

in whom phthisis is suspected goes or is taken by his relatives to a doctor to have his chest examined, it may generally be prophesied either that there is no ground for uneasiness, or that the disease has already made distinct progress. Incipient cases which gain weight and improve in other respects during a winter abroad, often need to be reminded that the measure should be repeated a second time.

Popular young patients must often be banished from Cairo during December and January, to desert life at the Pyramids, or at Luxor, to protect them from themselves and their acquaintance, and the snares of evening engagements.

Chronic cases of undoubted phthisis do very well in Egypt, for they improve in general health, digestion, and appetite, and can often take cod-liver oil, which was previously impossible. They are encouraged by finding that they gain a little weight, and become rid of troublesome cough and expectoration. This last symptom is an important one in Egypt, and one of the first signs of the patient's improvement.

An ordinary phthisical individual complains, when he first reaches Cairo, of cough and expectoration, and the stethoscope reveals a multitude of large and small moist sounds. When he is seen again a fortnight later, these sounds have partly disappeared, he still coughs, but is surprised and sometimes alarmed to notice that the expectoration has suddenly diminished. After another week or two, he reports that he only expectorates the first thing in the morning ; he seldom coughs during the day, and the stethoscope again confirms the drying-up process which is going on in the lung, which seems to be the direct result of dry air inhaled. This is not so wonderful when we remember that the average winter humidity of the Cairo air is under sixty-six per cent. (Table I.), while that of London is above ninety per cent. It would be interesting to know whether the very dry air is inimical to the life and development of the tubercle bacillus. Two cases in which bacilli were seen in London and on arrival in Cairo, and could not be found before leaving Cairo and