

the leading minds of the profession have been actively at work trying to formulate some mode of attack by means of which this foe to health may be routed. The presence of this bacillus has been acknowledged by nearly all pathologists to be positive proof of phthisis. Of course there has been a difference of opinion as to whether the bacillus is the cause of tuberculosis, or whether it is simply a bacterium which only thrives in tubercular soil. In accordance with these two theories, there have been formulated two methods of treatment: first, to introduce directly into the air cells an antiseptic and germicide, with the double object of killing the bacillus and rendering the native soil unfit for habitation; second, a method of treatment has been inaugurated in which the sole purpose is to cause the habitat of the bacillus to be so changed that it cannot thrive. The first method is called pneumatic differentiation, the second gaseous enemata or Bergeon's treatment.

Both methods of treatment are highly endorsed by leading members of our profession. Remarkable results, according to the reports of the observers, have followed the use of each treatment.

Of the cases treated by pneumatic differentiation 23 per cent. die, 35 per cent. are improved, and 30 per cent. are not improved, while ten per cent. recover. Of the cases treated by gaseous enemata 9 per cent. die, 71 per cent. are improved, 15 per cent. are not improved, while only 1 per cent. recover. A glance at these figures would lead one to render a verdict in favor of gaseous enemata. And it is probable that if the present craze for Bergeon's treatment prevails longer, the statistics will show a much larger percentage of recoveries. But it would be manifestly unjust for us to render a verdict on the above figures. It will be noticed that the percentage of improvements by gaseous enemata is 71 per cent., and by pneumatic differentiation 35 per cent. But the fact must be remembered that the improvement under the gaseous treatment is often temporary. Dr. Fitch writes:—"In every case the improvement, though rapid at first, has been partially or entirely arrested after a time." Dr. William Pepper, of Philadelphia, says:—"This method of