

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES AND SELECTIONS.

GOOD ADVICE.—Dr. Carpenter (Mem. of the Royal Col. of Physicians and Vice-Prest. of the Brit. Med. Association), recently in a lecture advised that every authority provide lime-wash, and lend out brushes to all classes of people without charge. "Encourage cottage people to give their back places a lime-whiting every year, to whiten their walls and ceilings two or three times in the year, without cost to themselves except time, and the spread of infective disease would be most wonderfully checked. It is one of the most important duties for inspectors of nuisances to urge such proceedings, and the loan of brushes, with free distribution of milk of lime, is in the first rank of their work; and if they secure the services of an instructor in the art there would be no lack of applicants for the loan, provided the knowledge of the fact was fairly made known. Even in every rural district it would be advantageous to have such a distribution at stated times and seasons. It is quite as necessary in rural districts, for there is a greater danger of water pollution there than there is in towns."

THE HYGIENE OF OLD AGE.—Many a man of sixty-five to seventy years of age, slightly declining in health, an exchange truly says, would prolong his days and increase his comfort if he were to make a tour of from six months to a year. If he dreads the sea, he can easily be entertained and profited by a journey of that length in his own country. Many, however, who have the means to travel, will go on in the same rut; the harness, which they have worn for threescore years, wearing through the skin in the same place, until finally, like the ancient

stage-horse, they will be unable to stand up under the weight of the harness and the shafts, much less pull the load.

OLD ENGLISH SANITARY LEGISLATION.—Edward II. decreed that a butcher who sold measled pork should be fined for the first offence, pilloried for the second, imprisoned and fined for the third, and expelled from the town for the fourth. Richard II. took measures against the pollution of rivers. Henry VII. prohibited cattle slaying within walled towns, with three exceptions. Elizabeth enacted that only one family might dwell in a cottage. The plague in the time of Charles II. led to many health enactments. More than two centuries ago we read that Shakspeare's father was fined by the authorities of Stratford-on-Avon for throwing garbage into the street in front of his cottage.

ANIMALS AS CARRIERS OF DISEASE GERMS.—S. E. Earp, M. D., of Indianapolis, Ind., (Prof. Mat. Med., etc., Ind. Col. of Phys. and Surg.) contributes the following to the St. Louis Courier of Medicine: In instances where epidemics of scarlatina and kindred diseases are unusually severe in their ravages, the various boards of health take every precaution to prevent the spread of disease, especially in not permitting members of the family who have been in contact with the patient to mingle with people in the thoroughfares. Yet there can be no doubt that the various pets of children are not infrequently a means by which the disease germs are carried from one house to another. In some instances where pet rabbits, kittens and lap-dogs have been constantly fondled by the little