

that such a belief belongs to a species of fatality alike common to Mahometanism and Paganism, but utterly unworthy of the sunlight of Christianity, and Christian Science. **FOR EVEN CHANCE ITSELF IS SUBJECT TO LAW.** We believe that God has established certain laws within the organic domain, as well as without it, which are all fixed and immutable as those which were given at Sinai. We believe that obedience to all laws, whether natural or moral, has its appropriate reward here or hereafter, or both. We also believe, that disobedience to all law, whether natural or moral, has its fixed, and except in the case of special remission by special provision, has its appropriate and irrevocable, penalty. Thus we gain the connecting link between the natural and super-natural. It is a most remarkable fact, that the progress of diphtheria is always from the upper breathing passage, downward; never from the lower passage upward.

NATURAL CAUSES.

What I mean by natural causes, is, that produced or coming in the ordinary course of things, produced or affected by nature, or by the laws of growth, formation, or motion impressed on **BODIES by DIVINE POWER.**

Owing to the great obscurity which has long enveloped the study of this disease, a great deal is left for the inquirer of the present day to clear up. Of late, much has been expected from the employment of the microscope, in discovering its nature. Our expectations have not been disappointed. By its aid, much valuable information has been gained. One important fact has been fully attained. The discovery of a vegetable production, a cryptogamic plant, is present on the mucous surface, is evidently intimately connected with pathology, whose object is the knowledge of disease. The day has come when this must be admitted by all. Old superstitious ideas must give way before the increasing light of this new discovery, and consequently believe in the existence of these vegetable growths.

Sycon, means a fig, from which we have the name of a disease called Syconosis, a tumor of the shape of a fig, also a fungous ulcer, or horny excrescence about the eyelids. Dr. Bateman defines it—an eruption of inflamed, but very hard tubercles, occurring on the bearded portion of the face, and on the scalp in adults, and usually clustering together in irregular patches. As it regards the appearance of the irruption on the face, in one of its stages, it certainly bears a strong resemblance to diphtheria. The inflammation on the skin is the result of irritation caused by the existence of a parasitic vegetable production, first described by M. Gruby to the French Academy of Science. His discovery of the existence of a cryptogamic plant, (this class of plants includes