

VALUE OF THE EUCALYPTUS.—We learn from the *Meteorological Magazine* that, at the Eastern *réunion* at the Sorbonne, some information was given by Dr. de Pietra, a delegate from the Climatological Society of Algiers, as to the results of an investigation made in Algeria to ascertain the importance and value of the *eucalyptus globulus* in relation to public health. It appears that reports were received from fifty localities where the aggregate number of blue gum trees is nearly one million, and from these reports the following conclusions have been drawn: (1) It is incontestably proved that the eucalyptus possesses sanitary influence; for (2) wherever it has been cultivated intermittent fever has considerably decreased both in intensity and in frequency; and (3) marshy and uncultivated lands have thus been rendered healthy and quite transformed. Similar results have been obtained in Corsica, where it is computed that at the end of the present year there will be upwards of 600,000 plants of eucalyptus in full growth.—*Scientific American*.

THE SO-CALLED TURKISH BATH is no modern invention. Hot-air baths have been familiar for ages, in almost all the countries of the world. William Penn found them among the North American Indians. But it was the Greeks and Romans who brought the art of hot-air bathing to its perfection in their luxurious baths. The Romans introduced the practice as one of the fine arts into our country during their occupation of it. But it seems to have departed from our island with the conquerors. The so-called Turkish baths are in reality Roman baths; and their introduction in the nineteenth century is only a revival of a practice which prevailed 1800 years ago among our ancestors.—*Med. Times and Gaz.*

BIOLOGY AND THE GERM THEORY.—In a recent lecture on Biology, Professor Huxley instanced the germ theory of disease as an illustration of the value of biological study. He said, 'There was little doubt now that infectious diseases were caused by living organisms, and if that should prove well founded it must needs lead to the most important practical measures in dealing with those most terrible of visitations. It might be well for the general public, as well as for the professional public, to have a sufficient knowledge of these matters to be able to take a rational interest in the discussion of such measures.—*Sanit. Rec.*

THE MOVEMENTS OF THE BRAIN, as described by Drs. Giacomini and Mosso, are as follows:—1. Pulsations produced at each contraction of the heart. 2. Oscillations corresponding to the movements associated with respiration. 3. Undulations—larger curves of motion—caused by movements of the vessels during efforts of attention, or cerebral activity in sleep. The observations were made by the graphic method with one of Marey's instruments upon a woman who had lost a considerable portion of the frontal and parietal bones from the effects of syphilis.—*Lancet*.