

other infectious diseases, the infection is not produced by a microbe invading the tissues, but by the diffusion through the body of a toxic substance produced upon a mucous surface, by a specific bacillus, and, so to speak, outside the body."

MURAT HALSTEAD, the popular journalist, who speaks from recent experience, says that those who do not feel ambitious to cross the Atlantic in less than a week, and are willing to spare two or three days in addition to the time made by the "ocean grey hounds," will consult their comfort by taking slower ships and obtaining better accommodation. There is the element of danger in this high pressure progress. Speed, no doubt, is desirable if you don't happen to run into anything.

MRS. VIMPANY, one of the interesting characters in Wilkie Collins' story, "Blind Love," now being published in the Illustrated London News, is made to say: "I joined a nursing Sisterhood. Before long, a dispute broke out among them. Think of women who call themselves Christians, quarrelling about churches and church services—priest's vestments and attitudes, and candles and incense! I left them and went to a hospital, and found the doctors better Christians than the sisters.

A CHARMING VIEW of quarantine is in Harper's Bazar. "My boys and I have been shut up together for six weeks," said a little woman the other day, her bright face dimpling with sunny smiles. "Quarantined, and we've had a siege of it; but the dear lads were never really ill, notwithstanding the dreadful character of the disease which had them in its clutches. Of course we were terribly anxious, and the doctor kept warning that we could not be too careful; and I had such a horror of any infection wafting itself from our doors into the home of somebody else where there were children, that I could not sufficiently multiply precautions; but when all was said, and all the privations and disappointments borne, there were compensations. The boys and I grew so well acquainted! We read several splendid books through, from the first chapter to finish; we studied the New Testament; played games. They told me everything, just as when they were my babies toddling over the floor and coming to mamma with their questions and troubles; and

now that it is over I shall always look back with a certain gratitude and pleasure of memory on our six weeks in quarantine.

THE LIFE VALUE of the proper disposal of sewage is well illustrated by results at Hawick, Scotland. Seven or eight years ago the sewage of that town was disposed of partly in the river Teviot and partly in "old fashioned cesspools," and the death-rate was then 22.4 per 1,000. During the last seven years, the sewage has been floated over four acres of land and so utilized in the soil. The death-rate gradually came down and last year was only 16.6 per 1,000. On the authority of the medical profession, the health of the people is better, there is less diphtheria, less typhoid fever, and less of the ordinary ulcerated sore throat. When diphtheria or typhoid fever appears now they can always localise it, and generally find deficiencies or defects in the house drainage.

MEDICAL INSPECTORS of local boards of health, to see that the boards are properly organized and doing their duty, is a sanitary requirement to which we have alluded on several occasions, and which will soon have to receive attention in Canada. By the new Local Government Bill which has just come into force in Scotland, the appointment of a medical officer and a sanitary inspector for each county is compulsory, and they must give their whole time to their official duties, unless with the "express written consent of the County Council." Their primary duty will be to exercise a general vigilance over the District Committees and their officers; and, if they have reason to be dissatisfied with the manner in which their sanitary work is accomplished, to report to the County Council, who may take the necessary steps for having the Public Health Acts enforced.

THE MORTALITY in July in the 29 principal cities and towns of the Dominion was at the rate of over 30 per 1,000 of population per annum. In August it was 27 per 1,000. During the first half of the year, ending June 30th, the mortality was 21 per 1,000, a fraction less than in the same period of 1888. These estimates are on the basis of population as estimated by the municipalities themselves. In London, Eng., the mortality in July was only 18.2, and in August it was but 15.7. The rate in Canadian cities being thus nearly 66 per cent. greater