

care at the hands of their medical advisers by natural pathological process. There is death approached by the bladder road under the ablest surgical charioteering: enlarged prostrate, thickened bladder, retained urine, catheterism, cystitis, catarrhal nephritis, typhoid, uræmic symptoms. There is death approached by the narrowed pathway of the degenerate and obstructed arteries, by paralysis, by apoplexy, by peripheral embolism, by senile gangrene. Lastly, and in my own experience most frequently, death is approached by diarrhoea in summer, and broncho-pneumonia in winter; in either case the final illness is short enough—a few days or a week at most. This broncho-pneumonia of advanced years is clinically very important for you to recognize. When some old person eighty and upwards, the habitual subject of bronchial catarrh, says to his ordinary attendant one morning that he is tired and will lie in bed, a thing he has never done before, take heed if his cheek is flushed, his eye a little brighter than usual, and his inclination to talk and tell you tales of his childhood greater than usual—beware, towards night-time he will “babble o’ green fields,” talk of those long since dead as if they were living and ought to come home, just wander in his mind a little, but be easily roused to think and answer correctly. Watch him carefully; he is near that heaven where he would be, where he shortly will be, for his tongue is dry, and he has an eager thirst, and he is drowsy but sleeps little, and awake but not all, and he has short quick breathing, and little fits of coughing, but not his old, long, suffocating cough; and he expectorates but little, and that little with difficulty: the end is not far off, and you had better inform his relations that you recognize the danger.—Dr. Reginald Southey, in *Lectures on “Individual Hygiene,”* Lond. Eng.

FAILURE TO PREVENT DEATHS.—The tendency of the people to wait until a probable evil actually proves injurious before attempting to avoid it, is stronger than it at first thought appears to be. At the late meeting of the British Medical Association, at Edinburgh, Dr. A. Stewart “narrated the case of a friend of his who went to inspect a boarding-school previous to sending his two daughters there. Everything he liked well but the drain, which passed within three feet and a half of the well. When he spoke of this, he was informed that the water of the well had been drunk for years, and that no disease had ever occurred. To satisfy himself, he twice had samples of the water taken and analyzed, and it was found to be perfectly pure. He sent his daughters to the school but in two or three weeks typhoid