medical Society, prepared me to believe your opinions (that soil moisture is a prominent cause of consumption in New England and probably elsewhere) were well founded, when you first mentioned them to me in 1862." The percentages of the